

Institute of Museum and Library Services

GUIDE *to* MUSEUM FUNDING PROGRAMS *and* OPPORTUNITIES



Overview of Museum **FUNDING PROGRAMS**

ABOUT US

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and approximately 35,000 museums and related organizations.

Our mission is to inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civic engagement. Our grant making, policy development and research help libraries and museums deliver valuable services that make it possible for communities and individuals to thrive.

IMLS's national initiatives and partnerships help raise public awareness about the value of libraries and museums, identify trends and provide opportunities for sharing best practices.

IMLS's current agency-wide special initiatives are Community Catalysts, Community Salute and STEMEx. To find out more about these special initiatives, please visit us at IMLS.GOV

PROGRAM STAFF CONTACTS

CONNIE BODNER | cbodner@imls.gov | 202.653.4636

JILL CONNORS-JOYNER | jconnors-joyner@imls.gov | 202.653.4791

MARK FEITL | mfeitl@imls.gov | 202.653.4635

MARK ISAKSEN | misaksen@imls.gov | 202.653.4667

ASHLEY JONES | ajones@imls.gov | 202.653.4782

REAGAN MOORE | rmoore@imls.gov | 202.653.4637

SANDRA NARVA | snarva@imls.gov | 202.653.4634

STEVE SHWARTZMAN | sshwartzman@imls.gov | 202.653.4641

HELEN WECHSLER | hwechsler@imls.gov | 202.653.4779

FOR GENERAL INQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT: **KATRINA DIXON** | kdixon@imls.gov | 202.653.4709

HOW TO APPLY

▶ SELECT A GRANT PROGRAM

Visit our website, www.imls.gov, to explore program descriptions, sample applications and resources designed to help you develop a competitive application to the program that best fits your project.

▶ READ THE NOTICES OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES (NOFOs)

NOFOs become available on our website 60 to 90 days before the program deadlines. Read them carefully, and be sure to check the eligibility requirements. The FY 2017 versions will remain available for reference until the FY 2018 NOFOs are posted.

▶ CHECK YOUR REGISTRATIONS

Submitting a grant application to IMLS is a multistep process that begins with a series of registrations. You must have a Dun & Bradstreet D-U-N-S® Number; a current and active System for Award Management (SAM.gov) registration, which must be renewed annually; and an up-to-date registration with Grants.gov. These processes take time. Ensure that your registrations are active and correct well before the application deadline.

▶ CONNECT WITH US

Pre-application webinars help you learn more about programs and application how-to's. Conversations with program staff can help you to explore how your idea may match the goals of a grant program.

MUSEUM GRANT PROGRAMS

DEADLINE	PROGRAM	AWARD AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
12/1/2017	Museums for America	\$5,000 – \$25,000	Grants at two different funding levels support activities that strengthen museums as active resources for lifelong learning, vital components of livable communities, and good stewards of the nation's collections.
		\$25,001 – \$250,000	
12/1/2017	National Leadership Grants for Museums	\$5,000 – \$50,000 (rapid prototyping)	Grants support projects that address critical needs of the museum field and that have the potential to advance practice in the profession so that museums can improve services for the American public.
		\$50,000 – \$1,000,000 (non-research)	
		\$50,000 – \$1,000,000 (research)	
12/1/2017	Museum Grants for African American History and Culture	\$5,000 – \$25,000	Grants at two different funding levels strengthen African American museums by improving care of collections, developing professional management, or providing internship and fellowship opportunities.
		\$25,001 – \$150,000	
12/1/2017	Native American/ Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program	\$5,000 – \$75,000	Grants to federally recognized tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations enhance museum services to sustain heritage, culture and knowledge.
3/1/2018	Museums Empowered	\$5,000 – \$25,000	Grants at two different funding levels support activities for professional development and capacity building efforts in museums.
		\$25,001 – \$250,000	

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

DEADLINE	PROGRAM	DESCRIPTION
2/1/2018	Collections Assessment for Preservation Program	Administered by the <i>Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic & Artistic Works, Inc.</i> , the program provides small and mid-sized museums with an assessment of the institution's collections, buildings, and building systems, as well as policies and procedures relating to collections care.
Check the website for updates	Museum Assessment Program	Administered by the <i>American Alliance of Museums</i> , the program helps museums strengthen operations, plan for the future and meet national standards through self-study and a site visit from a peer reviewer.

NATIONAL AWARDS PROGRAMS

DEADLINE	PROGRAM	DESCRIPTION
10/2/2017	National Medal for Museum and Library Service	Awards celebrate outstanding museums and libraries that make extraordinary contributions to their communities.
Check the website for updates	National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards, a partnership with the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities	Awards acknowledge afterschool and out-of-school arts and humanities programs that transform the lives of young people. Museums and libraries are eligible to apply.

SPECIAL INITIATIVES

Office of Museum Services

EXPANDING STEM EDUCATION

Maker/STEM Education Support for 21st Century Community Learning Centers: IMLS and the U.S. Department of Education are collaborating with the New York Hall of Science (NYSCI) to expand a pilot program providing STEM-based making activities for 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLCs). A six-week STEM/Making curriculum, tools and other resources will support programming in 35-40 sites across seven states.

A museum/science center will lead programming in each of the seven states, working closely with NYSCI to provide ongoing training and professional development for the staff of participating 21st CCLCs. Grant funds will support a formal evaluation to document the opportunities, challenges and infrastructure needs, as well as outcomes for 300-600 youth participants and benefits to 21st CCLCs and museums/science centers.

PROVIDING GREATER ACCESSIBILITY

Museums for All: Museums for All is a cooperative initiative between IMLS and the Association of Children's Museums (ACM) to offer a signature access program that encourages families of all backgrounds to visit museums regularly and build lifelong museum habits. Individuals and families presenting an EBT card at participating museums receive free or reduced admission. This initiative, now in phase II, aims to double the number of participating museums and expand participation to all kinds of museums; establish an online community of practice; and gather evaluative data to support the long-term sustainability of the program. Learn more at www.museums4all.org.

BUILDING STAFF CAPACITY

Museums Empowered is a new grant opportunity within the Museums for America program. These awards will provide professional development and capacity building support in four focus areas for eligible museums: Diversity and Inclusion, Digital Technology, Evaluation, and Organizational Management.

For more information on special initiatives and questions related to the Office of Museum Services:

Please contact Paula Gangopadhyay, Deputy Director, Office of Museum Services, pgangopadhyay@imls.gov or Christopher Reich, Chief Administrator, Office of Museum Services, creich@imls.gov.

KEEP IN TOUCH and share YOUR THOUGHTS

Visit our website to explore program descriptions, sample applications and resources designed to help you develop a competitive application to the program that best fits your project.

WEBSITE

www.imls.gov

UpNEXT, THE IMLS BLOG

<https://www.imls.gov/news-events/upnext-blog>

PRIMARY SOURCE MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER

<https://www.imls.gov/news-events/e-mail-subscriptions>

ADDRESS

955 L'Enfant Plaza North, SW, Suite 4000
Washington, DC 20024-2135

PHONE

202-653-IMLS (4657)

FAX

202-653-4600

E-MAIL

imlsinfo@imls.gov

TELETYPE (TTY/TDD) FOR PERSONS WITH HEARING DIFFICULTY

202-653-4614

COVER PHOTO CREDITS:

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE, BOSTON / © MICHAEL MALYSZKO
Two visitors and a staff person (red lab coat) from the Museum of Science engaged in an engineering activity at the Design Challenges booth in our Blue Wing.

WING LUKE MUSEUM OF THE ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN EXPERIENCE/ JUDY VUE

Young children enjoy a lion dance at the Lunar New Year celebration at The Wing. Every Lunar New Year, the museum holds a family-friendly celebration that kicks off with the traditions of firecrackers and a lion dance to bring in the new year. The celebration draws families to the neighborhood for crafts, games, and stories that explain new year traditions across Asian and Asian American cultures.