About the Alliance

The American Alliance of Museums is the largest organization of its kind in the United States with the mission of championing museums and nurturing excellence with our members and allies. With over 35,000 members that represent museums of all kinds, from art and history museums to zoos and botanic gardens, the Alliance provides strong support, standards of excellence, thought leadership, and professional networks to the entire museum field. As an Alliance, we speak with one voice to advocate for museums and assert their value as critical educational institutions, economic engines, and community assets.

Championing Museums

Museums of all kinds are critical educational, cultural, and scientific institutions in our society, but the value of our work is not always fully understood. The American Alliance of Museums helps museums tell the stories of their important activities and contributions and promotes a deeper understanding of museums with policymakers, the press, and the public.

We advocate for the cause of museums through year-round advocacy efforts, Museums Advocacy Day, and Invite Congress to Visit Your Museum.

Nurturing Excellence

The Alliance offers a pathway of standards-based assessment and recognition programs to help your museum be the best it can be in carrying out its public trust, collections stewardship, and educational roles.

Called the Continuum of Excellence, this flexible series of programs motivates and celebrates your museum’s commitment to meeting standards and professional practices.

Thought Leadership & Resources

The Alliance shares thought leadership and innovation to inspire and support action among museums in areas of key importance for the vitality of the museum field, including:

The Alliance Blog reaches thousands of people each week to share stories and insights from museum professionals around the globe.

The Center for the Future of Museums identifies trends and critical issues facing museums and society, and publishes the annual forecasting report, TrendsWatch.

Museum magazine, AAM’s bi-monthly, award-winning magazine, addresses challenges and issues facing museums today.

20 Professional Networks connect museum professionals to their peers based on job responsibilities and areas of interest.

The online resource library of over 2,000 guidelines, fact sheets, and articles covers all aspects of museum work.