

**Talking Points for the Media**

If you are contacted by a reporter for an interview about your Mississippi Humanities Council grant, please keep these points in mind when sharing your thoughts and feelings about your organization being awarded an MHC grant.

• First and foremost, if asked, please be very clear this Mississippi Humanities Council grant is to support **[INSERT PROJECT NAME OR INITIATIVE]**.

• Remember to say the full name of the organization receiving the MHC grant and the purpose of the grant is important information for the reporter and the public. *(Something simple for instance: The Mississippi Humanities Council grant empowers* ***{your organization’s full name}*** *to develop innovative projects and programs that encourage critical thinking, cultural exchange, and community participation.)*

• Please refer to our organization as the Mississippi Humanities Council, MHC or the Council. Using the correct name is essential in strengthening public and media awareness about the Council across the state.

• Tell your story. Share anecdotes that illustrate the challenges to your organization. Express your appreciation for the MHC grant and for the Mississippi Humanities Council being able to give these funds to organizations like yours.

• Some questions you may be asked and for which you can prepare for before the interview:

\*How did you find out about Mississippi Humanities Council grants?

\* What are you going to use the money for/how will the money be used to support your organization?

\*How has your organization been affected by lack of funds previously?

\*What will you be able to do now that you have this grant money that you wouldn't be able to do before?