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RACE Receives AAM Award of Excellence in Exhibition

The American Anthropological Association’s RACE Are We So Different? exhibition has received the American Association of Museums (AAM) 2008 Award of Excellence in Exhibition. RACE Are We So Different?, an exhibition on race and human variation, was among four exhibitions chosen to receive the prestigious award yesterday during AAM’s Annual Meeting in Denver, CO. RACE and fellow awardees will be featured in an upcoming issue of AAM’s publication Museum News.

Since its debut in January 2007, RACE Are We So Different? has received three national awards and one national nomination. In April, the RACE website (www.understandingRACE.org) received the Interactive Media 2007 Award for an Outstanding Achievement in Education. Also in April, the RACE website was among five nominees selected for a 2007 Webby Award in science, including the Hubble Space Station website, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, NOVA Science NOW and Earth Guide.

In June 2007, AAA received the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) Association’s Advance America 2007 Award of Excellence for developing the RACE Are We So Different? program. By receiving the ASAE Award of Excellence, the AAA was advanced as a nominee for the ASAE’s top honor, the 2007 Summit Award, which is bestowed annually to associations deemed to have improved the quality of American society through exemplary volunteer activities. AAA was one of six associations to receive the Summit Award in 2007.

RACE the exhibition opens at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center in Mashantucket, Conn. on May 17. The popular exhibit will be touring museums across the United States until the beginning of 2012.

A project of

American Anthropological Association

Funded by the Ford Foundation and National Science Foundation
RACE Are We So Different? is a 5,000 square-foot museum exhibit that explores the history, science and lived experience of race and racism in the United States. The RACE exhibition is part of a larger program developed over five and a half years with $4.5 million in funding from Ford Foundation, the National Science Foundation and the AAA. It includes a traveling museum exhibit, an interactive website, and educational materials. A recent two-year grant from the Ford Foundation will fund the development of a second, smaller-version of the RACE exhibit and a companion book.

For more information about the RACE: Are We So Different? project, please visit www.understandingRACE.org, or contact Jennifer Steffensen at 703-528-1902, ext. 3009, or jsteffensen@aaanet.org.

For a complete listing of exhibition tour dates, please visit http://www.understandingrace.org/about/tour.html.

RACE press kits including an exhibit description and brochure are available upon request. Please contact Jennifer Steffensen at jsteffensen@aaanet.org to request a kit.

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Founded in 1902, the American Anthropological Association is the world's largest professional organization of anthropologists and others interested in anthropology, with an average annual membership of more than 10,000. The Arlington, Va.-based association represents all specialties within anthropology — cultural anthropology, biological or physical anthropology, archaeology, linguistics and applied anthropology.