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**West Warwick Public Library Named Finalist for 2022 IMLS National Medal for Museum and Library Service**

**WEST WARWICK, R.I.**—The Institute of Museum and Library Services announced today that West Warwick Public Library is among 30 finalists for the 2022 National Medal for Museum and Library Service for the second year in a row. West Warwick Public Library is the only institution in Rhode Island to be selected as a finalist and the first in the state to have been a finalist more than once in the history of the award.

“We were very honored to have been named by the IMLS as a finalist for the National Medal in 2021” said Library Director Colin McCullough. “To have that recognition repeated for 2022 is a wonderful endorsement of the ongoing dedication of an outstanding staff. They have responded to the challenges of the recent past with perseverance, creativity and optimism. Those qualities have reinforced the library’s position as a community hub and a community partner, but, above all, as an inclusive, welcoming institution that strives to meet the needs of the West Warwick public each day with the same exemplary level of service.”

The National Medal is the nation’s highest honor given to museums and libraries that demonstrate significant impact in their communities. For more than 25 years, the award has honored institutions that demonstrate excellence in service to their communities.

“So many museums, so many libraries have done such good work over the last two very difficult years. We are proud to present the 30 finalists for the IMLS National Medal,” said IMLS Director Crosby Kemper. “Their work is emblematic of the response of the library and museum worlds to simultaneously fulfilling their mission and serving their communities.”

To celebrate this honor, IMLS is encouraging West Warwick Public Library’s community members to share stories, memories, pictures, and videos on social media using the #ShareYourStory and #IMLSmedals hashtags, and engage with IMLS on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). For more information, please visit the [IMLS website](#).

National Medal winners will be announced in early June. Representatives from winning institutions will be honored for their extraordinary contributions during a virtual National Medal Ceremony this summer.

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](#).

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