MELISSA DAVIS KING
melissa.davis.king@gmail.com (617) 721-4804
www.mkpreventive.com

EDUCATION

July 2017-Present **WINTERTHUR/UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE PROGRAM IN ART CONSERVATION**
Wilmington, DE, *Graduate fellow with a specialization in preventive conservation*

Second Year Coursework
Major Supervisor: Dr. Joelle Wickens

- Environmental monitoring, integrated pest management, material testing, teaching first-year preventive course, managing study to help determine a safe storage option for mercury mirrors
- Scientific research into the use of linalool, a terpenoid alcohol fragrance, as a fungicide or fungistat and a determination of any deleterious effects of linalool on cellulose and protein-based textiles
- Participating in the course, "Building Diagnostics," taught by Michael C. Henry at PennDesign
- Educating high school students in collections maintenance following a 2018 collection survey

First Year Coursework

- Completing coursework that focused on specialties of preventive conservation and the conservation of textiles, paper, organic objects, wooden objects, photography, library and archives, paintings, and inorganic objects. Other coursework included general and applied conservation science, microscopy, and photodocumentation

2006-2010 **UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN,** Ann Arbor, MI
B.A. in History of Art and Communication Studies with a focus in Studio Art

CONSERVATION AND MUSEUM EXPERIENCE

September 2019-Present **SMITHSONIAN MUSEUM CONSERVATION INSTITUTE and NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ASIAN ART,** Washington, DC
Graduate Intern in Preventive Conservation, supervised by Rebecca Kaczkowski
(Full time, 11 months total)
Designing and implementing an institution-wide survey to create a centralized emergency kit plan; analyzing and interpreting climate data from a year-long research project into the buffering effect of Nomex® fabric in collections storage; collaborating with educators to teach aspects of preventive conservation to high school students and conservation delegates from Mongolia; acting as exhibits conservator for an exhibit on Asian lacquer at the National Museum of Asian Art

June-September 2019 **ENGLISH HERITAGE**, London, UK
Graduate Fellow in Scientific Research, supervised by Dr. David Thickett
(Full time, 12 weeks)
Performing research into model-based predictions of the internal relative humidity for showcases using passive control humidity buffering; visiting historic sites to learn about preventive conservation research objectives such as environmental monitoring, Oddy testing, pollutant monitoring, light monitoring, and integrated pest management

June-August 2018 **THE BROOKLYN MUSEUM,** Brooklyn, NY
Graduate Fellow in Objects Conservation, supervised by Lisa Bruno
(Full time, 9 weeks)
Documenting, treating, and assisting in the creation of mounts for ancient Egyptian objects for a traveling exhibition; environmental monitoring, identifying pests, and performing Oddy testing; implementing the use of multi-spectral imaging to locate remaining pigments on objects; assisting staff with integrated pest management

July 2016-July 2017 **GIANFRANCO POCOBENE STUDIO INC,** Malden, MA, Newport, RI, Durham, NH
Paintings Conservation Technician, supervised by Gianfranco Pocobene
(480 hours)
Conserving distemper and encaustic decorative murals and an egg tempera mural

Jan 2017-
May 2017 **MUSEUM TEXTILE SERVICES**, Andover, MA
Textiles Conservation Intern, supervised by Camille Breeze
(120 hours)
Dry cleaning, vacuuming, stabilizing, and cleaning textiles; designing dress mounts

April 2017 **WESTERN CENTER FOR THE CONSERVATION OF FINE ARTS,** Denver, CO
Paintings Conservation Intern, supervised by Camilla Van Buren
(80 hours)
Inpainting and fills of a 1930 Allen Tupper True mural

June 2016 **WUDPAC PAINTINGS CONSERVATION STUDIO**, Wilmington, DE
Paintings Conservation Intern, supervised by Dr. Joyce Hill Stoner
(200 hours)
Practicing consolidation, cleaning, fills, and inpainting techniques; creating cross-sections and condition reporting; UV examination; receiving training in care and handling; installing backing boards and frames

2013-2017 **SCULPTURE AND DECORATIVE ARTS CONSERVATION SERVICES LLC**, Somerville, MA
Objects Conservation Intern, supervised by Barbara Mangum
(380 hours)
Treating and documenting ceramic, wood, leather, metal, and stone objects, and performing on-site treatment of outdoor stone gravestones and monuments; cleaning and repatination of outdoor bronze sculpture

2015-2017 **HISTORIC NEW ENGLAND,** Haverhill, MA
Objects Conservation Intern, supervised by Michaela Neiro and Alex Carlisle
(200 hours)
Conserving decorative art objects including: plastics, furniture, glass, metal, ceramics, textiles, and wallpaper; performing regular maintenance and survey of historic homes and their collections in preparation for seasonal closures and openings

2011-2013 **MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS,** Boston, MA
Objects Conservation Intern, supervised by Pamela Hatchfield and Mei-An Tsu
(640 hours)
Assisting in the documentation and research of two stone polychrome Etruscan Sarcophagi by creating detailed digital condition diagrams; performing curatorial research; performing multispectral imaging

2010-2011 **NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NORTHEAST MUSEUM SERVICES CENTER,** Lowell, MA
Objects Conservation Intern, supervised by Brigid Sullivan
(300 hours)
Treating historical objects and architectural features including ceramics, metal, glass, and wood, and performing on-site architectural conservation of original wooden wall at the home of Frederick Law Olmsted

2010-2011 **PEABODY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ETHNOLOGY AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY,** Cambridge, MA
IMLS Map Project Conservation Intern, supervised by T. Rose Holdcraft
(960 hours)
Creating condition reports, surface cleaning, minor tear repairs, humidification and rehousing for archival collection; constructing fitted pallets and custom boxes for long-term storage of objects

2010 **UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN GABII PROJECT 2010 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SEASON,** Frascati, Italy
(240 hours)
Field School Student, Directed by Nicola Terrenato (Professor of Classical Archaeology)
Excavating and cleaning of objects; mechanically cleaning copper-alloy coins

2010 **KELSEY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY-UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN,** Ann Arbor, MI
Objects Conservation Intern, supervised by Suzanne Davis and Claudia Chemello
(120 hours)
Treating archaeological objects including: ceramics, marble, wood, glass, and ancient coins; environmental monitoring and gallery maintenance; writing condition documentation and photographing objects

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

May 2020 **"Emergency Kits for Collection Emergencies,"** Winterthur/UD Class of 2022, Zoom presentation

- Presenting results learned from Smithsonian-wide survey during preventive conservation block

Oct 2019 **"The Use of Sorbents for Passively Controlling Humidity in Showcases,"**
Smithsonian Museum Conservation Institute**,** Suitland, MD.

- Teaching second-year WUDPAC preventive conservation majors and several staff members from the MCI about general use of silica gel and its derivatives by providing a background into showcase design, material choices, RH and temperature parameters, air exchange rate measurements, and air leakage measurements
- Explaining research techniques into evaluating models that predict internal RH of showcases through statistical analysis

Oct 2019 **"Pesticides in Museums and Sustainable Pest Prevention,"** Whittle School, Washington D.C.

- Preparing presentation and Integrated Pest Management activity for three separate high school biology, math, and chemistry classes

May 2019 **"Introduction to Natural Disaster Preparedness for Earthquakes and Hurricanes,"**
Winterthur Museum, Garden, & Library, Winterthur DE.

- Presenting an overview of the risks and preparation tactics associated with natural disasters for cultural heritage collections to the first-year WUDPAC students during their course in Preventive Conservation

May 2019 **"CAP-like Survey,"** American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, PA

- Assisting Dr. Joelle Wickens, Michael Henry, and Jacinta Johnson in conducting a Collections Assessment for Preservation Program (CAP)-like survey with first-year WUDPAC students during their course in Preventive Conservation

Jan 2019-April 2019 **"Training in Preventive Conservation for Students, Teachers, and Alumni,"**
Central High School, Philadelphia, PA.

- Following a CAP-like survey of the school's diverse collection of cultural artifacts, working as the primary educator to develop curriculum, resources, and training activities to implement a maintenance plan
- Producing educational training videos and animations about dry-surface cleaning and the risks of dust accumulation
- Educating students in Environmental Science courses about the risks of pesticides and the use of integrated pest management while showing them the capabilities of x-ray fluorescence spectroscopy to identify heavy metal pesticides on organic objects

CONSERVATION OUTREACH

May 2019-Present **CONNECTING TO COLLECTIONS CARE OUTREACH LIAISON (ECPN)**
Serving as the liaison between the AIC network that focuses on providing collections care advice to small institutions by attending conference calls for both the C2CC network and ECPN

March 2019 **CREATING ART TO LAST: University of Delaware Masters in Fine Arts Program**
University of Delaware, Newark, DE
Communicating ideas about conservation to practicing artists such as material choices, artist intent, health and safety, preventive conservation, and resources for future questions pertaining these matters

June 2018 **DELAWARE PUBLIC HUMANITIES INSTITUTE (DELPHI)**,
Fellowship Recipient and Institute Participant, Newark DE
Developing skills in public outreach to engage with non-specialists about my research focuses; partaking in seminars, workshops, and hands-on experience with public speaking, digital media, and marketing

2017-present **UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE ART CONSERVATION PROGRAMS,** @ud_artconservation
Social media manager and photographer
Leading a team of students to manage the Instagram and Facebook page for the undergraduate, graduate, and PhD programs

April 2017 **CREATING ART TO LAST: A Conversation with Art Conservators**
The Armory Cafe, Somerville, MA
Planning an outreach event for a presentation and informal meet-and-greet between local artists and conservators; forging partnerships between local arts organizations; seeking sponsorships and grant funding; marketing the event through social media and press

PRESENTATIONS

July 2020 **AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CONSERVATION ANNUAL MEETING,** Virtual Meeting
"Outreach and Education Through Collections Care: A Case Study with Central High School in Philadelphia"

Nov 2019 **MATERIALS SELECTION AND SPECIFICATION WORKING GROUP (MWG) MEETING,** The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY
"Testing the Vapor Permeability of Dacrylate on MDF"

Oct 2019 **SAFETY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE SUMMIT**, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC
"The Use of Low-Cost Sensors to Measure Mercury Vapor from Tin-Mercury Amalgam Mirrors"

April 2019 **ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICAN GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN CONSERVATION (ANAGPIC),** Getty Museum, Los Angeles, CA
"Working Outside the Guidelines: Preventive Conservation for All"

Oct 2018 **WINTERTHUR MUSEUM GARDEN & LIBRARY,** Winterthur, DE
"Slowing Down the Degradation of Art in a Fast-Paced Art Conservation Lab: A Summer at the Brooklyn Museum"

May 2014 **ST. MARK'S SCHOOL,** Southborough, MA
"Art Doctor: The Use of Science to Save Art," Annual science-themed colloquium

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Kaczkowski, R, M. King, and L. Imamura. 2020. "Materials Working Group: Building Community & Collating Resources." *AIC News.* March 2020 (45(2)): 1-9.

King, M., M. Desrochers, and M. Solano. 2020. "Social Media Tips to Promote Art Conservation: Using Instagram Stories" *IIC News in Conservation.* March 2020 (76): 38-40.

King, M. 2019. "Working Outside the Guidelines: Preventive Conservation for All." *Association for North American Graduate Programs in Conservation (ANAGPIC)* Annual Student Conference. J. Paul Getty Center. April, 2019. http://resources.conservation-us.org/anagpic-student-papers/

King, M., I. Messina, and M. Desrochers. 2019. "Instagram Tips to Promote Art Conservation." *IIC News in Conservation.* October 2019 (74): 30-31.

King, M. 2018. "My Perspective on the IIC 2018 Turin Congress As a Student in Preventive Conservation." *IIC News in Conservation*. December 2018 (69): 17-19.

King, M. 2018. "Sustainable Packing and Shipping." *Brooklyn Museum Tumblr*. July 11, 2018. Accessed October 10, 2019: https://brooklynmuseum.tumblr.com/post/177590531127/it-is-easy-to-take-for-granted-the-work-that-goes

King, M. 2017. "Creating Art to Last." *VoCA blog*. May 19, 2017. Accessed October 10, 2019: http://www.voca.network/blog/tag/melissa-king/

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

AIC (American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works), *student member*
IIC (International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works), *student member*
ICOM (International Council of Museums), *student member*
PACA (Philadelphia Area Conservation Association), *member*
SPNHC (Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections), *student member*

SELECTED WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

Sept 2018 **International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works, "Preventive Conservation: The State of the Art"** – Turin, Italy

June 2018 **Life Cycles Assessments for Conservation** – Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Conversational in Italian; proficient in Adobe, and Quickbooks; experienced in website design, graphic design, marketing, press releases, small business financial management and social media

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2011-Present **PAWBLO PICASSO®, LLC,** Joy Street Studios, Somerville, MA
Owner/Pet Portrait Artist
www.pawblopicasso.com
Specializing in custom pet portraits using acrylic paints; promoting business through graphic design, social media, press releases, corporate sponsorship, art shows, and live painting at dog parks and pet stores; overseeing employees; managing all financial and business activities; completing over 500 paintings shipped worldwide