



the new children's museum™

200 west island avenue san diego, california 92101 t 619 233 8792 f 619 233 8796 thinkplaycreate.org

**media contacts**

Kerri Fox  
619 795 1524/  
301 404 8921 (cell)  
[kfox@thinkplaycreate.org](mailto:kfox@thinkplaycreate.org)

Toni Robin  
858 483 3918  
[tr@trprsandiego.com](mailto:tr@trprsandiego.com)

**The New Children's Museum Announced as Finalist for IMLS Award**  
*Only 30 Finalists Selected for Prestigious National Medal for Museum and Library Service*

SAN DIEGO – March 11, 2019. The New Children's Museum is one of 30 finalists for the 2019 National Medal for Museum and Library Service, the highest honor given to museums and libraries for service to their communities. The Museum is one of only two children's museums nationwide, and one of three California institutions to be selected this year.

For 25 years, the National Medal for Museum and Library Service has celebrated institutions that demonstrate extraordinary and innovative approaches to public service and are making a difference for individuals, families, and communities.

“The 30 National Medal finalists showcase the tremendous ability of libraries and museums to serve as vital community resources,” said IMLS Director Dr. Kathryn K. Matthew. “The Institute of Museum and Library Services is honored to recognize these leading institutions. We congratulate them on the work they are doing across the United States.”

National Medal winners will be announced later this spring. Representatives from winning institutions will be honored for their extraordinary contributions at the National Medal award ceremony on June 12 in Washington, D.C.

“We believe our unique approach to early learning through exposure to art and play is making a difference in the lives of children and families throughout San Diego,” said Judy Forrester, Executive Director/CEO of The New Children's Museum. “It is truly an honor to be recognized for the work we are doing, and selected as a finalist for the National Medal.”

The New Children's Museum is encouraging visitors and members via social media to share how the Museum has made a difference in their lives. This “share your story” campaign is being driven by Institute of Museum and Library Services and all 30 national finalists will be participating. People will be sharing stories here [www.facebook.com/USIMLS](http://www.facebook.com/USIMLS) and [www.twitter.com/us\\_imls](http://www.twitter.com/us_imls) and hashtagging #IMLSmedals.

To see the full list of finalists and learn more about the National Medal, visit the [IMLS website](#).

## **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 [www.ims.gov](http://www.ims.gov) and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

## **About The New Children's Museum**

The New Children's Museum is a new model of children's museum whose mission is to stimulate imagination, creativity and critical thinking in children and families through inventive and engaging experiences with contemporary art. Located downtown, the Museum collaborates with contemporary artists to design and create art installations and educational programs for children. The Museum brings families together in a rich educational environment that fosters creativity — blending the best elements of children's museums, contemporary art museums and community resources. In 2018, the Museum celebrated its 35<sup>th</sup> year in San Diego and its 10<sup>th</sup> year as The New Children's Museum downtown. To learn more, visit [thinkplaycreate.org](http://thinkplaycreate.org) or follow them on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#).

###