DELTA BLUES MUSEUM SELECTED AS 2013 NATIONAL MEDAL FINALIST
State's oldest music museum is sole representative from Mississippi

CLARKSDALE, MS (February 14, 2013) - The Institute of Museum and Library Services today announced the Delta Blues Museum as a National Medal for Museum and Library Service finalist. The National Medal is the nation's highest honor conferred on museums and libraries for service to the community and celebrates institutions that make a difference for individuals, families, and communities.

Medal finalists are selected from nationwide nominations of institutions that demonstrate innovative approaches to public service, exceeding the expected levels of community outreach. Read the full press release and Fact Sheet online--


About the Delta Blues Museum

Since its creation in 1979, the Delta Blues Museum has worked to preserve, interpret, and encourage a deep interest in the story of the Blues. As one of the oldest music museums in the United States—and the oldest in the state of Mississippi—the Delta Blues Museum honors the culture and the musicians that shaped this deeply rooted art form. The City of Clarksdale, located at the intersection of Highways 61 and 49 ("the crossroads"), and the surrounding Delta region are known as "the land where the Blues began." Established in 1979 by the Carnegie Public Library Board of Trustees and re-organized as a stand-alone museum in 1999, the Delta Blues Museum is dedicated to the preservation of the Blues through education and programming, hosting a year-round music education program for students of all ages as well as lectures and symposia. The Delta Blues Museum Stage, adjacent to the museum, serves as a main venue for local festivals such as the Sunflower River Blues and Gospel Festival in August and the Juke Joint Festival in April.

Through its current DEEPER ROOTS campaign, donors will help fund new and expanded exhibits—some to be housed in the museum's new 7,300 sq. foot Muddy Waters Addition—that will utilize film, video and music. Listening stations and interactive kiosks will offer visitors a chance to hear the music created by these artists and follow its development from Africa to modern day. To find out more about DEEPER ROOTS online, visit www.deltabluesmuseum.org/deeperroots or contact the Museum Director for details.

For more information on events or programs, please call (662) 627-6820, or visit the Museum web site at www.deltabluesmuseum.org.

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