



READING PUBLIC LIBRARY
MEDIA ALERT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Institute of Museum and Library Services Announces Reading Public Library as Finalist for National Recognition

READING, Pa. -(March 5, 2018) - The Institute of Museum and Library Services announced today that Reading Public Library is one of 29 finalists for the 2018 National Medal for Museum and Library Service, the nation's highest honor given to museums and libraries for community service. Over the past 24 years, the award has celebrated 182 institutions that demonstrated extraordinary and innovative approaches to public service.

"The 29 National Medal finalists showcase the tremendous ability of libraries and museums to serve as vital community resources," said IMLS Director Dr. Kathryn K. Matthew. "The Institute of Museum and Library Services is honored to recognize these leading institutions. We congratulate them on the work they are doing across the United States."

In March and April, IMLS will celebrate the excellent community work of these institutions through its #ShareYourStory social media campaign. IMLS and the Reading Public Library encourage visitors and community members to share comments and pictures on IMLS' [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), using #IMLSmedals.

National Medal winners will be announced later this spring. Representatives from winning institutions will receive their medals at a ceremony on May 24 in Washington, D.C. The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's libraries and museums. To learn more, visit www.ims.gov.

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 approximately [120,000 libraries](#) and [35,000 museums](#) and related organizations. 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. To learn more, visit www.ims.gov and follow us on [Facebook](#) and Twitter.

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