



Office of Museum Services Update

Building Capacity and Leadership

February 2014

The success of the \$31 million federal IMLS investment in museum services depends on the museum professionals and volunteers in neighborhoods across America who deliver programs and services.

Each year thousands of individuals have a role in developing thoughtful grant proposals, hundreds participate as peer reviewers, and many share perspectives through contributions to IMLS project profiles and blog posts.





A Snapshot of Funding for 2013

In 2013, the impact of IMLS grants was felt across the nation, in rural and urban communities, in museums both small and large. All types of museums, from art, history, and children’s museums to botanic gardens, aquaria, science and technology centers, tribal museums and zoos received support.

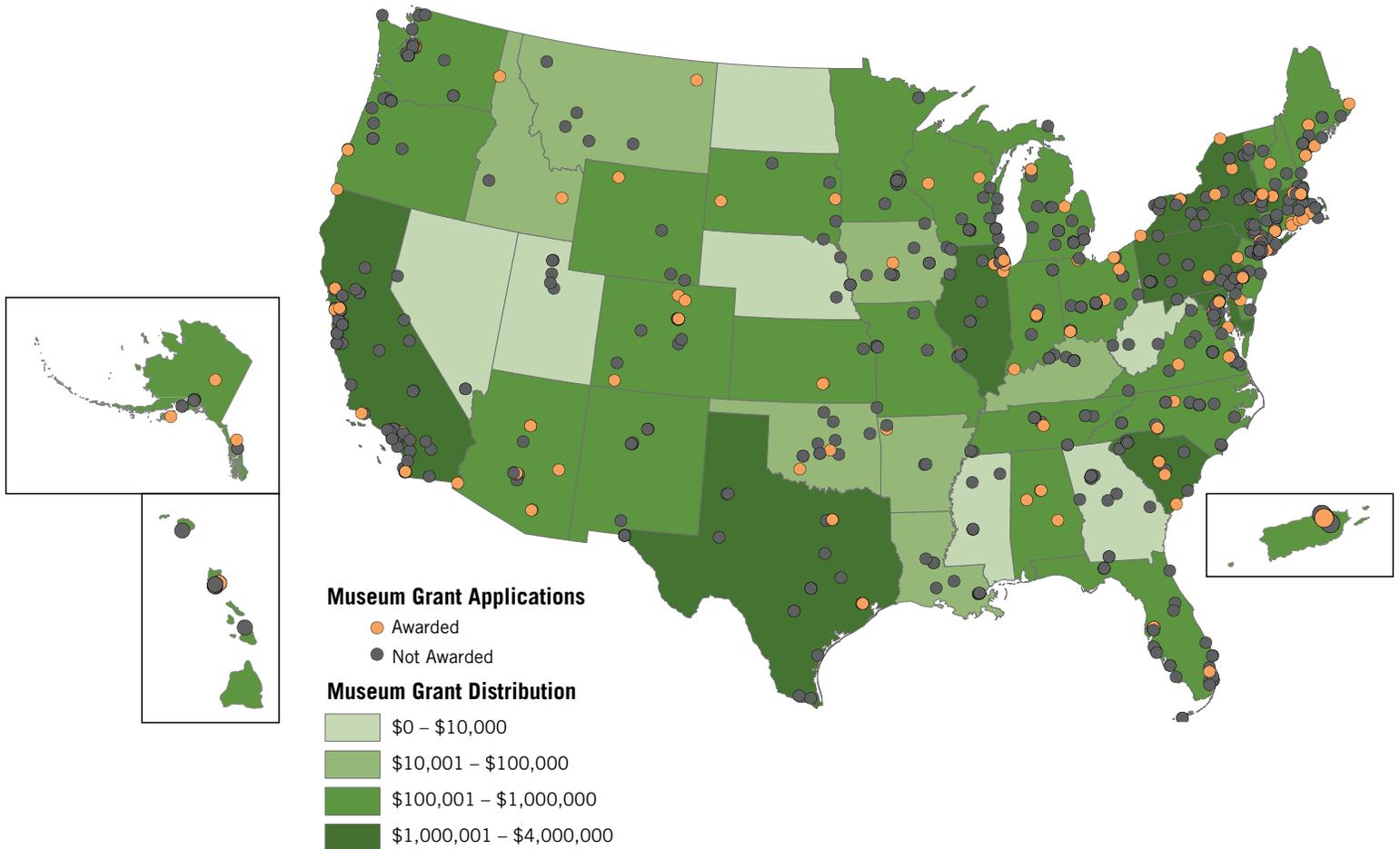
The IMLS Office of Museum Services received 879 applications. The agency was able to fund 231 projects in 43 states across our three goals:

Learning Experiences: IMLS places the learner at the center and supports engaging experiences that prepare people to be full participants in their local communities and our global society.

Community Anchors: IMLS promotes museums as strong community anchors that enhance civic engagement, cultural opportunities, and economic vitality.

Collections Stewardship: IMLS promotes exemplary stewardship of museum collections to facilitate discovery of knowledge and cultural heritage.

2013 Museum Grant Distribution





Peer Reviewers in 2013

Grant applications are reviewed by a cadre of museum professionals selected for their subject-matter expertise and experience. A group of 415 reviewers from 47 states and the District of Columbia evaluated applications this year. They were selected from a pool of more than 1400 seasoned and emerging professionals of diverse backgrounds. Their recommendations were submitted to the Director of IMLS, who makes final award decisions.

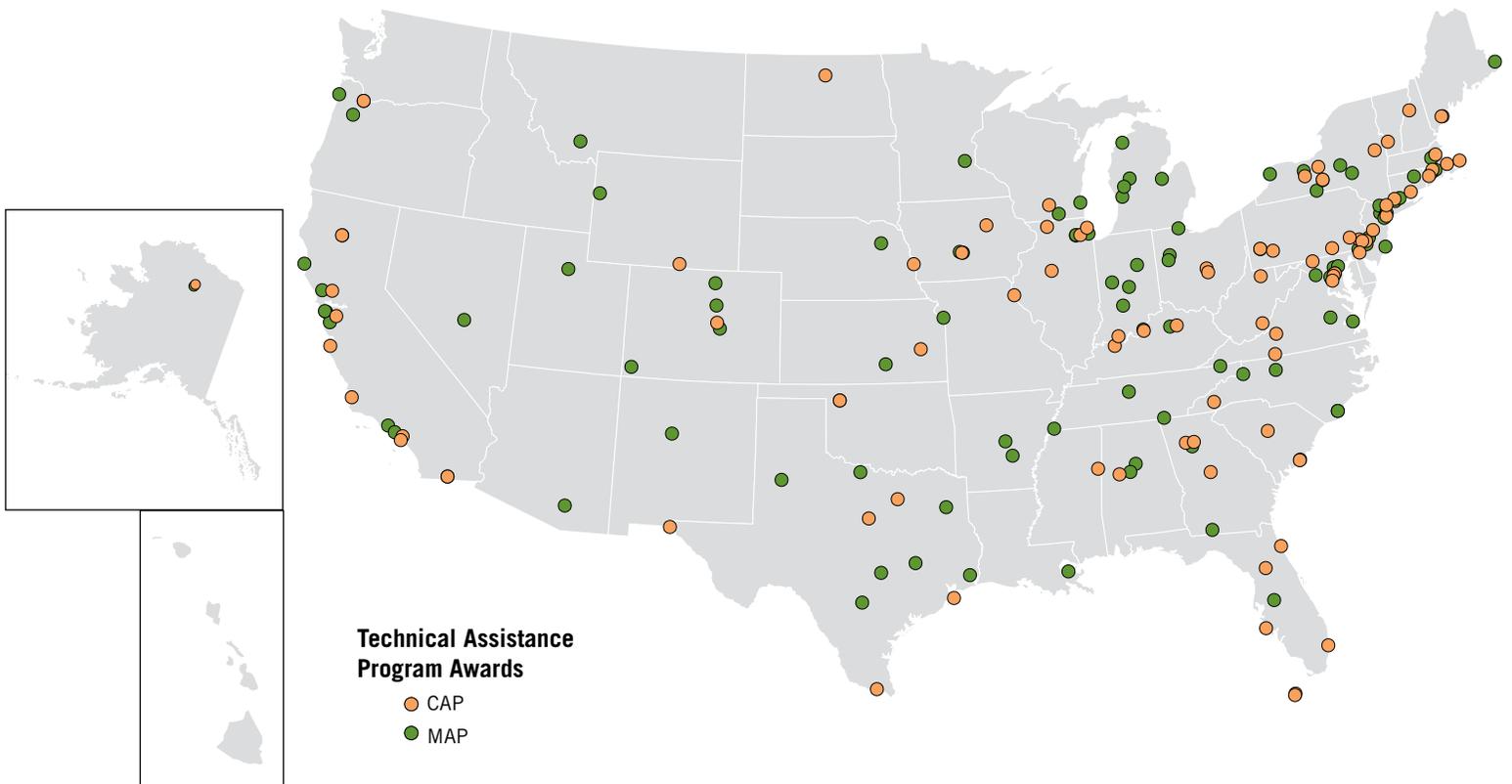
Technical Assistance: The Museum Assessment Program and the Conservation Assessment Program

IMLS also supported technical assistance programs designed to help predominantly small museums assess their strengths and weaknesses in areas of organizational capacity, collections stewardship, or community engagement.

Funded by IMLS and managed by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM), the Museum Assessment Program (MAP) served 106 museums in 41 states and the District of Columbia.

Funded by IMLS and managed by Heritage Preservation, the Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) served 84 museums in 34 states and the District of Columbia.

Technical Assistance Program Awards in 2013





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UpNext, the IMLS Blog: <http://blog.imls.gov>

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Primary Source monthly e-newsletter: www.imls.gov/signup.aspx

About the Institute of Museum and Library Services

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. 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.

National Museum and Library Services Board

The National Museum and Library Services Board is a twenty-three-member advisory body that includes Presidentially appointed individuals with expertise in, or commitment to, library, museum and information services. Informed by its collectively vast experience and knowledge, the board advises the Institute's director on general policy and practices, selections for the National Medal for Museum and Library Service, and coordination with other federal agencies and offices.

Chairperson: Susan H. Hildreth, Director, IMLS

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Photography Credits

Cover: Top row, left: Treatment and analysis Chinese export lacquer objects, Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library. Top row, right: Mystic Aquarium. Second row, left: Comanche artist Tim Tate Nevaquaya performs at the Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center. Second row, right: Visitors and staff from the Museum of Science in Boston, photo © Michael Malyszko. Third row: The Henry Ford. Fourth row: Minnesota Children's Museum, photo by Bruce Silcox. Bottom row: Lunar New Year celebration at The Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience, photo by Judy Vue. **Pg. 2:** Left: Denver Museum of Nature & Science, photo by Rick Wicker. Right: © American Museum of Natural History, photo by D. Finnin. **Pg. 3:** Left: Docent Hazel Bensky tours Holocaust Museum Houston with teachers in training. Right: Dallas Museum of Art. **Pg. 4:** © American Museum of Natural History, photo by R. Mickens. Right: San Diego Natural History Museum, photo by Bryan Bangerter.