

# AIC-CERT

- The American Institute for Conservation – Collections Emergency Response Team
- Heritage Preservation / FEMA
- Heritage Emergency National Task Force
- Alliance for Response

# AIC-CERT began in part as a reaction to hurricanes Katrina and Rita, in 2005.

Site of the Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art, Biloxi, MS following Katrina



Dry Goods Store, Spindletop-Gladys City Boomtown Museum following Rita



# AIC-CERT

In 2007 the Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation Historic and Artistic Works (FAIC) received funding from the Institute for Museum and Library Services to develop a series of advanced workshops to train conservators and other library and museum professionals. Five workshops over four years have produced 107 "rapid responders" who are trained to react to disasters.



# Project Training over five years resulting in 107 first responders



# CERT TRAINING

Lectures on collections  
specific salvage  
techniques

Working with Disaster  
Recovery Contractors



# CERT TRAINING

Working within the  
Incident Command  
System



Health and Safety in the  
recovery environment





# CERT TRAINING

Field Exercises in a  
variety of environments



Learning Assessment  
and Triage skills




# MISSION /AIC-CERT

AIC-CERT responds to the needs of cultural institutions during emergencies and disasters through coordinated efforts with first responders, state agencies, vendors and the public. Volunteers can provide advice and referrals by phone. Requests for onsite assistance will be forwarded by the volunteer to the AIC-CERT Coordinator and Project Director for response.



AIC - Disaster Response & Recovery
http://www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.viewPage&pageId=
thesaurus
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## DISASTER RESPONSE & RECOVERY

### AIC-CERT Collections Emergency Response Team



AIC-CERT responds to the needs of cultural institutions during emergencies and disasters through coordinated efforts with first responders, state agencies, vendors and the public. For 24-hour assistance, call (202) 661-8068 or [learn more about this new initiative.](#)

### Disaster Response & Recovery Guides and Information

- Emergency! If You're First...
- Caring for Water-Damaged Family Heirlooms and Other Valuables
- Salvaging Water-Damaged Textiles
- Saving Photographs After the Flood
- Health & Safety Information
- Conservation OnLine (CoOL) Disaster Portal

### Related Resources from JAIC

- An Account Of The Conservation And Preservation Procedures Following A Fire At The Huntington Library And Art Gallery
- Rescuing Water-Damaged Textiles During The Los Angeles Riots
- The Recovery And Drying Of Textiles From A Deep Ocean Historic Shipwreck
- Earthquake Damage To Works Of Art In The Friuli Region Of Italy


### Other Organizations with Disaster Response Information


- American Red Cross

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# AIC-CERT has deployed experts to assist with major floods in Cedar Rapids, Iowa in 2008.

Three deployment teams served seven institutions.

The teams provided triage assessments, advice and hands-on recovery.





# Three deployments of AIC-CERT responders were sent to Galveston, TX following Hurricane Ike

Triage of damaged flight suits at the Lone Star Flight Museum.

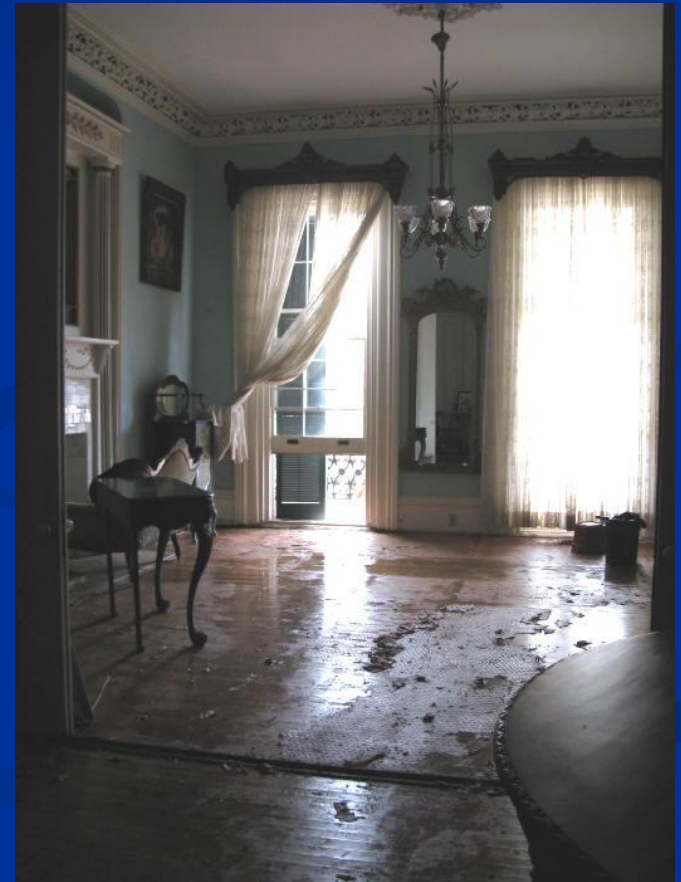


Stabilization of archival materials in make a shift work area in the parking lot.





**Galveston Historical Foundation staff  
rode out the storm and were able to  
begin recovery at facilities as water  
receded.**



# Extended support for the staff and collections at GHF

MFAH Conservators and Registrar joined CERT efforts to assess condition of paintings and prints.



MFAH Preparations Staff helped move and safely store collections displaced from the first floor of Aston Villa.



# CERT Reaching Collections in Need

- Created a uniformly trained and geographically distributed “rapid response” team.
- Provides assistance via a phone hotline service or the internet across the US.
- AIC-CERT conducts workshops to train museum, library and archives staff in stabilization and recovery techniques for damaged collections.



# Supporting Collections in Peril

- Supports local and regional efforts to improve readiness and response such as **Alliance for Response**.
- Develops collaborative relationships with all levels of Offices of Emergency Management in support of the **National Response Framework, Emergency Support Function 11**

Questions?





# Steve Pine Decorative Arts Conservator The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

## Beck Building and Galleries



## Main Campus



# Two Decorative Arts Collections are housed on estates along Buffalo Bayou

## Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens



## Rienzi European Center for Decorative Arts

