

Open Call for Applications Workshop on Collection Care in Libraries and Archives

Mona, 09-11 October 2024

Deadline for applications: Sunday, July 30, 2024

[The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica \(uwi.edu\)](http://www.uwi.edu) and the British Library's [Endangered Archives Programme \(bl.uk\)](http://www.bl.uk) are calling for applications for a three-day workshop on collections care at University of West Indies Mona campus in Kingston. This workshop is aimed at all the professional figures working in archives and libraries. No prior conservation knowledge is required. The workshop will be delivered in English.

What is the workshop about?

Libraries and Archives are constantly exposed to high risks of deterioration of their collections. Conservation is usually the last and more interventive measure to improve the condition of the documents. However, it is labour intensive and very costly. There are other more sustainable and cost-effective measures to reduce their degradation. This three-day workshop will introduce you to the main principles on how to look after your library and/or your archive collections.

What will we cover and what is the workshop format?

The workshop will take place on Wednesday 9, Thursday 10 and Friday 11 October 2024.

Morning sessions will include a combination of theoretical presentations and demonstrations. We will discuss the 10 main risk agents to the integrity of your collection, and how to act to reduce its deterioration. We will examine the risks posed by the environment to your collection, and how to monitor and mitigate them. We will focus on how to prevent further damage by demonstrating document handling, and on how to identify main characteristics of pests in collections and to record and manage them.

Afternoon sessions will be hands on and fundamentally focus on how to make archival boxes and dust covers. We will also touch on dry-cleaning, handling of collection items, pest identification and environmental graph reading sessions.

Twenty places will be available for the morning sessions but out of the twenty selected participants, only twelve will be able to take part in the afternoon sessions. This is due to the practical aspect of these sessions, which only work with a smaller group of participants.

How can I apply?

Places are limited so interested applicants are required to complete this application form by the 30th of July 2024. There 20 spaces are available for the workshop, 12 persons will be selected for both the theory and practical components, while 8 will only participate in the theoretical aspect .

At this stage, you will just need to complete [this application form](#). If you are interested in participating in the afternoon practical sessions (and specifically need to learn how to make archival boxes and dust covers), you will need to explain why in the application form and specify your level of manual dexterity.

We will be reviewing applications on a rolling basis, so you are encouraged to apply early to maximize the chances of securing a spot. We welcome applications from anywhere in the Caribbean but please note that we will not be able to cover any travel, accommodation or subsistence costs. Due to the very large number of applications received for workshops, we are unable to provide feedback on unsuccessful applications.

For further details please contact:

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