

The Newsletter of the Southeastern Registrars Association

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SERA OFFICERS

Chair:

Tricia Miller

Vice-Chair:

Jennifer Spence

Secretary:

Alyssa Magnone

Treasurer/Membership

Chair:

Miranda Helton

Development Chair:

Ainsley Powell

Communications Chair:

Sabra Gossett

State Coordinator:

Deanna Taylor

Scholarship Chair:

Elizabeth Le

Nominations Chair:

Christy Sinksen

Notes from the Chair

Tricia Miller

Dear SERA Members,

Well, if you ask Punxsutawney Phil, we are in for another six weeks of winter. February is often the hardest and coldest month, but it's also the shortest! Just remember that the days are getting longer and those daffodils will be popping their heads out before we know it.

While you are hunkered down waiting out the last weeks of winter, please take a few minutes to renew your SERA membership. SERA is a great way to stay connected to your colleagues throughout the southeast and membership gives you access to resources for collections management, job listings, and eligibility for SERA awards and scholarships. While you're at it, encourage a colleague or friend in the field to join as well. Thank you!

The SERA Board has been working on a few changes to the by-laws and operations manual to keep the organization up to date. In the near future, look for communication and voting regarding these changes. We need the membership to vote to approve any changes to the by-laws.

Also, we are close to making the Collections Continuity Plan available on the SERA website. More to come on that topic in the coming months as well.

Happy 2025, SERA colleagues! Let's make it a good year.

All my best,
Tricia

Greetings SERA Members,

Happy 2025! As we enter a new year, I am delighted to share that 48 of our current members have already renewed their memberships. Between our renewing members and our 8 brand new members, we are off to a fabulous start! I enjoyed seeing everyone who was able to join us in Baton Rouge and hope to see many of you again in Montgomery.

As a reminder, SERA's memberships expire at the end of each calendar year. So, if you have not renewed since the 2024 SEMC Conference, your membership is now technically expired. We currently have 67 2024 members who have not yet renewed. You must be a member in good standing to qualify for SERA's upcoming conference scholarship opportunities (Please apply for these! I want to give you money!).

We had a great gathering at the Bengal Tap for our Registrar's Respite this year. The decision to move to a separate invitation and RSVP system along with wristbands for the event worked wonderfully, so expect to see the same system in use for this year's Respite!

As of February 11, 2025, SERA has 122 active members, up 6.08% from last year.

As of February 11, 2025, the current balance in the Chase checking account is \$13,264.49. The current balance in the PayPal account is \$1,033.29. The combined total on-hand is \$14,297.77, up \$1,229.04 (+9.40%) from the \$13,068.73 on-hand reported this time last year.

Below is our full statement of activity for 2024. We had a net gain for the year of \$858.15 after paying for conference and award expenditures. I have also included our year-to-date statement for 2025. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Miranda Helton, Treasurer/Membership Chair

TREASURER'S REPORT

MIRANDA HELTON

Statement of Activity
January - December 2024

	TOTAL
▼ Revenue	
▼ Donations	25.00
Sponsorship	2,000.00
Total Donations	2,025.00
▼ Membership	
Associate	50.00
Individual	1,575.00
Institutional	525.00
Student	30.00
Total Membership	2,180.00
Royalties	617.15
Total Revenue	\$4,822.15
GROSS PROFIT	\$4,822.15
▼ Expenditures	
Dues, Fees, & Subscriptions	409.98
Legal & Professional Services	50.00
Office Supplies & Software	296.16
PayPal Fees	148.46
Reimbursable Expenses	15.00
Respite	1,244.40
▼ Scholarships	
SEMC	1,800.00
Total Scholarships	1,800.00
Total Expenditures	\$3,964.00
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$858.15
NET REVENUE	\$858.15

Statement of Activity
January 1 - February 11, 2025

	TOTAL
▼ Revenue	
▼ Membership	
Associate	25.00
Individual	750.00
Institutional	375.00
Student	15.00
Total Membership	1,165.00
Total Revenue	\$1,165.00
GROSS PROFIT	\$1,165.00
▼ Expenditures	
Dues, Fees, & Subscriptions	45.99
PayPal Fees	52.02
Total Expenditures	\$98.01
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$1,066.99
NET REVENUE	\$1,066.99

MEMBERSHIP

New* / Renewing Members

AL

Ella Sykes, Collections and Gallery Manager
Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences at UAB

AR

Jennifer Kick, Collections Manager
Rogers Historical Museum
Harrison Mitchell, Registrar
Historic Arkansas Museum
Emma Shortess, Collections Assistant
Rogers Historical Museum

FL

Heather Culligan, Registrar and Collections Manager
The Ashley Gibson Barnett Museum of Art at
Florida Southern College
Sabra Gossett, Curator
Cape Canaveral Space Force Museum
Kaitlyn Hof-Mahoney, Research Administrator
Florida Museum of Natural History

GA

Aimee Brooks, Collections Manager
The Columbus Museum
Tricia Miller, Deputy Director of Collections and Exhibitions/Head Registrar
Georgia Museum of Art
Christy Sinksen, Senior Registrar
Georgia Museum of Art

KY

Christopher Goodlett, Senior Director of Curatorial and Educational Affairs
Kentucky Derby Museum

MS

Kathleen Barnett, Director of Collections Management and Registration
Mississippi Museum of Art
Tommie Rodgers, Registrar
Lauren Rodgers Museum of Art

NC

Loran Berg, Collections Manager
Mountain Heritage Center
Jordan Cao, Associate Registrar for Collections
North Carolina Museum of Art
Mary Hauser, Assistant Director and Registrar
Gregg Museum of Art & Design
Corinne Midgett, Registrar
High Point Museum
Ainsley Powell, Curator of Collections
City of Raleigh Historic Resources and Museum Program
L. Catherine Riddle, Collections Manager
Duke Lemur Center Museum of Natural History
Kim Terbush, Owner
Terbush Art, LLC.

SC

Maggie Claytor, Associate Registrar
Gibbes Museum of Art
Miranda Helton, Registrar
Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum

MEMBERSHIP

Alyssa Magnone, Associate Preservation Specialist

Northeast Document Conservation Center

Melanie Sigman, Collections Manager

Aiken County Historical Museum

Robyn Thiesbrummel, Director of Collections Management

South Carolina State Museum

TN**Elizabeth Le, Collections Manager and Registrar**

Hunter Museum of American Art

TX**Kali Mercy, Curator**

Perot Family Collections

VA**Catherine Desilvey, Registrar/Curator**

Virginia Military Institute Museum

Jill Harris, Museum Registrar

Virginia Museum of Natural History

Jeanne Niccolls, Owner

Museum Collections Consultant

New* / Renewing Institutional Members

Atelier4

Justine Chan, Senior Project Management

Estevan Collado, Sale Manager

Luke Lunsford, Project Management

Steve Pardun, Vice President of Sales and Business Development

Kim Schantz, Director of Museum and Exhibition Projects

Jonathan Schwartz, CEO

Atlanta History Center

Gretchen Collier, Inventory Assistant*

Jen Glaze, Associate Registrar

Erica Hague, Collections Manager

Halle Smith, Project Registrar*

Shon Walker, Inventory Assistant*

Deb Wold, Project Registrar *

Bailey Yeager, Collections Assistant*

Old State House Museum

Lark Buckingham, Registrar

Brendetta Murrell, Deputy Director

The Historic New Orleans Collection

Susan Eberle, Registrar

Rachel Ford, Registrar

Jennifer Ghabrial, Collections Manager

Kylie Hewitt, Associate Registrar

Maclyn Hickey, Conservation Coordinator

Beth Sherwood, Associate Registrar

The Mariners Museum and Park

Montana Coward, Collections Management

Technician *

McAllie Givens, Collections Management

Specialist *

Sarah Kelly, Director of Collections Management *

New* / Renewing Associate Members

India Crawford, Senior Director

Transport Consultants International

Solana Rostick, Student

University of Florida, College of the Arts

ALABAMA

Haley Aaron

Registrar

Alabama Department of Archives and History

The Alabama Department of Archives and History is preparing for gallery renovations which will take place over the course of the next year. The department's largest exhibit, Alabama Voices, will close on May 17, 2025. The department's Children's Gallery and two temporary exhibit spaces have already closed. Renovations will include the development of a new Children's Gallery; Alabama Military Stories, a new permanent exhibit that honors the experiences of Alabamians in military service; updated Native American exhibits; and updates to the ADAH's permanent exhibit, Alabama Voices. New exhibits are scheduled to begin opening in the fall of 2025, and we look forward to hosting SERA members during SEMC in October.

To prepare for these updates, Registrar Haley Aaron and Assistant Registrar Mary Taylor Peake are assisting with the deinstallation and return of loans from two temporary exhibits, Alabamians in the Great War and History Lives On: Alabama's Rosenwald Schools.

The Registrar's office is also actively receiving new donations. New York artist Steve Alpert recently donated his portrait of Ann Berry, former Secretary of the U.S. Senate, to the Alabama Department of Archives and History. On January 28, the ADAH hosted a program to unveil the portrait to a group of more than 65 family members and friends, including Alpert and Berry. Birmingham native Ann

Berry became the 34th secretary of the Senate on March 1, 2021. She was the first African American to serve in this position and the eighth woman to hold the office. At the unveiling event, Berry reflected on her experiences and accomplishments: "It's not about me. It's about those who come after me."



Image: Artist Steve Alpert and Secretary of the Senate Ann Berry unveil a new portrait recently donated to the ADAH.

Pamela Bransford

Registrar

Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts

Allison Boyer has joined the MMFA as assistant registrar. Originally from the Chicago area, she has a BFA in art history and painting from St. Ambrose University and a MA in Museum Studies from Johns Hopkins University. One of her first tasks has been to photograph a collection of 497 political cartoons from the 1930s that have never been available on the museum's online database. The project is ongoing and has now been thankfully interrupted by condition reporting, making shipping arrangements, loan forms, and numerous checklists. All a good introduction to museum registration

work. It is great to be a registration department of two again after over a year.

Alex Campbell

Collections Manager

Berman Museum - Anniston Museums and Gardens

Exhibits everywhere! We recently installed artifacts in the newly-refurbished Anniston City Hall. Our lobby is currently housing “Old, New, Borrowed, and Blue,” a display of vintage wedding dresses from the Berman Museum collection. This display will remain up until July. Finally, our sister museum, the Anniston Museum of Natural History is opening “Animals: A to Z” this February in their temporary exhibit hall.



Rose Wood

Registrar

Birmingham Museum of Art

The Birmingham Museum of Art organized exhibition, Envisioning the Hindu Divine: Expanding Darshan and Manjari Sharma opened at its third venue at the San Antonio Museum of Art. Former BMA objects conservator, Margaret Burnham is traveling with the show to make condition reports and oversee installation. Rose had to find storage for seven months for another BMA organized exhibition, Hayward Oubre: Structural Integrity until it goes to its first venue at the Stanley Museum of Art, University of Iowa, August 26-December 7, 2025.

FLORIDA

Sabra Gossett

Curator

Cape Canaveral Space Force Museum

Earlier this February, we set up our Mercury 13 display in our Sands Space History Center. We are currently working on a Jupiter IRBM for our blockhouse at Launch Complex 26.



GEORGIA

The University of West Georgia will be hosting the UWG Summer Institute in Museum Studies and Public History. Summer classes will occur in the first two weeks of June on campus. For more information, please contact Dr. Mark Janzen at mjanzen@westga.edu.

Christa McCay

Collections Manager

Marietta History Center/City of Marietta

The Marietta History Center has rolled into 2025 with no down time! January saw gallery spaces receive new coats of paint with some areas being painted for the first time in 25 years! This gallery refresh allowed Collections Manager, Christa McCay, the chance to move exhibits around and give them all a good cleaning. Christa had the opportunity to attend the Georgia Association of Museums conference, held in Milledgeville, GA in February. She presented on Transitions in Museum Leadership and moderated the session on Storage Renovations, which was as successful as it was at SEMC in Baton Rouge. Christa is gearing up for her third year serving on SEMC's Program Committee and is excited to see what collections sessions will be offered this year.

Tricia Miller

Deputy Director of Collections and Exhibitions and Head Registrar

Georgia Museum of Art

The Georgia Museum of Art opened the exhibition Beyond the Medici: The Haukohl Family Collection. The exhibition features Florentine baroque art and sheds light on the intellectual history of Florence under the reign of the Medici family. The show was the

spotlight of the museum's biannual Elegant Salute fundraiser, which included a Rock Me Amadeus dance party. In behind-the-scenes news, we are looking forward to the installation of new paintings racks in storage this summer.



MISSISSIPPI

Cheryl Waldrep

Museum Curator

Natchez National Historical Park

Natchez National Historical Park is hosting a curatorial intern for three months to work on inventory, environmental monitoring, integrated pest management, etc. The park is also in the process of changing to a new museum collections software.

TENNESSEE

Elizabeth Le

Collections Manager and Registrar

Hunter Museum of American Art

Elizabeth Le, Collections Manager and Registrar at the Hunter Museum, has been busy the last 8 months with performing a full inventory of the permanent collection. This

Spring with the help of University of Tennessee, Chattanooga intern Jonathan Terhune, the inventory of the art screens are underway. Jonathan is a senior Anthropology student who hopes to go into field work after graduation focusing on the care of objects. The Curatorial Department has a new preparator, Trevor Reese, who has a background in art handling and teaching art on a college level. Elizabeth has served as courier in the last 4 weeks for two loans, traveling to Nashville and Omaha, NE.



ARCS INTERNSHIP STIPEND

ARCS is committed to advocating for paid internships in an industry that remains inaccessible to many. ARCS offers internship stipend opportunities for the Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters. Once again for Spring 2025, ARCS will be offering a \$1,000 stipend plus an annual membership to three applicants pursuing internships in registration and/or collections management.

Applicants should already have been accepted into an unpaid internship program and will be asked to submit a letter of support from their internship supervisor with their application materials. Applicants in internships with a limited stipend can also apply but those in unpaid internship programs will be prioritized. International and U.S. based ARCS members may apply for internship stipend opportunities.

Candidates are asked to submit their application materials by February 21, 2025, and awardees will be notified by mid-March 2025.

Checkout <https://www.arcsinfo.org/opportunities/internship-stipends> for more information!

SERA NEWS is published quarterly by the Southeastern Registrars Association. The Southeastern Registrars Association (SERA) recognizes high standards of museum practice and fosters professional growth among museum registrars in the Southeastern region of the United States. We promote the exchange and dissemination of information and ideas through education seminars, publications and other means. SERA initiates and supports activities and projects which help create an atmosphere of cooperation and communication among, and between, registrars, other museum professionals, and those in related fields, and pursues further development of professional practices in the field.

Membership: Individual membership (\$25.00) is open to museum professionals who perform registrarial functions for institutions in the twelve states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and the territories of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Associate membership is also available to those outside the region or those employed by for-profit businesses or organizations who express interest in the objectives of SERA.

Membership Contact:

SERA Treasurer/Membership Chair
Miranda Helton