

2010 Nancy DeLaurier Award

**Presented March 18, 2010 in Atlanta, Georgia to
Murtha Baca and Patricia Harpring
Getty Research Institute**

PRESS RELEASE

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VISUAL RESOURCES ASSOCIATION PRESENTS 2010 NANCY DELAURIER AWARD TO MURTHA BACA AND PATRICIA HARPRING FOR THEIR WORK ON THE GETTY VOCABULARIES

ATLANTA, Georgia - The Visual Resources Association (VRA), the international organization for image media professionals, proudly presented the 2010 [Nancy DeLaurier Award](#) to Murtha Baca and Patricia Harpring for their work on the Getty Vocabularies on March 18th at the 28th Annual VRA Conference. The Nancy DeLaurier Award, named for one of the pioneers of the Visual Resources profession, honors distinguished achievement in the field of image management. "Achievement" is measured by immediate impact and may take the form of published work, oral presentation, project management, software development, technology application, Web site creation, or other outstanding effort. Baca and Harpring's efforts encompass all of the above categories. Current VRA President, Maureen Burns, stated "Letters of support for this nomination poured in from around the world showing the global reach of Murtha and Patricia's Herculean efforts and further demonstrating how the Getty Vocabularies are truly an unparalleled body of work."



The impact of the Getty Vocabularies is enormous in the field of visual resources and beyond -- visionary in inception and instrumental to the quest of standardizing image cataloging across the cultural heritage community. Information professionals in visual resources collections, libraries, museums, and archives regularly use the Art and Architecture Thesaurus, the Union List of Artist Names, and the Thesaurus of Geographic Names, developed, sustained, and nurtured, primarily by these two individuals, under the auspices of the Getty Research Institute. The Getty Vocabularies not only provide uniform terminology to describe works of art, architecture, material culture, and other associated materials for metadata creation, but their use enhances access to online resources and the knowledge bases researchers rely upon. In addition to project development and management, Baca and Harpring have worked tirelessly to promote free global online access to these vocabulary tools, to translate them into many languages, and to assist colleagues in better understanding how to use them most effectively. Attesting to their ongoing vision of the future in terms of shared standards and best practices is their promotion of a new Cultural Object Name Authority (CONA) intended to provide authoritative work records about cultural objects overcoming linguistic, chronological, and other variations in naming. At the awards ceremony, Baca and Harpring announced their latest publication, *Introduction to Controlled Vocabularies: Terminology for Art, Architecture, and Other Cultural Works*.

