

**PRESS CONTACT**  
Anna Marie Wilharm  
Manager, Marketing and Public Relations  
(312) 661-1028, ext. 724  
[annamarie@chicagohumanities.org](mailto:annamarie@chicagohumanities.org)

# Chicago Humanities Festival

## Chicago Humanities Festival Elects New Board Chair *Dr. Clark Hulse Selected to Succeed Willard G. Fraumann*



**CHICAGO, IL—Sept. 12, 2013—**The Chicago Humanities Festival (CHF) today announced that Dr. Clark Hulse will succeed Willard G. Fraumann as Chair of the Board of Directors in December following the conclusion of the 24<sup>th</sup> annual Chicago Humanities Festival.

Clark Hulse, PhD, has been a Chicago Humanities Festival board member since 2003 and is currently Chair of its Programming Committee. He also served as the Humanities Festival's Interim Executive Director from December 2012 to April 2013 during the national search for the organization's new Executive Director, Phillip Bahar. Dr. Hulse is a Guggenheim Fellow, emeritus professor of English and Art History and emeritus dean of the Graduate College at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and a former member of the Illinois Humanities Council board of directors. Hulse was also highly involved in the creation of the Richard J. Daley Global Cities Forum, a major international gathering of leaders from the governmental, business, academic, and civic sectors to discuss pressing urban issues and promising solutions.

"Last year's festival attracted record participation and this year's theme, **Animal: What Makes Us Human**, is also sparking our audience's imagination. I am honored to step in as Chair during such an exciting period for the Festival. We have a superb new Executive Director in Phillip Bahar and are looking forward to next year's celebration of our 25th anniversary season. Just this year, a Congressionally-commissioned report (*The Heart of the Matter*) cited CHF as a national leader in bringing new ideas to the public, and I am excited to be able to take a leadership role in expanding our presence," Hulse noted.

Hulse succeeds Willard G. Fraumann, who has served as the organization's Board Chair since 2007 and has been a board member since 1997. He will continue to serve on the Board of Directors. Under Fraumann's leadership, CHF reached new records in attendance; established programming on the campuses of Northwestern University, the University of Chicago, and the University of Illinois at Chicago; extended its programming into the winter and spring seasons; established fellowships in the public humanities, and launched a robust website featuring a video archive of Festival programs, as well as an active blog and social media program that has an established worldwide online audience. Fraumann is a former senior partner of Kirkland & Ellis and a past president of the Kirkland & Ellis Foundation and is also a member of the Board of Visitors of the Institute for the Humanities at the University of Michigan.

"It has been a privilege to serve as Chair during a period of tremendous success for the Chicago Humanities Festival," said Fraumann. "The Festival enriches the cultural vibrancy of our remarkable city and its programs represent how we, as individuals and citizens, engage with the world of ideas, the arts, and each other."

Dr. Hulse is the organization's third Board Chair. Mr. Fraumann succeeded Richard J. Franke, who founded CHF and continues to serve on its board. Long time Chairman and CEO of Nuveen Investments, Inc., in 1997 Franke received the new National Humanities Medal from President Clinton for "bringing the pleasure of art and ideas to the people of the great city of Chicago."

"The Chicago Humanities Festival sparks the passions and minds of those who love the public humanities and the examination of what it means to be human. After nearly 25 years, I'm delighted that the Festival continues to resonate with Chicago audiences. Clark is well-poised to assume the chair as we look forward to our next 25 years."

The Chicago Humanities Festival was founded in 1989 based upon the simple premise that ideas matter. It is committed to providing the public with access to artistic, cultural, and educational opportunities and making the humanities a vital and vibrant part of our daily lives. The 24<sup>th</sup> annual festival takes place Oct. 13 in Evanston, Oct. 20 in Hyde Park, and Nov. 1–10 at venues in and around downtown Chicago. For more information, visit [chicagohumanities.org](http://chicagohumanities.org).

###