

Tulsa libraries up for special award

March 12, 2015

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), a federal department, announced that Tulsa City-County Library is among 30 finalists for the 2015 National Medal for Museum and Library Service.

The National Medal is the nation's highest honor given to museums and libraries for service to the community. For 21 years, the award has celebrated institutions that demonstrate extraordinary and innovative approaches to public service to make a difference for individuals, families and communities. IMLS is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 35,000 museums.

More than 150 institutions were nominated for the 2015 National Medal for Museum and Library Service. The 30 finalists were selected because of their exceptional contributions to their communities. The finalists include individual public libraries, special and research libraries, a zoo, science museum, botanical gardens and many others.

"The Tulsa City-County Library Commission, Tulsa Library Trust Board and Library Leadership are so proud of the library staff and our volunteers for all that they have achieved in the last four years in changing the lives of Tulsa County residents for the better through their service. For the library to be recognized as a 2015 National Medal finalist is a great honor," said Gary Shaffer, Tulsa City-County Library CEO.

Each day, IMLS is spotlighting a different National Medal finalist on the IMLS Facebook page featured on April 2.

Of the 30 finalists, 10 National Medal winners will be named later this spring, and representative winning institutions will travel to Washington, D.C., to be honored at the National Medal award. Winning institutions also will receive a visit from StoryCorps, a national nonprofit organization recording, preserving and sharing the stories of Americans of all backgrounds. For more information, visit www.ims.gov/medals.

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