

# Allison E. Fischbach

Baltimore, Maryland

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## EDUCATION

### University of Maryland iSchool / MLIS, Archives and Digital Curation

2020-2022, COLLEGE PARK,  
MARYLAND  
4.0 GPA

#### *Relevant Coursework:*

Special Collections  
Digital Preservation  
User Instruction  
Information and Universal  
Usability  
Records and Information  
Management

### Maryland Institute College of Art / Non-Degree, Art History & Printmaking

2014-2019, BALTIMORE,  
MARYLAND

#### *Relevant Coursework:*

Stone Lithography  
Relief Printmaking  
Intaglio Printmaking  
History of Printing  
Juried Exhibition; *Mineral Grit*

### Washington College / BA, English Literature

2006-2010, CHESTERTOWN,  
MARYLAND

Magna Cum Laude  
Departmental Honors  
Phi Beta Kappa  
Sigma Tau Delta

### University College Cork / American Literature

JANUARY - MAY 2009, CORK,  
IRELAND

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## EXPERIENCE

### Digital Repositories Manager / Johns Hopkins University Sheridan Libraries

JUNE 2025 - CURRENT, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

- Serves as product owner for JScholarship (DSpace) institutional repository, and Islandora and Quartex digital asset management systems.
- Partners with Digital Research and Curation Center to implement service improvements during the migration from DSpace 7 to DSpace 9 (launch Jan '25).
- Develops documentation on the workflows and user permissions in JScholarship (DSpace).
- Leads migration of digital archival and special collections content from Islandora to Quartex, including development of a task force, timelines, and workflows.
- Leads design of new Quartex DAMS, including metadata schema, collections organization, search capabilities, exhibits, and site design.
- Manages vendor relations and staff training during Quartex implementation.
- Liaises with collections curators throughout the Johns Hopkins University system to identify appropriate platforms for hosting digital content.
- Advocates for use of JScholarship (DSpace) and Quartex systems through partnerships with library and university marketing and communications teams.
- Manages intellectual control of digital collections across multiple systems (Internet Archive, JStor, WordPress, Drupal, PastPerfect) and maintains plans for future content migration and consolidation into Quartex.
- Serves on Digital Preservation Task Force, conducting stakeholder interviews to understand current preservation workflows and design improved processes for managing preservation actions.
- Serves on the Digital Infrastructure Oversight Board, which oversees the development and acquisition of digital tools and digital humanities projects.
- Serves in the Scholarly Communications Interest Group to inform use of the JScholarship institutional repository system.

### Digital Archivist / Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC)

JANUARY 2026 - DECEMBER 2026, WASHINGTON D.C.

- A 12-month, part-time contractual position to aid EPIC in establishing a searchable, public online collection of materials obtained by EPIC via FOIA request.
- Developing a metadata schema and controlled vocabularies based on Dublin Core and Library of Congress classifications, and considering the search habits and needs of the research audience.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**Intergroup Dialogue Training;**  
Levels I, II, & III  
2020-2022, TOWSON  
UNIVERSITY

**Digital Archives Preservation Planning;** 6-session discussions with Nancy McGovern  
2021, USMAI CONSORTIA

**Adobe InDesign Advanced;**  
1.5-credit course  
2018, MARYLAND INSTITUTE  
COLLEGE OF ART

**Adobe Photoshop Advanced;**  
1.5-credit course  
2017, MARYLAND INSTITUTE  
COLLEGE OF ART

**Caring for Rare Books**  
NOVEMBER 2017, NORTHEAST  
DOCUMENT CONSERVATION  
CENTER

**Chemistry and Organic Chemistry;** 16 credits of non-degree coursework  
2015-2017, BALTIMORE CITY  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Caring for Paper-Based Collections**  
JANUARY 2015, NORTHEAST  
DOCUMENT CONSERVATION  
CENTER

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## SKILLS

ArchivesSpace, ArchivEra, Archive-It, BitCurator, DataAccessioner, ePADD, FTK Imager, Omeka, CONTENTdm, Quartex, Webrecorder (Confier), Aleph ILS, LCSH, DACS, EAD, Dublin Core, LibGuides, Photoshop, InDesign, WordPress, Drupal CMS, Python, Microsoft Suite (Excel), Google Suite

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- Organizing and processing documents produced via FOIA and contextual information about FOIA requests.
- Establishing workflows for cataloging and uploading new materials to the DocumentCloud DAMS.
- Creating documentation for the ongoing addition of materials to DocumentCloud.

**Digital Archivist / Johns Hopkins Chesney Medical Archives**  
AUGUST 2022 - MAY 2025, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

- Developed standards and workflows for the creation and management of a Digital Preservation Plan and digital archiving program.
- Served as liaison for stakeholders in the School of Medicine, School of Nursing, School of Public Health, and Johns Hopkins Health System to support the ongoing collection of relevant digital materials.
- Developed relationships with individual donors and develops pathways for digital donations, including drafting Deed of Gift documentation and ensuring integrity of materials during transfer.
- Managed technical appraisal, arrangement, and access processes for digital materials with the use of relevant software programs, including ArchivEra, Archive-It, and Aviary.
- Guided professional development sessions on digital archival theory and practice for archives' staff.
- Managed the web archiving program, including crawling schedules, technical troubleshooting, metadata, and access through Archive-It.
- Processed digital records, including as part of existing collections, and ensures contextual connections between digital and analog materials.
- Developed pathways to access publicly available digital materials, including archived websites and digitized materials.
- Consulted with hospital and university departments on the management of their digital records.
- Ensured the proper protection and redaction for PII and PHI related to student and patient records.
- Worked with reference staff to provide patron access to requested digital materials.
- Advocated for the procurement and use of necessary digital equipment and software, including BitCurator, ePADD, and KryoFlux.
- Served as part of the migration team from Eloquent/GenCat to the ArchivEra catalog system, including working closely with university IT staff to ensure smooth installation and migration of data.
- Developed user guides, documentation, and templates for the use of ArchivEra and leads training sessions for staff and volunteers.
- Managed graduate student employees and interns, ensuring they meet project goals and support their understanding of archival work and theory.

**Research and Archives Associate / Towson University**  
JUNE 2019 - JULY 2022, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

- Fostered communication and facilitated collaboration between the Research and Instruction department and the Special Collections and University Archives.
- Designed lessons and instruction for staff and faculty development.

## MEMBERSHIPS

**DSpace Advisory Team**  
2025 - CURRENT

**Society of American Archivists**  
2020 - CURRENT

**Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference**  
2020 - CURRENT

**Librarians, Archivists, and Museum Professionals in the History of Health Sciences**  
2023 - 2025

**College Book Arts Association**  
2019 - 2022

**American Library Association**  
2022

**Ladies of Letterpress**  
2017 - 2020

**Book Arts Baltimore**  
2015 - 2017

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## AWARDS

**TU Impact Award for Inclusion, Multiculturalism, and Social Justice**  
2022, TOWSON UNIVERSITY

**5 Years of Service**  
2019, MARYLAND INSTITUTE COLLEGE OF ART

**Volunteer of the Year**  
2011, ENOCH PRATT FREE LIBRARY

**Writers' Union Award**  
2010, WASHINGTON COLLEGE

- Supported undergraduate primary source scholarship through reading room instruction.
- Managed and supported archival and special collections interns and student workers through goal setting, planning, and ensuring deliverables.
- Maintained a robust partnership with Library IT to create an accessible web presence for digital collections through Quartex, ArchivesSpace, and Drupal CMS.
- Maintenance of digital collections, including creating and updating metadata in accordance with Dublin Core-based internal standards.
- Supported continued migration of digital assets from the CONTENTdm system to the Quartex DAMS.
- Explored innovative pathways for archival engagement including Special Collections LibGuides and the creation of the University History Wiki.
- Created physical and digital exhibits to promote newly acquired materials.
- Monitored temperature and humidity conditions in library spaces to support preservation and lobby for adequate controls.
- Constructed custom conservation enclosures for rare books and other archival materials.
- Collected, assessed scope, and ensured quality control of born-digital web content through Archive-It and Webrecorder (Confier).
- Collected, assessed scope, and created metadata for born-digital email materials documenting the COVID-19 pandemic, and events within the College of Fine Arts and Communication.
- Processed collections and create finding aids in accordance with DACS, and ensure promotion and access through ArchivesSpace.
- Processed, digitized, and transcribed the *Leon Bloomberg papers* collection.
- Managed organization, duplication, and access to born-digital content, including video, audio, email, web, and text document formats, including complex compound assets and related metadata.
- Designed and updated integrated web content related to the digital *Ideations of Potential* performance art collection.
- Built partnerships with studio art courses and gallery spaces in the Center for the Arts, including the integration of archival materials into studio lessons and the collection of gallery event materials.
- Maintained relationships with donors through transparent communications during all stages of acquisition, accession, processing, and access.
- Connected with alumni and students through campus events and library programming.
- Worked with the USMAI consortial Digital Lifecycle Management Group to develop shared policies for digital archives development and maintenance.
- Led the library Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA) committee's creation of an Anti-Racism Action Plan, lobby for funding to support plan goals, and implement DEI Action Grants.
- Facilitated student research in both the archives and reference departments and additional reference desk duties.

## **Owner and Artist / Bear Bones Books**

SEPTEMBER 2011- CURRENT, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

- Design and create original artist books, prints, journals, and other bound and editioned media.
- Manage promotion and sales via social media and the web store.
- Design and maintenance of the professional website: [www.allisonefschbach.com](http://www.allisonefschbach.com)
- Digitize materials and create metadata for promotional listings.
- Network with other artists, printers, and bookbinders through local arts events, exhibits, workshops, and courses.
- Teach studio-based workshops and practicums at MICA and the Towson University Center for the Arts.
- Attend local markets and book arts events, including regular tabling at Greater Good Market Baltimore and the D.C. Art Book Fair.
- Exhibit works throughout Maryland, including shows at Suspended Brewing Company, Bowie City Hall, and MICA.
- Frame and hang materials for exhibition and promotion.
- Ensure shipping and delivery of artwork is safe, secure, and timely.
- Manage inventory and monitor artwork condition.
- Monitor budget and records for costs, pricing, sales, and shipping.

## **Collection Maintenance and Preservation Technician / Decker Library, Maryland Institute College of Art**

NOVEMBER 2013 - MAY 2019, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

- Created and organized custom housing for special collections materials.
- Monitored special collections conditions and performed conservation measures.
- Inventoried, shifted, organized, and repaired main stacks materials.
- Organized and developed accessible labels for oversized materials.
- Updated and maintained the online exhibit archive through Omeka
- Ensured accountable workflows by regularly updating catalog record locations.
- Hosted and organized hands-on workshops and book arts instruction sessions with librarians and other library staff.
- Organized semi-annual student, staff, and faculty art exhibits, hosted in the library, including calls for submission, submission review and curation, promotion, space planning, and installation.
- Partnered with the Department of Exhibitions to ensure installation of major artworks was safe, secure, and followed best practices.
- Curated monthly displays of special collections and archival materials.
- Served patrons on the main help desk and performed other circulation duties as assigned.

## **Editorial Assistant / The Frederick News-Post**

MARCH 2012 - NOVEMBER 2013, FREDERICK, MARYLAND

- Liaised with members of the public to publish local event content and organizational press releases.
- Drafted daily local closure notice and prepared for both web and print

publication.

- Managed online and print local events calendars.
- Edited and formatted copy, and designed layout for community news pages and obituaries in InDesign.
- Gathered stories and images from AP Wire and Rutgers news service for syndicated publishing.
- Managed newspaper archives, retrieved and reformatted microfiche images, and performed transcription.
- Planned and wrote a weekly “This Day 100 Years Ago” feature using historical issues of *the Frederick News-Post*.
- Provided support to editors through generation of daily stock and statistical reports.
- Handled daily front desk, register, and customer service duties.
- Guided tours of the newsroom and print shop for local school groups, civic organizations, and visitors.

### **Volunteer Coordination Team Intern / Smithsonian Folklife Festival**

MAY 2012- JULY 2012, WASHINGTON, D.C.

- Conducted in-person and virtual outreach throughout D.C. Maryland, and Virginia to recruit festival volunteers.
- Created materials for reference and led volunteer training sessions.
- Scheduled individual volunteer shifts and ensured transportation, contact, and attendance.
- Ensured communication between volunteers and individual festival departments.
- Generated reports for the volunteer director and managing daily volunteer registration.
- Monitored the volunteer tent and services during Festival week.
- Managed scheduling conflicts, volunteer concerns, and Festival emergencies.

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## **SCHOLARSHIP**

### **Integrating Website Records into the Archival Catalog [poster]**

Fischbach, A.

MAY 2025, MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL ARCHIVES CONFERENCE, HARRISBURG, PA

### **Digital Asset & Collections Management Systems for Archives [talk]**

Gattermeyer, R. & Fischbach, A.

APRIL 2025, MARYLAND INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS ARCHIVES CONSORTIUM, OWINGS MILLS, MD

### **What They Don't Teach You in School: Skills Learned While Working [panel]**

Fischbach, A., Coulbourne, M., Homolka, E.S., & Snelling, J..

NOVEMBER 2024, MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL ARCHIVES CONFERENCE, VIRTUAL

### **[What if we make a Wiki?](#) Connecting Users to Primary Sources Through a Familiar Interface [talk]**

Fischbach, A.

JULY 2022, TOWSON CONFERENCE FOR ACADEMIC LIBRARIES, VIRTUAL

**Engagement Methods with Audiovisual Collections [panel]**

Esh, J., Testa, M., Biunno, D., & Fischbach, A.

MARCH 2022, MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL ARCHIVES CONFERENCE,  
HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA

**Lifecycle Management in Maryland: Establishing the Foundations for Consortial Approaches to Digital Preservation at Maryland Universities and Affiliated Institutions [poster]**

Bell, L., Conlin, K., Fischbach, A., Kovisto, J., Rezaei, F., & Todd-Diaz, A.

OCTOBER 2021, iPRES INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DIGITAL PRESERVATION,  
BEIJING, CHINA [VIRTUAL]

**Let Me Clear My Throat: How a Beatboxer Found His Flow in the Archives [poster]**

Esh, J. & Fischbach, A.

OCTOBER 2021, MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL ARCHIVES CONFERENCE, GETTYSBURG,  
PENNSYLVANIA

**Pandemic at the Archives: Changes to the Special Collections Service Model to Support Remote Learning [poster]**

Fischbach, A.

JULY 2021, TOWSON CONFERENCE FOR ACADEMIC LIBRARIES, TOWSON,  
MARYLAND

**[Back 2 \(library\) school: Email Archiving](#) [blog post and live presentation]**

Fischbach, A.

APRIL & MAY 2021, ACRL MARYLAND CHAPTER

**The Studio is Closed: Refocusing Art & Archival Collaboration in Response to Pandemic [poster]**

Fischbach, A.

AUGUST 2020, TOWSON CONFERENCE FOR ACADEMIC LIBRARIES, TOWSON,  
MARYLAND

**2019 Digital Preservation Survey [white paper]**

Bell, L., Rezaei, F., Conlin, K., Graham, S., Sheffield, C., Loeper, L., Todd-Diaz, A., Zukowski, A., & Fischbach, A.

June 2020, USMAI DIGITAL PRESERVATION INTEREST GROUP

**On Display: Partnering Special Collections and Research & Instruction through Student-led Exhibits [poster]**

Fischbach, A.

JULY 2019, TOWSON CONFERENCE FOR ACADEMIC LIBRARIES, TOWSON,  
MARYLAND

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## INSTRUCTION

**“Digital Archiving 101” Introduction to Digital Materials for Archival Professionals**

APRIL & JULY 2023, CHESNEY MEDICAL ARCHIVES, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

An ongoing series of workshops for staff of the medical archives, designed to raise understanding of and comfort with digital materials and processes so the department can develop useful workflows.

## **R&I + Archives: Navigating Archival Resources for Reference**

### **Instructors**

NOVEMBER 2021, ALBERT S. COOK LIBRARY, TOWSON, MARYLAND

A workshop to support primary source and archival resource integration with information literacy instruction at Towson University.

## **PH 5576 - Practicum II: Bookbinding for Print and Electronic Media**

SPRING 2020, MARYLAND INSTITUTE COLLEGE OF ART, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

A five-week studio practicum for graduate students on the history of the book form, common book constructions, and book making for the artist.

## **Building Custom Portfolios**

JANUARY 2020, TOWSON UNIVERSITY, TOWSON, MARYLAND

A three-week graduate and faculty-level workshop with studio instruction on building custom portfolios, slipcases, and phase box enclosures for artwork.

## **Coptic Bookbinding**

JUNE 2019, ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, ODENTON, MARYLAND

A one-session open community workshop with instruction on building a coptic-stitch notebook.

## **Paper Marbling Workshop**

OCTOBER 2018, MICA, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

One-session, two-hour public workshop for students and their families.

## **Building Cloth Clamshell Boxes**

JANUARY 2018, TOWSON UNIVERSITY, TOWSON, MARYLAND

A two-week graduate and faculty-level workshop with studio instruction on building a custom archival cloth-clamshell boxes for storing artwork.

## **Post-Election Zine-making**

NOVEMBER 2016, DECKER LIBRARY, MICA, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

One-session, open workshop on zine making as catharsis.

## **Democracy Now! Artist Books Open Session**

OCTOBER 2016, DECKER LIBRARY, MICA, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

Two-hour open presentation on artist books related to politics and protest.

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## **PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE**

### **MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL ARCHIVES CONFERENCE:**

#### **Arline Custer Memorial Award Committee**

2024-2027

Co-Chair

#### **Maryland State Caucus Representative**

2022 - 2024

### **SOCIETY OF AMERICAN ARCHIVISTS:**

#### **Science, Technology, and Health Care Section**

2024-2026

Co-Chair

#### **Web Archiving Section**

2020 - 2024

Section Secretary (2022-2024)

Steering Committee Student Member (2020-2021)

**TOWSON UNIVERSITY:**

**Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Accessibility Committee**

2019 - 2022, ALBERT S. COOK LIBRARY

Chair (2021-2022)

Secretary (2020-2021)

**Maryland History Day Judge**

2022, BALTIMORE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Search Committee, Associate University Librarian for  
Assessment**

2021, ALBERT S. COOK LIBRARY

**Staff Representative to Leadership Council**

2020 - 2021, ALBERT S. COOK LIBRARY

**Transfer Student Mentor**

2020, 2021

**Cook Library Student Mentor**

2020, ALBERT S. COOK LIBRARY

**USMAI CONSORTIA:**

**Digital Lifecycle Management Interest Group**

2019 - 2022

**MARYLAND INSTITUTE COLLEGE OF ART:**

**Staff Enrichment Council**

2018 - 2019

**Maryland Film Festival Volunteer**

2017, 2018, 2019, SNF PARKWAY THEATER

**Staff and Faculty Organizer**

2017, 2018, ART MARKET

**Edible Book Festival Organizer**

2014 - 2019, DECKER LIBRARY