Speakers Bureau Scholar Information

Speakers Bureau talks present scholarship and discussion on diverse humanities topics, while History Alive! programs bring historical characters to life through well-researched and well-acted portrayals. The programs are available to nonprofit organizations across the state, must be free and open to the public, and venue must meet accessibility requirements.

Scholars must be experts in their topics and are vetted by Vermont Humanities. Presentations are 45-60 minutes and are followed by a Q&A from the audience.

Work expectations for Speaker Bureau Presenters:

- Solicit bookings by contacting local host organizations that are eligible for Speakers Bureau programs per the guidelines published in the Speakers Bureau catalog.
- Provide hosts with publicity materials as requested such as photos, short bios, or further information on program content.
- Ensure that hosts know and <u>understand</u> Speaker's needs for special equipment.
- Conduct a thought-provoking and engaging presentation. If evaluations raise concerns about presentation style and/or content, VHC will contact the Speaker.
- Allow or deny requests from hosts to video- or audiotape presentations.
- Educate, but not advocate. VHC-funded programs cannot take a stand on political issues.
- **Credit VHC for its sponsorship** and support at or during each program given under the terms of this agreement.
- Arrive for approved booking 30 minutes early, or earlier if it is necessary to set up audio/visual or other equipment and give a 45-60-minute presentation on the topic as described in the latest edition of the catalog. Include a discussion period of at least 15 minutes in length and ensure the program's full length is not more than 90 minutes, including the question and answer period. Ask the audience questions to stimulate discussion if necessary.
- Presentations will take place at a mutually agreed upon date and location between host and scholar and approved by VHC.

Compensation:

- $250.00 for speakers
- $350.00 for history alive re-enactment presenters
- Mileage or additional fees can be negotiated between host and scholar.

We invite interested presenters to visit our website to learn more about this program at vermonthumanities.org/speakers-bureau. The Vermont Humanities Council is committed to diversity and inclusion in all our program offerings.

What are the Humanities?

We define "humanities" as the branches of learning that investigate human constructs and concerns as opposed to natural processes and social relations. This includes, but is not limited to, the study of the following:

- Language, both modern and classical – e.g. French, German, Latin, Arabic, etc.
- Linguistics – the study of languages and language systems.
- Literature – writings in prose or verse having an excellence in form or expression and expressing ideas of permanent or universal interest.
- History – a chronological record of significant events (as effecting a nation or institution) often including an explanation of their causes.
- Jurisprudence – a system or body of law; the science or philosophy of law.
- Philosophy – a search for a general understanding of values and reality by chiefly speculative rather than observational means.
- Archaeology – the scientific study of material remains (such as fossil relics, artifacts, and monuments) of past human life and activities.
- Comparative religion – the comparison of personal sets or institutionalized systems of attitudes, beliefs, and practices having to do with the service and worship of a god or gods or the supernatural.
- Ethics – the discipline dealing with what is good and bad and with moral duty and obligation.
- Those aspects of social sciences (economics, political science, psychology, etc.) that have humanistic content and employ humanistic methods.
- The study and application of the humanities to the human environment with particular attention to reflecting our diverse heritage, traditions, and history and to the relevance of the humanities to the current conditions of national life.