



THE "POLLY" AWARD

In 1999, the agency established the Polly Rosenbaum award in recognition of Polly's tireless support for libraries, museums, archives, and the preservation of Arizona's rich cultural history.

This award acknowledges elected or appointed officials (not on the current Library Board) who cherish Arizona's rich cultural resources and support the work of the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records.

Nominations are made by employees of the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records, and the members of the Friends of Arizona Archives and Arizona State Capitol Museum Guild.

The Selection Committee includes one professional staff person from each agency division, one representative from the Friends of Arizona Archives, and one representative from the Arizona State Capitol Museum Guild. Agency Division Directors chair the committee on a rotating basis.

The "Polly" Award is presented annually on Statehood Day or a date determined by the agency Director. Winners receive a plaque and their names are inscribed on the perpetual plaque in the agency's Administrative Office.



**BETSEY BAYLESS
RECEIVES THE
2005 POLLY ROSENBAUM AWARD**

A third-generation, Spanish-speaking Arizonan, Ms. Bayless earned her Bachelor's degree in Latin American Studies and Spanish from the University of Arizona. Her graduate degrees include a Master's in Public Administration from Arizona State University and an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from the University of Arizona.

Ms. Bayless' career of public service began as an intern in the State Personnel Department. Her extensive State government career includes serving as Arizona Secretary of State, the Director of the Arizona Department of Administration and member of the Arizona Board of Investment, Acting Director of the Arizona Department of Revenue, and Assistant Director of the Arizona Board of Regents. Previously, Ms. Bayless was a member of the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, where she served two terms as Board Chair, and she worked in the securities industry as an investment banker and as a stockbroker .

The 2005 "Polly Award" recognizes Ms. Bayless' sincere interest in and public commitment to the agency to preserve Arizona's history and to provide access to information, as well as her support for staff, as demonstrated in numerous ways:

As Arizona Secretary of State:

- Ms. Bayless talked about her personal appreciation of Arizona's history as a Keynote Speaker, for the 2001 *Arizona Convocation*. This Convocation helped build bridges between librarians, archivists, museum professionals, genealogists, and others responsible for and interested in preserving Arizona's cultural heritage. It enabled these individuals to share information about their collections and programs, to discover opportunities for collaboration and resource sharing,

and to promote public access to the books, records, and objects of Arizona's past;

- Ms. Bayless helped promote discussion of electronic recordkeeping issues and assigned staff to work with Library and Archives staff in investigating long-term storage for electronic media. Under her leadership, the Secretary of State's Office provided support for establishing, and had an active participation in, the *Arizona 'Lectronic Records Taskforce (ALERT)*; and
- The Secretary of State's web site was able to serve public needs by including more full-text publications and by providing access to more information electronically for the citizens in the state. Ms. Bayless also made sure that the preservation copies were retained;

As Director of the Arizona Department of Administration:

- State agency materials, including state regulations, are now available through internet access;
- The Department of Administration is interested in the issue of long-term preservation of information;
- Ms. Bayless partnered with Library and Archives on *National History Day, 2003*;
- She was a Keynoter for *Arizona Archives Week, 2003*; and
- She supported the Arizona Center for the Book's return to Library and Archives in 2004;

As Secretary of State and as the Director of the Arizona Department of Administration:

- Ms. Bayless supported inclusion of Library and Archives in discussions of Arizona History;
- She has been a regular supporter and attendee of the Arizona Women's Hall of Fame; and
- She has been responsive to needs of the agency and has made her ear and staff available to us during and after work hours. This factor is significant when realizing that the two agencies are in different branches of government.

Her diverse efforts mirror the hard work of Representative Polly Rosenbaum.