



HUMANITIES NEW YORK RECEIVES GRANT FROM THE ROBERT D.L. GARDINER FOUNDATION TO STRENGTHEN CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS FOR LONG ISLAND

New York, NY, [December 10th, 2018]—Humanities New York (HNY) received a \$47,266 matching grant from the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation. These funds provide underwriting for the Long Island Public Humanities Initiative, which will support cultural organizations in Long Island to expand their audiences and create programs that reflect the rich diversity of Long Island residents.

The project will partner with history presenting institutions and community-based organizations in Long Island to enhance networks and programming that resonate with traditionally underserved audiences and communities. To do so, HNY will first conduct four focus groups in Suffolk County – one each in Huntington, Port Jefferson, Riverhead, and Rockville Center – with historians, humanities practitioners, institutional leaders, other key community stakeholders. Starting in January, these focus groups will identify topics and challenges that these participants face, which will then be used to inform the planning and implementation of a series of capacity-building workshops and "clinics" that HNY will run later in the year for those participants and the Long Island humanities community at-large.

“I am thrilled that the Gardiner Foundation has entrusted Humanities New York to facilitate a sustained engagement with the Long Island public humanities and history communities,” said Michael Washburn, HNY Director of Programs. “Suffolk County’s diversity offers both challenges and opportunities for this work, and HNY is eager to help the communities of Long Island recognize the amazing resources they have in their public history presenters and institutions.”

This is the first time that HNY has worked with the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation.

Those interested in learning more about the project should contact Michael Washburn at mwashburn@humanitiesny.org.

For press inquiries, please contact Nicholas MacDonald at nmacdonald@humanitiesny.org.

About Humanities New York:

The mission of Humanities New York is to strengthen civil society and the bonds of community, using the humanities to foster engaged inquiry and dialogue around social and cultural concerns. Established in 1975 as the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, Humanities New York is a private 501(c)3 that receives Federal, State, regional, and private funding. Visit Humanities New York online at <https://humanitiesny.org>.

About the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation:

The Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation, established in 1987, primarily supports the study of New York State history. Robert David Lion Gardiner was, until his death in August 2004, the 16th Lord of the Manor of Gardiner’s Island, NY. The Gardiner family and their descendants have owned Gardiner’s Island since 1639, obtained as part of a royal grant from King Charles I of England. The Foundation is inspired by Robert David Lion Gardiner’s personal passion for New York history. Visit the Foundation at <https://www.rdlgfoundation.org>.