NRICH COMMUNITY LIFE, FORGING PARTNERSHIPS, SPIRIT OF DISCOVERY, CENTERS OF LEARNING, SAFE HAVENS FOR FAMILIES, LEADERS IN THE COMMUNITY, TOUCHSTONES TO THE FUTURE, FREE AND EQUAL ACCESS TO INFORMATION, CORNERSTONES OF COMMUNITY LIFE, CARING SERVICES FOR ALL, BUILDING FRIENDSHIPS, REFLECTION OF COMMUNITY VALUES, MODEL OF PUBLIC SERVICE, CONNECTING PEOPLE AND IDEAS, INVESTING IN FAMILIES, CONTINUUM OF RESOURCES, GROWTH THROUGH KNOWLEDGE, SPACE FOR SELF-DISCOVERY, REACHING OUT TO UNDERSERVED, GATHERING PLACES, INFORMATION WITHOUT BOUNDARIES, UNITING DIVERSE PEOPLE, ENRICH COMMUNITY LIFE, FORGING PARTNERSHIPS, SPIRIT OF DISCOVERY.
We are proud to announce the winners of the 2000 National Award for Museum Service. These museums demonstrate the powerful role museums can have as exemplary community citizens in the new millennium. Since 1994, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton has presented this prestigious award to museums that make a true difference in their communities, enriching daily life through sustained and innovative public service. The award winners show us the kind of influence and impact museums can bring to community life. They preserve traditions, solve problems and share discoveries. They restore neighborhood pride, engage students in meaningful work, teach respect for our fragile environment and provide forums for creative ideas. Through partnerships with schools, religious institutions, youth organizations, businesses and many other groups, these museums address the core needs of diverse communities across America. The Institute of Museum and Library Services congratulates these winners, the first of the new century. Each is a unique example of a museum that is central to its community, addressing issues of critical importance and finding solutions in concert with others.

Beverly Sheppard
Acting Director
Institute of Museum and Library Services

Kinshasha Holman Conwill
Chairperson
National Museum Services Board

“This national honor is a tribute to the power of museums to engage children, families, and communities, in towns and cities all across America.” — First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
**The Albright-Knox Art Gallery enjoys an international reputation for its outstanding collection of modern and contemporary art and its innovative special exhibitions. Its programming and community partnerships have made significant strides in extolling the cultural richness of Western New York, and in making the arts accessible to a wider audience, which specifically includes minority and low-income populations.**

The Gallery is particularly proud of ARTStart, an inner-city collaboration that encourages self-awareness and self-confidence in “at risk” youngsters by providing structured outlets for their creativity and imagination. Consisting of components that offer neighborhood workshops and field trips to the museum, the program has been an overwhelming success. Just four years old, ARTStart serves approximately 4,000 school-age children annually.

An active proponent of cultural tourism, the Gallery also spearheaded The Summer of Monet campaign, a major collaborative effort that capitalized on the influx of tourists attending the exhibition Monet at Giverny: Masterpieces from the Musée Marmottan. This unique initiative showcased virtually all of the cultural organizations and activities in Western New York. The economic impact on the City of Buffalo, as a result of this joint promotion, was estimated at $11.3 million.

The Albright-Knox Art Gallery is most gratified that it was instrumental in demonstrating the impact of neighborhood and cultural collaborations on a community’s quality of life and economic well-being.

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**Alutiiq Museum & Archaeological Repository**

The Alutiiq Museum is dedicated to preserving and sharing the culture of the Alutiiq, a Native Alaskan people. Founded in 1995, the museum grew from a reawakening of traditions and the belief that heritage exploration and celebration were essential to the health of the Kodiak community.

The museum seeks to unite Native values and Western academic practice, creating an atmosphere of collaboration, community service, and respect for diversity. This spirit infuses all of its programs. The museum involves people of many backgrounds in the care of Alutiiq heritage to foster historic preservation, instill cultural pride, and teach tolerance.

Through the museum’s Community Archaeology and Site Stewardship programs, volunteers give thousands of hours to protect and study threatened archaeological sites. Local media help to revitalize the Alutiiq language and share cultural lessons through the museum’s Alutiiq Word of the Week program. And in partnership with nine remote village schools, the museum helps students preserve, explore and reinvent artistic traditions in an annual Rural School Art Show. By uniting the past and the present, these collaborations empower the community to embrace its history and create a brighter future.
Operating in the rugged mountains of the region since 1977, the Youth Museum of Southern West Virginia has grown from its humble origins as a van that traveled from school to school with learning enrichment programs. Now the Museum offers hands-on exhibits, a planetarium, a science room and the Mountain Homestead, a recreated pioneer village.

Primary examples of the Museum’s educational projects are the Page After Page exhibition inspiring young visitors by highlighting West Virginia children’s authors, the pilot Transition to School Program designed to bring special needs preschoolers and their families into the Museum for afternoons of fun, learning, and socialization, and the Artist-in-Residence School Program that has introduced thousands to the thrill of live theater, native arts-and-crafts, dance, storytelling and traditional Appalachian music.

The Youth Museum will continue to work closely with regional school boards, the Beckley Main Street Association, local businesses, and other area agencies to insure that culture, art and a sense of history and identity are part of the growth and development of the children of southern West Virginia.

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The Institute of Museum and Library Services
The Institute of Museum and Library Services is an independent Federal agency that fosters leadership, innovation and a lifetime of learning by supporting the nation’s museums and libraries. Created by the Museum and Library Services Act of 1996, P.L. 104-208, IMLS administers the Library Services and Technology Act and the Museum Services Act. IMLS has an annual budget of approximately $190 million. There are 122,000 libraries and 10,000 museum sites in the United States and its Territories. IMLS receives policy advice from two Presidentially-appointed and Senate-confirmed entities: the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science and the National Museum Services Board. For more information contact: Institute of Museum and Library Services, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20506, (202) 606-8536, or visit www.imls.gov.
The National Museum Services Board (NMSB) is an advisory body made up of fifteen Presidentially-appointed and Senate confirmed members who advise the Institute on general policy with regard to museum services. Board members represent the museum community and the general public, and through their collective representation, contribute specific expertise and broad knowledge of the entire museum field.