

For Immediate Release Date: August 28, 2019 Contact: Kathy Bell w 570-346-7186 ext 521 c 203-820-5177 Photograph attached

## **Everhart Museum Receives National Endowment for the Arts Grant**

Grant to support creating an interactive 3-D collection at the Everhart

[Scranton, PA]— The National Endowment for the Arts is awarding the Everhart Museum Natural History, Science and Art a grant of \$10,000 to support plans to scan and create 3D prints of select pieces from the Everhart's collections that will be integrated into the main gallery as well as be used by the Museum's education department in a teaching collection that will travel to schools, public housing projects, libraries, and community centers.

"Integrating 3D prints of our permanent collection into our exhibition spaces will allow visitors to physically interact with artworks in ways that would not otherwise be possible," said Francesca Saldan, curator of the Everhart, "Being able to feel and touch museum objects is an experience most museum-goers never get to experience. By providing 3D replicas to the public, we are enabling our visitors to have a much deeper understanding of the artwork they are seeing."

The 3D printed objects will serve as the foundation for a more accessible Teaching Collection. The ability to touch 3D printed replicas will allow visitors and students to gain a better understanding of texture, form, and function of an object. The project supports the Everhart's object-based learning pedagogy and enhances our ability to provide accessible educational offerings that cater to kinesthetic and multimodal learning styles and creates an effective method of learning for groups of differently-abled individuals, especially those with visual impairment.

"All Americans should have access to the arts," said Mary Anne Carter, acting chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. "Grants such as this one to the Everhart Museum are an important part of the National Endowment for the Arts' work to ensure people in communities both large and small across the nation have the opportunity to experience the arts."

The project will start at the end of the year and the first replicas should be on display in the second-floor galleries in the Fall of 2020.

Aurore Giguet, executive director of the Everhart Museum explained, "We hope that this is just the first of many grant-funded projects that will help make the Everhart more accessible through the use of technology and help break down the barriers and engage more fully with our community."



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**About the Everhart Museum:** Founded in 1908, the Everhart Museum of Natural History, Science & Art is the largest general museum in Northeastern Pennsylvania. The Everhart Museum, located in Nay Aug Park in Scranton, is a not-for-profit institution dedicated to the collection, care, and display of a diverse array of artifacts, including natural history, science, and fine arts. Through our exhibits and programs, the Everhart Museum has become an invaluable regional resource for educational and cultural opportunities. General support for the museum is received from the Lackawanna County Office of Education & Culture, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, and the City of Scranton. For more information on the museum visit our website at <u>www.everhart-museum.org</u> or contact us at 570-346-7186. **Museum Hours:** Mon., & Fri., Noon to 5:00 pm; Thurs. Noon to 7:00 pm, Sat. 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Sun. Noon to 5:00 pm. Admission \$7/adults, \$5/students & seniors, \$3/children 6-12, and free to Everhart Museum members. **The Everhart Museum is proud to support our veterans and is a Blue Star Museum.** 

<u>About the National Endowment for the Arts</u>: Established by Congress in 1965, the National Endowment for the Arts is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the Arts Endowment supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America's rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America. Visit <u>arts.gov</u> to learn more.



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