

Melissa Davis King

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www.mkpreventive.com

EDUCATION

- 2017- 2020 **Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation**, Wilmington, DE
M.S. in Art Conservation with a specialization in preventive conservation
- 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

- Sept 2020- Present **Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History and the Museum Conservation Institute**, Washington, DC
Samuel H. Kress Fellow in Preventive Conservation, supervised by Cathy Hawks, Rebecca Kaczowski, and Robert Waller
Working to create a decision-making tool for the National Museum of Natural History using a quantitative risk assessment and cost-benefit analysis to help determine the ideal storage enclosure for large vertebrate specimen currently on open shelving
- Sept 2019- Aug 2020 **Smithsonian's Museum Conservation Institute and National Museum of Asian Art**, Washington, DC
Graduate Intern in Preventive Conservation, supervised by Rebecca Kaczowski
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- Sept 2019 **English Heritage**, London, UK
Graduate Fellow in Scientific Research, supervised by Dr. David Thickett
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-Aug 2018 **The Brooklyn Museum**, Brooklyn, NY
Graduate Fellow in Objects Conservation, supervised by Lisa Bruno
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
- 2016-2017 **Gianfranco Pocobene Studio Inc**, Malden, MA
Paintings Conservation Technician, supervised by Gianfranco Pocobene
- Jan - May 2017 **Museum Textile Services**, Andover, MA
Textiles Conservation Intern, supervised by Camille Breeze
- April 2017 **Western Center for the Conservation of Fine Arts**, Denver, CO
Paintings Conservation Intern, supervised by Camilla Van Buren
- June 2016 **WUDPAC Paintings Conservation Studio**, Wilmington, DE
Paintings Conservation Intern, supervised by Dr. Joyce Hill Stoner
- 2013-2017 **Sculpture and Decorative Arts Conservation Services LLC**, Somerville, MA
Objects Conservation Intern, supervised by Barbara Mangum
- 2015-2017 **Historic New England**, Haverhill, MA
Objects Conservation Intern, supervised by Michaela Neiro

- 2011-2013 **Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA**
Objects Conservation Intern, supervised by Pamela Hatchfield and Mei-An Tsu
- 2010-2011 **National Park Service Northeast Museum Services Center, Lowell, MA**
Objects Conservation Intern, supervised by Brigid Sullivan
- 2010-2011 **Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at Harvard University, Cambridge, MA**
IMLS Map Project Conservation Intern, supervised by T. Rose Holdcraft
- 2010 **University of Michigan Gabii Project Archaeological Field Season, Frascati, Italy**
Field School Student, Directed by Nicola Terrenato
- 2010 **Kelsey Museum of Archaeology – University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI**
Objects Conservation Intern, supervised by Suzanne Davis and Claudia Chemello

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

- Sept 2019- Present **International Institute for the Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (IIC) Social Media Team**
Managing a team producing conservation-related social media content on Facebook
- 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

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- Dec 2020 "Preventive Conservation: Preserving Our Collections" *Decorative Arts Trust, Trust Talk Virtual Lecture*
- July 2020 "Outreach and Education Through Collections Care: A Case Study with Central High School in Philadelphia" *American Institute for Conservation Annual Meeting, Virtual Meeting*
- Nov 2019 "Testing the Vapor Permeability of Dacrylate on MDF"
Material Selection and Specification Working Group (MWG) Meeting, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY
- Oct 2019 "The Use of Low-Cost Sensors to Measure Mercury Vapor from Tin-Mercury Amalgam Mirrors"
Safety and Cultural Heritage Summit, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC
- April 2019 "Working Outside the Guidelines: Preventive Conservation for All"
Association of North American Graduate Programs in Conservation (ANAGPIC), J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, CA

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Cosaert, Annelies, Vincent Beltran, Rebecca Napolitano, Melissa King, Bhavesh Shah, Geert Bauwens, and Joelle Wickens. 2020. "Temperature (T) and Relative Humidity (RH) Analysis Tools Meeting Report." Getty Conservation Institute Internal Publications. Forthcoming.
- Kaczowski, 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. 2017. "Creating Art to Last." VoCA blog. May 19, 2017. Accessed October 10, 2019: <http://www.voca.net-work/blog/tag/melissa-king/>

SELECTED CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Oct 2020 Museum Study Course: Assessing Risks to Cultural Property 2– Taught by Dr. Robert Waller
Sept 2020 Museum Study Course: Assessing Risks to Cultural Property 1 – Taught by Dr. Robert Waller
June 2018 Life Cycles Assessments for Conservation – Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY

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

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