OHIO ARCHIVIST

2023 Annual Meeting

Forward Together:
Community Partnerships and Public Service

Adam Wanter, *MidPointe Library System, and* **Matt Francis***, Ohio Northern University, Educational Programming Committee Co-Chairs*

THIS MAY, THE SOA Annual meeting will be traveling to Dayton, Ohio! You are invited to join us on Friday, May 12, from 8:30am-4pm at the **Dayton Metro Library Main Library** in downtown Dayton, Ohio for a full day of presentations, networking, and exciting featured speakers. The theme of this year's meeting is *Forward Together: Community Partnerships and Public Service.* Also, this year we are going hybrid! If you can't make it, you'll be able to attend virtually which will provide you access to two standalone virtual sessions on Thursday, May 11 (also available to in-person attendees) and live streams of select sessions from the May 12 slate. As our first attempt at a hybrid conference this will be a learning opportunity for all of us, so please bear with us if we encounter any unexpected kinks/challenges. For the latest details about the meeting, visit the **conference page** on the SOA website.

Plenary Speaker

We are excited to announce **Rosemary Pleva Flynn** as our main keynote speaker for this year's conference. Ms. Flynn will be discussing what it means to be an archivist, focusing on the intersection of archival work among memory workers, storytellers, community archivists and "traditional" archivists, and the role we all play in preserving culture and knowledge. Additionally, we plan to feature a second speaker, to be announced, to help put the spotlight on the Miami Valley.

Rosemary Pleva Flynn, CA, Principal Librarian and Archivist, is responsible for the management and operation of the **Energy & Environmental Research Center (EERC) Library and**

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The President's Message

Dear SOA Members,

Signs of spring are in the air. The days are getting longer and warmer and sunshine has returned to the Miami Valley. It's the season of growth and renewal, a time to take stock and look ahead. Our 2023 Annual Meeting, *Forward Together: Community Partnerships and Public Service*, perfectly meets the season. For the first time, SOA is offering a hybrid annual meeting with a day of virtual-only sessions on Thursday, May 11 and an in-person and virtual day on Friday, May 12 at the Dayton Metro Library. You can learn more about this year's meeting elsewhere in this issue, but it promises to be time to come together, learn from each other, and reflect on and renew our work with two fundamental tenets of our profession: partnerships and service, especially in support of a more inclusive and equitable society. I hope you'll join us for one or both days!

As I look back on my time as president, I think "Forward Together" has also been the theme of the year for SOA as an organization. Leadership has been working hard on a new strategic plan to guide how we move forward for the next 3-5 years. If all goes well, expect more information on the strategic plan at the Annual Meeting. Members and leadership together have taken some necessary steps to ensure that SOA continues to be able to move forward in a sustainable way for years to come by raising dues for the first time since 1996. I'd like to thank Council, all the committee chairs, and committee members for their amazing work and dedication over the past year on these initiatives and more. Without their efforts, SOA and Ohio's archival community would not be nearly the strong community that it is. I'd also like to thank all of you, the members, for your support of SOA as an organization as we've undertaken this work.

Continuing with the theme of moving forward, it's also time for changes in SOA's Leadership. Elections are happening virtually this spring and this issue also contains statements from our outstanding slate of candidates for Council positions. I'm confident all of them will work to continue to make SOA the best organization it can be. I'd also like to recognize our outgoing Council members, whose time and talents have been so valuable: Past President Sherri Goudy, outgoing Secretary Jen Johnson, and outgoing Council Member Sasha Kim.

This is an especially challenging time for us as archivists, with increasing attacks on the value and nature of history, and those who work to tell the full, complex, and difficult story of our nation. It's easy to despair over Florida's attacks on the AP African American Studies course, the continued existence of divisive concepts bills in state legislatures, revisions to social studies standards, and misuse and misrepresentation of history in court cases. However, I also see the work that archivists and archival organizations are doing to combat these trends whether it's through exhibits on redlining, podcasts elevating the history of underrepresented communities, or programming giving members of underrepresented communities the platform to tell their stories for themselves, and I am inspired to continue the good fight. It has been an honor to be your president and I am thankful for the opportunity. I have learned so much from all of you, and I cannot wait to see how SOA and the archival community as a whole continues to move forward.

Amy Rohmiller

she/her/hers
President, Society of Ohio Archivists

SOA Mission

Founded in 1968, the Society of Ohio Archivists' mission is to improve the state of archives in Ohio by promoting the archival profession and providing professional development and networking opportunities for Ohio's professional and aspiring archivists.

Information Services which includes the EERC's archives and records management program at the University of North Dakota. Ms. Flynn is a Certified Archivist (CA) and an active participant in several professional organizations, including the Society of American Archivists (SAA), the Academy of Certified Archivists (ACA), the Midwest Archives Conference (MAC), and the North Dakota Library Association. She has taught workshops for many of these organizations. Ms. Flynn was elected to serve as ACA's Regent for Exam Administration (2019–2023). She is Chair of SAA's Dictionary Working Group, which publishes the online *Dictionary of Archives Terminology*. As the Academy of Certified Archivists representative to the Nexus LAB: Leading Across Boundaries project advisory board, she was a coauthor of the *Nexus LAB: Layers of Leadership* and an editor of the *Nexus LAB: Curriculum*. Ms. Flynn is an alum of the Archives Leadership Institute and received her Master of Library Science (M.L.S.) degree from Indiana University, an M.A. degree in Social Science, a B.S. degree in History from Ball State University, and a graduate capstone certificate in User Experience Design from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. Prior to her position at the EERC, Ms. Flynn served as Project Archivist at Indiana University for **Phase II of the Indiana University Electronic Records Project.** Additionally, Ms. Flynn is a local Miami Valley native!

Sessions

This year's meeting will feature a mix of presentations centered around the Forward Together theme and those of general interest. For our two virtual-only sessions on Thursday we have Greta Suiter, Ohio University, and Camilla Stegall, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, presenting "Finding the Un(der)represented in Civil War Letters: Description Remediation and Subject Headings" and Arjun Sabharwal, University of Toledo, presenting "25 Years in Community Service: Background, Current Directions, and Prospects for the Toledo's Attic Project." The Friday slate features a panel of Collette McDonough, Kettering Foundation, Kayla Harris, University of Dayton, and Sarah Aisenbrey, Sisters of the Precious Blood, presenting "Advocating for Your Own Slice of the Pie;" the mini-workshop "America 250:

How Can We Highlight the Importance of Archives & Records?" by Todd Kleismit, Ohio Commission for the U.S. Semi quincentennial; a "Crucial Conversations: Undertold Stories and Histories–Working with Community Groups and Policymakers to Create Positive Change" featuring Nicole D. Sutton, Columbus Metro Library, Mandy Altimus Stahl, Massillon Museum, and Brad Lepper, Ohio History Connection; a lighting round presentation on "A Journey of Understanding: A Century in the Harding Archives" from David McDevitt and the Ohio History Connection; a poster session; and an informal networking session. For more details on each session, check out the **conference page** on the SOA website.

Silent Auction

Each year SOA offers four scholarships, two to current students and two to recent graduates, using funds from our raffle / silent auction. The scholarships consist of conference registration (including lunch), a one-year membership to SOA, and a $100 travel stipend. The funds raised from the silent auction are critical to SOA's support of students and new professionals. This year we are putting together a fun group of items. You will be able to bid on the silent item baskets in person on Friday.

Hotel and Local Arrangements

If you are coming from out of town and intend to stay either Thursday night or Friday night, we recommend the following hotels:

- **Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Dayton**, 305 E Monument Ave, Dayton, OH 45402 – short walk to the library

- **AC Hotel by Marriott Dayton**, 124 Madison St, Dayton, OH 45402 – short walk to the library

- **Holiday Inn & Suites**, 2140 S Edwin C Moses Blvd, Dayton, OH 45417 (937) 250-6400

- **Marriott at the University of Dayton**, 1414 S Patterson Blvd, Dayton, OH 45409 (937) 223-1000

Also, for more things local, check out our **Local Arrangements Map**. It includes hotels, lunch & dinner spots, local establishments of interest, and local attractions.

Parking

Free onsite parking at the Dayton Metro Library Main is accessed from North St. Clair Street (one way southbound). The garage opens at 8:00 a.m.

Registration Fees

Registration Fees for both the full meeting and virtual only option are tiered. In order to keep up with a changing world, the registration fees have increased. Additionally, lunch is now an optional choice. The early bird rate runs from Monday, March 20, 2023 to Monday, April 17, 2023 and will be $60 no lunch / $80 with lunch for members, $100 / $120 for non-members, $30 for students (lunch included); pre-registration then continues until Wednesday, May 1, 2023 at $65 no lunch / $85 with lunch for members, $105 / $125 for non-members, $35 for students (lunch included); on-site registration will be $75/$115/$40 (no lunch option); and registration for the virtual only option will run from Monday, March 20, 2023 to Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at $40 for members, $80 for non-members, and $25 for students.

The **Educational Programming Committee** members have been working hard to bring you an amazing conference. Thank you to our committee members:
- **Rachael Bussert,** Dayton Metro Library
- **Melissa Dalton**, Independent Archivist/ Public Historian (SOA Vice President/ President-Elect)
- **Matt Francis**, Ohio Northern University (EPC Co-Chair)
- **Betsy Hedler**, Ohio History Connection (SOA/OHC Liaison)
- **Sasha Kim**, Denison University
- **Riza Miklowski**, Akron-Summit County Public Library
- **William Modrow**, Miami University
- **Sara Mouch**, University of Toledo
- **Nathaniel Ricks**
- **Michelle Sweetser**, Bowling Green State University
- **Adam Wanter**, MidPointe Library System (EPC Co-Chair)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the EPC co-chairs **Adam Wanter** or **Matt Francis.** We can't wait to see you in Dayton!

2023 Slate of Candidates

Vice President / President-elect
Matt Francis

Treasurer
Shelby Beatty

Council
Kristen Newby

The following statements were given by the candidates seeking election as officers or council members to the Society of Ohio Archivists in 2023. Voting will take place at the annual meeting being held May 12, 2023.

Candidates were asked to answer all questions in one 350-500-word essay.

> **What skills and experiences can you offer to SOA?**
>
> **Tell us about your past experience with professional organizations that would make you a good fit for this position.**
>
> **What are some of the most important themes/issues the SOA should address in the next 3-5 years?**

CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS

Vice President / President-elect

Matt Francis
Archivist, Ohio Northern University

I am honored to have been nominated for the position of Vice-President/President-Elect with the Society of Ohio Archivists and to have the opportunity to continue serving our members through a new role. As an archivist for fifteen years, I have worked at archives in Wyoming, New York, Pennsylvania, and now Ohio. As I toured America during my archival career, I have been a member of multiple state, regional, and national professional organizations, all of which provided me with amazing opportunities to learn from, and collaborate with, brilliant colleagues involved with archival and public history work.

When I returned to Ohio in 2018, I immediately joined SOA, and shortly thereafter I was asked if I would be willing to chair the organization's membership committee. After a significant amount of consideration, I agreed to take on the role despite being nervous about taking on a leadership role when I was so new to our organization. Luckily, it turned out that I was surrounded by dedicated individuals who helped me transition into the leadership role, and then continued to be amazing colleagues every step of the way. Since then, I have been privileged to additionally serve as co-chair of the recently merged Membership & Awards Committee, and now as co-chair of the Educational Programming Committee. While serving in these positions I have worked to support goals set forth by SOA Council, while also trying to help push SOA to be an inclusive organization that provides meaningful value to our membership. It is my hope that if elected that I will be able to build on these experiences, along with my past service to other archival and public history organizations as I serve SOA in a new role.

As I reflect back on my time with SOA, I see an organization that has not been afraid to evolve to try to meet the needs of our membership, and the larger society that we serve. More importantly, I see an organization that is not afraid to look at itself critically as it works to continually improve its operations and programming. Now, as we continue to emerge from the worst of the COVID-19 pandemic, we find ourselves at another natural point of reflection and transition. Thus, if I am provided with the privilege to continue serving SOA as the Vice-President/President-Elect, I would collaborate with our leadership and our broader community to continue building on the work that is currently taking place, while keeping a focus on our organizational sustainability, continued efforts to further democratize our organization, and working to create an inclusive and responsive environment for all members. To be clear, there will be challenging conversations and potentially difficult decisions to be made as we continue to evolve, but this is a path we must continue to travel as we aspire to meet our stated values as an organization. Thank you for your consideration.

Previous Positions: *Processing Archivist, American Heritage Center, University of Wyoming, 2008-2011; College Archivist, College Libraries, SUNY Potsdam, 2011-2013; Head of Collections Management, Special Collections Library, Penn State University, 2013-2017; Associate Head, Special Collections Library, Penn State University, 2017-2018*

Education: *M.A. Public History, archival administration*

concentration, Wright State University, 2008; B.A. history, Bluffton University, 2002

Professional Associations: *Society of Ohio Archivists, 2018-Present: Membership Committee, Chair, 2018-2020; Membership and Awards Committee, Co-Chair, 2020-2022; Educational Programming Committee, Co-Chair, 2022-present; Society of American Archivists, 2008-Present: Theodore Calvin Pease Award Subcommittee, 2021-2022; Mentoring Subcommittee, 2018-2020; Annual Meeting Program Committee, 2017-2018; CFW Coker Award Subcommittee, 2014-2017; Academic Library Association of Ohio, 2018-Present; Mid-Atlantic Archives Conference, 2011-2018: Annual Meeting Program Committee, 2015-2016; New York Archives Conference, 2011-2013; Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists, 2008-2011; National Council on Public History, 2008-2011: Working Group, Historical Truths and Reconciliation: Interpreting Indigenous and Other Difficult Histories, 2008-2009*

Secretary

Shelby Beatty

Archivist & Records Manager, Sinclair Community College

I'm incredibly honored to run for the Society of Ohio Archivists Secretary position. I believe my work as a records manager, past experience as Secretary of the Wright State University Public History Professionals (2015-2016) and recording minutes for various committees at the Ohio History Connection (2017-2020) qualify me to run for this important role.

I began my archives career nearly eight years ago while working towards my Master's in Public History from Wright State University. Since that time, I've worked a variety of positions that have enhanced my organization and communication skills. My early experiences include serving as a contract Project Archivist, which required intense attention to detail, organization and time-management skills, and being extremely conscious of member ideas and deadlines for successful project completion.

In my current role as Archivist & Records Manager of Sinclair Community College, I've developed and strengthened a variety of skills. My work involves promoting sound record keeping in compliance with the Ohio Public Records Act, collecting and preserving institutional history, and promoting the archives through digitization and community outreach. I enjoy working with others to identify their records management needs and finding solutions to keep digital records effectively. I would love to assist SOA in updating its retention schedule, if needed.

SOA was incredibly instrumental in beginning my career as an archivist. I was thrilled showcase my work on using primary source materials in local school classrooms at the 2015 Spring Meeting. I was also awarded a student scholarship, which was very encouraging as a young archivist. I've made many professional connections through the society and would be delighted to serve in a SOA leadership position.

I would like to see SOA continue to support students in joining the profession. I work largely with community college students that have a long way to go in their educational journey to becoming ar-chivists. I want to ensure these students are aware of the benefits of SOA, like the Annual Meeting and scholarship opportunities, as well as encourage new ways of bringing students into the field. This may include mentorship opportunities for students early in their education and providing information about resources, like publications and practical training sessions, to support entering the field professionally.

I also want to see SOA continue digital initiatives and assist members in finding solutions for retaining digital archival content. It can be a financial burden to acquire appropriate software, and in my experience, may also be difficult to get stakeholders on board. SOA may consider working with members to advocate for proper solutions through resources, like tip sheets and information sessions, that will help them strengthen their case.

Previous Positions: *Reference Archivist, Archives & Library, Ohio History Connection, 2017-2020; Archives Intern, National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center, 2016-2017; Project Archivist, Bradford Ohio Railroad Museum, 2016-2017; Project Archivist, Southwestern Ohio Bluegrass Music Heritage Project, 2016-2017; Project Archivist, Victoria Theatre Association (Dayton Live), 2015-2016*

Education: *M.A., Public History, concentration in Archival Administration, Wright State University, 2016; B.A., Social Science Education, Wright State University, 2014*

Professional Associations: *Ohio Digitization Interest Group (OhioDIG), 2023-Present; Academy of Certified Archivists (ACA), 2022-Present; National Association of Government Archives & Records Administrators (NAGARA), 2022-Present; ARMA International 2020-Present; Dayton Chapter Board Director, 2022-Present; Society of Ohio Archivists, 2015-Present; Wright State University Public History Professionals, 2014-2016; Secretary, 2015-2016; Miami Valley Archives Roundtable (MVAR), 2014-present*

Council

Kristen Newby

Special Collections Supervisor, Local History & Genealogy, Columbus Metropolitan Library

My journey to working in Ohio libraries and archives is relatively unconventional. Like all of us, I loved history, but modern history never connected with me as a student. My heart was in the ancient past, which led to a history and classics double major with a focus on the Greco-Roman world. This course provided general historical context and knowledge, and the language skills to read ancient authors in their own words. Shifting my focus to ancient art and material culture in graduate school added a new piece to the puzzle. Upon graduation, the conclusion of a grant-funded position, and the lack of job prospects (shocking, I know), I found myself back in Columbus, deep in state and local history. I quickly discovered that the only reason I never enjoyed modern history is because it was never presented to me in a way that centered the human experience and inspired inward reflection. We, as an organization and GLAM professionals, are in a unique position to use our collections to foster empathy-building by elevating underrepresented voices; using the past as a lens to better understand ourselves; and sharing the stories of ordinary people doing extraordinary things.

Encouraging members to engage the communities we serve with the past in a way that sheds light on contemporary issues that are important to them is one area I think SOA should prioritize in the coming years. This endeavor exemplifies the field's relevance and continued importance. Another worthwhile focus area is increasing awareness of the field to younger audiences—making GLAM related fields more accessible and welcoming to underrepresented groups, developing opportunities for us to meet young people where they are, and bring to life the aspects of history that are meaningful to them. This work might take the shape of more targeted outreach developed with youth input, new or revitalized social media activity, or creative digital projects.

Although I've only been a member of SOA since 2020, I've been attending the annual meeting and other associated programming since 2016. I've seen the organization evolve over the last seven years and I'm excited to help lead the organization as a Council member as it continues to grow and adapt. As one of the original members of the Social Justice & Black Lives Matter Task Force, I helped develop the goals and mission of the group which will guide SOA's DEAI efforts across the organization. As a member of the OhioDIG planning committee, I have built relationships with cultural heritage organizations across the state and have a solid understanding of the successes and limitations of different types and sizes of institutions. If elected to Council, I look forward to continuing to build relationships with all of you, and to learn and listen to the wisdom and experiences you share. Thank you for your consideration!

Previous Positions: *Digital Projects Coordinator, Ohio History Connection, 2019-2022; World War I Project Coordinator, Ohio History Connection, 2017-2019; Metadata Coordinator, Ohio History Connection, 2016-2017; Digitization Assistant for Online Coins of the Roman Empire (OCRE), American Numismatic Society, 2014-2015; Visual Resources Assistant, Digital Media Services, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, 2012-2014; Archival Assistant, Aphrodisias Excavations Archives, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, 2013-2014; Intern, Digital Media Department, Metropolitan Museum of Art, 2013*

Education: *M.A. History of Art and Archaeology, New York University, 2014; B.A., History (major) and Classics (major), The Ohio State University, 2012*

Professional Associations: *Ohio Digitization Interest Group, member since 2016, planning committee 2019-present; Society of Ohio Archivists, member since 2020, Social Justice and Black Lives Matter Task Force 2020-2022; Library Leadership Ohio, 2021 cohort; Digital Public Library of America, Community Liaison, 2017-2018*

Archives Month Poster

The theme for this year's SOA **Archives Month poster** is **Transportation in Ohio.** The Advocacy and Outreach committee is highlighting archival holdings related to all aspects of Ohio transportation for the poster, which will be distributed for **Archives Month** in October.

Image submissions were collected through March into early April, and SOA members can vote on their favorite submitted images to help choose what can be used in the final poster. Voting continues through April 2023 and the link to vote can be found on the SOA website.

The Society of Ohio Archivists has celebrated **Archives Month/ Week** since 1993 and printed its first poster in 1994. SOA evolved from a week to month-long observance in 2007. SOA's Archives Month activity is managed by the **Advocacy and Outreach** Committee.

View our **posters in Pinterest** and see blog posts tagged **Archives Month.**

Thank You,

Society of Ohio Archivists Advocacy and Outreach Committee

The Airstream Heritage Center

A Celebration of 90+ Years of Travel Adventure

*Contributed by **Samantha Martin**, Airstream Archivist & Historian*

FROM THE CREATION OF the first streamlined aluminum Airstream in the 1930s to decades of world-spanning Caravans that fostered international goodwill, the Airstream story is deeply intertwined with American and world history. The Airstream Heritage Center, a new museum at Airstream's headquarters in Jackson Center, Ohio, provides a rare and in-depth look at this history that is sure to inspire future adventurers for years to come.

On June 1, 2022, Airstream's brand-new Heritage Center was officially opened to the public. This 16,000 square foot museum is home to over 90 years of Airstream history in the form of vintage Caravan footage, artifacts, and historic Airstreams. Visitors can immerse themselves in the stories of the exceptional individuals and iconic Airstream products that have helped shape the company's unparalleled contri-

bution to the world of travel.

There are so many exciting pieces of history to see at the Heritage Center. Let's take a look at just a few of the highlights that visitors can expect to see when they visit.

The Wally Byam Collection

Born in 1896, Wally Byam founded Airstream with the goal of bringing all of the comforts of home to travelers heading out on their own adventures. The Wally Byam collection features rare family photos, recordings of Wally's voice and some of his earliest designs for Airstream travel trailers. Visitors can also see Wally's 1930s business card and a series of handwritten aspirations he pledged to live by. This collection accompanies a timeline of the history of Airstream, from Wally's birth all the way up into the present day.

Many items in this collection are thanks to the generous donation of Dale "Pee Wee"

1936 Airstream Business Card

Schwamborn on behalf of his mother's estate. Helen Byam Schwamborn – Wally's cousin and leader of the WBCCI from its founding to her retirement – kept meticulous records on Airstream history and saved a treasure trove of family archives that can now be viewed by Airstream enthusiasts.

Old Grand Dad

The 1938 Airstream Clipper, affectionately nicknamed "Old Grand Dad," is one of

the oldest travel trailers on display at the Heritage Center. The Clipper is the very first riveted aluminum Airstream travel trailer. This model was the one that started it all and laid the groundwork for the future of Airstream. A rare tandem axle, Old Grand features the original stainless-steel kitchen galley and wooden interior.

Wally's Gold World Traveler

In 1959-1960, a group of intrepid Airstreamers joined together to travel through Africa in the famous Capetown to Cairo Caravan. Leading the Caravan was Wally, with his custom gold Airstream, that has made its final stop at the Heritage Center. This exhibit features many other artifacts from the journey, including Wally's pith helmet and a collection of African masks acquired on the trip, courtesy of the Estate of Helen Byam Schwamborn.

Items from the Space Program

Airstream and America's space program have enjoyed a great partnership together over the years. Airstream provided modified travel trailers to be used as Mobile Quarantine Facilities (or MQFs) for the crews of Apollo 11, 12, and 14 to stay in as precaution against unknown pathogens the astronauts could have been exposed to during their trip to the moon. Later, Airstream provided the Astrovan, a custom version of the Airstream Excella Motorhome that was used to transfer astronauts to the launch pad during the Shuttle Era. Artifacts and historical photos from Airstream's contribution to the journey to space are on display at the Heritage Center.

The **Airstream Heritage Center** is open weekdays from 9am to 4pm at the Airstream company headquarters in Jackson Center, Ohio. For more information about the Heritage Center including hours, location, and admission, visit the **Airstream Heritage Center** online.

Visitors to the Mothership can also **sign up online to join the factory tour** for an up-close look at how Airstream quality is built into each and every travel trailer and touring coach.

Wally's Gold Airstream

Airstream and Space

My Path to the Archives

Paige Kinzer, *Assistant Archivist, Archdiocese of Cincinnati*

MY PATH TO ARCHIVES was a long one. It was nothing I ever imagined myself doing; probably because I did not even know it was a profession until about six years ago. We crossed paths unexpectedly. Originally, when I entered Marshall University as an undergraduate in 2012, my heart was set on criminal and crime scene investigation. To satisfy my core curriculum requirements, I began taking basic level history classes. Turned out, I loved history and I had just never realized it. I mean, growing up I always enjoyed going to museums and watching programs on the *History Channel*, but I never really thought of that as something you could do for work.

When I graduated with my bachelor's degree in criminal justice and psychology, I decided, much to the dismay of my family, to pursue something I actually enjoyed – history. So, in 2017, I was once again a student at Marshall but this time as a graduate student. The history department at Marshall is not big in any sense, but this allowed for smaller class sizes and personable relationships with professors and other students. During my first semester as a graduate student, I happened across a class called *Introduction to Archives*. Over the course of the semester, we were responsible for processing and organizing our own collections as part of the Marshall University Archives. The teaching assistant at the time was also a graduate student in an MLIS program at another school, and this is where I was first introduced to library science. By the end of the semester, I was hooked. Getting to hold these historical documents in my hands and being responsible for their preservation and upkeep was exactly what I wanted to do. As a kid, going to museums, I always wanted to be able to touch the artifacts behind the glass and here I was finally able to do that. So, when the semester ended, I enquired about an internship within the university archives for credit. After getting the green light, I spent the summer in the depths of the archives going through their backlog and prioritizing what needed to be processed and accessioned into their collection. At the end of my internship, I even got to design and set up my own small exhibit from the collection materials I had gone through. I ended up making my own JFK presidential campaign exhibit.

By the time I graduated with my master's in 2019, library science had left my thoughts as I was forced to focus more on research prior to graduation. Thus, my mind went back to simply thinking that I would just try to get a job in a museum. Well, that was a mistake. It did not take me long to learn that archives, libraries, and museums were a small, tightknit community, and history was just not going to cut it on its own. It was during this time, right as my graduation was approaching, that my husband was relocated to Cincinnati, Ohio for his job. Even here, especially moving right before the COVID pandemic, museum and history jobs were scarce. Then it was like the light bulb went off in my brain and I remembered that conversation with the teaching assistant about library science and archives. I had enjoyed the class and internship, so why shouldn't I put more effort into these interests? I began looking into online library science programs so I would be able to work full time while still attend classes. I would like to circle back around and say that that psychology degree was not a complete waste because at this point I had been working in the mental health field for almost six years. This field can hold crazy hours, so having a flexible class schedule was going to be necessary.

January 2022, I was accepted into the MLIS program at the University of Kentucky, and I was so excited to continue my education and become one step closer to achieving my career goals. After looking over the course catalog, I became a little discouraged that there was only one elective class on archives in the program but I decided to give it a fair chance. Three semesters in, this is still a problem I have with the program. Everything is focused on public and academic libraries rather than special collections libraries, archives, museums, law, or medical libraries.

I quickly began looking for local archives' internships and volunteer opportunities. When I had first moved to Cincinnati, prior to the COVID shutdown, I had shown interest in the Cincinnati Museum Center, more for the history aspect at that time, but now that they were open again and accepting new volunteers, I decided to put in my application. Once they saw I was interested in archives, and was in the process of getting my degree, they reached out saying that they were interested in having me come in. Weeks went by, then those weeks turned to months, and I still hadn't heard anything else. Finally, I got the call that the Geier Collections and Research Center, the archives for the Cincinnati Museum Center, was looking for a volunteer to assist in their manuscript collection. Now was my chance. My first day, I felt like I was finally where I belonged. I spent the next few months coming in for a few hours after work, and any other time I could fit in around my full-time job and school. Here, I jumped right into processing collections and doing research to create finding aids. They had a large part of their collection that needed to be rehoused in acid free folders and boxes. It was great.

Fast forward to 2023, I am still working in the hospital, trying to squeeze in as many volunteer hours as possible to get all the experience that I can. My nightly activities during this time included scrolling through Indeed.com to see what job openings there were in nearby museums and libraries. I knew I wasn't finished with my degree yet, but I was eager to keep my eye out. It was during one of these nightly searches, that on a whim, I applied for an opening at the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Archives as an Archives Assistant. To my surprise, I was invited in for an interview and a few weeks later I was offered the job. I was on cloud nine! I could not believe it, especially before I had my degree in hand. But here I was, given the chance to finally get real-life work experience. I spend my days, mostly, processing collections. Which is great; it's something

I've learned that I love to do. But this position has also given me the opportunity to gain skills in new areas such as research and genealogy requests. Turns out, I really enjoy these as well. I love being given the task of trying to find something, no matter how obscure. I could not be happier to finally have gotten my foot in the door in the archives/library community, and I cannot wait to see what larger projects are in store for me here and am grateful

that I am able to learn and gain valuable experience from this opportunity.

I am glad to be here and am excited to be able to attend any conferences and professional trainings I can to continue to grow and learn new skills, and to see what the future holds for me in this field!

Start Here: The NDSA Levels of Preservation Matrix

Emily Ahlin, *Director of Archives, Catholic Diocese of Cleveland*

SOMETIMES, ESPECIALLY IF YOU are working at an under-resourced archive, thinking about digital preservation is nothing short of completely overwhelming. The technology is constantly changing, along with best practices, and the perfect way to do something is often effectively out of reach for most archives due to lack of funds, lack of staff, and/or lack of knowledge. It might even feel like trying to climb Mount Everest with only a pair of flip flops and peanut butter and jelly sandwich.

Yet, despite all of these challenges, many of us know we can do something to work towards sustainable digital preservation that won't break the bank or stretch us beyond our capabilities - the problem is, we often don't know where to begin - which free trial of which program? How do I convince people who can't even give me paper records the way I ask them to, to provide digital copies of things in one file format? What is file fixity and how do I check for it?

The place to begin is the National Digital Stewardship Alliance (NDSA). Now part of the Digital Library Federation (DLF) at the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR), the NDSA began in 2010 as an initiative of the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program at the Library of Congress. Currently there are 276 member institutions which participate in the activities of the NDSA, namely sharing resources and expertise in interest and working groups.

Whether you work for a member institution or not, the resources that the NDSA develops are open for anyone to use. In particular, the one I want to highlight today is the Levels of Digital Preservation Matrix. The matrix breaks down digital preservation into five "functional area[s]" - Storage, Integrity, Control, Metadata, and Content.

Across the top of the matrix, there are four levels listed – "Level 1: Know Your Content," "Level 2: Protect Your Content," "Level 3: Monitor Your Content," and "Level 4: Sustain Your Content." Then, throughout the matrix, each of the functional areas is given a couple standards that match up with each level. You might not be able to be at a "Level 4" in everything, and that's okay! There are many places where I know I'm not going to be at a "Level 4" for a number of years. But what the matrix provides is a place to begin and an ideal to strive for – and you can tailor the approach to fit your needs.

For example, "Level 1" for storage is having two copies in separate locations, knowing what you have and where you have it, and putting content into "stable storage." Whereas, "Level 4" would be having three copies in different geographic locations subject to different disaster threats (hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, etc.), diversifying storage, and planning to handle the eventual obsolescence of storage hardware, software, and media. Levels 2 and 3 fall somewhere in between those two. Maybe you can't be at a Level 4 – lack of resources, lack of time, institution policies that don't let you store items in the cloud – but Level 2, having three copies with one copy in a separate geographic location (that could be local) is more attainable. Now, you have a clear vision and goal, with steps you can take to improve in the future if you so choose. Each functional area works in similar fashion, and of course, you can mix and match levels as needed.

When you don't know where to begin, the **NDSA Levels of Preservation matrix** can help you form a clear vision with attainable benchmarks and goals, no matter your institution size, funding level, or available staff. It is by far the ultimate tool you can use help you to summit the Everest-size peaks of digital preservation.

The Importance of Intersectional DEI

Michelle Ganz, *Director of Archives, Dominican Sisters of Peace*

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is an umbrella concept that boils down to the idea that everyone moves through the world differently and has the right to do so. Over a series of articles, we'll discuss DEI and how to apply DEI practices regardless of your position within an organization.

Successful DEI efforts are intersectional by design and built on a thousand little steps; one of the easiest ways to start thinking about DEI is thinking about the words we use and how those affect the people we are engaging with. Below is a list of common DEI terms and what they mean.

Next time we'll talk about DEI strategies and how to apply them to any situation.

Terms: [1]

Ally: Someone who supports a group other than one's own (in terms of multiple identities such as race, gender, age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, etc.). An ally acknowledges oppression and actively commits to reducing their own complicity, investing in strengthening their own knowledge and awareness of oppression.

Bias: A form of prejudice that results from our need to quickly classify individuals into categories.

Bigot: A person who is obstinately devoted to their own opinions and prejudices and is intolerant towards other diverse social groups.

BIPoC: An acronym used to refer to black, Indigenous and people of color. It is based on the recognition of collective experiences of systemic racism. As with any other identity term, it is up to individuals to use this term as an identifier.

Cisgender: A term for people whose gender identity, expression or behavior aligns with those typically associated with their assigned sex at birth.

Color Blind: The belief that everyone should be treated "equally" without respect to societal, economic, historical, racial, or other differences. No differences are seen or acknowledged; everyone's the same.

Cultural Appropriation: The non-consensual/misappropriate use of cultural elements for commodification or profit purposes – including symbols, art, language, customs, etc. – often without understanding, acknowledgment or respect for its value in the context of its original culture.

Decolonize: The active and intentional process of unlearning values, beliefs and conceptions that have caused physical, emotional, or mental harm to people through colonization. It requires a recognition of systems of oppression.

Disability: Physical or mental impairment that affects a person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

Diversity: Socially, it refers to the wide range of identities. It broadly includes race, ethnicity, gender, age, national origin, religion, disability, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, education, marital status, language, veteran status, physical appearance, etc. It also involves different ideas, perspectives, and values.

Discrimination: The unequal treatment of members of various groups, based on conscious or unconscious prejudice, which favors one group over others on differences of race, gender, economic class, sexual orientation, physical ability, religion, language, age, national identity, religion, and other categories.

Equity: The fair treatment, access, opportunity, and advancement for all people, while at the same time striving to identify and eliminate barriers that prevent the full participation of some groups. The principle of equity acknowledges that there are historically underserved and underrepresented populations and that fairness regarding these unbalanced conditions is necessary to provide equal opportunities to all groups.

Gender Identity: Distinct from the term "sexual orientation," refers to a person's internal sense of being male, female or something else. Since gender identity is internal, one's gender identity is not necessarily visible to others.

Gender Non-conforming: An individual whose gender expression is different from societal expectations related to gender.

Harassment: The use of comments or actions that can be perceived as offensive, embarrassing, humiliating, demeaning and unwelcome.

Implicit Bias: Negative associations expressed automatically that people unknowingly hold and that that affect our understanding, actions, and decisions; also known as unconscious or hidden bias.

Inclusion: The act of creating an environment in which any individual or group will be welcomed, respected, supported, and valued as a fully participating member. An inclusive and welcoming climate embraces and respects differences.

Institutional Racism: Institutional racism refers specifically to the ways in which institutional policies and practices create different outcomes and opportunities for different groups based on racial discrimination.

1   *University of Washington College of the Environment. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Glossary retrieved 8/11/22 from https://environment. uw.edu/about/diversity-equity-inclusion/tools-and-additional-resources/glossary-dei-concepts/*

Intersectionality: A social construct that recognizes the fluid diversity of identities that a person can hold such as gender, race, class, religion, professional status, marital status, socioeconomic status, etc.

"Isms": A way of describing any attitude, action or institutional structure that oppresses a person or group because of their target group. For example, race (racism), gender (sexism), economic status (classism), older age (ageism), religion (e.g., anti-Semitism), sexual orientation (heterosexism), language/immigrant status (xenophobism), etc.

LGBTQIA: An inclusive term for those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual.

Microaggression: The verbal, nonverbal and environmental slights, snubs, insults, or actions, whether intentional or unintentional, which communicate hostile, derogatory or negative messages to target persons based solely upon discriminatory belief systems.

Multicultural Competency: A process of embracing diversity and learning about people from other cultural backgrounds. The key element to becoming more culturally competent is respect for the ways that others live in and organize the world and an openness to learn from them.

Oppression: The systemic and pervasive nature of social inequality woven throughout social institutions as well as embedded within individual consciousness. Oppression fuses institutional and systemic discrimination, personal bias, bigotry, and social prejudice in a complex web of relationships and structures.

Patriarchy: Actions and beliefs that prioritizes masculinity. Patriarchy is practiced systemically in the ways and methods through which power is distributed in society (jobs and positions of power given to men in government, policy, criminal justice, etc.) while also influencing how we interact with one another interpersonally (gender expectations, sexual dynamics, space-taking, etc.).

People of Color: A collective term for men and women of Asian, African, Latinx and Native American backgrounds, as opposed to the collective "White".

Prejudice: A preconceived judgment or preference, especially one that interferes with impartial judgment and can be rooted in stereotypes, that denies the right of individual members of certain groups to be recognized.

Privilege: Exclusive access or access to material and immaterial resources based on the membership to a dominant social group.

Queer: An umbrella term that can refer to anyone who transgresses society's view of gender or sexuality. The definitional indeterminacy of the word Queer, its elasticity, is one of its characteristics: "A zone of possibilities."

Race: A social construct that artificially divides people into distinct groups based on characteristics such as physical appearance (particularly race), ancestral heritage, cultural affiliation, cultural history, ethnic classification, and the social, economic, and political needs of a society at a given period of time.

Safe Space: Refers to an environment in which everyone feels comfortable expressing themselves and participating fully, without fear of attack, ridicule, or denial of experience.

Sexual Orientation: An individual's enduring physical, romantic and/or emotional attraction to another person. Gender identity and sexual orientation are not the same. Transgender people may be straight, lesbian, gay or bisexual.

Social Justice: Social justice constitutes a form of activism, based on principles of equity and inclusion that encompasses a vision of society in which the distribution of resources is equitable, and all members are physically and psychologically safe and secure. Social justice involves social actors who have a sense of their own agency as well as a sense of social responsibility toward and with others.

Stereotype: A form of generalization rooted in blanket beliefs and false assumptions, a product of processes of categorization that can result in a prejudiced attitude, critical judgment and intentional or unintentional discrimination. Stereotypes are typically negative, based on little information and do not recognize individualism and personal agency.

Structural Inequality: Systemic disadvantage(s) of one social group compared to other groups, rooted, and perpetuated through discriminatory practices (conscious or unconscious) that are reinforced through institutions, ideologies, representations, policies/laws, and practices. When this kind of inequality is related to racial/ethnic discrimination, it is referred to as systemic or structural racism.

System of Oppression: Conscious and unconscious, non-random, and organized harassment, discrimination, exploitation, discrimination, prejudice, and other forms of unequal treatment that impact different groups. Sometimes it is used to refer to systemic racism.

Tokenism: Performative presence without meaningful participation. For example, a superficial invitation for the participation of members of a certain socially oppressed group, who are expected to speak for the whole group without giving this person a real opportunity to speak for her/himself.

White Supremacy: A power system structured and maintained by persons who classify themselves as White, whether consciously or subconsciously determined; and who feel superior to those of other racial/ethnic identities.

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The terms contained in this glossary have been reproduced from the following resources:

- Anti-Violence Project. **Glossary**. University of Victoria.
- Colors of Resistance. **Definitions for the Revolution**.
- Cram, R. H. (2002). Teaching for diversity and social justice: A sourcebook.
- Equity and Inclusion. **Glossary**. UC Davis.
- Potapchuk, M., Leiderman, S., et al. (2009). **Glossary**. Center for Assessment and Policy Development.
- Center for Diversity & Inclusion. **Glossary of Bias Terms**. Washington University in St. Louis.
- Ontario Human Rights Commission. **Glossary of human rights terms**.

Backlog's Back, Alright!

Jenni Salamon, Manager, Digital Services, Ohio History Connection

EVERYBODY, LET'S DO A quick survey: How many projects/tasks are on your to-do list right now? Less than five (what's your secret)? Five to ten? More than ten (how are you surviving)? For projects considered "backlog", "carryover", or "legacy", are you actively working on them, or do they consistently get pushed to the bottom of your to-do list to languish for what seems like all eternity? If the latter, it's normal and expected in our field—we've all been there, are currently there, or will get there. But if it's finally time to make a case for elevating this work to the top of your to-do list, read on to learn how the **Ohio Memory** team at the Ohio History Connection (OHC) prioritized addressing our backlog alongside that of our ongoing and new digital collection projects.

Defining and Defending Backlog

Backlog, carryover, legacy, and similar terms can have fluid definitions, depending on who you ask and what the context is. For the purposes of this discussion, I am defining them as:

- Scans created upon request but not uploaded to your digital collection
- Short- or long-term projects that were stalled due to staff changes
- Digital collections/exhibits completed years ago in need of updating or migration

While it is challenging to justify spending resources on projects that are considered completed or outside the scope of your organization's current strategic initiatives, it's not impossible—in fact, this work may be more relevant to those priorities than it originally seems. At OHC, one of our core values is stewardship (protecting the evidence of Ohio's history and upholding 21st century best practices for public history and historic preservation), and one of our strategic priorities is sustainability (all the ways that we support the ongoing impact of the organization at our sites and the communities in which we work). There are a few ways I've used these concepts to advocate for tackling our backlog.

Space

Server and web-hosting space are expensive to purchase and maintain, and responsibly stewarding that storage means ensuring that it isn't wasted on data that doesn't ultimately serve an organization's goals. We have scanned hundreds of images upon request, and even though the originals are held in our physical collection, some may not meet the selection criteria for Ohio Memory. When time is at a premium, it's better to spend it digitizing new collections that are relevant for our target audiences, rather than uploading and describing items just because we already have the scans. Regularly reviewing this material allows for making informed, intentional decisions about what should be online, and what items can be archived or deleted. (In addition,

your information technology team will thank you for every file you delete as it will free up image server space without you always having to ask for more to be added or purchased!)

Website Vulnerabilities

Before vendor-supported and robust open-source options for hosting digital content were more commonplace, institutions used a variety of scripting and programming tools to stand up digital collections and exhibits. Some of these tools still have their uses today, of course, but in some cases, they may leave your technological infrastructure vulnerable to security risks. Creative hackers can use older web properties as pathways to reach your more updated and secure web properties, and even your internal network. Updating legacy websites and data is a safety concern, and investing time in it now can prevent (expensive) headaches later on. (Again, your information technology team will thank you—and so will your financial team!)

Our other core values—authenticity, inclusivity, relevance and working together—and strategic priorities—equity and relationship-building—also relate back to each of these types of projects in their own ways, adding further justification for devoting at least some staff resources toward this work. Consider your own mission and priorities, and use them as a lens through which to view your backlog projects. If you can show how this work helps the organization achieve its goals, it's easier to help administrators understand why all and/or only new projects should not be taken on at the expense of old projects.

Processing in Practice

New projects are important too, of course! If you have an upcoming anniversary, event or exhibit, digitization priorities can and should support that work. When determining which projects to work on, Ohio Memory staff will balance new digitization projects and ongoing work supporting our partners with backlog projects. At my team's annual planning meetings, we create a list of projects we'd like to tackle, then consider the time involved in them and how they connect to our strategic priorities. In this way, we're able to both digitize new collections—like **Warren G. Harding's campaign correspondence** to help commemorate the 100th anniversary of his presidential victory—and clean up old ones—like migrating the African American Experience in Ohio (created in the late 1990s as a ColdFusion and SQL server) to a **new Ohio Memory collection**, with improved images and metadata. If a project doesn't make the cut that year, we reconsider it in a future year, or we evaluate whether it is one that should be addressed at all. One of the most powerful tools in our arsenal when it comes to project planning and prioritization is saying "no" or "not right now"—because if you say "yes" to one project, that usually means another project is deferred.

The Requests Folder: A Case Study

Problem

Since the early 2000s, OHC digitization efforts stemming from on-demand requests have resulted in 20,000+ files and occupy over 1 TB of server space. These have been sourced from all collection types and subject areas to support various internal and external projects, such as exhibits, research, publications, etc. Some scans have very little context or are incomplete, such as a single page from a book or multi-page letter.

Goals

1. Reorganize files by call number (rather than project/requestor name) to correspond with standard file organization schema
2. Document file workflow and develop procedure for file review
3. Upload, archive or delete files regularly so that backlog does not grow as fast

Outcomes

File organization

- Defined types of digitization projects and created corresponding subfolders for each
  - Complete: Scanned and added to Ohio Memory for public access
  - Requests: Scanned on behalf of individuals or institutions for internal and external projects, such as exhibits, research, publications, etc.
  - Working: Scans being added to Ohio Memory (Active); requiring evaluation (Backlog); or awaiting deletion
- Moved files older than six months from Requests to Backlog folder
  - Organized folders/files by call number/collection type
  - Created tracking spreadsheet to record folder/file name/description, number of files, decision, rationale, date completed, file location, and responsible staff

Workflow and procedure

- Created Image Storage Procedure document
  - Defined project types and related workflow, including tracking spreadsheets
  - Established schedule for file review and final actions
    - Requests: Reviewed every six months by Manager* (with group input)
    - Backlog: Reviewed every quarter by Coordinators* (with group input)
    - Deletions: Deleted after six months by Manager*
  - Defined image evaluation criteria (final actions)
    - Upload: Relates to strategic initiative or collecting priority
    - Archive: Does not fit within scope of Ohio Memory; Research or preservation copy and re-scanning should be avoided
    - Delete: Does not belong to OHC; Incomplete work; Copyright, privacy, or permission concerns

Implementation

- Made assignments
  - Each Coordinator* assigned a collection type to make recommendations for final actions and upload designated files to Ohio Memory
  - Manager* updates Backlog spreadsheet
  - Manager* moves designated files to Archive and records on Archive spreadsheet
  - Manager* deletes designated files and records on Delete Log spreadsheet
  - Minimum 20 hours per quarter spent on backlog work – there is no minimum number of records to process because the time spent on each type of record/collection can vary widely
- Regularly upload, archive, or delete files leading to improved maintenance of storage space and better intellectual control of digital files

Note: The Ohio Memory team consists of a Department Manager, with four Coordinators that report to that position.

The Takeaway

Whether or not you've been convinced that there's no time like the present to tackle your backlog, here are a few key lessons learned and guiding principles:

Set limits: It's impossible to digitize all the collections—consider time, monetary, legal, ethical, and other restrictions to set priorities and stay accountable to them.

Be logical, but passionate: Share your work plans and rationale with your administration to get buy-in on balancing new and old projects. Show them how this type of work benefits everyone, from your staff to your users.

Remember that some progress is better than no progress: Try not to get caught up in the "But we'll never get it all done" mentality. With backlog/legacy projects, demonstrating progress of any kind can be its own reward.

And now, as I close my final article for this column, I thank you for indulging my discussions on all things digital over the past five years and declare that it's time for: everybody (yeah), rock your backlog (yeah), everybody (yeah), rock your backlog right—backlog's back, alright!*

The Backstreet Boys have in no way endorsed this article.

Archiving vs. Deleting Files

As an archivist, deaccessioning collections and deleting files is scary but necessary. Here are some reasons why you might choose NOT to share files via your publicly-accessible digital collection:

Completed project Incomplete scan One-time request Lacks connection to mission/purpose	Items were scanned for a very specific purpose and are not relevant to your digital collecting priorities
Duplicate files	Copies already exist in this location and/or via this storage type
Source unclear Lacks call numbers	Not enough information is known about the provenance of this item to create metadata or determine if it's okay to share online based on institution's selection criteria
Does not belong to your institution Copyright Restricted	Cannot provide online access without express written permission from owner of original material

But should you archive or delete those files? Our practice has been to maintain files that fall within certain collecting areas based on recommendations/requests by internal staff, as well was those that were costly/complicated to digitize in the first place (items with conservation concerns or required vendor support like audio or video files). We delete almost everything else—it's unlikely that something that we wouldn't want on Ohio Memory would be frequently requested, and it's often easier to re-scan an item for a one-time or on-demand request than it is to remember if you scanned the item in the first place and where that file is.

Jenni Salamon is Manager, Digital Services at the Ohio History Connection, where she oversees Ohio Memory and related services, such as digitization and original microfilming; Rights & Reproductions; and management of the organization's online collections catalogs. She also coordinates and provides outreach and training on digitization and related topics and serves as a Community Engagement Center Representative for the Ohio Digital Network (DPLA). Jenni has been with OHC since 2009, and has a BA in English from Ohio University, an MLIS from Kent State University, and a Digital Archives Specialist Certificate from the Society of American Archivists. Jenni loves reading, dachshunds, crime TV, and crafting.

Dan Noonan from The Ohio State University began the column "DiGITal: Digital Guidance, Information, Tips, and Lingo" before Jenni Salamon rebranded to "Digital Discussions." Jenni is now retiring from Digital Discussions, and we would like to wish her a heartfelt farewell in this role and sincere thank you for all her wonderful work and dedication to this publication.

Thank You, Jenni!

Individual Member News

Kayla Harris, CA, DAS, Associate Professor for the University of Dayton, has been promoted to Assistant Director of the Marian Library. Congratulations, Kayla!

Sasha Kim (formerly Sasha Griffin), the University Archivist & Special Collections Librarian at **Denison University** in Granville, has changed her name. Her work email address has also changed to **kimsh@denison.edu**. Thanks in advance for updating your contacts list!

The **State Library of Ohio** is pleased to announce **Penelope Shumaker** has been promoted to Library Consultant in our **Library Programs and Development (LPD) Division**. As Library Consultant, Penelope will coordinate **NASA@ My Library and Solar Eclipse for Libraries (SEAL)** programs as well as the **Reimagining School Readiness** workshop. In addition to these programs, she will continue her work with **Ohio Digital Network (ODN)** and **Digital Public Library of America (DPLA)**. Penelope guides ODN member institutions in preparing their metadata for ingest into DPLA. She also coordinates the **LSTA Metadata Mini-Grant** and assists on other **LSTA grant initiatives**.

Lisa Smilnak, Digital Content & Special Collections Librarian at the Cleveland State University College of Law Library, was recently elected to a two-year term as Chair of the Cleveland Archival Roundtable, an organization of archivists, historians, and other individuals interested in the preservation and use of the rich historical resources of greater Cleveland and the Western Reserve region.

Institutional Member News

The Drs. Nicholas and Dorothy Cummings Center for the History of Psychology was awarded a $10,000 Preservation Assistance Grant in August 2022 from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The grant supported a 3-day onsite assessment of the facility's mechanical systems and a subsequent report of the findings. This is the first step in enabling the Cummings Center to match the mechanical capabilities in the building with the environmental needs of its historical collections for improved long-term care.

Jeremy Linden of Linden Preservation Services was onsite January 9-11, 2023, to assess the building's environmental systems, structural integrity, and collections storage conditions. Linden also spent time with Cummings Center and University of Akron staff to help establish enhanced communication pathways for building and mechanical systems maintenance. A report of the findings will follow in March 2023 with suggestions for short-term collections care and long-term building improvements.

Thermal imaging to detect water leaks, moisture seepage, and structural integrity (Photo: Rhonda Rinehart)

The Cummings Center, established in 1965 as the Archives of the History of American Psychology, is part of the **University of Akron** in Akron, Ohio, and has been a **Smithsonian Affiliate** since 2002.

Kent State University Libraries and their department of **Special Collections & Archives** honored Black History Month with an exhibition and special event featuring the Lafayette Tolliver archive. As a Kent State photojournalism student and Black Student Movement activist, Tolliver, (KSU '71), served as a photographer and columnist for the *Chestnut Burr* and *Daily Kent Stater* student publications, in addition to contributing to *Black Watch,* a publication of Kent State Black United Students (BUS). He documented students of color through his stunning photography. As a member of BUS and the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, he was often involved in programming which gave him a unique vantage point to capture candid photos of activities and gatherings that engaged students of color. The resulting collection boasts

Submitted by Cara Gilgenbach

more than 1,000 remarkable photographs, many of which were never before published or made accessible to the public. The exhibition, *Lafayette Tolliver: Visual Footprints in Time* highlights selections from this expansive collection and is on display in the **University Library Marovitz Gallery** through summer 2023. The exhibit is also available online. To learn more about this important archive, visit the **Lafayette Tolliver featured collection page**.

The MidPointe Library System (Butler County, Ohio) is proud to share that it has digitized and posted to YouTube over 70 clips of film footage from the **Sebald-Kinder Film Collection**, from the late 1920s and early 1930s. Nearing two hours of footage, the clips cover a wide variety of events, places, and activities – all filmed by the historic Sebald family of Middletown, Ohio. Of note are recordings of Middletown's 1919 Towpath Jubilee / Miami and Erie Canal closing parade with footage of the canal; an Easter egg hunt at Armco Park; Niagara Falls from both the Canadian and U.S. sides in 1929, and so much more. Digitization was done by Scene Savers out of Covington, KY. The original 18 reels of film, spanning 3822 feet of film, were respooled and rehoused and produced 1.7 TB of data.

Miami and Erie Canal in Middletown, Ohio, November 1929 (MidPointe Library System, Sebald-Kinder Film Collection)

Ohio History Connection has had a couple staff changes in the past few months. **Lauren Kennedy** joined the Digital Services Department as a Digital Projects Coordinator and provides training and support for Ohio Memory partners in addition to coordinating newspaper digitization and microfilming projects. **Elizabeth Woods** was promoted to Director, Cultural Resources & Libraries, where she oversees the Archives Services, Collections Management, Curatorial, Digital Services, Library Services, and State Archives departments and related projects, including the new Collections Care Center.

Ohio Archivist is designed and published for the Society of Ohio Archivists by the Ohio History Connection.

New Assistant Editors

Emily Ahlin is the Director of Archives for the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland. She received her MLIS with a focus in Archives from the University of Pittsburgh and has experience working in public libraries, academic libraries, and government organizations. Her professional interests include archival reference and outreach, digital preservation methods, and metadata improvements, and she is currently pursuing the Digital Archives Specialist certificate from the Society of American Archivists. Emily is a native Pittsburgher who now calls Cleveland home, and she loves to rock climb, bake any and all manner of sweets and treats, and chase sunsets down the shores of Lake Erie in her free time.

Emily is very excited to be serving as one of the assistant editors for the *Ohio Archivist* newsletter, and in particular to help you share your work with the wider community via the newsletter. Please feel free to reach out with questions, concerns, or ideas at any time – **eahlin@dioceseofcleveland.org**.

Michelle Ganz is the Director of Archives for the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Over the course of her career, she has been speaking and writing about DEI and the intersectionality of accessibility. Michelle was a part of the SAA's push to create guidelines for accessibility in archives as well as a founding member of the Accessibility & Disability Section. As a mixed race, disabled, bi woman from small town Ohio, Michelle is intimately aware of how a lack of diversity can lead to siloed thinking. Over the course of her career Michelle has worked to help people avoid the scenarios that she has faced as a professional and as a person. Michelle received her MLIS from the University of Arizona and her Bachelors in Medieval literature from The Ohio State University.

Paige Kinzer currently serves as the Assistant Archivist for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and volunteers at the Cincinnati Museum Center for their Archives and Manuscript Collection. She is in the process of getting her MLIS and, if all goes according to plan, will graduate in December 2023. Paige also has her master's in history focusing in colonial and revolutionary America. She is new to the field but is excited to get her foot in the door and begin this incredible journey! Her professional interests lie in archives, research, and museums. She grew up in Eastern Kentucky but has called Cincinnati home for the last three and a half years. When she's not at work or working on homework, she enjoys yoga, running, reading, and just being her introverted self at home with her dogs and husband. Paige is very excited to be serving as one of the assistant editors for the *Ohio Archivist* newsletter!

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