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FHC Forum: Introduction to the Collection

Through an agreement with the Florida Humanities Council (FHC), the USFSP Digital Archive hosts online issues of *Forum*, a magazine published for the membership of that organization. Issues include a variety of short articles and vignettes that focus on various areas of the humanities, including history, literature, folklore, anthropology, arts, music, and dramatic performance, with a focus on Florida and various communities. Frequently, the editors of *Forum* publish issues that focus on a broader theme, such as environmental awareness or building a sense of place.

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Organizational History

The Florida Humanities Council is dedicated to building strong communities and informed citizens by providing Floridians with the opportunity to explore the heritage, traditions and stories of our state and its place in the world.

Established in 1973 as a private non-profit organization, the Florida Humanities Council (FHC) (originally known as the Florida Endowment for the Humanities) is the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. FHC uses the disciplines of the humanities to develop public programs and resources that explore history, literary and artistic traditions, cultural values, and ethics.

FHC provides grants to non-profit organizations to provide public humanities programs and cultural resources in their communities. FHC also designs and coordinates workshops for K-12 teachers, conducts heritage tours, operates a humanities speakers bureau, and partners with libraries to provide family literacy programs and cultural exhibits. FHC’s award-winning magazine, FORUM, which is circulated throughout the state, provides historic perspective and cultural insight into a wide-range of Florida topics.

Governed by a 25-member board comprised of members of the academic, public, nonprofit and corporate sectors, FHC board members serve a renewable three-year term. Six members of the FHC board are appointed by the Governor. FHC funding comes from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the State of Florida, and private donation.