Proceeds from the annual Smithsonian Craft Show, through the Smithsonian Women's Committee grants process, benefit education, outreach and research programs within the Smithsonian Institution. All Smithsonian organizations, museums, scientific facilities and the National Zoo are invited to apply to the Women's Committee for grants to fund specific initiatives. Proposals undergo a thorough research and evaluation process and the final grantees are selected by a vote of the entire active membership of the Committee.

The 15 grants listed below were awarded in 2008 to 11 different museums or affiliates of the Smithsonian Institution for a total amount of $375,692. The Women's Committee received 48 requests for projects totaling $1,470,194 million. We regret that we were unable to support all of these most worthwhile programs.

**2008 Grants Awarded**

**National Air and Space Museum.** $6,702 to produce two gallery guides, “Highlights” and “Kids” in nine languages for the NASM National Mall Museum.

**National Museum of American History.** $24,620 to fund the design and printing of four new self-guides for NMAH’s opening year.

**National Museum of Natural History.** $40,835 to fund specialized training for 32 new volunteers to work in the Fossil Lab, thereby expanding its hours open to the public.

**National Museum of Natural History.** $30,510 to fund an electronic catalogue that will serve as a user-guide to all Smithsonian Pygmy collections.

**National Zoological Park.** $24,300 to support elephant research in enhancing species propagation and conservation in South Africa and Botswana.

**National Zoological Park.** $19,644 to establish a “safe harbor” for captive colonies of a threatened species of Neotropical frogs and an interpreted exhibits on the global amphibian crisis.
National Zoological Park. $14,000 to fund additional audio and visual recording, sound reproduction equipment, and ambient noise-reducing buffer matting for a state-of-the-art multi-media research program and public education exhibit in the new Elephant House.

Office of Exhibits Central. $50,000 to fund the purchase and installation of the newest Striebig “Control” (Type 5168) Automatic Panel Saw, which is safer, user friendly and accurate.

Office of Exhibits Central. $16,177 to fund a fourth axis feature for the Computer Numerically Controlled Haas milling machine.

Office of Planning and Project Management and the Office of Architectural History and Historic Preservation. $21,500 to support the publication of a book on the architecture of the historic buildings of the Smithsonian Institution.

Smithsonian Associates. $34,970 to support “Remembering Discovery Theater’s Roots: The Year of the Puppet: a 30th Year Celebration” on their anniversary of Discovery Theater originally known as Smithsonian Institution’s Puppet Theater.

Smithsonian Environmental Research Center. $25,500 to support five summer internships at their Chesapeake Bay headquarters.

Smithsonian Institution Libraries. $15,000 to fund touch screen technology, software and kiosk needed to bring the collection of SI Libraries to the general public.

Smithsonian Museum Conservation Institute. $29,324 for the acquisition of a state-of-the-art video microscope with 3D imaging and video capability.

Smithsonian Tropical Research Center. $22,608 to fund essential and critically needed improvements to the Turtle Pool Exhibit at the Punta Culebra Nature Center.

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