



foundation
for advancement
in conservation

**Protecting Cultural
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 5, 2025

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FAIC awarded \$349,228 grant to help cultural organizations build climate resiliency

WASHINGTON, DC—The Foundation for Advancement in Conservation (FAIC) and Environment & Culture Partners (ECP) announced that they are the recipients of a \$349,228 Preservation and Access Education and Training Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). With the two-year grant, FAIC and ECP will develop a train-the-trainers program to build capacity for climate resilience planning.

The new project utilizes FAIC's [Climate Resilience Resources for Cultural Heritage](#), a toolkit developed by FAIC and ECP to help cultural organizations and communities identify climate risks and develop plans for improved organizational and community resiliency. Climate Resilience Resources was recently named an [Innovation Award winner](#) in the category of Sustainability by [bloopoop](#), the world's most read news source for visitor attractions professionals.

“During the development of the resources, we piloted two regional learning groups of organizations that went through the modules together,” ECP co-founder and managing director Stephanie Shapiro stated. “It proved to be a tremendously helpful tool in providing support and building shared strategies. This project builds upon that concept by training preservation service providers to lead learning groups, which exponentially increases the number of communities that can receive support.”

The project will also support improvements to the Climate Resilience Resources website and translation of all project materials into Spanish for more equitable access by practitioners in Puerto Rico and other areas of the US that are most severely impacted by climate change.

“From Hurricane Helene’s impact in Asheville to the fires in Los Angeles, we continue to see the impact of climate change on arts and cultural heritage communities in the United States,” shared FAIC executive director Lissa Rosenthal-Yoffe. “This project aligns with FAIC’s core values, which include a recognition of the unprecedented environmental perils to cultural heritage and the needs to support climate resiliency. There is bipartisan recognition of the urgent need for long-term climate resiliency for archival institutions, libraries, and museums. We appreciate the crucial financial support from those who have already joined us and continue to seek private and public sector partners to help us sustain and expand this vital work.”

The project will address one of the key findings of FAIC’s 2023 *Held in Trust* report: the existential threat posed by the climate crisis requires immediate action by all sectors of society, including professionals at cultural heritage institutions, collections, and sites. *Held in Trust* is a product of FAIC’s partnership with NEH to evaluate the state of preservation in the US and an important catalyst to address the effects of the climate crisis on the heritage sector as increasingly frequent and severe environmental and climate disasters, including wildfires and hurricanes, imperil museums, libraries, archives, historic structures, monuments, sites, and historic landscapes. Climate Resilience Resources is a supplementary project of Held in Trust.

For more information about FAIC’s programs and initiatives, including emergency response work, visit <https://www.culturalheritage.org/about-us/foundation/programs>. For more information about ECP, visit <https://www.ecprs.org>.

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The Foundation for Advancement in Conservation’s (FAIC) mission is to save cultural heritage for future generations, protecting it from decay and destruction. We advance research and education, lead treatment and collection care initiatives, and deploy conservation expertise to where it is most urgently needed. Our work empowers conservation professionals, strengthens cultural institutions, and engages stakeholders, including public audiences, as we work together to protect cultural heritage for humanity.