



“To promote an understanding of the life and times of President Woodrow Wilson, his impact on the world, his relevance today and for the future.”

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Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library Awarded Coronavirus Relief Grant *New education projects to be created for the community*

STAUNTON, VA –the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library has received an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) CARES Act Grant. The \$116,000 grant will support the design and implementation of programs focused on history and civic engagement in response to the disruption in education resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. A total of \$13.8 million dollars will be distributed by the IMLS to 68 funded projects that were selected from over 1700 applications.

Said IMLS Director Crosby Kemper, “While the pandemic’s widespread impact has changed how museums and libraries engage with their communities, it has not stopped them from providing information, education, support, entertainment, and other incredible resources. We deeply appreciate the work that museums and libraries are doing as they continue their missions in the face of hardship. We urge other funders, local governments, and foundations to partner with their communities to fund more of this critical work and explore additional ways to stabilize these essential organizations now and for the future.”

At the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library, the grant will be used to create programs and activities for nonprofit service providers, teachers and the general public. The project team will develop age-appropriate materials that can be delivered in multiple ways, including digital content and educational activity boxes, including a "Build a Quarantine Museum" program which will allow local members of the community to tell their story of the COVID-19 crisis. The project will also produce teacher resources that will focus on teaching difficult subjects such as segregation and genocide through primary resources.

“All of us at the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library are grateful for the generous support given by the IMLS,” said Robin von Seldeneck, President and CEO. “This grant will allow us to continue to create new learning opportunities in civics and history education for the community, while keeping staff members employed.”

The IMLS is an independent federal government agency that supports America’s museums, libraries and related organizations through grantmaking, research and policy development. The IMLS received 1701 eligible applications from museums and libraries requesting more than \$409 million in funding for



projects that will take place over a two year period. The full IMLS Press Release can be found at <https://www.ims.gov/news/american-libraries-and-museums-awarded-138-million-ims-cares-act-grants>.

The Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library and Museum is an educational institution dedicated to the study of the life of President Wilson and times in which he lived. In addition to welcoming museum visitors from around the world, the Presidential Library produces online educational programming for people of all ages. The Museum is located at 20 N. Coalter Street and is currently open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday – Saturday, and 12 – 4 p.m. on Sundays. For additional information, call 540-885-0897 x 113 or visit www.woodrowwilson.org.

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