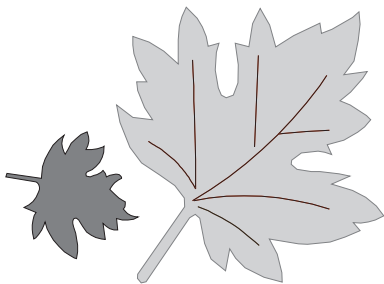


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It's Fall! Have you...

- checked the heating system,
including filters and fuel supply?
- weather-stripped windows and
doors?
- replaced door mats with
heavy mats for winter?

Bank of America/IMLS American Heritage Preservation Program

Bank of America is partnering with the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to provide grants up to \$3,000 to raise awareness and fund preservation of treasures held in small museums, libraries, and archives. The deadline for applications is September 15, 2008.

Grants will help to preserve specific items, including works of art, artifacts, and historical documents that are in need of conservation. Applicants will build on completed conservation assessments of their collections to ensure that the Bank of America/IMLS grants are used in accordance with best practices in the field and underscore the importance of assessment planning.

Examples of completed conservation assessments include those done by the Conservation Assessment Program, the National Endowment of the Humanities' Preservation Assistance Grants, and programs offered by some states.

For more information, contact Christine Henry, Senior Program Officer, at 202-653-4674 or chenry@imls.gov.

\$ Focus on Fundraising: Statewide Planning Grant

In January 2008, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) awarded 19 Statewide Planning Grants to address the recommendations of the Heritage Health Index. Statewide Planning Grants are part of the IMLS' *Connecting to Collections: A Call to Action* initiative and aim to foster partnerships among museum and library organizations in every state and territory. The second and final deadline for applications is October 16, 2008.

If your state has received an IMLS Statewide Planning Grant, make sure to contact the grant organizers to ask how your museum can help. Many states are conducting surveys of museums, historical societies, archives, and libraries and need your participation.

More information on both application guidelines and previous grants is available at www.imls.gov/collections/grants/planning.htm.

Spotlight on a CAPped Museum!

The Athens County Historical Society and Museum (ACHSM) in Athens, Ohio, is dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of the history and heritage of Athens County. The ACHSM participated in CAP in 2007 and selected Laurie Booth (conservator) and Lori Sipes (architect) to conduct their conservation assessments.

The ACHSM hired Heather Reed as Curator/Education Coordinator on July 1, 2008. Heather saw the CAP reports as confirmation of what the museum staff already suspected – one of their top priorities was to create a collections database and inventory and organize the museum's 40,000 objects. With only three full time and one part time paid staff members, this would be a large undertaking for the museum.

For help with this project, Executive Director Kelee Riesbeck established a partnership with Ohio University Undergraduate History Association (UHA) in 2007. This partnership and outreach to student volunteers aims to match history undergraduates in the association and other interested undergraduates with professionals in the museum and historical society fields. Since the start of these efforts, six student volunteers have been working at ACHSM as archive assistants, exhibit assistants, and local history researchers. In one year, the students have already made quite an impact: ACHSM's photo collection has been cataloged and the World War II artifact and music record collections have been re-organized with improved documentation.

Through this experience, the student volunteers gain insight on the behind-the-scenes work of museums. Riesbeck adds, "The hands-on experience we offer better prepares students for professional museum work and gives them a leg up in the competition for museum or history museum internships. The intelligent, diligent and creative UHA students volunteering at ACHSM moves the work of our museum forward by leaps and bounds. Everyone wins."

The Athens County Historical Society is a great example of how a CAPped museum can use community volunteers for help with collections management projects.

Thanks to Kelee Riesbeck for her help with this article.



Be a CAP Star! Tell Us Your Story!

If CAP jump-started collections care efforts at your museum, please let us know!

We are interested in learning about your efforts in implementing recommendations from your CAP report, long-range planning, fund-raising, or community outreach. Send your story and images to cap@heritagepreservation.org.

NEDCC Announces NEW Online Preservation Course

The Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) is proud to present *Preservation 101*, a free, comprehensive, self-paced online course on the preservation of paper collections and related formats.

The course is accessible free of charge at www.preservation101.org and is intended to benefit professionals who are responsible for preserving library and archival materials. Participants will learn how to put preservation basics to work in the context of small and moderately-sized collections. More specifically they will learn how to identify deteriorated materials, care for collections, and set priorities for preservation.

Development of *Preservation 101* was funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The Northeast Document Conservation Center is a nonprofit, regional conservation center specializing in the preservation and conservation of paper-based materials for libraries, archives, museums, and other collections-holding institutions. For more information about NEDCC and its extensive online preservation resources visit www.nedcc.org.

One Thing You Can Do: Check out the *Connecting to Collections* Regional Forum Webcasts

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) planned four regional forums as part of its *Connecting to Collections*: initiative. Each meeting includes a series of presentations and discussions where participants exchange ideas about how to improve the care of their collections. The first forum, "Preserving America's Diverse Heritage," was held in Atlanta, Georgia in January 2008. The second, "Collaboration in the Digital Age," took place in Denver, Colorado in June 2008.

If you missed either of the regional forums, IMLS has made webcasts of both meetings available online. Visit <http://www.ims.gov/collections> for the full programs.

All presentations are available, but of note for CAP museums are the Atlanta Forum keynote address of Lonnie G. Bunch, III, Director, National Museum of African American History and Culture, Smithsonian Institution and the Denver panel "Taking Control of Collections" featuring Joyce Ray, Associate Deputy Director for Library Services, IMLS; Susan Chun, Cultural Heritage Consultant; Priscilla Caplan, Florida Center for Library Automation; Christina Olsen, Program Officer, Getty Foundation; and Mary MacNaughton, Director, Ruth Chandler Williamson Gallery, Scripps College. Be sure to mark your calendars for the two upcoming regional forums: "Care for Living Collections," San Diego, California, February 19 and 20, 2009 and "Training in Collections Care," Buffalo, New York, June 16 and 17, 2009. For more information, please visit: www.ims.gov/collections/Tour.

Staff Changes

CAP Program Associate Jimena Rojas has become Heritage Preservation's new Web and Publications Coordinator. We thank her for all her great work with CAP and wish her the best of luck in her new position.

Sarah Glass is the new CAP Program Assistant. In May 2008, Sarah received her undergraduate degree from Harvard in Social Anthropology and Archaeology. Her previous experience includes research internships at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian and the Harvard Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology. She will be a great addition to the CAP team.

Do's and Don'ts: Storage Room Access



DO NOT allow anyone but officially designated staff to enter a storage area or use keys. **DO** keep the storage room doors closed at all times. **DO NOT** leave collection items or open storage units unattended.

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IMLS Announces a Third Round for the *Connecting to Collections* Bookshelf

Based on the enthusiastic response to the *Connecting to Collections* Bookshelf, the Institute of Museum and Library Services will offer a third round of competition to distribute an additional 1000 Bookshelves. Applications can be submitted to AASLH between January 5, 2009 and March 9, 2009.

The Bookshelf is a core set of books, DVDs, online resources, and an annotated bibliography that are essential for the care of collections and focus on collections typically found in art or history museums and in libraries' special collections, with an added selection of texts for zoos, aquaria, public gardens, and nature centers. It addresses such topics as the philosophy and ethics of collecting, collections management and planning, emergency preparedness, and culturally specific conservation issues.

Priority will be given to smaller institutions, but large museums and libraries with special collections are also eligible to apply. Federally operated institutions, for-profit institutions, and libraries that do not hold special collections are not eligible to receive the Bookshelf. For more information e-mail Terry Jackson at jackson@aslh.org or call 615-320-3203.

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Collections Care Calendar

September 9 – 12 "Discovering the Power of Transformation," Rochester, NY, 2008
American Association for State & Local History Annual Meeting, www.aaslh.org

September 15 Bank of America/IMLS American Heritage Preservation Program grant application deadline, Institute of Museum and Library Services, www.ims.gov

October 1 Conservation Project Support grant application deadline, Institute of Museum and Library Services, www.ims.gov

October 15 Statewide Planning Grants application deadline, Institute of Museum and Library Services, www.ims.gov

November 1 Museums for America grant application deadline, Institute of Museum and Library Services, www.ims.gov

December 1 Conservation Assessment Program application deadline, Heritage Preservation

See more at
www.heritagepreservation.org/calendar.htm

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Conservation Assessment Program
Heritage Preservation
1012 14th Street, NW, Suite 1200
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