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What Can You Do to Protect Humanities Guåhan?

Federal Cuts Threaten the Future of Local Programming

On April 2, 2025, Humanities Guåhan received official notice that all active grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) have been canceled, effective retroactively to April 1. This sudden action, directed by the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), impacts Guam and every U.S. state and territory receiving NEH support.

These cuts include our General Operating Support Grant and funding for the Pacific Islands Cultural Initiative—core resources that make our programs possible.

What's at Risk?

Humanities Guåhan has been serving the people of Guåhan for over 30 years, offering programs that:

- Preserve Chamoru language & culture
- Support family literacy and youth education
- Connect generations through storytelling
- Amplify Micronesian perspectives
- Train educators and students across the island

The loss of these critical resources poses an immediate and serious threat to Guam's cultural, educational, and community-based programming.

How You Can Help

STEP 1: Contact Your Leaders

Call or email Guam's congressional delegate, senators, and local leaders to speak out in support of restoring NEH funding. *Use the script below.*

STEP 2: Make a Donation

Support our continued efforts by emailing info@humanitiesguahan.org to make a gift or learn how to contribute.

STEP 3: Spread the Word

Share your connection to Humanities Guåhan and why the humanities matter:

- Post on social media
 - Write letters to the editor
 - Talk to friends, family, and community leaders
-

Community Call Script

Håfa adai. My name is **[Your Name]**, and I live in **[Village/Community]** in Guam.

I'm calling to express my deep concern about the recent federal cuts to the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), which have led to the cancellation of all grants for Humanities Guåhan. These grants support essential programs that preserve Chamoru language and culture, provide literacy and youth education, engage elders, and connect our island through history and storytelling.

The loss of this funding poses an immediate threat to our cultural and educational life—and to over 30 years of work that Humanities Guåhan has done for our community.

I respectfully ask that you speak out, advocate for the restoration of NEH funding, and stand in support of Humanities Guåhan and the broader public humanities network. We need your leadership now more than ever to protect the stories, voices, and values that define us.

Thank you for your time and commitment to our island.

Customizable Email Template

Subject: Please Advocate for Humanities Guåhan

Dear **[Delegate/Senator/Leader's Name]**,

My name is **[Your Full Name]**, and I am a **[your role – e.g., student, parent, educator, elder, artist, veteran]** from **[Village/Community]** in Guam. I'm writing to express my deep concern about the recent decision to cancel all active grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), which directly impacts Humanities Guåhan and its vital work in our community.

I was part of the [name of program or event] in [year], and it made a lasting impact on me. [Share a few sentences: What did you learn? How did you grow? Did it inspire, heal, educate, or connect you to your culture or community?]

What I value most about Humanities Guåhan is [insert personal reflection, e.g. the safe space for dialogue, the focus on local voices, the support for artists, the cultural learning]

For over 30 years, Humanities Guåhan has supported programs that:

- Preserve Chamoru language and cultural traditions
- Provide literacy programs for families and youth
- Engage veterans and elders in storytelling and healing
- Bring artists, authors, and educators into classrooms and community spaces
- Foster meaningful dialogue on identity, belonging, and civic engagement

The loss of NEH funding threatens these essential programs and the people and stories behind them. This is not just about numbers, it's about community, connection, and continuity.

I respectfully urge you to stand with Humanities Guåhan and advocate for the restoration of NEH funding and to help secure support from our local government. Your leadership can help ensure our island continues to share its stories and strengthen its future.

Thank you for your time and your service to our people.

Sincerely,

[Your Full Name]

[Village or Municipality]

[Optional: Role, Organization]

Learn More

Visit www.humanitiesguahan.org to explore our past work and see how NEH support has impacted our island.