

## National Archives Foundation Staff



**Liana Ascolese**  
*Communications and Community Partnerships Manager*

Liana Ascolese joined the Foundation in 2021. She brings a passion for history and a goal of democratizing the Archives' holdings to reach a young, civically engaged audience. As a former campaign manager and digital strategist, Liana brings five years of political campaign experience to her role at the Foundation. In graduate school, she co-founded a non-profit called The Every Voice Coalition, which advocates for legislation that provides more support and resources to survivors of campus sexual assault. EVC has successfully passed laws in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Illinois, and Nevada, and Liana remains on the board to advise current student advocates.

Liana is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst with a bachelor's degree in political science and master's degree in public policy. She lives in Arlington, Virginia with her partner Syed, their Miniature Schnauzer Ruggles, and at any given time, several foster dogs who are waiting for their forever homes.



**Preethi Babu**  
*Operations and Special Events Associate*

Preethi joined the Archives Foundation in June 2022. As an Operations and Special Events Associate, she supports both Development and Special Events Team. Preethi graduated from George Washington University in DC with a Master's degree in Events and Meeting Management. Before joining the foundation, Preethi freelanced with National Cherry Blossom Festival, DC Jazz Festival, Kennedy Center, APHSA, and more. She loves bringing people of different cultures together to celebrate and spread knowledge and happiness. Born and brought up in India, Preethi moved to the United States for higher education to challenge herself and step out of her comfort zone. In her free time, Preethi enjoys spending time with her friends, exploring new places, and playing with random dogs!



**Franck Cordes**  
*Campaign Project Director*

Franck Cordes has returned to the National Archives Foundation as its Campaign Project Director for renovating the Public Vaults and Boeing Learning Center. Most recently, Franck served as Curator for the Bullock Texas State History Museum in Austin, Texas.

Franck worked with the Foundation for over 11 years, starting in 2003 as the Foundation's second employee. He was instrumental in forming the Foundation's first staff and became the Deputy Director of Operations until 2014. Franck has worked as an Independent Consultant for museums and non-profits and as a guest teacher for the GW/Corcoran Masters for Exhibition Design program. He also served as Senior Vice President for the Exhibits Development Group, where he had the pleasure to visit and work with museums and private collectors around the world. Franck moved with his family from France to Washington DC in 1975 and considers himself a native Washingtonian. He holds a BA from the University of Massachusetts, and an MFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art.



**Jason Curtis**  
*Director of Finance*

As Accounting Manager, Jason supports the Director of Finance with the management of the Foundation's financial activity. He is responsible for the upkeep of the Foundation's GL and the preparation of monthly financials.

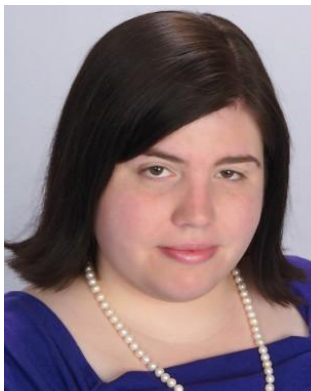
Originally from Maryland, Jason studied Finance at Hawaii Pacific University and recently completed his Masters in Accounting and Financial Management. He worked at the United States Institute prior to joining the Foundation. Jason enjoys coaching basketball, spending time with family, and traveling during the summer.



**Jim Doumas**  
*Deputy Executive Director*

Jim joined NAF in December 2017. He is an accomplished executive with more than 25 years of organizational development, communications, fundraising, human resources, and campaign experience. Most recently he served as vice president of Potomac Communications Group. Jim has led national and international nonprofit organizations, directed local, state, and federal advocacy programs, and is a seasoned campaign manager.

Jim graduated from Valparaiso University in Indiana and moved to Chicago shortly thereafter to start his own theatre company and become a community organizer on Chicago's ethnically diverse northwest side. Originally from Long Island, New York, Jim now makes his home in Old Town Alexandria, Virginia with his spouse Lauren Coletta.



**Laura Giroux**  
*Deputy Director of Campaign Operations*

Laura joined the Foundation in the summer of 2015 and managed the Foundation's individual giving programs. She now works on the Foundation's capital campaign and serves as the main point-of-contact for the Foundation's Board of Directors, Trustees Council, and is working to launch the Foundation's planned giving program.

Prior to working at the Foundation, Laura served as Membership Director of UNA-USA at the UN Foundation. Laura helped develop a youth membership program that doubled the association's membership over a two-year period. Laura loves to cook and is quickly building a large cookbook collection. She is an avid ceramicist and spends her weekends in a pottery studio. Laura holds a Master of Arts in Arts Management from George Mason University and a Bachelor of Arts in History and American Studies from St. Olaf College in her home state of Minnesota.



**Steve Jenkins**  
***Senior Director of Finance***

As the Senior Director of Finance, Steve is responsible for providing financial reports, guidance, and advice to the Board, Executive Director, and staff. He manages the budgeting process, annual audit, and is responsible for the overall financial health of the Foundation.

Steve is a finance and administration executive with more than 25 years of experience in both the not-for-profit and for-profit sectors. He has experience working in a variety of settings, combining strategic and tactical expertise with strong problem solving and people management skills. Originally from Long Island, NY, Steve now lives in Alexandria, VA.



**Patrick M. Madden**  
***Executive Director***

Appointed in June 2013, Patrick joined the Foundation after serving at the UN Foundation as the Executive Director of the United Nations Association of the United States of America. In this role, he oversaw a national membership, launched a youth engagement program called “GenUN,” grew its Model UN program, and stewarded partnerships with the U.S. Department of State and major NGOs. He also previously served as the President and CEO of Sister Cities International (SCI), where he guided a network of U.S. cities and more than 2,000 international communities to implement economic, humanitarian, cultural, and educational exchange programs. During his time at SCI, he was responsible for attracting the organization’s largest grant, a \$7.5 million donation from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to work on urban poverty issues across Africa.

Prior to joining SCI, Madden held senior-level positions at the Association of Performing Arts Presenters and the Smithsonian Institution’s National Portrait Gallery. Madden has also served as an adjunct professor at George Mason University where he taught graduate seminars on fundraising. He holds two degrees from Ohio University.



**Valarie McVey**  
***Director of Programs***

Valarie McVey joined the National Archives Foundation full time as the Director of Programs in December 2021. Val is responsible for civics education teacher professional development, virtual public programs and the Cokie Roberts Fellowship for Women’s History.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Val was the Director of Curriculum at the Lou Frey Institute of Politics and Government at the University of Central Florida, and was responsible for civic education professional development programming, K-12 curriculum resources, strategic partnerships, grants management and budget oversight. Before working for the Institute, Val was a classroom teacher and academic advisor in Orlando, Florida. Val has a B.A. in History from Principia College and a M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Saint Joseph (CT).



**Marin Nass**  
*Executive Office Assistant*

Marin recently joined the National Archives Foundation this November as the Executive Office Assistant. In this role she provides logistical and research support to the senior staff.

A proud native New Yorker, Marin previously ran the Visual Education Department at the Nightingale-Bamford School on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. Tying the school's curriculum to museums through lessons, events, and field trips, Marin aimed to engage students K-12 with the power of history and artifacts by bringing the lessons out of the classroom and into New York's collections.

Nurturing her own love for history and research, Marin graduated summa cum laude from Northwestern University, and holds a master's degree with distinction in History of Art from The Courtauld Institute of Art in London. In her free time, she enjoys traveling, seeing theater, and spending time with her cat, Marlowe.



**James O'Connor**  
*Associate Director of Retail*

James joined the National Archives Foundation in April of 2018. As the Retail Manager, James is responsible for merchandise execution, staff development, customer engagement, and overall daily business management of the customer-facing retail store.

Prior to working for the Foundation, James was a Vice President Store Manager for Macy's in San Francisco. He is a seasoned retail professional with a passion for staff development, product development, and business analytics. Outside of work James is a long-distance runner, enjoys traveling, and being around family and friends.



**Erin Smith**  
*Special Events Associate*

Erin Smith joined the National Archives Foundation in 2022 as the Special Events Associate. In this role, she supports the logistics for internal and external events.

A lover of history and the humanities, Erin brings her passion for story-telling, business acumen, and eight years of experience in both Development and Special Events for nonprofit organizations, including the Trust for the National Mall and Ford's Theatre Society. At Ford's Theatre Society, Erin organized the logistics of annual member events, as well as prospect cultivation events for their young professionals group, Generation Abe. In 2020, she co-led and founded the Ford's Theatre Anti-Racism Committee, which established group education, development of appropriate business practice and community engagement in the anti-racist sphere. Additionally, Erin has a range of experience in the catering, event planning, and hospitality industries and is a certified wedding planner. She is excited to continue her journey in Special Events at the prestigious

National Archives Foundation. Erin's hobbies include enjoying fine dining, movie review podcasts, and everything Sci-fi.



**Rebecca Soloway**  
*Special Events Manager*

Rebecca joined the Foundation in October 2019. As the Special Events Associate Manager, she supports the Foundation's external and internal events.

Rebecca graduated from Florida State University with a degree in Interdisciplinary Social Science and minors in Communication and Psychology. While at Florida State, Rebecca also interned with the National Archives' Special Events Department and has since built upon her passion for working with nonprofits, namely The USA Swimming Foundation in Colorado, and The Washington Ballet, in DC. Rebecca is excited to be back at the National Archives, working with the Foundation. Rebecca enjoys playing tennis, reading, and exploring the District in her free time.



**Margaret Tompkins**  
*Corporate and Foundation Relations Director*

Margaret is the Corporate and Foundation Relations Associate for the Foundation. In this position, she supports the Director of Corporate and Institutional Giving by helping solicit funding from corporate and foundation sources and ensuring the implementation of program grant and sponsorship benefits.

Born and raised in Columbia, South Carolina, Margaret graduated from Clemson University with a degree in Marketing and Management. Before joining the Foundation in March 2018, she worked in the wedding industry, most recently as Store Manager at Fabulous Frocks Bridal in Alexandria, VA. In her spare time, Margaret enjoys spending time with family and friends, traveling, cheering on her Clemson Tigers, and hanging out with her dog, Dolly.



**Tara M. Turner, CGMP**  
*Special Events Director*

As the Foundation's Special Events Director, Tara oversees the Foundation's internal and external events.

She has spent nearly her entire career performing pre-program and post-program activities with client-based objectives, hotel and venue site selection, ground transportation and travel arrangements, and execution of program reports, budgeting, and financial documents for government customers.

She has more than 15 years of experience developing and managing budgets in accordance and compliance with Government Joint Travel Regulations (JTR) and Federal Acquisitions Regulations (FAR). She is a member of various hospitality industry associations, including the National Capital Chapter of the Society of Government Meeting Professionals (SGMP), the Hospitality Industry Professionals Network (HIP Network), and the Event Services Professional Association (ESPA).

Tara is a Certified Government Meeting Professional (CGMP) with a Bachelor of Science degree in Corporate Communications from the University of Baltimore and a Master of Science degree in Project Management from George Washington University.



**Sven Walther**  
*Associate Director of Retail Operations*

As Senior Retail Operations Manager, Sven assists the Director of Retail & eCommerce in all aspects of the Foundation's retail business, including sales and inventory analysis, reporting, product sourcing, and inventory control.

Sven moved to Washington, D.C., in 2010, from a small farming community in Babenhausen, Germany, where he worked for Volkswagen in Wholesales Logistics and IT for six years. Before joining the Foundation's retail team, he worked in several roles at Smithsonian's National Zoo: first as a Sales Associate and later as the Retail Director's Assistant, overseeing the zoo's retail business. Sven and his wife Destiny are big fans of Michael Jackson's music and Science Fiction.