

## Saving one masterpiece at a time

### Friends of Florence launch 20,000 euro grant

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Conserving Italy and Florence's vast cultural and artistic heritage is essential for future generations. The Friends of Florence Foundation recently announced the debut of the Friends of Florence Award Grant for the protection and conservation of Florentine artworks.

The U.S.-based nonprofit was established in 1998 to preserve and enhance important cultural and historic artworks throughout Florence and Tuscany, as well as raise public awareness on these issues through education.

These goals have led to a partnership between with the Friends of Florence Foundation and the nonprofit Association Istur-CHT, the secretariat of the Biennial Florence Art and Restoration Fair, which will co-sponsor the new grant.

One individual or firm with at least five years of experience with the Soprintendenza will receive a monetary prize of 20,000 euro to restore a work of art in Florence.

The deadline for submitting an application is July 31, 2012. Project proposals can be submitted alone or in conjunction with other public or private entities. Projects can be full or partial, and may already be in progress. The winner will be announced during the 2012 Biennial Florence Art and Restoration Fair to be held in Florence's Fortezza da Basso on November 8 to 10 (see [www.salonerestaurofirenze.org](http://www.salonerestaurofirenze.org)).

For more information, see [www.friendsofflorence.org](http://www.friendsofflorence.org).