

SML Exhibition Committee

The Sterling Memorial Library (SML) Exhibition Committee provides oversight and support for the exhibition program that provides content for the Memorabilia Room and Student Exhibition Corridor in Sterling Memorial Library. The membership comes from across the Yale University Library (YUL) system and is led by the Exhibition Program Manager. The membership rotates annually, with members serving staggered two year terms. Additionally, the Library's Director of Communications and Director of Undergraduate Research Education and Outreach are permanent committee members.

The Committee performs these tasks:

- Increases use of SML exhibit venues by YUL staff, Yale faculty and students, and Yale-affiliated groups
- Coordinates communication about the programming and use of the SML exhibit venues
- Reviews exhibition proposals to ensure that programming reflects and supports teaching and research at Yale
- Establishes and maintains appropriate guidelines for the use of exhibition venues and the handling of objects on display in SML
- Supports the Library Exhibits Liaison as needed

Yale University Library Exhibitions Mission/Vision

The Yale University Library's Exhibitions Program will support and enhance research, teaching, and learning at Yale and for the world-wide scholarly community. Library exhibits:

- Highlight YUL expertise, collections, and services
- Contribute to making the Library the physical destination of choice for the Yale community
- Encourage collaboration among Library staff, researchers, faculty, students
- Offer opportunities for Library staff professional development
- Present a "borderless" view of the Library and its collections
- Uphold the highest standards for the care of collections on display and encourage good handling and preservation practices

Learn more about current and past exhibitions in Sterling Library

[What's happening now](#) [1]

Past exhibits in the [Memorabilia Room](#) [2] and [Lawrence Exhibition Corridor](#) [3].

For Students

Student-Curated Exhibits at Yale Library in the Sterling Memorial Library Exhibition Corridor

Learn how to present your research using the unique narrative form of an exhibit. The library's exhibit staff will assist you to choose, describe, sequence, and arrange objects from the library's diverse collections.

Our primary student-curated exhibit opportunities are:

Senior Exhibit Project - Watch for updated proposal deadline information

Through this opportunity Yale Library provides one rising senior with training in curatorial skills which culminates in the production of a library exhibition based on the student's senior essay topic using materials from the Yale Library collections.

One Yale College junior is selected to receive mentoring, and exhibit production support over the course of nine months to research, create and curate a professional-quality exhibit in all five exhibition cases opening in spring of their senior year.

This opportunity is perfect for students who have experience researching with primary source materials, are curious about the curatorial process, enjoy working collaboratively, and whose senior essay subject can be strongly represented by physical objects from the Yale Library collections. The selected student curator will have an opportunity to explore presenting their research in a different narrative form--with a strong visual component, a defined physical space, and its own conventions and practices.

If you are considering this opportunity:

- Review the guide for Yale Library senior exhibit applicants and example production calendar.
- Review the senior exhibit curator responsibilities.
- Discuss the opportunity with a librarian or faculty advisor and ask them to review the advisor responsibilities [Faculty Advisor](#) [4] and a [Librarian Exhibit Advisor](#) [5]. Your selected advisor must agree to work with and advise you throughout the year long project.

Student Research at YUL

Through this opportunity two students are selected to curate two exhibit cases each, based on a completed paper or research project, using materials from the Yale Libraries. Open to Yale College sophomores and juniors, graduate and professional students, the selected students will learn how to transform their completed paper or research project into a physical exhibit utilizing production tools, templates, technical expertise, and guidance from Yale Library's exhibit professionals.

The majority of the curatorial work occurs in the spring semester with an exhibition opening the following fall. Exhibit staff coordinate schedules, deadlines, and management of collections materials.

If you are considering this opportunity:

- Review the [guide for submitting proposals for the Student Research at YUL exhibit](#). [6]
- Select a librarian or faculty member who has reviewed the [exhibit advisor responsibilities](#) [7] and has agreed to work with you to review your item selection and final exhibit text. If you don't already have a faculty member or librarian you are currently working with, the exhibit committee can help you connect with one.
- Revisit this Web site for updates including proposal deadlines.

To learn more about this opportunity, visit the [past exhibit Web page](#) [3].

If you are just getting started ...

Learning how to do research in the collections is the first step toward any exhibit opportunity. Start by getting to know your personal librarian or subject librarian, as well as archivists and collection specialists. Explore and discover the collections at archives.yale.edu. Get ideas by looking at previous years' exhibits via the [SML Exhibits LibGuide](#) [8]. Learn about opportunities to create [online exhibits at Yale University Library](#) [9].

Send questions to kerri.sancomb@yale.edu [10]

For Faculty

Ways faculty can get involved with exhibits at Sterling Memorial Library (SML):

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- Encourage highly motivated and committed students in their junior year to [submit a proposal](#) [11] for the Yale Library Senior Exhibit Fellowship.
- Encourage a student to submit a proposal for the [Student Research at Yale University Library Exhibit](#) [12] in the Student Exhibit Corridor.
- Be a faculty advisor for a [Senior Exhibit Fellowship](#) [13] or a [Student Research at Yale University Library exhibit](#) [12]. Review responsibilities for each project here: [Senior Exhibit Fellowship Advisor](#) [4], [Student Research at YUL Exhibit Advisor](#) [7]
- Spread the word about new exhibit opportunities in SML to colleagues across campus.
- Attend an [information session](#) [14].
- Learn about [online exhibits at Yale University Library](#) [9]

Ways students can benefit from curating exhibits in the library:

Academic/research skills:

- Provides a cohesive picture for the student of their academic support network: academic advisor, library specialists, IT specialists
- Develops a familiarity with physical library collections and spaces
- Provides experience researching with primary source materials
- Facilitates interactions with Yale University Library (YUL) staff
- Supports use of online resources to enhance research skills
- Encourages cross-disciplinary and cross-collection research and investigation
- Supplements traditional research outputs such as papers, essays, blogs, or web sites

Life skills:

- Accountability and self confidence
- Project management and organizational skills
- Communication skills and experience

For Library Staff

Ways library staff can get involved with exhibits at SML:

- Encourage a student to submit a proposal for the [Student Research at Yale University Library](#) [12] exhibit in the Student Exhibit Corridor.
- Encourage highly motivated and committed students in their junior year to submit a proposal for the [Yale Library Senior Exhibit Fellowship](#) [12].
- Volunteer to be a Librarian Exhibit Advisor and mentor a student curator through the research and object selection of an exhibit.
- Spread the word about new exhibit opportunities in SML to our colleagues across campus.
- Talk to your department head about serving on the exhibits committee in the future.
- Learn about [online exhibits at Yale University Library](#) [9]

Librarian Exhibit Advisor

Open to all professional library staff with supervisor's approval, the Librarian Exhibit Advisor is a rotating volunteer support role for exhibit production in the [Sterling Memorial Library venues](#) [15]. This person will offer guidance in content development to student curators and exhibit curators with little or no experience with SML exhibitions.

This opportunity has numerous benefits both for individual professional growth and in support of the library's mission to support and enhance research, teaching, and learning at Yale. The Exhibits Production Coordinator will

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provide training for each new librarian exhibit advisor, and when necessary connect new exhibit advisors with other library staff who have prior exhibit experience.

Review exhibit advisor responsibilities for each project here: [Senior Exhibit Fellowship Advisor](#) [5], [Student Research at YUL Exhibit Advisor](#) [7]

If you have specific questions about being a librarian exhibit advisor please contact [Kerri Sancomb](#) [16], Exhibits Program Manager.

Sterling Memorial Library Exhibit Spaces

Sterling Memorial Library offers two exhibit venues to showcase student research and Yale library collections. Topics and curators are selected by the [Sterling Memorial Library Exhibition Committee](#) [17] from proposals submitted by prospective curators.

Exhibits may feature materials from any Yale University Library collection. The library provides funding and staff support for production. Materials requiring special display conditions or security may be presented in facsimile.

Sterling Library Exhibition Corridor

Exhibits in the Exhibition Corridor are curated by students, based on their own research with materials from any Yale library collection.

- In the fall, the Student Research at Yale University Library Exhibit features research by two student-curators (Yale undergraduate, graduate, or professional students) based on already completed research papers.
- In the spring, the Yale Library Senior Exhibition Fellowship is curated by one senior using all five exhibition cases to present a capstone project.

[See examples of past exhibits in the Exhibition Corridor.](#) [3]

Sterling Library Memorabilia Room

The Memorabilia Room is no longer used for library exhibits. Watch for information on a new exhibit space in the Nave.

Email questions to kerri.sancomb@yale.edu [10].

[See examples of past exhibits in the Memorabilia Room.](#) [2]

Forms

Use the following online forms to submit proposals for:

- [Student Research at Yale University Library Proposal](#) [18]
- [Senior Exhibit Project Proposal](#) [19]

For questions contact any member of the [SML Exhibits Committee](#) [20].

SML Exhibition Committee Membership

Name, Job Title	Term and role (if applicable)
Melissa Barton - Curator, Prose & Drama Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Library [21]	Two-year term
Kelly Blanchat, Undergraduate Teaching and Outreach Librarian [22]	Two-year term
Patricia Carey, Director of Communications [23]	Permanent Member
Tess Colwell, Arts Librarian for Research Services [24]	Two-year term
Basie Gitlin, Director of Development [25]	Permanent Member
Emily Horning, Director of Undergraduate Research Education and Outreach [26]	Permanent Member
Michael Lotstein, University Archivist, Manuscripts & Archives [27]	Two-year term
Sarah Lerner, Project Archivist for Western Americana, Beinecke Library [28]	Secretary, Two-year term
Anu Paul, Digital - Scholarship Project Manager, Digital Scholarship Services [29]	Two-year term
Cindy Roman, Curator of Prints, Drawings and Paintings, Lewis Walpole Library [30]	Two-year term
Kerri Sancomb, Exhibits Production Coordinator, Conservation and Exhibit Services [31]	Committee Chair, Permanent

Information Sessions

There are currently no information sessions scheduled.

Please contact [Kerri Sancomb](#) [16] with any questions about the SML exhibition program.

Source URL: <https://web.library.yale.edu/sml-exhibition-committee>

Links

[1] <https://guides.library.yale.edu/sml-exhibits-current/>

[2] <https://guides.library.yale.edu/sml-exhibits-current/past-exhibits-memorabilia>

[3] https://guides.library.yale.edu/sml-exhibits-current/past_exhibit_corridor

[4] <https://web.library.yale.edu/sites/default/files/files/Faculty%20Advisor%20Senior%20exhibit%20production%20responsibilities.pdf>

[5] [https://web.library.yale.edu/sites/default/files/files/Librarian%20Exhibits%20Advisor%20responsibilities\(1\).pdf](https://web.library.yale.edu/sites/default/files/files/Librarian%20Exhibits%20Advisor%20responsibilities(1).pdf)

[6] <https://web.library.yale.edu/sites/default/files/files/Guide%20for%20students%20submitting%20proposals%20for%20Student%20Research%20at%20YUL%20Exhibit.pdf>

[7] <https://web.library.yale.edu/sites/default/files/files/Student%20Research%20at%20YUL%20exhibit%20advisor%20responsibilities.pdf>

- [8] <https://guides.library.yale.edu/sml-exhibits-current/whats-happening-now>
- [9] <http://guides.library.yale.edu/omeka>
- [10] [#109;#97;#105;#108;#116;#111;#58;#107;#101;#114;#114;#105;#46;#115;#97;#110;#99;#111;#109;#98;#64;#121;#97;#108;#101;#46;#101;#100;#117;](#)
- [11] <http://web.library.yale.edu/forms>
- [12] <http://web.library.yale.edu/students>
- [13] <http://web.library.yale.edu/sml-exhibits-committee/students>
- [14] <http://web.library.yale.edu/information-sessions>
- [15] <http://web.library.yale.edu/sml-exhibit-venues>
- [16] <http://resources.library.yale.edu/StaffDirectory/detail.aspx?q=510>
- [17] <https://web.library.yale.edu/sml-exhibits-committee/sml-exhibits-committee-membership>
- [18] <https://web.library.yale.edu/form/student-research-yale-library-proposal-form>
- [19] <https://web.library.yale.edu/form/senior-exhibit-project-proposal>
- [20] <http://web.library.yale.edu/sml-exhibits-committee-membership>
- [21] <https://web.library.yale.edu/sd/staff/8486>
- [22] <https://web.library.yale.edu/sd/staff/11143>
- [23] <https://web.library.yale.edu/sd/staff/39401>
- [24] <https://web.library.yale.edu/sd/staff/45808>
- [25] <https://web.library.yale.edu/sd/staff/12884>
- [26] <https://web.library.yale.edu/sd/staff/42>
- [27] <https://web.library.yale.edu/sd/staff/972>
- [28] <https://web.library.yale.edu/sd/staff/45963>
- [29] <https://web.library.yale.edu/sd/staff/43586>
- [30] <https://web.library.yale.edu/sd/staff/2809>
- [31] <https://web.library.yale.edu/sd/staff/2214>