



MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF  
HISTORY MUSEUMS, INC.

12207 TULIP GROVE DRIVE  
BOWIE, MARYLAND 20715

## **Campaign for Restoring Funding of MHT's Museum Assistance Program**

To: Maryland Museum Leaders  
From: Ken Rucker, Advocacy Committee  
Date: September 19, 2011  
RE: Restoring Museum Assistance Program funding

### **Status Report:**

The letter writing campaign and the phone-calls-to-the-Governor “blitz” on June 21<sup>st</sup> captured the attention of his administration. Thank you for the many emails, postcards, phone calls, and vital letters you sent. If you have not sent us a copy of your communication to the Governor, please email one to [ken@ctrolley.org](mailto:ken@ctrolley.org) so we may add you to our response list.

The MAHM board of directors encourages you to check out the options which Maryland’s museum organizations might employ to address the Governor and legislators. Titled *Museum Leaders Unite to Stop the Dismantling of the Museum Assistance Program*, these options are now a kit for use by museum leaders to motivate their staffs, members, and friends through two campaigns. If you have lost your copy, please send an email to [ken@ctrolley.org](mailto:ken@ctrolley.org) so we may send you another one.

Please remember that funds from the Maryland Museum Assistance Program are available to all historical and cultural museums in the State, not just those in designated heritage areas. These funds provide support for museum activities, such as collections care and staff salaries, which is unavailable from other state grant programs.

Thanks for your continuing efforts in support of Maryland’s history museums.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- ❖ The National Museum of Civil War Medicine hosts the Maryland Association of History Museums annual meeting October 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.
- ❖ The CAMPAIGN with legislators runs from June 15<sup>th</sup> to November 15<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Phone calls “blitz” on November 8th to your district’s senator and delegates.

**Please restore grant funding for the Museum Assistance Program  
with \$500,000 in the FY 2013 budget.**

# MHT Provides Assistance

2011 is the year of disasters here in Maryland. Just in time, the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory (MAC Lab) and Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) have implemented a program to improve the disaster plans for museum, archival, art, historical society and library communities across the State of Maryland with funding from IMLS. Together with representatives of these communities, the MAC Lab and MHT have identified the hazards and collections care challenges that face Maryland institutions in order to develop a set of tools for disaster response. These tools include 1) MdPlan, an online disaster-planning template based on a program developed by the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC), which has been augmented to incorporate salvage steps for a wide variety collections (MdPlan is a free tool; visit <http://md.dplan.org> to register) and 2) a pocket response guide containing a state-wide list of disaster recovery and rehabilitation resources in conjunction with planning and response checklists. The template will guide users through the process of developing a custom tailored disaster plan and pocket response guide for any collecting institution. No previous disaster planning experience is necessary. This project will not only provide much-needed support to cultural institutions across the state, but build relationships between cultural heritage and emergency management communities that are necessary and invaluable when disaster strikes.

## MAIL IS IMPORTANT, NOT JUST ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION.

The Honorable Martin O'Malley  
Governor  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1925

Copies to:

Eloise Foster, Secretary  
Office of Budget and Management  
45 Calvert Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Annapolis, Maryland  
21401-1925

[Chair, Museum Assistance Program] PLEASE SEND AS EMAIL TO: [ken@dctrolley.org](mailto:ken@dctrolley.org)  
Ken Rucker, Director  
National Capital Trolley Museum  
1313 Bonifant Road  
Colesville, Maryland 20905-5955

ADDRESSES FOR SENATORS AND DELEGATES ARE AVAILABLE AT  
[www.maryland.gov](http://www.maryland.gov)

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