

Delaware Humanities Forum *Forum Footnotes*

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February 2009



Picturing Delaware: Inside and Outside the Frame

Dear JulieAnne,

February is Black History Month and the month when Americans observe Presidents Day. Starting in February 2009, Americans can look back on a single event that has finally brought together both of these observations: the inauguration of the first Black U.S. President, Barack Obama.

For 35 years, the Delaware Humanities Forum has connected people, cultures, and ideas through initiatives, re-grants, and educational outreach. It is our pleasure to connect people, including our youngest generation, to this nation's oldest and newest historical figures.

Symposium in Kent County

The People of Delaware

The Delaware Humanities Forum is pleased to announce an upcoming two day symposium in Kent County scheduled for Friday, April 17 and Saturday, April 18. This symposium will focus on imagery that reflects the people of Delaware. This event is part of our yearlong anniversary celebration, *Picturing Delaware: Inside and Outside the Frame*.



The Forum invites you to **mark your calendar** so that you can join us for presentations by esteemed subject matter experts on topics such as Delawareans in Viet Nam, portraiture, farms, 18th century archaeology, the Underground Railroad, river pilots, the Nanticokes, and the duPont family. Participants can take part in panel discussions and break out groups which will turn the focus toward Kent County.

The symposium will be held at Dover's Wesley College. Stay tuned for more information.

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photo credit: Kathleen Buckalew

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Between Fences closes at the Center for the Creative Arts in Yorklyn on March 6, 2009! Don't miss the "Good Fences Make Good Neighbors" Fence Panel Project and Front Porch Reading Area, or the display of captivating artwork by photographer Kathleen Buckalew.

DHF Re-grant Program

2009 Grantees Announced

The Delaware Humanities Forum provides financial support for public humanities programs through its Grant Programs. We are pleased to announce that seven organizations were selected to receive funding in our first grant cycle of 2009. A total of \$34,754 was awarded to:

- **Delaware Center for Contemporary Art** (The American Scene: What is American about Contemporary Art?)
- **Delaware Military Heritage & Education Foundation** (lecture, discussion, and oral history programs)
- **Delaware Shakespeare Festival** (Shakespeare, Then, Now and Always)
- **Delaware Symphony Orchestra** (Pre-Concert Conversation Series)
- **Delmarva Discussion, Inc.** (Read, Write, THINK)
- **Lewes Historical Society** (Chautauqua Tent Show)
- **Opera Delaware** (Teaching Humanities Through Opera: Student Dress Rehearsals and Inside Opera Live)

For more information on these grants, visit our [website](#).

The next grant cycle begins in the spring. Draft proposals will be accepted until April 1, with final applications due by May 15. Decisions will be made by June 30.

Any non-profit group or organization in Delaware may apply for a grant. Visit our [website](#) for up to date information on grants, including current application forms.

Between Fences Moves to Delaware City on March 21

Free Preview Events

Join [Main Street Delaware City](#) as they prepare to host the Smithsonian Institution's *Between Fences* traveling exhibition with four nights of "fence" themed films. All films are free, and will be shown at Crabby Dick's, 30 Clinton St, Delaware City.



The films cover several topics also addressed by the *Between Fences* exhibits, including land ownership in the American frontier, the white picket fence as a symbol of perfection and sameness, U.S. borders, and invisible boundaries.

[Far and Away](#) (1993), February 21, 2009 at 7pm

[Pleasantville](#) (1998), February 28, 2009 at 7pm

[Touch of Evil](#) (1958), March 7, 2009 at 7pm

[The Truman Show](#) (1998), March 14, 2009 at 7pm

Visit the preview series [website](#) for more information.

Delaware City is one of four towns the Forum selected to host *Between Fences*, a Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibition that explores the cultural impact of fences throughout American history. The exhibit will be on display in Delaware City, at the Main Street Delaware City Arts Center from March 21 through May 1, 2009.

University of Delaware's *Global Agenda* Program

Understanding the Middle East

DHF is pleased to announce the following speaker series, being coordinated by our colleagues at the University of Delaware under their Global Agenda program.

Tinderbox: Understanding the Middle East is a bi-weekly speaker series featuring journalists, historians, diplomats, and educators with on-the-ground experience throughout the Middle East. Global Agenda 2009 offers opportunities to understand the many complex conflicts in the Middle East, over land, faith, oil, and political power—from Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Iraq, to the Gulf, and to Israel and its immediate Arab neighbors. The series begins on *Wednesday, February 20 at 7:30 p.m.* at UD's Mitchell Hall.

Visit the Global Agenda [website](#) for more information.

DID YOU KNOW?

Black History Month's [origins](#) can be traced back to Carter Godwin Woodson, who established Negro History Week in 1926.

The month of February was selected because Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln were both born in that month. Woodson was the founder of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, and a publisher of periodicals on Black life and Black people.

Woodson's life was dedicated to educating people about the contributions made by Black people throughout history, including many inventions such as the typewriter, the fountain pen, the mailbox, the telegraph, and the golf tee,

and things we take for granted such as crop rotation, dry cleaning, and the commode toilet. The list of Black inventors inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame continues to grow.

As Black History Month draws to a close, many local organizations continue to offer opportunities for reflection and celebration. Some examples are listed below:

- Black History Festival sponsored by Lower Sussex Branch of NAACP, Feb. 21, 4-7 p.m. at Georgetown Middle School featuring music, poetry, historical and other presentations. Tickets, \$10; children 3 and under free.
- [Black History Month Expo](#), Feb. 24, Dover
- [Third Annual Cultural Extravaganza](#), Feb. 27, Wilmington (includes a screening of the DHF-sponsored film, *A Dream Deferred: Remembering the 1968 Occupation*)

Thank you for your interest in the Delaware Humanities Forum.

As mentioned previously, the Forum is celebrating its 35th Anniversary this year. It is thanks to you, for your interest in and support of the humanities in Delaware over the years, that it is possible for us to reach this milestone.

Please consider becoming a Friend of the Forum today by making a donation.

Friends of the Forum are the first to find out about opportunities, such as our Humanities Salons, and through the generous support of our Friends, the Forum offers nearly all of our programs free of charge to the citizens of Delaware.

We can now accept your donations online! Click [here](#) to make your gift now.

Sincerely,



Marilyn P. Whittington
Executive Director
Delaware Humanities Forum

ABOUT THE DELAWARE HUMANITIES FORUM

The humanities—subjects which include literature, ethics, political science and history—help people make a connection between their own lives and other people, cultures, and ideas. Through grants and public program offerings, the Delaware Humanities Forum builds bridges to connect the daily life and work of people to the universe of human experience, thought, and imagination. The Forum brings the public together with cultural, educational, and civic

institutions statewide, and focuses on issues of public interest and concern.

As a state division of the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Delaware Humanities Forum supports organizations by awarding grants and implementing project initiatives such as lectures, symposia, exhibitions, classroom programs, and media projects. Your non-profit organization, school, library, or government agency may qualify for funding from the Forum and can obtain subject matter experts for lectures and presentations. To learn more about funding opportunities and the other resources available through the Delaware Humanities Forum, visit our website at <http://www.dhf.org> or call 302.657.0650 or toll free 800.752.2060.

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