



Heritage Society of Austin Establishes Fund to Help Restore Texas Governor's Mansion

AUSTIN – The Heritage Society of Austin (HSA) has established a special fund to receive public donations to help restore the fire-ravaged Governor's Mansion in the state capital. The group already has urged its preservation as a priceless historic treasure.

President John Donisi said the action is in response to public expressions of eagerness to help save the treasured Texas landmark, badly damaged by a four-alarm blaze early Sunday morning.

“We have heard from numerous citizens who are heartsick over the tragic destruction of this beloved structure and who want to see it restored to its traditional glory,” he said.

Donisi stressed that the voluntary contributions made by the public are in no way meant to substitute for responsibility of the Texas Legislature to provide funds necessary for the basic reconstruction of the building. He noted that at least one major newspaper has already editorialized for such a public appropriation. Rather, he said, any monies received by HSA will go for supplementary needs.

Contributions to the special HSA Fund should be addressed to Save the Mansion Fund, Heritage Society of Austin, P.O. Box 2113 Austin, Texas 78768-2113. Donisi noted that those who prefer may direct their contributions to Friends of the Texas Historical Commission, P.O. Box 13492, Austin, TX, 78711-3497, or to Austin Community Foundation, 4315 Guadalupe, Suite 300, Austin, TX, 78751; and Friends of the Governor's Mansion, P.O. Box 24447, Austin, TX, 78768. Any such contributions to Friends of the Governor's Mansion would be used for specific non-construction purposes consistent with its established mission, such as restoration of fire-damaged trees alongside the Mansion.

For further information, the public is invited to call the Heritage Society of Austin offices at (512) 474-5198.

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