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Fiscal year 2001

The National Museum of American History relies on private gifts and grants for 50 percent of its operations and virtually all of its capital needs, including new exhibitions and the Museum’s master plan for transformation. More than $150 million has been raised over the past three years, representing approximately 47 percent of the total capital need.

The following donors have made significant commitments to this undertaking, and they have the profound gratitude of the Smithsonian Institution and the American people. These thoughtful individuals and organizations have set a pace for success in creating a 21st-century museum worthy of our nation’s extraordinary heritage.

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“The National Museum of American History is a place for gathering together—a place where each of us can find ourselves, learn more about our neighbors, and experience the rich texture of American life.”
The Museum had a total operating budget of $45,304,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001. Fifty-one percent (51%) of the operating budget came as part of the Smithsonian’s federal appropriation, including base resources, a one-time allotment for *The American Presidency*, and several federal grants supporting major permanent exhibitions. Thirty-three percent (33%) of the operating budget came from private sources, including trust gifts, grants, and endowments.

In the fiscal year, the Museum raised more than $31 million in gifts and pledges through the generosity of individuals, corporations, foundations, and organizations. The hard work of our Board, volunteers, and staff in articulating the Museum’s vision and creating strategic partnerships was responsible for this success. Record-level private giving continues to provide the foundation and momentum for the Museum’s renewal and transformation.
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“In response to Kenneth E. Behring’s generous gift, our Museum has a major opportunity to design a transforming vision for the 21st century. The Blue Ribbon Commission’s recommendations will help shape the public face and programs of this, the nation’s leading museum of American history.”

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**Cover:** "Goddess of Liberty" weathervane, circa 1870