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**CORCORAN RECEIVES IMLS COLLECTIONS STEWARDSHIP GRANT**

*Prestigious grant to enable web-based access to historic collections*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – The **Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design** is pleased to announce its acceptance of the prestigious Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Museums for America grant in the category of collections stewardship. 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. Through grant making, policy development, and research, IMLS helps communities and individuals thrive through broad public access to knowledge, cultural heritage, and lifelong learning.

The IMLS Museums for America grant, awarded in the amount of \$149,180, will support the Corcoran’s work to upgrade its collections management system and allow internal and external users to digitally view and explore the 17,000 works of art in its collection. The Corcoran is the sole recipient of a Museums for America collection stewardship grant in this grant category in Washington, D.C. this year.

“Receiving this IMLS grant is a great accomplishment for the Corcoran,” said Fred Bollerer, the Corcoran’s director and president. “A Museums for America grant is a strong affirmation of the importance of the Corcoran’s collection, both to our local community and to the nation.”

“The Collections Management Project is one of utmost importance to the Corcoran and its visitors,” said Philip Brookman, chief curator and head of research. “A global audience will, for the first time, be able to easily access, research and comprehend the museum’s diverse collections.”

The prestigious grant will allow the Corcoran to upgrade its collection database to TMS, one of the most respected and widely used museum collections management systems in the world. The grant will also dramatically improve the accessibility of the Corcoran’s collections online, through Gallery System’s eMuseum, which provides web-based accessibility to collection data and images from virtually any desktop computer or mobile device. eMuseum will allow the Corcoran to provide a digital image, basic data, and information for scholars for each of the paintings, sculptures, photographs, videos, works on paper, and decorative arts objects in its vast collection. The Corcoran’s world-renowned holdings range from Classical Greek vases, to a Renaissance triptych and Majolica to contemporary photographs produced as recently as 2012.

Given the vast number of records in the database, the Corcoran has allocated 18-24 months for the project, with completion expected by 2014. This is the first phase of a multifaceted project to upgrade the institution's collections management system and digital image assets.

## **ABOUT THE CORCORAN**

Established in 1869, the **Corcoran Gallery of Art** was one of America's first museums of art—dedicated, in the words of founder William Wilson Corcoran, to “encouraging American genius.” Today it is Washington, D.C.'s largest nonfederal art museum, known internationally for its distinguished collection of historical and modern American art as well as contemporary art, photography, European painting, sculpture, and the decorative arts. A dynamic schedule of special exhibitions complements a range of educational programming, which together enrich the perspectives of the visiting public, support the local arts community, and encourage thoughtful interpretation of today's most compelling social issues. **The Corcoran College of Art + Design** was founded as a school of art in 1890 and stands as Washington's only four-year accredited college of art and design. The College is one of the few in the nation whose educational model includes an integral relationship with a museum, fostering the talent of the next generation of artists. For more information about the **Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design**, visit [www.corcoran.org](http://www.corcoran.org).



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