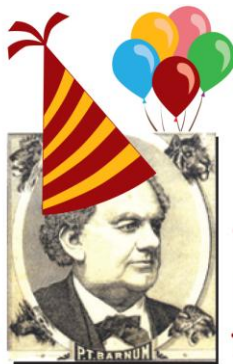


# The BARNUM MUSEUM



Celebrating P.T. Barnum's 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday!  
*...thus beginning a new chapter...*

P.T. Barnum, 1868

July 4, 2010

Dear Friends,

## *Tornado Recovery Appeal*

It is hard to express how touched we are that so many colleagues, neighbors, and friends have reached out to The Barnum Museum after the tornado hit Bridgeport on June 24<sup>th</sup>. The devastation throughout the City is truly unbelievable, and miraculously, no one was severely hurt from the rage of the storm.



The people of Bridgeport demonstrated a remarkable benevolent spirit of caring, compassion, resilience, and the City's resolve to persevere and move forward was clearly seen as Bridgeport's services and community members banded together to assist the many affected families, shops and business's. We witnessed thousands of age-old trees and tons of debris cleaned from the streets of the largest city in the State of Connecticut, and hundreds of people running to the aid of strangers, reaffirming Mr. Barnum's core belief in the 'goodness of human-kind.'

Barnum wrote after the devastation of one of his business enterprises:

*"The situation was disheartening, but I had energy, experience, health and hope."*



It is estimated that well over 800 artifacts will need to be reviewed and hundreds will require conservation. Exhibition rooms require specialized cleaning and carpets must be replaced due to glass embedded in the pile. A team of conservators, historic architects, environmental and structural engineers has begun assessing the situation to determine the scope of work necessary for immediate action, and the Museum staff and volunteers are envisioning new ways to serve our local, regional and global constituents as we emerge anew.

The Barnum Museum is dedicated to rising to the challenges we are now facing in the aftermath of the tornado as we examine, restore and re-engage the glory of the Museum for all to enjoy. P.T. Barnum



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never let his public down, and to honor the Great American Showman, we hope you will stand with us as we begin our recovery efforts.

We humbly ask you to please consider making a donation to support The Barnum Museum's recovery. Your generous contribution will provide us with much needed funds.

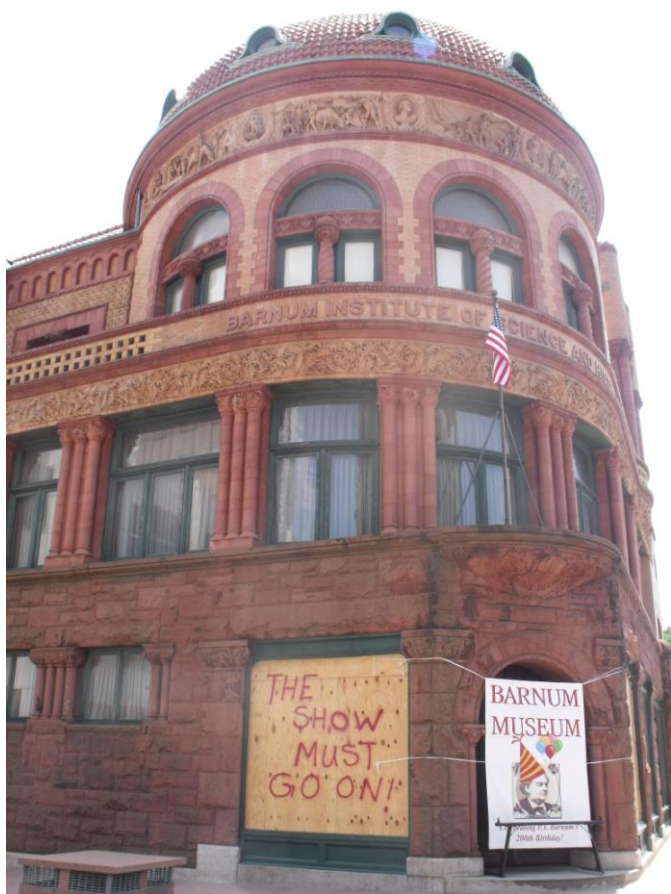
Best regards,

*Kathleen Maher*

Kathleen Maher  
Executive Director/Curator  
[kmaher@barnum-museum.org](mailto:kmaher@barnum-museum.org)



P.T. Barnum's treasured 1847 Iranistan Library furniture being moved out of harms way minutes after the tornado struck the Museum on June 24, 2010.



As we proceed with this massive conservation effort, the Museum will continue to offer programming and exhibitions in our *People's United Bank Gallery*, and we anticipate a portion of the historic Museum will be re-opened for guests to enjoy.

*Thank you so much for  
your kind support during  
this challenging time.*

**Please consider making a contribution to  
The Barnum Museum's Tornado Recovery Fund**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

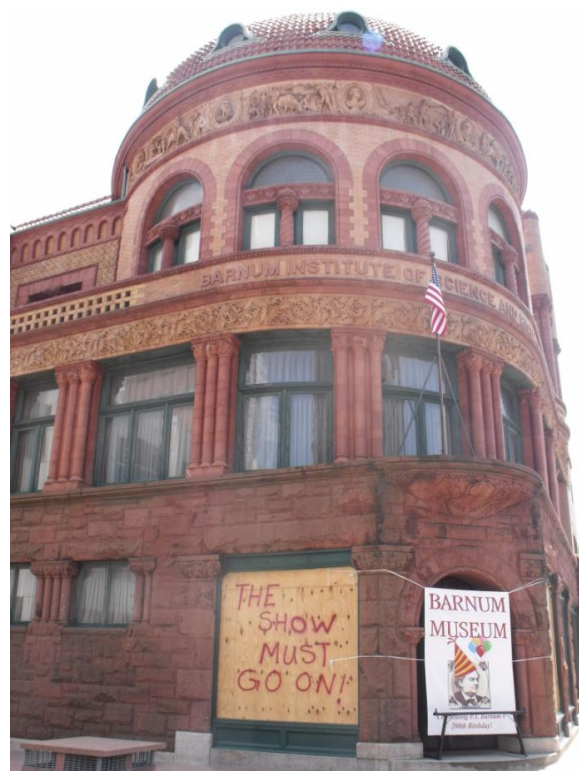
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*Please accept this as a contribution exclusively to the  
Tornado Recovery Fund*

- **\$10,000** \_\_\_\_\_
- **\$5,000** \_\_\_\_\_
- **\$2,500** \_\_\_\_\_
- **\$1,500** \_\_\_\_\_
- **\$1,000** \_\_\_\_\_
- **\$500** \_\_\_\_\_
- **\$100** \_\_\_\_\_
- **\$50** \_\_\_\_\_
- **Other** \_\_\_\_\_

**The Barnum Museum  
Attention: Deb Saviello  
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**Or make a contribution on line at:  
[www.barnum-museum.org](http://www.barnum-museum.org)**



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