



NATIONAL MUSIC MUSEUM
THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA

National Music Museum
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National Music Museum Episode Wins Coveted Silver Telly Award

VERMILLION, S.D. -- The national public television series, **GREAT MUSEUMS™**, has been honored in the 25th Annual Telly Awards competition. The episode featuring the **National Music Museum** of Vermillion has been awarded the highest honor, a Silver Telly statue, for "best in show," in the Cultural Documentary category.

The Telly Awards is an international competition, that recognizes excellence in the film and video industries. This year's awards competition received more than 10,000 entries from the U.S. and many foreign countries. The winners include Discovery, Miramax Films, Scripps Productions, and NBC.

The National Music Museum episode highlights the incredible range and diversity of the collections housed on the campus of The University of South Dakota in Vermillion. Museum visitors can see musical instruments covering the span of more than four centuries and representing virtually all cultures. Items range from the time of Beethoven to B.B. King, the trumpet from Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band to Bill Clinton's saxophone. The museum is world renowned for holding some of the rarest pieces found anywhere. Galleries are filled with fine Italian stringed instruments, early keyboards, extraordinary examples of the evolution of brass and woodwind instruments, harmonicas, and the largest and most complete Javanese gamelan found in the Western hemisphere amongst other exotic instruments from Africa, Eastern Asia, India, and other non-western countries.

The ongoing documentary series, underwritten by the Eureka Foundation of New York, features great museums throughout the country, large and small, and reveals, in an informative and entertaining way, the people, places, and stories that are at the core of the American identity.

Great Museums is now seen on more than 240 public television stations and airs on South Dakota Public Television Sunday afternoons at 4:00 central / 3:00 mountain time. South Dakota Public Television first aired the National Music Museum episode in October 2003 and plans to air it again Sunday, April 11. DVD and VHS copies of the program are also available for sale through the Museum gift shop, by calling 605.677.5306 or visiting online at www.usd.edu/smm.

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About the National Music Museum: The National Music Museum and Center for Study of the History of Musical Instruments, located on the campus of the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, is one of the great institutions of its kind in the world. Its renowned collections include more than 10,500 American, European, and non-Western instruments from virtually all cultures and historical periods. Visit www.usd.edu/smm

About The University of South Dakota: Founded in 1862, The University of South Dakota is designated as the only public liberal arts university in the state and is home to a large College of Arts and Sciences, a School of Education and the state's only Law School, Medical School, accredited Business School, and College of Fine Arts. It has an enrollment of approximately 8,700 students taught by 400 faculty members. More information is available at www.usd.edu/urelations/news.