



Katarina Stiller (she/her/hers)

Education

Winterthur/University of Delaware, Winterthur, DE *August 2021—August 2024*

Master of Science, Art Conservation

Library and Archives Conservation Education (LACE) Andrew W. Mellon Fellow and paper conservation minor

Science Project: "A Case of Identity: A Technical Study of Victorian Wallpapers"

Los Angeles Southwest and Fullerton Colleges, Los Angeles and Fullerton, CA *August 2019—June 2021*

Postbaccalaureate studies, Chemistry

California State University, Long Beach, Long Beach, CA *graduated May 2018*

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Ceramics, *summa cum laude*

Honors Thesis: "Glazed and Confused: How the Functional and Nonfunctional Muddle Through Ceramics"

Conservation Related Experience

Conservation Resident, Northwestern University Libraries, Evanston, IL *September 2024—Present*

Supervisor: Susan Russick (Chief Conservator)

40 hrs/wk

- Lead supervisor for the stabilization and housing of 20th-c. *Chicago Motor News* volumes, including curator consultation, condition survey, budget proposal, supply order, and staff training
- Treating and rehousing early 18th-c. parchment legal documents, including wax seal consolidation
- Treating 19th-c. Japanese book with foldout woodblock print
- Conducting ink identification research on 17-20th-c. West African Arabic and Ajami manuscripts
- Stabilizing and rehousing various archival materials
- Assisting in other departmental duties including compiling statistics, capturing Poison Book Project XRF data, and conducting preservation education and outreach
- Aided in exhibit preparation for *Gary Marshall*

Advanced Conservation Fellow, University of Iowa Libraries Conservation Lab, Iowa City, IA *September 2023—August 2024*

Supervisors: Giselle Simón (University Conservator) and Elizabeth Stone (Collections Conservator)

40 hrs/wk

- Washed and rebound 17th-century emblem book
- Documented and stabilized 17th-century Rimmelin anatomy flap book
- Flattened, cleaned, and rehoused two parchment Ethiopic scrolls; assisted with their digitization
- Board reattachment and consolidation of 18th-century leather tightback book
- Rebacked 18th-century scientific manuscript
- Stabilized and rehoused miniature manuscript
- Constructed custom enclosures (involving drop spine clamshells, phase boxes, and four-flaps) for library materials, including miniatures and artist books
- Studied and constructed models on historical book structures, including scaleboard, limp vellum, long stitch, sewn boards, Islamicate, and Edelpappband bindings; this included the creation of an annotated bibliography and collection survey of scaleboard bindings in UIowa Special Collections
- Attended UI Center for the Book programs, including demonstrations in papermaking and seminars in book history
- Conducted conservation maintenance activities, including researching vendors and submitting supply budget proposals
- Developed condition report and proposal with conservation staff for Catesby's *Natural History*
- Conducted demonstrations in semi-rigid gel preparation and application
- Assisted in exhibit preparation for *Making the Book, Past and Present*

Cathleen A. Baker Fellow, University of Michigan Library Conservation Lab, Ann Arbor, MI *June 2023—August 2023*

Supervisor: Amy Crist (Book and Paper Conservator)

40 hrs/wk (400 hours total)

- Treated two mid-20th-century pop-up books, including tear repair, loss reconstruction, and inpainting
- Treated four Islamicate manuscripts, including paint consolidation, board reattachment, leaf reattachments, and stabilization

of splits to leaves

- Full resewing of artist book in unsupported link stitch style
- Board and volvelle reattachment of 19th-century tightback book
- Development of housing and handling guidelines for artist book made of glass panes
- Assisted in disaster response and recovery of library materials
- Taught book model making session to high school intern

Second Year Fellow, Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation, Winterthur, DE *August 2022—May 2023*

Supervisors: Melissa Tedone (Associate Director of WUDPAC) and Joan Irving (Paper Conservator)

- Treated collection of two herbarium manuscripts and two 18th-century printed books, including XRF testing for inorganic pesticides, surface cleaning, plant specimen consolidation, rebinding, and rehousing
- Stabilized, cleaned, and constructed sealed package enclosures for 15 tintypes, including preparing a supply budget
- In-situ repairs for 19th-century account book and vernacular diary
- Researched mid-19th-century wallpaper swatches and tested for arsenical pigments using PLM, XRF, Raman, and SEM-EDS
- Developed and executed random sample survey for mixed format archival collection at the Delaware Historical Society
- Coordinated and led department tours for prospective students
- Shared collection care recommendations and resources to public in monthly “Conservation Clinics”

Paper Fellow, Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts, Philadelphia, PA *July 2022—August 2022*

Supervisors: Jessica Silverman (Director of Conservation and Preservation) and Heather Hendry (Head of Paper Conservation)

40 hrs/wk (245 hours total)

- Treated disbound manuscript exhibiting iron gall ink deterioration with phytate bathing as well as lining and local reinforcement techniques
- Performed in-situ repairs for ~16-17th-century leather bound manuscript, including spot sewing, hinge tightening, and repair of splitting and tenting leaves
- Stabilized archival collection of 18th-20th-century paper-based materials for digitization; treatments included surface cleaning, rehousing, tape removal, tear repair, loss compensation, and crease reduction for approximately 200 materials
- Received hands-on demos for encapsulation of materials, sealed package construction, making of remoistenable tissue (Kluacel G), humidification and flattening of parchment.
- Varnish removal, backing removal, and Dacron lining of map fragment
- Dacron lining of mid-19th-century poster

Conservation Technician, Margaret Herrick Library, Academy of Motion Pictures, Beverly Hills, CA *January 2021—July 2021*

Supervisor: Dawn Jaros (Head of Conservation and Preservation) with assistance from Nicole Alvarado (Conservation Fellow)

24 hrs/wk (680 hours total)

- Prepared for loans and exhibits, including hinging, mounting, stabilization, and documentation
- Performed HOBO environmental monitoring and pest management
- Performed basic book, paper, and photograph treatments with full documentation
- General lab duties and supplies maintenance

Surveyor, Los Angeles County Arboretum Library, Arcadia, CA *October 2019—March 2020, August 2020—November 2020*

Supervisor: Susan Eubank (Head Librarian, LA Arboretum Library), with consultation from Consuela Metzger (Head Conservator, UCLA Library Conservation Center)

16 hrs/wk (~400 hours total)

- Performed condition survey of botanical library’s Rare Book Room
- Developed report that detailed recommendations and resources for preventive conservation (including emergency preparedness) and generated a budget estimate for rehousing supplies
- Created appropriate archival boxing and Mylar covers for storing more fragile books and periodicals
- Surface cleaned with HEPA vacuum and alphabetized collection (containing over 1,500 books and periodicals)

Junior Fellows Intern, Preservation Research and Testing Division, Library of Congress, Washington, DC, remote *May 2020—July 2020*

Supervisors: Dr. Fenella France (Chief of Preservation Research and Testing Division), Dr. Andrew Forsberg (Preservation Science Specialist), and Amanda Satorius (Preservation Science Specialist)

40 hrs/wk (400 hours total)

- Edited and developed Linked Open Data models for scientific and cultural heritage terms using WebProtégé
- Created written, video, and infographic content for the Library of Congress Junior Fellows “Virtual Display Day”
- Organized project summary research and instructional notes on using WebProtégé into a final department report

- Presented visual slideshow with Q&A to department employees and interns detailing project background and findings

Writer, Conserv Solutions, Birmingham, AL, remote

March 2020—August 2020

4-8 hrs/wk (55 hours total)

- Wrote four collections care blog posts focusing on introductory environmental monitoring guidelines for collections care professionals
- Compiled reference data sheet comparing relative humidity, temperature, and lighting guidelines from over 30 cultural institutions for art and cultural materials (paintings, paper, books, ceramics, metals, textiles, audio-visual, and furniture)

WAAC Community Partnership Project Volunteer, June L. Mazer Archives, West Hollywood, CA (volunteer)

November 2019

Supervisors: Yasmin Dessem (Audiovisual Preservation Head, UCLA Library Conservation Center), and Allie Whalen (Senior Audiovisual Preservation Specialist, UCLA Library Conservation Center)

(6 hours total)

- Inventoried and rehoused audio-visual archive materials (containing over 1,000 videotapes, CDs, and cassettes identified for review)
- Received and adopted consultation from UCLA Audiovisual Preservation and Getty GCI conservators

Trainee Student, Rutherford Conservation Ltd., St. Mary's Church, Lydiard Tregoze, Wiltshire, UK

June 2019—August 2019

Supervisors: Jane Rutherford (Fine Art Conservator, ACR, FIIC) and Eddie Sinclair (Historic Paint Conservator, BA, ACR)

40 hrs/wk (240 hours total)

- A summer residency dedicated to conservation training in the treatment of historic surfaces (medieval wall paintings and 17-19th-century-polychromy), supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, UK
- Participated in the preparation of materials, including lime-sand (washed sharp sand) mortar for plaster repairs.
- Engaged in identification and removal of over-paint/plain limewash/distemper/surface deposits from underlying paint layers; identification and removal of unsuitable old repairs; filling of losses with slaked lime-putty sand mortar
- Carried out surface cleaning of polychromy and stabilization of detaching support, paint layers, and gilding

Pre-Program Conservation Assistant, UCLA Library Conservation Center, Los Angeles, CA

October 2018—April 2019

Supervisors: Consuela (Chela) Metzger (Head Conservator, UCLA Library Conservation Center) and Wil Lin (Collections Conservator, UCLA Library Preservation Department)

40 hrs/wk (1000 hours total)

- Performed condition report writing, mold and pest remediation, and photo documentation
- Engaged in batch treatment of circulating collections
- Performed board reattachment of 19th-century special collections book
- Dry cleaned and washed 18th-century intaglio prints
- Created mount and housing for 20th-century death mask

Historical Costume Intern, LA County Arts Commission, San Gabriel Mission Playhouse, San Gabriel, CA

June 2018—August 2018

Supervisor: Kelly Salloum (Development Associate, San Gabriel Mission Playhouse), with consultation from Catherine McLean (Textile Conservator, LACMA) and Susan Schmalz (Textile Conservator, LACMA)

40 hrs/wk (400 hours total)

- Received and adopted consultation from LACMA textile conservators in regard to vacuuming, rehousing, and labeling textiles as well as pest control techniques and conservation best practices
- Researched, photographed, and labeled early 20th-century costume collection (containing over 200 objects from the *Mission Play* performances), compiling images and condition data onto an electronic database
- Sealed costumes in plastic and froze for two week intervals as preventive pest control measure
- Surface cleaned costumes with a HEPA vacuum and brush attachment and transferred into tissue-padded archival boxes

Art Related Experience

Artist Assistant, K M Babcock Studio, Long Beach, CA

January 2021

Supervisor: Kathryn Babcock (Artist)

(24 hours total)

- Hinging, mounting, and framing oil landscape paintings for *The Art of Infrastructure* exhibition at SoLA Contemporary

Studio Instructional Assistant, CSULB, Long Beach, CA (volunteer)

August 2017—May 2018

Supervisor: Diane Linquata (Professor, School of Art)

6-12 hrs/wk (~170 hours total)

- Loaded and fired kilns, conducted class demos, prepared glazes, and gave one-on-one instruction to students

Treasurer, CSULB Ceramic Arts Club, Long Beach, CA (volunteer)

March 2017—August 2018

1-16 hrs/wk

- Oversaw fundraising, event coordinating, club funding, and sales
- Maintained accurate bookkeeping records and processed studio materials expense payments in a timely manner
- Initiated digitization of account records and annual spending summary reports
- Spearheaded successful petition campaign to obtain free parking for 50th annual School of Art Holiday Sale

Interim Development Assistant, Long Beach Opera, Long Beach, CA

December 2017—January 2018

Supervisor: Jennifer Rivera (Development Director)

10 hrs/wk (50 hours total)

- Conducted research, analyzed data, and compiled reports on current or prospective donors
- General database processing and data entry; provided ad hoc reports as needed
- Processed and acknowledged gifts in a timely and IRS compliant manner

Development Intern, Long Beach Arts Council, Long Beach Opera, Long Beach, CA

September 2017— December 2017

Supervisor: Amanda Fruta (Development Director)

10 hrs/wk (100 hours total)

- Researched expense estimates, ordered, and assembled silent auction gift baskets for annual gala
- Recruited, assigned duties and schedules, and directed approximately 20 gala volunteers

Honors and Awards

- Midwest Regional Conservation Guild, Emerging Professionals Scholarship Recipient **October 2023**
- Standards of Excellence in Hand Bookbinding Seminar, Scholarship Recipient **October 2022**
- Decorative Arts Trust, Emerging Scholar Scholarship **September 2020**
- CSULB, Presidential Scholars Study Abroad Scholarship **Summer 2017**
- CSULB, Associate Students, Inc., Study Abroad Scholarship **Summer 2016, Summer 2017**
- CSULB, Romance, German, Russian, Languages and Literature Undergraduate Certificate of Achievement **April 2015**
- Guinness World Record Holder **November 2012**
 - Largest media scavenger hunt
 - Annual, weeklong image and video-based scavenger hunt (GISHWHES) composed of 15-person teams creating and searching for locally and globally-scattered items to fundraise for Random Acts non-profit

Memberships

- American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC), Member **January 2019—Present**
- Guild of Book Workers, Member **August 2022—Present**
 - Midwest Chapter
- Midwest Regional Conservation Guild **August 2023—Present**

Publications

- Journal Article. "I Like to Move It, Move It." Guild of Book Workers Journal, expected 2025.
- Journal Article. "A Case of Identity: A Technical Study of Victorian Wallpapers." Studies in Conservation, expected 2025.
- Blog Post. "University of Iowa Libraries." UD Student Blog, 2023.
 - <https://www.artcons.udel.edu/news/Pages/Student-Blog-University-of-Iowa-Libraries.aspx>
- Blog Post. "Treatments for Two Calligraphy Albums." UM Library Blogs, 2023.
 - <https://blogs.lib.umich.edu/beyond-reading-room/treatments-two-calligraphy-albums>
- Blog Post. "Get Those Books Moving Part 4." UM Library Blogs, 2023.
 - <https://blogs.lib.umich.edu/beyond-reading-room/get-those-books-moving-part-4>
- Newsletter Article. "'Linking the Past, Forging the Future' Summary." Guild of Book Workers Newsletter, 2023.
- Blog Post. "Art Conservation and Reference Collections." UD Student Blog, 2023.
 - <https://www.artcons.udel.edu/news/Pages/Art-conservation-and-reference-collections.aspx>
- Journal Article. "A Conversation about Catesby's *Natural History* with a Winterthur Conservation Student." Winterthur Portfolio, 2022.
- Newsletter Article. "Collections Care in the Rare Book Room." LA Arboretum Newsletter, 2020.

- Environmental Levels Database. Conserv Solutions, 2020.
 - <https://airtable.com/shrtqpSOFTTrCQ4zAl/tblwK4HyBxe8QiEhJ>
- Video and article. "Preservation Science Reference Center Project." Library of Congress Junior Fellows Display Day, 2020
 - <https://www.loc.gov/item/webcast-9301/>
 - <https://www.loc.gov/internships-and-fellowships/overview/junior-fellows-program/>
- Blog Post. "Death Masks in the Archives: The Mount Behind the Mask." UCLA Library Preservation Blog, 2019.
 - <https://www.library.ucla.edu/news/death-masks-archives-mount-behind-mask>
- Blog Post. "Giving Eighteenth Century Engravings a Bath." UCLA Library Preservation Blog, 2019.
 - <https://www.library.ucla.edu/blog/preservation/2019/03/25/giving-eighteenth-century-engravings-a-bath>
- Blog Posts (multiple). San Gabriel Mission Playhouse Historical Costume Blog, 2018.
- BFA Honors Thesis. "Glazed and Confused." California State University of Long Beach, 2018.
 - <http://hdl.handle.net/20.500.12680/0v8382984>

Presentations

- "An Unexpected Journey: A Conservator's Tale." August 12, 2024.
- "Here Comes the Sun(flower)." Winterthur Objects Up Close Series. March 6, 2024.
- "Treating and Rehousing a Tintype Collection." Princeton Preservation Group. November 2, 2023.
- "I Like to Move it, Move it: the Treatment of 20th-century Pop-Up Books." MRCG Annual Meeting, Kansas City, MO. October 14, 2023.
- "Rehousing a Tintype Collection." PMG-ECPN Photo Forum Panel. July 29, 2023.

Continuing Education and Professional Development

Erasing History: Destroying Knowledge from Ancient Times to the Present, with Bryan Le Beau, remote *July-August 2024*

- Newberry Adult Education Class studying the destruction of knowledge, including its intended purposes and impact on society through readings, seminars, and discussions
- Broad examination of the history of censorship, misinformation, and book burning with a focus on the contemporary U.S.

Telescoping Box Workshop, with Erin Fletcher, remote *July 2024*

- Workshop to construct enclosure with an inner tray set within a frame for an object to rest; a separate lid was then made to slide off the base

Standard Diary Conservation Workshop, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH *July 2024*

- Workshop to conserve Strafford Historical Society's collection of diaries that had been flood damaged
- Instructed attendees in basic cleaning and mending techniques

Paper and Book Intensive, Oxbow, MI *May 2024*

- Standard Diaries bookbinding workshop with Mary Sullivan
- Endbands with Anna Embree
- Artists' books with Erin Sweeney

Understanding and Caring for Artists' Books, University of California, Los Angeles, CA *April 2024*

- Symposium including lectures, demonstrations, and tours at UCLA Special Collections and the Getty Research Institute

The Book in the Middle Ages, with Eric Ensley, University of Iowa, IA *Spring 2024*

- Exploration of the history, use, and construction of early manuscripts and printed books (~500-1600CE) from Europe and across the globe

Intermediate Western Paleography, with Kathryn Brunet, remote *February 2024*

- Workshop on the study and identification of medieval and early modern handwriting styles

LACE History of Bookbinding, with Alexis Hagadorn, Columbia University, NY *January 2024*

- Seminar on the evolution of the codex form and history of bindings in medieval and modern periods

Fish Skin Tanning: The Foundation, Next Level + Indigo Dyeing, with Janey Chang, remote *October 2022, November 2023*

- Prepared and tanned fish skin with tea, oil, and oak gall tanning methods; developed and experimented with indigo dyes

Midwest Regional Conservation Guild (MRCG) Annual Meeting, Kansas City, MO

- Presenter
- Emerging Professionals Scholarship recipient
- Attended Bruker workshop for Raman spectroscopy and FTIR at Kenneth Spencer Research Library, Kansas University

Guild of Book Workers, Standards of Excellence, San Francisco, CA

October 2023

- Tours of SF Center for the Book and the Book Club of California
- Series of presentations and demonstrations related to book and paper arts

Association of North American Graduate Programs in Conservation (ANAGPIC) Conference, Harvard, Cambridge, MA

April 2023

- Moderator

LACE Conservation of Archives, with Dyani Feige, online

April 2023

- Seminar on fundamentals of archival theory and practice and how this affects conservation decisions

LACE Conservation of Parchment, with Abigail Quandt, Buffalo University, NY

January 2024

- Seminar consisting of lectures, discussions, and hands-on demonstrations regarding parchment conservation, including species identification, humidification and flattening, tear repair, media consolidation, and fills

LACE Preservation Survey Workshop, with Ellen Cunningham-Kruppa, online

January 2024

- Involved development and implementation of random sample survey of Winterthur Library collection of architectural prints

Guild of Book Workers, Standards of Excellence, Atlanta, GA

October 2022

- Tours of Emory Libraries and the Robert C. Williams Museum of Papermaking
- Series of presentations and demonstrations related to book and paper arts

East Asian Book Conservation Workshop, with Dan Paterson, Cornell University, Ithaca,

September 2022

- Learned about identifying East Asian book formats using items from Cornell's collections,
- Constructed thread-bound book models
- Practiced repair techniques on study collection of Chinese books

LACE Historic Book Structures Practicum, with Jeff Peachey (book conservator), NYU Conservation Center, NY

June 2022

- Developed 8 book models, including 5 representative of major European historical bookbinding structures commonly found in North American research libraries
- Learned and expanded on bookbinding craft skills appropriate to library and archives conservation
- Gained experience with traditional bookbinding tools, materials, and techniques

Association of North American Graduate Programs in Conservation (ANAGPIC) Conference, Winterthur, DE, remote

April 2022

- Gift bag committee member

Western Association for Art Conservation (WAAC), 45th Annual Meeting, Getty Center, Los Angeles

November 2019

- WAAC Community Partnership Project Volunteer