Beneficiaries of the 2005 Smithsonian Craft Show

Proceeds from the Smithsonian Craft Show benefit educational outreach, and research programs within the Smithsonian Institution. Since 1984, the Smithsonian Women's Committee has distributed approximately $7 million directly to specific projects within the Smithsonian family of eighteen museums, nine research facilities, and numerous libraries and outreach affiliates. Each year, the Committee invites grant proposals from across the Institution. Members of the Women's Committee research and evaluate the proposals and the entire active membership votes on all final grant applications. Programs benefiting from this effort in just the past five years include:

- web development and online access to the museums
- literacy and education through hands-on museum experiences with special support for teachers
- research with particular emphasis on endangered species, wetlands, recovery and support and tropical rainforests
- stabilization and conservation of collections

With the $461,394 earned by the 2005 Smithsonian Craft Show, the Smithsonian Women's Committee funded the following twenty-one projects at sixteen different facilities:

**Ancocita Museum** – to underwrite production of a high-resolution digital facsimile edition of the unique diary of Adam Francis Plummer (1819-1905) and Nellie Arnold Plummer (1860-1933), born slaves at “Riversdale” in Prince George’s County, allowing access by scholars and the general public both at the museum and via the web.

**Cooper-Hewitt National Museum of Design** – to conserve an ensemble of furniture from the 1930s by French designer Jean-Michel Frank so that it may be used in exhibition and study.

**Cooper-Hewitt National Museum of Design** – to underwrite an interactive, hands-on, museum-based design education experience for public school students grades 3-12.

**Folklife Center** – to support the “Carriers of Culture: Living Native Basket Traditions” programs at the 2006 Smithsonian Folklife Festival, including living presentations, live demonstrations, and hands-on educational activities.

**National Museum of African Art** – to conserve 27 rare photograph albums documenting village life in West Africa between 1890 and 1930 and to enable their use for research and education.

**National Air and Space Museum** – to print five different gallery guides geared to different themes (children, women, World War II, art).


**National Museum of American History** – to support public programs for Jazz Appreciation Month.

**National Museum of Natural History** – to fund the website chronicling the construction and development of exhibits for the new Ocean Hall.

**National Museum of Natural History** – to underwrite a two-day “Future Female Scientists” program for 25 high school students who will meet women scientists at the Smithsonian and learn about the diversity of science careers available to them.

**National Postal Museum** – to support “Moving Mail, People & Ideas,” a summer program for under served youth providing structured educational activities, museum experience, and the opportunity to learn about the transportation of mail, people, and ideas in a historical and cultural context.

**National Zoo** – to purchase state-of-the-art upgrades for existing microscope, enabling critical monitoring of metabolic changes in frozen sperm used for reproduction of various endangered species, including the giant panda.

**National Zoo** – to support development of links between management of wild and captive populations of the kori bustard, indigenous to grasslands of southern and eastern Africa, information which will be transferable to conservation of other wild bird populations.

**National Zoo** – to support conservation of Asian elephants in the wild through development of advanced satellite-tracking techniques which will also be used later for smaller endangered species in the wild.

**Office of Exhibits Central** – to support the expansion of computerized machinery used in development and production of exhibitions across the Smithsonian.

**Smithsonian Associates** – to support the development and production of innovative new Discovery Theatre series “Between Heaven and Earth” celebrating Asian Pacific American culture.

**Smithsonian Astrophysical Laboratory** – to support development and implementation of a website designed to help the general public understand advanced astrophysical research.

**Smithsonian Environmental Research Center** – to underwrite four internships in wetlands conservation at the Center on the Chesapeake for recent college graduates making the transition to graduate school.

**Smithsonian Libraries** – to catalog 113 rare Czech and German titles published between 1918 and 1938 and to make them accessible on the web.

**Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service** – to support the design and production of a brochure and website for “Earth from Space,” exploring the field of remote sensing, the science of making images from satellites orbiting the earth, and its application.

**Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service** – to support production of a duplicate of the traveling exhibition of “American Indian Code Talkers,” the Native American soldiers who created secure communication codes during World War II using their native languages, to enable this tour to reach a wider audience.

Endowments of the Smithsonian Women’s Committee

1991 Endowment Fund for the Fellowship in Museum Practices, $350,000


2002 Thirty-fifth Anniversary Gift: The Smithsonian Women’s Committee Endowment for Research Training at the National Museum of Natural History, $125,000.

Smithsonian Education Achievement Awards Funded by the Smithsonian Women’s Committee

2004: $15,000

2005: $15,000