

The role of Fondation de France and its donors

Appointed as one of the four organisations authorised to collect funds to restore Notre-Dame, Fondation de France established a dedicated fund.

Faced with the scope of the challenge, a law of 29 July 2019 set up the Public Establishment in charge of the conservation and restoration of Notre-Dame de Paris cathedral, which supervises all operations. The Minister of Culture, Frank Riester, signed agreements with the three foundations⁽¹⁾ appointed by law to collect the donations and with the Centre for National Monuments. This agreement allows Fondation de France to pass on to the Public Establishment all amounts collected in respect of the national campaign to seek donations for the Notre-Dame de Paris cathedral, “while guaranteeing rigorous and transparent management of their donations to French and foreign donors.”

DONATIONS TO FONDATION DE FRANCE FOR THE RESTORATION OF NOTRE DAME DE PARIS

Origin of the donations	Number of donors	Amount
Private individuals	11,002	€2,355,575
Companies	112	€27,067,416
Donor-advised funds at Fondation de France	3	€230,000
Charities and communities	25	€312,891
	11,142	€29,965,881

How is the use of donations monitored?

The Public Establishment created to supervise the restoration relies on a scientific committee, but also on an audit committee (in charge of monitoring financing issues and the proper execution of expenditure) and a donors’ committee (to report on the work’s progress and the use of donations), in which the Fondation de France participates.

The securing phase was financed with public funds, the contributions made by donors and sponsors shall be exclusively dedicated to the financing of conservation and restoration work of the cathedral, its furniture, as well as professional training in heritage conservation skills, which will be required for the work.

**THANK YOU
FOR
YOUR SUPPORT!**

(1) Fondation de France, Fondation Notre Dame and Fondation du Patrimoine.

Fondation
de
France

Notre-Dame, one year later



In the evening of 15 April 2019, a fire started in the heart of the framework of Notre Dame de Paris, ravaging the cathedral. In the hours and days thereafter, a tremendous surge of solidarity was expressed to rebuild this treasure of French heritage. The day following the catastrophe, Fondation de France was mandated to launch a campaign to collect donations alongside three other organisations. It collected more than 29 million euros, thanks to the commitment of 11,000 donors! As soon as the fire was extinguished, a construction site of exceptional scope and complexity started, with the involvement of 40 companies and some 70 “compagnons”. The goal is to secure the site, establish assessments and plans and then restore within 5 years.

Throughout the construction, Fondation de France will keep donors informed of the work’s progress.

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Notre-Dame, where do we stand?

One year after the fire, the work on Notre-Dame is entering a crucial phase: the removal of the scaffolding that topped the cathedral. At the time of the disaster, this exceptional scaffolding was installed for restoration work on the spire. Its 40,000 pieces of metal were bent and welded by the flames. The removal of this structure—one of the most complex operations of the works—started in March and will take months. It will allow access to the top of the arches, to clean them and to finalise the inspection of stones and mortars. The clearance-securing phase will then be over and a new chapter will start: the restoration. However, because of the health crisis caused by the coronavirus and in order to ensure the safety of staff, the construction site has been suspended until further notice.

WHAT IS THE EXTENT OF THE DAMAGE?

During the fire, the fire services were able to save 1,300 works of art contained in the building: paintings, objects, relics, tapestries... entrusted to the Louvre and to the Mobilier National (the National Cultural Movable Heritage).

Regarding the building, the fire destroyed part of the arches, the wooden framework dating from the 13th century, the roofing and the spire, built in the 19th century by Viollet-le-Duc. The condition of the arches still preserved as well as the levels of lead in the building and the surroundings are continuously monitored by sensors. The first readings are reassuring.



WHAT HAS BEEN DONE IN 2019 AND EARLY 2020

Removal and protection of stone statues, removal of stained glass



Waterproofing, sheeting of roofs

Clearance and triage of vestiges, with the help of remote-controlled robots



Protection of the construction site and residents: placing of nets

Consolidation of the 28 flying buttresses supporting the arches



Implementation of electronic monitoring (sensors, lasers...) of arches

Installation of equipment for working at altitude: 74-meter crane, stairs, elevators, floors...



Belting of the damaged scaffolding to prepare for cutting and evacuation



THE NEXT STEPS DURING THE YEAR 2020

Clearance of surfaces above the arches and inspection of their condition

General cleaning campaign of the cathedral and of its surroundings

Final assessment of the condition of the structure and planning of restoration work

Choice of a decision making process to restore the spire

Consultation of companies

Start of restoration work: in the course of 2021

Reopening for religious ceremonies: Spring 2024



Removal of the former burnt scaffolding

2019

2020

A WORKSITE... FOR RESEARCHERS

All the elements of the framework and the stone blocks that fell on the floor must be examined on site, sorted, documented and then evacuated. They hold clues to understand the origins of the fire, but also a wide array of information on construction materials and methods used in the Middle Ages. Three teams of researchers are working together: the laboratory of the police prefecture of Paris, the research laboratory of historical monuments, and the regional department of archaeology of the Regional Directorate of Cultural Affairs (DRAC) assisted by a team from the National Institute of Preventative Archaeological Research (INRAP).



THE FIGURES:

11,000

donors involved and almost

€30M

collected by Fondation de France

5 years

This is the target set by President Macron to carry out the restoration work and reopen the site.

40 companies and

70 "compagnons" are involved, a workforce that will grow in 2020