



## **PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **2022 ARLIS/NA Applauds Award recipient**

WESTFORD, Massachusetts – The Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA) is pleased to announce that the 2022 ARLIS/NA Applauds Award will be given to Meredith Hale in recognition of her work on migrating organizational content to the Humanities Commons, and especially her efforts towards making ARLIS/NA video archives accessible through captioning work on the society’s Kaltura channel. The Applauds Award was presented at the ARLIS/NA 51st Annual Conference Awards Ceremony, in Mexico City, on April 20, 2023.

Hale joined the Humanities Commons Implementation Task Force in 2019 and became the society’s first ARLIS/NA Commons Manager in 2021 after serving as Learning Portal Coordinator since 2019. When migrating video content at the beginning of her time as Commons Manager, Hale became acutely aware of the accessibility deficits of the society’s audiovisual content. To address these deficits, Hale spearheaded a project to recruit volunteers to edit and remediate video captions. She created instructional content to make editing easier for volunteer members, recruited editors with the ability to caption videos in languages other than English, organized and led two edit-a-thons for video captions, and added captions (video-by-video) to the Kaltura channel. With these accurate, time-stamped captions, video content is more accessible to all, including d/Deaf and hard of hearing individuals, viewers with cognitive processing disabilities, members who want to search through a transcript, and those unable to watch videos with audio.

Hale’s efforts met Applauds Award criteria as she responded effectively or creatively to an unforeseen or urgent need of the society, advanced DEI initiatives, and performed extraordinary volunteerism on the society’s or on the profession’s behalf. Her leadership and advocacy align with ARLIS/NA’s strategic directions of promoting diversity and inclusion in the art information profession, as well as promoting informed management of digital collections.

Meredith Hale is the Metadata Librarian at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Previously, she worked as the Kress Fellow in Art Librarianship at the Yale Haas Arts Library and the Yale Center for British Art. She holds an MS in Information Science and an MA in Art History from



the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Within ARLIS/NA, Hale has served as a member of the Professional Development Committee (PDC), co-organizing and moderating the New Voices in the Profession session from 2018 through 2021. She has also served on ARLIS/NA's Data & Analytics Task Force and on the 2020 Virtual Conference Planning Team, acted as a peer reviewer for Art Documentation, and represented the society on the Art & Rare Materials BIBFRAME Ontology Extension Working Group and on the Humanities Commons Participating Organization Council. She received the 2015 ARLIS/NA Gerd Muehsam Award for her Master's thesis.

Established in 2020, the [ARLIS/NA Applauds Award](#) honors an individual or a group of up to five people to recognize an outstanding contribution to the society's work during the preceding calendar year. The 2022 Applauds Award Committee members include Mar González Palacios, Emily Ha, D. Vanessa Kam, and Claire Payne (chair).

### **About the Art Libraries Society of North America**

Founded in 1972, the Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA) is a dynamic, international organization of close to 1,000 individuals devoted to fostering excellence in art and design librarianship and image management in the United States, Canada and Mexico. The membership includes architecture and art librarians, visual resources professionals, artists, curators, educators, publishers, students, and others interested in visual arts information. To serve this diverse constituency, the Society provides a wide range of programs and services within an organizational structure that encourages participation at every level.

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