



PRESS RELEASE

— For Immediate Distribution —

New Media Centers Announces 2002 Center of Excellence Awards

The New Media Centers (NMC), an international consortium of colleges, universities, and museums, announced the inaugural recipients of the NMC Center of Excellence Award. The award, the highest honor bestowed by the NMC, recognizes demonstrated excellence and outstanding achievement in the application of technology to learning or creative expression.

Symbolized by a specially struck medallion suspended in a translucent obelisk, the Center of Excellence Award has been designed purposefully to make it distinct from other award or recognition programs. Colleges do not compete for the award, nor is it granted within predefined categories. The selection process is based on the MacArthur Awards, and like that program, the nominators and others involved in the selection process remain anonymous as a core principle of the program. They are chosen from organizations both within and outside the NMC, and represent a considerable diversity of knowledge.

“In this first year, the selection committee had a tremendous task and did their job well,” said CEO Larry Johnson. “The 2002 recipients are all acknowledged leaders in the application of technology by any standard. A group that includes schools large and small, the well-endowed and the not-so-well endowed, they represent the best of the NMC. Together and individually they exemplify the state of the art.”

The 2002 NMC Center of Excellence Award recipients are:

- **California State University System, Center for Distributed Learning**
Recognized for their development of learning object repositories (Joint Award)
- **University of Calgary, Learning Commons**
Recognized for their development of learning object repositories (Joint Award)
- **Carleton College, Information Technology Services**
Recognized for their exemplary faculty support program
- **City College of New York, Robinson Center for Graphics Arts and Communications Design**
Recognized for their exemplary new media degree program
- **Northeastern University, Educational Technology Center**
Recognized for their comprehensive approach to instructional design

New Media Centers (NMC), founded in 1993, counts 115 leading colleges and universities and a dozen visionary companies among its members, each selected for their creativity and expertise in the exploration of new ways of teaching, learning, and creative expression. Project-focused and action-oriented, the NMC establishes connections between its members and other innovative people and organizations who are using new technologies to inspire, energize, stimulate, or support teaching, learning, or creative expression.

— [more] —

New Media Centers
680 Eighth Street, Suite 231 San Francisco, CA 94103-4942
tel: 415.558.8866 fax: 415.558.9275
www.nmc.net

“New Media Centers is the leading forum in the country encouraging innovation, experimentation, and high quality in computer and Internet-based learning applications,” noted Johnson, “and New Media Centers members are creating some of the most innovative and artful experiments in new media and digital technology to be found anywhere. The 2002 Center of Excellence Award recipients are standouts, even among that group of outstanding institutions.”



Frequently Asked Questions

Q Who are the nominators?

A The nominators are drawn from both academe and industry, and are not required to be NMC members. Each is a leader in his or her field. By prior agreement, the identity of the nominators is held in confidence.

Q How are the selections made?

A Once an institution is nominated, a set of information is put together to help the selection committee make its decisions. This information may be gleaned from the institution’s web site, from conversations with knowledgeable persons, through interviews, or by other means. The information collected is reviewed by a selection committee that is charged with identifying from among the nominees the institutions most deserving of this recognition. The award is granted without regard to the size of an institution’s staff or resources, and in a manner that ensures equal consideration to successful efforts large and small. By prior agreement, the identity of the members of the selection committee is held in confidence.

Q What are the categories in which honorees are chosen?

A Like other awards upon which this program is modeled, such as the MacArthur Awards, there are no predefined categories for selection.



New Media Centers is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization that brings forward-thinking learning organizations — colleges, universities, and museums — together with innovative high-tech companies to collaborate in a non-competitive environment. Founded in 1993, NMC counts 115 learning organizations and a dozen visionary companies among its members, each selected for their creativity and expertise in the exploration of new ways of teaching, learning, and creative expression. Member institutions work with NMC Corporate members to develop new tools and techniques in an ongoing series of demonstration projects and related efforts. NMC conferences work to address pedagogical, legal, and technological issues that are emerging along with the new technologies, media forms, and tools while offering attendees cutting-edge staff development. For more information on the NMC, see its web site at www.nmc.net.

For additional information, contact:

Larry Johnson, Chief Executive Officer, New Media Centers 512.445.4200

— [end] —

New Media Centers
680 Eighth Street, Suite 231 San Francisco, CA 94103-4942
tel: 415.558.8866 fax: 415.558.9275
www.nmc.net