

# Health and Safety News

There has been recent concern from conservators about appropriate respirator use and filter choice in light of potential treatment needs of collections affected by the September 11 disaster in New York and Washington. As always, choice of an appropriate respirator and filter is dependent upon medical fitness, ambient oxygen levels, and composition and concentration of the contaminants.

Conservators should work with local health and safety experts to assess the risk associated with specific projects and select appropriate respirators, personal protective equipment, and cleaning equipment/techniques based on a case-by-case basis. The New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (NYCOSH) has issued guidance for personnel working in the vicinity of the terrorist attacks, which can be found at its website, [www.nycosh.org](http://www.nycosh.org).

In addition, The American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA), in response to a request from OSHA, has established a hotline for New York City businesses and residents, to refer them to industrial hygienists who (working on a pro bono basis) can advise them on indoor air-quality issues. The hotline number is [REDACTED]. The full press release, and details of other AIHA volunteer relief efforts, can be found at [www.aiha.org/GovernmentAffairs-PR/html/prnycassist.htm](http://www.aiha.org/GovernmentAffairs-PR/html/prnycassist.htm).

We encourage you to refer to the following articles published in *AIC News* for further guidance:

Colton, Craig E., "A Conservator's Guide to Respiratory Protection," March 1995, Vol. 20, No. 2, pp. 1-6.

Makos, Kathryn A., "Selection of Personal Protective Equipment," March 1996, Vol. 21, No. 2, pp. 1-4.

Also please refer to the technical guide for further sources of information:

"Health and Safety Technical Resources for the Conservator," Health and Safety Guides 1/1, July 1998, Vol. 23, No. 4.

Also see <http://aic.stanford.edu/disaster/index.html> for more information.

—Compiled by Members of the AIC Health and Safety Committee

## Overview of IMLS National Award

IMLS' National Award for Museum and Library Service honors outstanding museums and libraries that demonstrate an ongoing institutional commitment to public service. Recipients exhibit innovative approaches to public service, reaching beyond the expected levels of community outreach and core programs generally associated with libraries and museums.

The National Award for Museum Service was established in 1994 and the National Award for Library Service in 2000. This year marks the first in which the two awards will be presented together.

Contact IMLS at 1100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC; (202) 606-8339, or [www.imls.gov](http://www.imls.gov).

## The Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts

The Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, a part of the National Gallery of Art, announces its program for Paul Mellon and Ailsa Mellon Bruce visiting senior fellowships.

Applications will be considered for study in the history, theory, and criticism of the visual arts (painting, sculpture, architecture, landscape architecture, urbanism, prints and drawings, film, photography, decorative arts, industrial design, and other arts) of any geographical area and period.

Separate application forms are required for visiting senior fellowships and associate appointments. Deadlines are as follows:

**Award period:** September 1, 2002–February 28, 2003; **Deadline:** March 21, 2002

**Award period:** March 1, 2003–August 31, 2003; **Deadline:** September 21, 2003

For more information, contact the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, National Gallery of Art, Sixth Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20565-0002; (202) 842-6482; fax: (202) 842-6733; e-mail: [advstudy@nga.gov](mailto:advstudy@nga.gov); [www.nga.gov/resources/casva.htm](http://www.nga.gov/resources/casva.htm).

## Grants, Awards, and Fellowships

### Heritage Preservation Conservation Assessment Program

The Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) announces that 147 grants were made in 2001 to museums in 41 states and the District of Columbia. Since 1990, CAP has awarded grants to 1,848 museums in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. Virgin Islands, U.S. Mariana Islands, and Puerto Rico. CAP is funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Ser-

vices (IMLS) and administered by Heritage Preservation.

The 2002 CAP application is now available with a return postmark deadline of December 1, 2001. This first-come, first-served grant provides funds for small museums to hire a professional conservator to assess their collections. For museums with buildings more than 50 years old, additional funds are provided for an architectural assessment as well. To request a CAP application or if you are interested in being approved as a CAP assessor, contact Kristen Hoffmann at [REDACTED] or visit our website to download an application at [www.heritagepreservation.org](http://www.heritagepreservation.org).