



### Application Process

- Download this checklist, the “Guide for Teachers and Facilitators” and a current *Connections* application** from the forms library on the *Connections* page of NH Humanities website
- Review the *Connections*** page of the NH Humanities website for an overview and procedures, and the book database for ideas for theme and book selections.
- Contact *Connections* Coordinator Terry Farish**, by email at [tfarish@nhhumanities.org](mailto:tfarish@nhhumanities.org) or phone, (603-224-4071) to communicate your interest in hosting a *Connections* book discussion series for your class. Please indicate:
  - The **time frame** you are considering for your series
  - Your class’s **reading level**
  - **Themes** your class might be interested in exploring

You can also schedule a time to meet face-to-face with the coordinator either at the Humanities office or your classroom. **Make a plan for a program evaluation at the end of the series.** This can either be accomplished with a site visit by the *Connections* Coordinator or another evaluator, or through a debriefing discussion which you guide your students through. See forms.

- Communicate with your *Connections* discussion facilitator** once you have been introduced through our office by phone or email. Plan a face-to-face meeting. It can also be very helpful for the facilitator to meet your class in advance of the program. You, your class and your facilitator can discuss themes and select books for your series. Please see the **Guide for Teachers and Facilitators** in the forms library.
- Confirm the availability of books on your list with the *Connections* office before filling out the application.** Unavailable titles can be replaced with high-quality alternatives.
- Fill out the application form electronically** and sign with an electronic signature, date and email as an attachment or scan to [tfarish@nhhumanities.org](mailto:tfarish@nhhumanities.org). **To ensure the timely delivery of books, applications must be received at least six weeks prior to the scheduled beginning of your discussion series.**

### Prior to Your Series

- Download supplementary forms**
  - **Attendance and Class Lists** - Supporting foundations require NH Humanities to report demographic information. Please fill in attendance data for each week of the program. **You may then submit the attendance data by email, fax or mail at the end of the program.** Class list is for certificates.

- **Photo release form** - Each student will need to sign their own form for photographs taken for use in NH Humanities print and/or online materials. Forms can be scanned and emailed, faxed or mailed to our office. **Students are not required to sign this release in order to participate.**
  - **Consent to publish** - Students who are interested in submitting any written materials for the *Connections* blog or NH Humanities newsletter will need to sign their own form, which can be scanned and emailed, faxed or mailed to us.
  - **Program flyer template** - You can use this template to promote the series for your students. If you make your own flyer or any other promotional materials, they must include the NH Humanities logo and formal acknowledgment, also available in the forms library.
- Plan first book discussion with your facilitator – see “Guide for Teachers and Facilitators”**

## During Your Series

- Coordinate prep and supplemental activities with your facilitator (see “Guide for Teachers and Facilitators”)**
- Create a classroom environment that encourages discussion by:**
  - **Moving classroom furniture** so that participants face each other in an open circle or square around large, (or clusters of small) tables. You can also set up activity areas in the room. Facilitators often bring in hands-on materials and projects, so plan in advance how these activities will be best served by the arrangement of your space.
  - **Bringing in special refreshments** the day of the book group. Coordinate with facilitator and class about foods which might represent a theme.
- Check in with facilitator at the end of each session to debrief and plan for next session.**

## At the End of Your Series

- Coordinate Program Evaluation**
- Complete Teacher’s Evaluation on Constant Contact**
- Send in attendance, class list, release and consent forms and photos you would like to share.**