

ARLISifacts

The Newsletter of the Art Libraries Society of North America, Southeast Chapter
June 2022

Report on the ARLIS/NA Chicago Conference, April 5–9, 2022, from the ARLIS/SE Professional Development Travel Award Winner

by Kayla N. Morrell,
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Chicago was a first of many for me. Not only was it ARLIS's first in-person conference since the beginning of the pandemic, but it was my first professional conference ever, my first time visiting Chicago, and my first time traveling to a city by myself that I had never been to before. This was a defining moment of "adulthood" for me. Being the recipient of the ARLIS/SE Professional Development Travel Award gave me the opportunity to thoroughly experience ARLIS and the benefits the conference had to offer. My expectations were high, but ARLIS was happy to exceed them.

Being amongst fellow librarians from across North America was truly inspiring. I left Chicago feeling reinvigorated and ready to work towards new goals for both my library and myself. I believe that librarians, by nature, are creative, but it was incredible to see so many unique ways in which fellow teaching librarians tackled unique issues. One session that I attended actually had me excited to use PowerPoint again! Other sessions that I attended also introduced me to new ways to collaborate with Special Collections and incorporate "curated browsing" into my teaching,

and presented new ideas for pedagogical support that I hadn't considered before.

As an introvert, I knew that tackling my first conference would be a challenge. My coworker was only able to stay for a few days, so I knew beforehand that I would be in Chicago primarily by myself. However, I was blown away by how nice everyone was. I met so many librarians from other institutions who were friendly and willing to take me under their wing. By the end of the first day of ARLIS, I was able to relax and come out of my shell. I gained the confidence I needed to present my poster by the end of the week and was so surprised by how many people were interested



Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio, Oak Park, Illinois. ARLIS/NA Chicago conference tour, April 5, 2022. Photo by Ann Holderfield.



*The Edith Farnsworth House, Plano, Illinois.
ARLIS/NA Chicago conference tour,
April 9, 2022. Photo by Ann Holderfield.*

in "It Came from the Internet! An Event Focusing on the Application of Information Literacy to Social Media." I was able to make connections with other librarians during this session whom I would never have had the opportunity to meet before. This session, in particular, was the confidence boost I needed to shake off my imposter syndrome, because other professionals in my field were interested in the work I was doing.

I am extremely grateful to be the recipient of this year's Travel Award. I would not have had the same fulfilling experience at ARLIS without it. I'm looking forward to becoming more involved with ARLIS and sharing my experiences with newer librarians. Since graduating from my MLIS program in 2019, I did not have a traditional introduction to librarianship. The pandemic hit six months after working in the field professionally, and COVID-19 was the focus of everyone's attention. This year's ARLIS provided a much-needed reminder as to why I love my career so much and why I do what I do. I'm looking forward to what everyone accomplishes this year and seeing it presented in Mexico City!

Member News

From **Floyd Michael Zula**, retired librarian and lifetime member of ARLIS/SE:

On returning from a two-week trip to Utah, I found this booklet in the mail: "Past, Present,

Future: Aspiring to New Heights. ARLIS/NA. Conference Memories: A Maker Space Zine. 50th Anniversary Conference, April 5–9, 2022."

On the back of the booklet, containing a reproduction of a small collage that I made there, is the following: "Collaboratively created by conference attendees in the Maker Space at the 50th annual ARLIS/NA Conference in Chicago, IL. The Maker Space was hosted by the Stimulating Creativity in Practice (SCIP) SIG." Learn more about the SCIP SIG at <https://linktr.ee/arlisnascip>.



Maker space room, ARLIS/NA Chicago conference, 2022. Photo by Ann Holderfield.

From **Leah Sherman**, Visual & Performing Arts Librarian, Florida State University Libraries, Tallahassee, Florida:

Over the past several years, as the Visual & Performing Arts Librarian at Florida State University, I have been completing one-off art-related projects at FSU Libraries, such as creating the Special Collections posters I presented on at ARLIS/SE in Tallahassee in 2019 and, most recently, reframing and installing several Karl Zerbe prints that were gifted to the FSU Libraries in the 1970s. I am excited to announce that this year these efforts have finally converged in launching the FSU Libraries Art in the Library Committee. As its new chair, I am currently planning a rich slate of visual and performing arts projects and events, hopefully including pop-up student music and dance performances, campus

partnerships, art exhibitions, and hands-on art workshops. I am thrilled to announce that our new art exhibition program will soon release a call for proposals, and we will mount our inaugural show of FSU student art at Dirac Science Library this fall! I look forward to sharing more about how this program evolves over time, and if any other Southeasters have similar programs at their libraries, I would love to hear about them! Contact me at LRSherman@fsu.edu.

Report from the ARLIS/NA Chapters Liaison

by Stephanie Grimm,
ARLIS/NA Chapters Liaison,
Art and Art History Librarian and
Fenwick Gallery Manager,
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Welcome to summer, all! It was great to see so many of you in Chicago for the fiftieth anniversary conference and to meet some new faces. I'm sharing updates from the ARLIS/NA Executive Board (EB) and the work that's been happening since the annual conference, and some things to look forward to in the coming months. Rebecca Price, ARLIS/NA president, provided an update to the ARLIS-L listserv on June 24 that covers some of the topics below, so I'll keep those points brief.

Annual Conference, Past and Future

The Executive Board recently met with the Chicago Conference Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC) to discuss the overall conference experience, the support received from our management company, and feedback from the conference survey. More generally, the board has been discussing the **conference site proposal and selection process**, and opportunities presented by alternate formats and models. The changes made as we've adapted to COVID-19, including a move to virtual programming in 2020 and 2021, provided us with valuable knowledge and experience on what

works (and what doesn't work as well!) and how members want to participate in conference programming.

It's also raised questions about the sustainability of a model that puts much of the planning burden on a single chapter. We have not yet received any proposals for the 2024 conference, but I am continuing to solicit chapters and work with the board and ARLIS/NA staff to consider more strategic approaches. We want to continue to highlight the many people and cultural organizations represented by the Society and the work of our chapters, while also finding ways for the broader membership to volunteer and support conference planning.

In the meantime, the **Mexico City CPAC** is hard at work on organizing some truly outstanding programming! Be sure to check out the [Call for Proposals](#) (due August 12) and see past president Mark Pompelia's message on ARLIS-L (June 12) with a list of museums and cultural sites on the roster.

Designing the Next Fifty Years

The Society is in the middle of a **strategic planning process**, led by the Strategic Planning Committee (formerly Strategic Directions). This is ongoing work to shape the mission and vision of the Society, with more opportunities for member involvement and feedback to come.

The EB and ARLIS/NA members also approved a restructuring of the **Nominating Committee**, which now allows for consecutive terms and for service of a current Executive Board member. These changes will help to build institutional knowledge within the committee, supporting both the nomination process and ongoing **leadership development**. My hope is that the lessons and practices developed within this committee might provide a model (and resources!) for chapters to cultivate and develop leadership within their own groups.

The **Anti-Racism Committee** began its work this summer, and I'm pleased to be one of the EB members serving on this group. The committee is evaluating annual reports, membership demo-

graphics, and conference programming to develop a picture of current antiracist work and conversations across the Society. We will hold a town hall on **Friday, August 5**, to learn about our work in progress—watch the listserv for those details and Zoom links!

In case you missed it:

- The EB approved changes to the **ARLIS/NA Joblist** policy, which now requires more information for postings, including **salary ranges**.
- The **ARLIS/NA Commons** platform is live, and many chapters and groups have completed their transition to the commons. Chapters with ARLIS/NA–hosted listservs should have also received information on how to begin their transition to the commons.
- **Four recorded sessions from the Chicago conference** are now on the ARLIS/NA Commons: "Know Their Names: Case Studies in DEIA Collection Development, Assessment, Expansion, and Access," "Demystifying Digital Art History: Past, Present, and Future," "Who Were We? Where Did We Go? Voices from the Early Years of the Society," and "Thinking Globally, Acting Locally: Increasing Access to a Wider Range of Diverse Materials."
- Our management company underwent a change in ownership and is now **Barcami Lane** (formerly McKenna). For us, this is mainly a change in title—the staff and executive director remain the same.

To close, I'll share that we just returned from visiting family in Savannah, which always includes a visit to galleries, studios, and the city's many excellent old and new restaurants. It's always so good to get back to the Southeast! If you're going to be in the area, be sure to check out the [Jepson Center](#) and [Telfair Museums](#) sites, grab lunch at [The Grey Market](#), and take a trip to see open studios in the [Starland District](#).

Stay cool this summer, everyone!



Some of the participants at the ARLIS/NA Southeast Chapter Virtual Spring Business Meeting, March 23, 2022.

Top row: Ann Holderfield (University of South Carolina Beaufort), Ann Lindell (University of Florida), Peter Klubek (University of Louisiana–Lafayette). Bottom row: Ann Baird (University of Florida), Kim Collins (Emory), Kayla Morrell, top right (Ringling College of Art and Design), Cara Barker, bottom right (Western Carolina University). Screenshot by Ann Holderfield.

Minutes from the ARLIS/NA Southeast Chapter Virtual Spring Business Meeting, March 23, 2022

The ARLIS/NA Southeast LoPresti Award Committee is pleased to announce the 38th Annual Mary Ellen LoPresti Art Publication Awards Competition for publications copyrighted in 2021. The entry deadline is August 31, 2022.

ARTifacts is published twice a year.
Next submission deadline: December 16, 2022.
Please send your contributions to:
wcary@themorris.org. Cary Wilkins,
Morris Museum of Art, 1 10th St. Ste. 320,
Augusta, GA 30901