

Created to underscore
the *powerful role* of
museums and *libraries*
as *leaders* in our
democratic *society*

2022



NATIONAL AWARDS FOR MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICE



INSTITUTE
of MUSEUM
and LIBRARY
SERVICES



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**FROM THE FIRST LADY
LAURA BUSH**

I am pleased to present the *National Awards for Museum and Library Service*. This year's recipients are *making a difference*. They are *strengthening ties* between neighbors and *enriching* family and community life. I congratulate each of them for their dedication and *enthusiasm*.

Laura Bush

FROM THE CHAIRMEN AND DIRECTOR

The Institute of Museum and Library Services proudly salutes the winners of the National Awards for Museum and Library Service. These awards were created to underscore the powerful role of museums and libraries as leaders in our democratic society. The award celebrates their role as cornerstones of community life. This national honor is a tribute to the ability of libraries and museums to reach out to children, families, and communities in towns and cities all across the nation. Through innovative programs and active partnerships they are addressing the urgent and changing needs of the communities they serve.

This year's recipients embody extraordinary public service. Through partnerships with schools, religious institutions, youth organizations, businesses, social service agencies, and many other groups, these institutions address the core needs of diverse communities across America.

Kinshasha Holman Conwill
Chairperson
National Museum Services Board

Martha B. Gould
Chairperson
National Commission on
Libraries and Information Science

Robert S. Martin, Ph.D.
Director
Institute of Museum and Library Services

3M Library Systems



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The White House
October 29, 2002

Welcoming Remarks

First Lady Laura Bush

**Libraries, Museums, and Schools:
Supporting Student Achievement**

Jeffrey Patchen, *President and CEO*
The Children's Museum of Indianapolis

**Libraries, Museums, and Lifelong Learning:
Supporting Early and Free-Choice Learning**

Dr. Peter Marzio, *Director*
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

**Libraries, Museums, and Communities: A Catalyst
for Civic Engagement, Sustaining Democracy**

Dr. David Carr, *Associate Professor, School of Library and
Information Science*
University of North Carolina

Presentation of Awards

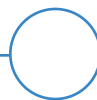
First Lady Laura Bush
Assisted by Dr. Robert S. Martin, *Director*
Institute of Museum and Library Services

Closing Remarks

First Lady Laura Bush



BOUNDARY COUNTY DISTRICT LIBRARY



6370 Kootenai
P.O. Box Y
Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805

Sandra Ashworth, *Director*

Annual Budget \$224,230
Number of Full-time Staff: 4
Number of Part-time Staff: 6

The Boundary County District Library is a gateway to educational, social, and economic resources for families. Boundary County's 9,871 residents contend with both geographic isolation and the harsh realities of a rural economy. Yet the library logged 73,990 visits in FY 2000–2001. Of the county's adult population only 74 percent have completed high school. The high school drop out rate is 16.2 percent, and one third of its fourth graders cannot read at grade level. The county is home to a growing Spanish-speaking population and a yearly influx of 150 migrant families from March to September. The region is also the ancestral home of the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho.

The Library partners primarily with the Boundary Community Coalition for Families, a not-for-profit group whose membership includes every organization that touches the lives of Boundary County's families. The partnership consistently provides special collections for at-risk families, preschool story times at schools and Head Start, licensed daycare, and free books distributed through the district's WIC program, Kootenai Tribe's health clinic, and other partners.

The Library runs a model family literacy program that promotes early childhood learning, parent education, and a greater public awareness of the needs of the very young. The Library's literacy campaign partners now include English as a Second Language, Head Start, and Migrant Head Start taught by one of the Library's former Head Start parents and now the county representative for the Idaho Migrant Council.

The comprehensive nature of the Library's partnership to provide literacy services caught the attention of Idaho's Department of Education. The Department helped expand the Library's program for its rapidly growing migrant population in exchange for the Library's paradigm for their literacy programs. Adult basic education and English classes are now available for migrant families soon after they arrive in the county, instead of just before they leave.

The Library recently took the leadership in a community campaign to provide an easily accessible, centralized network of social and educational resources for Boundary County residents. Called The Boundary County Community Resource Center, it is well on its way towards construction with the help of a planning grant obtained by the Library from the J.A. & Kathryn Alberston Foundation. Also, pledges of support are currently over \$70,000. The Center is envisioned as a shared-use facility encompassing GED services, a workforce training program, a distance learning lab, a pediatric care clinic, a food bank, and, of course, a satellite library.

As Boundary County citizens struggle to establish and maintain a better quality of life, a groundbreaking partnership was forged between local governments and the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho. A new role arose for the Library when it was invited by the partnership to act as the representative of the community-at-large on an advisory committee that will address the many historical, cultural, national, and environmental issues impacting the county's economy and quality of life.

With its model programs, extensive outreach, and entrepreneurial spirit, the Boundary County District Library is rising to meet the challenges facing its communities.

The Wildlife Conservation Society saves wildlife and wild lands. The Society does so through careful science, international conservation and education, and the management of the world's largest system of urban wildlife parks, led by its flagship Bronx Zoo. Located on 265 acres of wooded parkland, the Bronx Zoo is the largest metropolitan zoo in the U.S. and home to more than 4,000 animals in naturalistic habitats.



WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY/BRONX ZOO

Serving the surrounding community has always been one of the highest priorities at the Bronx Zoo. Though New York City is a thriving cultural metropolis, the poorest communities are often underserved. The Bronx Zoo is in a unique position to help the local children and adults of the borough by offering special educational experiences with plant and animal life.

The Zoo reaches out to its community in many ways, including educational programs for the classroom, work-readiness, and career training to the youth of the Bronx, as well as special services to the borough's neediest residents: the poor, the homeless, and hospitalized children.

Bronx Zoo-designed life science curricula enrich learning in every school district in the Bronx (and every state in the U.S. and 13 countries). Its award-winning curricula are paired with comprehensive in-service training that has led New York City to grant teaching credits to over 13,500 educators in recent years. The Zoo's *Teaching Fellows Program* trains top college undergraduate and graduate students to teach life science to thousands of elementary and secondary school children.

The *Wildlife Science Career Program* is another way the Zoo excites young people about science. This 42-month workshop at the Zoo is reaching 6,000 Girl Scouts in the New York City area to increase the participation of young women in science. It is a model program of how community and not-for-profit organizations can work with educators to increase the number of women in science-related careers.

Bronx Zoo officials and staff strive to reach the neediest members of the community. For example, the Zoo and TATS CRU, a local graffiti-art group, have engaged in a unique collaboration that is replacing the sedate white walls of St. Barnabas hospital with colorful, child-friendly animal murals. Eighteen rooms at the Pediatric Unit of St. Barnabas have been transformed thus far.

After-School Adventures in Wildlife Science is a partnership between the Zoo and Homes for the Homeless, a leading not-for-profit providing transitional housing and educational services for homeless families. The semester-long after-school program gives homeless families in the South Bronx science instruction and skills. The program also raises parents' awareness of the critical role they play in their children's education as they strive to break the cycle of poverty.

The Bronx Zoo plays a crucial role in providing educational and social services to the underserved residents in the borough and the larger New York City area.

2300 Southern Boulevard
Bronx, New York 10460

(718) 367-1010
(718) 220-2685 fax

www.wcs.org


Steven E. Sanderson,
President and CEO

Annual Budget: \$109,617,000
Number of Full-time Staff: 1006
Number of Part-time Staff: 1000



PHOTO BY MARC YVES REGIS

HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY



500 Main Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06103-3075

(860) 695-6300
(860) 722-6900 fax

www.hartfordpl.lib.ct.us

Louise Blalock, *Chief Librarian*

Annual Budget: \$6,200,000
Number of Full-time Staff: 101
Number of Part-time Staff: 51

The Hartford Public Library has transformed the meaning of library and information service in the city of Hartford, Connecticut. The city is wonderfully rich and diverse—102 ethnic cultures are represented in Hartford's population of 121,600 and 32 languages are spoken in the schools. To Hartfordians, the Library is a symbol of learning and opportunity—a secure place where community members gather to learn and share their ethnic and cultural heritage.

The Hartford Public Library is a true partner with public school educators. Helping them achieve curriculum goals for language development the Library shares all of its electronic information resources with them. Library leaders recently collaborated with school library media staff and brought all of the Hartford Public Schools online. Now school library media technology meshes with that of the Hartford Public Library to provide the city's 32,000 school children seamless service and access to CAROLINE, the Library's electronic information sharing and management system. Hartford's schoolchildren have an electronic passport to the Library's 500,000-volume collection and *Community Information Database*.

The Library's *Community Information Database* was developed in direct response to the needs of Hartford's residents. Working with the Citizens Research and Education Network, the database is rich with community information such as employment opportunities, social services, and city council reports.

Librarians become especially involved with the Hartford communities in which they live and work because they organize working teams in their neighborhoods. *Neighborhood Team* members have attended more than 1,000 community meetings this year. The eleven *Neighborhood Teams* reach 30,000 people annually and have increased information and reference service 40 percent citywide.

Library partnerships have literally turned on the lights in many of Hartford's communities, creating healthy, safe, and technology savvy neighborhoods. The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, metropolitan Hartford's community foundation, partnered with the Library and opened special sites for literacy and technology education with extended evening hours to meet the needs of working families. *The American Place* and *Neighborhood Technology Centers* are open until 10:00 P.M. and *Midnight Library* provides service by phone, fax, and email as well as helping patrons navigate the Web until 12:00 P.M. *The American Place*, where Library staff and resources help families achieve citizenship and literacy, reaches 450 immigrants and refugees monthly. *Neighborhood Technology Centers* serve 4,000 Hartfordians every month.

Hartford Public Library's partnerships with families, schools, the community foundation, and local organizations, connect all of its residents to a distinguished and powerful collection of books, technology, social services, and community expertise.

Please Touch Museum provides innovative programs that engage underserved children and adults in learning through play and positive adult/child interactions. Through subsidized admission, direct services to children and families, parenting workshops, and professional training for childcare providers and educators, the Museum's programs serve more than 20,000 children, teenagers, and adults each year.



PLEASE TOUCH MUSEUM

Each year, approximately 12,000 Philadelphia Public School students in pre-K through 1st grade visit the Museum for free. The Museum's *Children's Fund* provided free admission for 1,999 low-income visitors in 2001. In addition, the Sunday morning *Pay as You Wish* program subsidized 8,119 museum visits.

The Community Partners Program (CPP), a Museum partnership with local social service agencies, promotes positive parent/child interactions and playful learning opportunities. Each year CPP reaches approximately 300 families from 15 different neighborhoods. CPP provides family play sessions, parenting workshops, group visits to the Museum, and free, renewable Museum memberships for families that complete the program. Among those served are families from homeless shelters, teens with children, and adults recovering from addiction.

ACES (*Achievement through Community Service, Education, and Skill Building*) currently serves 25 at-risk teenagers from four inner-city public high schools. The program's outstanding features include its emphasis on individualized attention, the high level of staff involvement with the students, and an extended time frame (3 years) that allows students to assume increasing levels of responsibility in the Museum and within ACES' structure.

In 1995, the Philadelphia Family Court, the Museum, and local art therapists created the *Family Initiative Project*. This unique program facilitates court-supervised visits between children and their non-custodial parents. Until 1995, the weekly Sunday visits had taken place in an uninviting courtroom waiting area. Visits in this bleak institutional environment were often traumatic, for both children and parents. Now the environment includes Please Touch designed mobile exhibits and creative art activities made to reduce stress and promote positive parent/child interactions. One Sunday every month, Please Touch Museum staff lead families in ice-breaking activities that help children and families reconnect.

In February 2002, for the third consecutive year, the Museum will join the Delaware Valley Association for the Education of Young Children and the Philadelphia Interagency Coordinating Council to sponsor a conference for early childhood professionals of southeastern Pennsylvania. The Conference is regarded as the region's premier professional development event for individuals working with children.

By providing innovative, substantive programs that encourage children and adults to play and learn together, Please Touch Museum is making a valuable contribution to the health and vitality of the greater Philadelphia area.

210 North 21st Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

(215) 963-0667
(215) 963-0424 fax

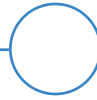
www.pleasetouchmuseum.org

Nancy D. Kolb,
President and CEO

Annual Budget: \$3,800,000
Number of Full-time Staff: 50
Number of Part-time Staff: 11



SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES MUSEUM OF ART



P.O. Box 9
Loretto, Pennsylvania 15940

(814) 472-3920
(814) 472-4131 fax

www.sama-sfc.org

Michael A. Tomor, Ph.D.,
Executive Director

Annual Budget: \$1,053,630
Number of Full-time Staff: 14
Number of Part-time Staff: 142

On April 2, 1975, a small group led by Sean M. Sullivan, T.O.R., then president of Saint Francis College in Loretto, Pennsylvania, met to establish an independent art museum on the campus to serve the greater community. Thus the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art was founded in 1979 to bring museum services to six geographically isolated and economically disadvantaged rural counties in the state's southwestern and south central regions. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has the largest rural population in the United States. The Museum's four facilities in Loretto, Altoona, Johnstown, and Ligonier Valley attract over 71,000 visitors annually, 85 percent of which reside within the six counties. Admission is free at all four of the Museum's facilities.

Offering most of its educational programming at cost, the Museum fosters an appreciation of the importance of American art with a specific focus on the unique artistic heritage of the Appalachian region. While the Museum's permanent collection of 19th and 20th century works (highlighted by Mary Cassatt, Jacob Lawrence, and Helen Frankenthaler) provide an introduction to the history of American art, one quarter of the Museum's rotating exhibitions are dedicated to regional artists.

For over 13 years the Museum has offered education resources for students, teachers, and administrators. All four facilities of the Museum offer K-12 art education programs, including but not limited to, afterschool programs, preschool art hours, and summer art camps, and provide the community, free of charge, rooms for meetings and receptions.

The Museum trains graduating seniors from Saint Francis University and the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown to create and teach studio art. In return for this service and others, both Universities generously waive leases on the buildings the Museum occupies on their campuses. The Museum provides, free of charge, training to education majors, teacher resources, catalogues, and lesson plans to professors based upon their curriculum needs. For example, as part of the Universities' Black History studies the Museum has provided educational programming the last three years based on Jacob Lawrence's *The Legend of John Brown* series. The Museum also offers students internships that earn credits at the Pennsylvania State University, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and Mt. Aloysius.

The Museum's educational outreach programs will serve over 35,000 area students this year, and as many as 50,000 in 2003. Partnership opportunities with area schools have increased 500 percent since 1996, 48 percent in the last year. In partnership with the Center of Excellence for Remote and Medically Underserved Areas, the Museum also provides art history, history, and heritage courses via videoconferencing for those unable to travel to the Museums.

The goal of the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System, in partnership with other community organizations, businesses, and individuals, is to bring the residents of the tri-county area into the Library and improve their level of education. The Library does this through creative programs and comprehensive information services. Family literacy programs, full access to the World Wide Web, and close, ongoing support for schools and social service organizations are all part of the Library's challenging agenda.



SOUTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

With three library facilities and a bookmobile, the Southwest Georgia Regional Library System is the sole library service for 43,835 residents of three counties. Per capita income is \$18,805 per year in this mostly rural, disadvantaged region. The area reports a 46 percent high school drop out rate and 43 percent of the adult population have not completed high school.

One of the most touching examples of the Library's ability to attract the community, especially older residents, is the *World War II Veterans History Project*. A local historian interviews, while a librarian videotapes, area veterans at the library. So far, 17 of "America's Greatest Generation" have come into the library to share their war experiences with the community. By consequence, the Library is building a valuable volume of first-hand accounts of the war for posterity and history.

In partnership with Bainbridge College, the Library also offers free introductory computer courses to the region's residents. Students of all ages attend—many have never even turned on a computer. Now they are regulars at the library and *savvy* surfers of the World Wide Web. The program is popular—classes fill in advance and many have waiting lists.

Project Teen Read was created in 2001 to get more young people into the Library. The Library, in partnership with the local Kiwanis Club and a professor at Bainbridge College, hosted a weeklong cultural extravaganza. Close to 40 teens came to the Library every day and participated in poetry readings, Puerto Rican *salsa* music and dance, *Kendo* martial arts from Japan, and much more. The teens were so inspired they continue to meet at the Library on their own every Monday. They have named themselves the Teen Library Council or *TLC* and have pledged to promote reading among middle and high school students and reduce the region's dropout rate.

Library employees also reach out to those who cannot reach them. Their reach is far. A state-of-the-art bookmobile not only traverses the three counties regularly and deposits books at schools, nursing homes, and community centers; it also provides talking books to blind and handicapped individuals in *11 other counties* in south Georgia.

Each year, the Library holds an open house for hundreds of area public school teachers and home school educators. Library staff work throughout the school year maintaining up-to-date book lists for all elementary and middle schools. During the summer the Library hosts *The Vacation Reading Club* to maintain students' reading progress. Last summer 4,000 children and parents participated, prompting circulation of over 30,000 children's books.

The Southwest Georgia Regional Public Library has an excellent track record of identifying community concerns and responding with quality, and most importantly, sustainable programs. Now a secure source of funding for the Library is well on its way. The *Million for the Millennium* funding campaign goal is to establish a \$1.7 million perpetual endowment for the Library. Board members, private individuals, banks, and companies have pledged almost a quarter of a million dollars, and *all* of the professional librarians have pledged \$5,000 each. Southwest Georgia Regional Library System is key to the educational success of southwest Georgia.

301 S. Monroe Street
Bainbridge, GA 31717

(229) 248-2665
(229) 248-2935 fax

www.swgrl.org

Susan Whittle, *Director*

Annual Budget: \$1,035,000

Number of Full-time Staff: 9

Number of Part-time Staff: 23

PREVIOUS WINNERS

of the IMLS National Award for
Museum and Library Service

2001

Alaska Resources Library and Information Service (ARLIS), *Anchorage, Alaska*

Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose, *San Jose, California*

Hancock County Library System, *Bay St. Louis, Mississippi*

Miami Museum of Science, *Miami, Florida*

New England Aquarium, *Boston, Massachusetts*

Providence Public Library, *Providence, Rhode Island*

2000

(2000 Was the First Year Libraries Participated in this Award Program)

Albright-Knox Art Gallery, *Buffalo, New York*

Alutiiq Museum & Archaeological Repository, *Kodiak, Alaska*

B.B. Comer Memorial Library, *Sylacauga, Alabama*

Queens Borough Public Library, *Jamaica, New York*

Simon Wiesenthal Center Library and Archives, *Los Angeles, California*

Urie Elementary School Library, *Lyman, Wyoming*

Youth Museum of Southern West Virginia, *Beckley, West Virginia*

1999

Lincoln Park Zoo, *Chicago, Illinois*

Nevada Museum of Art, *Reno, Nevada*

St. Simons Island Lighthouse Museum, *St. Simons Island, Georgia*

1998

Belknap Mill Society, *Laconia, New Hampshire*

Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village, *Dearborn, Michigan*

New Jersey Historical Society, *Newark, New Jersey*

1997

The Children's Museum of Indianapolis, *Indianapolis, Indiana*

The Museum of Fine Arts, *Houston, Texas*

National Aquarium in Baltimore, *Baltimore, Maryland*

1996

The Corcoran Gallery of Art, *Washington, District of Columbia*

The Field Museum, *Chicago, Illinois*

The Natural Science Center of Greensboro, *Greensboro, North Carolina*

1995

Brooklyn Children's Museum of Science, *Brooklyn, New York*

The Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum, *Chicago, Illinois*

Montshire Museum of Science, *Norwich, Vermont*

The Wing Luke Asian Museum, *Seattle, Washington*

1994

Brukner Nature Center, *Troy, Ohio*

The Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens, *Jacksonville, Florida*

Missouri Historical Society, *St. Louis, Missouri*

ABOUT THE INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is a federal grant-making agency that promotes leadership, innovation, and a lifetime of learning by supporting the nation's museums and libraries.

Institute of Museum and
Library Services
1100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20506

Telephone (202) 606-8536

Web site www.ims.gov

National Museum Services Board

The Board is part of the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Its fifteen Presidentially appointed and Senate confirmed members advise the Institute on general policy with regard to museum services. Board members represent the museum community and the general public, and through their collective representation, contribute specific expertise and broad knowledge of the entire museum field.

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National Commission on Libraries and Information Science

The Commission is a permanent, independent agency of the federal government charged with advising the legislative and executive branches on national and international library and information policy and plans. The Commission also advises the Institute on general policy with regard to library services.

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