

Molly Szymanski

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EDUCATION

M.S. Information, ALA Accreditation
University of Michigan
Specialization: Digital curation & preservation

M.A. Public Service, Non-profit Management
Marquette University,
Trinity Fellowship for Public Service

B.A. Sociology, African & Black Diaspora Studies
DePaul University

SKILLS

Project management:, OAIS Reference Model,
Digital Curation Lifecycle, qualitative and
community-based research methods

Platforms: Preservica, ArchiveSpace, Omeka,
Archive-It, ContentDM, JIRA, Netx

Languages: HTML, CSS, Python, XML

Metadata: Dublin Core, MODS, METS, LOC, EDA

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Art Institute of Chicago, Research Center

Digital Archivist, 2019-present

Responsible for developing sustainable, standards-based repositories to preserve and share institutional and special collections digital assets with internal and external researchers. Modernized access, collection, and other key policies to reflect standards for digital materials. Conduct outreach and training for stakeholders on best practices, collecting guidelines, and access protocols. Lead integration project across multiple library systems to create access to 1200+ digital exhibition catalogues.

National Digital Stewardship Resident (NDSR), 2018-2019

Developed digital archive workflows, 3 preservation case studies of interactive digital formats, and long-term access plan for AIC's interactive scholarly digital catalogues with staff collaboration across multiple departments. Effectively built relationships with community partners, including organizing a professional conference attended by 70 people representing more than 30 cultural heritage organizations.

Ethical Access to Music Time in Africa: NEH Archival Project - University of Michigan

Project Manager, 2017-2018

Managed a variety of research activities including cataloguing of over 700 radio programs and associated scripts to METS/MODS metadata standards, training & supervision of researcher staff, and preparation of reports on copyright issues and data management planning.

Center for the Education of Women - University of Michigan

Digital Library Consultant, 2016-2018

Technical consultant for a variety of digital library initiatives. Created a web-based library catalogue from scratch using Omeka. Built a custom, web-based timeline of CEW's 50 years history.

UWC-Robben Island Museum Mayibuye Archive - Cape Town, South Africa

Project Manager, 2017

Managed a team of 4 to create a full-scale inventory of the archive's digital assets and assess capacity for future digitization; created a comprehensive report including long & short term recommendations for digital repository development, access, and customized workflows.

Alverno College

Adjunct Faculty, 2012-2015

Promise Scholar Advisor, 2012-2015

Responsible for communication, recruitment and retention of 125 first-generation undergraduates in an academic support program. Conducted curriculum development for courses and workshops, and 250+ individual advising sessions and 12 group peer support sessions per semester. Liaise with faculty and support staff to improve student outcomes. Maintained 90% participant retention.

Louisiana Bucket Brigade

Community-based Researcher & Trainer, 2010-2012

Supervised & trained 10+ interns conducting community-based participatory research on reducing air pollution in communities near hazardous industries. Maintained 100% volunteer retention. Managed research activities: community member training, GIS maps, database management, & creation of published reports. Designed and coordinated *River Road Oral History Project*.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Education & Outreach Specialist - Milwaukee Area Technical College, 2015-2016
- Program Coordinator: Conservation Leadership Corps -Student Conservation Association, 2009-2010
- Data Quality Coordinator - Guest House of Milwaukee, 2009-2010
- Communication & Information Specialist - Hope House of Milwaukee, 2007-2009
- Program Coordinator, Girls Get Digital - Korean-American Community Services, 2005-2007
- Oral History Coordinator & Research Assistant - Black Metropolis Project, 2003-2005

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Chicago Collections Consortium (CCC) - Co-Chair, Programming Committee, 2019-present
- Summer Education Institute for Digital Stewardship (SEI) - Co-Chair and Instructor, 2019-present
- Society for American Archivists (SAA) - member, 2018 -present

Presentations and Symposia

"Chicago Zine Culture Roundtable: From the First Queer Zine Fest to Now" Art Design Chicago Now, 2020.

"Creating Community through Digital Futures: Sustainability beyond the 1's and 0's" Digital Public Libraries of America, DPLAFest, 2019.

"Developing Cross-Institutional Digital Preservation Strategies for GLAM Assets" ARLIS/NA Conference, 2019.

Creating Community Through Digital Futures Symposium, Lead Organizer & Event Chair, The Art Institute of Chicago, 2018.

"Contemporary Trends in Information Science: Digital Curation in Action" QuasiCon Conference, University of Michigan, 2018.

"Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Service Learning" UMSI Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Showcase, University of Michigan, 2017.

"Decolonizing Service-Learning: Towards Equity and Student Engagement" Allied Media Conference, Wayne State University, 2014.

"First-Generation Students: Strategies for Fostering Retention and Success." National Academic Advising Conference (NACADA), 2013.

"Citizen Science: Community Engagement & Hazardous Accident Reporting." EPA Environmental Justice Encuentro Conference, 2011.

"Community-based Research in Public Health." Tulane University School of Public Health Professional Development Conference, 2011.

"Black Metropolis: The Last Half Century." International Conference on Comparative Perspectives on Urban Segregation, DePaul University, 2005.