The mission of the American Humanist Association (AHA) is to advance humanism. Advocating for equality for nontheists and a society guided by reason, empathy, and our growing knowledge of the world, the AHA promotes a worldview that encourages individuals to live informed and meaningful lives that aspire to the greater good.

Humanism by the Numbers

663,500 Likes on Facebook
73,500 Twitter followers
30,600 Instagram followers

$30.58M Earned media value
47,000 Email subscribers

90+ Seminars, lectures, and events hosted
242 AHA Chapters and Affiliates

President’s Message

Most of us started out 2021 hoping for a new beginning, for our families from the end of the pandemic, for our republic after the 2020 election, and for the AHA which was starting a search for a new leader.

Our nationwide search ended in great success when our new Executive Director, Nadya Dutchin, joined us in December. With impressive experience in nonprofit leadership and being a humanist dedicated to a more just and equitable world, she will be an asset to the humanist community. Her experience working with young people and BIPOC communities on the overwhelmingly important issue of our time, the climate crisis, will be of great value in executing on two of the strategic goals of the AHA: to accelerate participation by young humanists and to expand humanist involvement in social justice.

While we were in a leadership transition, our excellent staff team continued to work tirelessly under the interim leadership of Deputy Director Nicole Carr. We had another very successful virtual conference, and our Education Center hosted more than ninety virtual events on topics of concern to humanists, ranging widely from climate equity to children’s mental health during the pandemic. During the largest grassroots lobby day in our history, humanists nationwide met with more than fifty congressional offices to advocate for the Do No Harm Act, intended to ensure that no one can use their religious beliefs to side-step long-established civil rights protections. Our legal efforts continued strongly, with our Legal Center filing a lawsuit on behalf of a student and her parents against an Oklahoma school system that hosted a “missionaries” assembly every month for decades for students as young as prekindergarten, during which students were coerced into participating in talks about Jesus and were given copies of the New Testament. A clear violation of the Establishment Clause.

While the hopes for a great new beginning at the AHA came to fruition, the hopes we had across the planet for moving beyond the pandemic in 2021, did not. I wish you and your family the very best as we all work our way through some very challenging times for our physical and mental health.

Hopes of a new beginning for our republic also did not pan out. As a community that takes seriously our tagline about being good, the continued degradation of ethical behavior in our public life is of deep concern. A society in which a large fraction of politicians and other public officials consider it the norm to continuously lie about something as fundamental as the results of a presidential election, is a society with a very worrisome future. Organizations such as ours which represent a minority viewpoint need the highest standards of democracy and the rule of law to be maintained in our republic if we are to have any hope of a level playing field on which we can pursue our mission.

As the truth continues to be a casualty, we will be called on to make choices again in the 2022 elections. Registering and voting is the least we can all do to preserve our democracy, but you could go further by impressing on all around you, especially young people, the critical importance of the nation’s choices this year. Even as many leaders of the godly work in favor of voter suppression, doing whatever you can to make sure that every eligible voter who wants to vote is able to vote, would be a great way of being good and showing that you would rather be good than godly any day.

—Sunil Panikkath
Message from the New Executive Director

I joined the AHA in December of 2021 which means that the one month I completed didn’t materially contribute to the overall accomplishments made by our staff and volunteers. However, the audacious goals laid out in the Strategic Plan and impact of the AHA’s work are what prompted me to apply for, and ultimately accept, the opportunity to become its Executive Director. Over the course of pandemic throughout 2020 and 2021, I noticed a disturbing trend: the extractive practice of hiring Black women to diversify movements and solve internal diversity, equity, and inclusion issues with little to no support from Board members, funders, and other stakeholders. I was relieved to learn that this was not the case here at the AHA and was probably the largest contributing factor to my accepting this job. Because I value my health and sanity, I didn’t want to be set up to fail, burn-out, or both and I was assured by the members of the Executive Search Committee, AHA Board, and AHA Staff that creating a healthy and beautifully diverse movement is a priority that everyone is passionate about achieving.

Once I began the onboarding process, I learned about the complex history of the AHA and its adjunct organizations and about the day-to-day work that continued on in the face of successes, challenges, failures, and the many opportunities to effect change in the world. An important part of the AHA’s history occurred last year as my predecessor, Roy Speckhardt, departed the organization to make room for a BIPOC leader to push the organization and movement forward. For four months, the AHA did not have an Executive leader, but Nicole Carr ensured that operations continued seamlessly and worked closely with the Executive Search Committee to ultimately find and appoint me as its new leader. I’d like to thank both Nicole and Roy for their vision, diligence, and stewardship of the AHA and our Staff. I also want to express my deepest gratitude for each and every member of our brilliant staff who continued to support our members, chapters, donors, affiliates, and volunteers without missing a beat. Some of the programmatic successes AHA Staff achieved in the last year were:

▶ Our Call for Voices writing program experienced tremendous growth as the number of writers approved went up by 350%.

▶ We held the largest grassroots lobby day in AHA’s history. In one day, humanists from across the country met with more than fifty congressional offices to advocate for the Do No Harm Act, which was introduced in the Senate with twenty-nine original cosponsors shortly after.

▶ We hosted a record of over ninety events through our education center for humanists worldwide.

Learn more about these achievements in the pages ahead. These successes have laid a solid foundation for us to continue to build on as an organization and as a movement. We have a lot of exciting work ahead of us as we work to transform the AHA and reinvigorate the humanist movement to lead the way to a more just and equitable society by our example and not just our words. Some of the priorities set out for me include executing on year two of the Strategic Plan and implementing the recommendations made after our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) audit to ensure that our organization and movement continue to dismantle the many facets of white supremacy culture and codify anti-racist practices in our work. It may seem daunting, but as we know—many hands make light work—and if we work to build power together with one another and other movement partners, grassroots organizers, and grassroots organizations we will create sustainable structural changes to manifest the progressive society we envision for ourselves and future generations. I want us to look forward together and take actions that are rooted in love, kindness, and abundance—even in the face of disappointment, fear, and frustration. Success for humanists (and our larger society) won’t come easily, but we are on the precipice of irreversible damage to the Earth and every living being on it and we have to dig deep to find radical hope and solutions to our problems together. Please, take this as an invitation to join us in whatever way you can best serve the movement and I look forward to seeing you out there in the world making positive changes in our local communities and around the globe.

Yours in Humanism,

—Nadya Dutchin
American Humanist Association Board of Directors
As of January 1, 2022

Robert Boston
Vanessa Gomez Brake
Candace Gorham
Abby Hafer
John Hooper, Treasurer

Jennifer Kalmanson
Howard Katz
Juhem Navarro-Rivera
Sunil Panikkath, President

Christine Shellska, Secretary
Mandisa Thomas, Vice President
Jason Wiles
Nadya Dutchin, Executive Director
Commemorating its fifteenth year in 2021, the Appignani Humanist Legal Center (AHLC) continues to be the leading advocacy arm of the nontheist movement. It defends the rights of atheist, humanist, and secular minorities in the courts, while adding the humanist perspective to the most significant church-state separation cases in the United States today. Our work expands religious freedom in the United States for all, which, as part of the First Amendment, is recognized as one of the most fundamental rights enjoyed by citizens of the United States. Through direct litigation, amicus briefs, warning letters, legal advocacy, and engagement with policymakers across the country, the AHLC continues to make a lasting impact in legal and secular communities.

**Litigation**

**VICTORY: Prayer at Public School Graduation Ceremonies**

AHA successfully challenged a South Carolina school district’s promotion of graduation prayers and use of a Christian venue for elementary graduation ceremonies. In early 2021 the Fourth Circuit granted our dismissal order closing one of AHA’s longest running cases and forcing extensive changes on church-state separation in one of the largest school districts in South Carolina.

**Missionaries Class at a Public School District**

The AHA filed a lawsuit on behalf of a five-year-old and her parents against an Oklahoma school system that hosted a “missionaries” assembly for students, prekindergarten through eighth grade, every month for decades. During these assemblies, captive students were coerced into participating in talks about Jesus and were given copies of the New Testament and Christian coloring sheets, in clear violation of the First Amendment Establishment Clause.

**Ten Commandments Display on Capitol Grounds**

In May 2018, the AHLC filed suit in federal court to remove a controversial Ten Commandments display from the state capitol grounds in Little Rock, Arkansas. The lawsuit alleges that the Ten Commandments monument is an unconstitutional endorsement of religion, in violation of the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. This contentious battle has all parties filing legion discovery and pretrial motions. We expect continued summary judgment activity in early 2022.

**Police Prayer Vigil**

In May 2018, AHLC prevailed in District Court against the City of Ocala and its police department for sponsoring, promoting, and leading a prayer vigil. After losing, the City enlisted Jay and Jordan Sekulow, former Trump attorneys, to appeal the decision to the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals and, if necessary, all the way to the Supreme Court. AHLC has worked tirelessly throughout 2021 strategizing, researching, and drafting our brief on the merits. We filed the brief in October 2021 and are currently awaiting the court’s determination of whether to grant the defendants’ request for oral arguments.

**Demand-Letter Activism**

In 2021, the AHA’s legal team sent numerous demand letters to various government entities objecting to church-state violations. Virtually all were successfully resolved. Several noteworthy victories include:

- Demanding an end to unconstitutional legislator-led prayers in Aberdeen, Maryland;
- Ending a Texas public school’s practice of using a moment of silence to promote prayer and church attendance to captive kindergarteners;
- Stopping a South Carolina public charter school from using a church for their graduation ceremony;
- Demanding that the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles provide humanist inmates with a secular alternative to mandatory programs with faith-based components, such as Alcoholics Anonymous.
Amicus Brief (Friend-of-the-Court) Activity

The AHA’s legal team submitted or co-signed five amicus briefs at the U.S. Supreme Court in 2021:

**VICTORY: Safeguarding First Amendment Rights**

The AHLC filed a friend of the court brief supporting Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF)’s case, Uzuegbunam v. Preczewski, at the Supreme Court. The AHA urged the Supreme Court to overturn an Eleventh Circuit ruling that left many victims of First Amendment violations without a remedy, like payment for damages. In March 2021, the Supreme Court issued an 8-1 opinion favorable to the AHLC’s supported position.

**Keeping Tax Dollars Out of Religious Schools**

The AHA co-signed an amicus curiae brief, alongside Americans United for the Separation of Church and State and the ACLU, supporting the State of Maine in Carson v. Makin. The brief asked the high court to uphold Maine’s decision to protect their taxpayers from coerced funding of distinctly religious activities. The Supreme Court heard oral arguments in this case on December 8, 2021 and is expected to rule sometime in the summer of 2022.

**Protecting the Rights of Death Row Inmates**

The AHA joined Freedom from Religion Foundation in a brief filed at the Supreme Court in Ramirez v. Collier. The brief argued that, in addition to being a barbaric relic based in religious scripture, the death penalty violates the First Amendment right to freedom of religious expression as well as the Eighth Amendment right be free from cruel and unusual punishment. The High Court heard oral arguments on November 9, 2021. The case is awaiting decision.

**Protecting Reproductive Healthcare Access**

The AHA joined Americans United for Separation of Church and State in a brief filed in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Org. The brief argued that the High Court should strike down Mississippi’s pre-viability (fifteen week) ban on abortion because the viability standard—used by the Court for decades—removes from the political arena the inherently belief-laden question of when life begins, thus reducing religious strife and protecting religious pluralism. The Court heard oral arguments in the case on December 1, 2021.

**Defending State-Church Separation**

In Shurtleff v. City of Boston, the AHA celebrated the First Circuit Court of Appeals’ January 2021 ruling upholding the City of Boston’s refusal to fly a Christian flag outside of city hall. The AHLC was one of several organizations to sign an amicus brief (filed July 2020) defending Boston’s refusal under the First Amendment’s Establishment Clause. The Supreme Court has since granted petitioners’ request for review and AHLC is again signing on to an amicus brief supporting the City. Oral arguments in the case are scheduled for January 18, 2022.

**Violation Reports and “Behind-the-scenes” Legal Action**

The AHLC receives numerous Establishment Clause violation reports each month. We also advise organizations, state agencies, and individuals on how to navigate potential Establishment Clause issues. The details of these matters are confidential but generally have involved advising public officials on Establishment Clause concerns, supporting incarcerated people against religiously motivated parole boards, and providing legal strategy to nonprofit organizations.

“...The separation of church and state forbids the government from imposing fundamentalist Christian doctrine on citizens. We gladly join our secular and religious allies in combating this unconstitutional assault on bodies of those who seek abortion.”

—Amicus brief for Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Org, American Humanist Association Legal Director and Senior Counsel Monica Miller
Social Justice Advocacy

The AHA is committed to social progress grounded in an embrace of reason, ethics, scientific inquiry, and compassion, rather than religious dogma. We work to disrupt oppressive systems through legal and legislative advocacy, education, partnerships, and alliances. We help organize protests for racial justice, immigration fairness, LGBTQ+ rights, reproductive health access, environmentalism, women’s rights, and other key humanist causes. Through this work, and with a focus on aspiring to the greater good of humanity, we strive to advance an inclusive world meant for all.

The Empowering Action and Humanist Relief in Action Grants
Grants are part of the AHA’s effort to support humanist individuals and groups participating in social justice organizing and mutual aid in their local communities. Projects funded in 2021 include:

Humanism and Social Justice Book Distribution
This project focuses on providing free books on humanism and social justice for BIPOC humanist students who are exploring humanism and social justice. These books are specifically for students that want humanism and social justice literature but don’t have the means to purchase books.

Helping People Experiencing Homelessness
With a greater need to support local homeless communities, an AHA grantee is cooking homemade meals and providing sleeping bags, tarps, and hygiene supplies to their local homeless camp with the goal to meet people where they are, accept them for who they are, and offer them food and kindness with no strings attached.

Expanding Mental Health Services in Communities
This grant provides mental health first aid classes to community members who are unable to afford the classes themselves. Recipients of the grant will receive expert training as front-line helpers, to identify and intervene in mental health crises in their community. The goal is to educate and equip their community to better handle the mental health concerns of its members. The project also builds collaboration among local mental health professionals and community-minded local businesses.

Black Humanist Alliance
The Black Humanist Alliance held the Black Secular Gen Z Youth Forum which focused on the intersection of Black identity, gender politics, LGBTQI+ issues, and secular humanism. The three youth panelists and the moderator discussed how their journeys to secularism, their backgrounds, and their identities inform their ideas on current social and cultural issues in their communities and the world.

Latinx Humanist Alliance
The Latinx Humanist Alliance’s 1 in 5 advertising campaign targeted reporters in the media to increase awareness and representation of the Latinx humanist community. Articles on and interviews with the Latinx Humanist Alliance were placed in four media publications including the Chicago Tribune, one of the top ten news sources in the country by readership and newspaper circulation. The Latinx Humanist Alliance, in partnership with the Midwest Academy, also hosted a two-day virtual grassroots activism training to support social justice organizers that work in local communities.
It is my deepest conviction that one of the ways to secure the future of humanism is through service, community and mentorship...The Latinx Humanist Alliance embodied the possibilities of these three pillars that define my humanist life stance while providing the space for me to continue to grow in these commitments on a daily basis.

—Anthony Cruz Pantojas, co-chair of the Latinx Humanist Alliance, for the Chicago Tribune
Humanism on Capitol Hill

The AHA works with Congress to pass legislation that specifically protects members of the nontheist community and supports the separation of church and state. Our team meets one-on-one with elected officials and their staff to advocate on a variety of legislative and policy issues; helps draft progressive legislation; organizes briefings for members of Congress, Agencies, and their staffs; and hosts lobby days that bring AHA members to Capitol Hill offices (virtually, during the pandemic) to ensure politicians hear directly from their humanist constituents.

**Lobby Day**

We held the largest grassroots lobby day in AHA’s history. In one day, humanists from across the country met with more than fifty congressional offices to advocate for the Do No Harm Act, working to ensure that no one can use their religious beliefs to sidestep our country’s long-established civil rights protections. And our efforts made an impact: A few weeks after we hit the virtual marble steps of Congress, Senator Corey Booker introduced the bill in the Senate with twenty-nine original cosponsors.

**National Day of Reason**

As the AHA does each year, we led the effort to reintroduce the National Day of Reason Resolution in the House of Representatives. This year’s resolution was introduced with an unprecedented number of cosponsors. The resolution affirms Congress’s commitment to science and reason, and this year, Congressman Jamie Raskin (MD-8), the champion of this legislation, chose to uplift the role of science and reason in getting through the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Grassroots Advocacy: Connecting Humanists to Government**

Humanists from around the country sent more than 10,000 messages to Congress and the White House through our Humanist Action Headquarters, advocating for the issues humanists care about: from holding Trump accountable for the insurrection on January 6, 2021, to keeping private school vouchers out of COVID relief bills.

**Reason, Truth, and Breakfast with the Congressional Freethought Caucus**

The AHA organized the Congressional Freethought Caucus’ inaugural Thomas Paine Breakfast where climate scientist Dr. Michael Mann and political theorist Dr. Danielle Allen joined members of Congress for a compelling discussion about how science, reason, and ethics can support secular democracy. The breakfast was hosted by caucus co-chairs Representative Jared Huffman (CA-2) and Representative Jamie Raskin (MD-8), who were joined virtually by members of Congress along with representatives of nontheist and secular organizations.
Freedom of Thought Report

The AHA proudly hosted the global launch event for Humanists International’s 2021 Freedom of Thought report, which brought together 160 people from twenty-five countries. The Report details the risks faced by nonreligious individuals around the world, with focus on state-imposed discrimination defined as systemic, legal, or official forms of restrictions on freedom of thought, belief, and expression. The report sharply criticizes Saudi Arabia, Iran, Pakistan, and Afghanistan, as well as other countries, for grave violations against the rights of nonreligious people, including the enforcement of blasphemy laws, religious or ideological indoctrination in schools, and more. Special guests included Rep. Jamie Raskin (MD-8), USCIRF Commissioner Anurima Bhargava, State Department’s Director of the Office of International Religious Freedom Dan Nadel, women’s rights activist and Humanists International Ambassador Gulalai Ismail, and President of Humanists International Andrew Copson.

As the population of “nones” continues to grow, the AHA aims to be a political voice for humanists, atheists, and nonreligious Americans.

In November, AHA Policy and Social Justice Director, Rachel Deitch, moderated the global launch of Humanist International’s Freedom of Thought Report with special guests, including Congressman Jamie Raskin (MD-8), Co-Chair of the Congressional Freethought Caucus.
The American Humanist Association’s Center for Education strives to provide educational opportunities and resources that serve humanist and secular communities. In 2021 the AHA’s Center for Education hosted a record of over ninety events for humanists worldwide.

Webinars and Lecture Series
Our programs and webinars offer a wide range of topics of interest to our humanist community. The Speaking of Humanism series highlights humanist leaders and authors. Critical Minds and Further Reflection are both enrichment series providing an opportunity to learn about and discuss issues of critical concern to humanists. In 2021, we held a special topics series on Energy, Equity, Health, and Solutions in Relation to Climate Change with a panel of experts from across the nation.

Humanist Studies Program
The Humanist Studies Program (HSP) is dedicated to fostering humanist leadership that is ethically-grounded, informed, skillful, globally-responsible, personally-sustainable, and committed to meeting the genuine needs of real people. The curriculum committee revised the certificate program to include five fundamental courses Humanist Worldviews: Then & Now (Pre-requisite), Humanist Philosophies: Nontheistic Worldviews & Understandings, Humanist Practices: What Do Nontheists Do?, Humanist Leadership: How to Run Nontheistic Organizations, and Capstone Course.

Ten Commitments
The Ten Commitments represent humanistic values that promote a democratic world in which every individual’s worth and dignity is respected, nurtured, and supported, and where human freedom and ethical responsibility are natural aspirations for everyone. We presented them in talks to various local groups and continued to sell Ten Commitments posters and badges. We wrote a series of articles exploring each commitment and their connection to our activism and HERE for Climate initiative.

Master Class
The Master Class is an opportunity for humanist leaders to delve into contemporary topics within a collaborative environment promoting problem-solving, critical thinking, and communication. Leaders work together to analyze and evaluate current issues relevant to the humanist life stance to better inform and enhance their roles as heads of like-minded organizations. The 2021 class, Courageous Conversations: Toward a Communal Humanism, focused on the current status, future model, and collective rebuilding of the humanist movement towards more diverse and inclusive communal humanism.

HERE for Climate
The HERE for Climate project brings attention to the global climate crisis and engages humanists with actionable ways to combat climate change. Members from across the country came together to share their personal stories of how climate change effects their daily lives and what actions they take in response. In 2021, the AHA hosted four webinar series on HERE for Climate, educating humanists on the climate crisis.

In 2021, the Center for Education offered over ninety online events to a worldwide audience.
The Humanist Magazine and theHumanist.com

The AHA’s flagship Humanist magazine and our weekly digital newsletter theHumanist.com bolster the AHA’s ability to promote humanist values and community.

Committed to providing readers with intellectual and ethical adventure, in 2021 the quarterly Humanist magazine explored what the 2020 election revealed about secular voters; a scientific response to conspiracy delusions; energy, equity, health, and solutions to climate change; religious liberty; Dr. Anthony Fauci’s take on humanism and science; and much more.

Operational for five years, TheHumanist.com is the daily online news site of the American Humanist Association. It is the online hub for news, politics, science, technology, art, and culture from a humanist perspective. It boasts over 48,000 page views per month, with 3,832 original pieces since launch. Popular articles in 2021 include “A Brief Look at the Four Waves of Feminism” by Margie Delao, “Signs You’re Being Co-Opted by the Far Right” by Roy Speckhardt, and “10 Reasons to Wear a Mask” by Emily Newman.

In 2021, TheHumanist.com launched its Journeys to Humanism series. Journeys to Humanism strives to uplift humanist experiences by sharing reader submissions with our community.
2021 Humanist of the Year: Dr. Anthony Fauci
Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at the U.S. National Institutes of Health

“\[I \text{ look upon myself as a humanist.}\]
I have faith in the goodness of mankind.”
The AHA’s 80th Annual Conference

As the nation’s largest humanist organization, it is our goal to help our members and supporters connect and to provide new opportunities for our movement to grow, succeed, and make a positive impact. Which is why each year, the American Humanist Association brings together people from across the country to celebrate the values of humanism at the Annual Conference.

Over 1,000 humanists, atheists, and freethinkers gathered online to celebrate eighty years of humanist thought and action at the American Humanist Association’s 80th Annual Conference. Attendees enjoyed hearing from numerous speakers over the course of the weekend on topics ranging from advancing humanist values in a red state, putting humanism into action, the cultural and social constructed identities of the growing U.S. and diasporas of Latino/a/x/e community, a briefing on church-state separation, the neuroscience behind the surge in conspiracy theories, experiences with anti-Asian racism, anti-atheism, and sexism, connecting with humanists under forty, the history of humanism and the AHA, and the controversies surrounding teaching evolution in public schools.

While the country was in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was absolutely essential to the AHA to create a welcoming, interactive community for humanists around the world.

Conference panels included Organizing Young Humanists, a discussion among four young leaders about how to attract youth to humanist chapters and events; and Humanism and Service, where Tif Ho and Sara Ray discussed how service draws on humanist values.

CONFERENCE BY THE NUMBERS

1,000+ Conference attendees
3,800 Messages sent between attendees
54 Discussion topics posted on the community boards
6 Virtual meetups
220 Photos shared by attendees
The Center for Freethought Equality

The mission of the Freethought Equality Fund PAC (FEF) and its affiliate, the Center for Freethought Equality (CFE) is to increase the number of open humanists and atheists in public office. The CFE is an adjunct of the American Humanist Association.

Humanists and Allies in Office

For the 2021 election year, FEF reached out to 195 candidates for special Congressional elections, state legislative races, and various local elections. Sixteen candidate questionnaires were returned, and the PAC endorsed twelve of these candidates (three allies and nine members of the atheist and humanist community). Of the endorsed candidates one was for the U.S. House of Representatives, seven for state legislatures, and three for local offices. Of the endorsed candidates, three won their races—all members of our community.

In the late summer of 2021 FEF sent out candidate questionnaires and information packets to 2022 Congressional candidates as they registered with the Federal Election Commission (FEC). They sent out 656 packets (eighty-eight Senate and 568 House) and forty-four questionnaires were returned. The PAC endorsed twenty-six federal candidates by the close of 2021 and made campaign donations to those candidates.

Increasing Visibility of the Humanist Community

CFE made nine presentations to state and national atheist and humanist groups on how to increase the engagement of the atheist and humanist community in the political and electoral arena, as well as coordinated a monthly profile series on TheHumanist.com to feature our elected officials. CFE co-sponsored a panel discussion with the Ethical Society of St. Louis entitled “Facing the Threat of Christian Nationalism.” Ron Millar, FEF Coordinator, was a panelist at the American Atheists Convention “Atheists in Office” presentation, and was featured on an episode of the Freedom From Religion Foundation’s “Ask An Atheist” with Wisconsin State Senator Kelda Roys entitled “Nonbelievers Gaining Power in State Legislatures.”

Congressional Freethought Caucus

The Congressional Freethought Caucus membership continues to hold steady at fourteen. CFE intends to expand membership in 2022 with more Congressional meetings. In 2020 CFE continued discussions with state and local elected officials to help establish the Association of Secular Elected Officials. In 2021, CFE helped expand their board and held five model policy presentations on the Do No Harm Act, ensuring religious equality in healthcare, private school voucher programs and discrimination, mandating reporting by clergy of child abuse and neglect, and providing non-religious options for mandatory recovery programs. Two of these programs were conducted by elected officials, New York State Assembly member Harvey Epstein and Arizona State Senator Victoria Steele. The other three presentations were conducted by staff from the Center for Freethought Equality and other organizations.

There are now 90 elected officials who publicly identify with the humanist community at the local, state, and federal levels in 30 states across the country, an increase from last year.

To keep up-to-date with the activities of the Freethought Equality Fund PAC, become a member of the Center for Freethought Equality at cfequality.org/membership. Membership is free, but must be renewed annually per FEC (Federal Election Commission) regulations.
Additional AHA Programs & Adjuncts

Chapters and Affiliates
The AHA boasts a large network of local humanist groups, with 152 chapters and ninety affiliates across the country dedicated to promoting humanism and encouraging community engagement. With AHA’s assistance, local groups have worked hard adapting to the pandemic and moved most of their programming online. In 2021 AHA helped 242 groups check in on their members’ needs, reach humanists outside of their direct surrounding area with more accessible events, and serve the populations most devastated by the health crises. These groups hosted over 2,900 events for humanists across the country in 2021.

Humanist Legal Society
The Humanist Legal Society (HLS) promotes and protects humanist values in the legal system by providing support and networking opportunities to lawyers, judges, legal academics, law students, and paralegals throughout the United States and by fostering humanism in the law.

The Humanist Society
The Humanist Society endorses and prepares humanist professionals to lead life celebrations and support people during difficult times. Celebrants, chaplains, lay leaders, and invocators provide millions of people with a meaningful alternative to traditional religious services and ceremonies across the nation. The Humanist Society assists professionals with training, resources, and networking with a wider humanist support network.

The Humanist Foundation
The Foundation ensures a lasting future for humanism through the generosity of members who have included the American Humanist Association or the Humanist Foundation in their will or other estate plan. Founded in 1980, the Foundation provides estate planning advice on wills, life insurance plans, trusts, and gift annuities for members who wish to support humanism for years to come. The Humanist Foundation’s Humanist Heritage Project seeks to conserve the life stories of humanist leaders in a perpetual archive for historic preservation.

Central Florida Freethought Community, an affiliate of the AHA, promotes humanist values by tabling at Orlando Veg Fest in October.
Roy Speckhardt left his position as the American Humanist Association’s Executive Director in 2021 to take on new adventures and make way for new leadership. Roy drove the humanist perspective to new heights of awareness, acceptance, and prominence. He oversaw the AHA’s exponential growth and evolution from a small organization focused more on the philosophical aspects of humanism to an advocacy powerhouse with significant access at all levels of government. During his tenure, the organization quadrupled its capacity and membership, and its annual reach grew explosively from thousands previously to millions today. He helped move the organization from a modest townhouse to a statement headquarters building in the heart of the nation’s capital, a venue where the founding members of the Congressional Freethought Caucus gathered to determine its mission. Roy saw the organization achieve many firsts, from seeing humanists and other nontheists named in federal legislation, to launching the movement’s first staffed social justice department, to seeing the first AHA staff attorney to argue a case before the U.S. Supreme Court.

"Being at the helm of such an organization as the AHA, whose mission is so critical to our times and whose influence far outstrips its size, was the greatest honor of my life, but I’ve decided it’s time for me to step down and make room for new leadership. It is my emphatic hope that my seat is filled with a Black or Brown humanist because our movement has gone too long without such diversity at the helm and this would open the door for the AHA to truly achieve its potential as a humanist and anti-racist institution."

—Former Executive Director of the American Humanist Association, Roy Speckhardt

Thank you, Roy, for your years of dedication to and leadership of the AHA and humanism!
Making a Difference: 2021 Supporters of the American Humanist Association

A special thanks to our donors in 2021. The list below features the names of donors who contributed $200 or more in 2021. The support of all our donors—large and small—enables the work we do, and we regret that we could not publish the names of all of our members and supporters. Thank you for helping humanism move forward!

Carl Sagan Circle ($100,000+)
Louis and Laurie Appignani
Katharine Hepburn Circle ($50,000-99,999)
Adam and Rachel Albright
Margaret Sanger Circle ($25,000-49,999)
Larry Jones
Stephen and Diane Uhl
Anderson-Rogers Foundation
Isaac Asimov Circle ($10,000-24,999)
Clemens Bribitzer
Brenton Buxton
Robert H. Dickerson
Gordon and Grace Gamm
Joseph and Barbara Gerstein
Richard Harlow
Richard and Beverly Hermens
John Hooper and Gail Pesyna
Harold and Doreen Safarstein
Herb Block Foundation
Anonymous
Ambassador’s Circle ($5,000-9,999)
Warren and Anne Anderson
Bapu and Vijay Arekapudi
Kris E. Fulmer
Supporting Member ($200-499)

- Edmund Abegg
- Brown Abrams
- Jerry Agin
- John Alexander
- Del D. Allen
- Thomas Anastasio
- Joseph and Lauren Anderson
- Daniel and Midge Anderson
- Shiao C. Andrew Chen
- Paul Angelo
- Lu Antico
- Glen Arensmeier
- Leigh Arino De La Rubia
- Gary Austin
- Sean Austin
- Del Axtell
- Gary Balliff
- Charlene Baker
- Raghu and Latha Ballal
- Steven J. Banilower
- Adam Barnes
- Ina Barnish
- Nancy Barrer
- Peggy and James Barringer
- Robert Bates
- Donald Batty
- Thomas F. Bauch
- J. Robert Baum
- Robert and Marcia Baumel
- Jeff Baysinger
- Blair Beadnell
- David Beccue
- Grant Beck
- Rosemary Bentson
- Roni Berenson
- Edward Berne
- Chuck Berry
- Alan Best
- John Bielecki
- Gordon and Tracey Bird
- Ahrash Bissell
- Harry Black
- Janice Black
- Randa Black
- John Blackledge
- William Blades
- Stuart Blair
- Scott Blair
- Robert Blake
- Jim Blok
- Joseph Blubaugh
- Jeffrey Blum
- Lawrence I. Bonchek
- Rob Boston
- Michael D. Boucher
- Barbara Bowman
- Francis Brady
- David Brimmer
- Ralph Brand
- Richard Brennan
- Ronald Brewster
- Tom & Sally Bright
- John Brighton
- Stanley J. Brockway
- James Brogdon
- James N. Brooke
- Jeffrey Brown
- Alberta Brown
- Maria C. Brown
- Marlan E. Bruns
- Brandon Burke
- William Burrows
- Kenneth Burrows
- J. L. Bush
- Alexander Butterfield
- Douglas Cahill
- David Calder and Susan Salkind
- Timothy Caldwell
- Edward Calhan
- Tom and Susan Calle
- Don Callender
- Ronald S. Campbell
- Patricia Carrell
- Linda Carrozza and Michael Channick
- Rebecca Carter and Greg Jarrell
- Margaret A. Cartier
- David and Grace Cass
- Jane and Jack Censer
- Adam and AJ Chalom
- Robert Chapin
- David Chivers
- David Cihans
- Michele Chontos
- Jarvis Church
- Walter Clark
- Alexander and Priya Clemens
- John B. Collins
- James L. Colwell
- George Comden
- Gerald Cooley
- Drucilla C. Copeland
- Jim Corbett
- Jamma Cowen
- Scott Cragin
- Michael and Courtney Cramer
- Benjamin Crowe
- Franklin P. Crownover
- Eleanor Cruz
- Robert Curboy
- James Cursio
- Larry and Lois Curry
- Ron Daley
- Calvin Dame
- Jacques S. David
- Bronson Davis
- Diana Davis
- Kevin De Queiroz
- Mike and Ruth Deal
- John Debaun
- James Deland
- Nancy E. Delong
- Daniel Dennett
- Don Deprez
- Lawrence W. Deuel
- Angela Dhuravan
- Kenneth Diamondstone
- Peter DiCicco
- Jon Diiks
- David Diskin
- Daniel Dobbin
- Kenneth Dolsky
- Paul and Nancy Donohue
- Alfred C. Dossa
- Herman Downe
- Catherine Dubinsky
- Ronald and Lois Duelten
- Roland Duerrksen
- Susan C. Duerrksen
- and Arthur Salm
- Ted Dujin
- Luis Durand
- William Durning
- Michael Easterday
- Jim Eischen
- Lincoln D. Eisler
- Gene R. Elderidge
- Matthew Ellis and Traci Bickell
- Barbara Elliott
- Adrien Elseroad
- John F. Emery
- Stacy Enyeart
- Marc Epard
- Patricia and James Ephgrave
- Mary Erickson
- Lesley Ernst
- John R. Evanhoe
- Reginald and Kathleen Exton
- James Eyman
- Walt Fangman and Jan Flynn
- David Fangrow
- Joseph and Sharon Fausnight
- Walter L. Fenska
- Richard Fine
- Clifton Fisher
- Dixie Fisher
- Neena Florkheim
- Jonathan Foley
- Yvonne L. Ford
- Douglas Ferker
- Gino Fortunato
- Rubblestone Foundation
- Robert Fowler
- Roger and Mary France
- Michael S. Frank
- William Frye
- Calvin Frye
- Barry Fuhrman
- Bernard Fuller
- James Gaarder
- Frederic Gardner
- John and Nancy Garland
- Joe Gasper
- Martha Gausman
- Matthew Gaylord
- Sandra Geaman
- Douglas George
- Ellen Gittlerman
- Harry Glass and Judy Canahuati
- Gary Gilddon
- Karen Goldsmith
- Ina P. Goldstein
- Laurence Goldstein
- Brian Good
- Richard Gordon
- Christopher Gromley
- Gail Gromley
- Bettye and Harvey Gossard
- Philip Gough and Gisela Klos
- Jeri Graham
- Bob Grant
- David Grass
- Daryl Graus
- Michael Greedy
- Ricki Green
- Erik M. Gregory
- Nancy Greig
- Mary M. Grimaldi
- Gordon Grosscup
- William Gruber
- Donna Guinard
- Jason Gwinn
- Nathaniel Haaland
- Rosemary A. Hagen
- Cristiana Halsey
- Bryan T. Hamlin
- Peter Hanauer
- David Hancock
- Theresa Haney
- Jeffrey Hannie
- Frank Hanson
- Ann Hanson
- Kaaren Hardy
- Douglas and Elaine Hart
- Scott Hatch
- Thomas E. Hawkins
- James Hein
- Laura Heywood
- William Hickey
- Irene Hill
- Lisa Hill and Todd VonOthlen
- Hans Himelein
- William Himwich
- John Hirschi
- Thomas Hobbs
- Thomas and Jo-Ann Hoppnner
- Frederick G. Hoepchner
- Henry Hoffman
- Ken Hoffman
- Robert Hofmann and Nancy Bolt
- David Holman
- Paul Hoopes
- Michael Horvat
- Ivan and Carol Hoyt
- Liz Hrenda
- G. Perry Hudkins
- Eugene and Shirley Hudson
- Carl Hummel
- David Hurtubise
- Ken Ihlo
- George Jacklin
- Phil Jackson
- Doris Jackson
- Christopher A. Jackson
- Eric Jackson
- Laura and Aaron Jacques
Financial Summary

2021 BALANCE SHEET
Assets
- Current: $1,729,914
- Fixed: $45,867
- Total: $1,775,781

Liabilities & Equity
- Liabilities: $156,649
- Equity: $1,619,132
- Total: $1,775,781

Total Income: $2,754,693
- Contributions: $960,790 (34.8%)
- Grants and Contracts: $415,930 (15%)
- Membership Dues Revenue: $342,071 (12.4%)
- PPP Grant Revenue: $240,690 (8.7%)
- Legal Settlement: $187,000 (6.7%)
- Bequest: $443,654 (16%)
- Other Income: $1,350 (<1%)
- Publication Sales: $8,496 (<1%)
- Interest and Dividends: $17,266 (<1%)
- Other Income: $1,350 (<1%)

Total Expenses: $2,037,149
- Public Awareness About Humanism: $544,278 (26.72%)
- CFE General Support: $129,158 (6.3%)
- Education Center: $131,453 (6.4%)
- Humanist Magazine: $90,533 (4.4%)
- Conference: $61,776 (3%)
- Member News: $65,501 (3%)
- Social Justice: $81,866 (4%)
- Member Services, Member Education: $48,637 (2.4%)
- Humanist Society Services: $74,819 (3.7%)
- Other Income: $1,350 (<1%)
- Management Fees: $77,400 (2.8%)
- PPP Grant Revenue: $29,675 (1%)
- Conferences & Seminars Revenue: $30,371 (1.1%)
- Humanist Magazine Revenues: $90,533 (4.4%)

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