

The Wallace Foundation *Museum Collections Accessibility Initiative*



Location: New York, New York

Scope of Work: Evaluation and Audience Building

MMC worked with the Wallace Foundation, formerly known as the Lila Wallace – Reader’s Digest Fund, from 1993-1999 to evaluate the *Museum Collections Accessibility Initiative* designed to build and expand audiences in twenty-nine art museums throughout the United States. Each of these institutions was awarded a sizable, multi-year grant to support innovative, pilot programs to broaden and diversify audiences by making their collections more accessible. MMC conducted a comprehensive, longitudinal evaluation that included assessing internal museum operations and visitor satisfaction of programs and exhibitions using a variety of research strategies in order to determine the impact of the *Initiative* on the museums and their communities. Museums involved in the *Initiative* included:

- Cleveland Museum of Art, *Cleveland, Ohio*
- Denver Art Museum, *Denver, Colorado*
- El Museo del Barrio, *New York*
- Hampton University Museum, *Hampton, Virginia*
- Hood Museum of Art, *Hanover, New Hampshire*
- Indianapolis Museum of Art, *Indianapolis, Indiana*
- Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, *Boston, Massachusetts*
- Michael C. Carlos Museum, *Atlanta, Georgia*
- Milwaukee Art Museum, *Milwaukee, Wisconsin*
- Minneapolis Institute of Arts, *Minneapolis, Minnesota*
- Mint Museum of Art, *Charlotte, North Carolina*
- Mississippi Museum of Art, *Jackson, Mississippi*
- Museum of Contemporary Art, *Chicago, Illinois*
- Museum of Contemporary Art, *Los Angeles, California*
- Museum of Contemporary Art, *San Diego, California*
- Philadelphia Museum of Art, *Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*
- San Antonio Museum of Art, *San Antonio, Texas*
- Saint Louis Art Museum, *Saint Louis, Missouri*
- The Art Institute of Chicago, *Chicago, Illinois*
- The Baltimore Museum of Art, *Baltimore, Maryland*
- The Heard Museum, *Phoenix, Arizona*
- The Museum of Fine Arts-Houston, *Houston, Texas*
- The Newark Museum, *Newark, New Jersey*
- Toledo Museum of Art, *Toledo, Ohio*
- University Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, *Berkeley, California*
- Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, *Richmond, Virginia*
- Walker Art Center, *Minneapolis, Minnesota*
- Walters Art Gallery, *Baltimore, Maryland*
- Worcester Art Museum, *Worcester, Massachusetts*