DP3 Newsletter
digital print preservation portal
IMAGE PERMANENCE INSTITUTE

Issue: 22

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Completion of IMLS Funded Project: Pollution Damage Mitigation for Inkjet Printed Materials in Museum Collections

Figure 1. Ozone-induced fade, color shift, and yellowing



Extreme fade | Heavy fade + color shift | Moderate fade + yellowing

IPI received funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services for a three-year, major research and development project aimed at creating effective strategies to mitigate the damage to modern, inkjet printed materials caused by airborne pollutants. This was in response to a 2008, IPI survey of the field, which had found that approximately 80% of cultural heritage institutions already have inkjet prints in their collections and that objectionable deterioration to many of these materials has already occurred including (but not limited to) fading, yellowing, color bleed, surface cracking and delamination. Earlier IPI experimental work established a clear connection between ozone and nitrogen dioxide and each of these forms of decay.

Figure 1 above illustrates what can happen when prints are exposed to high concentrations of ozone. The first print shows dramatic fade where almost the entire image is destroyed. The second image shows significant fade, but the black areas of the image have also shifted to a bronze color. The last image shows moderate fade but also heavy yellowing causing additional color shift in the image.

Read More

New Mellon-funded Grant: Digital Print Preservation Education & Training



IPI has recently received funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to educate and train collection care professionals in libraries, archives, and museums in the proper identification and care of digitally-printed collection objects. Over the last seven years, IPI has gained significant experience studying the stability and preservation of these materials through its Mellon- and IMLS-funded Digital Print Preservation Portal (DP3) projects. The purpose of this new project is to extend the value of those efforts by utilizing the findings to educate and train the preservation community. The project will include workshops at IPI, regional conservation centers, and conservation programs in universities, as well as direct interaction with collection care staff through site visits to various libraries and museums across the country. It will also include updates to the DP3 Project website, continuation of the DP3 Newsletter and reporting on advances in the technology of modern printing to keep the field up to date on where both fine art printing and publishing are heading in the future.

Tuition for all of the workshops is waived due to the generous support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. While those held at specific institutions, conservation centers, and conservation programs are by invitation only, attendance at the IPI-based events will be open to all collection care professionals responsible for the preservation of digitally-printed materials including conservators, catalogers and registrars, curators, archivists, librarians, exhibition preparators, etc. Interested candidates must submit an application for participation. The dates for the first workshop are October 20-22, 2015. Note that attendees will be responsible for their own travel, lodging, and meals.

Applications may be submitted through our registration site by clicking here.

Terminology

Ozone (O3) – three oxygen molecules bound together. It is formed by ultra-violet light or electric discharge. It is an aggressive oxidizing agent.

Nitrogen dioxide (NO2) – One molecule of nitrogen bound to two molecules of oxygen. The burning of fossil fuels is a major contributor of NO2 in the atmosphere. It is an oxidizing agent and can form acids in the presence of water.

Thanks to Jordan Briscoe



Everyone at IPI would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to our long-time student employee, Jordan Briscoe who resigned her position IPI last October to focus on her future in bio-medical imaging. Jordan was unique at IPI having been the only freshman ever hired. She has spent the last three and one-half years diligently performing experimental work, providing high level imaging services, as well as teaching in our digital print workshops. She will be missed. Thanks Jordan!

New Video Demonstrating Water Damage to Inkjet Prints



IPI is currently working on a new project, *Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Recovery for Inkjet Printed Materials in Museum Collections*. We have recently created a video to demonstrate what can happen to various inkjet print types immediately on exposure to water.

Watch the video here.