



People, Places & Design Research

At the 2016 annual convention, the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) announced awards for Excellence in Exhibitions for 2015. These awards are decided by a collaboration of four Standing Professional Committees: the Curators' Committee (CurCom), National Association of Museum Exhibitors (NAME), the Committee on Audience Research and Evaluation (CARE), and the Committee on Education (EdCom).

We're excited to have been part of the team for two winners this year: for Overall Excellence in Exhibitions: ***Nation to Nation: Treaties between the United States and American Indian Nations***, created by the National Museum of the American Indian at the Smithsonian in Washington DC. (we worked on formative evaluation during the planning process) and for Special Achievement in Living Exhibits: ***Living Seashore***, created by the National Aquarium in Baltimore MD (we designed and conducted the summative evaluation, providing considerable evidence for the effectiveness and appeal of this exhibition).

This was the 7th time (in the 27 year history of the award) that we have contributed to a team that won a Best Exhibit of the Year award from AAM, and the first time that we contributed to a Special Achievement award (although we have been involved with other project awards from the AZA: Association of Zoos and Aquariums). Wow... feels good.

Our previous team awards for excellence in exhibitions were for:

- ***Dancing Shadows, Epic Tales: Wayang Kulit of Indonesia*** (Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe NM)
- ***Wild Reef*** (Shedd Aquarium, Chicago IL)
- ***Congo Gorilla Forest*** (Wildlife Conservation Society at the Bronx Zoo, NY)
- ***Amazon Rising*** (Shedd Aquarium, Chicago IL)
- ***Recycled ReSeen*** (Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe NM)
- ***Traveling the Pacific*** (The Field Museum, Chicago IL)

We have now passed our 32nd anniversary of serving museums and other interpretive-cultural organizations (starting in June 1984). On our website (www.ppdresearch.com) you can still find our crossword puzzle called 'Free Advice' ([About Us /Crossword Puzzle](#)) – but you can call us for free advice any time.

Got Visitors? We can answer your questions.

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