



## ALLIANCE FOR RESPONSE, NYC

*A FORUM FOR THE CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMUNITY AND FIRST RESPONDERS*

Alliance for Response, NYC (AR NYC) is a local volunteer organization focused on connecting emergency responders with representatives of the cultural heritage community. Our goal is to strengthen mitigation and response capabilities of member institutions through training, fostering of local planning efforts, and improved dialogue and partnerships. AR NYC is composed of staff from cultural institutions (security, facilities, health/safety, collections/conservation, and administration), first responders (NYPD, FDNY, NYC OEM, FEMA) and related industries (insurance/risk management, recovery companies). Alliance for Response is a national program of Heritage Preservation, a national non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of cultural heritage. Learn more about their programs by visiting <http://www.heritagepreservation.org>.

AR NYC has identified the following objectives as highest priority:

### Increase and Diversify Membership

- We wish to involve all New York cultural institutions, recognizing that preparedness and response are strengthened by the exchange of information.
- Our nearly 500 members represent all five boroughs, all institution types (Museums, Historic Sites, Historic Houses, Libraries/Archives, Botanical Gardens/Zoos, etc.) and a wide range of expertise.

### Partner with first response communities

- AR NYC partners closely with the NYC Office of Emergency Management (OEM). We have developed joint programming for AR NYC membership, fostering the first responder community's familiarization of cultural institutions' needs in emergencies.
- Both FEMA and OEM are represented on the AR NYC steering committee.

### Serve as an exchange for information about preparedness and response

- AR NYC aims to connect cultural institutions with information for preparedness and response.
- In promoting emergency planning and preparedness, AR NYC offers programming where networking and exchange of information can take place.
- During response and recovery, we can assist in making contacts to find assistance during emergencies, as a supplies and vendor reference, and as a conduit for information from the Office of Emergency Management that can aid institutions in making response and recovery plans.

### Develop training and education for our membership

- We offer an active programming and training schedule to our membership. Previous programs have included "Advances in Fire Protection for Cultural Institutions," "Have You Planned For the Cost of Implementing Your Emergency Plan?" and "Emergency Management from a Local, State, and Federal Perspective".
- Not only does the content provide professional development opportunities to our membership, the program brings together professionals from diverse areas of the cultural community.

### Ensure AR NYC representation at the City's Emergency Operations Center

- The NYC Office of Emergency Management looks to AR NYC as a source of response and recovery information when emergencies impact cultural institutions.

### Advance Mutual Aid

- The AR NYC Collections Sub-committee has developed educational resources for the first response community concerning the needs and vulnerabilities of collections
- A training program for first responders about cultural institutions' needs and concerns in emergencies has been developed and offered to NYC OEM staff as well as the Citizen Corps program.

For more information on Alliance for Response, NYC or to sign up for the email distribution list contact:

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