



THE FOUNDATION  
OF THE AMERICAN  
INSTITUTE FOR  
CONSERVATION  
OF HISTORIC AND  
ARTISTIC WORKS

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Cultural Recovery Center to Open in Brooklyn**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (FAIC) announces a temporary facility to provide volunteer assistance and work space to museums, libraries, archives, historic sites, galleries, collectors, and artists to open in Brooklyn the week of December 10.

The Cultural Recovery Center will be operated by The Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (FAIC), in cooperation with a consortium of organizations:

Alliance for Response New York City  
Heritage Preservation  
New York City Department of Cultural Affairs  
New York Regional Association for Conservation  
Industry City at Bush Terminal  
Smithsonian Institution

Funding for the Center has been provided by a leadership gift to FAIC from Sotheby's. The Smithsonian Institution and a grant to Heritage Preservation from the New York Community Trust, as well as support from TALAS, have enabled purchase of supplies. The Center has also been outfitted with supplies from Materials for the Arts, a creative reuse program managed by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. Additional donations to FAIC have come from PINTA, The Modern & Contemporary Latin American Art Show; Tru Vue; members of the American Institute for Conservation; and others. The American Museum of Natural History and the Museum of Modern Art have also provided key support for recovery efforts.

FAIC and its partners have been offering crucial disaster response assistance to cultural organizations and artists in need in the wake of Superstorm Sandy. In the first 10 days after the storm struck, FAIC's Collection Emergency Response Team's (AIC-CERT) 24-hour hotline (202-661-8068) fielded over 55 calls from collectors, artists, and museums. AIC-CERT and New York area volunteers are working with approximately 120 small collections, galleries, and artists in New York and New Jersey to recover collections. In addition, AIC member conservators in private practices throughout the New York City region are helping owners preserve their collections.

Access to some collections, including those of individual artists, is only now becoming possible. Even

artwork that has been dried still may need rinsing and cleaning to remove residues and mold spores. The Cultural Recovery Center will offer space and expertise to help owners stabilize their collections.

More information about these volunteer services can be found at [www.conservation-us.org/cert](http://www.conservation-us.org/cert)  
Information for owners of cultural materials can be found at:  
<http://www.moma.org/explore/collection/conservation/recovery>

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### **About FAIC**

FAIC, the Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic & Artistic Works, supports conservation education, research, and outreach activities that increase understanding of our global cultural heritage.