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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Beyond the Page and Dane County Libraries seeking applications for year of programming around themes of race and equity**

**Dane County, WI**-- Beyond the Page is seeking applications for humanities-based programs from across Dane County that will take place in 2022. $30,000 has been set aside to fund programming around themes of race and equity in 2022. Those funds can be applied for and used to pay speakers and performers, market the event, and coordinate logistics.

Beyond the Page is seeking proposals for programs in the following areas:

* Art/music/culture with a humanities focus (performances, workshops, etc.)
* Understanding race and racism through a humanities lens (history, storytelling, etc.)
* Programs designed by and for people of color (wellness, empowerment, community-building, etc.)

Strong applications will make a clear connection to the humanities and will engage audiences in connection with others. Programs may be targeted at children, teens, adults, seniors and/or families.

In addition, applicant support and coaching is available in helping the program meet the humanities requirement. The humanities are the methods through which we explore, understand and document our individual and collective human experiences. Humanities disciplines include language; literature; history, theory and criticism of the arts; philosophy; comparative religion; history; ethics and more. If you want support, contact Ali Treviño-Murphy (trevino-murphy@dcls.info or call 608-217-0451) for assistance with the application process. Presenters of color are encouraged to apply.

Applications will be accepted through June 1, 2021 or until project needs are met.

<https://www.beyondthepage.info/apply>

**About Beyond the Page**

Beyond the Page supports Dane County public libraries by connecting and engaging our community through programs that celebrate our individual and collective human experiences. In 2011, the Beyond the Page Endowment Fund began through the collaboration of Dane County libraries and the [Madison Community Foundation](https://www.madisongives.org/), with the goal of increasing program funding for the libraries. A 3:1 challenge grant of $350,000 was awarded by the [National Endowment for the Humanities](https://www.neh.gov/), matched by Dane County libraries and the Madison Community Foundation. Beyond the Page funding allows member libraries, both individually and collaboratively, to offer a rich variety of public humanities programming. Beyond the Page also encourages libraries to build upon already substantial collections and programs for patrons and to craft new partnerships with humanists and humanities programs throughout the county.

**About Ripple Project 2022**

In 2022, Beyond the Page will launch the [Ripple Project 2022](https://www.beyondthepage.info/ripple-project-2022)-- a year-long initiative to leverage Dane County libraries to engage communities in meaningful reflection and dialogue about race. All funds will be applied toward the year of programming around themes of race and equity. In addition to offering free public programming focused on racial equity throughout the year, library staff in Dane County have been participating in a series of virtual diversity, equity and inclusion trainings.