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**OSAWATOMIE PUBLIC LIBRARY SELECTED FOR COMPETITIVE FEDERAL HUMANITIES GRANT**  
***\$10,000 Grant Will Help the Library Recover from the Coronavirus Pandemic***

*Osawatomie, Kansas* — Osawatomie Public Library has been selected for the American Library Association’s American Rescue Plan: Humanities Grants for Libraries opportunity, an emergency relief program to assist libraries that have been adversely affected by the pandemic.

With funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Osawatomie Public Library will use awarded funds to anchor itself in the community as a strong humanities institution. The competitive award comes with a \$10,000 grant that will help the library deliver excellent programs and services related to culture, history, literature, and other humanities subjects.

More than 370 libraries applied for the grant, according to ALA, and 200 were awarded. [View the full list of selected libraries.](#)

The participating libraries, selected through a competitive, peer-reviewed application process, include public libraries, academic/college libraries, K-12 libraries, and tribal, special and prison libraries. The recipients represent 45 states and Puerto Rico and serve communities ranging in size from 642 residents in Weir, Kansas, to the City of Los Angeles. Libraries were chosen with an emphasis on reaching historically underserved and/or rural communities.

“I am so proud of our library for being part of this incredible opportunity,” said Library Director Dr. Morgan Crabtree. “This grant will truly help us to come out of the pandemic with a new energy and focus on enriching our community through the humanities.”

Osawatomie Public Library will use the grant funds to preserve and restore library and community history, including the original 1912 Carnegie Library blueprints and 1901 Miami County Atlas filled with local history notes, photographs, and newspaper clippings, as well as to bolster their presence at the community’s annual Freedom Festival, which is a celebration of their heritage as an abolitionist settlement during the era of Bleeding Kansas in pre-Civil War America. To learn more about Osawatomie Public Library’s plans for the grant, please visit <https://www.osawatomiex.org/>.

“Libraries have faced significant hardships throughout the pandemic —from budget cuts to staff furloughs to building closures — especially in our communities of the greatest need,” said ALA President Patty Wong. “This crucial support from NEH will enable our beloved institutions, and the dedicated people who run them, to rebuild and emerge from the pandemic stronger than ever.”



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*(Continued)*

American Rescue Plan: Humanities Grants for Libraries is an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) made possible with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021."

*"Osawatomie Public is a small but mighty public library maintaining a variety of community resources. We strive to be an anchor for the arts, life-long learning, and culture in our community. In short, we are a place to belong."*

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