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Humanities Matters

The e-Newsletter from Humanities Tennessee

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LITERATURE & LANGUAGE NEWS

RECAP: The 27th Annual Southern Festival of Books

This year, we celebrated the **27th annual Southern Festival of Books: A Celebration of the Written Word** Oct. 9-11. The weekend was full of amazing writers, rich conversation, arts, food, and food for thought that reminded us here at Humanities Tennessee why it matters to set aside those three days each year to celebrate the written word. And we were lucky enough to welcome some of the best writers in the country to Nashville to help us do it.

[Click here to read the full recap.](#)

It takes a year to produce the Festival, and a few hours to pack it all up on Sunday night. **This year, as every year, we are profoundly grateful to the organizations, donors, volunteers, and writers who made it all happen once again.** We hope you made it your Festival, and we'll do it again next year!



Letters About Literature Contest Now Taking Entries

LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE

This writing contest for 4th-12th graders is now open. Tell us how an author's work made you see the world, and/or yourself, differently.

Entry deadline is January 11, 2016. [Enter today!](#)

HISTORY & CULTURE NEWS

"Bittersweet Harvest" Exhibit Goes to School

The exhibit opened at the **John Early Museum Magnet Middle Prep School (JEMMMP)** in North Nashville on October 21st alongside the debut of "Five Themes of Culture"—the inaugural exhibition of the school's own museum. With the ethnographic collection from the former Scarritt College, students used artifacts to illustrate features of cultural life worldwide, incorporating "[Bittersweet Harvest](#)" as it touches on themes of work, family and community.



JEMMMP also hosted our "Bittersweet Harvest" public discussion program, which engaged a group of 20 in lively conversation about the experiences of *braceros* (laborers) migrating to work US farms beginning during World War II, which led the audience to broader considerations of why people around the world migrate. This conversation is slated to occur again throughout the region—look for announcements in the coming weeks.

GRANTS & AWARDS NEWS

Nominate an Outstanding Educator for a 2016 Award

Does your community have a great teacher or librarian? Recognize them with an Outstanding Educator Award!



Outstanding Educator Awards provide financial support for professional development and classroom resources for those who demonstrate excellence in teaching the humanities in grades 3-12. In 2016, one award will be reserved for a school librarian who teaches humanities content. Past recipients have traveled throughout the world and brought the world back to their classrooms. Nominate an educator in your community!

[Find out more about Humanities Tennessee's Outstanding Educator Awards here.](#)

SPOTLIGHT

Meet Humanities Tennessee's Jenny Fernandez

Fernandez joined the HT team as Office Administrator in April of 2015. She took the time to answer a few questions about her hobbies and her love of the humanities:



Why/how are the humanities important in your life?

Even though I am no longer in school, I consider myself a permanent student. I enjoy learning and investigating the history and culture of a place because not only does that help me have an understanding of a community, but also enables me to engage in a more meaningful way.

[Read more about Jenny here.](#)

Join Our Cause

Founded in 1973, [Humanities Tennessee](#) is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to promoting civility and a sense of community among Tennesseans. Each year, governmental funding for the humanities decreases. We rely on donations from individuals, foundations, and corporations to present programs like the annual [Southern Festival of Books](#), the [Young Writers' Workshops](#), [History & Culture programs](#), [Chapter16.org](#), and [more](#).



We appreciate your support!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Now-June 30, 2016 - ["Flyin' Saucers Rock & Roll: The Cosmic Genius of Sam Phillips" Exhibit at the Country Music Hall of Fame & Museum](#) (Nashville)
- Now-November 23 - ["Bittersweet Harvest: The Bracero Program, 1942-1964" Exhibit at John Early Museum Magnet Middle School](#) (Nashville)
- November 11 - [Salon@615 Welcomes Chelsea Clinton](#) (Nashville)
- November 13 - [Salon@615 Special Edition: Patti Smith SOLD OUT](#) (Nashville)
- November 17 - [Bobby C. Rogers Reading and Reception](#) (Memphis)
- November 18 - [Salon@615 Welcomes Jane Smiley](#) (Nashville)
- November 20 - [Salon@615 Welcomes Sue Grafton](#) (Nashville)
- November 21 - ["War Stories: Veterans Remember" Public Discussion at the West TN Delta Heritage Center](#) (Brownsville)
- December 5-January 9, 2016 - ["Bittersweet Harvest" Exhibit at Hardeman County Multicultural Museum](#) (Bolivar)
- December 6 - [Salon@615 Welcomes Mitch Albom](#) (Nashville)

[More events](#)

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