

## Collection Update for October 2020

5,141 new items were added in October

### Hosted

- Boston Public Library - Ellen F. O'Connor Collection (1,904 items)\*
- Boston Public Library - Press Photography from the Brearley Collection (1,274 items)\*
- Boston Public Library - Tichnor Brothers Postcard Collection (1,804 items)\*
- Wayland Historical Society - Alfred Wayland Cutting Photographs (159 items)

### Harvested

- No harvests in October.

\* items added to existing collection

163,974 Item views 852,441 Total item-level records 349,561 Total hosted items

## "Expanding Your Digital Horizons" Online Event Series

Wednesday December 9, 2020, 10-11am

**"Provenance Research: Case Studies from the van Otterloo Collection at the MFA, Boston", with Samantha Muir**

Provenance has always been a key part of art historical research, inextricably linked to the art market and the history of taste. The ownership history can offer a greater understanding of an artwork's physical appearance and historical significance, but it is also crucial in determining whether an object can be ethically and legally brought into a museum's collection.

Using case studies from the 2017 promised gift of 17th century Dutch and Flemish paintings from the Eijk and Rose-Marie van Otterloo collection, Samantha Muir, former Research Associate for Provenance at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, will discuss how she goes about tracing the ownership history of an object. This talk will examine the methodology, resources, and challenges of provenance research that arise throughout the process of revealing the previously unknown stories of an artwork's history.

*Samantha Muir* was the Research Associate for Provenance at the MFA, Boston, for the past three years. Before this, she was a Graduate Research Intern responsible for updating the object files of the more than 80 Millet paintings in the museum's collection and then the Exhibition Intern for the 2017 *Botticelli and the Search for the Divine* before being hired soon after as a provenance researcher.

Sam was selected to be part of the 2018 cohort of the German/American Provenance Research Exchange Program (PREP), a two-week conference for museum professionals to share their experience and deepen their knowledge in the field of provenance research. She has also participated in the AAMD's Advanced Nazi-Era Provenance Workshops held at the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in Washington D.C. Sam earned her BA in the History of Art at the University of Toronto and attended Christie's Education in London, where she earned her MLitt in Art History and Art World Practices in 2015.

Pre-registration is required. There is no charge for this event. [Register for "Provenance Research"](#)



In early 2021, we will be offering a two part series - "**Sacco-Vanzetti: The Case That Will Not Die**" and "**Sacco-Vanzetti: The Impact on Art and Literature**" with MA Supreme Court Justice, Judge Peter Agnes (ret.).

Other events are also being planned. Keep an eye out for announcements!

# The Politics of Collections



## Digital Commonwealth 2021 Conference Online on Tuesday, April 13, 2021, 9am-4pm

- Live from LA, Keynote Speaker, **Virginia Steel**, University Librarian, UCLA
- **John Bracken**, Executive Director, DPLA
- **Eben English**, Digital Repository Services Manager at the Boston Public Library will present his annual update on the Digital Commonwealth collection

### Confirmed Speakers:

- **Micha Broadnax**, Project manager, Black Education Archives Digital Project, Harvard Graduate School of Education, MA
- **Shauntee Burns**, Black Caucus of ALA, Manager of School Outreach for The New York Public Library
- **Richard Chabran**, REFORMA (Latinx caucus of ALA) , Adjunct Instructor at California State University, Los Angeles, CA
- **Cindy Hohl**, President, American Indian Library Association, ALA Spectrum Scholar, Director of Branch Operations, The Kansas City Public Library, KS
- **Jaccavrie McNeely**, Digital Services Librarian, Watertown Public Library, MA
- **Hong Yao**, President, Chinese American Librarians Association. Director of Technical Services at Queens (N.Y.) Public Library

Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks!

Bookmark the conference webpage: <https://digitalcommonwealth.wildapricot.org/page-1856239>

Registration will be \$10 for individuals from Digital Commonwealth member organizations; \$20 for non-members.

## Featured New Collection

### Alfred Wayland Cutting Photographs

This month's collection features the newly added Alfred Wayland Cutting Photographs from the Wayland Historical Society. Alfred Wayland Cutting was born in Boston in 1860. After attending the Dwight Grammar School, he spent three years at English High School. He became a teller at the Massachusetts Trust Company in Boston, a position he held until 1903, when he made Wayland his permanent home. He was a life-long member of the First Parish Church of Wayland and a founding member of the Wayland Society of Arts and Crafts. Alfred Cutting lived in Wayland until he died in 1935. His photographic works, which primarily dates from the late 1880's to the 1910's, encompassed historic events, buildings and sites; portraits; and landscapes and natural history. Check out the full collection [here](#).



*Country road in winter overlooking the Sudbury River*



*Tall trees overlooking Baldwin's Pond*

## Beyond Massachusetts.....

Don't forget that many other states have digital libraries. Be sure to check out their collections...many of them can be accessed via the partners list on the Digital Public Library of America website [here](#).

### Member News

#### Welcome New Members!

Christine Maney  
Regina Mullen  
David P. Weissbrod

#### Welcome Back Returning Members!

Beaman Memorial Public Library  
Brooks Free Library  
Falmouth Public Library  
Grace Hall Memorial Library  
Handel and Haydn Society  
Longmeadow Historical Society  
Lowell Historical Society  
Massachusetts Horticultural Society Library

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston  
National Archives, Boston  
North Adams Public Library  
Northfield Mount Hermon  
Reading Public Library  
Sharon Ma Historical Society  
South Hadley Public Library  
Springfield City Library  
St. John's Preparatory School  
USS Constitution Museum  
Wayland Public Library  
West Falmouth Library  
Westborough High School Library  
Woburn Public Library

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# Digital Commonwealth

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## Digital Commonwealth BLM Statement