

# WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

**news release**

**Date:** August 14, 2008  
**Contact:** Sandra Schemske  
Art Collection Coordinator  
(313) 577-9264  
**Voice:**  
**E-mail:** [cn8290@wayne.edu](mailto:cn8290@wayne.edu)  
**Fax:** (313) 577-5355

---

## **WSU Art Collection receives ‘*Connecting to Collections Bookshelf*’ from Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)**

The Wayne State University Art Collection is one of 776 museums, libraries and archives recently chosen to receive the IMLS *Connecting to Collections Bookshelf*. This collection of essential texts, DVD's, charts, online resources, and other materials was carefully assembled by a blue ribbon panel of conservation experts across the nation to "provide museums, libraries, and archives essential instructions on how to rescue treasures of yesteryear that they hold in trust," said Dr. Anne-Imelda Radice, Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The IMLS *Connecting to Collections Bookshelf* will be housed at the University Art Collection office and available for reference by appointment.

Established in 1967, the WSU Art Collection has grown to include nearly 6000 works of art, largely through donations of gifts of art from private collectors. The university's enduring philosophy is that pieces in the WSU Art Collection appear throughout campus – in signature buildings and on the university's malls and lawns. These works embrace and enhance the everyday lives of people on campus and in the surrounding communities and reinforce Wayne State University's and Detroit's standing as a center for artistic expression. The IMLS *Bookshelf* award is a further step in acknowledging the excellence of the WSU Art Collection and will extend the collections value as a resource to students, faculty and staff seeking information about collections management and planning, emergency preparedness, preservation and conservation issues.

The IMLS *Bookshelf* was made possible by a cooperative agreement with the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) with support from the Getty Foundation, the Henry Luce Foundation, and the Samuel H. Kress Foundation. It is part of *Connecting to Collections: A Call to Action*, a strategic initiative by IMLS to address the challenges described in *A Public Trust at Risk: The Heritage Health Index Report on the State of America's Collections*. The report concluded that: 190 million objects need conservation treatment, 65 percent of collecting institutions have damaged collections due to improper storage, 80 percent of collecting institutions lack an emergency plan for their collections and 40 percent of institutions have no funds allocated in their annual budget for preservation and conservation.

*Wayne State University is a premier institution of higher education offering more than 350 academic programs through 12 schools and colleges to more than 33,000 students.*

###