

MILLS

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Mills College Art Museum Awarded Prestigious Grant
from the Institute of Museum and Library Services**

Oakland, CA—August 1, 2011. Thanks to a Museums for America grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the Mills College Art Museum (MCAM) will complete a major collection digitizing and cataloging initiative that will allow the public to search collection records and images through the museum's website. Through this project, MCAM will dramatically improve accessibility to, and awareness of, its permanent collection. Additionally, the grant will support student training in museum practices and create a lasting tool that will improve collections management and utilization of the collection.

With approximately 8,000 works of art, the MCAM has one of the largest permanent collections of any liberal arts college in the western United States. The collection spans a diverse range of cultures and time periods, with significant strengths in 20th-century works on paper, photography, ceramics, Asian textiles, Native American basketry, and California painting.

"We are committed to creating better accessibility and visibility for our important collection," states Dr. Stephanie Hanor, director of the Mills College Art Museum. "This Museums for America grant will have an immediate and lasting impact on how we serve our community."

Museums for America grants strengthen a museum's ability to serve the public more effectively by supporting high-priority activities that advance the institution's mission and strategic goals. "Congratulations to the Museums for America grantees. We are pleased to support museums through investments in high-priority, high value activities that benefit communities through the US. These museums, small and large, will help to educate and inspire the public for years to come," said IMLS Director Susan Hildreth.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute's mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. The Institute

works at the national level and in coordination with state and local organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge; enhance learning and innovation; and support professional development. To learn more about the Institute, please visit www.imls.gov.



About the Mills College Art Museum

Founded in 1925, the Mills College Art Museum is a forum for exploring art and ideas and a laboratory for contemporary art practices. Through innovative exhibitions, programs, and collections, the museum engages and inspires the intellectual and creative life of the Mills community as well as the diverse audiences of the Bay Area and beyond. The Mills College Art Museum is located at 5000 MacArthur Boulevard, Oakland, CA 94613. Museum hours are Tuesday–Sunday 11:00–4:00 pm and Wednesday 11:00–7:30 pm. Admission is free for all exhibitions and programs unless noted. For more information, visit <http://mcam.mills.edu>.

About Mills College

Nestled in the foothills of Oakland, California, Mills College is a nationally renowned, independent liberal arts college offering a dynamic progressive education that fosters leadership, social responsibility, and creativity to over 950 undergraduate women and more than 600 graduate women and men. The College ranks as one of the *Best 376 Colleges* in the country and one of the greenest colleges in the nation by The Princeton Review. *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Mills one of the top-tier regional universities in the country and second among colleges and universities in the West in its “Great Schools, Great Prices” category. For more information, visit www.mills.edu.

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