

Amalia S. Levi

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INTERESTS

- Libraries & Archives; Digital technologies and humanities research; ethnic and diasporic populations; Jewish history; Linked Open Data; public history.
- International collaborations and projects

EDUCATION

- **College of Information Studies, University of Maryland, College Park, MD**
Doctoral studies, ABD (2010 – 2014)
- **College of Information Studies, University of Maryland, College Park, MD**
MA in History and Master's in Library Sciences (MLS), Archives concentration, 2010
- **Social Studies Department, Yildiz Technical University, İstanbul, Turkey**
MA, Museum Studies
- **College of Arts and Humanities, Department of History and Archaeology, National Kapodistrian University, Athens, Greece**
BA in Archaeology and History of Art

LANGUAGES

Excellent: English, Greek, Turkish, French.

Working knowledge: German, Italian, Spanish.

Basic: Hebrew, Latin.

EXPERIENCE

Professional positions

Founder and Chair, [The HeritEdge Connection, Inc.](#)

Barbados, W.I.; April 2017 – to present

- Seeking grants, developing proposals, and managing projects in the cultural heritage sector.

Past and present projects:

- Endangered Archives Programme grant, British Library (December 2017)
[Digitization of the historic newspaper *The Barbados Mercury*](#)
- Peter Moores (Barbados) Trust grant (November 2017)

- Documentation of the Sidney Martin Library art collection at the University of West Indies, Cave Hill Campus
- Consulting, UNESCO Slave Route – Sites of Memory wiki project, Barbados

Project Archivist, Nidhe Israel Synagogue Restoration Project

Barbados, W.I.; October 2015 – December 2016

- [Processing and digitizing records of the restoration of the Nidhe Israel Synagogue and cemetery](#). Creating online collection through the Digital Library of the Caribbean (dLOC.com).

Graduate research assistantships, University of Maryland

College Park, MD; 2007 – 2014

- Please see details below.

Religious Editor/Indexer, Alexander Street Press

Alexandria, VA; 2006 – 2007

- Foreign language (Ancient Greek, English, French, Italian) editing and indexing of two religious databases (Catholic Reformation and Classic Protestant Texts); light XML editing.

Curator, B'nai B'rith Klutznick National Jewish Museum and Philip Lax Archives,

Washington, D.C., 2004 – 2006

- Managing collection and assisting researchers to the archives; organizing events

Curator, Jewish Museum of Florida

Miami Beach, FL, 2002 – 2003

- Collections management; developing exhibits; logistics for traveling exhibits

Founding Curator, Jewish Museum of Turkey

Istanbul, Turkey, 1998 – 2001

- Collection and exhibits development; installation; logistics with contractors

PUBLICATIONS

Edited Collections

- Daniel, D. and Levi A. (Eds.) (2014) *Identity Palimpsests. Ethnic Archiving in the U.S. and Canada*. Los Angeles, CA: Litwin Press.
- Kraus, K. and Levi, A. (Eds.). (2012). *Rough Cuts: Media and Design in Process*. [Online collection of essays and artifacts]. MediaCommons: The New Everyday.

Books

- *Evanescent Happiness: Ottoman Jews Encounter Modernity. The Case of Lea Mitrani and Joseph Niego (1863-1923)*. Istanbul, Turkey: Libra Books, 2015. (This book is based on my Master's thesis in History.)

Book chapters

- "Hafızanın 'Dayanılmaz Hafifliği': Arşivler ve Müzelerde Türk Yahudi Kadını" ("The 'Unbearable Lightness' of Memory: The Turkish Jewish Woman in Archives and Museums"). In Leyla Neyzi (ed.), *Nasıl Hatırlıyoruz? Türkiye'de Bellek Çalışmaları (How Do We Remember? Memory Studies in Turkey)*. Istanbul, Turkey: Is Bankasi Publishing, 2011.
- "Introduction: Ottoman Jewish Costume through Engravings." In Silvyo Ovadya (ed.), *Jewish Costumes in the Ottoman Empire*. Istanbul, Turkey: Gözlem, 2001.

Articles published in conference proceedings

- D. Oard, A. Levi, R. Punzalan and R. Warren, "Bridging Communities of Practice: Emerging Technologies for Content-Centered Linking," *Museums and the Web 2014*. Baltimore, MD, April 2014.
<http://mw2014.museumsandtheweb.com/paper/bridging-communities-of-practice-emerging-technologies-for-content-centered-linking/>
- "Humanities 'big data': Myths, challenges, and lessons." *Big Data in Humanities workshop, IEEE Big Data 2013*. San Jose, CA, October 2013.
http://bighumanities.files.wordpress.com/2013/09/2_5_levi_paper.pdf.
- "From Personal Narratives to Collective Memory: Spinning a Web from Oral History." *17th International Oral History Association Conference, Buenos Aires, Argentina, September 2012*.
- "Borderlands and Boundaries: Recasting the History of Jewish Communities in the Balkans through New Media." *17th Annual World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities*, New York, NY, April 2012.

Peer-reviewed articles

- "Communicating context: Libraries, archives, and museums in a connected world." *Connexions* 2013, 1(1), 81-87. <http://connexionsj.files.wordpress.com/2013/05/levi.pdf>.
- "Memorializing Religion: Crowdsourcing, Minorities, and the Quest of Identity in Digital Archives." In *ASIR 2011: Advances in the Study of Information and Religion* (online journal).
<http://digitalcommons.kent.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1029&context=asir>.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- (Upcoming) "Tracing the Jews of Barbados: Archival Dispersion and Digital Repatriation." *Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL)* conference, Boston, June 2018.
- (Upcoming) "Processing the Barbados Synagogue Restoration Project Records: Reflections and opportunities for future projects." *Association for Caribbean Historians (ACH)* conference, Barbados, June 2018.
- "Silences as News: The Relevance and Urgency of Preserving Historical Newspapers in Postcolonial Settings." Keynote address. *IFLA International News Media Conference*, Gainesville, April 2018.
- "Intersectionality in Digital Archives: Describing, Retrieving, and Accessing Identity." "Questioning Models: Intersectionality in DH" *Symposium*, Köln, November 2017.
- "An End and a Beginning: Reflecting on Archival Work Completed at the Nidhe Israel Synagogue in Barbados." *Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL)* conference. New York, June 2017.
- "The Synagogue Block in Bridgetown, Barbados: Assessing Past Accomplishments and Emerging Possibilities." *Transforming Public History from Charleston to the Atlantic World: 2017 Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World Conference*. Charleston, June 2017.
<https://transformingpublichistory2017.sched.com/event/AnwL/session-1a-project-showcase>.
- "Digitizing the Barbados Mercury Gazette: From a Newspaper Collection to Data about the Enslaved." Part of the panel "Collaboration across Disciplines to Make a Path Where None Existed" (<http://www.dloc.com/AA00054636>) at the *Association of Caribbean University, Research and Institutional Libraries (ACURIL)* conference. Puerto Rico, June 2017.
<http://www.dloc.com/AA00054636/00004>.
- "Ongoing Archival and Library work at the Nidhe Israel Synagogue and Museum in Bridgetown, Barbados." *Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL)* conference. Charleston, June 2016.
<http://databases.jewishlibraries.org/node/51158>.
- "Dispersion and the Digital: A Report on Ongoing Archival Work at the Nidhe Israel Synagogue and Museum in Barbados." *The Caribbean Digital III* conference. New York, December 2016.
<http://caribbeandigitalnyc.net/2016/session-1/>.
- Organizer of two-part session: "Close Encounters of the Social Media Kind: Mining Online Content for Primary Sources." *American Historical Association (AHA)* annual meeting. Washington, DC, 2014.

- Part 1 (paper session, **chair**): “Unmediated Voices, Mediated Platforms: Seeking the “Other” through Social Media.”
<https://aha.confex.com/aha/2014/webprogram/Session10166.html>.
- Part 2 (fishbowl session, discussant): “Navigating the Profession when Bits Rot, MOOCs Attract, and Social Media Become History.”
<https://aha.confex.com/aha/2014/webprogram/Session10173.html>.
Contribution: “Redefining primary sources for future historical research.”
- Organizer of and discussant at the roundtable “Leveraging Social Media as Resources and Tools in Jewish History Research and Pedagogy.” *Association for Jewish Studies (AJS)* conference. Boston, December 2014.
 - Contribution: “Web Resources as Primary Sources in Historical Research.”
- “The changing face of primary sources in historical scholarship on diasporas.” *Great Lakes History Conference*. Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, MI, October, 2013.
- “Big vs. (very) small data: Social media output as primary sources in historical research,” *AERI 2013*, Austin, TX, June 2013.
- “Semantic Technologies and Sense Making in Humanities,” *DHSI 2013*, University of Victoria, Canada, June 2013.
- **“Unmediated Voices, Mediated Platforms: Social Media as Primary Sources in Historical Research,”** *Media in Transition 8: Public Media, Private Media*, MIT, Cambridge, MA, May 2013.
- Organizer, chair, panelist: **“The Changing Faces of Knowledge Production and Dissemination in Public History”** panel. *SHFG-OHMAR 2013*, College Park, MD, April 2013.
 - Presentation: “Close Encounters of the Social Media Kind: Redefining Primary Sources in Public History.”
- “Big, small, and really small data: Social media output as primary sources in historical research,” *Beyond the PDF2 Conference*, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, March 2013.
- “Through the Eye of the Needle: Making Sense of Humanities Scholarship with Linked Open Data.” *Semantic Search NKOS/CENDI Workshop*, Washington, DC, December, 2012.
- “Reifying Collective Memory and Identity through User-Contributed Content in Ethnic Archives and Museums.” *Archival Education and Research Institute 2012*, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA, July 2012.
- “Links as crossroads in archives, museums, libraries: Redefining diasporic online identity through user-generated contextual information.” *Digital Crossroads Conference*, Utrecht University, Utrecht, The Netherlands, June 2012.
- Organizer, chair, panelist: “Health, Connectedness, Well-Being: Social Media and Diverse Populations” panel, iConference, Toronto, Canada, February 2012.

iConference 2012, Toronto, Canada, February 2012.

http://www.ischools.org/iConference12/alternative_events/#AE15

- Presentation: "Healing the Nation: Diasporas and Online Health Communities."
- "The "Wandering Jew" in the Age of Web 2.0: Crowdsourcing the Sephardic Diaspora." *Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archivists*, Chicago, IL, August 2011.
- "New Questions, Old Paradigms: A Retrospective on Collaborative Sense-making." *MIT7 - Media in Transition*, MIT, Cambridge, MA, May 2011.
- "Archiving Balkan Jews: Reclaiming the "Sephardic Heartland" through Web 2.0 Technologies." *Association of Jewish Libraries Annual Convention*, Seattle, WA, July 2011.
- "Reclaiming History: Archiving Diasporas in the Age of Web 2.0 Technologies and Social Media." *Library Research Seminar V: Integrating Practice and Research*, UMD, College Park, MD, November 2010.
- "Digital Archives as Transplanted Homelands: Minorities and the Archival Paradigm in the Digital Era." *American Association for History and Computing: Frontiers in Digital History*, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, April 2009.
- "Digitizing Alterity: Archiving Women, Minorities, and Indigenous Peoples in the Digital Era." *Media in Transition 6: Stone and Papyrus, Storage and Transmission Conference*, MIT, Cambridge, MA, May 2009.
- "Memory keepers, identity shapers: Tracing Sephardic Women in American archives." *Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference*, Silver Spring, MD, April 2008.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- Keynote address. "Silences as News: The Relevance and Urgency of Preserving Historical Newspapers in Postcolonial Settings." *IFLA International News Media Conference*, Gainesville, April 2018.
- *From Access to Integration: Digital Technologies and the Study of Jewish History* conference. Center for Jewish History, New York, NY, November 2011 (attendee by invitation) <http://www.techconference.cjh.org>
- "Constructing memory, reclaiming history: Representing Sephardic Women in the Balkans," Lecture at *Imagining the Cosmopolitan: Sephardic Jewish Cultural Contributions to Ottoman City Life* workshop, Georgetown University, D.C., April 2009.
- "Exhibiting Sephardic and Mizrahi Jewry: Museums, Archives, and the 'Unbearable Lightness' of Memory," Invited presentation in the *Integrating*

Sephardi and Mizrahi Studies: Research and Practice conference, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA, November 2008.

- “Hellenism in the USA: A Museological Approach.” Lecture at the *American Foundation for Greek Language and Culture annual conference*, Tampa, FL, 2002.
- Presented on the history of Ottoman Jews at the Jewish Study Center, Washington, DC; on the history of the B’nai B’rith benevolent association at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School, Rockville, MD.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- *Archival Education and Research Institutes (AERI)*. 2012-2014.
- *Roots and Routes: Digital Scholarship and the Pre-modern Mediterranean, Sociability and Materiality*. Summer Institute, University of Toronto Scarborough, June 2014. <http://serai.utsc.utoronto.ca/rrsi2014>
- *Doctoral Colloquium*, iConference 2014, Berlin, Germany.
- *Digital Humanities Summer Institute (DHSI)* 2013. University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, June 2013. <http://dhsi.org/>. Course: Humanities Databases.
- *Open Annotation Data Model Rollout*. MITH, College Park, MD, May 2013. http://www.openannotation.org/MITH_Agenda.html.
- *Digital Humanities Winter Institute (DHWI)* 2013. MITH, College Park, MD, January 2013. <http://mith.umd.edu/dhwi/>. Course: Linked Open Data.
- *Summer Social Webshop-Technology-Mediated Social Participation*. UMD, College Park, MD, August 2012. <http://www.cs.umd.edu/hcil/webshop2012/>
- *USHMM Sephardic Jewry and the Holocaust Workshop*. Washington, DC, June 2010.

GRANTS

▪ **British Library Endangered Archives Programme grant, November 2017**

Grant for the digitization of the historic newspaper *The Barbados Mercury*.

Activities organized under this grant:

- [“Collaborative Finding Aid Workshop,”](#) Barbados, December 2017.

▪ **Peter Moores (Barbados) Trust grant, October 2017**

Documentation of the Sidney Martin Library art collection, University of West Indies, Cave Hill Campus.

▪ **NEH Digital Humanities Start-Up Grant, April 2013**

Student-Investigator for the “Bridging Communities of Practice: Emerging Technologies for Content-Centered Linking” project. PI: Dr. D. Oard. \$24,650.

The grant consisted of two workshops:

- “Bridging Communities of Practice: Emerging Technologies for Content-Centered Linking.” College Park, MD, September 2013.
- “Computational Linguistics in Libraries, Museums, and Archives.” Code4Lib Conference, Raleigh, NC, March 2014.

AWARDS, GRANTS, HONORS

- **Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World Conference travel award, June 2017.**

Award to defray travel expenses to the conference.

- **Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL) stipend (2016, 2017, 2018)**

Stipend to defray costs of travel and lodging for the annual AJL conference.

- **AERI scholarships (2012, 2013, 2014).**

Scholarships awarded to defray costs of travel to and registration for the Archival Education and Research Institutes.

- **“Roots and Routes” scholarship, May 2014.**

Scholarship to defray travel and lodging expenses to attend the “Roots and Routes” Summer Institute at the University of Toronto Scarborough.

- **International Conference Student Support Award, February 2014.**

Award by the UMD Graduate school for the iConference 2014.

- **NSF iConference Doctoral Colloquium Student Fellowship, February 2014**

Scholarship awarded to defray travel, lodging, boarding costs for the iConference 2014 in Berlin. \$1,800.

- **Maurice Amado Foundation Travel Grant, December 2013**

Travel award to attend the Association of Jewish Studies Conference in Boston. \$250.

- **Travel Award, Spring 2013**

Awarded conference travel award by College. \$250.

- **Student Fellowship for the BtPdf2 conference, 2013**

One of thirty fellowships awarded to defray costs of travel and lodging, €1,000.

- **Digital Humanities Summer Institute Tuition Scholarship, 2013**

Student tuition remission, \$500.

- **Digital Humanities Winter Institute Tuition Scholarship, 2013**

Student tuition remission, \$250.

- **Merit Scholarship, Fall 2012**

Awarded merit scholarship by College. \$2,500

- **International Oral History Association Scholarship, 2012**

One of ten presenters selected from a pool of applicants to present at the **17th International Oral History Association Conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina**, in September 2012. Awarded € 575.

- **UMD Graduate School, Goldhaber award, 2012**

Travel award to participate in the **International Oral History Association Conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina**, in September 2012. Awarded \$600.

- **UMD Honors Humanities, Doctoral Teaching Apprentice Fellowship, 2011**

One of two doctoral fellows selected as a teaching apprentice for the Honors Humanities College's second year seminar, "Modes of Knowing and Doing." Awarded \$2,500.

- **Association of Jewish Libraries Convention Stipend, 2010**

Stipend for presenting at and attending annual convention of the Association. Awarded \$700.

- **USHMM Sephardic Jewry and the Holocaust Workshop Fellowship, 2010**

One of fifteen participants selected to the workshop. Awarded \$200 to defray local costs.

- **Konigsberg scholarship, Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies, UMD, 2009**

Scholarship for conducting archival research for my thesis in archives and libraries in Israel during the summer of 2009. Awarded \$3,000.

- **Integrating Sephardi and Mizrahi Studies conference scholarship, 2008**

Awarded scholarship to attend and present at the conference. Scholarship paid the air fare, lodging and meals.

- **Gudelsky scholarship, Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies, UMD, 2008**

Scholarship for intensive Hebrew language learning in Israel. Awarded \$3,000.

INTERNSHIPS, ASSISTANSHIPS, TEACHING

Internships

Archives Intern, US Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, D.C., 2010

- Processed collection of archival material; created finding aid

NARA Intern, College Park, MD, 2007

- Processed electronic records collection

Research assistantships

Graduate Research Assistant, College of Information Studies, UMD

College Park, MD; 2010 to 2014

- Carried out departmental records disposition project according to UMD records scheduling policies; transferred records with archival value to UMD archives; destroyed not needed records; research and teaching assistant.

Graduate Assistant, History Dept., UMD

College Park, MD; 2007 – 2010

- 2009-2010: Department coordinator in Israel Studies: Organized conferences, lectures, took care of logistics, various administrative duties
- 2007-2009: Research assistant

Teaching

- **Doctoral Teaching Apprentice Fellow**, UMD Honors Humanities College, Fall 2011: Duties consisted of attending and critically participating in classes; teaching a session on “Modern and Postmodern Perspectives in Art History”; organizing and presenting on “Humanities Scholarship and Research in the Digital Age.”
- **Guest lecturer:** Various presentations on Digital Humanities, and Linked Open Data at classes at the iSchool and the Honors Humanities program.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Member, Reference and Bibliography Award Committee, Association for Jewish Libraries (AJL), 2016 – to present.
- Member, Genealogy Fair Organizing Committee, Barbados Archives Department
- Student member. MLS Curriculum Committee. Spring 2011.
- Co-moderator and website development, Sephardi Mizrahi Caucus of the Association for Jewish Studies, August 2010 to 2014.
- Member, Committee for exploring the feasibility of developing an American Hellenic Museum, American Foundation for Greek Language and Civilization (AFGLC), Tampa, FL, 2002.

PUBLIC SERVICE/VOLUNTEER

- Member, Executive Committee, Barbados Jewish Community (2017 to present).
- Volunteer, Barbados Archives (2016 to present).
- Volunteer, Barbados Museum, Shilstone Library (2016-2017).
- Volunteer editor, Pelagios project (2014)

MEMBERSHIPS

- Association of Jewish Libraries
- Beta Phi Mu International Library and Information Studies Honors Society (Inducted: 2010)