



2024 OHRAB Grant Interim Report: Improving the Preservation and Accessibility of Shaker Historical Society Photograph Collection

In April 2024, the Shaker Historical Society was awarded a grant to create a subject-based photograph archive and accompanying finding aid. This grant was partly matched by a generous financial gift from a museum member. Staff and board recognized the importance of a photograph archive to ensure proper storage, preservation, and access to a rich collection that spans 150 years of history. Photographs are our most utilized and requested materials. However, due to scattered materials and inconsistent filing and numbering conventions, locating photographs is an incredible challenge. The project focuses on the inventory, arrangement, and rehousing of photographs in the Elizabeth Nord Library and Archives with a finding aid to make the photograph archives accessible to the public.

The Shaker Historical Society's photographs are scattered throughout the archives and difficult to locate despite attempts throughout the years to categorize and number them. In May 2024, the museum hired Makialani Kanewa-Mariano, a current MA student in History/Museum Studies, as our photograph archives project intern. Makialani has spent approximately 15 hours per week from May 22 through August 23 at the museum for a total of 200 hours, 180 of which were paid through project funding. She has asked to continue the project in a volunteer capacity and will focus on completing the inventory, arrangement, and rehousing of photographs from late August through November 2024. Executive Director Brianna Treleven has spent 40 hours of matching time on onboarding, inquiries from Makialani, and project publicity, among other tasks.

The amount of photographic media inventoried thus far is 280% larger than the estimated number in our grant application, highlighting the need for this project to make our photographs findable and usable. Makialani has inventoried over 1,400 photographs and negatives, approximately 85% of identified photographic media, through a subject-based spreadsheet that will serve as the collection's finding aid. \$1,060.00 of grant funds and \$2,000.00 in matching funds have been spent on Makialani's salary, and \$644.00 remains in the budget for archival supplies, including storage boxes, envelopes, and labels. We expect to complete the project by December 31, 2024.

Shaker Historical Society staff members have shared project-related updates on social media, examples of which are below. During our July fundraising benefit, Makialani provided updates on the project and highlighted photographs from our collection discovered through this project. She also shared her internship experience in a blog post for the Cleveland State University History Department, available at <https://csuhistoryinterns.clevelandhistory.org/the-photo-archives-at-the-shaker-historical-society-museum/>



SHAKER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Shaker Historical Society
Published by Brianna Treleven
April 26

We are excited to announce the Shaker Historical Society has received a grant from the [Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board - OHRAB](#) to organize a photograph archive at the museum!

This project focuses on the inventory, arrangement, and rehousing of photographs in our collections to improve preservation of and access to these valuable visual resources. Funds will be used to hire a summer archives intern, purchase necessary archival supplies, and produce a publicly accessible finding aid.

This project is supported in part by John Barber and an award from OHRAB, through funding from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), National Archives and Records Administration.



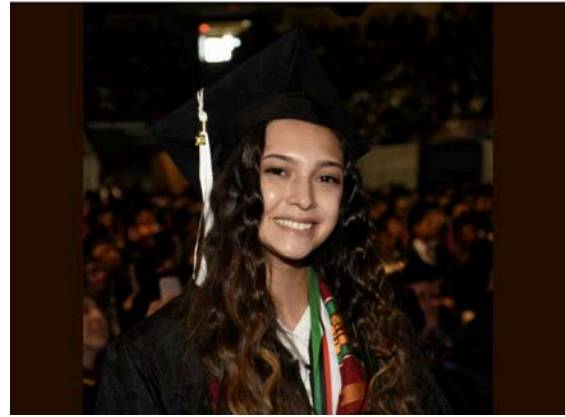
Shaker Historical Society
Published by Brianna Treleven
June 6

In April 2024, the Shaker Historical Society received a grant from the [Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board - OHRAB](#) to organize a photograph archive at the museum. We are excited to introduce our project intern, Makialani Kanewa-Mariano!

Makialani entered the MA in History--Museum Studies this spring after completing a BA from [Cleveland State University](#) in December 2023. She is spending the summer in our Elizabeth Nord Library and Archives to organize, arrange, and rehouse photographs. Makialani's responsibilities include creating a subject-based archive, handling photographic materials, drafting an accessible finding aid, and providing periodic project updates through social media accounts and the museum's newsletter. "I hope to positively impact the community by fostering transparency and inclusivity, while continuously learning and growing myself. I am looking forward to this exciting new journey with the Shaker Historical Society!"

Makialani's work will improve preservation of and access to valuable visual resources that document the history of Warrensville Township, the North Union Shakers, and Shaker Heights.

This project was made possible through an award from the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board (OHRAB) through funding from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and through the generous financial support of SHS member John Barber.



Shaker Historical Society
Published by Brianna Treleven
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Makialani, our summer archives intern, has been busy working on a new subject-based photograph archive in our Elizabeth Nord Library and Archives. In our grant application, we estimated we had about 500 photographs in our collection. Makialani has inventoried almost 1,400 so far with about 15% more to go! We're thrilled this project is revealing the wealth of visual resources in our collection and will make them more accessible to the public.

To learn more about Makialani's summer experience at SHS, check out her blog post for [Cleveland State University](#) at <http://csuhistoryinterns.clevelandhistory.org/the-photo...>

Makialani is continuing this project in a volunteer capacity, so stay tuned for more information in the coming months!

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