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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4707

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SUITE 510
SEATTLE, WA 98101
(206) 674-0040

November 2, 2020

Crosby Kemper
Director
Institute of Museum and Library Services
955 L'Enfant Plaza North, SW, Suite 4000
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Director Kemper:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Henry Art Gallery's application for an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Museums for America grant for *Collections Storage and Access Upgrade Plan: Phase 2*.

Founded in 1927, the Henry Art Gallery (the Henry) is a Seattle institution and a key cultural resource for all of the Pacific Northwest. The Henry is the State of Washington's oldest art museum, and it is the only museum in our region dedicated to contemporary art. The Henry's collections – including over 28,000 works spanning painting, photography, works on paper, ceramics, sculpture, installation pieces, time-based media and costume and textiles – are foundational to the institution's work.

Through the Henry's Reed Collections Study Center, the Henry provides free and direct access to collection objects to support academic and artistic research as well as public curiosity. The Henry also makes its collection accessible to the public through a number of popular free programs, many of which have transitioned online in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These unique programs ensure public access to the arts and demonstrated commendable dedication to the community as they move online to continue public access to the collections while respecting Governor Inslee's Stay Home, Stay Healthy order.

In the Henry's proposed project, the gallery would install compact racks, reorganize and rehouse hundreds of objects from the collection and perform new photography and study of its collections. This project would guarantee the continued outstanding standard of care for the art and would make the works easier for staff to access and preserve. It would also enhance the availability of and safe public access to the Henry's collections for generations to come.

In the midst of this pandemic and economic crisis, we must stand with organizations that uplift our community. That is why I strongly support the Henry Art Gallery's application for an IMLS Museums for America grant. Please do not hesitate to contact my office at (206) 674-0040 if you have any questions about my support for this grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Pramila Jayapal". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Pramila" and last name "Jayapal" clearly distinguishable.

PRAMILA JAYAPAL
Member of Congress