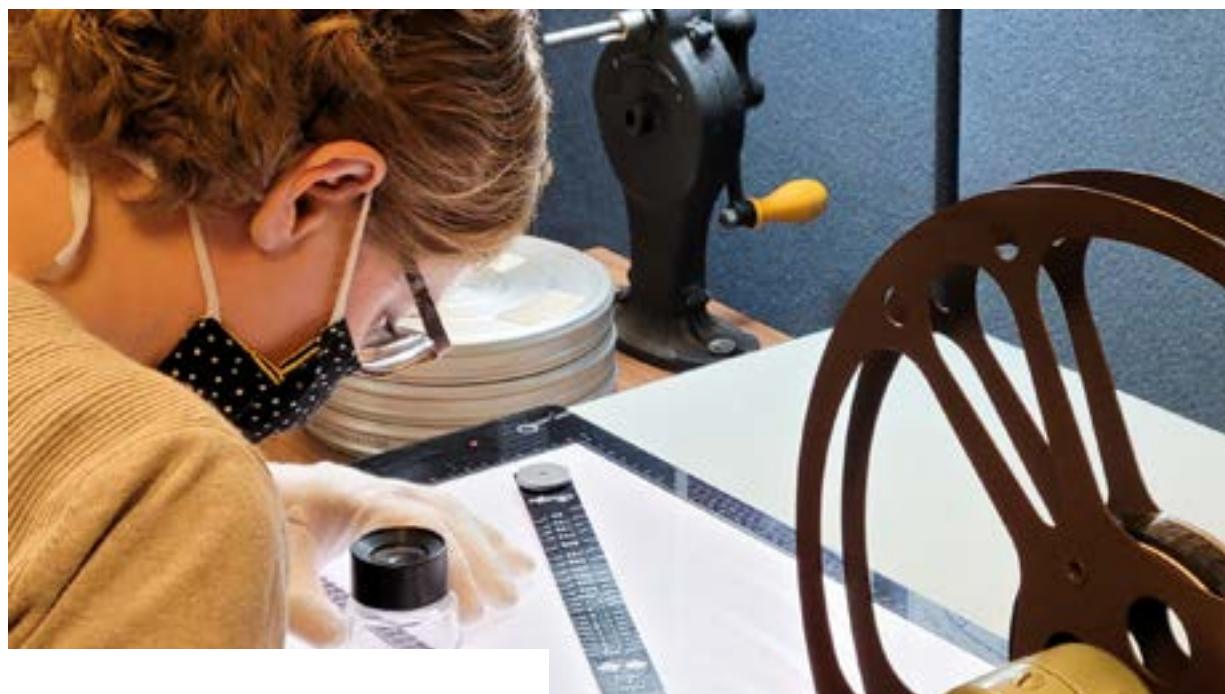


# *The Rocky Mountain* **Archivist**

**Volume 39 No. 1**

**Spring Issue**

**May 2022**



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# From the President



Hello SRMA members,

It's hard for me to believe that this is my last update before the Board year is over at the end of June. I am incredibly grateful to have served you as President, and immensely proud of the hard-working Board we had this last year. They have been very generous with their time, creativity, and input. I would like to give a special thank you to those Board members who will not be continuing, either because they are stepping down from their appointment or decided not to run for re-election. They are Jamie Wagner, Aaron Ramirez, and Nathalie Proulx, who all did truly excellent jobs in their roles.

## Business meeting on June 10th

The annual business meeting will be held on June 10th from 10:00am-11:30am over Zoom. The information is on the [website](#) and the listserv. During the first hour I will present the President's report and the Board members will present their reports on activities from the last year. At the end of the hour, we will welcome in new Board leadership, which will begin in July. Afterwards from 11:00 to 11:30 we will host an open, social half-hour where you can ask questions of the Board or just catch-up with other archivists!

## SRMA Board elections

As Past President, Megan Friedel is chairing the Nominating Committee with Aaron Ramirez from Pueblo City-County Library District, and Kim Larmee from the Science of the Mind Archives and Libraries Foundation. Please see their section in this newsletter for information about the elections and Board positions you will vote on this year. The SRMA Board has been one of the most engaging and collaborative Boards that I have participated on. It has been a very rewarding way to make a difference in the profession. Please consider running for election!

Please reach out to me with any questions at [Ashlyn.velte@colorado.edu](mailto:Ashlyn.velte@colorado.edu). I look forward to seeing you and catching up at the business meeting!

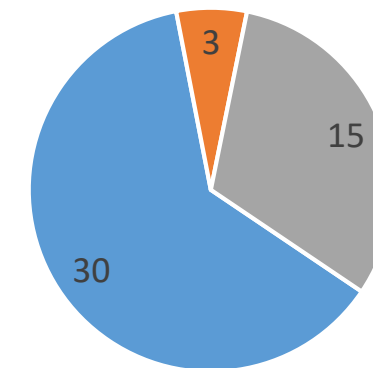
All the best,  
Ashlyn Velte  
SRMA President

# Newsletter survey results

Thanks to everyone who participated in the newsletter survey. Results show that members overwhelmingly would like to see the newsletter continue and most would like to keep receiving the newsletter as a PDF. Members would also value more content and a greater variety of content. Selected results are presented below.

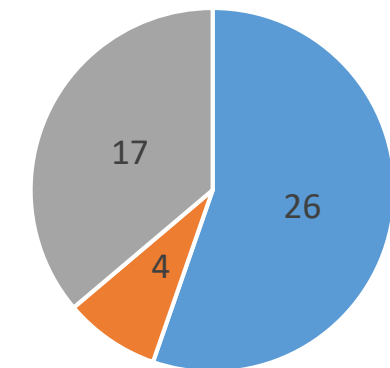
We will make efforts to increase the amount and variety of content in coming issues. In the meantime, don't hesitate to contact us with news, announcements, or stories that you'd like to share. Nathalie Proulx has stepped down as the newsletter editor. Join us in thanking her and in welcoming Will Gregg as the new editor. He can be reached at [willjgregg@gmail.com](mailto:willjgregg@gmail.com)

Do you read the newsletter?



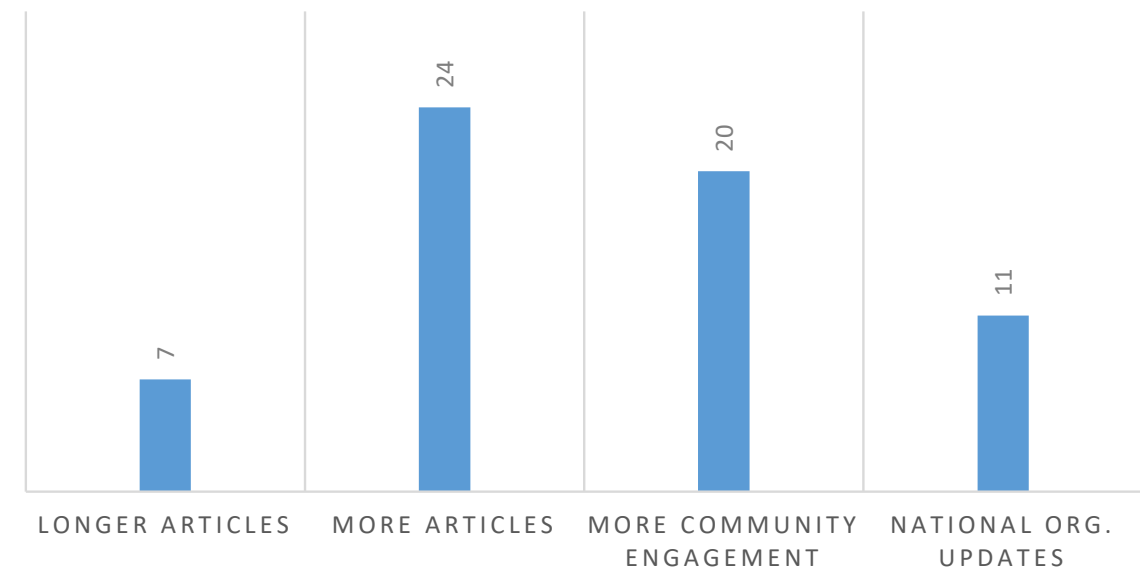
■ Yes ■ No ■ Sometimes

Do you find value in the newsletter?



■ Yes ■ No ■ Sometimes

## DESIRED CHANGES



# 2022 SRMA election ballot now open

The following candidates have nominated themselves for election to the SRMA Governing Board in this year's election cycle. Voting is open May 17-June 1 via SRMA's [election ballot](#). Election results will be announced during the SRMA Business Meeting on June 10, 2022. Please note that voting is open to current dues-paying members only.

## Candidate statements

### Vice President

Jessie de la Cruz

*Music & Recorded Sound Archivist/Assistant Director of the American Music Research Center, University of Colorado Boulder Libraries*

I am very excited about the opportunity to serve SRMA again, having previously served as Program Director from 2016-2018. During the last fifteen years, I have gained valuable and varied experience ranging from work as an archivist in a university setting, to creating a single artist museum archive and research center, and as a community arts organizer and archivist with the community archive Arthyve. All of these positions have reinforced my love for humanities, archives and a service-oriented practice. While in these roles I learned to seek opportunities locally and globally to engage with multiple and diverse audiences. I am eager to apply all of this experience to serving the profession and in the continued growth of the Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists.

### Member-at-Large

Dot Donovan

*Digital & Special Collections Program Lead, University of Colorado Denver*

I am interested in the position of Member-at-Large. I think this position offers an opportunity to mentee under the guidance of the Program Director and Vice President. I'd like to be more actively involved in events and coordination. I'd also like to be more actively involved in SRMA altogether.

### Secretary

Blake Graham

*Data Operations Supervisor, National Snow and Ice Data Center, University of Colorado Boulder*

Hello, friends. I would like to nominate myself for the SRMA Board's Secretary position. This is a second-term nomination to continue serving the wonderful folks in the SRMA community. In the past two years as Secretary on the SRMA Board, I've tried to engage in ongoing discussions around SRMA business, participate in and record Board Meeting Minutes, and brainstorm new funding opportunities to benefit our members. It's been nothing short of a fun and thoughtful experience for me, and I hope an enjoyable experience for members as opportunities and normal business operations continue. I would love the opportunity to earn your vote and continue serving in this capacity for another term. Wishing you all a safe and healthy summer.

Jamie Seemiller

*Acquisitions Archivist, Denver Public Library, Western History and Genealogy Department*

In the last few years, I have missed working with the wonderful archivists in the SRMA community. While I have served on the Board in the past, I would love to be considered for Secretary. As Secretary, I feel that I can bring a unique perspective of the past while helping the Board look to the future. With the pandemic behind us, I hope to be able to connect once again with SRMA members and help the organization continue to grow to support the archives community.

### Preservation Director

Cecily North

*Librarian-Archivist, Pueblo City-County Library District*

Cecily has been involved with SRMA in a variety of positions since 2006. Cecily has recently become a Peer Assessor through the Colorado-Wyoming Association of Museums to help assist other institutions find resources to help preserve and protect their collections. She has taken trainings through NEDCC and the Western Archives Institute in disaster planning. Preservation and protection is of utmost importance as we face natural disasters and the everyday concerns of preserving our collections.

### Continuing Education Director

Amber J. D'Ambrosio

*Special Collections & Archives Librarian, Colorado Mesa University*

I have consistently found continuing education courses and programming with the regional archival organizations to which I have belonged to be among the most valuable learning opportunities I've had as an archivist. As the SRMA Continuing Education Director, I hope to be able to give members the same chances I've had to gain new skills and knowledge. Through a survey of the membership, I would like to determine needs and interests and work to shape and schedule programming to serve those needs and interests.

## CU Boulder's Media Archiving and Preservation Education and Community Internships

Jamie Marie Wagner, Moving Image Archivist, CU Boulder Libraries  
Sabrina Negri, Department of Cinema Studies, CU Boulder

In 2021, the University Libraries' Rare and Distinctive Collections (RAD) and the Department of Cinema Studies & Moving Image Arts (CINE) at the University of Colorado Boulder received a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to develop a series of experiential opportunities for undergraduate students focused on media archiving and preservation. The Media Archiving and Preservation (MAP) program is an outgrowth of a Film Preservation courses developed by CINE professor Sabrina Negri since 2018, with a view toward establishing a certificate program or a dedicated track within the Cinema Studies major in the next few years. Co-PIs of the project are Sabrina Negri and Jamie Marie Wagner, Moving Image Archivist at CU Boulder Libraries.

The three-year IMLS grant, from the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program, comprises three areas of activity:

- An expanded series of courses in the Department of Cinema Studies related to the theories, practices, and curatorial and ethical principles of media archiving and preservation
- A paid Media Archiving and Preservation Fellowship program for undergraduate students within CU Boulder Libraries' RAD and Digital Media Services Lab
- A Community Internship Program for undergraduate students in Media Archiving and Preser-

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vation that identifies and addresses media archiving and preservation needs of under-resourced cultural heritage institutions and community organizations in the Front Range

We began the project in Fall 2021 by drafting a set of Student Learning Objectives (SLOs) for the MAP program that reflect professional skills and competencies recommended by groups like the SAA Education Committee and the Curriculum Subcommittee of AMIA's Continuing Education Task Force. The SLOs will be used to inform the development and evaluation of program activities. In addition to professional competency frameworks, the SLOs are designed to fulfill CINE degree requirements and serve the broader needs of undergraduate students by emphasizing skills within media archiving and preservation that are transferable to other media production and cultural heritage careers, like project management, digital literacy, and navigating copyright law. Our SLOs and Curriculum Development Report will be made available on the CU institutional repository, [CU Scholar](https://scholar.colorado.edu/), later this summer.



*A program from a public screening of materials from CU Libraries' Rare and Distinctive Collections.*

In January 2022, we launched the first two activities of the IMLS grant. The CU Boulder Libraries hired our first three MAP Fellowship students – undergraduates from the departments of Cinema, Media Studies, and Art History – to train in the skills of identifying, describing, and preserving motion picture film, and digitizing archival media in the Libraries' Digital Media Services Lab. In Cinema Studies, Jamie Wagner taught a 3-credit course on Moving Image Archives: Curation, Management, and Programming. Student projects involved conducting appraisal research, doing intellectual arrangement, and writing metadata records for the CU Digital Library, all using film, video, and audio tape from RAD collections. The students also curated two screening programs of archival film and video from the Libraries' collections, on topics of travel, technology, creation, and performance. It was the first time our archival media material has been screened publicly. MAP courses will resume in the Fall with Sabrina Negri's course on Film Preservation. Future courses include Archiving and Preserving Digital Media, taught by digital archivist Walker Sampson, and Preservation of Audio and Video Media, taught by Boulder-based media professional Wyndham Hannaway. The Libraries' MAP Fellowship will be offered to three students per semester until Spring 2024.

Throughout this summer, we will be working to identify and develop projects for the grant's third area of activity, a for-credit semester Community Internship Program. The program will pair our undergraduate MAP students with organizations and institutions in the Front Range that collect and care for audiovisual cultural heritage materials or have audiovisual materials within their own organizational records. We hope to work closely with institution and organization leaders in the Front Range to identify at-risk media collections and to develop project work plans that address their unmet preservation needs where they are. Projects could include processing and preserving physical collections, creating descriptive resources, digitizing material, and making material accessible to patrons or the public through digital collections, digital exhibits, or other means. In addition to traditional repositories, we seek internship projects that allow students to directly address the preservation needs of community organizations - like social groups, religious institutions, or artistic collectives.

Here, we would like to ask SRMA members: Do you work in or with a small repository or community organization with unprocessed or at-risk audiovisual heritage material? We would love to be in touch with you to discuss ways the CU Boulder Media Archiving and Preservation program could help meet your needs. Contact us at [jamie.wagner@colorado.edu](mailto:jamie.wagner@colorado.edu) or [sabrina.negri@colorado.edu](mailto:sabrina.negri@colorado.edu)

One of our primary inspirations in developing the MAP program is the acknowledgement that promoting equity and diversity in archival collections and the profession goes beyond acquiring diverse materials or hiring more diverse archivists into major institutions. Instead, diversifying the historical record also necessitates actively sharing the expertise and resources of preservation and archival practice with community organizations and small repositories, to support the stewardship of local histories by their own communities. We hope that the Media Archiving and Preservation program at CU Boulder may address these needs by bringing media archiving and preservation experience directly into communities, with attention to the ethics of building trusting and collaborative community partnerships. Further, we hope the model of an undergraduate specialization program at a regional university may expand access to media preservation education to a much broader and more diverse audience of students than the extant graduate programs in New York and Los Angeles.



**Journal of  
Western Archives**

The *Journal of Western Archives* is a peer-reviewed, open access journal sponsored by Western regional archival organizations. The journal focuses on contemporary issues and developments in the archival and curatorial fields, particularly as they affect Western archives and manuscript repositories.

**Contributing to the Journal**

If you are interested in contributing to the journal or serving as a peer reviewer for journal content, please contact the managing editor at [jwa.editor@gmail.com](mailto:jwa.editor@gmail.com). Article submissions may also be made online at the journal website.

**JWA**

<http://digitalcommons.usu.edu/westernarchives/>



## Community Archives: Expanding our Circles of Care in Academia

Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists  
Virtual Continuing Education Event

June 27, 2022  
11:00 AM - 2:30 PM (MT)

Presenters from UC Santa Cruz, UC Irvine, and the Association of Moving Image Archivists' Community Archiving Workshop will share lessons from their experiences establishing, growing, and maintaining community archiving projects and programs. Discussions will touch on strategies for forming meaningful and reciprocal community relationships; obtaining buy-in and material support from campus administrators and stakeholders; and activating professional networks for regional collaboration across institutions.

Register at <https://www.srmarchivists.org/>  
Members and students - Free  
Non-members - \$20



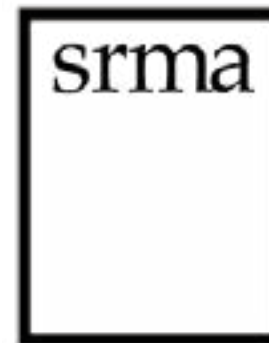
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# Governance

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Processing Archivist  
University of Colorado Boulder Libraries

**Vice President: Jay Trask**

Head of Archives and Special Collections  
University of Northern Colorado

**Past President: Megan Friedel**

Head of Archives  
University of Colorado Boulder Libraries

**Secretary: Blake Graham**

Data Operations Analyst  
National Snow and Ice Data Center

**Treasurer: Patty Rettig**

Head Archivist  
Water Resources Archive, Colorado State  
University

**Program Director: Walker Sampson**

Digital Archivist – Special Collections,  
Archives & Preservation  
University of Colorado Boulder Libraries

**Member-at-Large: Nora Plant**

Audio-visual Archivist  
American Heritage Cetner

**Preservation Member-at-Large:**

**Aaron Ramirez**  
Archivist Librarian  
Pueblo City-County Library District

**Membership Coordinator: David Fasman**

Metadata Technician  
Beck Archives, University of Denver

**Society Archivist: Kalyani Fernando**

Project Archivist – Special Collections,  
Archives & Preservation  
University of Colorado Boulder Libraries

**Newsletter Editor: Will Gregg**

Archivist  
University of Colorado  
Museum of Natural History

**Continuing Education Coordinator:**

**Jamie Wagner**  
Special Collections, Archives & Preservation  
University of Colorado Boulder Libraries

**Website and Social Media Coordinator:**

**Sean Babbs**  
Special Collections, Archives & Preservation  
University of Colorado Boulder Libraries

**Do you have any projects or  
collections to feature in the next  
issue of *Rocky Mountain  
Archivist*?**

Contact Will Gregg at  
[willjgregg@gmail.com](mailto:willjgregg@gmail.com)

**Need to renew your  
membership?**

Contact David Fasman  
[david.fasman@du.edu](mailto:david.fasman@du.edu)