



## Press Release

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium Receives Oklahoma Humanities H.O.P.E. (Humanities Organizations Pandemic Emergency) Grant

**May 4, 2020** – TULSA, OK – The Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium was selected to receive a H.O.P.E. grant from the Oklahoma Humanities organization in the amount of \$22,650.00 to be used for emergency general operating support and staff retention in the humanities and cultural sectors. Thirty-five grants were awarded to Oklahoma organizations for total funding of \$481,100.

#HOPEinOK  
#OkHUMANITIES  
@OkHUMANITIES  
#NEHcares  
@NEHgov

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic public health crisis, Oklahoma Humanities is providing emergency grants for general operating support and staff retention for cultural and humanities organizations in awards ranging from \$5,000 to \$25,000. The Oklahoma H.O.P.E. Grants (Oklahoma Humanities Organizations Pandemic Emergency Grants) initiative funding was made available by the \$2.2 trillion relief package passed by the federal government on March 27, 2020, and are made possible by a national cultural stimulus package from the National Endowment for the Humanities: Exploring the human endeavor.

This emergency funding will support at-risk humanities positions and projects at museums, libraries and archives, historic sites, colleges and universities, and other cultural nonprofits that have been financially impacted by the coronavirus.

TASM's annual gala, The Aviator Ball, was originally scheduled for May 2, 2020, but has been rescheduled for September 26, 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The H.O.P.E. grant provides critical funding in the absence of the annual Aviator Ball fundraiser.

Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium's Executive Director, Tonya Blansett, is



encouraged by the generous grant, “During this most difficult time, when resources are scarce, we are very thankful for the generosity and consideration by the Oklahoma Humanities grant organizers, and for the federal relief package that is bringing HOPE to small businesses and especially non-profits.”

TASM supporters and patrons can also help by purchasing an annual membership that is active until January 1, 2022. Membership benefits include discount store purchases, discounted venue rental and birthday parties, flight lab access, special member-only sneak peaks, and other great benefits.

The Museum Store is another great opportunity to support TASM, and find unique gifts. Store merchandise can be viewed, and purchased online with shipping or curbside pickup. Other ways to support TASM include donations, sponsorships for events and volunteering time in various areas of need. Visit **TulsaMuseum.org** for more information, or email **info@tulsamuseum.org**.

### **About the Museum**

With a mission to preserve Oklahoma’s aerospace history and to inspire science-based learning through discovery, the Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium (TASM) has carved out a unique niche in the Oklahoma museum community, with our focus on the aviation/aerospace industry, which is the second largest employer in the state. TASM has been exposing students to real-world applications of STEM for over 15 years. Last year, more than 33,000 students participated in STEM engagement, consisting of museum tours, hands-on activities, interactive exhibits, inspirational messages and planetarium educational programming.