

NewsRelease

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GPO HONORS NEW MEXICO STATE LIBRARY

WASHINGTON-Customer-driven, on-demand, authentic -- just some of the words those who rely on the New Mexico State Library for their information needs use to describe the top-notch services the library provides. In addition, the library has been praised for addressing the culturally diverse needs of its citizenry while providing unparalleled service to its patrons. It is because of these reasons that the U.S. Government Printing Office has named the New Mexico State Library the 2005 Federal Depository Library of the Year.

"I commend New Mexico State Library for its pioneering work in managing public and federal information which is reflected by this prestigious award. The Library's approach, to make data of particular relevance to New Mexico available, is unique and highly innovative. It is an exciting and precise educational tool that can empower citizens to participate even more fully in the public policy processes that impact all of our lives," said U.S. Senator Pete Domenici.

"The New Mexico State Library plays an important role in keeping New Mexicans informed about the workings of the Federal Government. Our state is very fortunate to have a library that is so highly equipped and professionally staffed. I congratulate the New Mexico State Library for winning this prestigious award," U.S. Senator Jeff Bingaman said.

New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson says the State Library is an example. "I am pleased that the New Mexico State Library and the library staff are being recognized for their exemplary service. Their work makes government information readily accessible and is an important resource for residents and state and Federal employees in New Mexico," Governor Richardson said.

The New Mexico State Library, located in Santa Fe, was designated as a selective federal depository library in 1960 and as a regional federal depository library in 1962. The library has more than two million items in its collection.

"New Mexico State Library is a shining example of what can happen when conscientious dedication and technological advances meet. This combination has ensured that access to authentic Federal Government documents is among the top priorities at this now award-winning state library," said Bruce James, Public Printer of the United States. "The New Mexico community is served by some of the most resourceful, innovative, and knowledgeable librarians in the country and GPO salutes their achievements."

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Some of the initiatives that have contributed to the success of the New Mexico State Library are:

- * New Mexico News Plus-A web-based information research access tool that highlights timely Federal Government news of importance to the community.
- * New Mexico State Digital Archive Project-This project focuses on the cataloging and preservation of electronic Federal Government documents.
- * Docs on Wheels-Bookmobiles are operated in several geographic regions of the state to provide books and information in rural communities without local library services.

"It is a great honor to receive this recognition from the U.S. Government Printing Office. All of us at the New Mexico State Library are extremely gratified and proud to be recognized for the dedication and commitment of our depository library staff to making government information freely and readily available to the people of New Mexico," said State Librarian Richard Akeroyd. "We look forward to continuing our close work with the Government Printing Office, and our federal documents depository colleagues, in contributing to the on-going maintenance of a strong depository library system in New Mexico and throughout the nation."

New Mexico State Library is the third depository library to receive GPO's Federal Depository Library of the Year Award. Southern Oregon University's Lenn and Dixie Hannon Library received the honor last year and in 2003 the award went to the Tulsa City-County Library.

The GPO's core mission is to ensure that the American public has access to government information. The GPO is the Federal Government's primary centralized resource for gathering, cataloging, producing, providing, authenticating, and preserving published U.S. Government information in all its forms. GPO is responsible for the production and distribution of information products and services for all three branches of the Federal Government. In addition to publication sales, GPO makes government information available at no cost to the public through GPO Access (www.gpoaccess.gov), and through partnerships with more than 1,250 libraries nationwide participating in the Federal Depository Library Program. For more information about the GPO, please visit www.gpo.gov.

For more information about the New Mexico State Library please visit:

<http://www.stlib.state.nm.us/index.html>.

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