

Resources

Beginning the process of organizing your artwork inventory, records, and archives can be incredibly daunting. This is developed to help you jump in, whether you choose to work with us or go out on your own.

Appraisals

American Society of Appraisers (ASA) is a non-profit international organization of professional appraisers whose mission is to foster the public trust of members and the appraisal profession through compliance with the highest levels of ethical and professional standards.

Appraisers Association of America focuses on fine and decorative arts. With a membership of over 900 independent appraisers and affiliated professionals in 100 different areas of specialization, the Appraisers Association's roster of well-established professionals has the widest range of experience and expertise in their respective fields.

Art Dealers Association of America (ADAA) is a nonprofit membership organization of the nation's leading galleries in the fine arts. Founded in 1962, ADAA seeks to promote the highest standards of connoisseurship, scholarship and ethical practice within the profession. ADAA members deal primarily in paintings, sculpture, prints, drawings, and photographs from the Renaissance to the present day.

International Society of Appraisers (ISA) is a not-for-profit, member-driven association, formed to support member needs and enhance public trust by producing qualified and ethical appraisers who are recognized authorities in personal property appraising.

Archives

The American Photography Archives Group (APAG) is a resource organization for individuals who own or manage a privately held photography archive.

The Archives of American Art (AAA) is the world's preeminent and most widely used research center dedicated to collecting, preserving, and providing access to primary sources that document the history of the visual arts in America. They provide information on procedures and guidelines for processing, arranging, and maintaining archival collections.

The Archives Library Information Center (ALIC) provides access to information on American history and government, archival administration, information management, and government documents to National Archives and Records Administration staff, archives and records management professionals, and the general public.

The Artist Archives Initiative was founded at New York University to promote research and disseminate knowledge about the display and care of contemporary art. The initiative responds to a growing need for art world professionals and academic researchers to work with artists in building information resources to aid future exhibition and re-activation of their work.

The Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA) is an international nonprofit association dedicated to the preservation and use of moving image media.

Founded in 1936, the Society of American Archivists (SAA) is North America's oldest and largest national professional association dedicated to the needs and interests of archives and archivists.

Conservation

The Conservation and Art Materials Encyclopedia Online (CAMEO) is a database that compiles, defines, and disseminates technical information on the distinct collection of terms, materials, and techniques used in the fields of art conservation and historic preservation. First developed as a materials database in 1997 at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston it has expanded with the cooperation of multiple institutions to include several reference collections.

The Foundation for Advancement in Conservation (FAIC) supports conservation education, research, and outreach activities that increase understanding of our global cultural heritage. Within the FAIC website they offer access to Connecting to Collections Care that provides resources, professional development opportunities, and support for caring for collections to all types of small to mid-sized cultural institutions.

The Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC), founded in 1973 as a non-profit conservation center devoted to the conservation and preservation of paper-based materials, has as its mission: to improve the conservation efforts of libraries, archives, historical organizations, museums, and other repositories; and to provide the highest quality services to institutions without in-house conservation facilities.

Copyright and Licensing

Artist Rights Society (ARS) plays a vital role in protecting the intellectual property of artists, at a time when the ability to control the rights of their work is often challenged.

Bridgeman Images are the world's leading specialists in licensing fine art, cultural and historical media for reproduction.

Video Data Bank (VDB) is an international video art distribution organization and resource in the United States for videos by and about contemporary artists. VDB was founded at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 1976 at the inception of the

media arts movement. VDB provides experimental video art, documentaries made by artists, and interviews with visual artists and critics for a wide range of audiences.

Cultural Heritage

The National Preservation Institute (NPI) offers continuing education and professional training for those involved in the management, preservation, and stewardship of cultural heritage. NPI serves a broad spectrum from the government and private sectors by providing training in historic preservation and cultural resource management.

Estate Planning

The Artists' Legacy Foundation (ALF) was envisioned by artists Squeak Carnwath and Viola Frey, with community advocate Gary Knecht, to support and encourage artists through awards and grants, promote and protect the legacy of deceased "Legacy Artists," and generally to support the visual arts, especially where the hand of the artist is a significant factor in making art.

Center for the Preservation of Artists' Legacies (CPAL) aims to address legacy challenges facing visual contemporary artists and their life's work. CPAL features artist round-tables and classes focused on the topic of artists' work and archives. These opportunities are designed to engage and educate artists about how to preserve and manage their legacies.

The Clark Hulings Foundation (CHF) bolsters the creative economy by focusing on working artists and creative professionals, equipping them with the business training, supported peer networks, and other tools they need to thrive.

Through the Creating a Living Legacy (CALL) initiative, the Joan Mitchell Foundation produced downloadable legacy and estate planning guides that provide artists and their supporters the professional development tools needed to undertake this important work.

Based in Berlin, Germany, the Institute for Artists & Estates provides a central reference point for all matters concerning artist estates, with focuses on research, networking, managing and consulting.

Legal issues

Center for Art Law is a Brooklyn-based nonprofit that offers educational resources and programming for the advancement of a vibrant arts and law community. They have been creating and amalgamating art law content since 2009. Over the years, they have published spotlights, case and book reviews, interviews, opinions, event reviews, and original research and writing.

What the artist says

Lawyers for the Creative Arts provides pro bono legal assistance to clients in all areas of art, culture, media, and entertainment, including the visual, literary, and performing arts. Their clients are individuals, for-profit, and not-for-profit groups. They also serve as an educational resource for the arts and legal communities.

The Pacific Legal Education & Outreach Society (PLEO) strives to empower artists and non-profits in Canada to access justice efficiently, effectively and equitably. PLEO works to shift the paradigm in how non-profits and artists experience the law, and to identify and fill gaps in legal services and supports for racialized, indigenous, and historically marginalized communities across Canada.

Volunteer Lawyers and Accountants for the Arts (VLAA) supports the creative community by providing free legal and accounting assistance and a wide variety of affordable educational programs. They serve artists of every discipline and career level, nonprofit cultural organizations and small creative businesses. VLA's Artists Over Sixty program provides legal services and education to senior artists to address age-specific legal and business issues.

Provenance

Provenance is the ownership history of an artwork, from when it was first created to its arrival at a collecting institution, whether a museum or library.

Art Tracks is an initiative of the Carnegie Museum of Art (CMOA) that aims to turn provenance into structured data by building a suite of open-source software tools. These tools transform traditional written provenance records into searchable data, with an emphasis on existing data standards and a strong focus on building tools that are useful (and usable) across multiple institutions.

Catalogue Raisonné Scholars Association is an affiliated society of the College Art Association that serves the interests of scholars and those engaged in the catalogue raisonné process. Members typically research a single artist's body of work to establish a reliable list of authentic works, their chronology, and history (usually including provenance, bibliographic, and exhibition histories).

Standards and Guidelines

The Association of Art Editors (AAE), which is an affiliated society of the College Art Association, has established a style guide that is intended for authors of texts on art—any kind of text—and for editors of these texts and their publishers.

Since its founding in 1911, the College Arts Association (CAA) has regularly issued Standards and Guidelines that are developed by CAA's committees, special task forces, and affiliated societies to promote professional practices for the fields of art and art history, as well as provide guidance on intellectual property rights.

What the artist says

Storage

Storage Techniques for Art, Science, and History (STASH) provides information and tools so that institutions of all types, sizes and resource levels can learn how to create safe and appropriate storage solutions. These solutions were written by and for collection care professionals in all fields.

The Care and Handling of Art Objects is a downloadable resource from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, first published in the 1940s and continually updated, to serve as a guide to the best practices in handling and preserving works of art while on display, in storage, and in transit. It explains many of the fundamental principles of conservation that underlie these methods.

Web Archiving

Web archiving is the process of collecting portions of the World Wide Web, preserving the collections in an archival format, and then serving the archives for access and use.

The International Internet Preservation Consortium (IIPC) was formed to identify and develop best practices for selecting, harvesting, collecting, preserving and providing access to Internet content. It advocates for initiatives and legislation that encourage the collection and preservation of Internet content.

Some tools for collecting and preserving Internet content are as follows

ArchiveBox is a powerful, self-hosted internet archiving solution to collect, save, and view websites offline.

Archive It is the leading web archiving service for collecting and accessing cultural heritage on the web. It was established by the Internet Archive, which is a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form, meant to provide free access to researchers, historians, scholars, people with print disabilities, and the general public. The mission of the Internet Archive is to provide Universal Access to All Knowledge.

Archive Today is a time capsule for web pages. It takes a “snapshot” of a webpage that will always be online even if the original page disappears. It saves a text and a graphical copy of the page for better accuracy and provides a short and reliable link to an unalterable record of any web page including those from Web 2.0 sites. Saved pages will have no active elements and no scripts. They are safe because they cannot have any popups or malware.

Conifer is both a tool to create high-fidelity, interactive captures of any web site that can be browsed and a platform to make those captured websites accessible.

Web Archiving Integration Layer (WAIL) is a desktop application that provides a graphical user interface (GUI) atop multiple pre-configured web archiving tools. WAIL acts as an easy way for anyone to preserve and replay web pages. WAIL includes Heritrix 3.2.0 for web crawling and OpenWayback 2.4.0 for replaying web archives. Both these tools and others are accessible from an easy-to-use, native system interface.

Webrecorder has developed many tools to help with web archive capture and replay. There are tools for everyone who is interested in creating or replaying web archives on their own, and more advanced features for developers, which provide tools for software developers to integrate into other workflows and require a bit more technical expertise.