

**Society of American Archivists
Council Meeting
January 23 – 26, 2013
Chicago, Illinois**

**Society of American Archivists (SAA) at Pratt Institute
(Prepared by Julie Hunter, SAA at Pratt Treasurer)**

BACKGROUND

SAA at Pratt reestablished their student chapter on October 23, 2012, after a five-year lapse. The officers of the reestablished chapter are motivated and determined to succeed in their mission to “enhance the educational experience by providing and organizing workshops, lectures, group meetings, guest speakers and field trips that combine the theoretical perspectives, practical experiences and research initiatives espoused by SAA.” To support this mission, key events and speakers have been identified as critical to its success. The proposed budget for fiscal year 2013 to support the continuing education for the student group of Society of American Archivists at Pratt Institute is respectfully submitted.

PROPOSED EVENTS

The following events were chosen based on their ability to enlighten SAA at Pratt students interested in pursuing a career in the field of archives. They were also chosen for their otherwise relative inaccessibility to some students, be it because of financial constraints, time, or geographic distance. As students, the officers of SAA at Pratt can attest that opportunities are often overlooked because of the lack of personal resources. We want to provide these events and scholarships to help relieve some of the burden students experience when trying to further their education.

1. National Archives and Library of Congress Tour:

SAA at Pratt would like to schedule tours in concordance with Pratt’s School of Information and Library Science Student Association (SILSSA) to visit the National Archives and the Madison Building of the Library of Congress in Washington D.C. We believe this will be a learning experience for students to gain a better understanding of how special collections can be displayed, used for research, and how they are cared for while gaining the opportunity to see such important historical documents as the Declaration of Independence and maps penned by George Washington. We hope that by providing the opportunity to visit the National Archives and the Library of Congress, students will take advantage of the opportunity

to see some of the most important archives in the country. We are pairing with Pratt SILSSA in order to promote goodwill and interest between student groups within Pratt as well as to help cut costs while providing a well-rounded trip to venues that will benefit members of both student groups. This trip will require two days, as the tour at the Madison Building will take about six hours. The Library of Congress tour at the Madison Building is free and incurs no cost. The National Archives offers guided and timed tours to the public, which are free but come with a service cost of \$1.50 per person for reservations. We have budgeted for 30 students, including the cost of chartering a bus to Washington D.C. (\$1,295 per day plus a \$50 D.C. bus permit) and 16 hotel rooms at \$100 per room per night. This includes accommodations for the bus driver.

2. Scholarship for the SAA Annual Meeting:

SAA at Pratt would like to offer a scholarship to cover the costs of registration, travel, and lodging for the SAA Annual Meeting to a deserving Pratt student who shows a commitment to the study of archives. We believe that the SAA Annual Meeting is a fantastic opportunity for students to learn new and innovative archival practices while networking with professionals in the field. We also believe that by sending a committed archival student to the annual meeting, Pratt students as a whole can gain knowledge of the event and what it has to offer through the testimony of the attendee. We have estimated the amount of the scholarship based on the registration fees of the 2012 Annual Meeting, seven nights at a hotel at a cost of \$100 per night, and travel by plane to cost \$300.

Pratt Students who are also SAA members (SAA at Pratt officers would be exempt from this scholarship) will be asked to submit an essay as to why they want to attend the SAA Annual Meeting. The essays will be reviewed by the SAA at Pratt officers and their faculty advisor. As a stipulation of the award, the recipient will be required to use social media (blog, tweet, Facebook updates, etc.) to update SAA at Pratt members on the event and what they are learning. The recipient will also be required to write a final essay documenting their experiences and learning outcomes. This essay will be submitted to SAA with the Annual Report.

3. Scholarship for Digital Archives Specialist (DAS) Curriculum and Certificate Program:

As part of our mission, our goal is to encourage students to pursue an education in archives. We would like to offer a deserving student the opportunity to expand their education by offering a scholarship to the Digital Archives Specialist (DAS) program. The DAS program will further the students experience and give them the opportunity to become certified in digital archives. We hope that the scholarship will lighten the financial burden of taking these courses and allow the student to pursue their interest in digital archives. We have calculated the scholarship based on cost provided on the SAA website for nine classes and nine examinations (<http://www2.archivists.org/prof-education/das/FAQs/8>).

Pratt Students who are also SAA members (SAA at Pratt officers would be exempt from this scholarship) will be asked to submit an essay as to why they want to be certified as a digital archives specialist. The essay will be reviewed by the SAA at Pratt officers and their faculty advisor. As a stipulation of the award, the recipient will be required to write a final essay documenting their experiences and learning outcomes. This essay will be submitted to SAA with the Annual Report.

PROPOSED SPEAKERS

The following speakers were chosen because of their expertise in topics relating to archives. The officers of SAA at Pratt have heard them speak at other events and chose them because of their ability to deliver information in a clear, meaningful, and engaging manner. Costs were calculated based on estimates from previous workshops provided by the Pratt Institute School of Information and Library Science (SILS). SAA at Pratt would also like to provide lunch to the speaker and attendees as a courtesy as these workshops will last at least 6 hours. We are also looking forward to the opportunity to network with other SAA student groups in the area by inviting them to attend these workshops. We are eager to create communication between sister chapters at other local institutions and are confident this will facilitate the process.

1. Ben Fino-Radin - Born Digital Assets:

Ben Fino-Radin is a digital conservator at Rhizome, a nonprofit organization located within the New Museum in NYC that supports and provides a platform for new media art. His job is to oversee Rhizome's online archive of digital art. Mr. Fino-Radin has given speeches on Born Digital Assets over the years and knows the topic well. SAA at Pratt is confident that a speech delivered by him will greatly benefit the archival students in the world of digital archives.

2. Dr. Kenneth Crews - Copyright and Media Collections:

Dr. Crews is the director of the Copyright Advisory Office at Columbia University. He is experienced in entertainment law, information science, and copyright. He has been a faculty member in business, law, and information science. He has also written extensively on copyright and how to navigate it. SAA at Pratt would like to have him speak to Pratt students on copyright issues found within media collections. In archives, professionals undoubtedly run into media like films, music, even written word, and they need to understand the copyright restrictions behind these collections so that they can be appropriately accessible. While this event will not be immersive, our goal is that it will provide a base knowledge that students can build upon.

3. Kara Van Malssen - Digital Image Preservation:

Kara Van Malssen is a senior consultant at AudioVisual Preservation Solutions. She specializes in digital asset management, metadata, and digital repositories. She is also an adjunct professor at NYU and Pratt Institute, specializing in these topics. She

is passionate about digital image preservation and conveys that through her extensive knowledge. We are certain that Pratt students will gain a sound understanding from her on the topic of digital image preservation.

4. Deena Schwimmer - Archivists' Toolkit:

Deena Schwimmer is the archivist at Yeshiva University. She presented Yeshiva's implementation of Archivists' Toolkit at the 2010 New York Archives Conference. She has also led workshops on Archivists' Toolkit (AT) at Pratt Institute with warm reviews. AT is an essential utility in the archives profession and often used by repositories to maintain and organize collections. SAA at Pratt is confident that a workshop on AT will greatly benefit the students, allowing them to become familiar with a program that they will undoubtedly use throughout their career.

PROPOSED BUDGET

PROPOSED EVENTS	COST
National Archives/Library of Congress Tour	\$4,285
Scholarship for Annual Meeting	\$1,139
Scholarship for Digital Archives Specialist (DAS) Curriculum and Certificate Program	\$1,265
EVENTS TOTAL	\$6,689
PROPOSED SPEAKERS	
Ben Fino-Radin - Born Digital Assets	\$500
Dr. Kenneth Crews - Copyright and Media Collections	\$500
Kara Van Malssen - Digital Image Preservation	\$500
Deena Schwimmer - Archivists' Toolkit	\$500
Food - \$200 for each Speaker Event	\$800
SPEAKERS TOTAL	\$2,800
TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET	\$9,489

The Point of Contact for this budget submission is Julie Hunter, SAA at Pratt Treasurer. Julie can be reached via email at j.mariehunter@gmail.com.