

## **Museums Celebrate America's Freedoms: Joining Communities in a Day of Remembrance**

### **Whereas:**

American museums are deeply involved in the life of their communities; using collections and exhibitions, they are centers of civic engagement with programs and services for families, communities, lifelong learners and schools;

### **And whereas**

On September 11, 2002 every American will reflect on both the tragedy of September 11, 2001 and on what it means to live in a country that values freedom;

### **And whereas:**

As stewards of the nation's stories, museums offer their communities special places to examine and reaffirm such precious freedoms as:

- Freedom to assemble
- Freedom to create
- Freedom to worship
- Freedom to inquire
- Freedom to express ideas
- Freedom from fear;

### **And whereas:**

Involving the whole of the American museum community in a single initiative powerfully underscores the central role museums play in communities across the United States;

### **Therefore Be It Resolved that:**

The American Association of Museums will stand with their communities in a day of remembrance and a celebration of the freedoms that sustain America's strength by sponsoring or taking part in community activities on and around September 11, 2002.

*Adopted by the American Association of Museums Board of Directors, May 11, 2002*