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August 2011

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JFK Presidential Library and Museum Wins
C.F.W. Coker Award from
Society of American Archivists

CHICAGO—The John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum is being awarded the C.F.W. Coker Award from the Society of American Archivists (SAA) for its digital archive that incorporates collection-level descriptions and increases online accessibility. The award will be presented during a ceremony on August 26, 2011, at ARCHIVES 360°, the 75th Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archivists in Chicago.

The C.F.W. Coker Award recognizes finding aids, finding aid systems, innovative development in archival description, or descriptive tools that enable archivists to produce more effective finding aids. To merit consideration for the award, nominees must set national standards, represent a model for archives description, or otherwise have a substantial impact on national descriptive practice.

“The John F. Kennedy Presidential Digital Archive and the ‘Access to a Legacy’ project are models for archival repositories interested in large-scale digitization and description projects,” said the SAA Awards Committee.

The redesigned website includes a user-friendly single search interface that provides access to both digitized and undigitized holdings with advanced search functionality, including suggested searching and faceted searching and browsing. This project relies on standard descriptive practices, but uses a traditionally corporate digital asset management tool as its all-purpose archival management system. Visit the site today, www.jfklibrary.org.

Established in 1984, the award honors SAA Fellow C.F.W. Coker. Previous recipients include: North Carolina State University Libraries Special Collections Research Center; World War II: Guide to Records Relating to U.S. Military Participation; The Archivists’ Toolkit™; Greg Bradsher of the National Archives and Records Administration; The Walt Whitman Archive; and the Online Archive of California.

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Founded in 1936, the Society of American Archivists is North America’s oldest and largest national archives professional association. SAA’s mission is to serve the educational and informational needs of more than 6,000 individual and institutional members and to provide leadership to ensure the identification, preservation, and use of records of historical value. For more information, visit www.archivists.org.