



MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY AND SCIENCE NAMED FINALIST FOR 2023 IMLS NATIONAL MEDAL FOR MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICE

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (March 28, 2023)—The [Institute of Museum and Library Services \(IMLS\)](#) announced today that the [Museum of Discovery and Science \(MODS\)](#) is among 30 finalists for the 2023 National Medal for Museum and Library Service. MODS is one of three institutions in Florida to be selected as a finalist for this award.

The National Medal is the nation’s highest honor given to museums and libraries that demonstrate significant impact in their communities. For more than 25 years, the award has honored institutions that demonstrate excellence in service to their communities.

“From cradle through career, MODS has been connecting people to inspiring science. The Museum is a dynamic hub for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education and innovation for all individuals, providing a sustainable and equitable future through outreach, events, and accessibility programs,” said Joseph P. Cox, president and CEO of MODS. “To be recognized by our peers with an IMLS nomination is a privilege and a magnificent tribute to our dedicated leadership, outstanding staff, devoted volunteers, generous supporters, and visionary founders.”

To celebrate this honor, IMLS is encouraging MODS’ community members to share stories, memories, pictures, and videos on social media using the hashtags #ShareYourStory and #IMLSmedals, and engage with IMLS on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#). To see the full list of finalists and learn more about the National Medal, visit the [IMLS website](#).

“So many museums and libraries across the country are committed to providing programs that are vital to the health and growth of engaged communities. We are very proud to announce the 30 finalists for this year’s IMLS National Medal,” said IMLS Director Crosby Kemper. “These institutions represent the best of what museums and libraries do for their communities.”

National Medal winners will be announced in late May. Representatives from winning institutions will be honored for their extraordinary contributions during an in-person National Medals Ceremony this summer.

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About the Museum of Discovery and Science

Founded in 1976 as the Discovery Center, today the Museum of Discovery and Science (MODS) is at the forefront of science education, innovation, and exploration. MODS connects people to inspiring science, providing STEM education and cultural experiences for 450,000+ visitors annually in the 150,000 sq. ft. facility. MODS is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that has been accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) for three decades (only 3% of science museums are accredited for excellence and leadership in the field). In the past year, MODS has added to that distinction by being named Broward's Hub for Resilience Education by the Board of the Community Foundation of Broward, selected by the LEGO Foundation as one of only 12 museums nationwide to join the Playful Learning Museum Network and was selected as one of the finalists for the prestigious 2022 and 2023 IMLS National Medal for Museum and Library Service.

The museum celebrates diversity and welcomes visitors from all walks of life. The museum hours are Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. MODS is located downtown at 401 SW Second Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312. For more information about the museum, please visit mods.org or call 954.467.MODS (6637).

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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 libraries and museums. We advance, support, and empower America's museums, libraries, and related organizations through grantmaking, research, and policy development. Our vision is a nation where museums and libraries work together to transform the lives of individuals and communities. To learn more, visit imls.gov and follow us on [Facebook](https://facebook.com/imls) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/imls).

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