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GPO ANNOUNCES NEW AWARD FOR FEDERAL DEPOSITORY LIBRARY OF THE YEAR

The U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) is pleased to announce that it is accepting nominations for its first annual Federal Depository Library of the Year Award.

In establishing this award, United States Public Printer Bruce R. James said, "The Federal Depository Library Program is a success only because of the effort made by individual depository libraries. The libraries bear the lion's share of the burden of making the Federal documents collection accessible to the public, so it is only right that they are recognized as valued partners in the Government's information dissemination system. This new award will simultaneously raise public awareness of the network of depository libraries and identify the best practices among those libraries by honoring each year a single institution that most completely embodies the ideal of public service inherent in the Federal Depository Library Program."

Participation in the Federal Depository Library Program requires libraries to invest significant time and resources in their public services. The Federal Depository Library of the Year award will provide special recognition for the library that furthers the goal of the FDLP by enhancing the American public's free access to Government information through:

- Outstanding service to meet Federal Government information needs in the library's service area;
- Creativity and innovation in developing specific community programs for use of Federal Government information, or a dramatic increase in their community's usage of Federal Government information;
- Leadership in creating public service programs that can be emulated by other Federal Depository Libraries.

Federal depository librarians, other members of the library and information services community, as well as depository patrons are invited to nominate any Federal depository library, regardless of its size or type.

The Federal Depository Library of the Year will demonstrate the following attributes:

- Documented knowledge of the Federal Government information needs in the library's service area;

- Knowledgeable depository staff to assist patrons in the identification and use of the Federal Government information that best meets their needs;
- Excellent bibliographic control practices that enhance public access;
- Outstanding public services, including significant promotion of the collection and services in the library and in the community;
- Substantial cooperative efforts with other depository and non-depository libraries to share knowledge and resources with a larger community;
- Access to a well-defined collection of Federal depository tangible and electronic resources adequate to meet the needs of the library's service area; and
- Exceptional care and preservation of the depository collection.

Nominations should discuss any innovations, collaborations with other libraries and community organizations, and other accomplishments that greatly enhance access to Federal Government information at the nominated library. They should also reference online capabilities, such as the library's home page and collection development or other policies, by providing their Web addresses. Nominations can be supported by copies of policies, testimonials, promotional materials, or other information that document superior service within the past 12 to 18 months. The GPO will retain the nominations and any attachments.

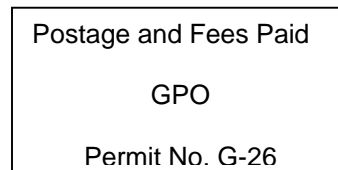
The nomination deadline for this year is June 30. The selection committee will be the Superintendent of Documents, the Director of Library Programs Service, and the Chair of the Depository Library Council to the Public Printer.

The award-winning library will be notified by the end of August and will be recognized at the 2003 fall Federal Depository Library Conference, which will be held October 19-22 in Arlington, VA. GPO will provide travel and lodging to the Conference for the depository coordinator and the library director from the winning library to accept a certificate honoring their recognition as Federal Depository Library of the Year. The annual Conference is the largest gathering of Federal Government documents librarians in the country and is an excellent opportunity for the depository coordinator and director from the winning library to highlight their library's best practices and outstanding service.

For further information on submission of nominations, go to www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/pr/lib-of-yr.html.

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