



NEWS RELEASE

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Eric Willey Receives F. Gerald Ham Scholarship

Chicago—The Society of American Archivists (SAA) is pleased to award Eric Willey, a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin–Madison School of Library and Information Studies, with the 2011 F. Gerald Ham Scholarship at an Awards Ceremony on August 26, 2011, at *ARCHIVES 360°*, SAA's 75th Annual Meeting in Chicago.

The award offers \$7,500 in financial support to a graduate student in his or her second year of archival studies at a U.S. university. Scholarship selection criteria include the applicant's past performance in her or his graduate program in archival studies as well as faculty members' assessment of the student's prospects for contributing to the archives profession.

"The committee cites Eric's dedication to the archival profession as demonstrated in his cover letter and work experience at the Wisconsin Historical Society, the Illinois State Archives, and the Western Illinois Archives; and his high academic standing as reflected in his transcript and enthusiastic letters of recommendation," said one Awards Committee member.

The Awards Committee noted Willey's outstanding quality of writing, analytical skills, and thoughtfulness displayed in his paper, "Appraisal in Community Archives Collections: A Case Study of University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee Appraisal Methods and Decisions for LGBT Collections."

The award was created in 1998 by SAA Fellow, past president, and longtime member F. Gerald Ham and his wife Elsie. Venus E. Van Ness, a student in the combined MSIS/MA program at the State University of New York at Albany, won the scholarship in 2010.

–30 –

Founded in 1936, the Society of American Archivists is North America's oldest and largest national archival professional association. SAA's mission is to serve the educational and informational needs of more than 6,000 individual and institutional members and to provide leadership to ensure the identification, preservation, and use of records of historical value. For more information, visit www.archivists.org.

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