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By Arizona Daily Star

Tucson Botanical Gardens: Tucson Botanical Gardens placed fourth in USA Today's 2024 10Best Readers' Choice Awards contest for Best Botanical Garden. Nominees for the award were chosen by a panel of experts. Tucson Botanical Gardens was one of 20 gardens selected for the Best Botanical Gardens category. Voting by the public narrowed the list down to the top 10.

National Medal for Museum and Library Service: The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum in Tucson and the Copper Queen Library in Bisbee have been named finalists for the 2024 National Medal for Museum and Library Service. The award, from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, is the nation's highest honor given to museums and libraries that demonstrate significant impact in their communities.

The two Southern Arizona organizations are among 30 finalists in the running. Winners will be announced in late May and recognized in Washington, DC, this summer.

To celebrate the honor, IMLS is encouraging community members to share stories, memories, pictures and videos on social media using the hashtags #ShareYourStory and #IMLSmedals, and engage with IMLS on X (formerly known as Twitter), Facebook and Instagram.

Trico Electric Cooperative: Michael Jansen, Trico Electric Cooperative's economic development and strategic accounts manager, has earned his Certified Economic Developer designation from the International Economic Development Council.

To attain the designation, candidates are required to successfully complete prerequisite coursework and pass an examination that spans two days. The designation establishes an industry benchmark of excellence and signifies the knowledge and dedication of individuals in the field of economic development.

IEDC offers the CEcD designation to strengthen the field with subject matter experts and provide economic developers with opportunities to broaden their skillsets.

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