

Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York 2020-21 Board Election Ballot

Vice President/President-Elect
Nicholas Martin



Nicholas Martin (he/him/his) is the Curator for Arts and Humanities at NYU Special Collections, where his responsibilities include collection development, outreach, instruction, and exhibitions. He holds an MA in Humanities and Social Thought from NYU's John W. Draper Interdisciplinary Masters' Program, and an MSLIS from Pratt Institute. Prior to joining NYU in 2017, Nicholas was the Librarian for Archives and Special Collections at NYU Abu Dhabi.

Nicholas is an active member both of the Society of American Archivists and the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries, where he currently serves on the security committee and is a co-chair of the task force to revise the section's guidelines on exhibition and interlibrary loan of archives and special collections. His current research interests include quantifying the operational impacts of archival collection development, the implications of the use of archival materials in museum and gallery exhibitions, the intersections of the art market and the archives world, and the commoditization of archival materials as art objects and cultural artifacts.

STATEMENT

I'm excited at the opportunity to run for Vice President/President-Elect of the Archivists' Round Table of Metropolitan New York. Since my career in archives began ten years ago, I have worked in positions either in or connected to New York City, so the activities of ART have always been near to my work. Local organizations have so much to offer to their communities, and I have personally grown through my engagements with the round table, as a program attendee, event participant, and as a writer for its publication.

I see the Vice President role as primarily dedicated to making things happen — facilitating and supporting conversation, events, programming, and advocacy based upon the needs of our community, and providing a forum for that community to voice its ideas, concerns, and hopes for the advancement of our craft. In this post I would serve the ART board, and ART members, as both recorder and microphone. The strength of the ART community lies in our capacity to come together, learn together, make ourselves known and amplify our voices.

For many of us across the profession, the coming months and years will entail a sweeping, critical assessment of our work in solidarity with extant, but newly energized righteous movements focused on anti-racism, equity, and inclusion. In this time of great change it should be the mission of ART to advance the conversation about our future as archivists with care and openness, listening to our community and advocating on its behalf throughout this difficult and necessary process. We are entering exciting times, and I look forward to working together, whether virtually or in-person, with NYC archivists in whatever capacity I can.

Secretary

Stephanie Neel



Stephanie Neel (she/her/hers) is the Archive Project Manager at Mark Morris Dance Group in Fort Greene, Brooklyn. She has previously worked with photography and performing arts collections at the Richard Avedon Foundation, the Byrd Hoffman Foundation, and Art + Commerce. Stephanie is a part of Dance/USA's Archives and Preservation affinity group and serves on the steering committee for the Performing Arts section of Society of American Archivists. She received her Bachelors of Arts at Barnard College in 2010 and a Masters of Science in Library and Information Science at Pratt Institute in 2015.

STATEMENT

The Archivists Round Table has been a regular source of engagement, advocacy, and education for me over the years as I have navigated my own career in archival work. My motivation in applying for the Secretary position is to take on a more active role in supporting and growing the organization by way of meeting more archivists, allied professionals, and students; being a part of conversations that question, analyze, and critique our field; and using the documentation of the organization's history to inform ways in which we can better serve our mission today. I stand with A.R.T.'s commitment to identify, acknowledge, and take action against systemic racism and white supremacy both within and beyond our profession, and will commit myself in this position to the ongoing sharing of anti-racist resources, resources on ethical documentation, and in providing a safe space for our members to talk. I will also commit myself in this position to providing ongoing support and resources relating to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact both within and beyond our profession. I have long benefitted from meeting and working with archivists, historians, researchers, librarians, and records managers who have taught and shown me how limitless and impactful our work can be, and so I look forward to working with and continuing to meet these mentors.

Director of Outreach

Cristina Fontáñez Rodríguez



Cristina Fontáñez Rodríguez is the Virginia Thoren and Institute Archivist at the Pratt Institute. At the helm of the Pratt Institute Archives, she works with faculty, students, and the external community on primary source instruction, research, and outreach. Prior to joining Pratt, Cristina was a National Digital Stewardship Resident for Art Information at the Maryland College Institute of Art. Cristina's work is focused on the application of social justice principles to archival practice through participatory and non-hierarchical ways of knowledge-seeking and making. She is a founding member of Archivistas en Español, a collective dedicated to amplifying spaces of memory-building between Latin America and Latinx communities in the US, and is an editor for Archivoz International Archives Magazine. At ART, Cristina served on the Outreach committee from 2017 to 2018 and currently co-runs Barchives, an outreach initiative that brings archivists to bars to talk about New York City's archival collections and local history. She holds a BA in Geography from Universidad de Puerto Rico Recinto de Río Piedras and an MLS with a certificate in Archives and Preservation of Cultural Materials from CUNY Queens College.

STATEMENT

ART has played a key role in my development as an archivist in New York City. As a member and during my time on the Outreach Committee, I was able to see first-hand how events, workshops, and exhibits play a key role in connecting and Archives with records-creators, users, and their communities. Since then, I've been devoted to positioning collections to be more accessible through a variety of outreach initiatives that center users and their relationship with historical records, record-keeping, and their local history. Serving as Outreach director will allow me to continue this work by strengthening existing relationships between ART and its community partners while broadening the ART community to better reflect NYC's diversity and the stories that its collections hold. If elected, I look forward to working alongside NYC's archivists, historians, educators, artists, students, and community organizers and welcoming them to ART's greater community.

Director of Membership

Colleen Daw



Colleen Daw is an Archivist with the Winthrop Group, a history and archives consulting firm in New York. She received an M.S. in Library Science with a specialization in Archives and Records Management from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2016. Over the years, her work has included preserving physical materials, supporting research on music and civil rights history, organizing new systems of information for archives and archival projects, as well as helping establish digital archives and electronic records systems.

STATEMENT

I am passionate not just about the archives profession, but also about the welfare of my fellow archivists. We are entering one of the more challenging times for our profession due to the effects of COVID-19 and the recent protests surrounding police brutality and systemic racism. Our job markets will be increasingly difficult to navigate and professionals will face new challenges given the renewed interest and criticism in regard to historical institutions that our archivists support. As a result, I believe it is necessary for ART to provide support to our members in any way we can. I want to help my colleagues in these difficult times, and the best way I believe I can do that is as the Director of Membership. I will work to strengthen our mentorship program so that students and entry level professionals can continue to seek advice and enhance their networking journeys. I will work closely with the ART Board to create effective resources and helpful events that address the current climate as well as provide guidance for common concerns. I will advocate on behalf of our organization to educate more individuals about ART and the New York archives community. I am very excited about working with ART's membership and strengthening my dedication to serving the archival community.

Director of Publications
Emily Andresini



My name is Emily Andresini, and I am a library & archival professional. I earned my MLIS from Rutgers University in 2007, and have thirteen years of experience working in archives. My archival career began with an internship at Drew University where I processed and wrote the finding aid for the Bela Kornitzer collection. Working with this collection, which documented Bela Kornitzer's career as a political biographer in the mid-20th century, connected me to the people and events of this epoch in an acutely tangible way. The power of this experience led me to pursue a career in archival digitization, which I saw as the future of archives, and a way to democratize the practice of archival research. My next position was with the NYU Medical Archives, digitizing a collection of photographs for the Medical Library Association. This experience prepared me for my subsequent role – Project Archivist for Digitization with the Leo Baeck Institute, where I would spend the next decade of my life digitizing German-Jewish archives and working with an outstanding team to make this precious history publicly available online.

Just under a year ago I responded to a call for reviewers to the *Metropolitan Archivist*. I sought a new challenge, and wanted to renew my approach to work that had grown somewhat routine. Writing for this blog allowed me to consider archives from a fresh perspective and to apply the knowledge I had accumulated over the years in a thoughtful and creative way – a process I found incredibly fulfilling. This past December, I changed course professionally and accepted the position of Knowledge & Digital Services Librarian with Kramer Levin, a premier law firm here in New York City. While this shift in my daily work is significant, I feel ever more connected to the world of archives through my commitment to the *Metropolitan Archivist*. It is for this reason that I seek to deepen this relationship by serving as Director of the Publications Committee to the Archivists Round Table.

STATEMENT

I am running for the position of Director of the Publications Committee as my experience of writing for the *Metropolitan Archivist* over the past year has been incredibly rewarding, and as a result, the opportunity to deepen my involvement with A.R.T. is instinctively appealing to me. I am excited by the prospect of collaborating with a remarkable team of archivists to promote the importance of archives and the archival profession within our society.

As a contributing writer for the *Metropolitan Archivist*, I have enjoyed the opportunity to examine archival

exhibits with a critical eye, and to interpret and convey my experience for readers of the blog. Approaching archival material with this agenda drives to the heart of why I entered the archival profession: to explore, to understand, and to share the value of archives with others.

I consider archives to be an essential component of social justice work, as they document events and preserve voices from the past for future generations to learn from. The historical context in which archives place our lived experiences can help guide our path towards a more just and equitable society. I would view my role as Publications Director as a facilitator of this discourse with a responsibility to amplify voices that have gone unheard, and to promote awareness, education, and communication across the archival profession and our society.

Director of Publications

Chris Nicols



I am the audio visual archivist at the New York City Municipal Archives as well as an active member of the video preservation group XFR Collective. I have undergraduate degrees in history and humanities from the University of Oregon and a masters from New York University's Moving Image Archiving and Preservation program, where I focused mainly on preserving informative and documentary footage. At the Municipal Archives, I have worked to preserve and digitize the films and videotapes of the NYPD's surveillance program, as well as municipal broadcasters WNYC-TV and Channel L. Prior to that, I processed interviews from 9/11 survivors at Storycorps, digitized home movies at Miami-Dade College's Wolfson Archive and managed digital assets at the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. When not at work, I help run XFR Collective, digitizing tapes of underserved video artists and screening them at local venues.

STATEMENT

As archivists, much of our accomplishments go unseen or uncelebrated, historic content discoveries and technical advancements being made in windowless rooms away from the public. As director of publications, I hope to celebrate and make visible those accomplishments. To that end, I will expand on the current ART blog by increasing the frequency of posts and focusing on several major areas of interest, like archival techniques, exhibit reviews, spotlighting collections still being processed and more. As part of my work at the NYCMA, I am very active in writing blog posts and conducting live streams about our archival content and preservation techniques more generally. I hope that those experiences will help me highlight the amazing work of ART members and the archival community as a whole.

Director of Communications
Anne Boissonnault



Anne Boissonnault is the Archivist for the Trisha Brown Dance Company. She earned masters' degrees in Library and Information Science and History of Art and Design through Pratt Institute's Dual Degree Program, where she was the Pratt Digital Preservation and Archives Fellow in the Special Collections Unit of the New York Public Library. Previously, she worked as Archives Research Fellow for the New Museum Archives, and she has contributed to projects in the archives of the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and the New-York Historical Society.

STATEMENT

Since 2018, as an active volunteer on the Programming Committee, I have benefited from and been truly inspired by the platform A.R.T. provides New York archivists and the collections that they steward. The Director of Communications plays a crucial role in bolstering this platform through information sharing and engaging with the broader public. I would be honored by the opportunity to continue my service to the A.R.T. community as Director of Communications; and to build upon the excellent work of previous Directors by bringing a greater awareness to our members and the public about A.R.T. programming, advocacy, and publishing initiatives.