



2013 Report of Activities

Mission Statement

The Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (FAIC) undertakes and underwrites programs and initiatives to advance the conservation profession nationally and internationally in all its facets and applies the expertise of the profession in addressing global artistic, cultural, and historic preservation priorities.

Vision Statement

FAIC envisions a world that values the conservation profession as a means to preserve international cultural materials and to increase knowledge of our shared cultural heritage for future generations.

Core Values

Preservation of Cultural Heritage

FAIC promotes the preservation of cultural heritage as a means toward a deeper understanding of our shared humanity—the need to express ourselves through creative achievement in the arts, humanities, and sciences. We honor the history and integrity of these achievements through the preservation of cultural materials for future generations.

Advancement of the Field

FAIC promotes the advancement of expert knowledge of materials and technologies, and mastery of conservation and preservation. We promote the understanding of the values and contexts of cultural heritage and stress informed decision-making in conservation. We are dedicated to service in the field, research, sharing knowledge, and continued education.

Building Operational Strength and Sustainability

FAIC embraces sustained, strategic management of our organization, reflecting our responsibilities to conservators, allied professions, partners, the public, and our cultural heritage preservation agenda. FAIC supports and enhances the goals of AIC, and in turn builds on the achievements of AIC and its members.

2013 FAIC Program Activities

Professional Development

Courses, seminars, and study tours are presented throughout the country and online for mid-career professionals. In 2013, FAIC presented 22 events reaching 365 individuals. Notable programs included co-sponsorship of Buffalo's Asian Lacquer symposium, and presentation of the final three workshops on "Emergency Planning and Mitigation for Historic House Museums," funded by a grant from IMLS.

FAIC's educational programs have reached 8,436 people with 296 events since 2000. Events range from one-day workshops held at the AIC Annual Meeting to week-long, laboratory-based practical sessions. Distance learning courses offer ways for conservators in remote areas to continue to develop their skills. The Hermitage Photograph Conservation Initiative aims to train photograph conservators and preserve the photograph collections at the State Hermitage Museum in Saint Petersburg, Russia. With completion of the new laboratory and storage spaces, equipment and supply purchases accelerated in 2013.

FAIC Grants & Scholarships

Seventeen different FAIC grant and scholarship programs are offered that promote professional development, international exchange, outreach to the public, publications, and conservation projects. In 2013, FAIC received 219 applications totaling \$1,196,389 in requests, and awarded 102 scholarships and grants totaling \$390,944. (47% of requests were funded; 33% of total requested amounts were awarded.)

Conservation OnLine

CoOL is an open-access platform that contains crucial information related to the conservation of our cultural heritage. The full text library of conservation information covers a wide spectrum of topics and is a growing resource for conservators, collection care specialists, and other conservation professionals. Over 10,000 individuals from at least 91 countries subscribe to the ConsDistList, which is archived and searchable on CoOL. Recent grants from the Mellon, Kress, and Getty foundations are supporting a broad research and planning project on Charting the Digital Landscape of Conservation that will help inform the future direction for FAIC's online resources.

Disaster Response

AIC-CERT, the American Institute for Conservation Collections Emergency Response Team, responds to the needs of cultural institutions during emergencies and disasters. 107 conservators, curators, librarians, archivists, and other collections care specialists have been trained to respond safely and efficiently to disasters of all sizes. Following Hurricane Sandy, 23 AIC-CERT members contributed 128 days of volunteer services in New York and New Jersey. FAIC helped mobilize at least 60 local volunteers, who provided hundreds of hours of service. FAIC set up a Cultural Recovery Center in Brooklyn, where 21 artists and their representatives brought over 3750 objects for assessment and assistance. Throughout 2013, AIC-CERT members also provided phone assistance for dozens of other emergencies, as well as on-site support for four institutions in Massachusetts, New York, and Oklahoma affected by fires, mold outbreaks, and soot from furnace blow-backs.

Publications and Oral History

FAIC's Samuel H. Kress Conservation Publication Fellowships have supported 41 manuscripts, most of which result in new publications in the field. A new proposal was submitted to the Kress Foundation in spring 2014 to continue the program for the next five years. A Kress grant to develop the STASH web resource for storage solutions will be completed soon. The FAIC Oral History File, housed at the Winterthur Museum, Library, and Archives, contains interviews with over 220 conservation professionals, with 20 new interviews added in 2013, as well as 22 new transcripts made from earlier interviews. Also in 2013, seven important oral histories have been annotated.

Outreach

FAIC Regional Angels grants and Lecture grants support projects that expose conservation to wider audiences. 2013 funded projects included an Angels Project conducted by the Western Association for Art Conservation at the Black Historical Society of Kitsap County, and a lecture presented by the Washington Conservation Guild in partnership with the National Academy of Science. FAIC also partners with allied organizations to present professional development programs of interest to the wider preservation community.

Active Grants (in reverse chronological order):

Source	Activity	Grant Period	Amount	Notes
Kress Foundation	Annual Meeting Speaker Travel	2014	\$19,500	
Getty Foundation	Digital Landscape	2014	\$25,000	
Kress	Digital Landscape	2014	\$25,000	
Mellon Foundation	Digital Landscape	2014	\$50,000	
NEH	Professional Development	2014-2015	\$165,000	
Kress	Aluminum Travel	2014	\$11,000	Completed
Mellon	Daguerre Colloquy	2013-2014	\$73,000	Completed
Getty	Latin American Scholarships	2013-2014	\$65,000	Renewal requested
Kress	Conservation Fellowships	2013	\$300,000	Annual program
Mellon	Sandy Response	2013	\$45,000	Completed
Kress	Annual Meeting Travel	2013	\$20,000	Completed
Kress	STASH site development	2012-2014	\$24,850	
NEH	Professional Development	2013-2014	\$175,000	Completed
Mellon	Hermitage Publication	2011-2014	\$15,000	
IMLS	Emergency Response Training	2010-2013	\$219,245	Completed
Kress	Publication Fellowships	2010-2014	\$140,000	Renewal requested
Mellon	Hermitage Photograph Conservation	2010-2014	\$3,460,000	
Mellon	Endowment for Photograph Workshops	2008-2019	\$1,000,000	
Total: 18 grants			\$5,832,595.00	12 open; 6 complete