

WASHINGTON - U.S. Rep. Jo Bonner (R-AL) today announced the opening of two grant application periods for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS): the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian program and the FY 2008 Museums for America (MFA) program.

The Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian program supports libraries, archives, and library agencies, associations, and consortia in recruiting and educating the next generation of librarians. The funding also supports educators in library science, research related to library education and staffing needs, curriculum development, early career development programs for tenure-track library and information science faculty, and continuing education and training for current librarians and their staff.

Program guidelines and application forms are available on the IMLS website www.ims.gov/applicants/grants/pdf/L21_2008.pdf. The application deadline is December 17, 2007.

MFA funding provides support for museums of all sizes and types throughout the country. The funding is available in three categories: engaging communities, building institutional capacity, and collections stewardship. The grants will provide funding for museum programs and activities including digitization, staff training, research exhibitions, educational programs, community partnerships, and collections management.

Application guidelines and instructions are available at www.imls.gov/applicants/grants/ForAmerica.shtm

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The application deadline is November 1, 2007.

“I would encourage all libraries and museums in the First District interested in this grant program to submit an application,” Bonner said. “I commend the IMLS for supporting the invaluable contributions of libraries and museums as well as helping to prepare them for the future.”

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