Cultural preservation offers an opportunity to show a different American face to other countries, one that is non-commercial, non-political, and non-military. By taking a leading role in efforts to preserve cultural heritage, we show our respect for other cultures.

U.S. support for cultural heritage projects overseas through the U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation yields many positive and lasting benefits. Such support contributes towards post-disaster and post-conflict recovery and strengthens communities. It reduces U.S. treaty and other bilateral obligations and counteracts extremism by preserving heritage development where large-scale development and extreme poverty are the main economic activities. In strife-ridden states, especially, it counters extreme interpretations of U.S. interests and demonstrates American values in action.

In 2017, the Ambassadors Fund awarded grants for 33 new projects to preserve cultural objects and sites in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bolivia, Cambodia, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Laos, Lebanon, Mexico, Moldova, Montenegro, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Somalia, South Sudan, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, and Zambia. It supported seven new projects to preserve endangered music traditions and other intangible heritage in Iraq, Laos, Nigeria, Solomon Islands, South Africa, and Turkey.

Through the Ambassadors Fund, the United States demonstrates American leadership in the preservation of cultural heritage around the world and shows our respect for other cultures.
Preservation of the Ancient Cultural Heritage of the Ethnic Lebou in Senegal

CREDIT: ENTENTE DES MOUVEMENTS ET ASSOCIATIONS DE DÉVELOPPEMENT (EMAD)

Preservation of the Ancient (700-1530 AD) Stone Spheres of the Diquís

CREDIT: NATIONAL MUSEUM OF COSTA RICA

Conservation of the Early 16th-Century Tikkayat al-Gulshani Complex in Historic Cairo

CREDIT: ECA CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTER

Conservation of the Palace and Other Classic Period (400-900 AD) Features at the Ancient Maya Site of Palenque

CREDIT: NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND HISTORY (INAH)

SENEGAL  COSTA RICA  EGYPT  MEXICO