

Stephanie Sapienza

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Education

M.A. in Moving Image Archive Studies
University of California, Los Angeles, June 2008

B.A. in Film Studies, minor in English
University of Kansas, December 1999

Experience

University of Maryland, College Park 2013 to present

Digital Humanities Archivist, Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities (December 2019 – present)

Research Associate, Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities (August 2016 – December 2019)

Affiliate Librarian, University of Maryland Libraries (March 2018 – December 2019)

Project Manager, Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities (September 2013 – August 2016)

- Develop and implement digital humanities research projects with a targeted focus on archives and digital curation
- Cultivate collaborations with libraries, museums, archives, and cultural heritage institutions
- Develop and lead technical workshops and training activities for student and faculty members
- Maintain MITH's organizational records and archives, work on digital stewardship projects
- Coordinate public humanities programs (lecture series, symposia, and conferences)
- Teach courses on digital humanities, archives, digital curation, and digital storytelling

Corporation for Public Broadcasting 2010- 2013

Project Manager, American Archive of Public Broadcasting (AAPB)

- Managed all archival and preservation initiatives for the AAPB, an archive of public broadcasting history
- Developed metadata profiles, digitization workflows, collection and preservation selection policies
- Managed multiple vendors on a complex project involving 120 stations, 2MM records, 40K digitized content hours
- Created metadata mapping training webinars for stations
- Represented the AAPB to executives and at conferences
- Special projects including working with USC law clinics on tools for implementing intellectual property best practices

Los Angeles Filmforum 2008 - 2010

Project Director, Alternative Projections: Experimental Film in Los Angeles 1945 – 1980

- Directed two phases of Getty-funded research, preservation, exhibition and publication project
- Developed and launched an online digital resource of films, artists, curators, and organizations involved in creating or exhibiting postwar experimental LA film & video
- Conducted and transcribed 37 oral histories
- Organized an academic symposium with USC
- Coordinated a 16-screen exhibition series across LA
- Preserved 10+ films in conjunction with Academy Film Archive

Managing Director, iotaCenter Archive March 2008 to October 2010

- Operations, strategic planning, fundraising, and collection development for nonprofit experimental film library/archive
- Provided reference support to researchers and scholars at iota's Library and Research Center
- Data curation, exhibition planning, screenings, & artist salons
- Managed film preservation work with Academy Film Archive
- Produced DVD releases from artists in the collection

- Supported the Video Librarian to streamline digitization and cataloging workflows for the ARL's video collection
- Redesigned inventory database, normalized metadata, digitized video assets for artists and researchers

CineFiles Assistant, Pacific Film Archive Film Library & Study Center

Summer 2007

- Assisted PFA's Librarians in the negotiation of copyright clearance for the CineFiles database of 40K film documents (press clippings, festival programs, reviews, etc)
- Worked on curatorial & educational outreach project to university faculty and K-12 educators, mapping CineFiles documents to existing courses and curricula

Collections Assistant, Internet Archive

Summer 2007

- Assisted the IA's collections department with ingest and reformatting of digital media files
- Assisted development of the NASA archiving project
- Cleanup and normalization of metadata (Prelinger Archives), data curation and stewardship
- Wrote entries for collections department blog highlighting selected content

Production and Archival Research, Various

2001 - 2009

Prior to graduate school, I worked as an archival researcher and producer on documentaries and television shows for eight years. Select work experience is listed below.

- Archival Researcher, Launch Pad Productions (*King of Kong: A Fistful of Quarters*, theatrical release)
- Archival Researcher, Katahdin Productions (*Homeland: Four Portraits of Native Action* on PBS)
- Archival Researcher, Atlas Films (*Tapped*, theatrical release)
- Associate Producer, Pie Town Productions (*\$40 a Day* on The Food Network)
- Associate Producer, Discovery Productions (*Your Travel Guide*, *Trapped Behind the Lines*, *Safe at Sea* on Discovery Networks)
- Researcher, MPH Entertainment (*The Nightclub Years*, *Tabloid Tales*, *Solar Sail*, *Leviathan*, and *The Lost Dinosaurs of Egypt* on A&E; *Inside Islam*, *In the Footsteps of Jesus* on The History Channel; *King Tut's Gold*, *King Tut's Gold*, *Secrets of the Pyramids* on The Travel Channel)
- Associate Producer, Channel Road Films (*Lady's Pedigree: The Making Of Lady and the Tramp*, Disney DVD featurette, and *The Real Exorcists* on A&E)

Grants, Honors & Awards

Principal Investigator, "Unlocking the Airwaves: Revitalizing an Early Public Radio Collection," National Endowment for the Humanities grant (\$217,000), April 2018.

Principal Investigator, "Alternative Projections: Experimental Film in LA 1945-80," Getty Foundation Exhibition Publication Support Grant (\$65,000), part of the initiative *Pacific Standard Time: Art in LA 1945-1980*, January 2010.

Principal Investigator, "Alternative Projections: Experimental Film in LA 1945-80," Getty Foundation Research and Planning Grant (\$117,000), part of the initiative *Pacific Standard Time: Art in LA 1945-1980*, April 2009.

Recipient, Career Development Fellowship Grant, Association of American University Women (AAUW), 2007-08.

Recipient, Mary Pickford Scholarship, Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA), 2007-08.

Honorable Mention Recipient, UCLA Information Studies Department's Diversity Paper Award for 2006-07 for paper entitled "Visualizing a Homeland: Documentation Strategies and Native American Cultural Heritage."

Presentations & Publications

"Radio Collections at Scale: Unlocking the Airwaves project as a model A/V digital humanities project," Presentation at the Association of Moving Image Archivists Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD, November 2019.

"Digitizing and Reviving the Archives of the National Association of Educational Broadcasters," Presentation at the Society for Cinema & Media Studies Annual Conference, Seattle, WA, March 2019.

Presenter/Panelist, Metadata Infrastructure panel, Radio Preservation Task Force Conference, November 2017.

"Audiovisual media is not an island: How relating paper and media collections can enhance discoverability," Journal article in *The Journal of Digital Media Management*, Summer 2017 (Volume 5, No. 4).

"The Films of Shane Carruth and Biological 'Databases' of Connectivity," Presentation at *Textual Embodiments*, the Society for Textual Scholarship 2017 Annual Conference, College Park, MD, June 2017.

"Documenting Provenance: Out of Our Heads and into the Database," Presentation at the Association of Moving Image Archivists Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, November 2016.

"The National Association of Educational Broadcasters (NAEB): Portrait of an American Radio Collection," Presentation at *Orphans X : Sound*, Library of Congress Packard Campus, Culpeper, VA, April 2016.

["Stewarding MITH's History: A New Window Into Our Past,"](#) Blog post for MITH's stewarding DH scholarship series, March 2016.

Discussant, Metadata and Digital Archiving Panel, *Saving America's Radio Heritage: Radio Preservation, Access, and Education*, Radio Preservation Task Force Conference, Washington, DC, February 2016.

["Film & Friends at The Lookout, featuring historian Stephanie Sapienza,"](#) Guest Curator and Presenter, The Lookout DC Filmmakers Collective, Washington, DC, January 2016. Presented on late-70's CalArts filmmakers who worked on major blockbusters such as *Star Wars*, and screened experimental short films and oral history excerpts from the *Alternative Projections* project.

"Virtual Reunification of Mixed Media Collections: A View from the Digital Humanities," Presentation at the Association of Moving Image Archivists Annual Conference, Portland, OR, November 2015.

"From the Desk of Modest Bob Pike: The Creative Film Society and Postwar Experimental Filmmaking Culture in LA," Invited Presentation at *Misfits 2015: Time-Based Media and the Museum*, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA, October 2015.

["Audiovisual Archives and the Context Conundrum,"](#) Guest Blog Writer for the Radio Preservation Task Force series on the *Antenna* media-cultural studies blog at University of Wisconsin-Madison, July 2015.

"Perpetual Pragmatism: Traditional Archival Appraisal Theory Meets the Film Archive," DC-Area Film and Media Seminar: "Distributing Cinema," University of Maryland, College Park, MD, April 2015.

"The American Archive Pilot Project," Presentation at *Celebrating Orphan Films*, an Orphan Film Symposium special event with partners UCLA Film & Television Archive and Los Angeles Filmforum, Billy Wilder Theater, Los Angeles, CA, May 2011. Also contributed to event coordination and designed the event program.

"Projecting Animation's Past Onto Its Future: The ASIFA-Hollywood Animation Archive," Publication in *Cartoons Magazine* (Internal publication of the *International Animated Film Association*), Summer 2008.

Teaching & Pedagogy

"Airtable for Audiovisual Archivists," Two-day virtual workshop for the Association of Moving Image Archivists Continuing Education Advisory Task Force, May 20-21, 2020.

"The NAEB Radio Collection: Document Deep South and Mississippi Waterways,' Virtual presentation at the 12th Orphan Film Symposium: Water, Climate, and Migration, May 26, 2020.

"Radio Collections at Scale: The Unlocking the Airwaves Project,' Virtual presentation to the IIF Archives Community Group, May 12, 2020.

"Working Together on the Lakeland Digital Archive: A Justice-Centered Approach," Group presentation at UMD's 13th Annual English Graduate Student Conference (Abolition as Praxis in Literature, Rhetoric, and Culture), February 28, 2020.

"Airtable for Audiovisual Archivists," Workshop at the Association of Moving Image Archivists Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD, November 2019.

MITH 735: Anatomy of Digital Research. University of Maryland Graduate Seminar, Spring 2019 and Fall 2019. Co-taught with Purdom Lindblad and Raffaele Vigiante.

"Speaking of Place: Adding Oral Histories to the Lakeland Digital Archive," Presentation at *Intentionally Digital, Intentionally Black*, the national conference of the African American Digital Humanities (AADHum) Initiative, October 19, 2018.

"Audiovisual Storytelling 101," Presentation at a MITH Digital Humanities Incubator (DHI) series entitled Movement of the Body & the Black Arts Movement, February 2018.

"The Oral History Metadata Synchronizer (OHMS): Enhancing Discoverability for Oral History Collections," Presentation and Workshop, UCLA School of Information, January 2018.

Organizer/Moderator, "Using the Digital to Engage Archival Radio Collections: A Panel and Workshop on Sound Studies & Digital Humanities Crowdsourcing Strategies," Radio Preservation Task Force Conference, November 2017.

Presenter/Panelist, Metadata Infrastructure panel, Radio Preservation Task Force Conference, November 2017.

"Mastering Project Management," Training Session at the American Archive of Public Broadcasting National Digital Stewardship Residency Immersion Week, Boston, MA, July 2016.

ENG 4W: Introduction to Critical Reading and Writing. University of California Los Angeles undergraduate course, Winter 2007, Spring 2007, and Fall 2007. Also spoke at two graduate instructor training courses (ENG 485B) on film pedagogy and teaching film as a text.

Exhibition & Public Humanities Work

Lead Organizer, "Bastard Film Encounter 2019," Archival film symposium, Baltimore, MD, April 2019.

Lead Organizer, Digital Dialogues speaker series, University of Maryland/MITH. College Park, MD, Fall 2013 through Spring 2018.

Lead Organizer, "Textual Embodiments," Society for Textual Scholarship 2017 Annual Conference, University of Maryland/MITH, College Park, MD, June 2017.

Lead Organizer, "Computer Science & the Humanities Then and Now: A Film Screening & Discussion with Andy van Dam," University of Maryland/MITH, in conjunction with UMD's Human-Computer Interaction Lab (HCIL) and the National Endowment for the Humanities, College Park, MD, April 2016.

Guest Curator and Presenter, "[Film & Friends at The Lookout, featuring historian Stephanie Sapienza](#)," The Lookout DC Filmmakers Collective, Washington, DC, January 2016.

Co-organizer, "Engaging the Public: Best Practices for Crowdsourcing across the Disciplines (CrowdCon)," University of Maryland/MITH, in conjunction with the UMD iSchool and Dartmouth College, College Park, MD, May 2015.

Lead Organizer, "Alternative Projections Symposium," Los Angeles Filmforum, in conjunction with University of Southern California's Visions & Voices initiative, Los Angeles, CA, November 2010.

Adam K. Beckett: Complete Works 1970-1979, DVD Producer, iotaCenter Kinetica Video Library, Dec 2010. Wrote DVD liner notes.

Co-organizer, "Infinite Animation: The Work of Adam Beckett," iotaCenter, in conjunction The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' Science & Technology Council, Los Angeles, CA, August 2009.

Jules Engel: Selected Works, Volume I, DVD Producer, iotaCenter Kinetica Video Library, October 2009. Also wrote the DVD liner notes, including film descriptions.

Organizer and Curator, "Orphans West," an Orphan Film Symposium special event. Los Angeles Filmforum in conjunction with Cinefamily, Los Angeles, CA, May 2009.

Professional Service and Affiliations

University of Kansas Film & Media Studies Professional Advisory Board (PAB)

- ◆ 2019-Present: President
- ◆ 2017-2019: Vice President
- ◆ 2016-Present: Elected Member

Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA)

- ◆ Member, PBCore Subcommittee (2016-present)
- ◆ Member, Moving Image Related Materials Committee (2011-present)
- ◆ Member, Access Committee (2006-2009)
- ◆ President, UCLA Student Chapter (2007-08)

American Archive of Public Broadcasting National Digital Stewardship Residency (NDSR)

- ◆ Advisory Board & Mentor for WHUT-Howard University Television resident Lorena Ramirez-Lopez

Los Angeles Filmforum

- ◆ 2007 - 2011: Board Chair, make critical organizational decisions, research and write grants, maintain website.
- ◆ 2004 - 2007, 2011-2014: Board Member
- ◆ 2001 - 2004: Publicity and Outreach Coordinator, designed calendars and flyers, maintained website, handled media contact.

Society of American Archivists (SAA)

- ◆ Member, Recorded Sound, Visual Materials Cataloging & Access and Archival Educators Roundtables