

Perspective: A Librarian (and an Archivist) Reflects on Working with a Wikipedian

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Wikipedia Loves Libraries *(and Archives)*

Wikimania 2012

July 11, 2012

Archives of American Art



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Archives of American Art

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Coordinates: 38.897851°N 77.022689°W﻿ / ﻿38.897851°N 77.022689°W﻿ / 38.897851; -77.022689

The **Archives of American Art** is the largest collection of primary resources documenting the history of the visual arts in the **United States**. More than 16 million items of original material^[1] are housed in the Archives' research centers in **Washington, D.C.** and **New York City**.

As a research center within the **Smithsonian Institution**, the Archives houses materials related to a broad variety of American visual art and artists. All regions of the country and numerous eras and art movements are represented. Among the significant artists represented in its collection are **Jackson Pollock**, **Lee Krasner**, **Marcel Breuer**, **Rockwell Kent**, **John Singer Sargent**, **Winslow Homer**, **John Trumbull**, and **Alexander Calder**. In addition to the papers of artists, the Archives collects documentary material from art galleries, art dealers, and art collectors. It also houses a collection of over 2,000 art-related oral history interviews and publishes a bi-yearly publication called *Archives of American Art Journal* which showcases collections within the Archives.

Contents [hide]

- History
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 - The papers of African American artists
 - The papers of Latino & Latin American artists
 - Rockwell Kent papers
 - Leo Castelli Gallery
 - Oral histories
- Exhibitions
- Administration

Archives of American Art



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

Established	1954
Location	750 9th Street NW, Victor Building, Suite 2200 Washington, D.C. 1285 Avenue of the Americas, Lobby Level New York City, New York
Type	Archives
Visitor figures	1,498 (2009)
Director	Liza Kirwin (acting director)
Public transit access	Gallery Place (Washington Metro)

SIX DEGREES OF ...

The screenshot shows the Smithsonian Archives of American Art website. At the top, the navigation menu includes: Home, Research Collections, Exhibitions, Publications, News & Events, Support, About Us, and Ask Us. The main content area features a central circular portrait of Peggy Bacon with the name "Peggy Bacon" written below it. Red arrows radiate from this central portrait to several smaller circular thumbnails: a map, a photograph of a man, a photograph of a woman, a photograph of a man, and a document. Below the central portrait, a banner reads "NEW EXHIBITION IN WASHINGTON, D.C. Six Degrees of Peggy Bacon". To the right of the main content is a search bar with a "SEARCH" button and a "QUICK LINKS" section with the following items: HOURS & LOCATIONS plan your visit, IMAGE GALLERY documents & photos, INTERVIEWS our oral history program, THE JOURNAL award-winning magazine, BLOG behind the scenes with our staff, OPPORTUNITIES for interns & volunteers, and FAQ frequently asked questions. The footer contains a carousel of images, including a "60 Years of Peggy Bacon" logo and a "CRAFT" logo.

Published Sources: Finding aids and Oral Histories

Digitized collection

RESEARCH COLLECTIONS > B > PEGGY BACON PAPERS

Peggy Bacon papers, 1893-1973, bulk 1900-1936

Collection Summary | More about the Collection

Bacon, Peggy, b. 1895 d. 1987
Painter, Author, Printmaker, Illustrator, Poet
Cape Porpoise, Me.; Cross River, N.Y.

The papers of Peggy Bacon were digitized in 2006 by the Archives of American Art. The papers have been scanned in their entirety, and total 6,623 images.

Funding for the processing and digitization of this collection was provided by the Terra Foundation for American Art.


Series 1: Biographical Materials
Series 2: Correspondence
Series 3: Personal Business Records
Series 4: Writings

Smithsonian Archives of American Art

SEARCH

QUICK LINKS
HOURS & LOCATIONS plan your visit
IMAGE GALLERY documents & photos
INTERVIEWS our oral history program
THE JOURNAL award-winning magazine
BLOG behind the scenes with our staff
OPPORTUNITIES by interns & volunteers
FAQ frequently asked questions
NEWSLETTER sign up for email updates

Donate Now
Help us ensure that significant records



Online transcript

INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT

This transcript is in the public domain and may be used without permission. Quotes and excerpts must be cited as follows: *Oral history interview with Peggy Bacon, 1973 May 8, Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.*

Interview with Peggy Bacon
Conducted by Paul Cummings
At the artist's home in Cape Porpoise, Maine
May 8, 1973

Preface

The following oral history transcript is the result of a tape-recorded interview with Peggy Bacon on May 8, 1973. The interview took place in Cape Porpoise, Maine, and was conducted by Paul Cummings for the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Interview

PAUL CUMMINGS: PAUL CUMMINGS
PEGGY BACON: PEGGY BACON

PAUL CUMMINGS: It's May 8, 1973. Paul Cummings talking to Peggy Bacon in her house in Cape Porpoise, Maine. You were born -- where? We go chronologically.

PEGGY BACON: May 2, 1895. In Ridgefield, Connecticut.

PAUL CUMMINGS: Were there brothers and sisters in your family?

PEGGY BACON: I was the first child. There were two little boys who died in infancy. So I was essentially an only child, brought up as an only child.

Terra Foundation Center for Digital Collections

Recently Digitized Collections

- Smith, Leon Polk
- Pearlman, Henry
- Carnegie Institute. Museum of Art
- Stora, John Henry Bradley
- Britton, James
- Green, Mark
- Hatch, Lorenzo James
- Frazer, John
- Alexander, John White
- Riemhardt, Ad

SEE MORE COLLECTIONS >

WIKIPEDIAN IN RESIDENCE

SARAH STEIRCH

The screenshot shows a Firefox browser window with the following details:

- Address Bar:** philanthropy.com/blogs/social-philanthropy/how-the-smithsonian-is-helping-wikipedia/29095
- Page Title:** How the Smithsonian Is Helping Wikipedia - Social Philanthropy - The Chronicle of Philanthropy- Connecting the nonprofit world with news, jobs, and ideas
- Article Title:** How the Smithsonian Is Helping Wikipedia
- Author:** By Derek Lieu
- Date:** August 11, 2011, 9:38 am
- Video:** A video player showing Sarah Stierch speaking. The video title is "Wikipedia Edit-a-thon" and the name "Sarah Stierch" is overlaid on the video.
- Text Content:**

Wikipedia has detailed sections describing every episode of the television show *Seinfeld*, but its coverage of art history is more sparse. Often one person will make a contribution on a single work and then it languishes.

To help Wikipedia's art-history offerings grow more robust, a group of volunteers recently congregated at the Smithsonian Institution's Archives of American Art, in Washington.
- Right Sidebar:**
 - Advertisement:** Apricot software advertisement with a photo of a woman and text: "comprehensive outcome & data reports. Thanks, Apricot! -KIM S. Challenge Program Director. Now get FREE outcomes training for your entire staff when you purchase Apricot software. → LEARN MORE"
 - RECENT POSTS:**
 - YouTube Gives Video Makers New Ways to Support Causes
 - Facebook Fans Increase by 70 Percent at Some Nonprofits
 - After Legal Threat, Cartoonist Raises \$140,000 Online for Charity
 - How Young People Learn About Nonprofits Online
 - Private Social Networks Connect People With Personal Problems
 - ARCHIVES:** Select Month dropdown menu.
 - CATEGORIES:** (Section header visible)

GLAM/AAA

Firefox File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Window Help

Wikipedia:GLAM/AAA - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Inbox - Outlook Web Access Li... x Oral history interview with Peg... x W Wikipedia:GLAM/AAA - Wikip... x RE: Advice - Outlook Web Acce... x USAJOBS - Search Jobs x +

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:GLAM/AAA

Share page: Facebook Email Twitter Print Myspace Favorites Google Digg More... Search the Web

Create account Log in

Project page **Talk** Read Edit View history Search

Wikipedia:GLAM/AAA

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
< Wikipedia:GLAM

Welcome	Discuss	Participate	Archivist-Wikimedian collaborations	Requests	To-do	Outcomes
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Archives of American Art Wikimedia Partnership



From June - September 2011, *Sarah Stierch*, Wikipedian-in-Residence, worked closely with Archives of American Art staff to expand content related to their collections in partnership with Wikimedia. This page serves as a hub for all Wikimedia community events, content organization, and community collaboration. Please feel free to contact us via our [talk page](#).

Current news

[edit]

Coveting the GLAMorous Archives of American Art Barnstar? Earn yours in one of three ways:

1. Write or edit a start or higher article relating to the history of the visual arts in America, citing at least one source from the Archives of American Art's Research Collections. See the [List of Archives of American Art-related articles](#) to get started.
2. Translate an Archives of American Art-related article into another language Wikipedia, with appropriate links and content related to the Archives of American Art.
3. Transcribe a document from the Archives of American Art into [WikiSource](#).

Then, share your successes on our [Outcomes](#) page!

List of Archives of American Art-Related Articles and Metrics

Articles needing work

Firefox File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Window Help

Article lists - Wikipedia Release Version Tools

Inbox - Outlook Web Access LI... Search - Wikipedia, the free en... Article lists - Wikipedia Releas... Inbox - Outlook Web Access LI... USAJOBS - Search Jobs

toolsserver.org/~enwp1.0/bin/list2.fcgi?run=yes&projects=Archives_of_American_Art-related

Share page Facebook Email Twitter Print Myspace Favorites Google Digg More...

Data for WP:GLAM/AAA (list 1 summary table)

Total results: 690 Displaying up to 250 results beginning with #1

Result	Article	Importance	Quality	Review Release	Score
1	Louise Nevelson (t - h - i)	Top	2011-08-02 (t)	GA 2011-10-10 (t)	1350
2	Charles Alston (t - h - i)	Top	2011-05-29 (t)	B 2011-05-27 (t)	1079
3	Eero Saarinen (t - h - i)	Top	2011-06-08 (t)	B 2011-06-01 (t)	1437
4	Jackson Pollock (t - h - i)	Top	2011-05-29 (t)	B 2011-05-29 (t)	1604
5	Reginald Marsh (artist) (t - h - i)	Top	2011-06-09 (t)	B 2011-06-09 (t)	930
6	Abbott Handerson Thayer (t - h - i)	Top	2011-06-09 (t)	C 2011-06-09 (t)	1082
7	Archives of American Art (t - h - i)	Top	2011-05-29 (t)	C 2011-06-14 (t)	861
8	Arthur Dove (t - h - i)	Top	2011-06-06 (t)	C 2011-06-06 (t)	1091
9	Bessie Potter Vorosh (t - h - i)	Top	2011-08-04 (t)	C 2011-07-30 (t)	788
10	Jacques Seligmann (t - h - i)	Top	2011-07-17 (t)	C 2011-07-17 (t)	625
11	Jacques Seligmann & Company (t - h - i)	Top	2011-07-08 (t)	C 2011-07-06 (t)	625
12	John Singer Sargent (t - h - i)	Top	2011-06-09 (t)	C 2011-05-29 (t)	1376
13	Marcel Breuer (t - h - i)	Top	2011-06-06 (t)	C 2011-06-02 (t)	1282
14	Rockwell Kent (t - h - i)	Top	2011-06-09 (t)	C 2011-06-09 (t)	1113
15	Romare Bearden (t - h - i)	Top	2011-06-06 (t)	C 2011-06-01 (t)	1108
16	Stanford Robinson Gifford (t - h - i)	Top	2011-06-09 (t)	C 2011-05-29 (t)	1016
17	Ad Reinhardt (t - h - i)	Top	2011-06-08 (t)	Start 2011-06-01 (t)	1057
18	Adolf Dahn (t - h - i)	Top	2011-08-08 (t)	Start 2011-08-06 (t)	692
19	Adolph Alexander Weisman (t - h - i)	Top	2011-06-08 (t)	Start 2011-05-31 (t)	808
20	Al Hirschfeld (t - h - i)	Top	2011-06-09 (t)	Start 2011-06-09 (t)	1030
21	Albert Bierstadt (t - h - i)	Top	2011-06-08 (t)	Start 2011-06-04 (t)	1160

Metrics showing progress

Firefox File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Window Help

Wikipedia:GLAM/AAA - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Inbox - Outlook Web Ac... Search - Wikipedia, the... Wikipedia:GLAM/AAA... Inbox - Outlook Web Ac... USAJOBS - Search Jobs

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:GLAM/AAA

Share page Facebook Email Twitter Print Myspace Favorites Google Digg More...

Metrics Matrix - Statistical Data

Examine statistical data related to traffic from Wikimedia websites to the Archives' website, as well as usage statistics of images, data and other related materials with the invaluable tools provided by Wikimedia developers. [edit]

Archives of American Art-related articles by quality and importance

Quality	Importance				Total
	Top	High	Mid	Low	
GA	1	1	1	1	4
B	4	1	4	1	10
C	7	7	4	21	39
Start	40	42	30	147	259
Stub	27	30	27	159	243
Assessed	76	80	65	290	311
Unassessed	2	1	2	1	6
Total	79	65	312	3	559

Screenshot of the metrics matrix dating back to the beginning of the project, June 2011

Analysis is based on the importance of the topic and the connection it has in regards to the Archives of American Art. This analysis is being completed by art historians and staff, articles are rated based on the amount of content or quality of content within the Archives and its relevance to what is owned by the Archives. Collections that are restricted, entirely on microfilm, or not owned by the Archives are not being included. This chart is still under development and is only a selected portion of the Archives holdings.

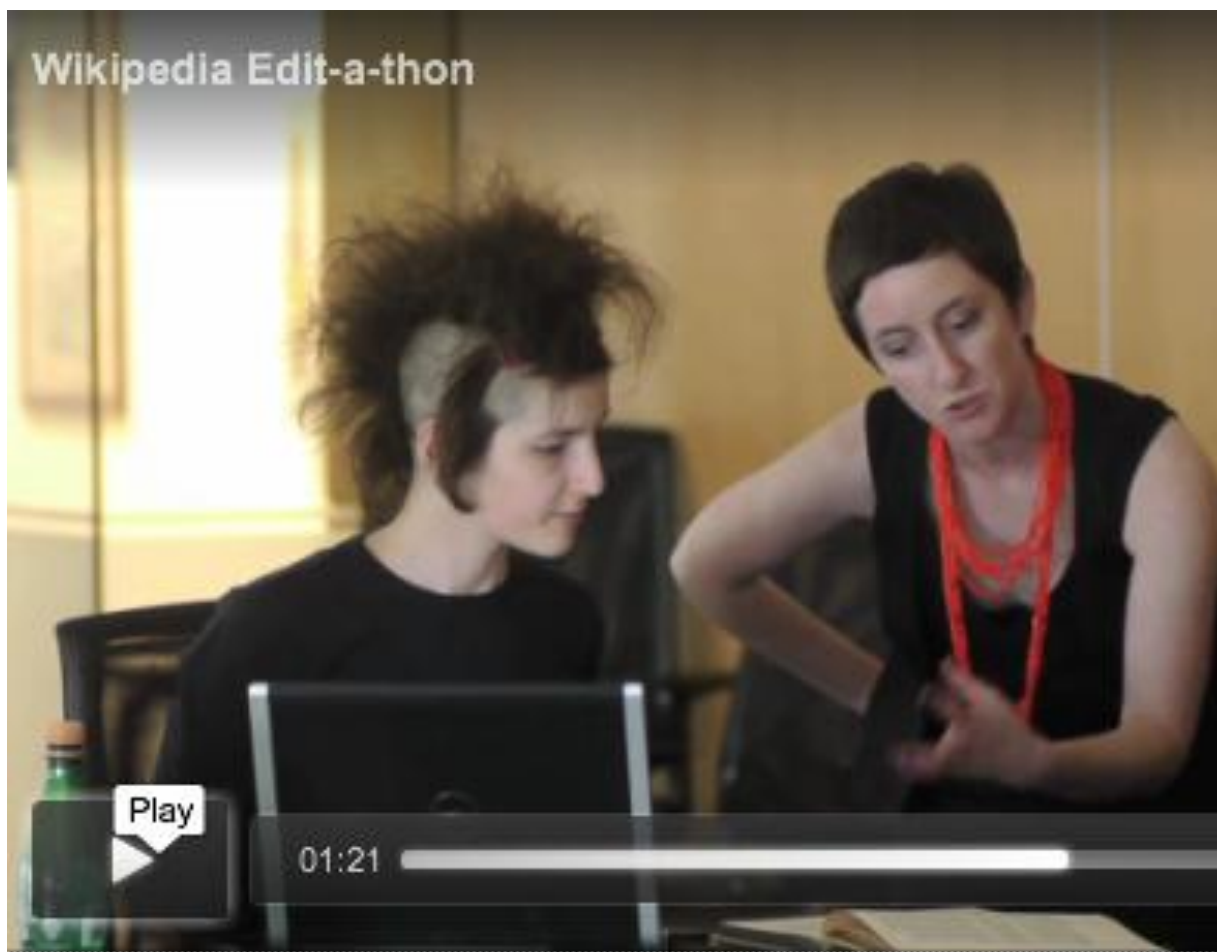
- Low = Only available on microfilm and/or only small amount of images possibly not for release.
- Mid = Light biographical information in page description, minor details related to subject.
- High = Oral history, partially digitized or primarily images.
- Top = Fully digitized

Archives of American Art-related articles by quality and importance

Quality	Importance				Total
	Top	High	Mid	Low	
GA	1				1
B	4	3	4	14	25
C	11	9	15	27	62
Start	45	61	39	164	309
Stub	44	54	36	156	291
List				1	1
Assessed	105	127	94	361	687
Unassessed				1	1
Total	106	137	94	361	698


http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:AAA_first_chart.jpg

Edit-A-Thon




Barnstar

WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia


File:Archives-of-american-art-barnstar.png 

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

[File](#) [File history](#) [File usage](#) [Global file usage](#)



[Archives-of-american-art-barnstar.png](#) (500 × 475 pixels, file size: 275 KB, MIME type: image/png)

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Summary [\[edit\]](#)

Description	English: Archives of American Art Barnstar
Date	11 July 2011
Source	Own work, based on Image:Original Barnstar Hires.png and James McNeill Whistler's palette and brushes, ca. 1889 [?] from the Leon Dabo papers, Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.
Author	Sarasays