



NEWS RELEASE:

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Mend Our Broken Art
Annual Conservation Exhibition

Norfolk, VA - The conservation program [Mend Our Broken Art](#) (MOBA) began with a great need: to fund the maintenance and care of the Hermitage Museum's permanent collection. This need has incited a community's interest in preserving and making accessible to the public objects that have not been exhibited. MOBA gives guests the opportunity to become involved in the conservation process from beginning to end. The exhibition will be on display in the changing galleries of the Hermitage Museum beginning May 20th through July 1st with a public opening reception to be held Wednesday, May 19th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

This year, for the very first time, an entire room will be on display and available for adoption. That's right: Mrs. Sloane's ([Hermitage Museum founder](#)) dressing room, currently off tour, will be recreated in the changing galleries. Everything from the light fixtures to the plaster molding to the intricate mahogany veneer is up for adoption. As a special added surprise, three fine 1920's dresses from Mrs. Sloane's personal collection will be on display.

Part of restoring Mrs. Sloane's dressing room is conserving the paintings formerly stored in her closets. The MOBA exhibition will host a number of works rarely (if ever) seen by the public, including what is considered to be one of the Museum's finest painting, *Cave of the Storm Nymphs* by Sir Edward Poynter. Paintings by Helen Turner, Peggy Somerville, Stephen Reid, and Douglas Volk will also be featured.

This year's *Mend Our Broken Art* exhibition is the fifth of its kind. The last four years have raised over \$20,000 toward the conservation of 31 works of art.

"Adoption" of works is welcomed at any amount - offering children, adults, community groups, and local organizations alike the opportunity to participate. With every contribution, the donor remains informed of the conservation progress through completion; directly and personally watching their contributions at work. MOBA gives the community an opportunity to combine their resources to ensure the future cultural heritage of works restored by the program.

For more information on *Mend Our Broken Art* contact Lauren Northup, Curator of Collections, at (757) 423-2052 x 204 or ln@thfm.org. A complete list of works available for adoption and respective conservation needs is available upon request.

The Hermitage offers 45-minute guided tours, on the hour, of fifteen galleries filled with the Sloane family world-wide art collection, furniture, and history in this Norfolk historic home. The Visual Arts School houses classrooms, a complete ceramics studio, and darkroom photography facilities. Open daily 10-5, Sundays 1-5-closed Wednesdays and Thursdays. Free for Museum Members, children under 6, and Active Duty military. Admission: \$5 for Adults, \$2 for ages 6-18, and \$3 for students. For more information on the museum and membership offerings call 757-423-2052 or visit www.thfm.org.

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