

Alexander Lawrence Ames

Education

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE | DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN HISTORY OF AMERICAN CIVILIZATION | MAY 26, 2018

- Certificate in Museum Studies (15 cr.)
- Dissertation: *The Letter and the Spirit: Calligraphy, Manuscripts, and Popular Piety in German Pennsylvania, ca. 1750 – 1850*
- Examination fields in early American religious history, the Protestant Reformation/German Pietism, and book history/print culture studies
- Committee members: James Brophy and Christine Heyrman (UD History); Jennifer Van Horn (UD Art History), James N. Green (Library Company of Philadelphia)

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE | MASTER OF ARTS IN HISTORY | DECEMBER 20, 2017

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE / WINTERTHUR MUSEUM, GARDEN & LIBRARY | MASTER OF ARTS IN AMERICAN MATERIAL CULTURE | MAY 31, 2014

- Thesis: *Heavenly Handwriting, Teutonic Type: Faith and Script in German Pennsylvania, ca. 1683 – 1855*
- Adviser: Consuela Metzger, M.L.I.S.

ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY | MASTER OF ARTS IN PUBLIC HISTORY | MAY 5, 2012

- Thesis: *Mansions of Memories: Preservation, Destruction and the Construction of Place in Central Minnesota*
- Adviser: Mary Wingerd
- Cognate Field: Cultural Resources Management Archaeology

ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY | BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN INFORMATION MEDIA DECEMBER 19, 2007

- Certificate in Instructional Technology

Peer-Reviewed Books

The Word in the Wilderness: Popular Piety and the Manuscript Arts in Early Pennsylvania, Pietist, Moravian, and Anabaptist Studies 5, Craig D. Atwood, series editor (University Park, PA: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 2020).

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

“A Room Apart: Reading the History and Future of Winterthur in Memorial Library,” *Winterthur Portfolio: A Journal of American Material Culture* 53, nos. 2/3 (Summer/Autumn, 2019): 97-152. Co-authored with Devon Dara Ennis (Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library).

“The ‘Spirit of the Fatherland’: German-American Culture and Community in the Library and Archive of the German Society of Pennsylvania, ca. 1887 – 1920,” *Libraries: Culture, History, and Society* 2, no 2 (2018): 103-126.

“‘The Knife of Daily Repentance’: Toward a Religious History of Calligraphy and Manuscript Illumination in German-Speaking Pennsylvania, ca. 1750 – 1850,” *The Mennonite Quarterly Review* 91, no. 4 (October 2017): 471-510.

“Quill and Graver Bound: Frakturschrift Calligraphy, Devotional Manuscripts, and Penmanship Instruction in German Pennsylvania, 1755 – 1855,” *Winterthur Portfolio: A Journal of American Material Culture* 50, no. 1 (Spring 2016): 1-83.

Scholarly Essays (Peer-Reviewed)

“‘Inscribe, Lord, Your Will in my Stone Heart’”: Finding Religious History in German-American Illuminated Manuscripts,” in *Elusive Archives: Material Culture Studies in Formation*, Martin Brückner and Sandy Isenstadt, eds. (Newark, DE: University of Delaware Press), expected August, 2021.

Scholarly Essays (Not Peer-Reviewed)

“The Faith that Binds: Swiss-Anabaptist Devotional Bookbindings in Early America,” in *Suave Mechanicals: Essays in the History of Bookbinding*, vol. 6, Julia Miller, ed. (Ann Arbor, MI: The Legacy Press, 2020), 192-304. Co-authored with Consuela Metzger (University of California, Los Angeles) and Erin Hammeke (Duke University).

Solicited Publications

“Mrs. F.D.R.’s Bookplate: Eleanor Roosevelt, Dorothy Sturgis Harding, and Designing a Bookplate Fit for a First Lady,” *The Bookplate Journal* 15, no. 1 (Spring 2017): 46-53.

“‘Delicious Musk and Times Long Past’: Exploring du Pont-Family Heirloom Books in the Winterthur Museum’s Mysterious Memorial Library,” with Devon Dara Ennis, *Fine Books & Collections* 15, no. 3 (Summer 2017): 49-51.

“Useful & Beautiful: The Mark Samuels Lasner Collection at the University of Delaware Brings Late-Victorian Britain to Life,” *Fine Books & Collections* 15, no. 2 (Spring 2017): 63-65.

“Portraits of Provenance: Bookplates at the Rosenbach of the Free Library of Philadelphia,” *The Bookplate Journal* 14 no. 1 (Spring 2016): 46-62.

“Main Street to Eighth Street: Lewis House and St. Cloud’s South Side Neighborhood,” *Crossings* 38, no. 3 (May 2012): 3-12.

Book Reviews

Patrick M. Erben, Alfred L. Brophy, and Margo M. Lambert, eds., *The Francis Daniel Pastorius Reader* (University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2019), 451 pp. *Early American Literature* 56.1 (2020): 307-309.

Simon J. Bronner and Joshua R. Brown, eds., *Pennsylvania Germans: An Interpretive Encyclopedia* (Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins UP, 2017), 554 pp. *Amerikastudien / American Studies* 64.4 (2019): 617-619. Online at [Universitätsverlag Winter Heidelberg](http://www.alexanderlawrenceames.com).

Mark L. Loudon, *Pennsylvania Dutch: The Story of an American Language* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 2016), 504 pp. *Amerikastudien / American Studies* 63.1 (Winter, 2018). Online at [Deutsche Gesellschaft für Amerikastudien](http://www.alexanderlawrenceames.com).

Appearances in Popular Media

Madelia Hickman Ring, "Q&A: Alexander Ames," *Antiques and the Arts Weekly*, The Bee Publishing Co., August 18, 2020, <https://www.antiquesandthearts.com/qa-alexander-ames/>.

Courses Taught

History Behind the Scenes (HIST/MSST 385), University of Delaware: Summer, 2018.

On its surface, *History Behind the Scenes: Exploring Delaware's Libraries, Museums, and Historic Sites* engages student interest with exciting, behind-the-scenes access to the area's cultural heritage institutions. Yet the course was conceived primarily as a way to use inquiry-based learning to teach students the basics of examining primary sources and thinking critically about collective memory. Designed to attract enrollment from non-majors, the class explores issues in nonprofit administration, visits 10 libraries and museums, and completes an advocacy assignment in which students contact elected officials about the importance of heritage preservation to civic life. The course fulfills an undergraduate "Discovery Learning Experience" requirement at the University of Delaware.

Exhibitions

THE ROSENBACH, PHILADELPHIA | "THE GLOBAL OTHER: RACE AND EMPIRE IN JAMES JOYCE'S ULYSSES" (CO-CURATED WITH JUDITH M. GUSTON) | JUNE – SEPTEMBER, 2021

Small installation mounted as part of 2021 Bloomsday celebration

THE ROSENBACH, PHILADELPHIA | "THE RIGHTS OF WOMAN: GENDER IN ROBERT BURNS'S ENLIGHTENMENT" (CO-CURATED WITH ELIZABETH E. FULLER) | JANUARY, 2020

Pop-up exhibition mounted as part of 2020 Burns Night celebration

THE ROSENBACH, PHILADELPHIA | "AMERICAN VOYAGER: HERMAN MELVILLE AT 200" | OCTOBER 3, 2019 – APRIL 5, 2020

Exhibition of 71 artifacts, including important Rosenbach first editions of Herman Melville's books, artworks, and whaling implements on loan from the Independence Seaport Museum analyzing Melville's lasting literary legacy

THE FREE LIBRARY OF PHILADELPHIA | "VOYAGES BY ROAD AND SEA: PHILADELPHIA PERSPECTIVES ON WALT WHITMAN AND HERMAN MELVILLE" | NOVEMBER 13, 2019 – AUGUST 30, 2020

Exhibition of historic artifacts and contemporary art inspired by the legacies of Walt Whitman and Herman Melville

THE GROLIER CLUB, NEW YORK CITY | "GROLIER CLUB BOOKPLATES, PAST & PRESENT" | OCTOBER, 2016 – JANUARY, 2017

Exhibition of approximately 200 bookplates and related artworks from Grolier Club Library and current members

THE ROSENBACH, PHILADELPHIA | "THE ART OF OWNERSHIP: BOOKPLATES & BOOK COLLECTORS FROM 1480 TO THE PRESENT" | SEPTEMBER, 2016 – MARCH, 2017

Exhibition of approximately 108 objects drawn from collections in 11 institutions, centered on bookplates and other provenance marks, and how provenance study enhances scholarship in book history and history of reading

STEARNS HISTORY MUSEUM | ALICE WHEELOCK WHITNEY MEMORIAL GALLERY PERMANENT INSTALLATION

Small, permanent installation in Stearns History Museum galleries recounting the accomplishments of a prominent local family in the realms of business, philanthropy, and social life

Conference Presentations

“The Power of Museum and Library Fusion: The Rosenbach as Philadelphia’s Home for Fine and Decorative Arts, Rare Books, and Manuscripts,” part of “Innovation and Inspiration from Outside the Academy: Learn About Operations at Diverse Collections to Inspire New Ideas” panel, Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of the American Library Association 2019 conference, Baltimore, MD, June 20, 2019.

“‘The Spirit of the Letter’: Calligraphy, Manuscript-Making, and Letter Forms as Devotional Imagery in German-Protestant Pennsylvania, ca. 1750 – 1850,” Society for German-American Studies 41st Annual Symposium, Philadelphia, PA, April 21, 2017.

“‘The Quill is My Plow’: Religious Refuge, Reading, and Writing in German-Protestant Pennsylvania, ca. 1750-1850, ‘The Refuge of Objects / Objects of Refuge,” an international symposium organized by the Center for Material Culture Studies, University of Delaware; and the Research Center of Social Cultural Studies Mainz, University of Mainz, Mainz, Germany, December 16, 2016.

Moderator, “Object Lessons” panel, “Building a Better Museum Community” symposium sponsored by The Society of Winterthur Fellows and Winterthur Academic Programs Department in honor of Rosemary Krill, April 10, 2016.

“Quill, Graver, and Porte Crayon Bound: Penmanship Instruction and Spiritual Literacy in German Pennsylvania, ca. 1683 – 1855,” “Print Culture and the Arts” panel of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association 87th Annual Conference, Durham, NC, November 13, 2015.

“‘The Spirit that No One Can Write’? Frakturschrift Calligraphy, Manuscript Illumination, and Practices of Scriptural Exegesis among Pennsylvania’s German-Speaking Radical Sectarian Pietists, ca. 1683 – 1855,” Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing 22nd Annual Conference, Antwerp, Belgium, September 18, 2014.

“His Pen and Hand: Ornamental Handwriting, Manuscript Illumination, and Paper Arts among the Pennsylvania Germans,” co-authored with Michelle Sullivan of the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation, Northeast Modern Language Association 45th Annual Convention, Harrisburg, PA, April 4, 2014.

“Facing the Nation: Pennsylvania German Portraiture, Typefaces, Handwriting, and Manuscript Illumination as Political Rhetoric and Civic Action, ca. 1750 – 1850,” Northeast Popular Culture Association Fall Conference, Colchester, VT, October 26, 2013.

“‘Mansions of Memories’: Preservation, Destruction and the Force of Collective Memory in Two Minnesota River Towns,” Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association and American Culture Association 32nd Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX, April 22, 2011.

Selected Public & Invited Lectures

“The Word in the Wilderness: Unearthing Records of Spiritual Culture in the Pennsylvania German Archive,” Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center, Pennsburg, PA, expected August 11, 2021.

“What Makes a Rare Book Rare? A Sneak Peek into the World of Rare-book Collecting at The Rosenbach,” Cosmopolitan Club of Philadelphia (virtual presentation), co-presented with Judith M. Guston, Elizabeth E. Fuller, and Jobi Zink, Philadelphia, PA, April 29, 2021.

“Honoring the Past, Creating the Future: A Virtual Roundtable Discussion about the Horner Memorial Library,” German Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA (virtual town hall), with Bettina Hess and Lorena Boylan, April 21, 2021.

“‘The Spirit of the Letter’: Pennsylvania German Calligraphy, Manuscripts, and Popular Piety in Context,” Historic Ephrata Cloister / Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Ephrata, PA (virtual presentation), April 1, 2021.

“The Word in the Wilderness: Popular Piety and the Manuscript Arts in Early Pennsylvania,” Indian Valley Public Library, Telford, PA (virtual presentation), September 10, 2020.

“The Spiritual Labyrinth: Calligraphy and Popular Piety in the Early Modern Atlantic World,” Horner Memorial Library, German Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA (virtual presentation), July 19, 2020.

“The Rosenbach Revolution: Reaching New Audiences with Artifacts of Early American Culture,” co-presented with Judith M. Guston, Americana Symposium, Sotheby’s, New York, NY, January 21, 2020.

“Herman Melville, American Voyager: Interpreting Rare Books and Manuscripts at The Rosenbach and Free Library of Philadelphia,” The Philobiblon Club, Philadelphia, PA, November 19, 2019.

“Re-imagining Melville for Modern Times: Behind the Scenes at The Rosenbach’s new *American Voyager* Exhibition,” the New York Society Library, New York, NY, October 30, 2019.

“What Makes a Rare Book Rare? Lessons in Rare Book Connoisseurship from the Rosenbach Collection,” Delaware Valley Archivists Group, The Rosenbach, Philadelphia, PA, June 6, 2019.

“‘Pages of a Mystical Character’: New Perspectives on Interpreting Pennsylvania German Frakturschrift Manuscripts, and Pennsylvania’s Place in American Religious History,” Winter History Class, Historic Ephrata Cloister / Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, February 14, 2019.

“The Word in the Wilderness: German Spiritual Manuscripts and Pennsylvania’s Place in American Religious History,” History Workshop, Department of History, University of Delaware, May 1, 2018.

“The ‘Spirit of the Fatherland’: Exploring the History of the German Society of Pennsylvania Library & Archive,” a lecture and exhibition in honor of the bicentennial of the foundation of the German Society of Pennsylvania Library, May 21, 2017.

“‘In Praise of Scribes’: Unlocking the Secrets of Illuminated Spiritual Manuscript-Making Among Pennsylvania’s Early German-Speakers, ca. 1750-1850,” Department of History, University of Delaware, May 4, 2017.

“Mysteries of Memorial Library Revealed: A Treasure Tour of a Country House Book Collection,” Winterthur Museum, Garden, & Library; Wilmington, DE, March 20 and April 3, 2017.

“Portraits of Provenance: Highlights from The Art of Ownership Bookplate Exhibition at the Rosenbach Museum in Philadelphia,” Princeton Bibliophiles & Collectors Club, Princeton University Library, Princeton, NJ, February 19, 2017.

“Lost in the Endpapers: Bookplates and Book History at the Rosenbach and Grolier Club,” presented at “The World of Bookplates” mini-symposium, The Grolier Club, New York City, January 11, 2017.

“The Letter and the Spirit: Pennsylvania-German Calligraphy, Manuscripts, and Spiritual Life, ca. 1750 – 1850,” University of Münster, Münster, Germany, December 13, 2016.

“Bookplates through the Ages: An Introduction to the Ex Libris Art Form and The Art of Ownership Exhibition,” Rosenbach Museum & Library, Philadelphia, PA, October 19, 2016.

“The Rhetoric of Baroque Letter Forms: Pennsylvania Frakturschrift Calligraphy in Transatlantic Perspective,” German Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, June 4, 2015.

“Wisdom Through Pious Living: Penmanship, Spirituality, and Pennsylvania German Manuscript Traditions,” The Philobiblon Club, Philadelphia, PA, April 14, 2015.

“The Search for Knowledge in the Gothic Baroque: Text Veneration and Divine Knowledge in German Pennsylvania, ca. 1600 – 1850,” Winterthur Museum, Garden, & Library; Wilmington, DE, April 9, 2015.

“The Winter of the Soul: Calligraphy and Religious Texts in German Pennsylvania, ca. 1683 – 1856,” Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, February 4, 2015.

“His Pen and Hand: Pennsylvania German Calligraphy and Manuscript Illumination, 1750 – 1850,” Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, University of Delaware, Wilmington, DE, April 9, 2014.

“Heavenly Handwriting, Teutonic Type: Rethinking the Many Meanings of Pennsylvania German Fraktur, ca. 1750 – 1850,” Winterthur Museum, Garden, & Library, Winterthur, DE, December 13, 2013.

“How’s This, St. Cloud? Historic Preservation and the Dark Side of Growth,” Breakfast Club, History Museum, St. Cloud, MN, May 12, 2010.

Workshops Delivered

“The Great Script Schism: How Changing Penmanship Aesthetics During the Age of Classicism Revolutionized Manuscript Culture in Europe and Early America—and Shape Your Experiences in the Archive Today,” part of the virtual symposium “Manuscripts as Material Artifacts: Decoding and Interpreting Historic Book Structures and Scripts,” Methods in Material Culture Working Group, Center for Material Culture Studies, University of Delaware, May 27, 2021.

“Chaos-Free Collections Management: A Workshop on Policies and Procedures for Protecting Your Holdings,” co-presented with Sharon Hess at the Delaware Museum Association Annual Meeting, Lewes Historical Society, Lewes, Delaware, June 11, 2018.

“Mrs. Doctor: Critical Bibliography and the Culinary World of a Baltimore Doctor’s Wife,” Rare Book and Manuscript Connoisseurship course, Winterthur Program in American Material Culture, University of Delaware, March 23, 2017.

“Learning to Read and Write, Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow: Lessons in Literacy from the Winterthur Collection,” K-12 teacher workshop at the Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library, March 22, 2013.

Fellowships & Grants

University Doctoral Fellowship, Office of Graduate & Professional Education, University of Delaware, August, 2017 – May, 2018

Graduate Research Travel Award, Center for Material Culture Studies, University of Delaware, \$1,500, October, 2017

Bibliographical Society of America-Rare Book School Scholarship for course tuition and travel, 2015

International Travel Award, Office of Graduate & Professional Education/Institute for Global Studies, University of Delaware, \$4,500, April, 2014

Graduate Research Fellowship in Material Culture Studies, Delaware Public Humanities Institute/Center for Material Culture Studies, University of Delaware, \$4,500, March, 2013

Albert T. and Elizabeth R. Gamon Scholarship, Peter Wentz Farmstead Society, \$5,000, March, 2013

Barbara Penny Community Service Fellowship, \$1,500, Spring, 2009

Honors & Awards

Wilbur Owen Sypherd Prize for the Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation in Humanities, University of Delaware, May 25, 2018

Katherine C. Grier Prize for best recent article in *Winterthur Portfolio: A Journal of American Material Culture* (volumes 49 and 50), awarded by *Winterthur Portfolio* editorial board / Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library, May 16, 2018

William H. Williams Award for “demonstrating outstanding scholarship in the area of American history during the period 1607-1865,” Department of History, University of Delaware, May 11, 2017

Alumni Graduate Student Award for “producing the best student seminar paper during the 2016 calendar year,” Department of History, University of Delaware, May 11, 2017

Justin Winsor Library History Essay Award, conferred annually by the Library History Round Table of the American Library Association in recognition of “the best essay written in English on library history,” March 27, 2017

Stanley J. Goldfus Memorial Award for outstanding performance as a teaching assistant for calendar year 2015, Department of History, University of Delaware, May 7, 2015

Heritage Preservation Award, City of St. Cloud, Minnesota, Heritage Preservation Commission, June 24, 2013

Alumni Service Award, St. Cloud State University Alumni Association, April 18, 2013

Good Neighbor Award, St. Cloud Historical & Neighborhood Preservation Association, April 16, 2012

Delivered commencement addresses at St. Cloud State University graduations, December 13, 2007 and May 5, 2012

Graduate Dean's Distinction Scholarship, St. Cloud State University, Fall, 2008 – Spring, 2009

Dr. Doreen Keable Learning Resources Center Memorial Scholarship, Fall, 2006

Service

Chair, Library Committee, German Society of Pennsylvania, acting, June – September, 2020; confirmed, September, 2020 – Present

- Manage strategic priorities and workflow for committee charged with oversight of 200-year-old library
- Guide strategic visioning process organized around Core Values: Sustainability, Discoverability, Community
- Write regular State of the Library Reports for Society publication *Der Neuer Pennsylvanischer Staatsbote*
- Establish library evaluation guidelines and execute evaluation mechanisms
- Supervise workflows of the Society's special collections librarian and the Society's project cataloguer
- Cultivate next generation of committee membership in the regional scholarly and professional community
- Oversee Library budgeting process
- Constitute and oversee the work of a Budget Reform Working Group to optimize accounting practices
- Manage Library donor relations, and cultivate donors
- Undertake fundraising efforts, including developing and spearheading the Adopt a Rare Book program
- Lead library grant writing process, and supervise grant identification, submission, and implementation
- Develop new public outreach initiatives including the *German Society Library Treasure Tours* program
- Develop and oversee a new library digital marketing strategy

Grant reviewer, New Jersey Historical Commission, June, 2020 – Present

Vice-Chair, Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies, January, 2020 – Present

Philobiblon Club Trustee of the Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies, January, 2019 – Present

Member, Library Committee, German Society of Pennsylvania, May, 2017 – Present

Member, Steering Committee, History of American Civilization Graduate Program, Department of History, University of Delaware, September, 2017 – May, 2018

Co-founder and Co-convenor, Object Fight Club: The Methods in Material Culture Graduate Student Working Group, Center for Material Culture Studies, University of Delaware, January – December, 2017

Member, Library Renovation Planning Committee, Morris Library, University of Delaware, September, 2016 – May, 2017

University of Delaware Library Student Advocacy Council, August, 2014 – July, 2017

“History Workshop” Planning Committee, Department of History, University of Delaware, May, 2015 – May, 2016

University of Delaware Library Faculty Senate Library Committee, August, 2014 – May, 2015

Library & Museum Work Experiences

THE ROSENBACH MUSEUM & LIBRARY / THE FREE LIBRARY OF PHILADELPHIA FOUNDATION COLLECTIONS ENGAGEMENT MANAGER | SEPTEMBER, 2018 – PRESENT

Play a proactive role on team of curators, educators, and librarians at The Rosenbach and Parkway Central Library
Curate and install exhibitions, and develop related public programs, at The Rosenbach and Parkway Central Library

Develop and offer regular Behind the Bookcase: Hands-on Tours at The Rosenbach

As member of Rosenbach’s DEA&I Committee, create diverse and inclusive program content

Generate innovative ideas for digital content distribution and online engagement with new and existing audiences

Prep, install and present collections objects to enhance lectures and other public programs

Develop and deliver collections-based presentations to visiting college/university classes

Evaluate and re-envision The Rosenbach’s historic house installations to change how visitors engage with artifacts

Develop and execute collaborative projects with other Free Library initiatives including *One Book, One Philadelphia* and Culinary Literacy Center

Complete collections management tasks including inventory, preventive conservation, digitization, large art object moving, library materials reshelving, environmental monitoring, and object photography

Evaluate and propose incoming and outgoing loan requests

Provide library researcher services, including reading room supervision, materials paging, and reference

Create Rosenbach Collections Guides to enhance discoverability of, and access to, museum and library holdings

Design and administer interpretation training to Rosenbach guides to optimize visitor tour experiences

Lead tours of The Rosenbach house and library for special groups

Facilitate collections-based donor cultivation events

Deliver Rosenbach collections-based off-site presentations to community groups to promote visitation

Courier art and artifacts to international destinations for exhibition loans, ensuring secure travel and display

Design and deliver musical performances based on collections items

Help manage and staff special events

Host *The Rosenbach Podcast*

Develop and teach collections-based Rosenbach courses

Hire, supervise and evaluate museum studies and library science interns at the undergraduate and graduate levels

DELAWARE HISTORICAL SOCIETY | E. LYMAN STEWART GRADUATE INTERN IN PUBLIC HISTORY JUNE – AUGUST, 2017

Conducted inventory of 94 uncatalogued Historical Society manuscript collections

Assessed condition, conservation, and preservation needs of inventoried collections

Recorded data in purpose-built database

Presented findings to Delaware Historical Society Board of Directors

REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT, WINTERTHUR MUSEUM | VOLUNTEER | JUNE, 2016 – APRIL, 2017

Inventoried 1,910 rare books and pieces of ephemera in “Memorial Library” period room

Served as liaison between museum registrars, cataloguing librarians, and conservators regarding book condition,

bibliographical and cataloguing issues, and project progress

Presented findings to senior management, professional colleagues, and institutional stakeholders

MARK SAMUELS LASNER COLLECTION | GRADUATE ASSISTANT | AUGUST, 2015 – MAY, 2016

Answered questions from Collection patrons and supervised reading room when in use by researchers

Participated in the collections acquisition process

Processed new Collection acquisitions

Maintained Collection website using WordPress software

WINTERTHUR LIBRARY | CATALOGUING INTERN / VOLUNTEER | JANUARY, 2016 – FEBRUARY, 2017

Processed new acquisitions in the Collection of Printed Books & Periodicals and the Downs Collection of Manuscripts & Printed Ephemera

Catalogued rare materials, including 42 rare German-language titles, using MARC21, AACR2, DCRM(B), RDA, and Library of Congress classification schedules

ROSENBACH MUSEUM & LIBRARY | CONSULTING CURATOR | JUNE, 2015 – JANUARY, 2017

Identified 108 objects at 11 institutions for inclusion in exhibit “The Art of Ownership: Bookplates & Book Collectors, from 1480 to the Present”

Collaborated with museum registrar to secure object loans

Wrote exhibit wall panel text, object labels/gallery guide, and docent training materials

Designed exhibit gallery layout

Led gallery talks for special tour groups

HAGLEY MUSEUM & LIBRARY | PROCESSING INTERN | JUNE – AUGUST, 2015

Surveyed, arranged, and housed 84.5 linear feet of RCA/Thomson Lancaster business records

Created online finding aid using Archivists Toolkit software

SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION PROGRAM, DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE | TEACHING ASSISTANT | AUGUST, 2014 – MAY, 2015

Graded assignments and assisted in instruction for two social studies education courses

Managed record-keeping for students’ student-teaching evaluations

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA | EDUCATION INTERN | JUNE – AUGUST, 2014

Researched and wrote K-12 social studies unit plan for Historical Society “Educational Resources” website

Presented project plan to senior leaders from Historical Society and the Library Company of Philadelphia

WINTERTHUR MUSEUM | TOUR GUIDE | SEPTEMBER, 2012 – MAY, 2014

Led tours of the 175-room mansion of Henry Francis du Pont, collector of early American antiques

MYSTIC SEAPORT: THE MUSEUM OF AMERICA AND THE SEA | MUSEUM STUDIES INTERN | JUNE – AUGUST, 2011

Interpreted in Museum exhibit hall and facilitated an artifact-based children’s activity

Developed primary-source, critical thinking skills-based content for iPad tour of Museum grounds

MINNESOTA DIGITAL LIBRARY COALITION | GRADUATE ASSISTANT | AUGUST, 2010 – MAY, 2011

Promoted Minnesota Digital Library and Minnesota Reflections project through digital and printed publications
Used Adobe InDesign and Microsoft Publisher to design posters and handouts
Enhanced information gathering on Minnesota Reflections for project evaluation

FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF LITTLE FALLS | COMMUNITY HISTORY INTERN | MAY – AUGUST, 2010

Collaborated with the convent's History Committee to analyze heritage preservation needs
Conducted background research into Roman Catholic religious life and interviewee biographies
Wrote question lists and conduct oral history interviews with convent community members

HILL MUSEUM & MANUSCRIPT LIBRARY, ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY | INTERN | MAY – JUNE, 2010

Reorganized manuscript facsimile collection
Revised and expanded manuscript microfilm catalogues secondary source references
Researched early European printers for incunabulum collection catalogue
Participated in Minnesota Manuscript Research Laboratory

ORAL HISTORY RESEARCH CENTER, ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY | GRADUATE ASSISTANT | OCTOBER, 2009 – MAY, 2010

Catalogued Powerline Project archival holdings with PastPerfect software
Transcribed Center's oral history interviews
Wrote deed of deposit and interview release forms
Developed guidelines for use of Center oral history interviews and archival materials

**STEARNS HISTORY MUSEUM | ALICE WHEELOCK WHITNEY MEMORIAL GALLERY CURATOR
JUNE – AUGUST, 2009**

Drafted 4,000-word exhibit proposal submitted to Whitney Foundation
Researched and wrote exhibit text, and selected, digitized, and edited historical photos for use in exhibit
Collaborated with other Museum staff to plan gallery design and layout
Identified and researched Whitney-related objects in Museum collection
Designed exhibit gallery layout
Accessioned new donations to collection given for display in gallery

LINDEN HILL (MUSSER & WEYERHAEUSER MANSIONS) | INTERN | JANUARY – JUNE, 2009

Developed and piloted standards-aligned K-12 educational programming
Taught lessons to regional students at Linden Hill and in classrooms
Presented new programming goals and strategies to Linden Hill Board of Directors
Wrote press releases regarding educational programming

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT, GREAT RIVER REGIONAL LIBRARY | INTERN | JUNE – JULY, 2007

Participated in materials acquisition process
Searched for patrons' requested library materials
Answered patron technology questions
Participated in library special events
Weeded unused library resources
Reorganized frequently browsed sections of library collections

CODRINGTON LIBRARY, ALL SOULS COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD | INTERN | MAY – JULY, 2008

Scanned and digitized collection of microfilm images
Transported library collections to new shelf locations as part of collections shifting project
Inventoried library collections

STEARNS HISTORY MUSEUM ARCHIVES | INTERN | JANUARY – MAY, 2008

Conducted basic research for archive patrons, including locating obituaries, death certificates, and other records
Processed new collections donated to archive
Catalogued photographs, documents, and ephemera in online database
Prepared research findings for mailing to nonlocal patrons
Developed itemized bills for patrons' research inquiries

JAMES W. MILLER LEARNING RESOURCES CENTER, ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY | LEAD SHELVING JUNE, 2007 – MAY, 2008

Designed and administered instruction to new Circulation Department employees
Organized and supervising shelving workflow
Located missing items as reported by patrons and library employees
Collaborated with supervisors, lead shelvers and student workers to achieve departmental goals

JAMES W. MILLER LEARNING RESOURCES CENTER, ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY | CIRCULATION ASSISTANT | JUNE, 2006 – MAY, 2007

Served basic patron needs, including check-out and return of library materials
Answered basic library reference questions
Organized and shelved library materials

Consulting Projects

LANCASTERHISTORY.ORG TASK FORCE FOR COLLECTIONS-BASED RESEARCH AND LEARNING | DECEMBER 12, 2017

Assisted Board of Directors Task Force in assessing the strengths and challenges of LancasterHistory.org
Presented to LancasterHistory.org board and staff on trends in collections-based research institutions
Used the Appreciative Inquiry Model to dialogue with board, staff and other consultants about vision and mission

ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION | CONSULTANT/CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY HERITAGE LIAISON | OCTOBER, 2011-APRIL, 2012

Planned and implemented "South Side/University Neighborhood Past, Present, & Future Oral History Project"
Participated in Initiative Foundation/City of St. Cloud Healthy Neighborhoods Partnership Program
Planned summer events to honor South Side neighborhood's connections to famous author Sinclair Lewis
Led South Side branding efforts and creation of neighborhood publicity style guide
Attended civic organizational meetings on behalf of the SCSU Foundation and served on local committees

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT | MYSTIC SEAPORT: THE MUSEUM OF AMERICA AND THE SEA OCTOBER, 2011-APRIL, 2012

Developed project plan for "Critical Thinking at the Helm: Teaching Maritime Studies with Primary Sources and Technology"

Researched trends in educational technology, pedagogy of field trips, and primary source digitization
Participated in planning and implementation of a K-12 maritime studies teacher workshop
Assisted in design and implementation of critical thinking skills-based curriculum and virtual field trips

Professional Development

“Designing and Supporting Writing Assignments that Work (For you and your students!),” faculty workshop, University Writing Center, University of Delaware, August 15-17, 2018

“Advanced Descriptive Bibliography,” Rare Book School course, University of Virginia, June 4 – 9, 2017

“Introduction to the Principles of Bibliographical Description,” Rare Book School course, University of Virginia, July 24 – 29, 2016

German Script Course, Moravian Church Archives, Bethlehem, PA, June 2 – 13, 2014

Affiliations

American Library Association
 Association of College and Research Libraries
 Rare Books and Manuscripts Section
 Library History Round Table

The Bibliographical Society of America

The Delaware Bibliophiles

Society for German-American Studies

Society of Winterthur Fellows

The German Society of Pennsylvania (since 2016; Library Committee member since 2018; Chair since 2020)

The Grolier Club (elected 2016)

The Philobiblon Club (since 2014; Trustee of Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies since 2019)

The Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, & Publishing