

Appendix J: Resources for Funding

There are many resources for funding to support collections care, conservation, and preservation activities at museums. We encourage you to familiarize yourself with these programs and to inform CAP participants of funding opportunities that may assist them in implementing recommendations from their CAP reports.

Technical Assistance Programs

American Association of Museums (AAM)

www.aam-us.org/museumresources/map/index.cfm

- *Museum Assessment Program (MAP)* provides support for four types of assessments to help museums identify their strengths and weaknesses and plan for the future. The four types include institutional assessments, collections management assessments, public dimension assessments, and governance assessments.

Funding

Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)

www.imls.gov/applicants/name.shtm

- *Conservation Project Support (CPS)* provides support to help museums identify conservation needs and priorities and perform activities to ensure the safekeeping of their collections. CPS grants help museums develop a logical, institution-wide approach to caring for their living and nonliving collections.
- *American Heritage Preservation Grants* Bank of America is partnering with IMLS on a three-year program to provide grants to small museums, libraries, and archives. The grants will raise awareness and fund preservation of treasures held in small museums, libraries and archives.
- *Museums for America* supports projects and activities that strengthen museums as active resources for lifelong learning and key players in the establishment of livable communities. They can be used for ongoing museum activities; improvement of infrastructure; planning activities; new programs or activities; purchase of equipment or services; or other activities that will support the efforts of museums to upgrade and integrate new technologies into their overall institutional effectiveness. This program is poised to support behind-the-scenes activities that have traditionally been hard to fund.

- *National Leadership Grants (NLG)* support projects that will have a national impact and provide models that can be widely adapted or replicated by others to extend the benefit of federal support. Museums are eligible for four NLG categories including museums online, museums in the community, professional practices, and model programs of library and museum collaboration. Each year IMLS establishes a list of program priorities that are given preference for funding.

National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)

www.nea.gov

The Arts Endowment, through such programs as *Save America's Treasures*, supports the documentation, recording, or conservation of highly significant works of art, artifacts, built or designed elements, collections of art, or of cultural traditions and practices.

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

www.neh.gov

- *Preservation Assistance Grants (PAG)* help small and mid-size institutions—libraries, museums, and historical societies, town and county records offices, archival repositories, community colleges, and under served departments and units within colleges and universities and other larger institutions—improve their ability to preserve and care for their humanities collections. These collections may include books, journals, manuscript and archival materials, maps, moving images, sound recordings, decorative and fine arts, prints and photographs, textiles, archaeological and ethnographic artifacts, furniture, and historical objects.
- *Preservation and Access Grants to Preserve and Create Access to Humanities Collections* include a variety of grants for projects to preserve and create intellectual access to humanities collections, which, because of their intellectual content and value as cultural artifacts, are considered highly important for research, education, and public programming. Humanities collections may include, but are not limited to, books, journals, newspapers, manuscript and archival materials, maps, still and moving images, sound recordings, and objects of art and material culture.

Eligible activities include: processing archival and manuscript collections; cataloging printed works, photographs, recorded sound, and moving image collections; documentation of art and material culture collections; preservation reformatting (including brittle books and serials microfilming projects), conservation treatment, and deacidification of collections; digitization of collections to enhance their accessibility; development of archival oral histories; and cataloging and microfilming of United States newspapers.

National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC)

www.archives.gov/grants/index.html

Archival Grants provide support to ensure that records documenting the American experience are saved and made available for public use.

National Trust for Historic Preservation

www.preservationnation.org

- *National Trust Preservation Fund* provides non-profit and public agencies matching grants from \$500 to \$5,000 for preservation planning and education efforts. Funds may be used to obtain professional expertise in areas such as architecture, archaeology, engineering, preservation planning, fund raising, and organizational development.
- *Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation* provides nonprofit organizations and public agencies grants ranging from \$2,500 to \$10,000 for projects that contribute to the preservation or the recapture of an authentic sense of place. Funds may be used for professional advice, conferences, workshops, and education programs.
- *Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors* provides nonprofit organizations and public agencies grants ranging from \$2,500 to \$10,000 to assist in the preservation, restoration, and interpretation of historic interiors. Funds may be used for professional expertise, print and video communications materials, and education programs.

Many states offer grants for historic preservation and open space preservation through the State Historic Preservation Office and other agencies. The National Trust has developed a state-by-state chart that lists a selection of these grants.

Save America's Treasures

www.nps.gov/history/hps/treasures/

This program is one of the largest and most successful grant programs for the protection of our nation's cultural heritage. Grants are available for preservation and/or conservation work on nationally significant intellectual and cultural artifacts and historic structures and sites. Intellectual and cultural artifacts include artifacts, collections, documents, sculpture, and works of art. Historic structures and sites include historic districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects. Each year, a competitive process awards federal grants to eligible institutions for approved preservation activities.

Historic Preservation Fund

www.nps.gov/history/hps/hpg/HPF

The Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) provides grants to states, tribes, and local governments to use for activities like education, preparation of National Register nominations, and development of comprehensive preservation plans.

National Science Foundation (NSF)

www.nsf.gov/funding/

Biological Research Collections Program provides support for biological collection enhancement, computerization of specimen-related data, research to develop better methods for specimen curation and collection management, and activities such as symposia and workshops to investigate support and management of biological collections. Biological collections supported include those housing natural history specimens and jointly curated collections such as frozen tissues and other physical samples, e.g., DNA libraries and digital image.

Local Funding Sources

Community foundations, private foundations, co-ops, and funds set up by the museum itself are just some of the ways to raise funds locally.