



Emergency Support Resources for Artists and Arts Organizations

The Virginia Commission for the Arts is passing along information from FEMA regarding assistance for cultural organizations and artists impacted by severe winter storms, tornadoes, and flooding that occurred on 2/17/2025 (see details below). Please feel free to share this with any arts or cultural organizations, as well as artists, who may benefit from it. If you've been affected, please reach out and let us know.

The Heritage Emergency National Task Force (HENTF), a public-private partnership between FEMA and the Smithsonian Institution, is supporting response and recovery efforts of Virginia's arts & culture sector – and the public. **Please reach out to your members and constituents to help gather reports of damage, identify any unmet needs, and share the following resources:**

- A. **Cultural institutions and arts organizations** affected by the storms and flooding can call the National Heritage Responders hotline: **202.661.8068**. The National Heritage Responders, a team of trained conservators and collections care professionals administered by the Foundation for Advancement in Conservation, are available 24/7 to provide advice and guidance.
- B. **Members of the public** who have questions about saving family heirlooms can email the National Heritage Responders at NHRpublichelpline@culturalheritage.org
- C. **HENTF's Save Your Family Treasures** guidance is available at <https://www.fema.gov/disaster/recover/save-family-treasures>. Here you can find the downloadable FEMA fact sheets "After the Flood: Advice for Salvaging Damaged Family Treasures" and "Salvaging Water-Damaged Family Valuables and Heirlooms," available in multiple languages.
- D. Were any cultural institutions or arts organizations affected? If so, how? Please encourage those impacted to fill out one of the following **Rapid Damage Assessment Forms** hosted by the National Coalition of Arts Preparedness and Emergency Response and the Foundation for Advancement in Conservation:
 - [Cultural Institutions](#)
 - [Arts Organizations](#)
 - [Individual Artists and Performing Groups](#)

For more information, contact:

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<https://culturalrescue.si.edu/who-we-are/hentf>

Federal Emergency Management Agency | [fema.gov](https://www.fema.gov)



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