

ARCHIVES OF AMERICAN ART

	APPLICATION OF OPERATING RESOURCES							
	FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS		GENERAL TRUST		DONOR/SPONSOR DESIGNATED		GOV'T GRANTS & CONTRACTS	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
FY 2006 ACTUAL	20	1,834	1	280	15	1,145	0	0
FY 2007 ESTIMATE	19	1,705	1	309	20	1,640	0	0
FY 2008 ESTIMATE	19	1,762	1	309	20	1,640	0	0

STRATEGIC GOALS: INCREASED PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT; STRENGTHENED RESEARCH; AND ENHANCED MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE

Federal Resource Summary by Performance Objective and Program Category

Performance Objective/ Program Category	FY 2007		FY 2008		Change	
	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
Increased Public Engagement						
<i>Public Programs</i>						
Engage and inspire diverse audiences	0	19	0	19	0	0
Provide reference services and information	6	374	6	397	0	23
<i>Exhibitions</i>						
Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions	2	80	2	81	0	1
<i>Collections</i>						
Improve the stewardship of the national collections	7	820	7	849	0	29
Strengthened Research						
<i>Research</i>						
Ensure the advancement of knowledge in the humanities	0	14	0	14	0	0
Enhanced Management Excellence						
<i>Management Operations</i>						
Strengthen an institutional culture that is customer centered and results oriented	1	163	1	159	0	-4
Ensure that the workforce is efficient, collaborative, committed, innovative, and diverse	1	105	1	107	0	2
Modernize the Institution's financial management and accounting operations	2	130	2	136	0	6
Total	19	1,705	19	1,762	0	57

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The mission of the Archives of American Art (AAA) is to collect, preserve, and make available primary sources that document the history of the visual arts in the United States, as well as to foster research and connect the public to a uniquely American cultural heritage. With more than 15 million items, the AAA is the world's largest and most widely used resource on the history of art in America.

To achieve the Institution's goal of Increased Public Engagement, the AAA continues with its ambitious five-year program, begun in 2005, to digitize a significant portion of its more than 50-year accumulation of resources. At its completion, the project will greatly increase public access to the collections. AAA's website will continue to be developed to improve delivery of unprecedented numbers of new digital files, descriptive information, engaging content, online exhibitions, subject-focused guides, and reference services. AAA's gallery space in the Donald W. Reynolds Center will be used to reach new audiences as never before. AAA's Preservation and Assessment Survey work will continue to achieve the Institution's goal to improve the stewardship of the collections. The goal of Enhanced Management Excellence will be met by continuing to monitor performance of AAA's strategic plan, encourage and support staff development, and enhance financial reporting.

The FY 2008 estimate includes an increase of \$57,000 for necessary pay for existing staff funded under this line item.

MEANS AND STRATEGY

To achieve the Institution's goal of Increased Public Engagement, the AAA is directing its resources to optimize its presence in the Donald W. Reynolds Center by mounting compelling exhibitions in its Lawrence A. Fleischman Gallery and offering a series of related lectures and gallery talks. Among the exhibits are *Wish You Were Here, Artists on Vacation*, July 5 to October 26, 2007; *A Day in the Life: Diaries from the Archives of American Art*, November 1, 2007 to February 28, 2008; *Sources and Documents: Honoré Sharrer's Tribute to the American Working People*, March 9 to June 22, 2008; and *Sketchbooks from the Archives of American Art*, July 29 to October 26, 2008. In FY 2008, the Archives will promote Smithsonian Institution art collaboration by borrowing a major painting from the Smithsonian American Art Museum (SAAM), Honoré Sharrer's *Tribute to the American Working People*, and developing an exhibition around it using

Archives' material. The Archives will also develop plans for an artist/guest curator program for the Fleischman Gallery.

Development of the Archives' informational kiosk located within the Fleischman Gallery, as well as related website content, will optimize the visitor's experience of the exhibitions and reveal the inter-relationships among the AAA's resources and collections of the SAAM, NPG, and other Smithsonian museums.

In addition, to reach an even wider audience, the AAA will present an educational program-lecture series in collaboration with the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES) to complement its traveling exhibition, *More Than Words: Illustrated Letters from the Smithsonian's Archives of American Art*. Through these public programs, online versions of its exhibitions, and lending documents to exhibitions in museums and other institutions around the world, the AAA continues to widen its audience and provide a greater understanding of the history of visual arts in the United States.

In FY 2008, approximately 50 collections representing 500 linear feet of papers of painters, sculptors, critics, and collectors will be processed, resulting in new, fully searchable finding aids added to the AAA's website. Of these, 25 will be digitized using state-of-the-art equipment, and in combination with digitization for reference, exhibitions, loans, and special projects, nearly 325,000 digital files will be produced. The increase in digitization will result from AAA's five-year digitization project funded by the Terra Foundation for American Art, which also supports the development of the AAA's website to accommodate the expanding collection and other information. The website will be the place for public engagement through the timely release of information and increasingly interactive access to AAA's online reference services section. In addition, the AAA will continue to increase visits to its website by adding finding aids to processed collections, thousands of images of digitized collections and microfilm, and oral history interviews of American art dealers (funded by the Widgeon Point Charitable Foundation and the Art Dealers Association of America).

The Terra Foundation for American Art grant will also enable the AAA to build on its existing Web-based system for delivering subject-focused guides to its collections by adding two new topics: a *Guide to Architecture and Design Related Collections at the Archives of American Art*, and a *Guide to New Deal Art Related Records at the Archives of American Art*. Together, these guides will provide access to more than 700 archival collections and oral history interviews, notably more than 350 interviews conducted in the

mid-1960s for the New Deal and the Arts Oral History Project. Hundreds of items will be included in each guide to further engage the public.

The AAA's resources will continue to support work related to the systematic survey of collections begun in FY 2004, which is designed to identify preservation needs, determine the degree of potential research value, and target audiences and other factors needed to formulate processing priorities that will increase the number of finding aids for collections accessible via the website. Improved stewardship will also be achieved by continued development of AAA's internal Collection Information Systems Database, ensuring proper collections documentation and supporting increasingly complex workflow encompassing the life cycle of a collection and oral history from pre-acquisition to storage and access. AAA's investment in the digitization of its collections will be preserved by reviewing requirements and implementing a standards-based digital assets storage and preservation system.

The goal of Enhanced Management Excellence will be addressed by continuing to implement the goals of the Smithsonian through AAA's strategic plan, thereby ensuring that its workforce is efficient and skilled and economically designates resources to meet the mission of AAA.

STRATEGIC GOALS AND FY 2008 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE GOALS

Increased Public Engagement

Engage and inspire diverse audiences in a lifelong exploration and understanding of art, history, science, and culture (\$19,000)

- Continue to expand AAA's audiences through a national touring exhibition in collaboration with SITES
- Develop an educational program-lecture series, in collaboration with SITES, to complement the traveling exhibition in reaching a wider national audience
- Continue to develop gallery talks that focus on current exhibitions in the Lawrence A. Fleischman Gallery at the Donald W. Reynolds Center to raise public awareness and visibility of the Archives

Provide reference services and information to the public (6 FTEs and \$397,000)

- Expand public access to AAA's vast collection by increasing website and in-person visits through continuation of the Terra Foundation for American Art's five-year program to digitize collections, which will:
 - Add 325,000 new digital files through online finding aids and AAA's Search Images interface
 - Increase by two the number of online guides by adding a *Guide to Architecture and Design Related Collections* and a *Guide*

to New Deal Art Related Records

- Increase by 30–50 the number of online finding aids
- Increase by 20–30 the number of oral history interviews accessible online
- Enhance AAA’s website with improved website technologies and tools to attract more visitors and promote and enhance their level of engagement with the Archives’ programs

Offer compelling, first-class exhibitions at Smithsonian museums and across the nation (2 FTEs and \$81,000)

- Produce three original exhibitions for the Lawrence A. Fleischman Gallery at the Reynolds Center (two will complement exhibitions at SAAM or NPG)
- Produce three original exhibitions for the AAA’s New York Research Center
- Implement a survey of public responses to the AAA’s exhibitions in the Lawrence A. Fleischman Gallery to assess and improve exhibition design
- Integrate Web-based informational kiosk and related technologies into exhibition design in the Lawrence A. Fleischman Gallery

Improve the stewardship of the national collections for present and future generations (7 FTEs and \$849,000)

- Continue to address critical processing and preservation activities identified in AAA’s continuing systematic survey of all unprocessed collections
- Enhance Collection Information Systems database to ensure proper collections documentation, and to support increasingly complex workflow that encompasses acquisition, physical and legal control, processing, preservation, digitization, and Web access
- Protect AAA’s investment in digitization by reviewing requirements and implementing a standards-based digital assets storage/preservation system

Strengthened Research

Ensure the advancement of knowledge in the humanities through original research (\$14,000)

- Conduct original research resulting in a monograph based on AAA resources (working title *Artists in Their Studios*—to be published by HarperCollins)

Enhanced Management Excellence

Strengthen an institutional culture that is customer centered and results oriented (1 FTE and \$159,000)

- Continue to monitor, revise, and enforce AAA’s strategic plan to ensure 100 percent alignment with the Institution’s performance plan

Ensure that the Smithsonian workforce is efficient, collaborative, committed, innovative, and diverse (1 FTE and \$107,000)

• Assess and enhance the skills of staff to increase efficiencies
Modernize the Institution's financial management and accounting operations (2 FTEs and \$136,000)

- Enhance existing in-house financial reports to management and the AAA board to include budget, thereby ensuring the integrity of Smithsonian Institution funds

NONAPPROPRIATED RESOURCES—General trust funds provide support for publication of the Archives of American Art *Journal*, and fund raising, including salaries and benefits. Donor/sponsor-designated funds provide support for costs related to specific programs and projects for exhibits, internships, collections acquisition, and collections care (specifically, AAA's digitization program funded by the Terra Foundation for American Art).