



CURATIONIST FOUNDATION



2024 Annual Report

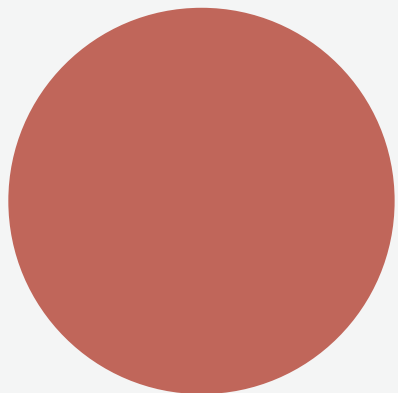




Table of Contents

Letter from the Executive Director	3
About Curationist Foundation	6
Our Values	8
Our Journey	10
Curationist	11
The Platform	12
Partnerships	14
Programs & Features	16
Curationist Museum Services	29
Curationist Foundation	35
Board Members	36
Financial Report	38
2024 Milestones	43
Thank You	44
Support Our Work	45
Attributions	46

Letter from the Executive Director

Shaping Truth, Preserving History: Why Museum Services Matter Now More Than Ever

2024 was a year of meaningful progress for the Curationist family. We strengthened relationships, expanded our reach, and refined our capabilities. With this strong foundation, we are now poised to support more small museums, independent curators, and cultural institutions, ensuring that diverse and historically significant narratives are preserved and shared.

Curationist is a vehicle—an essential platform that provides access to archives and the stories behind them. In today's world, where digital access has removed traditional barriers to knowledge, it is more critical than ever that we curate and preserve history with intention and integrity. The rise of misinformation, deepfakes, and agenda-driven narratives underscores the need for a trustworthy, accessible, and inclusive digital repository of historical knowledge.

The Power of Access and Accuracy

Digital technology has revolutionized how we engage with history. It allows artworks and artifacts to be discovered by people far outside the walls of the museums. However, this incredible power also brings risks. The past can be manipulated to serve contemporary biases, and false or misleading interpretations can spread rapidly. Without careful stewardship, history can be distorted, diminishing the lessons carried forward.

Curationist exists to ensure that history remains truthful, inclusive, and deeply human. Our platform empowers scholars, curators, and community voices to share their expertise and critical perspectives widely.

Beyond countering misinformation, Curationist meets another crucial need: unifying knowledge across disparate collections. Many historical artifacts, artworks, and cultural records are scattered across institutions, making it difficult to develop a full understanding of the past. Our platform allows people to search by subject

across locations, enabling a more comprehensive and nuanced exploration of history.

2025: A Year of Action

Last year, we proved that our model works. Through strategic partnerships, we demonstrated the power of digital curation and provided a valuable resource for historical preservation. Now, we are focused on scaling our efforts:

- Helping small museums increase the online visibility of their digitized collections.
- Expanding access to curated historical narratives that challenge dominant perspectives.
- Supporting the curators, scholars, and storytellers who ensure that cultural knowledge remains rich, inclusive, and accurate.

Recognizing Our Team's Contributions

None of this would be possible without the dedication, expertise, and passion of our incredible team. Their tireless work in building partnerships, refining our

platform, and ensuring the integrity of historical narratives has been instrumental in getting us to this point. From curators and developers to outreach coordinators and researchers, every member of our team plays a vital role in shaping the future of digital curation. Their commitment ensures that we not only preserve history but also make it accessible and relevant to those who need it most. We are proud of what we've accomplished together and excited for what's ahead.

Introducing Museum Services

To accelerate this work, we are launching Museum Services, an initiative designed to help institutions secure funding for their digital preservation efforts. By working with partners to pursue joint funding opportunities, we can expand our reach while ensuring long-term sustainability. Additionally, we are dedicating resources to pursuing grants and cultivating relationships with those who share our vision.

How You Can Help

We cannot do this alone. If you believe in the power of historical preservation and the need for inclusive, accessible storytelling, we invite you to join us:

Fund Our Work – Your support helps us provide free and low-cost digital services to museums that need them most.

Connect Us – If you know a small museum or archive struggling to expand its digital presence, introduce them to us.

Join the Conversation – Follow our work, amplify our mission, and help shape the future of how history is preserved and shared.

History belongs to all of us. By empowering those who curate and safeguard it, we ensure that future generations inherit a truthful and inclusive record of the past.

Let's make 2025 a year of action!

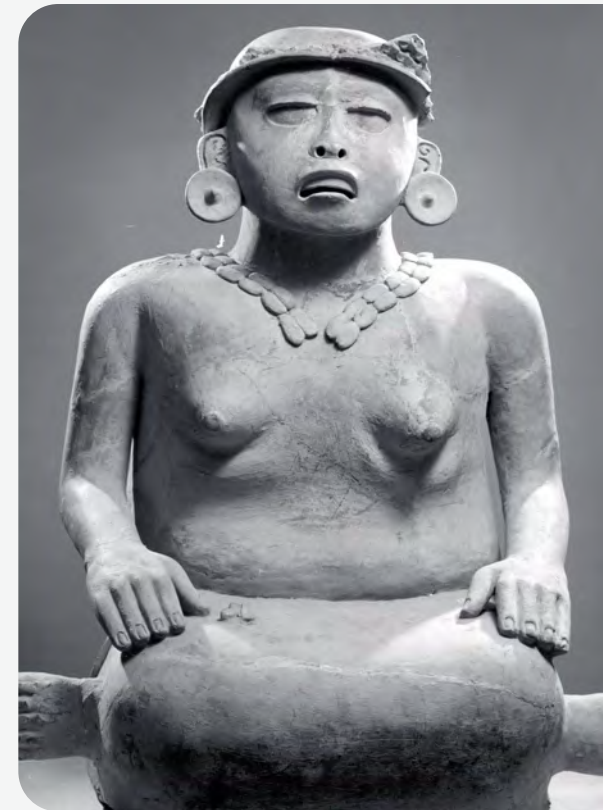
All the best,



Christian Dawson
Executive Director, Curationist Foundation



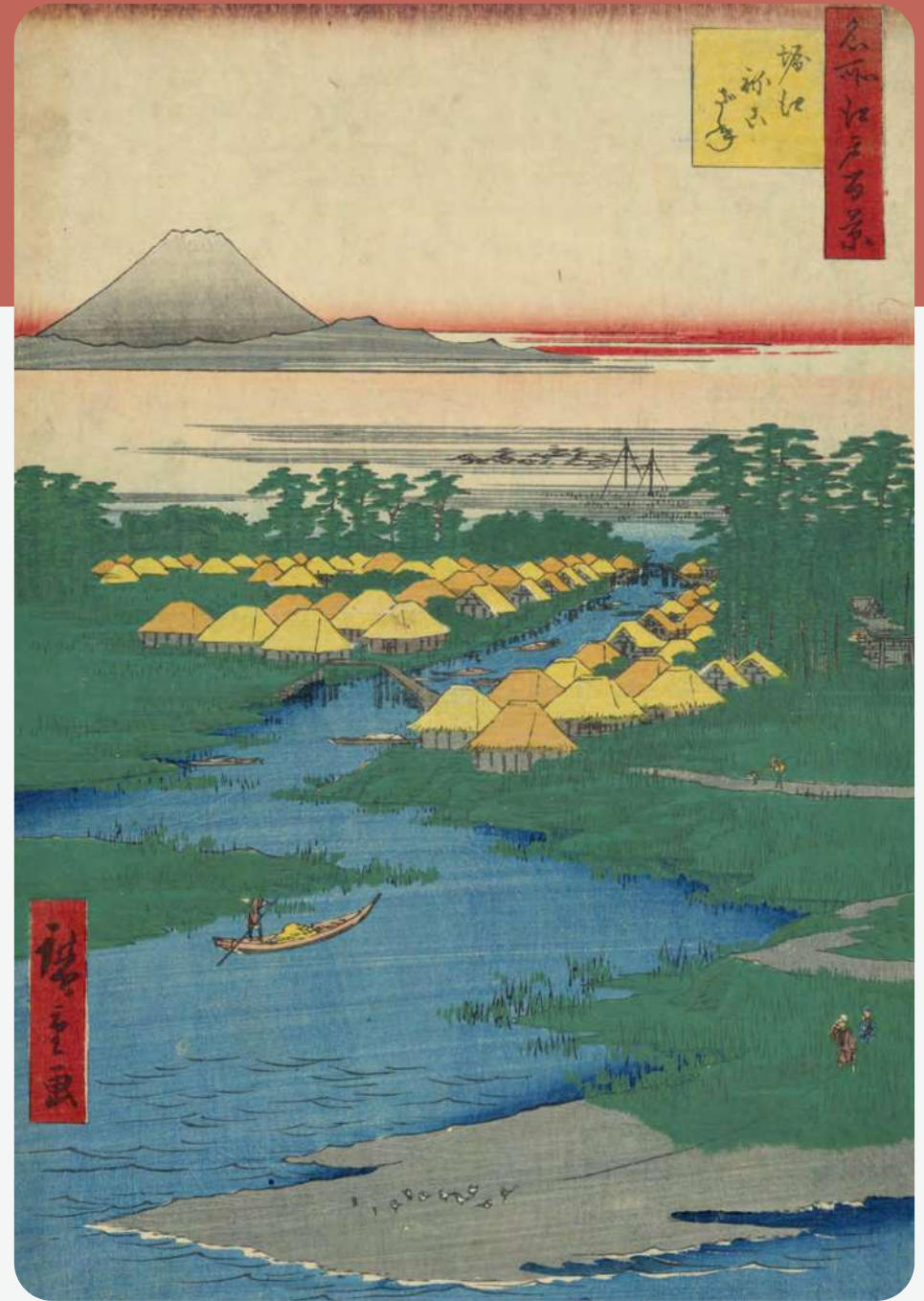
Curationist Foundation



About Curationist Foundation

The Curationist Foundation (formerly MHZ Foundation) connects people with global cultural resources through open knowledge. Our main initiative is a free platform, Curationist, which provides access to 4.6 million openly licensed images of artworks and artifacts, fostering deeper cultural awareness through accessible and equitable storytelling.

We unite arts and culture communities to reimagine cultural narratives, empower underrepresented voices, and support institutions in ethical digital preservation. Through global collaborations, we develop resources and toolkits that address challenges in open-access digitization.





Our Values

Inspire

Join others in collaborative global open-access efforts that engage millions of digital assets within the Commons, making the Commons increasingly accessible and manageable.

Organize

Galvanize educators, communities, and others to share their expertise and work together to reframe narratives.

Educate

Provide high-quality open-access resources and tools for K-12 and higher education professionals and their students.

Care

Encourage fearless engagement with critical and rigorous perspectives in art and life by respecting the CARE principles framework of indigenous-centered cultural and data sovereignty.

Reciprocate

Remain in conversation with our peers, collaborators, and participants in order to discover and serve mutually beneficial needs and goals.

Our New Identity, Same Mission



MHz Foundation is now Curationist Foundation! This rebrand reflects our commitment to expanding open knowledge and global cultural engagement. While our name has changed, our mission remains: bridging cultural divides, providing open access to heritage, and empowering communities to contribute to shared knowledge.



Our Journey So Far

Since its inception, Curationist Foundation's mission has been to bring global culture and perspective to the world via digital programming.

2013

CPBC established MHz Networks as a nonprofit. MHz Networks carried forward the mission of serving its local American market, the Washington, D.C. metro area, with rich cultural content from around the world.

2018-2022

MHz Foundation expanded its reach beyond the Metro DC area to the world via Curationist.org. Designed and built by a team of developers, digital archivists, content experts, academics, writers, and editors, Curationist strives to make global arts, culture, and heritage available to all through a free knowledge platform and website.

2001

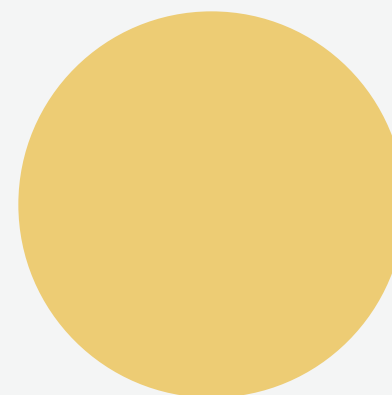
Founded as MHz Networks, the organization originated as an American broadcaster and project of the Commonwealth Public Broadcasting Corporation (CPBC).

2015

MHz Networks changed its name to MHz Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, and ended operational ties with the MHz Network.

2024

MHz Foundation became Curationist Foundation, gaining an updated identity and name that clearly aligns our work with our central project, Curationist. Joining the foundation's name with the Curationist platform clearly articulates the unity of mission and vision we share. Curationist is the nucleus of the Foundation, and our initiatives and future endeavors spring from this core.



About Curationist

Curationist is a free tool that makes millions of digital images of artworks and artifacts from around the world easy to access. We connect curious minds to the history, stories, and ideas that these works inspire.

Our vision is to bring together arts and culture communities to find, share, and work together to reimagine cultural narratives.

Our Platform



Since its launch in 2022, Curationist has provided global users with access to over 4.4 million images from open-access museum and archive collections. In 2024, we introduced exciting updates to improve usability, discovery, and engagement.

Curationist is built around three core pillars:

Works – A vast database of openly licensed cultural objects.

Collections – Curated groupings that provide thematic and historical context.

Editorial Features – In-depth explorations connecting objects and cultural themes.

To enhance user experience, we launched a redesigned Works Page with larger images and clearer metadata, improved user accounts for streamlined profile and Collection management, and an AI-powered search for more intuitive discovery. These updates make it easier than ever to explore and engage with global cultural heritage.



Platform Updates

Over the past year, we've gained valuable insights into how users interact with Curationist. In 2024, we put that knowledge into action by enhancing the platform—improving search, refining Works Pages, and making user accounts and Collections more intuitive and accessible.

These updates strengthen Curationist's mission to make cultural heritage more accessible, engaging, and easy to navigate.

Enhanced Works Page Layout

Our redesigned Works Pages now offer larger images, improved metadata clarity, and easy image downloads, creating a more seamless viewing experience. We also refined the distinction between source-provided metadata and Curationist-provided metadata to enhance transparency and usability.

Improved User Accounts & Collections

We streamlined the user profile and Collections experience, making it easier to create, organize, and share curated selections. Users can now save Collections, keep them private, or make them public to share with colleagues, students, and the broader community.

AI-Powered Search

Our new AI-powered search significantly improves discovery, allowing users to find and explore objects more efficiently than ever before.

Curationist Partnerships

Museums and Archives

Art Institute of Chicago

Brooklyn Museum

Cleveland Museum of Art

Metropolitan Museum of Art

National Gallery of Art

Rijksmuseum

Royal Albert Memorial
Museum & Art Gallery

Smithsonian Institution

Statens Museum for Kunst

Walters Art Museum

Each of these institutions has made thousands—even millions—of digital images from their collections available for free use under Creative Commons licenses and open access policies. By bringing these collections online, digitized artworks and cultural artifacts reenter the public sphere, allowing researchers, archivists, and community experts to contribute their knowledge via the Curationist platform.

This year, we welcomed the Royal Albert Memorial Museum & Art Gallery as a new source, and their collection is now accessible on the Curationist platform.

Our deepest gratitude goes to the institutions that have made their collections open access. Thank you for championing online cultural heritage and playing a vital role in making Curationist a dynamic hub of knowledge and inspiration.

Platform Partners

Strengthening Digital Security with Project Galileo

Curationist is now a proud partner of Cloudflare's Project Galileo, gaining access to enhanced security resources that protect our platform from cyber threats. This partnership reinforces our commitment to open, accessible, and equitable sharing of cultural heritage while ensuring a secure and resilient digital space for museums, archives, and researchers.

With Project Galileo's support, we are better equipped to safeguard our platform, allowing us to focus on expanding global access to cultural heritage with confidence.

Supporting Open Cultural Heritage with TAROCH

We are also excited to support Creative Commons' new initiative, TAROCH (Towards a Recommendation on Open Cultural Heritage), a global effort to establish a UNESCO standard for open access to cultural heritage. This initiative brings together a diverse community of cultural institutions and advocates working toward a more inclusive, equitable, and globally recognized open access framework.

We are proud to stand alongside Creative Commons and our peers in this important effort, furthering our mission to make cultural heritage more accessible to all.

[Learn more about TAROCH here](#)



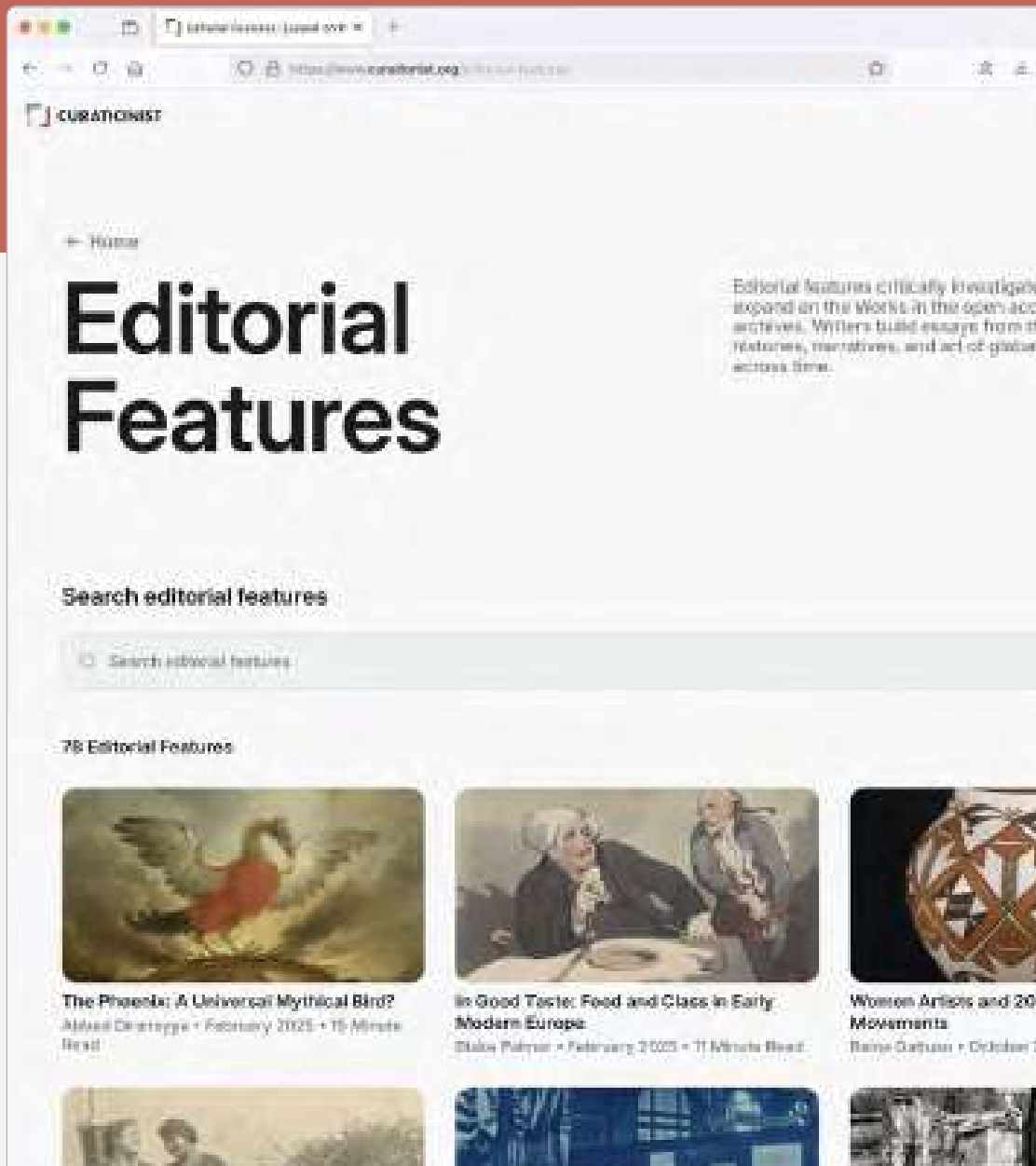
Programs & Features

Curationist's programs & features connect curious minds to the history, stories, and ideas embedded in our archives.



Editorial Content Team

This year, Curationist's editorial features explored cultural memory, self-representation, political activism, and visual storytelling, examining how art and historical narratives shape identity and society. A major highlight was the publication of a seven-part series focusing on women artists in our partner collections, bringing greater visibility to historically overlooked creators.



Women Artists Editorial Series

In 2024, Curationist launched a seven-part editorial essay series by Reina Gattuso, dedicated to uncovering the stories of women artists and creators within our partner collections. This series examines women's artistic expressions across diverse historical and social contexts—from convents to imperial workshops, anticolonial movements to the contemporary art market—revealing both shared themes and unexpected connections across time and place.

While museums have historically underrepresented women artists, particularly women of color and those from the Global South, this series challenges those omissions. Drawing on feminist, queer, and anti-colonial scholarship, it offers a fresh lens on the contributions of women creators, enriching the narratives surrounding their work.

Rather than attempting a comprehensive catalog, the series spotlights key women artists and complicates dominant historical categories, inspiring further learning and dialogue. By elevating untold histories, Curationist continues its mission to amplify diverse voices and expand access to global cultural heritage.



Critics of Color Residency

The Critics of Color residency recognizes and supports emerging and mid-career art writers and cultural critics who identify as people of color. This program is made possible through a grant awarded by Allied Media via their Critical Minded program, which supports cultural critics of color in the United States.

In 2024, our Critics received dedicated research and editorial guidance from Curationist's team of editors and digital archivists. Through this collaboration, they produced compelling editorial features and curated collections that weave together art and cultural heritage from our extensive archives.

As members of the Curationist community, Critics of Color play an essential role in shaping our platform. Their perspectives enrich our editorial vision and broaden the depth of metadata, ensuring a more inclusive and dynamic exploration of global culture.



keondra bills freemyn



Mi'Jan Celie Tho-Biaz



Nic Caldwell



Wendyliz Martinez



Bearing Witness: James Presley Ball, Black image making, and the promise of freedom in the American West

by keondra bills freemyn

African-American photographer and abolitionist James Presley Ball's portraits document the experiences of early settlers in the Great Plains region. Ball's images of Black settlers offer a view into the social and professional lives of a community seeking refuge and upward mobility on the frontier.



Free Black Women's Private Pleasures and Rest

by Mi'Jan Celie Tho-Biaz

When searching in public photo archives for moments that capture Black women's private pleasures and rest, the findings are not always plentiful, and definitely not joyful. Generally, such images in the public domain depict the so-called "free" moments of enslaved Black women, or are very posed and orchestrated images.



Black Power in Print: Iconography of the Black Panther Party

by Nic Caldwell

The Black Panther Party played a large part in an international revolution of society and culture in the 1960s. Their iconic style of dress and imagery helped spread their commitments to self-defense, resisting systemic oppression globally, and advocating for Black communities to their constituents all over the world.



Reconstructing Black Girlhood: Reading Photos Alongside Journal Entries

by Wendyliz Martinez

Exploring Black girlhood in the U.S. through photographic history reveals gaps, as institutional archives often neglect documents of Black girls' lives and their stories. Through a blend of research and imagination, we can attempt to fill in these gaps.

Fellows

The Curationist Fellows Program supports scholars, researchers, writers, artists, curators, and digital practitioners dedicated to cultural heritage and open knowledge. Through interdisciplinary research and analysis, Fellows explore critical themes at the intersection of cultural preservation, digital access, and metadata.

As public scholars, Fellows contribute to the evolving conversation on open knowledge, working closely with Curationist's editorial team to translate their insights into compelling features. Their work connects historical and contemporary narratives, enriching our platform with diverse perspectives and deepening engagement with global cultural heritage.

By fostering collaborative curation, the Fellows Program plays a vital role in expanding access to knowledge, ensuring that cultural narratives remain dynamic, inclusive, and widely accessible.



Chin-Jie Melodie Liu



Dalina Perdomo Alvarez



Shweta Sachdeva Jha



Illustrating Taiwan: Travelogues and Their Visual Narratives

by Chin-Jie Melodie Liu

In the 18th and 19th centuries, travelers to colonial Taiwan produced and published accounts of their visit in travelogues, detailing experiences and encounters. These accounts documented their journeys extensively, providing narratives that were often illustrated with images in the form of prints and later, photographs.



Panorama of Possessions: Film, Photography, and the War of 1898

by Dalina A. Perdomo Álvarez

Cinema and photography were invented shortly before the creation of the U.S. empire and were useful tools to manage public perception of that project. During this period, World's Fair exhibitions were also a popular way to showcase the “achievements” of a nation.



Bathing Women: Desire, Wonder, and Water in Versions of a Persian Tale

by Shweta Sachdeva Jha

Scenes with women bathing outdoors, presented as erotic sites of romance or devotional love, reveal socio-historical mores on sexualities, piety, and the symbolism of water. Renditions of Shirin bathing from a classic Persian romance connects female bodies with water bodies.

Critics of Color & Fellows Events

Throughout 2024, the Critics of Color and Fellows Program hosted a series of workshops and discussions focused on metadata, editorial development, and inclusive curation. Participants engaged in sessions covering metadata fundamentals, writing and research best practices, and strategies for advancing equity in cultural heritage. Networking opportunities connected them with experts in archival work, open knowledge, and community-driven research.

The program culminated in a public webinar on August 22, 2024, where Critics and Fellows presented their published features, showcasing their contributions and sharing insights of their research and experience in the program.

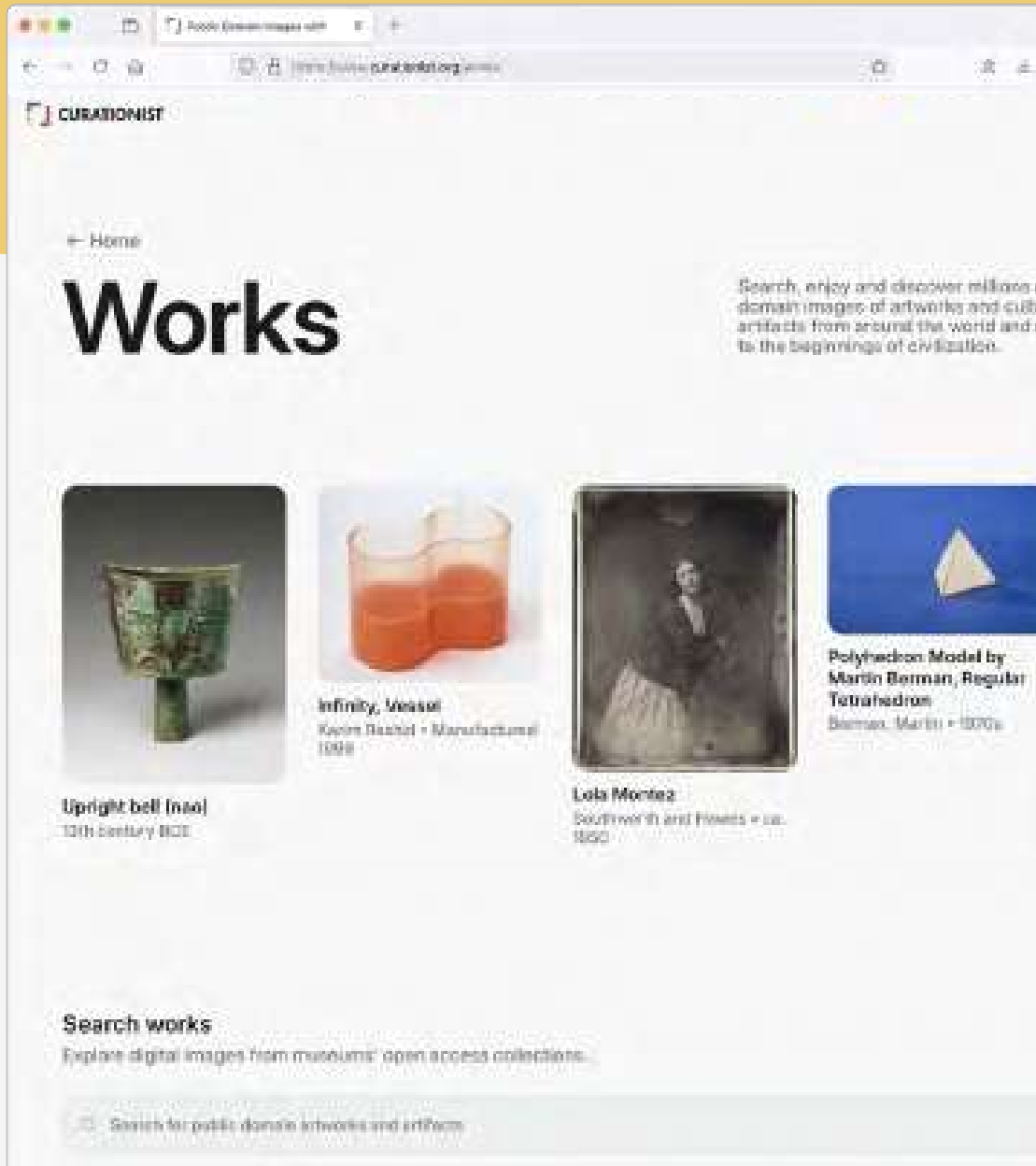


Metadata Programming

Provenance Research

In 2024, Curationist launched a provenance research special project, an internship with digital archivist Madeline Gordon to develop provenance tags for our platform in collaboration with the metadata and archivist team. As part of her work, Madeline created a provenance flag, integrating written explanations, linked resources, and an application protocol to improve transparency around cultural heritage. She also designed an interactive provenance research module, introducing users to key concepts, ethical considerations, and research methods.

Her contributions will not only enhance Curationist's metadata but also lay the groundwork for future educational resources, strengthening the platform's commitment to open knowledge and responsible curation.



2024 Metadata Learning & Unlearning Summit

In September, Curationist Foundation hosted the 2nd annual 2024 Metadata Learning & Unlearning Summit, convening leading Wiki and metadata experts to explore how Wikidata and Wikibase can support Curationist to advance social justice in cultural heritage. A highlight of the summit was the presentation of our report which examined Wikidata and Wikibase as resources for managing controlled vocabularies and designing metadata schemas for museums.

Our expert panel featured:

Anni Saisto, *Pori Art Museum*

Ben Vershbow, *Wikimedia Foundation*

Christos Varvantakis, *Wikimedia Deutschland*

Evelin Heidel, *Curationist Board Member*

Hanno Lans, *CopyClear*

Sandra Fauconnier, *GLAM-Wiki Specialist*

Siobhann McCafferty, *Australian Research Data Commons*

Discussions centered on practical applications of Wikidata, refining metadata for inclusivity, and addressing colonial legacies in terminology. Panelists shared challenges, best practices, and ethical considerations for implementing controlled vocabularies that foster equitable access to cultural heritage.

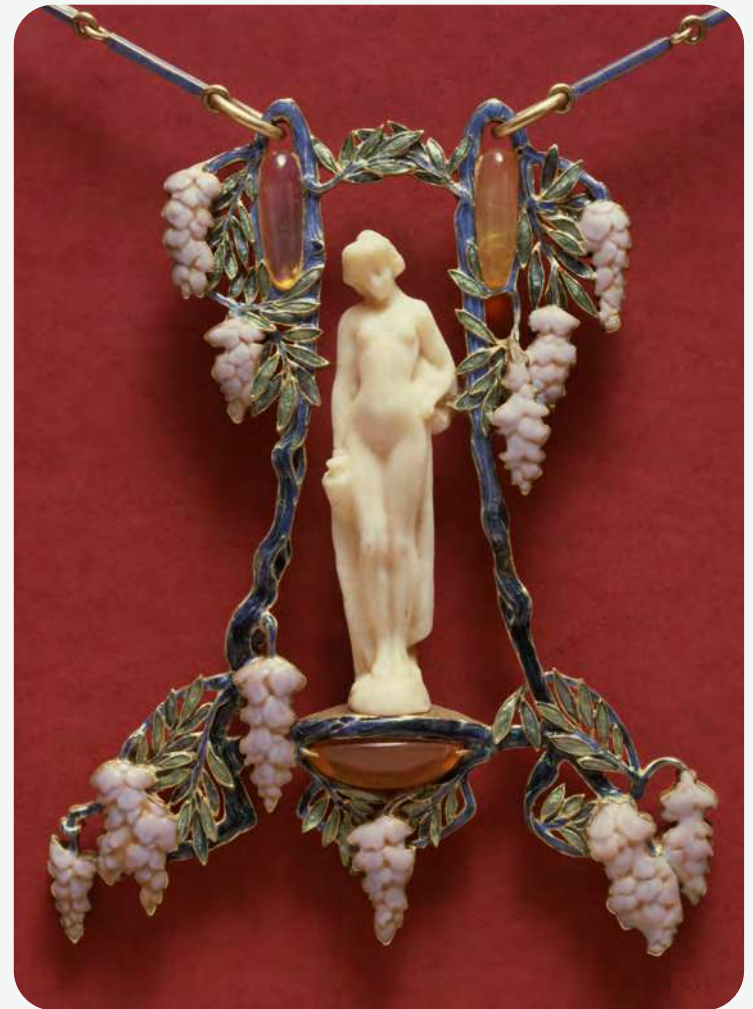
This summit reinforced our commitment to responsible metadata practices and will guide our future efforts in collaborative, ethical, and open access data stewardship. We look forward to continuing these vital conversations with our community and partners.

Read the report [here](#).

Programming in 2025

In 2025, Curationist is restructuring the Fellows program to stagger onboarding and create a more even publishing schedule, ensuring a steady stream of fresh perspectives. We are also expanding our pool of writers and holding an open call for proposals for essays that explore underrepresented views in film, taxidermy, botany, architecture, museum conservation, cookbooks, and the nonvisual senses.

We are also hiring another part-time digital archivist. Expanding our archivist team will allow us to more quickly refine metadata and make collections more discoverable. Alongside ongoing site improvements, these efforts will create a more dynamic and inclusive platform for cultural storytelling.



Curationist Museum Services



Curationist Museum Services

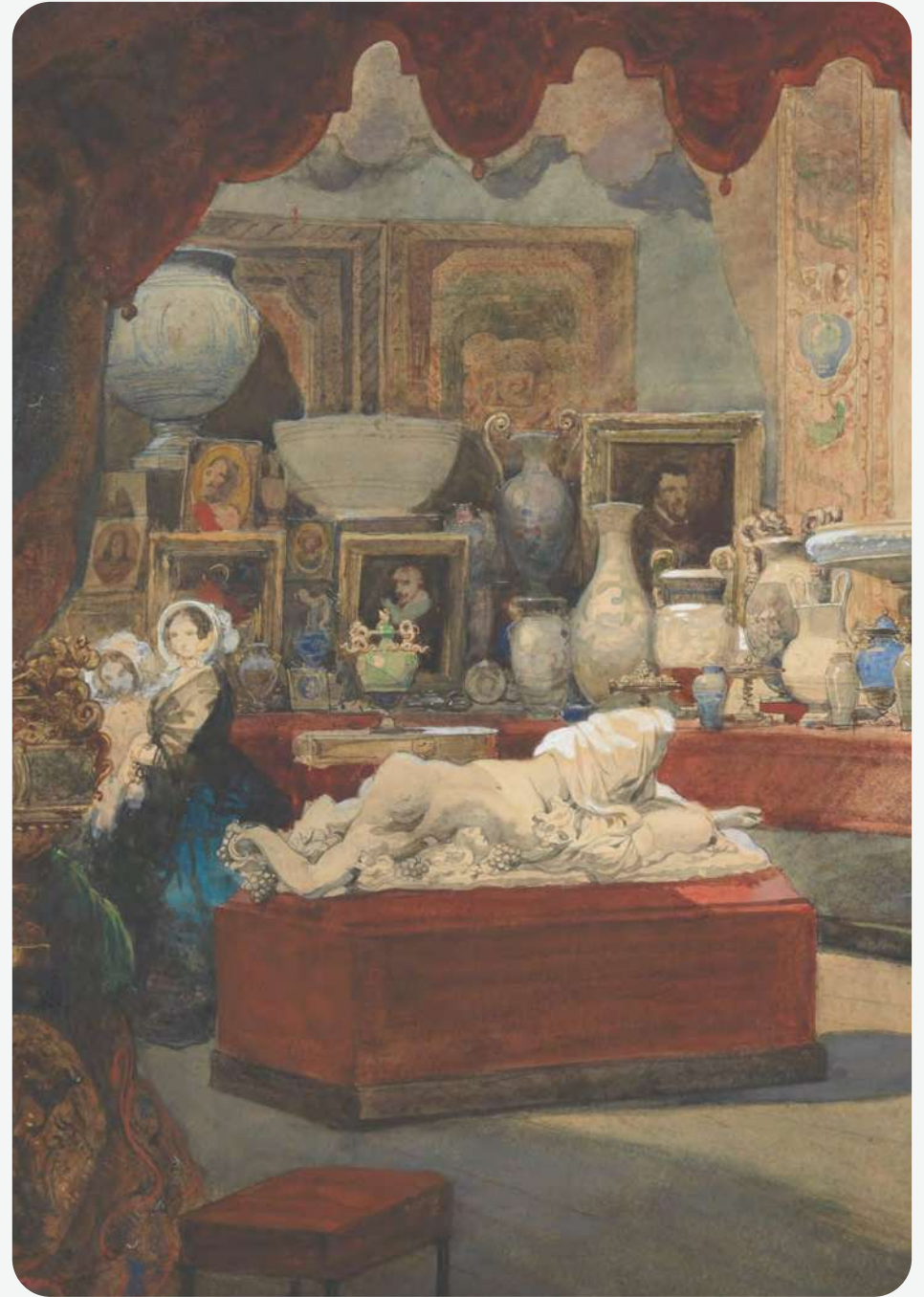
Curationist Foundation established Curationist Museum Services to connect with institutions to expand open access to global cultural resources.

"Curationist is dedicated to supporting open access for cultural heritage online, whilst continuously diversifying the scale and representation of institutions that appear on the platform. Through this open call, we hope to reach smaller museums within the US and globally, helping them to achieve a place alongside some of the most internationally recognized institutions. Further to this, the work our academics do to reinvigorate and activate the collections' metadata demonstrates the significance of our partners' missions to future audiences, shareholders, board members and supporters."

Christian Dawson,
Executive Director of Curationist

About Curationist Museum Services

Curationist Museum Services is Curationist Foundation's comprehensive support program designed to help museums, particularly small, grassroots-level institutions, share their collections with the world. Curationist provides technical assistance, metadata standardization, and visibility via our platform to ensure cultural collections are as widely accessible online as possible.



What We Offer

Curationist Foundation meets institutions where they are and helps them overcome obstacles to digital sharing.

This includes:

Identifying & Mapping Digital Assets

Locating existing digital assets and formatting them for seamless integration into Curationist's platform.

Streamlining Workflows

Automating processes for moving, transforming, and updating data as collections evolve.

Increasing Global Visibility

Expanding institutional reach to educators, researchers, and cultural enthusiasts worldwide.

Collaborating & Connecting

Providing access to trusted partners for digital imaging, licensing guidance, and taxonomy development.

Supporting Institutional Goals

Equipping institutions with best practices for digital storytelling, audience engagement, and funding sustainability.

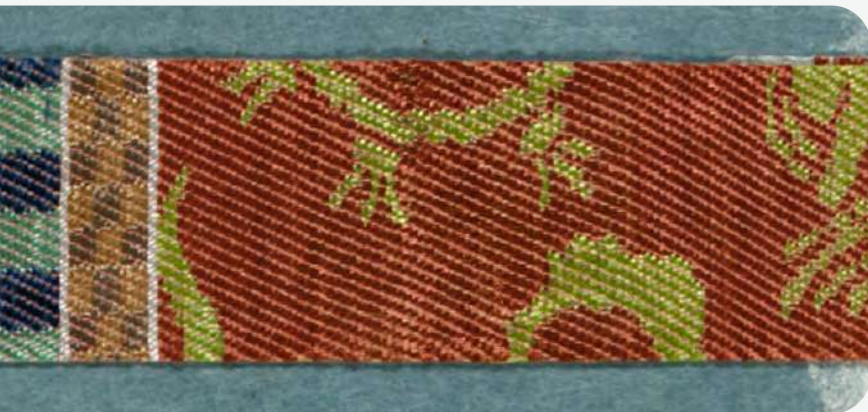
We offer a co-application process for grant funding, allowing eligible institutions to co-sign grant requests with us as we work to secure funding for digitization and open-access initiatives.

Why Now?

Curationist Foundation recognizes that underrepresented voices have been shut out of the process of digitization and sharing due to lack of financial or human resources.

Despite sharing a commitment to open culture, many institutions face significant limitations in their ability to broaden access to their collections through digitization.

Curationist Foundation aids institutions that have thus far been unable to digitize and share their collections so they can participate fully in open culture.



Building a Pilot Partner Cohort



The Curationist Foundation is actively building a pilot partner cohort for our services, working with museums and cultural institutions committed to making their digital collections open and accessible through Creative Commons licensing.

Through this pilot program, participating institutions receive tailored support to:

Navigate Open Licensing: Work with existing schemas or develop new ones to ensure collections are searchable and shareable.

Optimize Metadata: Publish collections on institutional websites, Curationist.org, and open platforms like WikiCommons and Europeana.

Expand Digital Access: Understand and implement the right Creative Commons license for their collections.

Secure Funding: Access grant opportunities to support digitization and long-term sustainability.

Join a Collaborative Network: Connect with a growing community of institutions and experts committed to open access.

As we continue to build this cohort, we invite institutions interested in learning more about Curationist Museum Services to contact us at curationist@curationist.org.

Curationist Foundation Board of Directors

Curationist Foundation's Board of Directors is comprised of people focused on open access and preserving cultural heritage. We are marking a bold path to do more to provide cultural heritage institutions with better digital tools for sharing.

The Board of Directors oversees operations, fundraising, partnerships, and programmatic work to support our projects.



2023-2024 Board Members

Dr. Manu Samriti Chander
Board Chair

Casey Rae
Vice Board Chair

Dan Stackhouse
Board Member

Robin Garcia
Board Member

Kelly Doyle Kim
Board Member

As we reflect on 2024, we extend our deepest gratitude to our esteemed board members. Your guidance and expertise have been instrumental in shaping the Curationist Foundation's evolution, including our rebrand from MHz Foundation. Your leadership has helped set a strong foundation for the future, ensuring our mission continues to make a lasting impact.

Through your collective efforts, we have expanded our reach, strengthened our programs, and advanced open access to global cultural heritage. Your unwavering commitment has not only driven our successes but also shaped the future of our work, positioning Curationist as a leader in ethical digital sharing.

We look forward to continued collaboration in the coming year and the strides we will make together. Thank you for your invaluable contributions and for helping propel Curationist Foundation toward an even more impactful future!

2024-2025 Board Members

Dr. Manu Samriti Chander
Board Chair

Evelin Heidel
Vice Board Chair

Kelly Doyle Kim
Board Member

Jennryn Wetzler
Board Member

As we enter the 2024–2025 chapter of Curationist Foundation, we extend our gratitude to our board members for their unwavering support and vision. Your leadership has been instrumental in shaping Curationist Museum Services, laying the groundwork for its expansion, and strengthening our mission to make global cultural heritage more accessible.

As we expand our reach and build awareness for our service line, we are thrilled to have both returning and new members bringing their expertise, dedication, and fresh perspectives to our work. Your collective guidance will be key in fostering new partnerships, deepening our impact, and ensuring that institutions of all sizes can share their collections openly.

Thank you for your invaluable contributions. We look forward to another year of collaboration and growth!

Financial Report

The Curationist Foundation's work has been carefully guided by our esteemed board and partners. The foundation is well-positioned to increase its impact through carefully managed planning and fiscally responsible budgeting.



Statement of Activity

Oct. 1, 2023 – Sept. 30, 2024

Page 1 of 2

Revenue	
4001 Donation from AmazonSmil	\$124.48
4200 Grant Revenue	
4201 Critics of Color Residency	\$45,000.00
Total 4200 Grant Revenue	\$45,000.00
Total Revenue	\$45,124.48
GROSS PROFIT	\$45,124.48
Expenditures	
5000 CMS Program Marketing	\$0
5003 Digital Marketing	\$17,500.00
Total 5000 CMS Program Marketing	\$17,500.00
Education & Community	
6901 Curationist Program Director	\$123,930.00
6903 Fellows	\$25,065.30
6905 Special Advisors	\$750.00
6908 Community Director	\$76,950.00
6909 Community Coordinator	\$18,270.00
6910 Social Media Manager	\$24,522.50
6911 Brand Ambassador	\$3,000.00
Total Education & Community	\$272,487.80
Marketing	
6710 Ad Buys/Content Boosting	\$338.99
Total Marketing	\$338.99
Operating Expense	
6005 Office Supplies	\$45.74
6050 Directorship Agreement Expense	\$12,000.00
6105 Telephone Expense	\$489.38
6200 Donations	\$500.00
6299 Rent Expense	\$3,115.75
6301 Insurance-Corp Liab	\$12,760.36
6302 Cyber, Work Comp & Directors Insurance	\$293.96
6303 Worker's Compensation	\$150.00
6308 Dues & subscriptions	\$803.23
6400 Postage/Shipping	\$85.74
6450 Melio Service Fees	\$30.00
6500 Taxes and Licenses	\$841.50
6700 Prof Fees Legal	\$2,722.50

Statement of Activity

Oct. 1, 2023 – Sept. 30, 2024

Page 2 of 2

6703 Professional Fees-Accounting & Audit	\$2,962.50
6705 Prof Fees Talent	\$544,838.92
6850 Equity Portfolio Mgt Fees	\$14,568.63
7002 Computer Software	\$15,537.07
7003 Website Development	\$5,300.00
7900 Bank Charges	\$896.90
Total Operating Expense	\$617,942.18
Personnel Expense	
6121 Content Staff	\$169,161.36
Total Personnel Expense	\$169,161.36
Platform	
6707 Hosting	\$38,885.09
6708 Feature Improvements / Maintenance	\$238,923.43
6709 System Support Maintenance	\$179,439.09
6713 Technical Project Manager	\$27,327.52
Total Platform	\$484,575.13
Sponsorship / Grants	
6711 Grant Generation	\$4,599.00
6712 Sponsorship Generation	\$1,500.00
6715 Partnerships & Corporate Fundraising Lead	\$40,618.50
Total Sponsorship / Grants	\$46,717.50
Travel	
6800 Travel - Hotel & Lodging	\$3,661.74
6805 Travel Airfare, Train etc	\$1,505.24
6810 Travel - Taxi, Parking	\$237.79
6811 Travel Meals	\$904.01
6820 Travel - Conferences	\$5,541.35
Total Travel	\$11,850.13
Total Expenditures	\$1,620,573.09
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$-1,575,448.61
Other Revenue	
4400 Dividend Income	\$32,499.57
4450 Realized Gain / Loss on Investments	\$1,388,358.20
4500 Unrealized Gain / Loss on Investments	\$275,015.74
4900 Interest Income	\$64,980.74
Total Other Revenue	\$1,760,854.25
NET OTHER REVENUE	\$1,760,854.25
NET REVENUE	\$185,405.64

Statement of Financial Position

Oct. 1, 2023 – Sept. 30, 2024

Page 1 of 2

ASSETS

Current Assets

Bank Accounts

1001 PayPal 0.00	\$0.00
1012 BofA Ckg #8772	\$493,197.24
1013 BofA Ckg #4369	\$0.00

Total Bank Accounts	\$493,197.24
----------------------------	---------------------

Accounts Receivable

1212 Accounts Receivable	\$0.00
--------------------------	--------

Total Accounts Receivable	\$0.00
----------------------------------	---------------

Other Current Assets

1200 Undeposited Funds	\$0.00
1225 Rent Security Deposit	\$0.00
1800 Prepaid Expense	\$3,862.00
1850 Allowance-Doubtful Accounts	\$0.00

Total Other Current Assets	\$3,862.00
-----------------------------------	-------------------

Total Current Assets	\$497,059.24
-----------------------------	---------------------

Other Assets

1014 Investments	\$2,656,478.10
1015 Investments (564)	\$2,904,095.85
1125 InvestmntMHzNetworks LLC	\$0.00

Total Other Assets	\$5,560,573.95
---------------------------	-----------------------

TOTAL ASSETS	\$6,057,633.19
---------------------	-----------------------

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable

2000 Accounts Payable	149,264.49
-----------------------	------------

Statement of Financial Position

Oct. 1, 2023 – Sept. 30, 2024

Page 2 of 2

Total Accounts Payable	\$149,264.49
Credit Cards	
2200 Bank of America CC #5938	5,558.40
Total Credit Cards	\$5,558.40
Other Current Liabilities	
2110 Security Deposits	0.00
2210 Accrued Expense	0.00
2250 Sales Tax Agency Payable	0.00
2260 Due to/from NVPTV	0.00
2270 Funds Held on Behalf of Others	41,199.50
2300 SBA PPP Loan	0.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$41,199.50
Total Current Liabilities	\$196,022.39
Long-Term Liabilities	
2251 Due to Related Parties	0.00
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$0.00
Total Liabilities	\$196,022.39
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	0.00
Retained Earnings	5,676,205.16
Net Revenue	185,405.64
Total Equity	\$5,861,610.80
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$6,057,633.19



2024 Milestones

In 2024, Curationist Foundation took significant steps to expand our impact and refine our initiatives.

- We rebranded to Curationist Foundation, aligning our identity with our mission to advance open knowledge and global cultural engagement.
- Our platform grew with improved usability, expanded metadata capabilities, and AI-powered search, enhancing discoverability for millions of cultural objects.
- We strengthened institutional and platform partnerships, welcoming the Royal Albert Memorial Museum & Art Gallery and collaborating with TAROCH and Project Galileo to support open access and digital security initiatives.
- Our editorial and fellowship programs deepened their impact. Fellows and Critics of Color programs published eight essays that explored underrepresented cultural narratives.
- The 7-part Women Artists Series highlighted historically overlooked creators, reinforcing our commitment to elevating diverse voices in cultural storytelling.
- We hosted the 2024 Metadata Learning & Unlearning Summit, launched a provenance research internship, and refined metadata practices to support ethical stewardship.
- We developed and launched Curationist Museum Services, a dedicated service line to help smaller institutions digitize and openly share their collections, furthering accessibility in the cultural heritage sector.

Through these milestones, Curationist Foundation has strengthened its role as a leader in digital cultural preservation and ethical metadata practices. Looking ahead, we remain committed to fostering an inclusive and dynamic platform for global cultural storytelling.

Thank you!

We extend our sincere appreciation to our board of directors past and present, our generous donors, and the dedicated community that have supported our evolution into Curationist Foundation. Your commitment has been instrumental in advancing our mission to expand open access to global cultural heritage and connect curious minds to the stories, histories, and ideas that these works inspire.

A special thank you to our partners at Creative Commons, Critical Minded, and Grant for the Web, as well as the many stakeholders who have contributed their time, expertise, and passion to shaping Curationist. Your collaboration has driven meaningful progress within the cultural heritage sector, helping to make knowledge more accessible to all.

Your generosity and dedication are the foundation of our collective success. As we move forward, we do so with confidence, knowing that together, we will continue to grow, innovate, and expand the reach of open cultural heritage—sparking curiosity and engagement across diverse communities. Thank you for being champions of open access and for making Curationist a dynamic and inclusive platform for shared knowledge and inspiration.



Support Our Work

Investing in digital access to cultural heritage strengthens connections to history, art, and society. Your support enables Curationist Foundation to expand access, empower communities, and reimagine cultural narratives for a more inclusive future.

Join us in making global cultural knowledge freely accessible—donate today and help shape the future of open culture.

Join our effort

[Make a donation online](#)

Or send a check to:

Curationist Foundation
2920 W. Broad St.,
Suite 80, Richmond, VA 23220

Follow us

Instagram: [@curationist_org](#)

Facebook: [@CurationistOrg](#)

Linkedin: [@Curationist](#)



Attributions

Cover (Clockwise, starting upper left)

Anna Atkins, *Ptilota plumosa*, ca. 1853, Metropolitan Museum of Art. Public Domain.

Chinese, *Hair Ornament*, 19th century, Walters Art Museum. CC0, GNU Free Documentation License.

Piero Fornasetti, *Plate, Eva*, ca. 1954, Brooklyn Museum. Creative Commons-BY.

Undetermined artist, *Caftan*, Mid-19th century, National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution. CC0.

Page 2:

Unknown Indian artist, *Sacred lotus*, Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Wikimedia Commons. Public domain.

Page 5:

Fredolin Kreischmann, *Tall Vase with Lily Pads and Wild Carrots*, 1895-1898, Walters Art Museum. CC0, GNU Free Documentation License.

Page 6:

Henri Rousseau, *Tropical Forest with Monkeys*, 1901 to 1925, National Gallery of Art. CC0.

Seated Female Figure, 6th–9th century, Metropolitan Museum of Art. Public Domain.

Page 7:

Ando Hiroshige, Japanese, 1797–1858, *Nekozane at Horikiri Canal No. 96 from One Hundred Famous Views of Edo (Horie, Nekozane)*, 1850s, "Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum", Smithsonian Institution. CC0.

Page 8:

Auguste Renoir, *The Farm at Les Collettes*, Cagnes, 1908–14, Metropolitan Museum of Art. Public Domain.

Page 10:

Lovers on a garden terrace; musicians and attendants, 18th century, National Museum of Asian Art, Smithsonian Institution. CC0.

Page 11:

King Dasharatha sends his chief minister Sumantra to summon Rama, from Chapter 16 of the *Ayodhya Kanda (Book of Ayodhya)*, folio 18 of a "Shangri" *Ramayana (Rama's Journey)*, c. 1690–1710, Cleveland Museum of Art. CC0.

Unknown, *Print of Cab Calloway conducting his band*, 1930s. Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture. A black-and-white silver gelatin photo of Cab Calloway conducting his band. CC0.

Page 13:

Amduat Papyrus Inscribed for Tiye, ca. 975–945 B.C., Metropolitan Museum of Art. Public Domain.

Page 15:

Bella, Stefano della, *Galileo Galilei en drie Muzen*, 1656, Rijksmuseum, Rijksmuseum Amsterdam. Public Domain Mark 1.0; CC0 1.0 Universal (CC0 1.0).

Page 16:

After Sir Edwin Henry Landseer, *The Lion-Dog of Malta—The Last of His Tribe*, 1844, Metropolitan Museum of Art. Public Domain.

Page 18:

Mary Cassatt, born Allegheny City, PA 1844–died Mesnil-Theribus, France 1926, *Woman Bathing (poster)*, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Smithsonian Institution. CC0.

Page 20:

J. P. Ball & Son, *Carte-de-visite portrait of a young woman*, c.1860. National Museum of African American History and Culture, public domain. A sepia tone carte-de-visite of a young woman, captured at the Ball & Thomas Photographic Art Gallery in Cincinnati, OH.

Joseph Trammell, American, *Tin box handmade and carried by Joseph Trammell to hold freedom papers*, 1850s. National Museum of African American History and Culture, Smithsonian Institution, CC0.

Page 21:

Alfredo Rostgaard, Cuban, *Black Power*, 1960s. National Museum of African American History and Culture, Smithsonian Institution. CC0.

Arthur Rothstein, *Girl at Gee's Bend, Alabama*, 1937. National Museum of African American History and Culture, Smithsonian Institution, CC0.

Page 23:

Emile and Auguste Tilly, *L'Expedition Francaise dans L'Extrême-Orient*, 1885. Engraving, after photographs by John Thomson. Reed University, public domain.

United States National Museum Photographic Laboratory, Pan-American Exposition, Buffalo, New York, 1901, 1900s. Smithsonian Institution Archives, Smithsonian Institution, CC0.

Page 24:

Iran, probably Tehran, Tile depicting Khusrau Happening upon Shirin Bathing, late 19th century. Art Institute of Chicago, public domain.

Page 25:

Suzuki Harunobu 鈴木 春信 Japanese, 1725 (?)–1770, *A Young Woman in a Summer Shower*, 1765, Art Institute of Chicago. Public Domain.

Page 27:

Ellen Morton Littlejohn, *Quilt, Star of Bethlehem pattern variation*, ca. 1837–50, Metropolitan Museum of Art. Public Domain.

Page 28:

René Lalique, "*La Source*" *Pendant and Necklace*, ca. 1902, Walters Art Museum. CC0, GNU Free Documentation License.

Page 29:

Louis-Léopold Boilly, *The Public in the Salon of the Louvre, Viewing the Painting of the "Sacre"*, 1801 to 1825, National Gallery of Art. CC0.

Unknown Indian artist, *Date tree*, 1931, Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Wikimedia Commons. Public domain.

Page 30:

Textile, late 18th–early 19th century, Metropolitan Museum of Art. Public Domain.

Page 31:

Eugène-Louis Lami, *Interior of a Museum*, 19th century, Metropolitan Museum of Art. Public Domain.

Page 33:

Textile, 19th century, Metropolitan Museum of Art. Public Domain.

Hair Ornament, 19th century, Metropolitan Museum of Art. Public Domain.

Page 34:

Sophia L. Crownfield, (American, 1862–1929), *Study of an Autumn Bouquet*, ca. 1890, "Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum", Smithsonian Institution. CC0.

Page 35:

Attributed to Louis Jean Desprez French, 1743–1804, *Stage Design*, n.d., Art Institute of Chicago. Public Domain.

Page 36:

Textile, 19th century, Metropolitan Museum of Art. Public Domain.

Page 37:

Otto Freundlich (German, 1878–1943), *Composition*, 1924, Cleveland Museum of Art. CC0.

Page 38:

Felt and Tarrant Mfg. Co., *Comptometer*, ca. 1887, "Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum", Smithsonian Institution. CC0.

Page 43:

William Morris, *Daisy*, 1864, Metropolitan Museum of Art. Public Domain.

Page 44:

Krishna Quells the Serpent Kaliya, from a Bhagavata Purana, c. 1710, Cleveland Museum of Art. CC0.

Page 45:

Fujikasa Satoko, *Seraphim*, 2015, Walters Art Museum. CC0, GNU Free Documentation License.

Page 47:

Jar, ca. 1840, Metropolitan Museum of Art. Public Domain.





CURATIONIST

FOUNDATION

curationist.org