

PRAMILA JAYAPAL
7TH DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

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

November 11, 2021

Crosby Kemper, Director
Institute of Museum and Library Services
955 L'Enfant Plaza North, SW, Suite 4000
Washington, D.C. 20024-2135

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 its "Collections Storage and Access Upgrade Plan".

Founded in 1927, the Henry Art Gallery is a Seattle institution and a key cultural resource for all the Pacific Northwest. The Henry is the State of Washington's first 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, time-based media and costume and textiles — are foundational to the institution's work.

Through the Henry's Reed Collections Study Center, the gallery 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 variety of popular free programs, both in-person and online. These unique programs, that can be attended free of charge, demonstrate the Henry's commendable dedication to equity as access to contemporary art and ideas is provided regardless of a patron's ability to pay.

In the Henry's proposed project, the gallery will install compact racks; reorganize and rehouse hundreds of objects from the collection for more efficient storage and ease of access; ensure the preservation and safety of the art from seismic events; and take high-resolution images of art to update their online inventory and catalogue of resources for public research and study. This project will guarantee the Henry can continue to maintain an outstanding standard of care for its art and will make the works easier for staff to access and preserve. Further, it will help ensure that the Henry's collections are available to the public for generations to come.

That is why I strongly support the Henry Art Gallery's application for an Institute of Museum and Library Services (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" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Jayapal".

PRAMILA JAYAPAL
Member of Congress