

Train for Strain

Leadership Development at the Intersection of Events & Emergencies

Speakers

Matthew Ché Kowal, **Majestic Collaborations**Christopher Singh, **The Metropolitan Museum of Art**Tom Clareson, **Performing Arts Readiness**













The big idea

Building leadership & crisis readiness through your special events

Our hour together

Leadership
Development at the
Intersection of Events &
Emergencies





Pathways to practice: Layers of rapid leadership

Christopher Singh



Pathways to practice: strategies & case studies

Matthew Ché Kowal



Pathways to practice: building local, regional & national networks

Tom Clareson



Audience Q&A

Share questions & resources



















Train for Strain: Leadership Development at the Intersection of Events & Emergencies

ASIS Connects | Cultural Properties Community • 18 November 2025

Resilience officers and analysts have been known to call resilience a latent feature of a community: until a disaster strikes, it's difficult to measure, assess, or improve.

We know better.

If you'd like to see how your community will fare during a disaster in the future, go to its festivals today.







PERFORMING ARTS READINESS

a community served by
LYRASIS

AGUERRERO!

PULBLA VERACRUZATABASCO

VUGAZAN

VAMELCHI GUINTANA

Cayman

Cuba (Islands



















California Center for the Arts, Escondido

































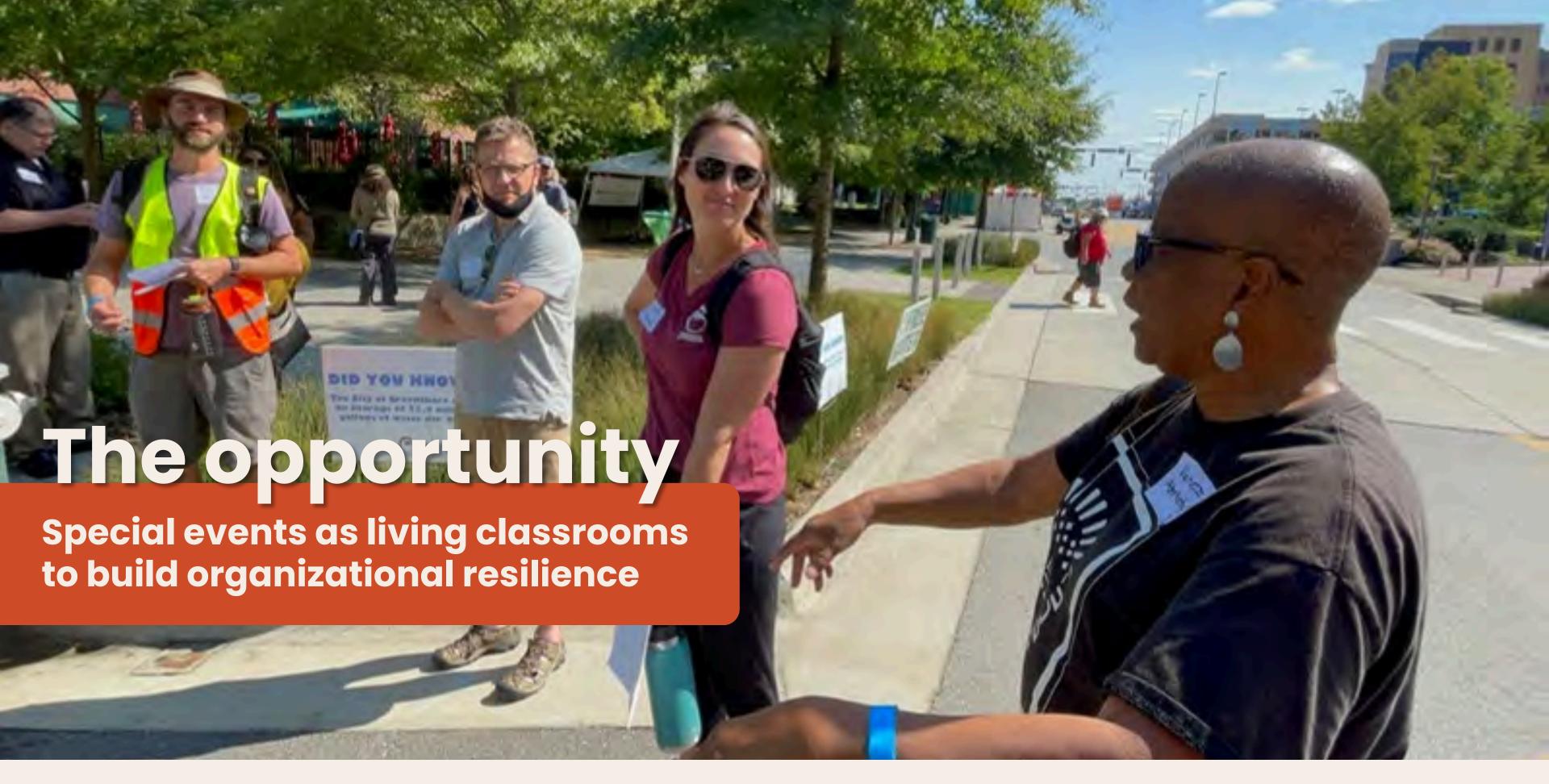
Authentic Caribbean Foundation















Special events are the connective tissue between arts organizations, public safety & emergency management authorities, and the public.





2 Special events offer a built-in calendar for training & relationship-building across sectors.





Deverage events as opportunity to prototype, document, or collect data on larger infrastructure investments.

WATCH THE CIVIC CENTER EATS FEATURE





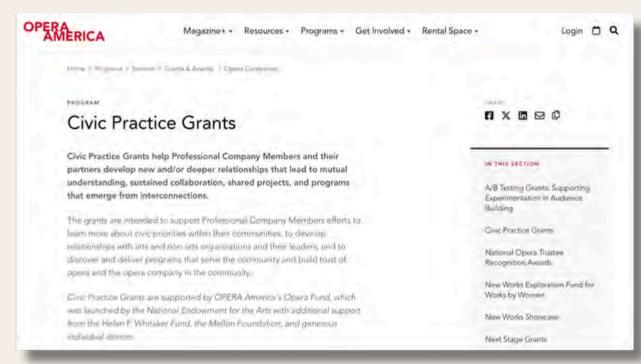


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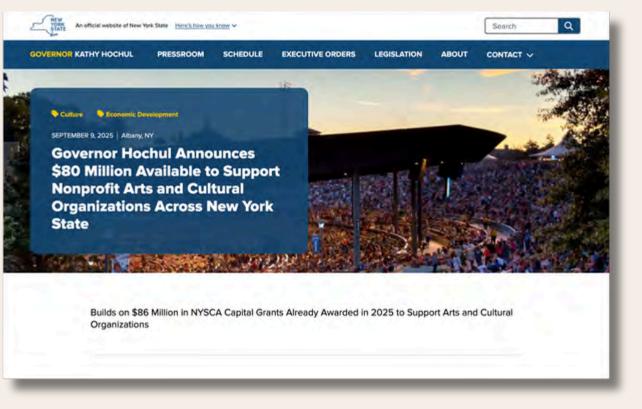
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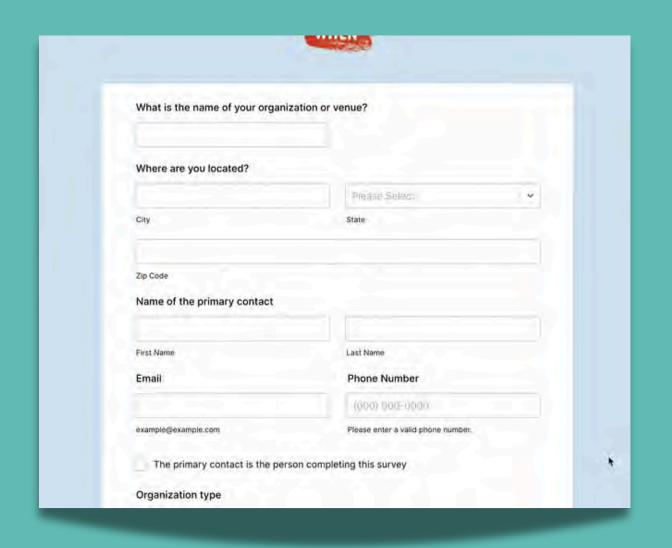












Venue resilience self-assessment

Coming soon to readywhen.org/resources

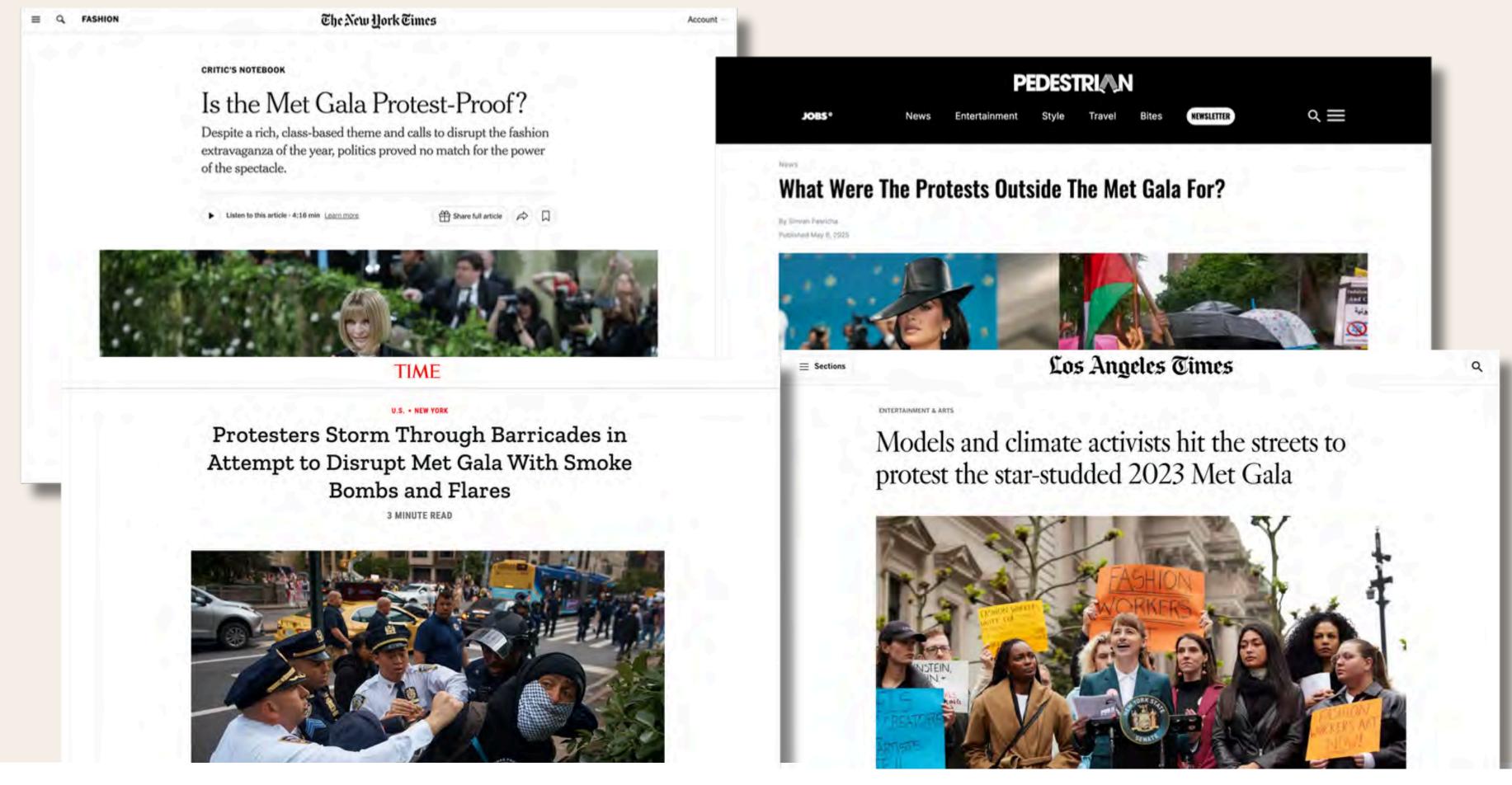




Will you be #ReadyWhen a black-tie gala, a film shoot, and a protest are all happening onsite at the same time?





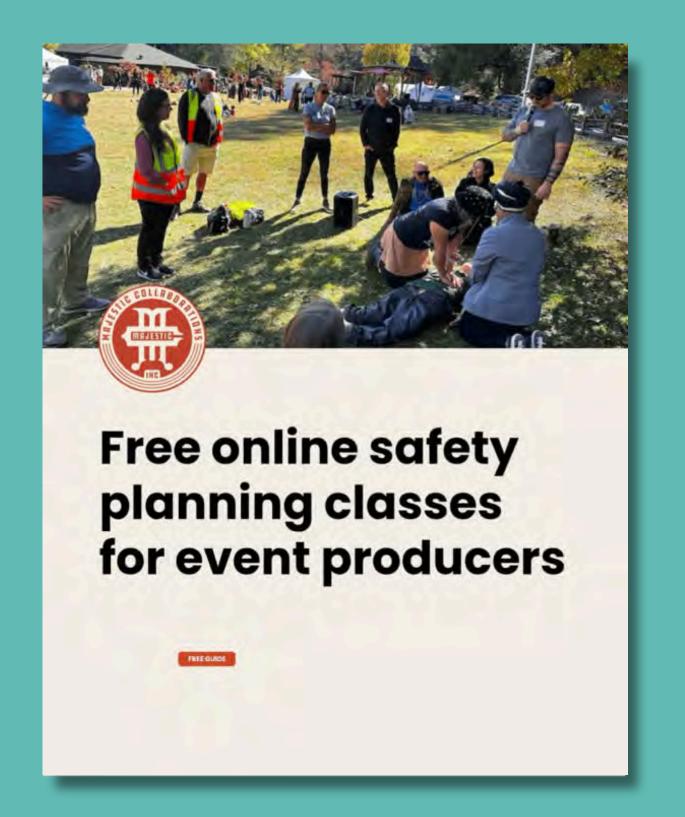




Will you be #ReadyWhen your vendors & volunteers show up on event day?







Free online safety classes

Available at readywhen.org/resources







Volunteer Organizational Assessment

Available at readywhen.org/resources





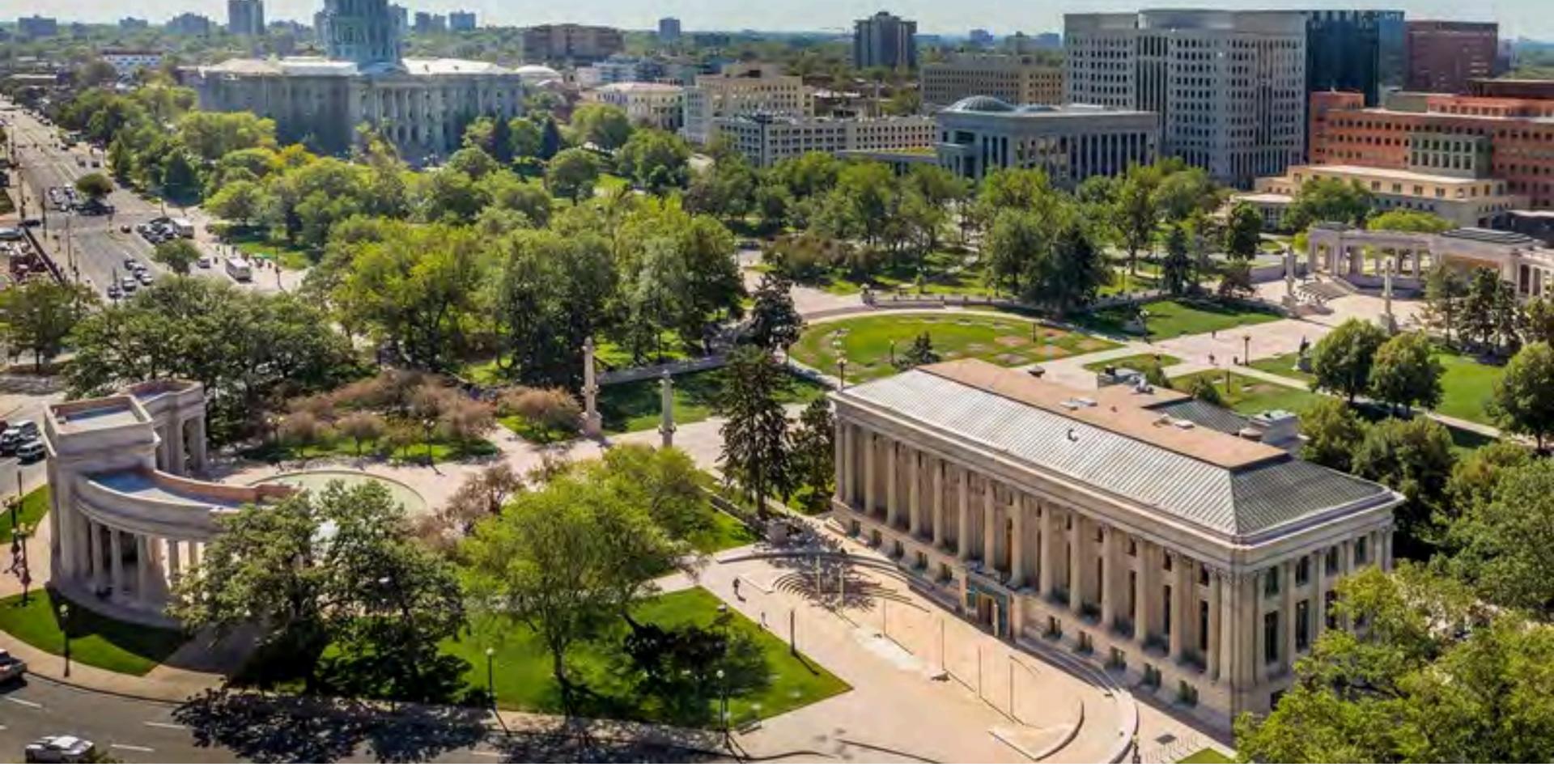
Takeaways

Will you be #ReadyWhen your community shows up on event day?

- Develop a training stack for volunteers, staff & vendors
- Document & track certifications/credentials
- Leverage special events as a regular cadence for training & drills
- Have a plan (and briefing!) for all engaged parties
- Model situational leadership, and provide practice opportunities



Will you be #ReadyWhen the city wants to use your venue as an emergency shelter?





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Takeaways

Will you be #ReadyWhen your venue becomes a shelter?

- If you don't have a protocol, one may be given to you!
- Self-assessments are your friend
 - Map assets & vulnerabilities
 - Develop budget & funding priorities
 - Build & document relationships/agreements (cities, vendors, insurance)
 - Offload institutional memory in a transparent, accessible way



Will you be #ReadyWhen the safety plan was written by Al?

Takeaways

Will you be #ReadyWhen the safety plan was written by AI?

- Prioritize 1:1 interaction over formal processes
- Al is a great tool for some things: optimize specific known resource loads & constraints, or identify missing protocols





Get in touch

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Tom Clareson

Director Performing Arts Readiness



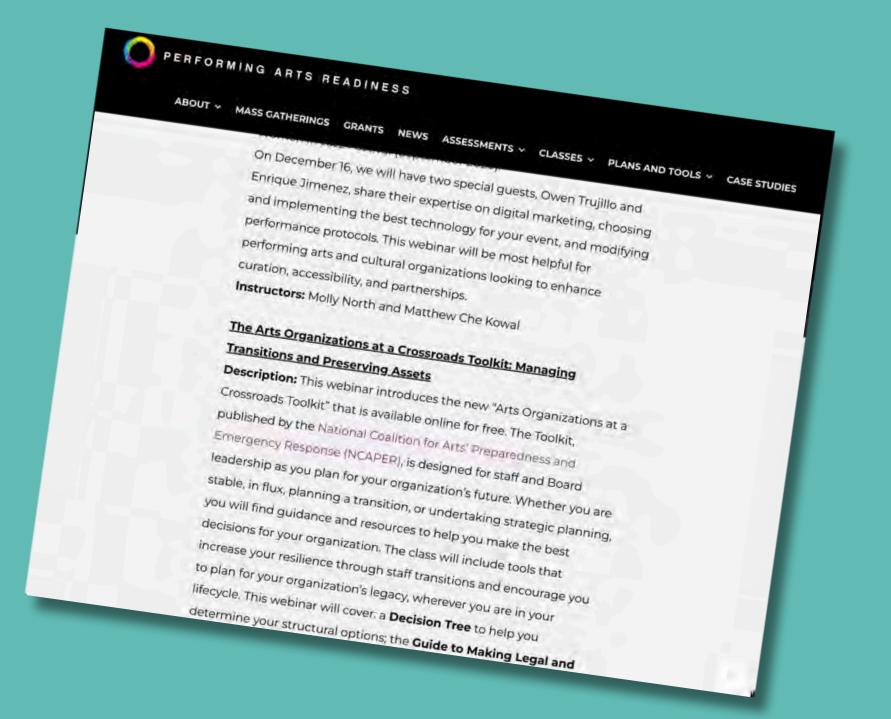








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PAR Webinars

performingartsreadiness.org/webinars







Q&A

Resource sharing, feedback, peer connections













Next steps

Advancing a new model for readiness together



what did you think?

Thank you for sharing your feedback about today's session!

tinyurl.com/train4strain















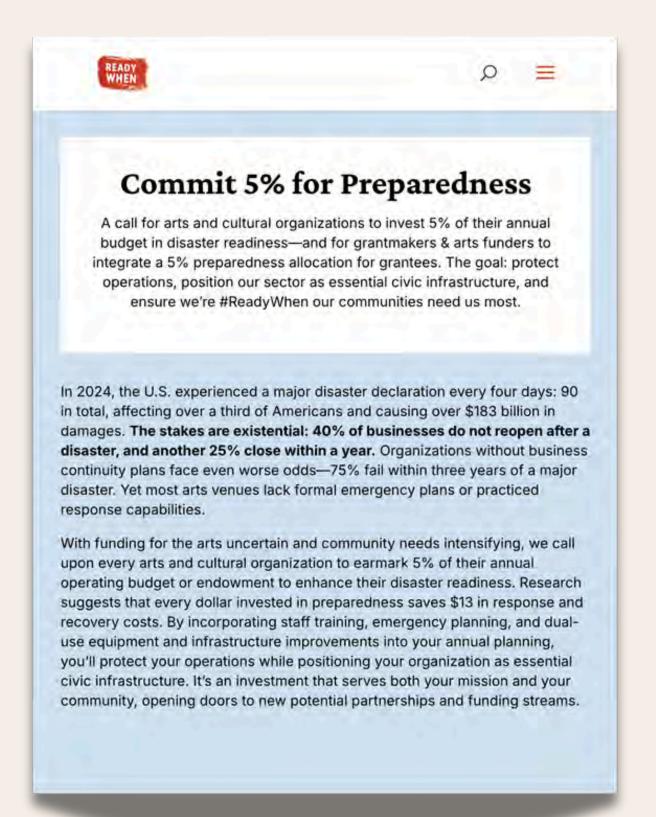


Advocate for the resolution

readywhen.org/take-action







Pledge 5% for preparedness

readywhen.org/take-action







Join the Opportunities Working Group

readywhen.org/owg







Get the latest news & resources

readywhen.org/signup









Get in touch

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