

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION

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Chapters

Chapters of the AHA are independent but connected local organizations that accept and support the mission of the AHA and are willing to coordinate activities.

Being a Chapter of the AHA involves a close level of relationship. Chapters are in substantial agreement with the AHA's policies, goals and mission. Being a part of the structure of the AHA, Chapters receive preference when it comes to the allocation of resources. The AHA and its Chapters work together, which allows for a clear sense of identification and a chance for unity of action, all toward the goal of advancing Humanism.

What We Ask Of Chapters:

- The democratic decision to be a chapter, and ongoing democratic governance.
- Provide us public contact information. (Chapter Leader)
- Have at least five AHA members in good standing.
- Provide us an updated list of local members and contacts for use in an annual membership appeal.
- Must adopt <u>Humanism and Its Aspirations</u> as values for the group

Chapter Benefits:

- The opportunity to apply for program grants annually ranging from \$300 to \$2,000 – from the AHA's Chapter Grant Fund. See: http://www.americanhumanist.org/What_We_Do/Local_Groups/Chapter_Grant_Fund
- Additional opportunity to apply for one annual regional conference grants for marketing and administration. Email grassroots@americahumanist.org if you are interested. Decisions are made on a rolling basis.
- The Grassroots and Celebrant Program Coordinator can promote your group's events by notifying current national members in your Chapter's surrounding area.
- Access to the AHA's professional staff for assistance with fundraising, PR and organizing strategy.
- New and renewing AHA members will be encouraged to join a local group.

- Chapter contact information will be publicized on the AHA's website, http://www.americanhumanist.org/, on official documents, and at the national conference.
- Primary chapter contact with AHA will receive complimentary regular membership for duration of role. If the primary chapter contact already has an unexpired, existing AHA membership, then they can choose to apply the complimentary membership to another local group member (who is not an existing AHA member).
- Will receive regular communications from the AHA that include recommended political and social actions.
- Will have low cost and often free access to AHA resources, including pamphlets, magazines, and books.
- Access to a speakers' bureau, accessible via the AHA's website. See http://www.americanhumanist.org/What_We_Do/Media_Outreach/Speakers_Bureau
- The AHA can provide Chapters with a non-profit, educational purpose, tax exemption. Chapters can use this designation to accept tax-deductible donations and to apply for a sales tax exemption in their state.

For questions and more information, please contact Rachael Berman at rberman@americanhumanist.org