

## NEH Offers Grants

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) offers Challenge Grants to help institutions and organizations secure long-term improvements in and support for their humanities programs and resources. Info: (202) 606-8309 or e-mail [challenge@neh.gov](mailto:challenge@neh.gov). Deadline: **May 3, 2004**.

## Winterthur Accepting Applications

Winterthur is accepting applications for its 2004–2005 Research Fellowship Program for scholars pursuing topics in American history and art, decorative arts, material culture, and design. Application deadline: **January 15, 2004**. Visit [www.winterthur.org](http://www.winterthur.org); e-mail [academicprograms@winterthur.org](mailto:academicprograms@winterthur.org), or write Gretchen Buggeln, Director, Research Fellowship Program, Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, Del. 19735.

## Museum Loan Network Awards Grants

The Museum Loan Network (MLN) has awarded grants totaling \$339,677 to 16 institutions, funding the long-term loan of 127 objects of cultural heritage between museums of diverse size and discipline. In addition to supporting the exchange of works, this latest grant cycle will also fund the research and cataloging of more than 14,000 objects, 1,450 of which will be included in the MLN's illustrated online database of more than 10,000 objects available for long-term loan to museums.

"This latest round of grants continues to advance the MLN's mission to foster the exchange of objects between museums, when access to and movement of our nation's cultural resources is becoming increasingly limited," comments Lori Gross, director of the MLN. "In addition to serving as an important advocate for collaboration, MLN grants also support the much-needed survey and research of works in storage at museums."

## Museums Receive \$15 Million To Advance Public Service: Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services Announces Learning Opportunities Grants For Museums

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the primary federal funding agency for the nation's museums and libraries, gave \$15,464,815 to 169 outstanding museums across the country to use collections, resources, and technology for public outreach. Recipients of the Institute's highly competitive national Learning Opportunities grant competition (933 museums, from art galleries to zoos, requested \$82,773,147) will match the awards with an additional \$25,259,949. For a contact list of grant recipients organized by state, please see [www.ims.gov/whatsnew/stategrants0903log.htm](http://www.ims.gov/whatsnew/stategrants0903log.htm). You may also read an html version of this press release at: <http://www.ims.gov/whatsnew/current/092403n2.htm>.

Learning Opportunities grants encourage museums to use their collections, expertise, and technology to create public value and strengthen learning in schools, at home, and in partnership with other community organizations. Grants are awarded to all types of museums, from anthropological to zoological, fine art and folk art, urban and rural, large and small.

To learn more about the Institute, please log onto [www.ims.gov](http://www.ims.gov).

## Health and Safety News

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### News from the National Library of Medicine Website

The National Institutes of Health now hosts a consumer's guide that provides easy-to-understand information on the potential health effects of more than 2,000 ingredients contained in more than 4,000 common household products through the National Library of Medicine's

## Grant Deadlines

Conservation Assessment Program (CAP): December 1, 2003; contact Heritage Preservation, [rhouse@heritagepreservation.org](mailto:rhouse@heritagepreservation.org)

Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS): Numerous programs and deadlines; [www.ims.gov/grants/dedln/index.htm](http://www.ims.gov/grants/dedln/index.htm)

Museum Assessment Program (MAP): December 1, 2003; contact AAM, [map@aam-us.org](mailto:map@aam-us.org)

National Endowment for the Arts (NEA): Numerous programs and deadlines; [www.nea.gov](http://www.nea.gov)

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH): [www.neh.gov](http://www.neh.gov):  
Implementation Grants for Museums & Historical Organizations: February 3, 2004  
Preservation Assistance Grants: May 14, 2004  
Challenge Grants: May 3, 2004

National Trust for Historic Preservation: Contact Melissa Curran, (202) 588-6197 or [psf@nthp.org](mailto:psf@nthp.org):

The Preservation Services Fund

The Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation

The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors

NCPTT Preservation and Technology Grant: December 1, 2003; for call for proposals, see [www.ncptt.nps.gov](http://www.ncptt.nps.gov)

Winterthur 2004–2005 Research Fellowship Program: January 15, 2004; [www.winterthur.org](http://www.winterthur.org); e-mail [academicprograms@winterthur.org](mailto:academicprograms@winterthur.org), or write Gretchen Buggeln, Director, Research Fellowship Program, Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, Del. 19735

(NLM) Household Products Database (<http://household-products.nlm.nih.gov>). For more technical information users can launch a search for a product or ingredient in TOXNET from the Product Page in the database.

Information in the database is provided to NLM under a collaborative agreement and is derived from publicly available sources, including brand-specific labels and information provided by manufacturers and their websites. The list of products covered will be expanded, and information for products currently in the database will be updated at least annually. Note that most ingredient lists are limited to major components: constituents such as dyes, pigments, and additives that may affect solubility and working properties are not included.

"The Household Products Database is a natural outgrowth of the work that the Library has done in recent years, educating the public about environmental risks posed by chemicals in the air, soil and water," explained NLM Director Dr. Donald A.B. Lindberg. "Last year, we unveiled Tox Town (<http://toxtown.nlm.nih.gov>), a site that introduces consumers to the toxic chemicals and environmental risks they might encounter in everyday life, in everyday places. Tox Town looks at facilities like schools, office buildings, and factories, and the chemicals likely to be in them. With the Household Products site, we go inside the user's

home and provide information about common products and their potential health effects." Tox Town is structured as a simpler introductory text.

The household products database allows users to browse a product category, such as "Pesticides" or "Personal Care," by alphabetical listing or by brand name. Products can also be searched by type, manufacturer, product ingredient, or chemical name. The database is designed to help answer the following typical questions:

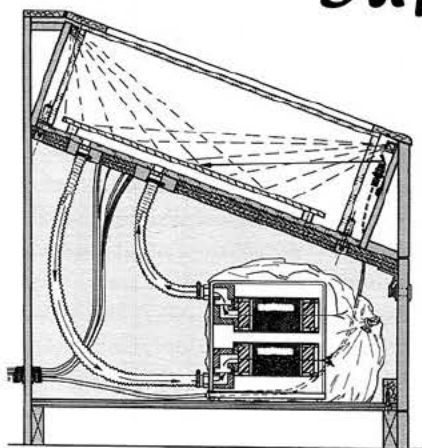
- What are the chemical ingredients and their percentage in specific brands?
- Which products contain specific chemical ingredients?
- Who manufactures a specific brand? How do I contact this manufacturer?
- What are the acute and chronic effects of chemical ingredients in a specific brand?
- What other information is available about chemicals in the toxicology-related databases of the National Library of Medicine?

Located in Bethesda, Maryland, the National Library of Medicine, the world's largest library of the health sciences, is a component of the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services. The Health and Safety Committee notes that this site does not negate

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\* Exhibit Builder discussing AIR-SAFE with NoUVIR Research staff, 2002

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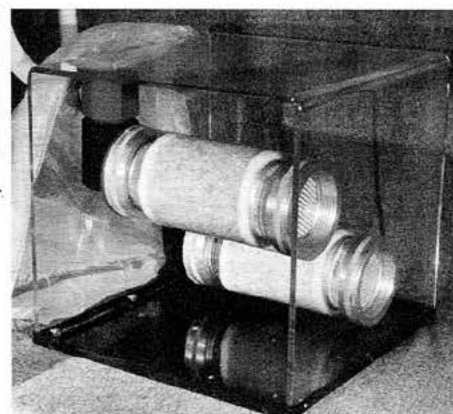
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- Controls **humidity** with built in color-change silica gel
- **Eliminates air exchange** with surrounding gallery completely
- Designed specifically for **normally-sealed museum cases**
- Does **not** use electricity, will not fail when power goes out



the conservator's responsibility to keep current MSDS sheets (as provided by the manufacturer) onsite and available for use.

## JAIC News

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### Editorial Board Changes

In recent months, the JAIC editorial board has undergone a few changes. Lambert van Zelst has stepped down as an associate editor for the scientific section. We have greatly appreciated Bert's dedication and would like to thank him for his years of service to the Journal. James Druzik has agreed to fill the position as associate editor. Jim is a conservation scientist at the Getty Conservation Institute. As of the summer 2003 issue, JAIC is including Portuguese abstracts with each paper. Beatriz Haspo, a paper conservator at the Library of Congress, is the new editor in charge of the Portuguese translations. We welcome both Jim and Beatriz to the editorial board.

### JAIC Issues

I recently received a query asking whether JAIC accepts and publishes nonscientific papers. Please rest assured that JAIC does indeed publish nonscientific articles. Because we are a primary reference source for the conservation field, it is important that our coverage represent all facets of conservation. This not only includes research into materials, techniques, and analysis, but also encompasses papers that document the history, practices, philosophy, and case studies that are important to conservation. If the number of papers in JAIC seems skewed toward the scientific end, it is only because the majority of submissions we receive are technically oriented.

The primary purpose of a professional journal is to provide broad appeal to a given community while documenting its advances and encouraging the diffusion of ideas between internal specialty groups. Peer-reviewed, journal articles, as opposed to more transient literature (in-house reports, postprints, and newsletter articles) provide widespread, long-term coverage, and continuity. Since journals are indexed and abstracted by numerous services and in multiple languages, a diverse audience has access to the information. This is further ensured with the journal's regular distribution network to organizations, universities, and libraries. At these locations, journal volumes are carefully preserved and protected for future generations.

Unfortunately, much important work and many great ideas in the conservation field are never published in peer-reviewed journals. Instead details and data are being lost or haphazardly passed on to limited groups of people. This should set off an alarm of concern because regardless of whether we publish, advances will occur, methods and practices will change, and new materials/techniques will develop. It is up to all of us to provide documentation for

the field of the current conservation trends and decision-making processes. Without this self-evaluation, future generations of conservators may look back at our work and wonder why and how it was done. Examples of this are clearly illustrated in the summer 2003 JAIC issue, which contains papers focused on revisiting past treatments. Many papers point out the difficulty in finding information and documentation on the previous treatments, techniques, and materials. In fact, this latest issue is a good example of the broad coverage of JAIC, containing articles both on the technical aspects of materials and on the critical examination conservation methods and their changes over time.

—Michele Derrick, Editor-in-Chief, JAIC; [REDACTED]

[mderrick@mfa.org](mailto:mderrick@mfa.org)

## Worth Noting

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### Support Higher Education in China

The Henry Luce Foundation is sponsoring a project to strengthen the libraries of Art and Art History centers in China, operated by Bridge to Asia, a San Francisco-based nonprofit organization.

The purpose is to provide used and new books, journals, databases, and other materials—in hard copy and multimedia—to strengthen the research and teaching capacities of the centers, to encourage the work of artists and scholars, and to further the development of the fields themselves. The centers range from small and struggling institutes to large and well-established departments in premier universities.

Sixteen institutes of Art and Art History urgently need new and used materials—in Western Art, Eastern Art, Modern Art, Art Education, Museum Studies, Medieval Art, Classical Art, and other subjects and sub-fields—for their libraries, studios, and faculty and student reading rooms.

Gifts of funds and materials are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Suggestions for shipping: Please pack your donations in an envelope or carton and ship them by UPS, or mail them by Media Mail rate. Please address your donations to Bridge to Asia—ART/HISTORY, Foreign Trade Services, Pier 23, San Francisco, Calif. 94111 or Bridge to Asia—ART/HISTORY, Follett Higher Education Group, 2211 West St., River Grove, Ill. 60171-1800.

### The Prince Claus Fund Launches a Cultural Emergency Aid Fund following the Looting of Iraq's Cultural Heritage

As a partner in the International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS), ICOM presented a press release about the Cultural Emergency Aid fund. The Prince Claus Fund of the Netherlands will initially provide financial support and members of the ICBS will also take part. This initiative was triggered by the news of the recent looting of cultural heritage in Baghdad (Iraq). The aim of the Cultural Emergency