



## Groundwork Announces Grants to 87 Cultural Heritage Organizations Across the State

For Immediate Release:

March 20, 2025

Contact: Jeff Barbosa

(279) 399-8981

[press@library.ca.gov](mailto:press@library.ca.gov)

**[Sacramento, Calif.]** – In an effort to protect millions of irreplaceable pieces of California’s heritage, 87 cultural organizations from throughout the state have been awarded State Library [Groundwork Grants](#).

Part of California’s [Cultural Heritage Disaster Preparedness Project](#), Groundwork Grants help local archives, historical societies, libraries and museums to better safeguard the items in their care through improved environmental controls and other collection protection measures.

“California’s story is told through its communities and its people. Protecting our history and cultural heritage collections from natural disasters is a statewide responsibility,” said California State Librarian Greg Lucas. “Each fire, flood and earthquake reminds us how important it is to be prepared. These grants help those who preserve California’s story protect the treasures they hold so future generations can learn about California’s uniquely diverse history.”

The 87 organizations – from Alpine County in the north to San Diego County in the south -- are receiving support ranging from environmental monitoring equipment, protective storage containers, map cases, disaster planning consultation, and disaster recovery kits.

Groundwork Grants, administered by Myriad Consulting & Training in partnership with the California State Library, are aimed at addressing some of the most concerning findings in the [California Cultural Collections Protection Survey](#). Among other things, the survey revealed a lack of disaster planning, strategies for long-term collections protection, and funding at local cultural organizations, putting millions of irreplaceable parts of California’s heritage at risk.

Groundwork Grants is a collaboration with “Ready — Or Not: Cultural Heritage Disaster Preparedness Project,” an initiative funded by the State Library in partnership with the Northeast Document Conservation Center, and California Revealed, a statewide initiative that helps public libraries, archives, museums, historical societies, and other heritage groups digitize, preserve, and provide online access to archival materials documenting the state's histories, arts, and cultures.

“Ready — Or Not” consultants conduct free on-site assessments across California to identify risk mitigation measures and preservation priorities. Groundwork Grants aims to address recommendations identified by “Ready — Or Not” and produce long-term economic benefits by reducing response and recovery costs.

A new round of Groundwork Grants will be open for application this spring. More details will be announced and provided on California State Library and Myriad websites as they become available.

**# END RELEASE TEXT #**

**About the State Library:** Established in 1850, the California State Library is the central reference and research library for state government and the Legislature. The Library collection includes more than 4 million titles, 6,000 maps and 250,000 photographs, and includes an extensive collection of documents from and about the state’s rich history. Around the state, the State Library serves California’s local libraries, providing more than \$500 million state and federal funds to support public libraries and deliver statewide library programs and services such as the free Parks Pass program in public libraries, Lunch at the Library during school breaks and holidays, and California’s eBookshelf, a statewide eBook library with diverse titles in 20+ languages. The State Library is also partnering with the Dolly Parton Imagination Library to provide books to every child under the age of 5. [State Library Website](#)

**About Myriad:** Myriad is a nonprofit consulting firm that specializes in collections preservation and planning for small to mid-sized cultural organizations. From project planning to organizational strategy and facilitation, it’s our mission to bring you practical plans and solutions to help you transform the way you share, manage and preserve your collections and the stories they represent.

###



## **Groundwork Grants 2024 Recipients:**

**Alpine County Library & Archives:** To support disaster planning assistance and the purchase of map cases and preservation supplies to protect documentation of the county’s rural history and culture, dating to its founding in 1864.

**American Bookbinders Museum:** To support environmental monitoring equipment, preservation supplies, pest control materials, and training opportunities to preserve a collection of over 10,000 objects documenting the history of the bookbinding industry.

**Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation:** To support preservation supplies, environmental control equipment, and fire prevention equipment to protect buildings and artifacts that document the experiences of Asian immigrants detained at the San Francisco Bay immigration station.

**Arhoolie Foundation:** To support the purchase and installation of shelving equipment to protect a nationally renowned collection of archival and audiovisual sources on American folk and roots music, including numerous sound recordings and other materials from African American and Mexican American musicians.

**Arts for Healing and Justice Network:** To support disaster planning assistance, environmental monitoring equipment, preservation supplies, staff training, and a structural assessment for seismic and climate readiness to protect a collection of artworks created by youth from diverse cultures as part of a program to promote their well-being.

**Banning Library District:** To support disaster planning assistance, environmental monitoring equipment, and preservation supplies to protect a local history collection that includes documentation on the area's Native American and Hmong communities.

**Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association:** To support preservation supplies, water intrusion detectors, storage equipment, and exterior drainage work to protect a collection of materials on the historical built environment of Berkeley, including sources on the city's African American, Asian American, and Latino communities.

**Blanchard/Santa Paula Public Library District:** To support disaster planning assistance and environmental monitoring equipment to help preserve a local history collection documenting a rural area of southern California.

**Calabasas Library:** To support the purchase of spill kits and preservation supplies to help protect a collection of local history materials, including sources pertaining to Native American and early Spanish settlement experiences in a historically fire prone area of southern California.

**California Botanic Garden:** To support the purchase of digital communication equipment to ensure rapid contact in case of emergency to help protect the state's largest collection of native plants and other natural history resources.

**California Museum:** To support disaster planning assistance and the purchase of environmental monitoring equipment and preservation supplies to protect the museum's artifacts and artwork, much of which depicts the history of California's Native American and Asian American populations.

**California State University Dominguez Hills, Gerth Archives & Special Collections:** To support disaster planning assistance and the purchase of environmental monitoring equipment and disaster recovery kits to protect a collection that includes significant sources on Japanese American incarceration in WWII and on African American, Filipino American, and other cultural heritage experiences.

**Chico History Museum:** To support environmental monitoring equipment, preservation storage supplies, and staff training opportunities to protect a local history collection that includes sources on the area's Chinese American and Native American communities.

**Civil Rights Institute of Inland Southern California:** To support disaster planning assistance, staff training opportunities, and the purchase of preservation supplies and storage furniture to protect a collection of artifacts, artwork, and archival materials on the history and culture of various underserved communities in the Inland Southern California region.

**Clerk of the Board of Supervisors:** To support disaster planning assistance and the purchase of disaster recovery kits and preservation supplies to protect historical records of the city of San Diego, dating from the 1800s and including sources on the area's Latino, farmworker, and senior populations.

**Colusa County Historical Society:** To support the purchase of preservation supplies to protect a local history collection for a rural area of northcentral California, including sources relating the region's agricultural workers and other groups.

**Corita Art Center, Inc.:** To support the purchase of disaster recovery and preservation supplies and storage equipment, along with staff training, to protect a collection of artwork and archival materials documenting the life of artist, educator, and social justice activist Corita Kent.

**Corona Public Library:** To support the purchase of disaster recovery kits, preservation supplies, and environmental monitoring equipment to protect a local history collection that includes sources on the area's indigenous and migrant worker populations.

**Corporation of the Fine Arts Museums:** To support earthquake netting and staff training on disaster response and recovery for the DeYoung and Legion of Honor Museums, which contain renown international and Bay Area artworks, including materials that reflect the region's cultural diversity.

**County of Santa Barbara Clerk Recorder:** To support the purchase of preservation supplies, environmental monitoring equipment, and window treatments to protect a collection of official records on the people and property of Santa Barbara County.

**Doris Foley Library for Historical Research:** To support disaster planning assistance, environmental monitoring equipment, and staff training to protect a collection documenting the history and culture of rural Nevada County, including the area's indigenous population.

**Folsom History:** To support disaster planning assistance, storage furniture, environmental monitoring equipment, pest control equipment, and staff training to protect a collection that includes sources on the community's Native American population and lost Chinatown area.

**Freedom Archives:** To support disaster planning assistance, preservation supplies, and environmental control equipment to protect a multimedia collection documenting the social justice movement in California and beyond, from the 1960s to present.

**Fresno Art Museum:** To support disaster recovery kits, environmental monitoring equipment, staff training, and storage furniture to protect a collection of artworks and artifacts from Fresno area artists, including traditional and contemporary materials from the region's Native American, Mexican American, and Hmong American communities.

**Fresno County Public Library - Auberry Branch Library:** To support disaster recovery kits, environmental monitoring equipment, preservation supplies, storage furniture, and staff training to protect the organization's California Indian Library Collection, highlighting materials on tribes from Central California.

**Friends of the Oakland Public Library:** To support disaster planning assistance, preservation supplies, and shelving equipment to protect the library's Oakland History Center, with documentation on the history and diverse cultures of Oakland and the East Bay area.

**Ganna Walska Lotusland:** To support environmental monitoring equipment, disaster recovery kits, and preservation supplies to protect manuscripts, scrapbooks, artifacts, and art objects held at a renown botanical garden, documenting the experiences and interests of its immigrant founder.

**GLBT Historical Society:** To support disaster recovery kits, preservation supplies, and environmental control equipment to protect a collection of over 4,000 ft. of original sources documenting over a century of LGBTQ history, with particular focus on Northern California.

**Historic Patterson House Foundation:** To support disaster planning assistance, disaster recovery kits, and preservation supplies to protect a collection of documents, photos, artifacts, and other sources from a historically influential family from Fremont.

**History San Jose:** To support environmental monitoring equipment and portable emergency lighting to protect a collection on the cultural heritage of San Jose dating to the 18<sup>th</sup> century, including sources on the city's Mexican, Japanese, Chinese, and African American communities.

**Holocaust Museum LA:** To support disaster planning assistance, environmental monitoring equipment, preservation supplies, and staff training on disaster preparedness and response to protect historical collections at the nation's oldest museum on the WWI-era Holocaust, with materials contributed by survivors who migrated to California.

**Imperial County Historical Society Pioneers' Museum:** To support the purchase of disaster recovery kits and a portion of funds needed for a security alarm system to protect a collection documenting the history of the county, including the experiences of settlers from Japan, Philippines, Korea, India, and China as well as African American migrants from the southern states.

**Inyo County Free Library:** To support disaster planning assistance, disaster recovery kits, and preservation supplies for a collection documenting the history and culture of one of California's largest rural counties, including information on the area's ranchers, indigenous groups, and Mexican migrants, along with materials on the incarceration of Japanese Americans during WWII.

**Japanese American National Museum:** To support disaster recovery kits, environmental monitoring equipment, and preservation supplies to protect a collection of over 160,000 artifacts, documents, photos, moving images, artwork, and more reflecting Japanese American history and culture for the past 130 years.

**Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California:** To support disaster planning assistance, environmental monitoring equipment, preservation supplies, and staff training to protect the organization's extensive Japanese American History Archive, documenting the Japanese experience in San Francisco from ca.1880 to 1941.



*Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California*

**Joshua Tree Creative Laboratory / Parks Modern Archive:** To support environmental monitoring equipment, preservation supplies, staff training, storage furniture, security equipment, and more to protect a collection that documents the design history of America's national parks and public lands, with an emphasis on those in California and connections to the state's diverse cultures.

**Kern River Valley Historical Society:** To support the replacement of wood siding for the organization's storage facility, which houses materials on the county's history, including its Native American and Chinese populations, to protect the building from fire damage.

**La Historia Historical Society:** To support disaster planning assistance, environmental monitoring equipment, preservation supplies, and staff training to protect a collection of archival materials established by, and pertaining to, the Mexican American community in El Monte, CA.

**La Peña Cultural Center:** To support disaster recovery kits, staff training, and fire and security alarm systems to protect a collection of audiovisual recordings, photographs, posters, and more documenting the cultural activities and activism of Latino, indigenous, and Caribbean diaspora groups in California.



*La Peña Cultural Center*

**La Raza Historical Society of Santa Clara Valley:** To support disaster planning assistance, environmental monitoring equipment, and preservation supplies to protect an archival collection devoted to the history of the Mexican/Chicano/Latino experience in San Jose and the Santa Clara Valley.

**Letterform Archive:** To support disaster recovery kits, preservation supplies, environmental control equipment, and first aid emergency materials to protect a collection of over 100,000 items depicting the history of calligraphy and graphic design in California, including sources from African American and Latino artists.

**Little Manila Rising:** To support environmental monitoring equipment and storage furniture to protect a collection of artifacts, documents, and material culture reflecting the history of Filipino Americans in Stockton, CA and beyond.

**Los Angeles Contemporary Archive (LACA):** To support disaster recovery kits, preservation supplies, and window and glass repairs to protect a collection of contemporary artworks from a variety of area artists.

**Los Angeles Poverty Department:** To support preservation supplies, environmental monitoring equipment, and shelving units to protect sources held by the Skid Row History Museum and Archives, documenting the experiences and activism of residents in this area of Los Angeles.

**Los Gatos Museum Association:** To support disaster planning assistance, preservation supplies, environmental control equipment, shelving furniture, and building interior improvements to protect a collection documenting the history and culture of Los Gatos, including sources pertaining to communities of color and LGBTQ residents.

**Mechanics' Institute:** To support disaster recovery kits, environmental monitoring equipment, and window treatments to protect a collection from a major cultural resource center in San Francisco, including materials on the city's underserved communities.

**Mineral King Preservation Society:** To support disaster recovery kits, environmental monitoring equipment, preservation supplies, staff training, and shelving furniture to protect a collection of

documents, oral histories, and other sources on the history of the southern Sierra region, including mining and tourism activities

**Mission Peak Heritage Foundation:** To support disaster planning assistance, environmental monitoring equipment, and preservation supplies to protect materials relating to the historic Shinn ranch and home in Fremont, including sources on Chinese, Japanese, and other immigrant workers at the site.

**Mission Viejo Library:** To support disaster planning assistance, environmental monitoring equipment, preservation supplies, and shelving furniture to protect a local history collection documenting the diverse cultural and recreational experiences of the community.

**Modesto Junior College Great Valley Museum:** To support preservation supplies and storage furniture to protect the collections of the Great Valley Museum, focusing on the natural and cultural history of the Central Valley region.

**Mojave Desert Heritage & Cultural Association (MDHCA):** To support fire-resistant roofing materials and roof replacement work to protect a collection of documents, photographs, newspapers, pamphlets, oral history interviews, and more depicting the history of the Mojave Desert region, including sources pertaining to pioneer settlers, immigrants, and African American homesteaders.

**Monterey History and Art Association:** To support preservation supplies, environmental monitoring equipment, window repairs, and storage furniture to protect a collection documenting the diverse cultures of the Monterey area.

**Morris Graves Museum of Art:** To support disaster planning assistance, environmental monitoring equipment, and preservation supplies to protect a collection of over 1000 works depicting the history of arts in California's North Coast region.

**Novato History Museum:** To support disaster recovery kits, preservation supplies, and environmental monitoring equipment to protect a collection of artifacts, photographs, and other sources documenting the community's history, including its early ranching and agriculture industries, including the experiences of Hispanic and Portuguese migrants.

**Oakbrook Park Chumash Indian Corporation:** To support disaster planning assistance and the purchase of environmental monitoring equipment and disaster recovery kits to protect the artworks and artifacts held by the Chumash Indian Museum, representing the history of Chumash communities in Ventura County and the western San Fernando Valley area.

**Palos Verdes Library District:** To support disaster recovery kits and preservation supplies to protect the library's local history collection, documenting the history and culture of an unincorporated area of southwestern Los Angeles County, including sources on Native American and pre-WWII Japanese American experiences.

**Pasadena Public Library:** To support disaster recovery kits, preservation supplies, environmental monitoring equipment, and storage furniture to protect an archival collection documenting the history of the Pasadena area from the 18<sup>th</sup> century to present, including materials pertaining to the region's African American, Asian American, and Latino communities.



**Petaluma History Room / Petaluma Regional Library:** To support disaster recovery kits, preservation supplies, staff training, and shelving furniture to protect a collection devoted to the history and culture of Petaluma and Sonoma County.

**Placer County Museums Division:** To support disaster recovery kits, preservation supplies, and environmental monitoring equipment to protect the Golden Drift Museum, focusing on the history of the mining and lumber industries near Placerville along with the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad, including sources on Chinese laborers and the area's Chinatown.

**Riverside County ACR – Archives Program (Robert J. Fitch Archives):** To support environmental monitoring equipment and preservation supplies to protect a collection of local government records documenting the history of the county, including naturalization papers and other sources depicting the historical importance of immigration in the area.

**Saint Mary's College of California:** To support a full energy management assessment to ensure appropriate environmental control to protect a collection of artwork from Northern California and beyond, including indigenous materials and social justice artworks.

**Salvation Mountain, Inc:** To support disaster planning assistance, disaster recovery kits, preservation supplies, staff training, and architectural consultation to protect a collection of adobe sculptures and other outdoor artwork created by Imperial County artist Leonard Knight.

**San Bruno Public Library:** To support disaster recovery kits, preservation supplies, staff training, window treatments, and shelving equipment to protect a local history collection that includes newspapers and other materials on WWII-era Japanese American incarceration.



*San Bruno Public Library*

**San Diego Air & Space Museum:** To support preservation supplies to facilitate rehousing and temporary relocation of a collection documenting the history air and space flight and technology.

**San Diego Archaeological Center:** To support environmental monitoring equipment and disaster recovery kits to protect a collection of archaeological artifacts documenting life in the San Diego area for the past 12,000 years, including sources on indigenous groups still present in the region.

**San Diego Historical Society:** To support disaster planning assistance, preservation supplies, and staff training to protect a collection of historical materials reflecting the cultural, racial, ethnic, and economic history of the San Diego region.

**Santa Clara City Library:** To support disaster planning assistance, disaster recovery kits, preservation supplies, staff training, and window treatments to protect a collection of publications and manuscripts documenting the history of Santa Clara, including its early indigenous and Hispanic residents and Asian immigrants.

**Santa Clarita Valley Historical Society:** To support disaster planning assistance and window treatments to protect a collection of artifacts, tools, photos, documents, and other sources depicting the history of the Santa Clarity Valley, including materials pertaining to the area's indigenous people and Chinese American railroad workers.

**Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History:** To support preservation supplies and storage furniture to protect a collection on the natural history of the Santa Cruz area, including basketry, tools, and other sources reflecting the history and culture of the region's indigenous people.

**Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians:** To support disaster recovery kits, preservation supplies, environmental monitoring equipment, and storage equipment to protect a collection of 24,000 objects reflecting the history and culture of the area's original indigenous people.

**Sonoma County History & Genealogy Library:** To support the purchase of preservation supplies and environmental monitoring equipment, along with staff training, to protect a collection documenting the county's history, including urban and rural communities, LGBTQIA+ groups, and the local impact of the COVID 19 pandemic.

**Sonoma County Wine Library:** To support preservation supplies and rehousing of materials to protect a collection on the history of the county's wine industry and its significance for the local economy.

**South Pasadena Historical Museum:** To support disaster recovery kits, preservation supplies, environmental monitoring equipment, and security equipment to protect a local history collection that includes sources dating back to the area's Indigenous and Spanish Mission settlement periods.

**Templeton Historical Museum Society:** To support disaster recovery spill kits, environmental monitoring equipment, and the replacement of a roof for the only working blacksmith shop within a 300-mile radius, to protect a local history collection that includes documentation on the area's Hispanic, Indigenous, and military history.

**The Jenner Archive Project:** To support disaster planning assistance, preservation supplies, and rehousing efforts to protect a collection that documents a northern California coastal community, including sources relating to the area's Native people and their descendants.

**The San Diego Model Railroad Museum, Inc.:** To support environmental monitoring equipment and staff training to protect a collection portraying the history of American railroading.

**The Society of California Pioneers:** To support disaster planning assistance, disaster recovery kits, preservation supplies, and staff training to protect a collection of 70,000 books, archives, photos, and artifacts at the oldest historical society in California, including documentation on early Hispanic settlers, African American migrants, and immigrants to the state.

**Torrance Historical Society:** To support disaster planning assistance, environmental monitoring and control equipment, preservation supplies, and staff training to protect a local history archive and museum, including a significant collection on the experiences of military veterans.

**Tulare County Museum:** To support disaster recovery kits, preservation supplies, and storage equipment to protect a local history collection of artifacts, documents, and photos, including sources on agricultural activity and the area's Indigenous people.

**Turtle Bay Exploration Park:** To support disaster planning assistance, disaster recovery kits, environmental monitoring equipment, and preservation supplies to protect a natural history museum that includes sources depicting the history of Redding-area farm workers, timber laborers, Indigenous people, and military veterans.

**University of California, Los Angeles (Waystation Initiative):** To support disaster recovery kits, environmental monitoring and control equipment, and preservation supplies to protect a collection of archaeological artifacts maintained to facilitate their repatriation to peoples and countries of origin.

**University of California, Los Angeles (World Music Center):** To support environmental monitoring equipment, disaster recovery kits, and preservation supplies to protect a collection of sound recordings, films, photos, and more from ethnographic communities worldwide, including an emphasis on California's African American, Asian American, and Latino groups.

**University of California, Merced:** To support disaster planning assistance, environmental monitoring and control equipment, and preservation supplies to protect the university's permanent art collection originating from the Central Valley region, including works from Chicano, Hmong, and farmworker artists.

**Vacaville Museum:** To support environmental monitoring equipment, disaster recovery kits, preservation supplies, and security equipment to protect a collection documenting the history and culture of Solano County, including the experiences of Japanese and Chinese Americans, farm and ranch workers, and military veterans.

**Writers Guild Foundation:** To support environmental monitoring equipment, preservation supplies, lighting equipment, and storage furniture to protect a collection of manuscript materials from a diverse group of screen and TV writers, reflecting the history of Hollywood productions as well as labor and political history in the entertainment industry.

**Yolo County Archives and Historical Collection:** To support disaster planning assistance, disaster recovery kits, and security equipment to protect a collection of local government records, personal papers, photographs, and other sources documenting the county's history, including the experiences of Asian, African Italian, and Mexican American residents

**Zoological Society of San Diego d/b/a San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance (SDZWA):** To support disaster planning assistance, disaster recovery kits, preservation supplies, and staff training to protect the society's library, which documents the history of the San Diego Zoo and the history and culture of zoological gardens more broadly.

myriad