CALIFORNIA CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANIZATIONS INVITED TO REGISTER FOR CULTURAL COLLECTIONS PROTECTION SURVEY

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[Sacramento, Calif.] The state is conducting a comprehensive survey of California’s archives, galleries, historical societies, libraries, museums and tribal nations to better understand and protect cultural collections in a time of increased risk and limited resources. The survey will be sent out in November. Register here to receive it. The goal is for this survey to be an instrument to educate decision-makers about the value of investing in the state’s arts and cultural heritage.

California is home to one of the most diverse and expansive cultural collections in the world, spread across thousands of institutions who are the primary keepers of local and tribal history and art and serve as the state’s collective memory.

“These collections draw tourists, filmmakers, educators, researchers and others from across the world to California,” said Greg Lucas, California State Librarian. “Their value is incalculable. This survey is the first step in better protecting these cultural touchstones and improving public access to them.”

The existence of these unique collections that help tell California’s story is often unknown, particularly at the state level. Many rare and unique materials are at significant risk from natural disasters exacerbated by climate change, inadequate storage facilities, scarce resources, and simple decay over time.

The Cultural Collections Protection Survey aims to close this information gap by gathering data on the nature and condition of California’s culturally significant assets. It takes 30 minutes to 60 minutes to complete – and the result will be well worth the small time commitment.

The survey will be made available to registered participants starting in November 2020. California collecting institutions are invited to register to receive the survey at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CSLSurveyRegistration.

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About the State Library: Founded in 1850, the California State Library has an extensive collection of documents from and about the state’s rich history, ranging from books, maps, miners’ diaries,
newspapers, and periodicals to photographs, paintings and posters. The State Library also holds federal and state publications, is home to the Bernard E. Witkin State Law Library and the Braille and Talking Book Library, and serves as the lead state agency for library-related services throughout California.  State Library website