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RECIPIENTS OF IMS PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PROGRAM FUNDS ANNOUNCED

Washington, D.C. - Lois Burke Shepard, Director of the Institute of Museum Services (IMS), today announced awards under the Professional Services Program. This program provides Federal funds through cooperative agreements with professional museum associations. The agreements support proposals to carry out projects designed to strengthen museum services through such activities as technical assistance, dissemination of information, professional development activities, and professional services.

Competition for these funds was open to private, non-profit professional museum services-related organizations. This year twenty-two applications were received. All applications were evaluated by a peer review panel that selected twelve proposals. Funded proposals must benefit the museum community at large and not be limited to the individual organization receiving funds. The total amount awarded was $250,000.

A sample of funded proposals follows:

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE AND LOCAL HISTORY

AASLH will conduct a survey of historical collections documentation. This survey will be developed through regional testing in the Philadelphia area and then expanded on a national scale to address the level of, impediments to, and strategies for documentation.

LOWER HUDSON CONFERENCE: HISTORICAL AGENCIES & MUSEUMS

This alliance of four NY state museum service organizations will develop and implement seminars on critical management issues for administrators in mid-sized museums in New York and neighboring states.

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

TAM will increase communications among Texas museums by publishing a technical assistance directory addressing in-state professional resources, exhibitions and collections. This will be achieved with a new database system designed to hold comprehensive information about museums.
1989, providing an expansion to and update of the IMS "Museum Program Survey" of 1979, the last comprehensive survey of the field. $50,000

Association of Science-Technology Centers, Washington, D.C. - To prepare a series of articles on topics related to learning science in museums. Each article will synthesize the research on a specific topic, which will help museum professionals become aware of current research on learning by providing this information in easily accessible formats. $7,662

Louisiana Association of Museums, Baton Rouge, LA - To improve a database management system developed specifically for state museum associations. $4,700

National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Property, Washington, D.C. - To hold workshops to train conservation and preservation specialists to conduct general museum conservation surveys according to standardized procedures. $4,016

Northeast Document Conservation Center, Andover, MA - To plan and implement a pilot program to train paper conservators to conduct general conservation surveys for a wide range of collections-holding institutions. The course will include conservators from underserved areas of the country. $10,900

Oklahoma Museums Association, Oklahoma City, OK - To conduct seminars on topics relating to the preventive conservation of museum collections. The project will increase collections care awareness and will assist museum personnel in developing procedures that will contribute to the long-term stability and preservation of collections in Oklahoma. $4,900

END