

A Message from Ed Able, President and CEO



Ed Able, center, with Malcolm Rogers, Ann and Graham Gund Director of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (left), and Louis Casagrande, president and CEO, Boston Children's Museum.

As you are aware, AAM has just completed its first 100 years of service to the museum community. What a great 100 years it has been. A leading national service organization has been created, nourished and grown

by dedicated leadership, professional and competent staff and a wonderfully supportive field. I know that the founders of AAM and our predecessors in leadership and staff roles would be so proud of what AAM is today as it works to advance the museum community.

AAM has a new Strategic Framework that provides a clear direction and, I believe, on-target goals for the association. There is no doubt that AAM has both the will and the capacity to oversee the effective implementation of the new framework and realize its potential for the future of museums.

So, we are embarking on our second 100 years. Concurrently, on July 15, I will complete 20 years of service to AAM and the museum community. It is time for

AAM to have new staff leadership.

On Aug. 1, I will retire from AAM and begin a new chapter in my professional life. I think that each of you knows well how much these 20 years have meant to me. There has never been a day that I did not eagerly anticipate coming to work and serving this great community. I have enjoyed the partnership of committed and effective board members, and I have had the joy of working with a professional staff for which there is, in my view, no equal.

I leave this organization with an enormous sense of pride and accomplishment and with a thankful heart for the blessing of being part of such a great community.

—*Edward H. Able, Jr.*

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A Message from Irene Hirano, Chair of the Board of Directors

Ed Able has provided exemplary service to AAM for two decades. The board of directors is grateful for Ed's leadership, strong management and tireless devotion to the field; he has built AAM into a superb association.

The board has begun a search process, which will include consultation with the museum field. AAM will seek a leader who will build on Ed's accomplishments and ensure that museums remain essential to our communities during the next 100 years.

Jeffrey Rudolph, president/CEO of the California Science Center and immediate past AAM board chair, will chair the search committee. Members of the committee are: Louis Casagrande, president & CEO, Boston Children's Museum and former AAM board chair; William Eiland, director, Georgia Museum of Art; Gail Harity, COO, Philadelphia Museum of Art; Irene Hirano, president/CEO, Japanese American National Museum; Doug G. Myers, executive director, Zoological Society of San Diego; Carl R. Nold, president/CEO, Historic New England; Kathy Dwyer Southern, president/CEO, National Children's Museum and W. Richard West, Jr., director, National Museum of the American Indian and former AAM board chair. The appointment of a search firm is imminent.

—*Irene Hirano*

Smithsonian's Showtime Controversy

The Smithsonian Institution (SI) is defending a controversial television production contract with Showtime Networks Inc., one that could limit access to the institution for filmmakers not associated with Showtime. The agreement created a service, Smithsonian On Demand, that will launch in December. It will offer about 100 programs a year on digital cable, using Smithsonian materials and experts.

The restriction on access has generated sharp criticism from documentary filmmakers and historians. Members of Congress have also censured the Smithsonian for not consulting

(Please turn to "Smithsonian," pg. 5)



Year of the Museum Resolutions and Proclamations

The Year of Museum launches a national effort to celebrate the many ways museums enrich our lives and our communities. There's still time for your community to participate by working with your mayor, governor or city council to designate the Year of the Museum in your locality through a resolution or proclamation.

Year of the Museum resolutions and proclamations are opportunities to have your local officials

and the public recognize the importance of your museum. They honor museums as places of discovery, community and lifelong learning.

Resolutions and proclamations have been passed throughout the country, including the following:

Congressional Year of the Museum Resolutions:

House Resolution: H. Res. 389, passed Feb. 8, 2006

Senate Resolution: S. Res. 437, passed April 6, 2006

State Resolutions and Proclamations:

California Year of the California Museum Proclamation

Colorado Year of the Museum Senate Joint Resolution

Florida Year of the Florida Museum Proclamation

Nebraska Year of the Museum Proclamation

New Mexico Year of the Museum Proclamation

New York Year of the Museum Resolution

North Dakota Year of the Museum Proclamation

Oklahoma Year of the Museum Proclamation

South Dakota Year of the Museum Proclamation

Texas Year of the Museum Proclamation

Vermont Concurrent House Resolution for the Year of the Museum

Wyoming Year of the Museum Proclamation

City and County Proclamations:

Athens Clark County, Ga., Year of the Museum Proclamation

Brazoria County, Tex., Museum Month Proclamation

Denver, Colo., Year of the Museum Proclamation

Dilworth, N.Dak., Year of the Museum Proclamation

Fargo, N.Dak., Year of the Museum Proclamation

Fort Walton Beach, Fla., Year of the Museum Proclamation

Moorhead, N.Dak., Year of the Museum Proclamation

Tyler, Tex., Year of the Museum Proclamation

West Fargo, N.Dak., Year of the Museum Proclamation

Sample resolutions and proclamations are listed on the AAM website to provide a framework for your own statements about the value of museums—you can alter and enhance them with personal stories about the services your museum provides to its community. Send a letter to your governor or mayor to request a Year of the Museum proclamation for your city or state and work with local policy makers to create a resolution that reflects the interests of your museum, community and elected officials.

Once your community has created a resolution or proclamation, share it with us by registering your museum on the website as part of the Year of the Museum and e-mailing a copy of the resolution to yom@aam-us.org. For more information about the Year of the Museum, to register your museum and to find resources for creating a resolution or proclamation and getting it passed, visit www.aam-us.org/yom.—*Jill Connors-Joyner*

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AAM Information Center: You Have Access

	All AAM Members	Staff who work at Member Museums
Online Resources • Via AAM website	✓	✓
Reference Services • Via personal e-mail		✓
Sample Documents • Via personal e-mail		✓

The Information Center's online resources, reference services and sample documents can help you save time and learn from your peers' experience.

Information Center Online Resources

All AAM members have fast, easy access to the Information Center's extensive online resources available on the AAM website (www.aam-us.org). The resources include fact sheets, glossaries and hundreds of links that have been individually reviewed and described for their usefulness to museums.

- If you are an individual member, go to Museum Resources and select the Information Center link. Then click on the Login link at the top of the text box on that page. If you haven't logged in before, simply enter your membership number as your username and password. (You can change this to something you can remember more easily by selecting Edit Account.) Once logged in, you can select any of the nine categories that organize the Information Center's resources on museum issues and operations.
- If you work at a member museum, you also have access, even if you aren't an individual member. Go to Museum Resources and select the Information Center link. Then click on the Sign Up link at the top of the text box on that page and follow the instructions for creating an individual account. During the sign-up process, you'll have the opportunity to identify the museum for which you work; this will allow you to receive the benefits of your museum's membership.

Reference Services and Sample Documents

In addition to the online resources, staff at member museums can use the Information Center's confidential, customized reference services. You may also request sample documents. The Information Center currently has more than 400 documents of almost 40 different types. Contact the Information Center at infocenter@aam-us.org.

Find out more!



Ten Museums Accredited

The Accreditation Commission awarded accreditation to 10 museums at its April 3-5 meeting, held at the Winterthur Museum & Country Estate in Delaware. Of these select museums, six were granted accredited status for the first time, and four were granted subsequent accreditation. This honor signifies that these institutions have undergone a rigorous and lengthy process involving intensive self-examination and peer review, as well as a thorough examination by the commission. The museums join 775 institutions demonstrating excellence and accordance with the best practices and highest standards in the field.

The commission, along with AAM staff and leadership, would like to extend its gratitude to those who served as peer reviewers on the Accreditation Visiting Committee teams. These individuals offered their time and expertise by conducting the site visit and writing a narrative report.

AAM congratulates the following institutions and commends them for their hard work and dedication to the highest standards.

Museums Awarded Initial Accreditation

- Tucson Museum of Art and Historic Block, Tucson, Ariz.
- Tyler Museum of Art, Tyler, Tex.
- Orange County Regional History Center, Orlando, Fla.
- The Grace Museum, Abilene, Tex.
- Sun Valley Center for the Arts, Sun Valley, Idaho
- York County Culture and Heritage Museums, Rock Hill, S.C.

Museums Awarded Subsequent Accreditation

- Nevada State Museum, Carson City
- Columbia River Maritime Museum, Astoria, Oreg.
- Scott Arboretum at Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Penn.
- Wolfsonian-Florida International University, Miami Beach

Would you like to add your museum's name to this list of distinguished institutions? The next application deadline is June 15. Application forms are available on the AAM website at www.aam-us.org/accred, along with a complete list of accredited museums and the names of the current Accreditation Commission members.

AAM Online Resources

Member Museum Directory:

Coming to the AAM Website in June

AAM will make a directory of member museums available on its website on June 15. It will be searchable by name, city and state and will display the museum name, address, website (where available) and statistics about the institution. This directory will be available to the general public, many of whom come to the AAM website looking for a list of museums.

To Directors of Member Museums

Please take a moment to log in to the AAM website and review your institution's profile for accuracy—and to add a website address if you have one. To edit your organizational information, log in at www.aam-us.org and select Edit Profile and then Manage Organization. If you don't see the Manage Organization link or have trouble logging in, contact membership@aam-us.org or call 202/218-7718.—*Jasmine Sante*

2006 AAM Contributors

AAM wishes to acknowledge and thank the following individuals, foundations, museums and organizations for their generous contributions to AAM. Only with the support of contributors like you can AAM deliver on its mission to fully represent the museum community, address its needs and enhance its ability to serve the public.

This list represents donors from April 1-May 1, 2006. You deserve to be properly recognized for your contribution, and we strive for 100-percent accuracy. If you have any questions or if we have made an error, please contact the AAM Development Department at 202/218-7701 or kcarter@aam-us.org.

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Photo: Tom Champoux.

Museum Directors Throw First Pitches to Celebrate the Year of the Museum

In celebration of the Year of the Museum, Lou Casagrande, president and CEO of the Boston Children's Museum, and Carol Enseki, president of the Brooklyn Children's Museum, threw out the first pitches as the Boston Red Sox took on the New York Yankees in Boston on May 1. Both Enseki and Casagrande have served on the board of AAM.

The Red Sox and the Yankees invited a museum director from each city to throw out the first pitch on the final day of AAM's 100th annual meeting. The Red Sox will also feature a different museum on the scoreboard during each home game.

The Year of the Museum is a time to celebrate the many ways that museums enrich lives and communities. A creative partnership with other entertainment or educational organizations in your city is a great way to promote your museum and all museums as we celebrate the contributions that these organizations make to society.

Learn more about the Year of the Museum at www.aam-us.org/yom.—*Anna McAlpine*

AAM Seminars: 2006 Professional Education Schedule

Develop your professional skills and knowledge with colleagues from around the country!

Secrets of Accreditation

Sept. 22-23—Pittsburgh

Whether you're currently in the process, about to begin subsequent accreditation or deciding whether to pursue accreditation—this seminar is for you! Discover first-hand from Accreditation Program staff and an Accreditation Commissioner how to ensure a smooth process and a successful outcome. Gain valuable tips to maximize benefits, minimize delays and avoid setbacks. Sessions include dialogue, interactive exercises and small group discussions. Hosted by the Senator John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center.

Seminar for Historical Administration

Oct. 28-Nov. 18—Indianapolis

Application deadline May 12

The Seminar for Historical Administration is an intense, three-week, residential program employing case studies, workshops, forums and field trips on history organization leadership and management. Instructors include experts from both within and outside the museum field. This program provides a unique opportunity to gain the skills and confidence you need to accomplish your professional goals and the knowledge and strategies necessary to advance your institution. To apply, visit www.aaslh.org/histadmin.htm. Hosted by the Indiana Historical Society. Co-sponsored by the American Association of State and Local History, the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, the Indiana Historical Society, the National Park Service, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

(“*Smithsonian*,” continued from pg. 1)

legislators before limiting access to public treasures. SI receives 75 percent of its funding from taxpayers.

For weeks after the deal came to the public’s attention, the Smithsonian would not disclose the full content of the contract or even say how long it would run. In a press release dated May 4, SI noted that “This would not be in keeping with standard business practices nor is it required under the Freedom of Information Act, which exempts financial information because it places a business at a competitive disadvantage in the marketplace.” However, “[A]ll aspects of the contract related to access to the Smithsonian have been divulged and explained.” The institution added that “The Smithsonian has relied on comparable business activities for nearly 50 years. Among the business operations of the Institution are Smithsonian magazine, established in 1971; retail stores, restaurants and IMAX theaters in museums; gift catalog and online shopping; educational travel; and book publishing.”

Smithsonian Secretary Lawrence M. Small finally revealed full details of the agreement on May 25 to the House Administration Committee, providing a 170-page copy of the contract. Committee chair Rep. Vernon J. Ehlers (R-Mich.) said he would keep the document confidential. Certain information has been made public, however, as noted in the *Washington Post*: the contract extends for 30 years; the Smithsonian is guaranteed \$500,000 a year and can earn more if the service is successful; Showtime invested tens of millions of dollars upfront and the Smithsonian can do six TV programs a year with filmmakers outside the Showtime contract.

Protesters have included a coalition of 215 filmmakers and historians. “This is not us against them. The Smithsonian is not the enemy,” said filmmaker Ken Burns, quoted in the *Post*. “We love the Smithsonian. We depend on them. We feel those involved made a mistake.”

In its May 4 press release, the Smithsonian responded: “For many years the Smithsonian had sought to establish a presence on television to showcase the Institution’s vast resources—collections, exhibitions, archives and curatorial expertise to further its mission, the ‘increase and diffusion of knowledge.’ . . . One area untapped to date has been television programming” due to a lack of resources and expertise. Through Showtime, the institution announced, it can “share its national collections and research with millions of people nationwide.” The revenue generated “will be used for collections care and acquisitions, exhibitions and public programs that are not supported by federal funds.”

The Smithsonian also stated that “Researchers and journalists continue to have full access for news and public affairs, academic and scholarly purposes.” Commercial filmmakers will also have access to the institution’s resources, but only “in a manner that does not involve the Smithsonian in a significant way in their project”—the Smithsonian’s resources cannot be “more than incidental in the context of the overall program.” If so restricted, “the filmmaker may approach Smithsonian On Demand to consider working with Smithsonian Networks. It is also possible that the Smithsonian would decide to proceed with the filmmaker outside of Smithsonian On Demand.”

The institution predicted that the effects on filmmakers would be minimal. Secretary Small said in the *Washington Post* that of 900 media contracts signed between 2000 and 2005, only 17 involved more than incidental use of Smithsonian resources. Moreover, filmmakers would benefit. “The joint venture,” Small said, “will provide millions of dollars of incremental income to the very community [that critics] fear will be discouraged from creating projects.” The Smithsonian regents concurred in a letter to Congress, quoted in the *Post*, noting that working with Smithsonian on Demand could be “a very attractive option to filmmakers who do not already have financing in place.” Restricted filmmakers might also “discuss a co-production with the Smithsonian Institution” or “reduce the proposed use of Smithsonian resources to an incidental component of the film.”

The funds that SI does not receive from Congress come from a private account that includes an \$800 million endowment, according to the *Post*. Smithsonian on Demand and other for-profit divisions are part of Smithsonian Business Ventures, which operates with private money.

On May 10, the House Appropriations Committee voted to cut \$15 million from the museum’s proposed 2007 budget because of its unhappiness with the Showtime deal. In the previous week, a subcommittee subtracted a separate \$5 million for the same reason. Some argued that this would mostly affect Smithsonian employees and the public. “It is like using an ax when you need a scalpel,” said Rep. James Moran (D-Va.) in the *Post*. “The people who are going to get hurt are the visitors.”

“We apologize for the hullabaloo this has caused for Congress,” Small said at the May 25 committee hearing,” according to the *Post*. A chastised Gary M. Beer, chief executive of Smithsonian Business Ventures, the brokers of the Showtime contract, reassured members of Congress that in the future, “If we have even an idea we will come to you.”—*Leah Arroyo*

IMLS and NEA Create Largest Book Club Ever

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) have announced a partnership to create the Big Read, a national program to revitalize the role of reading in America. IMLS is the primary source of federal funds and leadership to the nation’s 122,000 libraries and 17,500 museums.

“Reading at Risk: A Survey of Literary Reading in America,” a 2004 NEA report, documented a dramatic decline in literary reading—among all age groups, ethnic groups and education levels—galvanizing a national discussion. As part of the Big Read, more than 100 cities and towns will host community-wide “reads” in collaboration with libraries, schools, local govern-

ment and the private sector.

The Big Read invites cities and communities nationwide to participate in 2007. It will award grants generally ranging from \$10,000 to \$20,000 to conduct programs that encourage reading for pleasure and enlightenment. To find out how your organization can submit a proposal, visit www.neabigread.org.

Congressional Legislation May Be Delayed Throughout 2006

Major appropriations and tax legislation affecting museums, such as funding for the federal agencies that support museums and packages of incentives for charitable giving, may be delayed throughout the year, causing House Majority Leader John Boehner (R-Ohio) to comment in *Congressional Quarterly Today* that “Unfortunately, we’re going to be here for Christmas.” Though there are no plans to adjust the House calendar for the remainder of 2006, Boehner and fellow Congressional leaders may consider scheduling options to complete the year’s legislative work.

The Senate has been slow to deliberate measures so far this year. Also, the House of Representatives has only recently (May 18) passed a budget resolution for FY 2007, facilitating work on appropriations bills by instituting caps on spending for federal agencies. Because 2006 is an election year, legislative work, including appropriations bills, not completed before the November elections would be finalized by a lame-duck Congress. Some members might therefore vote after having been elected out of office. An election year also makes it especially difficult for moderate Republicans and conservative Democrats to balance fiscal responsibility and funding for programs that constituents support, highlighting the difficulty in finding consensus on a House budget resolution.

Also adding uncertainty is speculation for the first time in several years that the November elections could result in a turnover of party control in Congress. While a shift of majority and leadership from Republican to Democrat in either chamber seems unlikely, there are certain conditions that tend to keep the base of the party in power from a high turnout on election day. Current possibilities include dissatisfaction with the current president and the perception of wrongdoing by otherwise safe incumbents. In the near term, we can expect the House to begin work this summer on appropriations bills and packages of tax cuts, narrowly passed by the Senate in the second week of May, while the Senate faces an extended debate on immigration reform legislation.

—*Ember Farber*

To receive



update your e-mail address, either by going to your profile on the AAM website (www.aam-us.org) or by e-mailing membership@aam-us.org

Advocacy Training: At the Centennial Meeting and Beyond

At the recent annual meeting in Boston, several educational sessions discussed the importance of advocating for museums—and how to do it. Panelists underscored that museum professionals play a vital role in AAM’s federal advocacy efforts if they join AAM’s Museum Advocacy Team®.

In “Advocacy 101: How to Be Your Museum’s Best Advocate,” AAM staff provided practical, hands-on insights into the political decision-making process and the basics of effective advocacy. “Basic Instinct: Advocacy Training as Essential Survival Skill” offered the observations of Carlo Lamagna of New York University’s Steinhardt School, AAM’s Jason Hall and other panelists on why advocacy in cultural policy and media relations helps museum professionals ensure a viable future in rapidly changing times. And in “A to Z: Public Policy Trends Affecting Museums,” AAM’s in-house government relations team briefed participants on current activity in Congress, the federal agencies affecting museum funding and oversight, new federal rules and regulations affecting museums and how to influence the policy debate in support of museums.

For information on becoming a member of the Museum Advocacy Team® or on the sessions mentioned here, contact mat@aam-us.org or call 202/289-9125.—*Ember Farber*

Funding for NEA and NEH Moves Forward

On May 18, the House of Representatives approved by voice vote an amendment to the FY 2007 Interior Appropriations bill, H.R. 5386, to increase funding by an additional \$5 million each for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The amendment was offered by the leaders of the Congressional Arts Caucus, Representatives Louise Slaughter (D-NY) and Christopher Shays (R-CT), the Congressional Humanities Caucus, Representatives Jim Leach (R-IA) and David Price (D-NC), and Representative Norm Dicks (D-WA). As introduced, the bill recommended funding each agency at their FY 2006 levels of \$124.4 million for and \$140.9 million for NEH and included funding for the Smithsonian, the National Park Service and other programs at the Department of Interior and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Representative Bob Beauprez (R-CO) introduced an amendment to reduce the NEA budget by \$30 million that was defeated in vote of 112-306. As previously reported in *Aviso*, both agencies’ FY 2007 budget proposals reallocate program funds to cover anticipated increases in administration and overhead (see “President’s Budget Proposes Significant Increases for IMLS, NSF,” *Aviso*, March 2006). The NEA proposal also calls for increasing funding for Access to Artistic Excellence, Learning in the Arts and State and Regional Partnerships by reducing funds available for Challenge America. —*Eileen Goldspiel*

FEDERAL FUNDING DEADLINES

JUNE

- 15:** IMLS, Museum Grants for African American History and Culture
- 22:** NSF, Informal Science Education Awards (planning and proposal grants)

JULY

- 17:** NEH, Grants to Preserve and Create Access to Humanities Collections
- 12:** NEA, Learning in the Arts for Children and Youth

AUGUST

- 14:** NEA, Access to Artistic Excellence

SEPTEMBER

- 14:** NSF, Informal Science Education Awards (preliminary deadline, planning and proposal grants)

FOR INFORMATION:

- IMLS:** www.ims.gov
- NEA:** www.arts.gov
- NEH:** www.neh.gov
- NSF:** www.nsf.gov

IMLS Museum Grants for African American History and Culture

The National Museum of African American History and Culture Act of 2003 authorized the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), in consultation with the council and director of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, to create a grant program to strengthen African-American museum services. The program is now in its first year, and Congress has appropriated \$842,000 for grants to museum professionals. The deadline for applications is July 15.

Museum Grants for African American History and Culture are intended to build professional capacity in the African-American museum community. In FY 2006, the program will focus on the following three goals:

- Developing and/or strengthening knowledge and skills of current staff at African-American museums
- Attracting and retaining professionals with the skills needed to strengthen African-American museums
- Attracting new staff to African-American museum practice and providing them with the expertise needed to sustain them in the museum field

Funds will support a wide range of activities to achieve these goals, including:

- Staff exchange, education or training
- Attendance at museum conferences and other professional meetings
- Enrollment in courses or workshops, onsite or through distance learning
- Technical assistance or consultation with museum and/or business professionals from outside the institution
- Support for internships and fellowships

Awards are expected to be made at all levels, \$5,000 to \$150,000. For contact persons and information on draft guidelines, see Bulletins, p. 8.—*Anna McAlpine*

2006 Postal Rate Increase Case Underway

As announced in the May 2006 *Aviso*, the United States Postal Service (USPS) has submitted a rate increase to the Postal Rate Commission that would take effect in the second quarter of 2007. Mailers already experienced an across-the-board increase in January of this year. USPS reports on its website that the 2006 rate increase was needed to cover new financial burdens that Congress placed on the postal service and was “the first time in nearly five years that we proposed to adjust postage rates to cover rising operational costs.”

For additional information about the rate-case process and actual rates and increases, visit the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers website at www.nonprofitmailers.org or the USPS webpage on the current rate case at www.usps.com/ratecase.

—*Ember Farber*

Pension Bill New Target for Charity Provisions Excluded from Tax Reconciliation

An agreement negotiated on H.R. 4297, a tax reconciliation bill, by members of a House and Senate conference committee failed to include new charitable tax incentives and reforms endorsed by AAM and approved in the Senate version of the measure. Leaders of the Senate Finance and the House Ways and Means Committees have agreed in principle to discuss including charitable giving incentives and reforms in a separate follow-on “trailer” that would extend certain tax provisions not included in H.R. 4297, which would be attached to a larger pension reform bill, H.R. 2830.

AAM, along with the Association of Art Museum Directors, Americans for the Arts and a representative of the appraisal profession, have been meeting with congressional staff to advocate for the inclusion of a narrow package of provisions related to museums. The package includes the Artist Fair Market Deduction proposal and reform

provisions passed by the Senate mandating reforms of tax-related appraisals, tightened requirements for donations of exempt-use property and a taxidermy donation reform proposal. The Artist Fair Market Deduction proposal would authorize artists, writers, composers and scholars to take a tax deduction equal to the fair market value of their own works when donated to a qualified charity for use related to its mission.

The other charitable tax incentives and reforms of interest to museums are still on the negotiating table, and as *Aviso* goes to press, the situation remains extremely fluid. AAM, along with other advocates for the nonprofit sector, continues to press for inclusion of incentives for charitable giving and reasonable reform measures. For additional information, visit Independent Sector at www.independentsector.org.

—*Eileen Goldspiel*

Bulletins

Museum Grants for African American History and Culture (Institute of Museum and Library Services): Funds will support a wide range of activities aimed at strengthening African-American museum services. (See also "IMLS Museum Grants for African American History and Culture," p. 7.) **Deadline: July 15.** Awards from \$5,000 to \$150,000. Draft guidelines available at www.ims.gov/applicants/grants/AfricanAmerican.shtm. Contact IMLS: Christopher J. Reich, senior program officer, 202/653-4685 or creich@ims.gov, or Twinet G. Kimbrough, program specialist, 202/653-4703 or tkimbrough@ims.gov.

Inaugural Conference of New Program for Art Museum Directors: The Directors Forum, administered by the Art Museum Partnership, is for full-time directors of not-for-profit art museums and galleries. The inaugural conference will meet at several art-related settings in New York, Oct. 22-24. Speakers will explore such topics as disaster management, institutional identity, collaborations with consultants and misuse of corporate business models in the nonprofit sector. Visit www.artmuseumpartnership.org or contact Art Museum Partnership, 303 Park Avenue South, Box 1112, New York, NY 10010-3657, DirectorsForum@ArtMuseumPartnership.org, 646-431-2358.

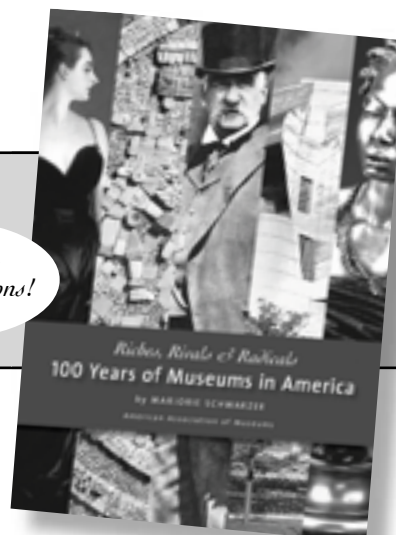
X/Y Axis: Capturing and Keeping Young Adult Audiences: Join colleagues from a variety of institutions on July 14 for a full-day workshop at the Loyola University Museum of Art in Chicago. Guest speakers will explore the cultural and consumer trends of Generations X and Y, and panelists will share their experiences with successful programs from interpretive and membership perspectives. Registration: \$40/Association of Midwest Museums or EdCom members, \$50/non-members (includes box lunch). Contact AMM at 314-746-4557 or register online at www.midwestmuseums.org. Sponsored by the Association of Midwest Museums and AAM Committee on Education (EdCom).

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2007 Annual Meeting: Call for International Session Proposals

The 2006 AAM Annual Meeting in Boston saw the strongest slate of panels on international topics in many years. AAM/ICOM sponsored or co-sponsored a record 20 sessions, covering everything from the growth of museums in Africa to using technology to collaborate across borders to provenance issues and community stewardship of sacred objects.

Now it's time to build an even stronger international program for the 2007 AAM Annual Meeting in Chicago. "Why Museums Matter" is the theme, and AAM/ICOM is seeking proposals demonstrating how collaborations across cultures and across borders help museums make a difference in their own communities. How do we work together to send a powerful message about the valuable role such partnerships play in reaching new audiences? What are the best ways to measure the impact international collaborations have on museums' service to society?

By submitting your proposal through AAM/ICOM, you have the opportunity for early feedback from AAM/ICOM 2007 program chair José Ortiz, administrator of the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden and a veteran of AAM National Program Committees as well as of the AAM/ICOM staff. If your proposal is selected for AAM/ICOM sponsorship, AAM/ICOM will champion it when the National Program Committee makes its final selections.

Those interested in AAM/ICOM session sponsorship can find proposal forms and guidelines at www.aam-us.org/am07. By June 23, they should submit a draft session proposal directly to AAM/ICOM: 1575 Eye Street NW, Suite 400, Washington DC 20005, 202/289-9115, aam-icom@aam-us.org. Proposals without sponsorship are due Aug. 31.

Become a Virtual Participant in an IPAM Partnership

For 26 years, AAM's International Partnerships Among Museums program has enabled U.S. museum professionals to collaborate with colleagues abroad. Now for the first time you can become a "virtual participant" in an IPAM partnership as it unfolds.

Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens of Akron, Ohio, and the National Discovery Museum Institute of Bangkok, Thailand, have been awarded a 2005-2007 IPAM grant to explore the economic and cultural ties between the rubber plantations of Thailand and the country estate homes of the rubber barons of Akron. Stan Hywet Hall was the estate of F. A. Seiberling, the founder of Goodyear Tire. Rubber from Southeast Asia was the foundation of Seiberling's fortune, and plantations controlled by Sieberling's company exerted a profound effect on rural life in Thailand.

Mark Heppner, curator at Stan Hywet Hall, is currently in Bangkok working with Patoo Cusripituck, public relations officer at the National Discovery Museum Institute. Heppner is writing about his experiences in a weblog published in partnership with the Akron Beacon Journal newspaper. Get an inside look at a real international museum partnership as it develops and post your comments on Heppner's online diary: <http://mythaiadventure.blogspot.com>.

AAM/ICOM Welcomes ICOM President to Boston; Sponsors International Delegates Reception

AAM/ICOM was proud to welcome over 350 international delegates from 47 nations to the AAM Annual Meeting in Boston April 27-30. Alissandra Cummins, director of the Barbados Museum and Historical Society and president of the International Council of Museums, was a guest of honor throughout the centennial celebration. Cummins conveyed ICOM's congratulations to AAM on its 100th birthday and invited AAM and AAM/ICOM members to participate in this year's 60th anniversary of the founding of ICOM. She also shared with ICOM members her perspective on the development of museums in the Caribbean region in the postcolonial era and reflected on the roles AAM, ICOM and AAM/ICOM can play in assisting the growth of museums in the developing world.

AAM/ICOM was also proud to host the first-ever International Delegates Welcome Reception generously sponsored by the Cultural Property Protection Group. Museum professionals from around the world were formally welcomed to Boston by the Lea Perez, director of the Office of Citizen Exchanges of the U.S. Department of State, as well as by the leadership of ICOM, AAM and AAM/ICOM. Delegates had a chance to meet one another, connect with U.S. colleagues and learn how to get the most out of the annual meeting. Each delegate also received an ICOM Boston 2006 commemorative pin designed and donated by Wilbur Faulk of the AAM/ICOM Board and Gary Edson of the ICOM Executive Council.

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AAM Annual Meeting and
MuseumExpo™2007

Why Museums Matter

May 13-17, 2007

Chicago

Plan Now to Host an Event in Chicago

It's not too early to plan an event for the 2007 AAM annual meeting--a business breakfast, lunch, business or board meeting, roundtable discussion, reception and/or workshop. All the information you need is available on the AAM website (www.aam-us.org). Forms are due Aug. 31. For further information, call 202/289-9113.

Proposals Sought for AAM's 2007 Annual Meeting in Chicago

Planning is underway for the AAM Annual Meeting and MuseumExpo™ in Chicago, May 13-17, 2007. The theme "Why Museums Matter" explores how museums can effectively convey and evaluate their value to the public, media, policy-makers and funders.

Session proposal forms and guidelines are available at www.aam-us.org or by contacting the Meetings and Professional Education Department at 202/289-9113 or annualmeeting@aam-us.org. All proposals are due Aug. 31. Those interested in having their proposal considered for endorsement by one of AAM's Standing Professional Committees (SPC) or Professional Interest Committees (PIC) should refer to the list of contacts on the session proposal form or contact the meetings and professional education department for guidance. The SPC endorsement deadline is July 7. Many proposals that receive this peer review and endorsement ultimately succeed in securing a spot in the final program.

An e-mail list facilitates communication among individuals seeking presenters on session proposal topics. To subscribe, visit www.aam-us.org/am07/proposal.cfm under "Help with Finding Presenters."

A CENTENNIAL OF IDEAS
EXPLORING TOMORROW'S MUSEUMS
April 27 - May 1, 2006 - Boston, Massachusetts



**AAM would like to thank the following individuals
for making the centennial Annual Meeting and MuseumExpo™
the most successful ever!**

Malcolm Rogers, Ann and Graham Gund Director, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; general chair

Lou Casagrande, president and CEO, Boston Children's Museum; immediate past chair, AAM Board of Directors; chair, Host Committee

Carl Nold, member, AAM Board of Directors; president and CEO, Historic New England; chair, National Program Committee

Meg Albert, local conference coordinator

Cynthia Robinson, volunteer coordinator

Kim French and Bill McAvoy, co-chairs, Development Subcommittee

Kelly Gifford and Tom Champoux, co-chairs, Public Relations and Marketing Subcommittee

Lucy Darragh, chair, Volunteer Subcommittee

Mimi LaCamera and Burt Logan, co-chairs, Hospitality Subcommittee

Marlie McManus, chair, Events Subcommittee

The Aviso Classifieds

AVISO MUSEUM CAREERS: Employers now can place classified job advertisements in real time at www.aam-us.org/jobHQ. This new online service represents a major upgrade for job seekers and advertisers, making staff recruitment easier, faster, and more effective for individuals and institutions.

JobHQ offers updated job listings 24 hours a day; searchable listings by employer, location, salary range, job category, and/or title; and e-mail alerts when

new listings appear matching a preferred profile. Advertisers can post jobs in real time right from their desktops and track activity online to measure and report on recruitment advertising.

Marketplace and Career Development ads will remain in *Aviso*, but employment ads will be available only online. You can pay for your ad online with a credit card or check (with prior approval).

TO PLACE a Marketplace or Career Development ad:

(Marketplace Ads include goods, services, and announcements. Career Development Ads include professional and educational announcements.)

Submit your ad and billing and contact information (phone, fax, address, method of payment) via e-mail: aviso@aam-us.org. Please do not fax or mail your ad unless you are unable to submit it by e-mail.

You will receive an e-mail, with the cost of your ad, within two business days. If you do not receive confirmation, please call 202/289-9122 to make sure that we received your ad.

DEADLINE for Marketplace and Career Development

Ads: Advertisements are due by the 15th of the month no later than 12 Noon EST. For example, Sept. 15 is the cutoff for the October issue. All cancellations/changes must be made in writing by the deadline.

TYPES OF ADS:

Standard Ads. Standard ads are "line ads." A discounted rate of \$1.45 per word is offered to AAM members; non-members pay \$2.75 per word.

Display Ads. Display ads receive prominent placement.

Boxed Display ads are 4.5" wide x 3.5" long and can hold up to approximately 200 words. A discounted rate of \$450 is offered to AAM members; the rate is \$875 for all others.

Boxed Column-Inch Display ads can hold about 176-750 words. They are 4.5" wide (two columns) by 4" to 9.25" long, as needed. A discounted rate of \$85 per column inch (2.25" wide) is offered to members. The rate is \$160 per column inch for all others. *Aviso* staff will lay out your ad or you can submit camera-ready ads and/or logos. Camera-ready artwork must follow the same dimensions listed above. TIFF files (300 DPI) should be submitted via e-mail.

PAYMENT: All *Aviso* ads must be prepaid. After we receive your ad, we will calculate the cost and send an electronic confirmation sheet/invoice within 48 hours; please use this to submit payment. All payments must be prepaid by credit card. If you are unable to pay by credit card, please contact *Aviso* Advertising at 202/289-9122 or aviso@aam-us.org to set up alternate options. For standard classified ads, words are counted using Microsoft Word. Boxed column-inch display ads are rounded to the closest inch. A receipt and a copy of the ad will be mailed to you after the issue comes out. (Attention ad agencies: ad rates are not commissionable.)

AAM does not verify the authenticity or research the provenance of objects or artifacts listed for sale. AAM must rely on museum professionals to use their judgment when responding to any advertisement. We may edit ads for style and clarity.

MARKETPLACE ADS

Appraisers. We appraise tangible personal property for sale, insurance, or tax purposes. John A. Woods Appraisers, 347 Main St., South Windsor, CT 06074; 860/289-3927 (phone); 860/236.8401 (fax); e-mail: woodsappr@aol.com.

MUSEUM LABELING KITS. All the supplies you need for labeling every material type in your collection. Contact The LCL Company, 317/243-8092, or visit www.theLCLcompany.com.

Need help with your collections management? Are your collections not as well documented as you would like? Are there gaps in your collection catalog? Are there items that are unidentified, identified only as "found in collection," only partially cataloged? We offer assistance to inventory, catalog or complete the background research on your collections; help compiling catalog and archival records associated with your collections; training classes in cataloging/collections management. Free initial consultation. For more information and a free brochure contact: Collections Research for Museums, 4830 E Kansas Dr, Denver, CO 80246; 303-757-7962; Toll free: 1-877-757-7962 or visit us on the web at <http://museumcollectionmgmt.com>.

Museum Security Specialists. Experienced in museum security, risk assessments and management; security program, guard force development, training, and management; crisis response and emergency planning. References available. Affiliated with SecuraComm Consulting. Call Security Strategies, 703/777-2447.

Bed and Breakfast for Art Professionals. Downtown Manhattan, warm, comfortable, and clean. Private room and bath. For information or reservations, 212/674-8535; fax: 212/533-0316.

New exhibition available. "Mapuche! Warrior-Artists of South America." The Mapuche or Araucanian people of Southern Chile and Argentina were never subdued by the Spanish conquistadors, despite almost 350 years of intense conflict. However, they readily adopted European introductions such as horses, sheep and silver to become renowned horsemen, weavers, and silversmiths. Today, some two million Mapuche struggle to maintain their land, language, and traditions in the face of continuing economic, political, and social oppression. The exhibition, curated for the Museo de las Americas in Denver, includes over 200 outstanding examples of Mapuche craftsmanship: men's ponchos, women's jewelry, equestrian gear, domestic artifacts, and ceremonial paraphernalia. Complemented by historic photographs, the objects reveal much about the culture and identity of this important indigenous people of the Americas. Available immediately and through 2010. Contact: David Irving, Ethnographica, 303/525-6222, wdsi@msn.com.

Why Pay Unemployment Taxes? Nonprofit museums can opt out of unemployment tax system and just reimburse the state for claims. Typically, museums pay \$2.20 in taxes for every \$1 in claims. Joint Agencies' Trust helps museums evaluate their options and save money. Contact Ellen Johnson, JAT unemployment program, 800/442-4867, Ejohnson@501c.com.

Exhibition Frames. Contemporary hardwood frames and moldings in hard maple, cherry, walnut, ash, and basswood—unfinished or 16 custom finishes. Spines, matching spacers, and strainer options available. Reusable exhibition frames are our specialty. Free color catalogue. Metropolitan Picture Framing, 800/626-3139; www.metroframe.com.

Invisible Bubble-Free Seams. Superb quality display covers and frames by highly reputable custom acrylic fabricator used to dealing with museums and exhibit designers. Also, large, custom-formed shapes (domes, tubes, aquariums, etc.). Please call Just Plastics, 212/569-8500.

The National Park Service posts notices of proposed deaccessions and items available for deaccessioning on the World Wide Web at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/museum/deaccess/deaccess.htm>.

Sabot (Woodenshoe) Carving and Ice Harvesting Presentations, Tools, Library. 262/242-1571.

FILMS FOR MUSEUMS. Lojeri Productions™, producer of The Museum Insider™ television series, creates films for museums and nonprofits. Visit www.lojeriproductions.org.

"Focus on Nature®: Wildcats of the World". Traveling educational exhibit of paintings of small wildcats. Rochelle Mason (808) 985-7311; Rmasonfinearts@aol.com.

Grant Writing and Education Program Development. Successful track record securing funding from foundation, government, and corporate sources, including consecutive IMLS grants. Expertise researching and developing materials for education programs, interpretive exhibition guides, docent trainings, curriculum-based school programs, and label text. 38 years combined museum management experience. Projects of all sizes and scopes welcome. Contact R & L Consulting—828/684-3366 or www.randlconsulting.com.

Earned Income Consultants. Increase earned income from your restaurants, retail presence, and facility rentals. Our clients have made us America's leading earned income consultants. Meet our clients, view our services and visit our website at www.manask.com. Contact Manask & Associates at 800 686-8813 or ArtManask@manask.com.

"Old & New Dolls, Toys & Games." Doll and Toy Museum of NYC has traveling exhibits. MHochmanDTofNYC@aol.com

"Art of Warner Bros. Cartoons." Traveling exhibition celebrating Bugs, Daffy, Tweety, Sylvester, Roadrunner, Coyote. Landmark MoMA show. ssss41@hotmail.com.

"John James Audubon, American Artist and Naturalist," a new traveling exhibition. Website: www.artservices2000.com. Contact Mark Alexander: 386/428-2980.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT ADS

M.A. Program in Museum Studies at New York University. For over 25 years, NYU's Program in Museum Studies has offered an innovative course of study in the contemporary theory and practice of museum work. Emphasizing both interdisciplinary study and courses of practical training, the program draws on university faculty and museum professionals to prepare students for all areas of museum work. In addition to core courses in the history and theory of museums, exhibitions and collections, and museum management, students pursue personal programs of study supporting individual academic and career objectives. The Advanced Certificate in Museum Studies is also available for students who have an M.A. or who are enrolled in an M.A. program at NYU. Contact museum.studies@nyu.edu or visit www.nyu.edu/gsas/ma/museumstudies.

Campbell Center for Historic Preservation Studies, 203 E. Seminary Street, Mt. Carroll, IL 61053; 815/244-1173; www.campbellcenter.org; registrations@campbellctr.org. The Center is in its second year of offering three levels of certificate training in preventive collections care, as well as its regular offering of short courses in historic preservation, conservation and collections care.

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, 37 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago, IL 60603, 800/232-7242, fax: 312/899-1840, www.artic.edu/saic, admiss@artic.edu, Undergraduate, Graduate, and Certificate Programs: BA, BFA, BIA; MFA in Studio; MFA in Writing; MA in Architecture; MA in Interior Architecture; MA in Art Therapy; MDes in Designed Objects; MA in Modern Art History, Theory, and Criticism; MA in Arts Administration; MA in Art Education; MA in Teaching; MA in Visual and Critical Studies, MS in Historic Preservation; Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Studio; Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Writing. Departments: Architecture, Interior Architecture, and Designed Objects; Design for Emerging Technologies; Art and Technology Studies; Art Education; Art History, Theory, and Criticism; Art Therapy; Ceramics; Fashion Design; Fiber and Material Studies; Film, Video, and New Media; Liberal Arts; Painting & Drawing; Performance; Photography; Printmedia; Sculpture; Sound; Visual and Critical Studies; Visual Communication.



June 2006

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