
Camille Myers Breeze

CURRICULUM VITAE

Director, Museum Textile Services

- Founder and chief conservator of New England's premier textile conservation studio, providing analysis, treatment and display solutions for collectors and collecting institutions since 1999.
- Co-founder of Andover Figures, custom museum forms for conservators and collections specialists.
- Experienced personnel manager, advisor, and mentor to graduate students and pre-professionals.
- Specialist in conserving and mounting flat textiles and costume spanning the 18th through 20th centuries.
- Scholar and expert in medieval and post-medieval European tapestry conservation.
- Internationally known conservator of pre-Columbian textiles and mummy bundles.

Instructor

- Currently teaching two advanced textile conservation topics, with a third in development, for the International Preservation Studies Center in Mount Carroll, IL.
- Founder and instructor of the Ancient Peruvian Textiles Workshop, a textile and mummy conservation course for international professionals held in and around Lima, Peru, from 2005–2010.
- Adjunct Professor of collections management for the Fashion and Textile Studies: History, Theory, Museum Practice MA program at the Fashion Institute of Technology in NYC, 2004.

Author

- Author of "Opening Doors: Conservation of Tibetan Tangkas at the Mead Art Museum" in the 2013 catalog *Picturing Enlightenment: Tibetan Tangkas in the Mead Art Museum at Amherst College*.
- Published the book *A Survey of American Tapestry Conservation Techniques* through the American Textile History Museum, Lowell, MA, in 1999.
- Author and co-author of scholarly articles for museum and textile professionals since 1995.

Advanced Mellon Fellow, Textile Conservation Center, American Textile History Museum

- Performed examination, research, and conservation of textiles at Lowell, MA, museum from 1998–1999.
- Conserved 14th, 15th, 16th, and 17th-century tapestries from private individuals and museums.
- Part of the conservation team for WWII military flags from the USS submarine Nautilus.

Assistant Conservator, Textile Conservation Laboratory, Cathedral of St. John the Divine

- Specialized in the conservation of pre-Columbian textiles and European tapestries in NYC from 1992–1997.
- Assessed, researched, and began conservation of the Cathedral's 17th-century *Acts of the Apostles* tapestries.
- Analyzed, documented, cleaned, stabilized, and mounted all types of costume and textiles.

EDUCATION

MA in Museum Studies from the State University of New York—Fashion Institute of Technology

Completed an intensive program on museum practice, conservation, and collections management of textiles and decorative objects. Thesis project addressed the conservation of ancient Peruvian archaeological textiles.

BA in Art History from Oberlin College

Concentrated in Medieval art and history. Junior year was spent at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland.

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AWARDS

2015 Excellence in Exhibits Award

Honorable mention was awarded by the American Alliance of Museum to the exhibit team for “Dear Boston: Messages from the Marathon Memorial.” Museum Textile Services was the textile conservation firm chosen for his project.

2015 Leadership in History Award

The American Association for State and Local History chose the exhibit team for “Dear Boston: Messages from the Marathon Memorial” as the Massachusetts recipient of this annual award.

2014 Honor Award for Restoration

Group award from Maine Preservation to restoration associates who worked on the Farnsworth Homestead, Rockland.

2014 Publication Award

Second place was awarded for the museum catalog *Picturing Enlightenment: Tibetan Tangkas in the Mead Art Museum at Amherst College*, containing Camille Breeze’s essay.

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- Speaker and Specialist Grant, US Department of State, 2009. Chosen to consult with several museums in the Dominican Republic on issues of textile conservation.
- Lecture Grant, Foundation of the American Institution for Conservation, 2008. Support was provided to organize and co-present a one-day workshop entitled *Climate Control for Historic Structures*.
- Professional Development Scholarship, Foundation of the American Institution for Conservation, 2007. Funding was awarded to spend two weeks in Spain investigating Spain's approach to the conservation of pre-Columbian textiles.
- Professional Development Scholarship, Foundation of the American Institution for Conservation, 2002. Award deferred costs to attend the annual conference of the Institute of Andean Studies in Berkeley, CA.
- Scholar-in-Residence Grant, Bay State Historical League, 2001. Funding was used to hire a co-curator for the Harvard Historical Society exhibit, “Captured in Clothes: the Abbot Family of Harvard.”
- Research Inventory Grant, Bay State Historical League, 2000. Grant used to create a database of artifacts in the collection of Harvard Historical Society that coincide with major themes of Fruitlands Museums, also in Harvard.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Member of the Ethics and Standards Committee of the American Institute for Conservation **2016–present**
- Member of the Latin American Scholarship Committee of the American Institute for Conservation **2006–present**
- Member of the Fulbright Senior Specialist Program Roster **2013–present**
- Business Member of the New England Museum Association **2000–present**
- Member and Fellow of the American Institute for Conservation **1991–present**
- Co-Chair of the Independent Museum Professionals Group, New England Museum Association **2013–2016**
- Member of the Textile Specialty Group Award Committee of the American Institute for Conservation **2012–2016**
- Board Member of the New England Conservation Association **2005–2011**
- Program Coordinator for the New England Museum Association **2003–2006**
- *Textile Conservation Group Newsletter* Editor and TCG Board Member **1995–2002**
- Editor of the *Textile Specialty Group Postprints* for the American Institute for Conservation **1999–2001**

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LECTURES AND PUBLICATIONS

- 2016** Demonstrated safe costume-mounting techniques at *Dressing for Show*, New England Museum Association, Newport, RI. Presented *A Ghost of the Civil War: A Man, a Flag and a Frame*, American Institute for Conservation, Montreal, Canada, published in *Wooden Objects Group Postprints* (30). Participated in the 9th World Conference on Mummy Studies, Lima, Peru. Guest lecturer, John Nicholas Brown Center for Public Humanities and Cultural Heritage, Brown University. Chair of round-table discussion on *Forensic Finds: Uncovering and Telling the Stories Hidden in Artifacts* for New England Museum Association, Mystic, CT.
- 2015** Presented *Articulating Bodies: Developing and Disseminating New Tools for Historic Costume Display in Small Museums* and *Speaking Textile Conservation*, New England Museum Association, Portland, ME.
- 2014** Guest lecturer, *Exhibiting Human Remains*, Department of Art/Art History, Wheaton College, Norton, MA. Presented *Evaluating and Choosing Sheer Overlays*, American Institute for Conservation, San Francisco, CA.
- 2013** Authored *Opening Doors: The Conservation of the Mead Art Museum's Tibetan Tangka Collection*, in "Picturing Enlightenment: Tibetan Tangkas in the Mead Art Museum at Amherst College." Ed. Marilyn Rhie, University of New England Press. Guest lecturer, *Museum Controversies*, Department of Art/Art History, Wheaton College, Norton, MA. Presented *Alternative Ways to Manage Data: Cloud-Based Data Management Systems*, New England Museum Association, Newport, RI.
- 2012** Presented *Crossing Boundaries between Disciplines in the Conservation of Asian Tangkas* with co-author Kate Smith, American Institute for Conservation, Albuquerque, NM, which was published in *Textile Specialty Group Postprints* (22). Visiting Scholar, Department of Art/Art History, Wheaton College, Norton, MA. Presented, *Speed Dating Meets Condition Reporting*, New England Museum Association, Burlington, VT.
- 2011** Presented *Care and Preservation of Textiles*, New England Museum Association, Portsmouth, NH. Presented *Conservation of Textiles Using Nylon Net*, New England Museum Association, Hartford, CT.
- 2010** Lecturer and reviewer for *Save America's Treasures* grant-funded collections management and rehousing project at Tennessee State Museum, Nashville, TN.
- 2009** Presented *Care of Textiles*, Connecticut League of Historical Organization, Wethersfield, CT. Presented *Conservación Preventativa de Textiles*, Secretaria de Estado de Cultura, Santo Domingo, DR. Taught *Textile Storage on a Shoestring*, North Andover Historical Society, MA.
- 2008** Presented *Textiles: From Household Goods to Museum Artifacts*, Intermuseum Conservation Association, Cleveland, OH. Presented *A Peruvian-American Conservation Collaboration*, American Institute for Conservation, Denver, CO, which was published in *AIC Textile Specialty Group Postprints* (18).
- 2007** Presented *Safe Display of Museum Textiles*, New England Museum Association, Cromwell, CT. Taught *Introduction to Costume Mounting* at Andover Historical Society, MA.
- 2006** Guest lecturer, *Archaeological Textiles of Peru*, Cornell University Department of Textiles & Apparel, Ithaca, NY. Taught *Caring for Textiles* workshops for Dennison Homestead Museum, Mystic, CT; Woodlawn House, Ellesworth, ME; and Oberlin Heritage Center, Oberlin, OH. Designed and taught *Closing Your Historic House for the Season* at Andover Historical Society, MA.
- 2005** Presented *Conservation of Wallcoverings at Gillette Castle* at Museo de Arte de Lima, Peru. Presented *South American Textiles*, Fashion Institute of Technology Department of Graduate Studies, NY. Guest lecturer, *Caring for Embroidery*, Embroidery Guild of America, Worcester, MA.

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- 2004** Presented *Mounting Large Textiles* at Museo de Arte de Lima and Instituto de Conservación y Restauración Yachay Wasi, Lima, Peru. Presented *Conservation of Wallcoverings at Gillette Castle* at American Institute for Conservation, Portland, OR, which was published in AIC Textile Specialty Group *Postprints* (14).
- 2003** Cosponsored and organized *Caring for Flags*, a one-day symposium of regional flag experts, Andover, MA. Presented *Let Freedom's Banner Wave* and oversaw flag adoption program for Memorial Hall Library, Andover, MA. Spoke about flag conservation at public unveiling of a conserved flag at Woburn Public Library, Woburn, MA.
- 2002** Presented *Warped and Twisted* at Fruitlands Museums, Harvard, MA. Curated *Captured in Clothes: the Abbott Family of Harvard* at Harvard Historical Society, Harvard, MA. Hosted a Costume Society of America Regional *Soiree* at the exhibit.
- 2001** Presented *Digitally Printed Textiles: Their Potential Use in Costume Collections and Living-History Museums*, Costume Society of America, Providence, RI, and Textile Conservation Group, Inc., NY. Published same in the Textile Conservation Group Newsletter (23) and WAAC Newsletter (22:2.) Curated *Harvard Quilts* at Harvard Historical Society, Harvard, MA. Presented *Recording History: Harvard's Signature Quilts* at the Historic Textiles Forum, Cooperstown, NY, and Harvard Historical Society. MA.
- 2000** Published *Tapestry Conservation: an Annotated Bibliography* in Textile Conservation News (38) Spring Supplement. Presented *The Evolution of American Tapestry Conservation*, American Institute for Conservation, Philadelphia, PA, which was published in Textile Specialty Group *Postprints* (10).
- 1999** Curated *Threads of Time: Five Hundred Years of Tapestries from the Blau Family* at Telfair Museum, Savannah, GA. Wrote exhibit catalog and presented key-note lecture at exhibit opening. Published *A Survey of American Tapestry Conservation Techniques*, American Textile History Museum, Lowell, MA.
- 1998** Presented *Investigating the origins of the Raphael Tapestries at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine*, Textile Society of American, New York.
- 1996** Published *The History of Tapestry Exhibition and Conservation at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine*, International Tapestry Journal (2).
- 1995** Published *A Social History of Peruvian Grave Robbing*, Textile Conservation Group Newsletter (17:2). Presented *Hats off to Wet Cleaning* (co-authored with Marlene Eidelheit,) American Institute for Conservation, Minneapolis, MN, which was published in Textile Specialty Group *Postprints* (5).