

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 23, 2015

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Chairman
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment & Related Agencies
B-308 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment & Related Agencies
2256 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member McCollum:

We are writing to thank the Subcommittee for its past support of funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), and to respectfully request your strong support for NEH in fiscal year (FY) 2016.

As you know, NEH is the primary source of federal support for humanities research, teaching, preservation, public programming, and related activities in the U.S. The Endowment provides competitive grant funding for research and scholarship in history, literature, foreign languages, and other fields that provide individuals with critical ethical, cultural, and historical perspective. Additionally, NEH funding allocated through state humanities councils strengthens the cultural infrastructure of local communities in every state and territory across the nation.

Investment in the humanities advances vital U.S. interests by fostering a globally competitive workforce, strengthening civic engagement, preserving our cultural heritage, and protecting our national security. As our world becomes increasingly more interconnected, building a solid foundation in the humanities becomes even more vital to U.S. interests. That's why the majority of our CIA analysts, State Department officials and staff members and diplomats at embassies across the globe are graduates of the humanities – as are leaders ranging from the late Steve Jobs to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Martin Dempsey to Nobel Laureate and National Cancer Center Director Harold Varmus!

NEH has been an outstanding steward of the relatively small amount of federal support it receives annually. Between 1965 and 2009, NEH successfully leveraged more than \$2 billion in non-federal support, including private and institutional contributions. However, current demand for humanities project support far exceeds funding availability and non-federal support for the humanities has declined sharply in recent years, in part due to the current economic downturn. Each year, as billions of dollars are rightfully invested in research and education in science and technology, the relative federal investment in the humanities falls further behind.

We are aware of the many difficult choices your Subcommittee faces in crafting its FY 2016 bill, but we believe that strong federal support for the humanities is needed now more than ever to preserve America's place as a world leader in education and innovation for all fields of learning

and help provide our nation's citizenry and workforce with the foundation necessary to tackle the challenges of today's globalized world. We appreciate your past support of NEH and strongly urge your support for this request.

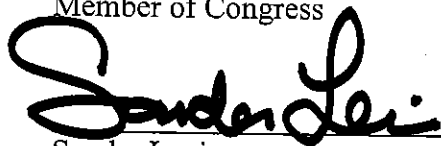
Sincerely,



David Price
Co-Chair of the Humanities Caucus
Member of Congress



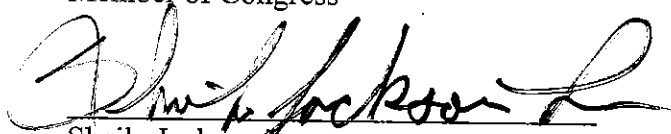
Leonard Lance
Co-Chair of the Humanities Caucus
Member of Congress



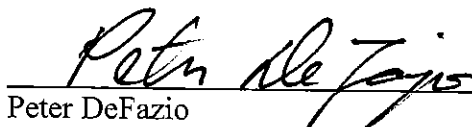
Sander Levin
Member of Congress



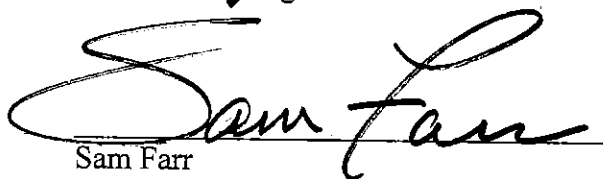
Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



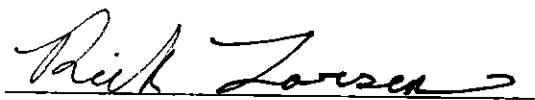
Peter DeFazio
Member of Congress



Sam Farr
Member of Congress



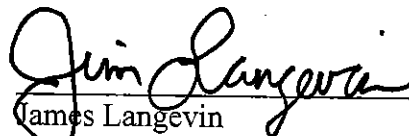
Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



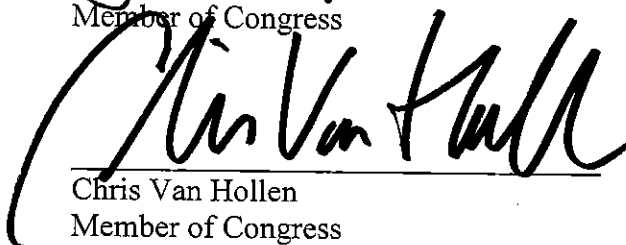
David Cicilline
Member of Congress



James Langevin
Member of Congress



Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan
Member of Congress



Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



Keith Ellison
Member of Congress

Rosa L. DeLauro

Rosa DeLauro
Member of Congress

John Yarmuth

John Yarmuth
Member of Congress

Eleanor H. Norton

Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

Suzanne Bonamici

Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress

Mike Honda

Mike Honda
Member of Congress

Mark Pocan

Mark Pocan
Member of Congress

Raul M. Grijalva

Raul M. Grijalva
Member of Congress

Suzan DelBene

Suzan DelBene
Member of Congress

Madeleine Z. Bordallo

Madeleine Z. Bordallo
Member of Congress

Tulsi Gabbard

Tulsi Gabbard
Member of Congress

Filemon Vela

Filemon Vela
Member of Congress

Robert C. "Bobby" Scott

Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress

Denny Heck

Denny Heck
Member of Congress

Alcee L. Hastings

Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress

Robert A. Brady

Robert A. Brady
Member of Congress

Niki Tsongas

Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress

Diana DeGette

Diana DeGette
Member of Congress

Charles B. Rangel

Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress

William R. Keating

William Keating
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

Anne McLane Kuster

Anne McLane Kuster
Member of Congress

Richard E. Neal

Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress

Bill Pascrell Jr.

Bill Pascrell Jr.
Member of Congress

John K. Delaney

John K. Delaney
Member of Congress

Andre Carson

Andre Carson
Member of Congress

Grace Meng

Grace Meng
Member of Congress

Paul Tonko

Paul Tonko
Member of Congress

Gerry Connolly

Gerry Connolly
Member of Congress

Carolyn B. Maloney

Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress

Dina Titus

Dina Titus
Member of Congress

Dan Kildee

Dan Kildee
Member of Congress

Zoe Lofgren

Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress

Lois Capps

Lois Capps
Member of Congress

Tammy Duckworth

Tammy Duckworth
Member of Congress

Beto O'Rourke

Beto O'Rourke
Member of Congress

Joe Kennedy

Joseph Kennedy
Member of Congress

Julia Brownley

Julia Brownley
Member of Congress

Kathy Castor

Kathy Castor
Member of Congress

Joyce Beatty

Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress

Loretta Sanchez

Loretta Sanchez
Member of Congress

Chris Gibson

Chris Gibson
Member of Congress

Xavier Becerra

Xavier Becerra
Member of Congress

Stephen F. Lynch

Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress

Lloyd Doggett

Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress

Eliot L. Engel

Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress

Alma Adams

Alma S. Adams
Member of Congress

Peter Welch

Peter Welch
Member of Congress

Michael E. Capuano

Michael E. Capuano
Member of Congress

Michelle Lujan Grisham

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Member of Congress

Katherine M. Clark

Katherine Clark
Member of Congress

Hank Johnson

Henry C. "Hank" Johnson Jr.
Member of Congress

G.K. Butterfield

G.K. Butterfield
Member of Congress

John Conyers Jr.

John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress

Mike Doyle

Mike Doyle
Member of Congress

Bonnie Watson Coleman

Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress

Collin C. Peterson

Collin C. Peterson
Member of Congress

Jared Huffman

Jared Huffman
Member of Congress

Cheri Bustos

Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress

Joe Courtney

Joe Courtney
Member of Congress

Donald S. Beyer Jr.

Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress

Gwen Graham

Gwen Graham
Member of Congress

Corrine Brown

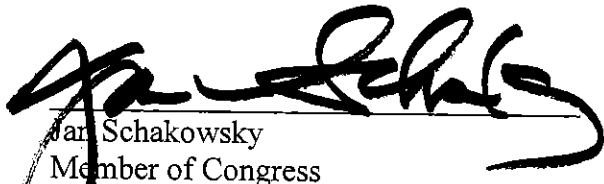
Corrine Brown
Member of Congress

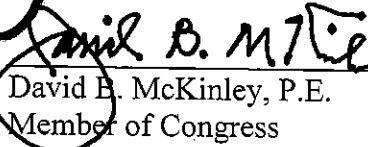
Jim Costa

Jim Costa
Member of Congress

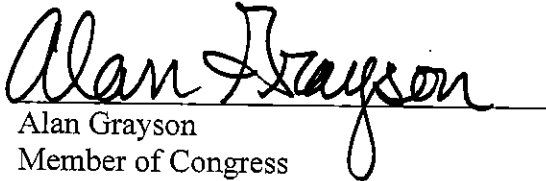
Sean Patrick Maloney

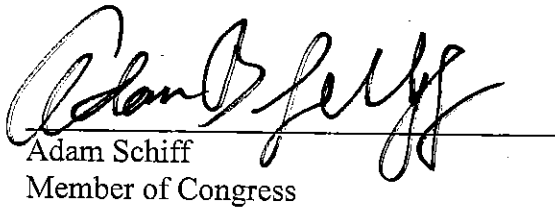
Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress

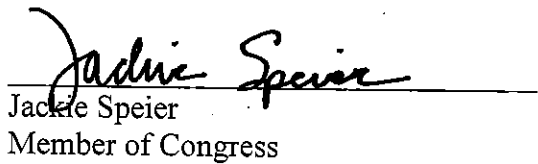

Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress

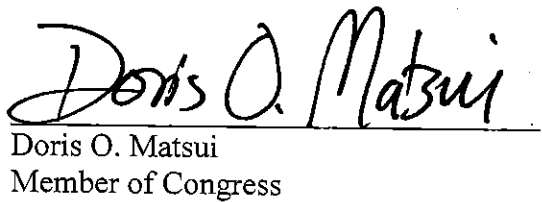

David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress

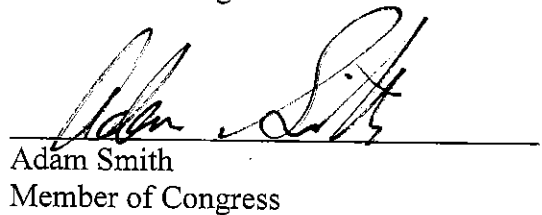

Dave Loebsack
Member of Congress

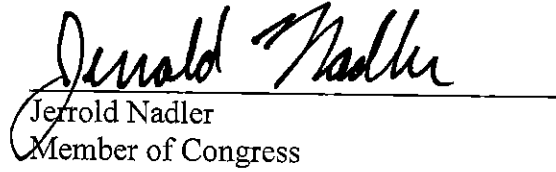

Alan Grayson
Member of Congress

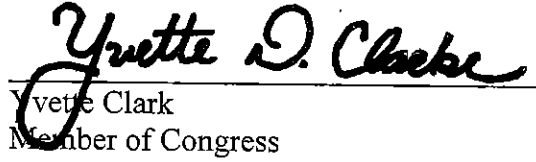

Adam Schiff
Member of Congress

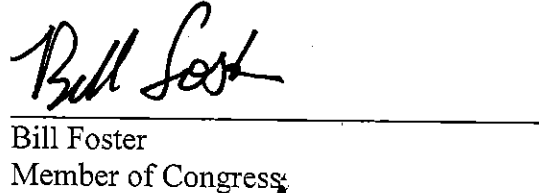

Jackie Speier
Member of Congress

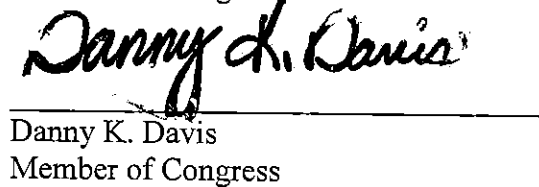

Doris O. Matsui
Member of Congress

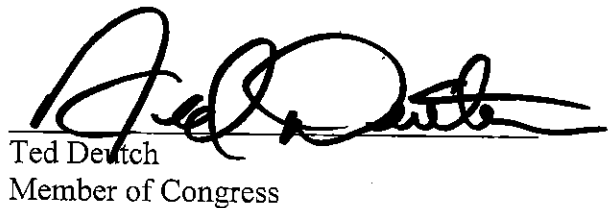

Adam Smith
Member of Congress

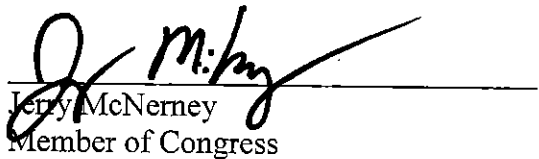

Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress

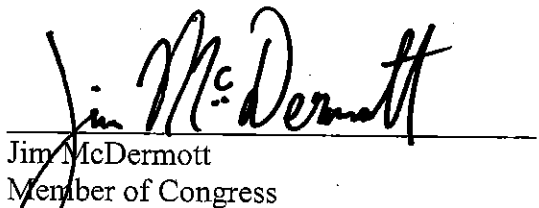

Yvette Clark
Member of Congress

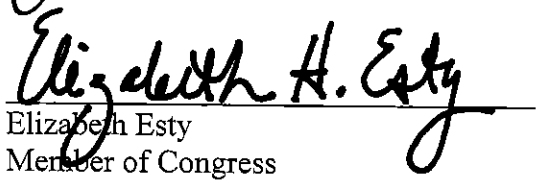

Bill Foster
Member of Congress

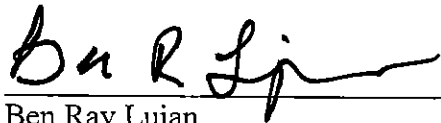

Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress


Ted Deutch
Member of Congress

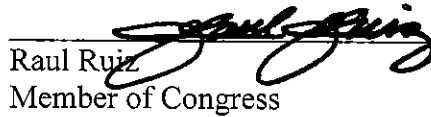

Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress


Jim McDermott
Member of Congress

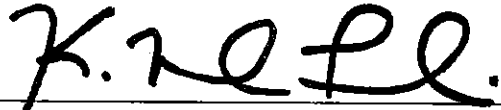

Elizabeth H. Esty
Member of Congress



Ben Ray Lujan
Member of Congress



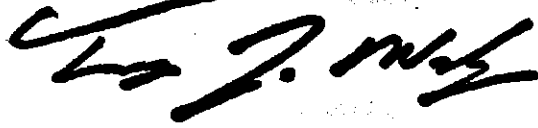
Raul Ruiz
Member of Congress



Mark Takai
Member of Congress



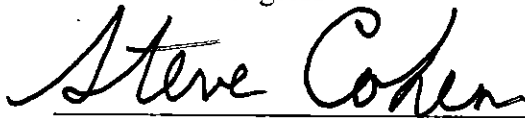
Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



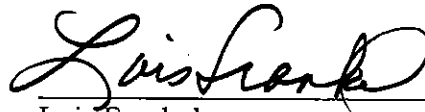
Tim Walz
Member of Congress



Louise Slaughter
Member of Congress



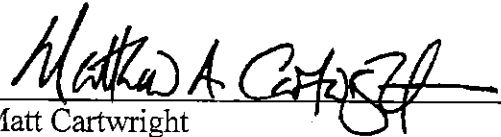
Steven Cohen
Member of Congress



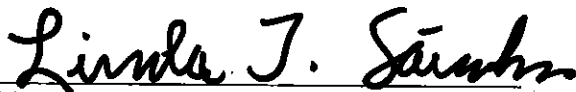
Lois Frankel
Member of Congress



Scott Peters
Member of Congress



Matt Cartwright
Member of Congress



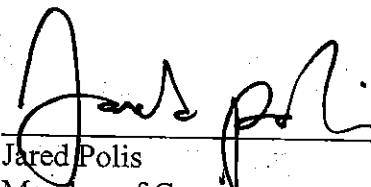
Linda Sanchez
Member of Congress



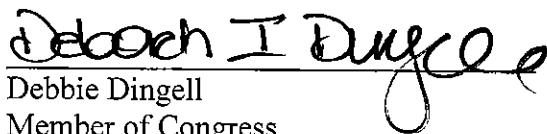
John Sarbanes
Member of Congress



Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress



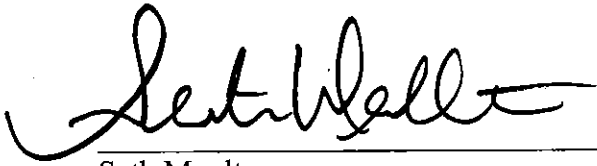
Jared Polis
Member of Congress



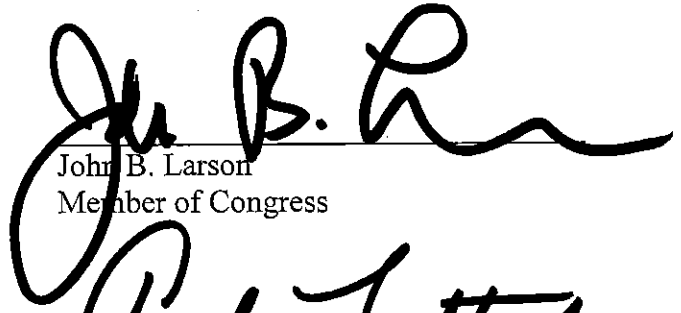
Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



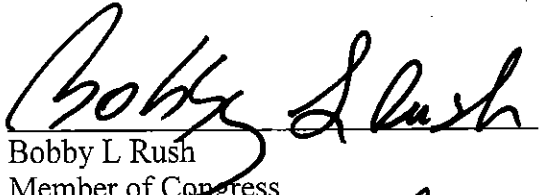
Bradley Byrne
Member of Congress



Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



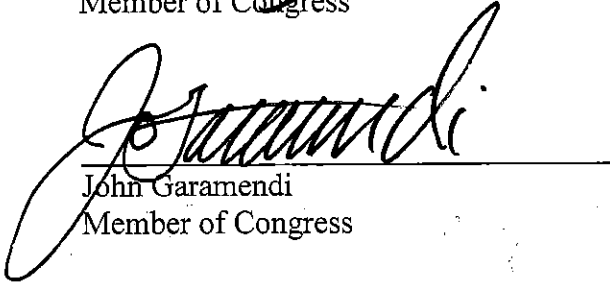
John B. Larson
Member of Congress



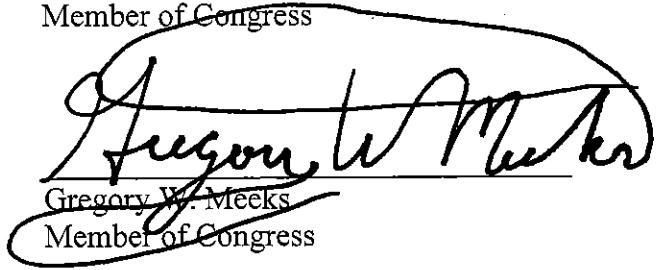
Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



Chaka Fattah
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress