

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 10, 2022

Megan Coleman, Howe Library
603-640-3252
megan.coleman@thehowe.org

Howe Library to receive NH State Library ARPA grant funding

Howe Library is pleased to announce that it has been awarded \$34,624 in funding through the Institute for Museum and Library Services' "Grants to States" program. The grant program is part of the American Rescue Act Plan of 2021 and is being facilitated by the N.H. State Library.

Howe Library will use this grant award to work with two community partners, Northern Stage and CATV, to generate collaborative programming, which will be presented to the community through a new Zoom Room at the library.

In the grant application, Howe Library detailed that the Zoom Room will enable library programs to be fully hybrid events, thanks to integrated audiovisual equipment and software that provides a seamless viewing experience, and will promote equity of access to lifelong learning and community connection. The library will work with Northern Stage to choose 2022's Everyone is Reading selection, around a theme of regional or national concern, and to produce programming based on those themes. CATV will help produce these events for recording and assist with video editing, as well as air the content on their channels. Everyone is Reading is Howe Library's annual community reading program, in which the library encourages Upper Valley residents to read the same book and offers programming and events around themes in that book.

Howe Library director Rubi Simon said "we are thrilled to partner with two outstanding organization, Northern Stage and CATV. We are confident that the long-term investment in hybrid programming will allow us to sustain our commitment to our community in an ever-changing world."

"New Hampshire's strong relationship with its public libraries was made even more evident during the past two years, when librarians and their staffs were able to adjust services nimbly in order to continue to meet the needs of their communities," said N.H. State Librarian Michael York. "The innovative programs funded by these grants will continue to strengthen not only public library services, but also the communities in which the libraries reside."

"As pillars of our communities, libraries and museums bring people together by providing important programs, services and collections. These institutions are trusted spaces where people can learn, explore and grow," said IMLS Director Crosby Kemper. "IMLS is proud to support their initiatives through our grants as they educate and enhance their communities."

Howe Library's goal is to have the Zoom Room installed in January and start offering programming to the public by March.

Part of the N.H. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, the N.H. State Library promotes excellence in libraries and library services to all New Hampshire residents, by assisting libraries and the people of New Hampshire with rapid access to library and informational resources through the development and coordination of a statewide library/information system; by meeting the informational needs of New Hampshire's state, county and municipal governments and its libraries; and by serving as a resource for New Hampshire. For more information, visit nh.gov/nhsl.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's libraries and museums. We advance, support, and empower America's museums, libraries, and related organizations through grantmaking, research, and policy development. Our vision is a nation where museums and libraries work together to transform the lives of individuals and communities. To learn more, visit www.ims.gov and follow IMLS on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

###