(*Washington*) – **Congressman John B. Larson** released the following statement today after the announcement of finalists for the National Medal for Museum and Library Service. The Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art and the Hartford Public Library were selected as finalists for the National Medal, the nation's highest honor awarded to museums and libraries who make significant and exceptional contributions to their communities:

"The Wadsworth Atheneum and Hartford Public Library provide a wealth of educational, cultural, and historical resources to communities in Hartford. For years their work has helped countless students, adults, and families who benefit from the programs and tools they offer. I am glad the Institute of Museum and Library Services has recognized their work in our communities, and wish each of them luck as the winners are chosen in the coming months."

###