



Summer 2018 NATIONAL COALITION FOR HISTORY RAAC Report

NEH ANNOUNCES \$18.6 MILLION FOR 199 HUMANITIES PROJECTS: The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) recently announced the awarding of \$18.6 million in grants to support 199 humanities projects across the country. These grants will provide digital access to the personal papers of Helen Keller and enable the creation of a new permanent exhibition at the Delta Blues Museum on the history and influence of this quintessential American musical genre. “These new NEH-supported projects deepen our understanding and appreciation of the traditions, values, and historical figures who have shaped our country,” said recently installed NEH Senior Deputy Chairman Jon Parrish Peede. See the whole list at https://www.neh.gov/files/press-release/neh_grants_april_2018.pdf

FINAL JFK ASSASSINATION DOCUMENTS TO BE HELD UNTIL 2021: The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has been under pressure for the last several months to release the remaining classified documents related to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. They were originally due for release in October 2017. President Trump granted federal agencies an additional six months to review certain documents before releasing them, and now that deadline has been extended more than three additional years, to October 26, 2021. According to NARA, all documents have now been released at least in part, but researchers may not see full documents with no redactions until the new 2021 deadline.

COMMON RULE REVISIONS PARTIALLY DELAYED: Revisions to the Common Rule, the set of regulations governing human subjects research, have been delayed a further six months, but with a few exceptions. The new rules were set to take effect on July 19, 2018, but have been delayed until January 21, 2019. However, during that interim time institutions will be allowed to take advantage of three “burden-reducing” provisions in the new regulations, including the exemption of oral history work from unnecessary and invasive Institutional Review Board oversight.

SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL COMMISSION INCLUDES FERRIERO; TIME CAPSULE PLANNED: Archivist of the United States David Ferriero is one of nine Federal Government officials tasked with facilitating national plans to observe and commemorate the country's 250th anniversary in 2026, along with eight members of Congress and 16 private citizens. The United States Semiquincentennial Commission Act of July 2016 charged the commission with planning commemorations for the celebration. In addition to chartering the Commission, the act also mandates the creation of a time capsule “to be buried in Independence Mall, Philadelphia, on July 4, 2026; and to be unearthed on the occasion of the 500th anniversary of the United States of America on July 4, 2276.” The time capsule will include books, manuscripts, relics, and other materials relating to the United States Semiquincentennial. Stay tuned!

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