



FRIENDS *of* FLORENCE

Salone
dell'Arte
e del Restauro
di Firenze®

Fortezza da Basso, Florence
8 - 10 November 2012

Friends of Florence Award Grant - Florence Art and Restoration Fair 2012
Announcement and Competition Rules

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Friends of Florence Foundation in cooperation with the non-profit association Istur-CHT, the organizing secretariat of the Florence Art and Restoration Fair, announces the first *Friends of Florence Award Grant* for the restoration – conservation artworks in Florence.

The grant program has multiple aims: to offer new impetus for conserving the region's artistic heritage, to support and reward the efforts and expertise of restoration professionals and those dedicated to the cultural heritage who interpret conservation principles as recognized by the scientific community, and to raise awareness among the general public.

Florence, which is home to countless – and priceless – artistic and architectural masterpieces, has become one of the most vibrant areas in the field of restoration, with skilled professionals who, over the years, have developed a network of excellence that also involves research institutes, the university and dedicated firms.

Established in the United States in 1998, the **non-profit Friends of Florence Foundation** is fully committed to preserving and enhancing the cultural and historical integrity of the arts located in Florence and Tuscany and increasing public understanding and appreciation. The Foundation works with public and private entities active in the fields of the fine arts and cultural heritage.

A committee of internationally respected art experts and historians serve as resources in the careful selection of projects that will benefit from Friends of Florence's efforts.

Thanks to the financial support of the Friends of Florence, it has been possible to refurbish, safeguard, and make available to the public a broad range of art from paintings and sculptures to architectural elements and collections of smaller objects, and in several cases the Foundation subsidizes maintenance and monitoring of the artwork for years after the restorations have been completed.

Friends of Florence also produces DVDs and publishes books and monographs dedicated to various completed projects featuring the story of the restoration project, as well as interviews with scholars and the restorers themselves.

The foundation works with public and private entities, schools and cultural associations active in the fields of the fine arts and cultural heritage organizing educational programs and events.

The Biennial Florence Art and Restoration Fair is an important event dedicated to the restoration, protection and conservation of Italy's cultural heritage. Its mission is to serve the area, to support the art of restoration and promote the training of restorers. The fair is also an excellent vehicle for promoting and enhancing the cultural heritage, for keeping Italy's traditions alive and for making sure that all this is recognized and supported. The experts comprising the fair's Technical – Scientific Committee set the standards, make sure that they are met and act as the critical conscience for the cultural programs featured at the fair. The third edition of the Florence Art and Restoration Fair will be held at the Fortezza da Basso in Florence from 8 to 10 November 2012.

REGULATIONS

1. THE AWARD AND CALL FOR ENTRIES

The **Friends of Florence Award Grant - Salone Restauro di Firenze 2012**" is a competition, to be held every two years, offering a monetary prize to cover the restoration of a **work of art in Florence**. The sum for this year's competition has been set at € 20.000 (including VAT)..

2. CATEGORIES AND CONDITIONS

The competition is open to individual professionals or firms with at least **5 (five) years of documented experience with the Soprintendenze**. Projects may be for all restoration fields and materials (paintings, wood, frescoes, pottery, textiles, stone, etc.), the publicly or privately owned work of art must be Florentine and located in Florence and **it must be available for public viewing and appreciation**. The grant may be awarded for full or partial projects, or for projects that have already been started. **All work shall be done in a professional manner, and in accordance with current rules and regulations disciplining the conservation of the cultural heritage as well as safety**. The progress of the restoration work shall be monitored by the Friends of Florence Foundation according to the procedures set forth in the Foundation's Regulations attached hereto.

3. SUBMITTAL/REGISTRATION

All entries must be received **no later than 31 July 2012**. Each entry shall include:

- the Registration Form, filled out and submitted to www.salonerestaurofirenze.org in electronic form or via fax to +39 055 2676771;

- the documents listed in Section 4, below, sent via e-mail to info@salonerestaurofirenze.org.

The Registration Form and documents may also be sent via **Return Receipt Registered Mail or courier service**, addressed to: "**Premio Friends of Florence - Salone Restauro di Firenze 2012**" - **Via Maggio 13 - 50125 - Firenze**, and **postmarked no later than 31 July 2012**.

4. DOCUMENTS

In order to be taken into consideration, all prospective competition entrants must submit the documents listed below:

- Registration form and a brief résumé (not more than 1500 characters, including spaces) of the candidate(s), with photographs.
- A brief description-credentials of the restoration firm (not more than 1500 characters, including spaces) and a photograph of the staff and a summary of their respective duties for the project;
- A description of the full or partial restoration project (specifying the work of art, the owner, who will be involved – including outside consultants if any, and the timeframe for execution and completion);
- Both a general and technical description of the project, with specific emphasis on the methods and techniques to be used;
- If the submittal is for a partial project, candidates must submit a description of the overall work of art under restoration, or of the research underway and the work in progress (results of research, plans, and, as applicable elevations, cross sections, sketches, concept diagrams, as well as photos of the scale model, artist's, digital or other renderings, etc.);
- A minimum of five (5) high resolution (300 dpi) photographs, short side not less than 15 cm, of the item to be restored in its current condition, on paper or PDF format.

Candidates shall be free to submit any additional documents they believe can provide pertinent data or other information.

5. DOCUMENT SUBMITTAL

The above documents shall be submitted in accordance with the provisions set forth in section 3.

Failure to meet the submittal deadline, incomplete or noncompliant submittals shall disqualify the candidate. Submittals by postal or courier service must be postmarked or courier-dated no later than 31 July 2012.

The competition sponsors cannot cover any costs, including customs fees, to take receipt of the submittals. Therefore, all candidates are requested to make sure that all postage, duties, fees, taxes, etc., are fully paid in advance. The competition sponsors shall not be liable for any consequences deriving from failure to receive the submittals due to unpaid fees or duties.

6. JUDGING PANEL

A judging panel will select the winner of the award grant. The judging panel shall consist of:

- the President of the Friends of Florence Foundation;
- the Presidents of the Florence Art and Restoration Fair;;
- one representative from the Opificio delle Pietre Dure;
- the chairman and select members of the Executive Committee of the Florence Art and Restoration Fair ;

The decision of the Judging Panel shall be final; it shall be drafted by an official of the Organizing Secretariat of the Fair. If the Judging Panel so decides, the award grant may be divided among more than one project, but in no case shall the total amount exceed €20.000 (including VAT).

7. COMMUNICATION AND PRESENTATION

The Judging Panel shall evaluate all the entries, and inform the winner via the offices of the Organizing Secretariat of the Fair. All participants shall be informed of the name(s) of the winner(s), and the day and date of the award ceremony no later than 30 September 2012. The award shall be presented to the winner(s) by the President of the Friends of Florence Foundation during the Florence Art and Restoration Fair that will be held at the Fortezza da Basso, Florence from 8 to 10 November 2012. The procedures for disbursing the grant monies have been defined by the Friends of Florence Foundation.

8. PUBLICATION OF THE WINNING PROJECT

The minutes of the adjudication, motivation and the winner(s) shall be published on the sponsors' websites (www.salonerestaurofirenze.org) (www.friendsofflorence.org), in the official Catalogue of the Fair and in *Corriere del Salone del Restauro di Firenze*. The Friends of Florence and Fair communications networks will also provide this information to the general and specialized press. The sponsors are committed to publicizing the results of the competition; the winning project(s) will be the subject of congress and publishing programs aimed at reiterating the

importance of discussing and comparing concepts and methods. The winning project(s) shall be translated into English and published on the Friends of Florence Foundation's website. Photographs, videos and documents on the sponsors' websites will make it possible to see the results and the progress of the restoration work.
The winning project(s) of the 2012 edition will be presented, completed at the 2014 edition of the Florence Art and Restoration Fair.