



# 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

**Book and Paper Conservator, University of Oregon Libraries**, Eugene, OR

*August 2025—Present*

Supervisor: Victoria Wong (Lead Conservator)

40 hrs/wk

- Conducts conservation treatment for library materials from special and circulating collections
- Helps maintain and enhance our conservation records
- Constructs preservation enclosures and provides technical guidance on the preservation of paper-based materials
- Assists the Lead Conservator in managing student employees, fostering their growth and development in the field

**Conservation Resident, Northwestern University Libraries**, Evanston, IL

*September 2024—June 2025*

Supervisor: Susan Russick (Chief Conservator)

40 hrs/wk

- Lead supervisor for the stabilization and housing of 20<sup>th</sup>-c. *Chicago Motor News* volumes, including curator consultation, condition survey, budget proposal, supply order, and staff training
- Treated and rehoused 22 early 18<sup>th</sup>-c. parchment legal documents, including wax seal consolidation
- Treated 19<sup>th</sup>-c. Japanese book with foldout woodblock print
- Conducted ink identification research on 17-20<sup>th</sup>-c. West African Arabic and Ajami manuscripts
- Stabilized and rehoused various archival materials
- Assisted 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 17<sup>th</sup>-century emblem book
- Documented and stabilized 17<sup>th</sup>-century Rimmelin anatomy flap book
- Flattened, cleaned, and rehoused two parchment Ethiopic scrolls; assisted with their digitization
- Board reattachment and consolidation of 18<sup>th</sup>-century leather tightback book
- Rebacked 18<sup>th</sup>-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-20<sup>th</sup>-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 19<sup>th</sup>-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 18<sup>th</sup>-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 19<sup>th</sup>-century account book and vernacular diary
- Researched mid-19<sup>th</sup>-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 ~16-17<sup>th</sup>-century leather bound manuscript, including spot sewing, hinge tightening, and repair of splitting and tenting leaves
- Stabilized archival collection of 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>-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-19<sup>th</sup>-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 17-19<sup>th</sup>-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 19<sup>th</sup>-century special collections book
- Dry cleaned and washed 18<sup>th</sup>-century intaglio prints
- Created mount and housing for 20<sup>th</sup>-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 20<sup>th</sup>-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**  
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)**  
Supervisor: Diane Linquata (Professor, School of Art)  
6-12 hrs/wk (~170 hours total)

*August 2017—May 2018*

- 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)**  
1-16 hrs/wk

*March 2017—August 2018*

- 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 50<sup>th</sup> annual School of Art Holiday Sale

**Interim Development Assistant, Long Beach Opera, Long Beach, CA**  
Supervisor: Jennifer Rivera (Development Director)  
10 hrs/wk (50 hours total)

*December 2017—January 2018*

- 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**  
Supervisor: Amanda Fruta (Development Director)  
10 hrs/wk (100 hours total)

*September 2017— December 2017*

- 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, December 2024.
- 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 20<sup>th</sup>-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

*October 2023*

- 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), 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**, Getty Center, Los Angeles

*November 2019*

- WAAC Community Partnership Project Volunteer