



Press Release

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**TULSA AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM & PLANETARIUM SELECTED TO
PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL MUSEUM ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

TULSA, Okla. – The Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium (TASM) has been selected to participate in the Museum Assessment Program (MAP), which is administered by the American Alliance of Museums. Through guided self-study and on-site consultation with a museum professional, participation in MAP will empower TASM to better serve the citizens of Tulsa and northeast Oklahoma by facilitating its meeting and exceeding the highest professional standards of the museum field.

The museum's participation is made possible through funding provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). MAP helps museums strengthen operations, plan for the future, and meet standards through self-study and a consultative site visit from an expert peer reviewer.

TASM will emerge from the MAP organizational assessment with an increased alignment to their mission and a prioritized roadmap for improving operations and greater capacity for strategic planning.

"It is important to continue analyzing and strengthening communication, organization and build value for the Tulsa community," said Tonya Blansett, TASM executive director, "TASM staff and leadership teams will benefit from the MAP Assessment process by developing new policies, revamping existing policies that will lead us smoothly into our growth and expansion."

TASM is on the footsteps of launching a capital project that will double the exhibit space, add an education center with four additional classrooms and a hands-on maker space within a Mission: Mars exhibit.

“Choosing to be part of the MAP program is indicative of the commitment to civic involvement, public service and overall excellence on the part of the Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium,” said Laura Lott, president of AAM. “Studies have shown America’s museums to be among the country’s most trusted and valued institutions. MAP is designed to make them even better.”

Since its creation in 1981, the MAP program has served over 4,600 museums. MAP is supported through a cooperative agreement between AAM and IMLS. For more information, including a complete list of museums participating in MAP, please visit www.aam-us.org/map, call 202-289-9118 or e-mail map@aam-us.org.

AAM is the only organization representing the nation’s entire museum community and has been dedicated to promoting excellence within the museum field for over 100 years. For more information about AAM, visit www.aam-us.org. The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation’s 123,000 libraries and 35,000 museums. To learn more about the Institute, please visit: <http://www.imls.gov>.

Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium is the region’s hub of science based learning through discovery. Each year, more than 55,000 visitors pass through the museum to explore Tulsa’s rich aviation heritage and explore the correlation of science and technology with flight. To learn more about TASM, please visit: <https://www.tulsamuseum.org>.

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