

Awards and Scholarships

Louisa Bowen Memorial Scholarship for Graduate Students in Archival Administration

The Louisa Bowen Memorial Scholarship for Graduate Students in Archival Administration provides financial assistance to a resident or full-time student of the MAC region who is pursuing graduate education in archives. The 2022 Bowen Scholarship was awarded to **Allessandra Liberati**, a student at Wayne State University's School of Information Sciences. Liberati is pursuing her interests in archival processes and digitization. She has a BA from Beloit College with a double major in classical civilizations and history. While at Beloit, Liberati volunteered in the college archives transcribing and creating finder's guides for alumni scrapbooks. Her career aspirations are to work with collections—not only to digitize them, but to make them accessible to all users, including those with auditory and visual disabilities as well as those who are homebound or unable to physically reach collections. Liberati believes that everyone deserves equal access to all knowledge and hopes to contribute to this endeavor. Congratulations Allessandra!

Mark A. Greene Award for First-Time Meeting Attendees

The Mark A. Greene Award for First-Time Meeting Attendees provides financial assistance for travel and conference expenses to individuals who have not previously attended a MAC meeting. Choosing the award recipients from a strong field of applicants was not an easy task for the committee. After careful consideration, the committee decided to award two \$250 awards. The 2022 Mark A. Greene Award for First-Time Meeting Attendees recipients are Jenny DeRocher and Doreen Dixon.

Jenny DeRocher received her MLIS with a concentration in cultural heritage informatics from Simmons University and currently works as a librarian for the La Crosse Public Library in La Crosse, Wisconsin. In her letter of support, DeRocher's supervisor wrote of her strong desire for "inclusivity and social justice in our repository—within our collections, on our service desk, as well as in programming and outreach." She has embedded herself in community organizations that are dedicated to connecting the library to local LGBTQ+, Hmong women, Cuban refugees and descendants, and area Indigenous populations. Attending MAC provided DeRocher with the opportunity to strengthen her archival knowledge by immersing herself in the learning environment of MAC and to use the in-person meeting as an opportunity to network and build new professional relationships.

Doreen Dixon recently moved from New York to Iowa to assume her first professional position as the electronic records archivist for Drake University in Des Moines. As the first person in this position, she is responsible for building Drake's digital archives program. Attending MAC provided Dixon with the opportunity to network with and gain knowledge from seasoned professionals and to attend sessions that explored topics that address her current job priorities of increasing diversity, equity, and inclusion in born-digital archival materials. Dixon wrote that her "ultimate goal is to contribute to the archival community by identifying and preserving archival materials, creating platforms on which all voices can be heard, and acknowledging the value of their contributions to society."

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Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship for Students of Color

The Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship for Students of Color provides financial assistance to minority students pursuing graduate education in archival administration and seeks to encourage ethnic diversification of the Midwest Archives Conference and the archival profession as a whole. We are pleased to announce this year's winners.

Mary Lodu is an incoming MLIS student at the University of Wisconsin–Madison with a background in art and art history. Lodu's interest in archives began in 2011 after South Sudan gained independence, leading her to explore the history of the country her family left in 1995. Her experience of navigating colonial barriers to archival access, working with digitization projects funded by CLIR, and working with communities have all led Lodu to reflect upon the work that archivists and memory workers do. Lodu writes, "Having worked closely with artists and organizers in Minneapolis as a coleader of the artist-run Burn Something Collective, I've thought critically about the role of archives in shaping collective memory and how important it is for Black folks to create and control our own narratives. Bearing witness to historic movements for liberation from Minneapolis to Sudan has cemented my passion for working with archives and my desire to play a crucial role in preserving the past, present, and future." The committee is pleased to be able to support Mary Lodu as she begins her archival education.

David Satten-Lopez is an MLIS student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Satten-Lopez's interest in archives stems from a passion for primary sources and audiovisual materials, both of which he harnessed during a 2014 research project on James Baldwin. Hearing Baldwin's words in his own voice encouraged Satten-Lopez to work toward making primary sources more available to the public. He notes two additional projects that have impacted him the most with respect to archives: his digitization, preservation, and cataloging work with the University of Pennsylvania's PennSound audiovisual materials and his work to create a web platform for Haverford College's Quaker Manuscripts collection, during which he worked closely with Black Quakers and the Quaker community to develop and promote the project. Satten-Lopez writes, "I seek to counter dominant yet faulty historical narratives and create platforms that are inclusive, especially across digital capacities and literacies. By working alongside community members impacted by our collections, we can better attend to their needs and interests, and consequently, create more robust platforms." The committee is happy to be able to support David Satten-Lopez as he undertakes more archival work.