

January 28, 2026

Dear Texas colleagues,

I hope you and your loved ones are managing to stay safe from the winter storm that began this past weekend and is ongoing. The Heritage Emergency National Task Force (HENTF), a public-private partnership between FEMA and the Smithsonian Institution, is supporting response and recovery efforts of Texas' 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, arts organizations, and artists and performing groups** affected by the winter storm 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 and individual artists** who have questions about saving family heirlooms and personal collections 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. Please encourage those impacted to fill out one of the following **Rapid Damage Assessment Forms**:
 - [Cultural Institutions](#)
 - [Arts Organizations](#)
 - [Individual Artists and Performing Groups](#)
- e. Were there any damages to archaeological sites, historic buildings, natural, or other cultural resources? **HENTF is a supporting organization of the Emergency Support Function (ESF) #11**, coordinated by the Department of the Interior (DOI). Through ESF #11, DOI supports natural and cultural resources during times of disaster on state, local, tribal, and territorial lands. Please contact errd_oepc@ios.doi.gov to determine if ESF #11 technical assistance is available and how to access it. Learn more about ESF #11 [HERE](#).

Please stay safe and I will stay in touch as disaster assistance evolves.

With thanks,
Sarah

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

Federal Emergency Management Agency

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