



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation Awarded \$100,000 from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (FAIC) was recently awarded a grant of \$100,000 from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support emergency training for staff in collecting institutions from key at-risk cities nationwide. The grant will support a program to train and establish a local response team of thirty collections professionals in collaboration with the Texas Cultural Emergency Response Alliance. The Houston-based training will use a curriculum similar to that used to train FAIC's National Heritage Responders (NHR), and will be conducted through a blend of hands-on instruction and distance learning. The resulting team will be focused on serving the local community in the greater Houston area, but will also be available to supplement the national (NHR) team members as needed.

The Mellon grant will likewise support a portion of expenses to offer similar response team training in Miami and Seattle, establish a new Alliance of Response network in Washington, DC, and support existing Alliance for Response networks nationwide with training and web resources. Partial funding for these activities has been secured from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), and the Mellon grant satisfies a fundraising condition that will release \$25,000 in additional Federal funds for the project.

These activities will be incorporated into FAIC's active emergency programs and will supplement current initiatives to help our nation's cultural stewards prepare for and respond to emergencies.

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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.

About The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation makes grants in five core program areas, including Arts and Cultural Heritage. Its grant-making philosophy is to strengthen, promote, and, where necessary, defend the contributions of the humanities and the arts to human flourishing and to the well-being of diverse and democratic societies.