

MRC Courier

COMMITTEE

Volume 30, Number 1

SPRING 2018

Join MRX in Chicago for the AMM-IAM 2018 Annual Meeting and Conference!



The Association of Midwest Museums (AMM) and Illinois Association of Museums (IAM) are hosting a joint conference in Chicago on July 18-21, held concurrently with the Visitor Studies Association (VSA) Conference.

Voting membership in the Midwest Registrars Committee is open to those museum professionals who support the objectives of the MRC, who reside in the Midwest region (including Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin), and who hold positions such as registrar, collections manager, curator, volunteer, administrator, conservator, corporate registrar, or student.

A non-voting membership is available for individuals who are associated with for-profit organizations such as shipping companies, customs brokers, insurance firms, and other suppliers of materials and services, and individuals who reside outside of the Midwest region.

The membership period covers the calendar year (from January 1 through December 31). Annual dues are \$10.00 per year. For more information on the Midwest Registrars Committee or to join MRC, visit <http://midwestregistrars.org/>

AAM-IAM Conference continued

The Association of Midwest Museums (AMM) and Illinois Association of Museums (IAM) are hosting a joint conference in Chicago on July 18-21, held concurrently with the Visitor Studies Association (VSA) Conference.

Consider joining your museum colleagues for the new ***collections care and management track of sessions***. Featured sessions include "Getting Art to Where the People Are: Academic Art Lending Collections," "Collaborative Curation of Human Remains: A Field Museum and IMLS National Leadership Program," and "Mission vs. Margin: The Museum as Private Rental Venue; or, 'Somebody did what? WHERE?'"

Full-conference and single day registrations are available at: <https://www.regonline.com/AMM-IAM-2018>. Plus, AMM members can add the VSA Conference for just \$100 more (\$150 for non-members).

**“How to Handle What Can’t Be Handled” seminar in conjunction with AMM-IAM!**

While you’re in Chicago, take advantage of attending the "How to Handle What Can't Be Handled" seminar! U.S. Art Company is hosting a seminar as part of the AMM-IAM 2018 Conference in Chicago this July that we recommend for members of the MRC.

During *How to Handle What Can’t Be Handled*, attendees will participate in a presentation followed by a Q&A discussion related to packing, handling and shipping “difficult to handle” artworks. Jeff Stafford, special projects manager of U.S. Art Company, will share examples of some particularly challenging projects involving tar, bronze, glitter, glass, textiles, unstable mixed media installations, etc. and the solutions developed for safe handling and shipping of those works. Attendees will be able to see examples of the materials used in U.S. Art Company projects, and engage in a discussion about particular challenges they may have encountered with collections and exhibits at their own museums.

The workshop fee is \$50 and includes transportation from the conference hotel, lunch, and a tour of their new facility. The seminar takes place Wednesday, July 18th at 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The newsletter of the Midwest Registrars Committee, the *MRC Courier*, is published three times a year. Members and Vendors, please submit news, articles, announcements, photographs and ideas for future issues to Linda Endersby, Registrar/Collections Manager, Museum of Art & Archaeology, University of Missouri. EndersbyL@missouri.edu, 573-882-5077. *MRC Courier* is jointly edited by Linda Endersby and Liz Fuhrman Bragg, liz@emuseum.org.

From the Chair

Andrew Near



Andy visiting The Diego Rivera Mural at Detroit Institute of Art

As we finally feel the warm embrace of spring after a much-prolonged wintry season, I'd first like to jump into our upcoming annual gathering at AMM, Chicago! Our Illinois State Rep., Sara Hindmarch pulled double duty as both event coordinator and MRC liaison to the AMM conference planning committee. This was a deliberate effort on part of both AMM and MRC to begin stronger and more fruitful collaboration leading into the future of our organizations.

We should have a pretty exciting conference ahead of us. Though we aren't planning a Mighty Rescue Crew this year, there are several workshops planned for the first day of the conference, including the workshop, "How to Handle What Can't Be Handled," which seems as though it will be of great interest many of us.

Huntington T. Block has once again generously sponsored our annual business luncheon, to be held at the Firehouse Chicago on Thursday, July 19th. ARTistic Storage, a Chicago-based museum storage company, is sponsoring our social for later that afternoon. Expect a RSVP form coming soon to reserve your seat!

And it looks like we will be sending five people to the conference with many thanks to Masterpiece International, Terry Dowd Inc., Dietl International (who generously donated two sponsorships!), and Willis Towers Watson.

As we look forward to our election season, we also welcome our new Nominations Chair, Tish Boyer. Tish is taking over from her colleague of seven years at the Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium, Cristin Waterbury, who will pass on her experience of running the past five elections. I'm looking forward to working with Tish, and voting for our future board members!

Though I cannot thank everyone here by name, please allow me the opportunity to thank our board (including state representatives) for their tireless contributions to keep this is wonderful organization keep chugging along. In particular, I owe Terry Segal special mention for staying on as Development Chair one last year: thank you for putting up with me just a bit longer.

Finally, I'll close by thanking you all for trusting me to serve this important organization. We are united to a clear sense of purpose, which makes the MRC a strong and invaluable resource for our profession. While, circumstances in my personal life make running for the second term more of a commitment than I am able to give my full attention to at this time, it is my hope to be able to continue to serve in other ways in the future. I'd encourage all of you to run for office; it is a rewarding endeavor as well as a lot of fun!

Yours in this flowering spring, and fruitful summer,

Andy Near

Renew MRC Membership for 2018!!

Thanks to those who were on the ball and renewed already. But, for those of you who've been busy, please take a few minutes to renew for this year. Renewing can be done in just a few easy steps:

- 1) Visit the Registration and Renewal page on the MRC website.
<https://midwestregistrars.org/membership-2/joinrenew-membership/>
- 2) Complete the 'Online Registration Form.'
- 3) Use the BUY NOW button to submit payment via PayPal or send a check via snail mail to Tamara at the address listed below.

Boom! You are good for another year of great MRC benefits, which includes access to a fantastic professional network of like-minded professionals, workshop opportunities, funding assistance for state workshops, the opportunity to apply for travel stipends to attend the annual AMM Conference, the MRC Membership Directory and MRC's newsletter *The Courier*.

There is also a printable renewal form at the end of this newsletter.

Payments should be sent to the MRC Treasurer:

Tamara R. Lange, Collection Coordinator/Registrar

Sheboygan County Historical Society & Museum

3110 Erie Avenue

Sheboygan, Wisconsin 53081

Serve on the MRC Board!

In a few short months, it will be election time for the Midwest Registrars Committee! And that means *opportunity is knocking on your door. Will you answer?*

In 2018, the MRC will be seeking potential candidates for all posts, including Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

If you know someone who would fit the bill for any of these positions, let us know. Better yet, if you yourself are interested in becoming more involved in the MRC, now is the time.

Being an MRC officer is a tremendous opportunity to network with your peers in the region and across the country, and to build up your resume with a terrific leadership role. Not to mention having fun...and it is definitely a fun experience! So I know you all will be flooding my email inbox with notes indicating your interest in serving your peers by throwing your name or a friend's name into the ring.

Please seriously consider this opportunity to become more involved with MRC, network with your peers in Registrar Land, and add a great experience to your resume. **Contact me anytime for more information, to submit your own name as a candidate, or to nominate a friend.** The ballot will be compiled in the spring.

Tish Boyer

MRC Nominations Chair

Travel Stipends Scholarships, 2018

Once again, the Midwest Registrars Committee, along with Dietl International, Masterpiece International, Terry Dowd, Inc., and Willis Towers Watson, provided generous support to help three members of MRC attend the 2018 Association of Midwest Museums Annual Conference in Chicago. The recipients will attend the MRC business meeting at AMM and will write one article for the MRC Courier about a session at the annual meeting. Congratulations to:

Sarah Franklin, Zanesville Museum of Art (Ohio) (Dietl International & Midwest Registrars Committee)

Robin Goodman, Gund Gallery, Kenyon College (Ohio) (Willis Towers Watson)

Ashleigh Herrera, Wisconsin Historical Society (WI) (Terry Dowd)

Katie Prichard, University of Michigan Museum of Art (MI) (Dietl International)

Kate Swisher, DuSable Museum of African American History (IL) (Dietl International)

Marisa Szpytman, Detroit Institute of Arts (MI) (Masterpiece)

Beloit
College

Center for Collections Care

July 25-28, 2018

www.beloit.edu/ccc

Knowledge and practice of preventive care are paramount to the preservation of and access to cultural heritage collections. The Center for Collections Care (C³) is poised to meet this training need by providing unparalleled opportunities for hands-on learning and practice for museum, library, archive, and conservation professionals and emerging professionals. Our distinctive resources—two campus museums (Logan Museum of Anthropology and Wright Museum of Art), a vibrant archive, historic costume and natural history collections—situated on the residential campus of a small, liberal arts college, provide superior opportunities to gain knowledge and skills, network with other professionals, and better prepare for advancement. Five classes will be offered in our inaugural season; three in preventive care, and one each in mount making for exhibitions and digitization. Course fees include apartment-style accommodations, course materials, and breakfast and lunch.

Beloit College is home to a well-established and nationally recognized undergraduate Museum Studies Program. The Museum Studies Program and the C³ directly support the integration of knowledge with experience, a core component of Beloit College's mission. The Center for Collections Care is an extension of what Beloit already does exceptionally well. According to a 2018 external review "... one of the greatest strengths of the Museum Studies Program curriculum at Beloit is its emphasis on experiential, hands-on learning and practice."

Please contact us if you would like to learn more or have questions about the program.

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Stateline Small Museums Conference

Friday, May 18th 2018



Highland Community College
Student/Conference Center, Freeport, IL

On-Site Registration & Check-in
8:30-9:00am

Session 1—9:30-10:30

Strategic Planning for the Small Museum, Dave Oberg, Elmhurst History Museum
Care and Preservation of Photography Collections in Small Museums, Sharon Welton, Stephenson County Historical Museum

Session 2—10:45-11:45

Filling the Ranks: Finding and Keeping the Volunteers You Need,
Laura Furman & Kim Ortega, Midway Village
Launching a Digital Project, Josh Hickman, Beloit College

Lunch & Raffle 11:45-12:45

Session 3—12:45-1:45

Humanities Council Grants for Small Museums, Meg Turville-Heitz & Mark Hallett,
Wisconsin and Illinois Humanities Councils
Constructing Storage Containers for Small Museums, Nicolette Meister,
Logan Museum of Anthropology

Session 4—2:00-3:00

Found In Collections (FIC): Pathways for Resolving Undocumented Objects in Museum Collections, Danielle Benden, Driftless Pathways, LLC
Fundraising for the Small Museum, Brian Reis, Ellwood House Museum

Tour

Stephenson County Historical Museum, Freeport, IL
3:45-5:00

REGISTRATION

Registration includes a light breakfast, lunch, afternoon refreshments, conference goodie bag, as well as entry in the raffle and behind the scenes tour.

\$40 Early Registration (ends 5/4)

\$45 Standard Registration

\$50 Onsite Registration

Register online via PayPal or download the registration form from the conference website.

www.statelinesmallmuseumsconference.org

News From the Midwest

Indiana Christa Barleben

Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art, Indianapolis

The Eiteljorg Museum Welcomes Allison Evans as the new Director of Museum Collections

For Allison H. Evans, the transition into her new position as the Eiteljorg's director of museum collections has been a fairly easy one, comforted by her own knowledge and experiences, the adventure of having a new city to discover and the welcoming people. "The best part of the position so far has been how welcoming everyone is," she said. "I love the city. I loved Texas, too, but Indy has been really fun to explore."



Allison Evans

Allison recently moved to Indianapolis from Orange, Texas, where she worked for the Stark Museum of Art. Although she relocated more than 1,000 miles from her previous position, the work is familiar. She credits the smooth transition to her prior experience with Western and Native American art and artists. "I was working for the Stark Museum of Art, which is also Western American and Native American, and so I'm familiar with some of the artists here, which is great. I think that helps make the transition easier, too, because I'm not dealing with a whole new group of artists and collections, which is nice."

As director of museum collections, her responsibilities include overseeing the care and conservation of art works and objects in the museum's collections. That involves chairing various councils, committees and a task force, planning for disasters and revamping the Eiteljorg's collections management policy and procedures. Those are policies about how we care for our collections, why it's important, and how we acquire objects into the collection. She also has the opportunity to travel occasionally, accompanying artwork as it's transferred to different museums. Just weeks after she was hired, she traveled to San Diego to pack a collection donated to the museum.

"There's so much of this job I enjoy. I've been doing it so long," she said of her 17 years in the collections field. She's especially looking forward to working with the Eiteljorg's database and possibly giving the public more access to information on the museum's collections.

Her decision to apply to join the Eiteljorg was an easy one. "I knew its reputation was really good and they were doing exciting, innovative things like working with Native American artists and tribes and that's just really exciting to me, to really work with those different cultures."

Originally from Pennsylvania, Allison has lived in Delaware, Texas and now Indiana. "I don't know where the next thing will take me," she said, "but right now I am loving my job and loving Indy, so I'm looking forward to exploring more."

Allison succeeds Amy McKune, the previous director of collections who is a dedicated professional and had been with the museum 13 years. Allison's first day at the Eiteljorg was Jan. 8. In her short time on staff, she's already figured out what makes the Eiteljorg unique. "I think the thing that sticks out to me is how dedicated the staff is to this organization, and they really seem like they're all having a good time, which is really special. You don't get that everywhere."

Iowa Sarah Connors

Museum of Danish America, Elk Horn

CURRENT EXHIBITS:

DENMARK - AMERICA'S SMALLEST AND BIGGEST ALLY - Through Sept. 3, 2018

From stories of Danish Americans in U.S. armed forces to stories of current Danish active duty military and veterans, this exhibition seeks to raise awareness and interest in the many ways that two nations can relate to and have partnered with one another.

HOME-GROWN ART - Through June 10, 2018

A selection of art from the museum's collection all created in the tri-county area of Shelby, Cass, and Audubon counties.

VETTED VIEW II – Through Sept. 3, 2018

A collaboration with the New Century Arts Guild in Kimballton, IA, a non-profit arts organization co-founded by veterans and artists that was established to transform veterans' lives through the power of art. This is an exhibition of NCAG's U.S. Military veterans that have studied or are currently studying photography.

CORE: DANISH ROOTS, AMERICAN DREAMS

A giant timeline of history, a kid zone, a peek at our collection, and much more!

Image from: DENMARK - AMERICA'S
SMALLEST AND BIGGEST ALLY -
Through Sept. 3, 2018



UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

Tivoli Fest – May 26, all day. The Danish Villages of Elk Horn and Kimballton get festive for this celebration of the area's Danish roots. Food, vendors, a parade, games, and more – fun for the whole family! The museum is offering free admission for the weekend and behind the scenes tours of artifact vaults on Saturday, the 26th.

Sankt Hans Aften – June 23, 6-10pm. Join us on the museum grounds for a mid-summer shindig. We'll have food and music, as well as a huge bonfire around sunset.

Iowa Conservation and Preservation Consortium

The Iowa Conservation and Preservation Consortium will hold its annual Save Our Stuff (S.O.S.) Conference and Annual Meeting on Friday, June 8th at the IVCCD Orpheum Theater Center in Marshalltown, Iowa. ICPC's Save Our Stuff conference focuses on strategies and practices that meet the preservation needs of Iowa's cultural institutions. Visit www.iowaconserveandpreserve.org for more information.



Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, Cedar Rapids

CURRENT EXHIBITS:

Flight Pattern: Birds in Art, March 1, 2018 - March 30, 2018

In flight or at rest, birds have long fascinated artists. Often used as symbolic objects for particular virtues, families, or countries, birds in art can carry meaning far beyond their forms. From John Buck's vibrant woodcut of the extinct dodo bird to Laurie Hogin's fantastically feathered creations, Flight Pattern celebrates the great variety of avian art in the CRMA collection.

Edward Hopper: Selections from the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
February 3 - May 20, 2018

This exhibition of thirteen seminal works, all drawn from the collection of the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, traces the early trajectory of Edward Hopper's career in works from 1906 to 1933.

Edward Hopper (1882-1967) was a prominent American realist painter and printmaker. Best known for capturing what he saw as the solitude and isolation of modern American life, Hopper's works include austere interiors, moody cityscapes, and starkly beautiful rural landscapes. His art injects the psychological lives of his figures into what otherwise may appear to be straightforward depictions of everyday life. Solitary figures contemplate their existence in these various locales, all highlighted with Hopper's extraordinarily sensitive use of light.

This exhibition has been made possible by The McIntyre Foundation. Additional support has been provided by the Hotel-Motel Tax Fund, the Iowa Arts Council, a division of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts, members of the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, and contributors to the Museum's Annual Fund.

Hopper's World: New York, Cape Cod, and Beyond, February 3 - May 20, 2018

Accompanying the Hopper exhibition from the Whitney Museum, the CRMA presents images of the places Hopper lived and worked, all drawn from our own collection. Images of Hopper's beloved New York are joined with images from Ogunquit and Monhegan Island, Maine; Gloucester and Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and rural New England. Images of Paris in honor of Hopper's three trips there are also included.

University of Iowa Museum of Natural History, Iowa City

As the oldest collegiate museum west of the Mississippi River, the University of Iowa Museum of Natural History (UIMNH) has been accumulating research collections for nearly 160 years. One of its broadest and most interesting is the ornithology collection, which includes more than 31,000 bird, nest, and egg specimens.

“We are interested in preserving these items as well as possible for as long as possible,” says Trina Roberts, director of the UI Pentacrest Museums. “If you want to keep things for a couple hundred years, you’re going to want to invest in good infrastructure.”

Thanks to a generous Collections in Support of Biological Research (CSBR) grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), UIMNH has been able to remodel storage space in Macbride Hall. The new climate-controlled facility includes state-of-the-art museum cabinetry, which will better preserve the collection. With UIMNH Collections Manager Cindy Opitz leading the charge, museum staff, student assistants, interns, and volunteers have been hard at work relocating the specimens and digitally recataloging every item.

Collections like the one at UIMNH have proven valuable to researchers in the past, and they only continue to grow in importance as research technology advances. To put things in perspective: when many of these specimens were collected, DNA research was still far off in the distance. Scientists will undoubtedly find new and innovative ways to learn from UIMNH’s collection in the future.

“We have specimens from these time and space points that nobody else has,” says



Thanks to a grant from the National Science Foundation, the University of Iowa Museum of Natural History is upgrading the storage of its ornithology collection, which features more than 31,000 bird, nest, and egg specimens. Meanwhile, students are getting valuable experience in museum collections management. Photo by Justin Torner.



Recent graduates Keith Buckman and Randi Proescholdt check drawers in the UI Museum of Natural History's remodeled storage facility in Macbride Hall. UIMNH's 31,000-item ornithology collection is in the process of being relocated to state-of-the-art compactor cabinets located in a climate-controlled space in Macbride. Photo by Justin Torner.

University of Iowa Museum of Natural History continued

Roberts. "The way science works is that everyone's collection turns out to be important because everyone has a piece of this global puzzle. What we have is unique."

Thanks to the NSF grant, UIMNH can not only better preserve this collection, but also update the way it is cataloged and organized to better serve researchers at the UI and beyond. Meanwhile, the students who work on the project get a unique, hands-on experience.

"This kind of support is so important—not just for us, but for museums everywhere," Opitz says of the NSF grant. "It's important for the students who interact with our collections who get great life skills out of it, and go into careers in related fields. This kind of support—nothing gets done without it."

(First printed in *Iowa Now*, July 2017; reprinted with permission)

Michigan Julie Conklin

University of Michigan Museum of Natural History, Ann Arbor

The UM Museum of Natural History (formerly Ruthven Museum) has closed as we make the move to our new space. The last day was 31 December 2017. Since then, we have been preparing for the move of the Museum and collections. The new space (BSB, or Biological Sciences Building), is being finalized, though most staff has moved in already. The collections are being inventoried and prepared at the time of writing, with collections moving later this year. The new UM Museum of Natural History is scheduled to open to the public in 2019 with new exhibitions and spaces and offerings for the public."

Mackinac State Historic Parks

Mackinac State Historic Parks will have staggered openings for the summer season starting on May 2nd with Colonial Michilimackinac. On May 3rd, Fort Mackinac and the Richard and Jane Manoogian Mackinac Art Museum will open and Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park, Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse on the 4th.

This winter, intern Jessica Marks worked in the Petersen Center Library completing several projects. She conducted inventory of the archival collection and scanned each object into the ARGUS database. She entered several hundred images into the database including scans done by volunteer Martin Gargaro of the parks' glass plate negative collection. Jessica also processed a collection of archival material from the Little Stone Church on Mackinac Island which was donated to the parks last fall. Jessica did an excellent job this winter and will be missed by the staff.

The Richard and Jane Manoogian Mackinac Art Museum will exhibit the 2018 contemporary art contest "Landscapes of Mackinac" this summer. Out of 85 entries, jurors Liz and Neil Ahrens selected 20 pieces to be displayed until October 7, 2018. Mackinac State Historic Parks will host a grand opening reception and awards on Wednesday, June 20th at the museum.

The park has hired two summer collections interns, Megan Heimann from the University of St. Francis and Sa-

Share Your News!!

Do you have exhibitions, events, acquisitions, or other news to share? We would love to hear about it!! Make life for your State Rep a little easier by submitting a news story, interesting tidbit, or update for the next issue of the *MRC Courier*. Listings for each state and contact information can be found at the end of the *Courier*.

Mackinac State Historic Parks continued

rah Dickinson from Agnes Scott College. They will be conducting object inventory of Colonial Michilimackinac, Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse and exhibits & object storage at the Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park. Once completed, they will rehouse and process the Arnold Transit Line archival collection donated in 2016. This collection covers the business history of one of the oldest shipping companies on the Great Lakes.

Currently, the park is taking applications for an archives assistant who will fill an unpaid winter internship. The internship can start any time after Monday, November 5th with start and end dates being flexible. The intern will be based in Mackinaw City at the Petersen Center Library with free housing provided. Applications and a position description can be found on the parks' website www.mackinacparks.com.

Minnesota

Jackie Hoff

Hennepin History Museum, Minneapolis

A group of eleven registrars and collections managers from the Twin Cities area gathered on April 9 at Hennepin History Museum in Minneapolis. Heather Hoagland, Collections Manager, and Alyssa Thiede, Assistant Collections Manager, introduced attendees to the museum's inventory project, a comprehensive 100% inventory of the entire HHM collection. The project includes cataloging, photographing and entering into a Past Perfect database over 25,000 objects ranging from lion skin rugs to feather fans. The museum has dedicated the largest of its limited gallery space to Shelf Life, an open storage exhibition and cataloging work space open to visitors.



Shelf Life (above) and volunteers working (below)



The work of the inventory project is being accomplished by a team of over 50 dedicated volunteers and interns, who are managed by a two-woman collections management team.



Before (above) and after (below)



Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minneapolis

The Minneapolis Institute of Art (MIA) partnered with the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) and the Art Gallery of Ontario for (AGO) the exhibition, "Guillermo del Toro: At Home with Monsters." It was hugely successful at MIA where we had over 77,000 visitors. MIA was responsible for crating the exhibition in Los Angeles and overseeing the tour to MIA in Minneapolis, the Art Gallery of Ontario in Toronto, and finally returning the objects to Del Toro's home/studio in L.A., named "Bleak House." We borrowed about 430 objects from Del Toro's collection. The project required two MIA registrars to spend two weeks at LACMA and two weeks in Toronto two times (installation and deinstallation), plus one registrar for a week in L.A. to oversee the return of the objects to Bleak House. MIA registrars who participated in these trips were Jennifer Starbright, Megan Dischinger, and Rebecca Shearier. The objects ranged from full size figures made of silicone or fiberglass to movie props and costumes, medical specimens in jars, framed insect specimens, and toy figurines, as well as paintings and prints.



MIA entered new waters in this project by using electronic condition reports. LACMA had done their initial condition reports electronically on iPads. We figured out a way to make these work for the tour and have since employed the process for our other traveling exhibitions.

This was a challenging project on several fronts: The sheer number of objects, a wide variety of non-traditional museum materials, and managing the expectations of a collector passionate about his objects which he had not loaned before. We needed to manage the crating of the exhibition long-distance in a different state. Also, we needed to obtain CITES and USFWS permits when shipping to Canada for the feathers and insects.

Perhaps because of these myriad challenges, it was also very gratifying at the end. It was tremendously successful at both MIA and the AGO (where it was the seventh most attended exhibition in their history). In addition, Del Toro was happy with the process and ecstatic to have the objects returned to his home after being on the road for nearly two years.



Kookoo the Bird Girl on the porch (top) and Frankenstein being reinstalled (bottom) at Bleak House.



Objects at MIA



Objects at AGO

Minnesota Museum of American Art, St. Paul

The Minnesota Museum of American Art recently received a small grant of \$9,999 from the Minnesota Historical Society to purchase 12-foot tall shelving and reconfigure storage space to complete a rehousing project. About 1,000 square feet will be freed up and will provide better flow that will increase safety of staff and artworks.

Wisconsin

Laurel Fant

Chazen Museum of Art, Madison

The Chazen Museum of Art's exhibition manager and registrar, and former MRC Chair 2008-2012, Ann Sinfield has completed the Getty Leadership Institute's NextGen 2018, an executive education program for mid-level managers tapped as the next generation of museum leaders.



Entry into the program is competitive and required nominations and support from the Chazen Museum of Art as well as recommendations from recognized leaders in the museum field. "It was certainly challenging—participants were stretched to consider not only personal limitations, strengths, and goals, but institutional and field-wide strategies and opportunities," said Sinfield.

Selection criteria also included candidates' detailed analysis of the challenges they face in the immediate future; commitment to the museum field; creativity; broad strategic

thinking; and the ability to influence policy and affect change at their institutions. The curriculum fosters learning through both theory and practice and aims to enhance museum leadership at the individual, institutional, and societal levels.

The Chazen Museum of Art presents Watanabe: Japanese Print Envoy from June 1 through September 2, 2018.

Drawn from the Chazen's collection of nearly four thousand Japanese prints, this exhibition focuses on the work of one publisher: Shozaburo Watanabe. Determined to renew the tradition of Japanese color woodcuts, Watanabe hired a new generation of artists and craftsmen to create prints that brought traditional techniques into the twentieth century. He called these prints "shin hanga" or "new prints," now the generic name for the style his workshop pioneered. The prints are colorful images of traditional Japan's natural beauty, made with a Western audience in mind. Watanabe actively sought out artists who would incorporate a more western style of representation into his prints and he actively courted the international market.



Chazen Museum of Art continued



Many of Watanabe's most innovative prints, made at the beginning of his publishing career, are rare; the Kanto earthquake of 1923 destroyed his shop, including stored prints and the blocks they were made from. This exhibition brings together many of these early prints as well as later impressions to tell the story of the workshop that set the standard for the new generation of print publishers.

The Chazen is currently seeking 2-3 additional venues to display this exhibition (approx. 50 works, 205 running feet, available January – December 2019). Contact Ann Sinfield at asinfield@chazen.wisc.edu to learn more

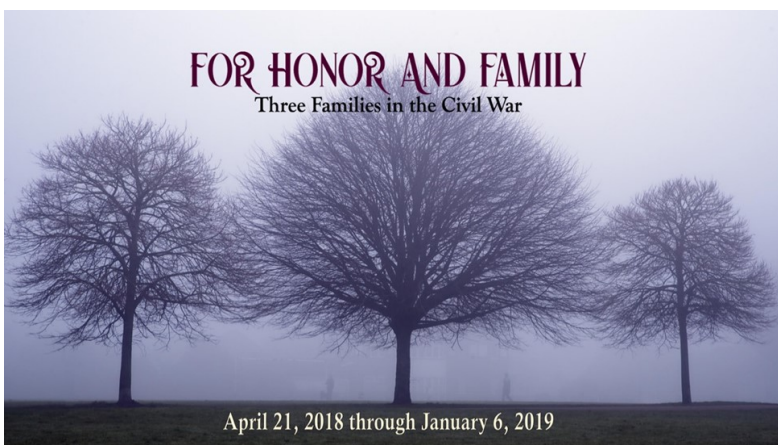
Civil War Museum, Kenosha

The museum opened in 2008 with a mission to explore the role and impact of the seven states of the Upper Middle West—Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, and Minnesota—and their people upon the Civil War era.

Many unique stories can be told no better way than with genuine objects of the time. These things offer tangible proof—evidence, if you will—of how people lived their lives. We can read the words they wrote, see the things they touched, and look upon the faces of those they held dear.

What better way to celebrate our 10th Anniversary than by showcasing three amazing collections that have come to be in our care—and the stories of the people behind them?

The exhibition *For Honor and Family: Three Families in the Civil War* showcases the legacies of three families of the Civil War era through the collections preserved and passed down through their descendants: Dawson/Vaughan, Livingstone, and Ward. It also shows how family genealogy and heirlooms come into museum collections, and the important role they play in understanding our shared heritage.



For Honor and Family: Three Families in the Civil War opens April 21, 2018 and runs through January 6th, 2019 at the Civil War Museum 5400 1st Ave, Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140 <http://www.kenosha.org/wp-civilwar/>

Midwest Registrars Committee

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NEWSLETTER

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The Midwest Registrars Committee formed in 1978 to provide a forum for the exchange of information and methods among museum collections professionals and registrars in the Midwest region. The MRC fulfills this objective by promoting an atmosphere of mutual aid and cooperation and by promoting professional practices to benefit colleagues, the museum community, and members.

The MRC is affiliated with the Registrars Committee of the American Alliance of Museums (RC-AAM) and the Association of Midwest Museums (AMM).

Who can join?

Voting membership in the Midwest Registrars Committee is open to those museum personnel who support the objectives of the MRC and who reside in the Midwest region, including:

- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- Ohio
- Wisconsin

You **don't** have to be a registrar! Collections managers, curators, volunteers, administrators, conservators, corporate registrars, students, or other collections care professionals are encouraged to join.

A non-voting membership is available for individuals who are associated with for-profit organizations such as shipping companies, customs brokers, insurance firms, and other suppliers of materials and services, and individuals who reside outside of the Midwest region.

Benefits of membership

- The Courier, MRC's quarterly newsletter
- Funding assistance for state workshops
- Professional network
- Workshops
- Travel stipends to attend annual AMM Conference
- Membership directory

Membership fees

- Annual dues are \$10.00 per year
- The membership period covers the calendar year (January 1 - December 31)
- Make checks payable to:
Midwest Registrars Committee

Membership form

Date: _____
 Name: _____
 Position: _____
 Institution: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____
 Phone/fax: _____
 Email: _____

- ☐ New (voting \$10)
☐ Renewal (voting \$10)
☐ New (non-voting \$10)
☐ Renewal (non-voting \$10)

Make a difference!

Your active participation ensures the ongoing success of the MRC programs and activities. Please check the areas in which you would like to get involved:

- ☐ State representative
☐ Newsletter
☐ Programs/annual meeting
☐ Fundraising
☐ Membership

NEW FOR 2013—Renew and pay online!

Follow these two steps to renew your membership electronically:

1. Simply fill out this PDF form and e-mail it to: MRCDues@gmail.com
2. To pay for your MRC dues via PayPal, login to your account, click "Send Money", and send your dues to: MRCDues@gmail.com

-OR-

Send paper application and payment to:

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