

August 31, 2005

Contact: Scott Hirko, Public Relations Officer
(517) 372-7770 -- shirko@mihumanities.org

HUMANITIES COUNCIL ADDS TWO TO STAFF

*Cynthia Dimitrijevic of Holt named Director of Grants and
Greg Parker of Grass Lake named Program and Development Officer*

(LANSING)-----The Michigan Humanities Council (MHC) announces it has added two members to its staff. **Cynthia Dimitrijevic of Holt** will serve as MHC's Director of Grants and **Greg Parker of Grass Lake** will serve as its Program and Development Officer.

"The Michigan Humanities Council is strengthening its organization by adding two individuals with extensive experience in grant review and program development," stated Jan Fedewa, executive director of the Michigan Humanities Council. "We are excited to bring their leadership and ideas to help enhance public humanities programming across Michigan."

Cynthia Dimitrijevic of Holt brings to MHC an extensive background as a departmental analyst and grant review for the state of Michigan, where she spent 28 years. From 1994 through 2002, she worked in the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality as a departmental analyst and communications development coordinator for the Educational Outreach Section of the department's Environmental Assistance Division. Dimitrijevic served in the Department of Commerce as an export and departmental analyst and helped to develop outreach efforts for 13 Michigan Technical Assistance Centers (MTAC) as well as provide other technical assistance to small businesses. She monitored performance and compliance of Housing and Urban Community Development Block grants for the Office of Federal Grant Management from 1990-1992. Dimitrijevic also served as a departmental analyst to then-Governor James Blanchard from 1989-1990 and served as an administrative assistant in the Michigan Department of Commerce from 1980-1987. Dimitrijevic most recently worked as Office Manager at Merindorf Meats in Mason. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Community Development and Public Administration from Central Michigan University.

Gregory Parker of Grass Lake brings to the Council experience and leadership in program design and development. Since 2000, he worked in Student Leadership and Academic Services at the University of Michigan's College of Engineering in Ann Arbor, where he co-developed the Academic Mentoring Program. While at the University, he also provided leadership on a variety of policy and search committees. From 1999-2000, Parker was the Associate Director for the ReadNet Foundation in New York and served as a teaching assistant in the History Department at Columbia University from 1998-1999. Notable is his service as a museum intern for the Texas Rangers Baseball Club's "Legends of the Game" Museum in summer 1998. An avid traveler and home improvement enthusiast, Parker graduated earned a Master of Arts in American History from Columbia University in 1998 and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor in 1997.

The Michigan Humanities Council, founded in 1974, is the state's independent, non-profit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

###