

The Frick Collection Announces Appointment of Julia Day as Chief Conservator

Day's Return to the Frick Coincides with Museum's Reopening and Creation of New Conservation Center



New York (July 24, 2025) — The Frick Collection today announced the recent appointment of Julia Day as Chief Conservator. Day oversees the Conservation and Art Preparation and Installation teams, collaborating with museum staff on the preservation of the Frick's permanent collection and historic interiors. The Conservation Department also supports special exhibitions, conducts research, and furthers the museum's educational mission through outreach and mentorship. Day started in the position this spring at a significant moment for the institution, which in April reopened its renovated home at 1 East 70th Street, including the newly built Sherman Fairchild Center for Art Conservation.

Day's appointment marked her return to the Frick. From 2008 to 2022, she served as the museum's Assistant Conservator, Associate Conservator, and Conservator under her predecessor, Joseph Godla. As the museum's sole objects conservator, she cared for a wide range of decorative arts and sculpture and was instrumental in coordinating the institution's temporary relocation to Frick Madison, in the Marcel Breuer–designed building on Madison Avenue. In addition, she and her colleagues collaborated with Sam Anderson Architects in developing plans for the new art conservation and preparation facilities, critical components of the renovation project. These state-of-the-art spaces support the department's activities

and make possible a year-long graduate conservation internship and, in the future, a two- to three-year post-graduate position.

Commented Axel Rüger, the Frick's Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Director, "We are thrilled to welcome Julia back to The Frick Collection. I have enjoyed working alongside her as we settle into our renovated and enhanced buildings, which now have a much-improved facility for collections care—spaces that owe no small debt to her input. Her thoughtful and deeply informed approach to conservation, combined with her leadership and experience, are already proving essential as the museum presents a broader portion of our holdings and plans a robust schedule of special exhibitions."

"It is a tremendous honor to return to the Frick, especially at such a dynamic moment in the institution's history," stated Day. "The newly expanded conservation and art preparation spaces reflect a deep commitment to the preservation and study of the museum's permanent collection, as well as the training of future conservators. I'm excited to lead this growing department as we steward the Frick's extraordinary works of art and historic interiors into the future."

Most recently, Day served as Senior Conservator for the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi, where she advised on all aspects of collections care and planning for the future institution. Her career spans more than two decades, including conservation work at The Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Harvard Art Museums, in addition to fieldwork with archaeological projects in Turkey and Peru. She has authored scholarly studies on the preservation of Limoges enamels and on the technical analysis of bronze sculpture, most notably by the Renaissance master Bertoldo di Giovanni. She has been a guest lecturer at New York University and Buffalo State University, where she has shared her expertise on enamels conservation with graduate students. Day holds a Master of Arts and a Certificate of Advanced Study in Art Conservation from Buffalo State University.

ABOUT THE FRICK COLLECTION

Housed in one of New York City's last great Gilded Age homes, The Frick Collection provides intimate encounters with one of the world's foremost collections of fine and decorative arts. Open since 1935, the institution originated with Henry Clay Frick (1849–1919), who bequeathed his Fifth Avenue residence and collection of European paintings, sculpture, and decorative arts for the enjoyment of the public. The museum's holdings, which encompass masterworks from the Renaissance through the late nineteenth century, have grown over the decades, more than doubling in number since the opening of the museum. The Frick Art Research Library, founded more than one hundred years ago by Henry Clay Frick's daughter

Helen Clay Frick, is today a leading art history research center that serves students, scholars, and the public.

This spring, the Frick completed a major renovation and enhancement project and reopened on April 17 with great fanfare. Designed by Selldorf Architects, with executive architect Beyer Blinder Belle, the project was developed to honor the historic legacy and character of the Frick while addressing critical infrastructural and operational needs.

For more information, please visit frick.org.

IMAGE

Julia Day, photo: Joseph Coscia Jr.; The Sherman Fairchild Center for Art Conservation, The Frick Collection, New York, photo: Nicholas Venezia

INTERACT

Facebook, X, Instagram, Threads
@FrickCollection
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BASIC INFORMATION

Website: frick.org

Email: info@frick.org

Bloomberg Connects mobile guide:
frick.org/connects

Programs: frick.org/programs

Explore: frick.org/explore

Address: 1 East 70th Street, New York, NY 10021

Museum hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday, 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Closed Tuesday and holidays. Pay-what-you-wish admission offered Wednesday, 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

See website for holiday schedule.

Admission: Advance timed tickets are required (except for members). \$30 adults, \$22 seniors (65+) and visitors with disabilities, \$17 students with ID. Admission is always free for members and youth ages 10–18.

Please note: Only children ages 10 and older are admitted to the museum.

Tickets: frick.org/tickets

For questions: admissions@frick.org

Group reservations: frick.org/groups

Shop: Open during museum hours and online daily at shop.frick.org.

Café: Our café, Westmoreland, is open during museum hours. Museum ticket holders and members can make same-day reservations onsite. Learn more at frick.org/café.

Subway: #6 local to 68th Street station; #Q to 72nd Street station

Bus: M1, M2, M3, and M4 southbound on Fifth Avenue to 72nd Street and northbound on Madison Avenue to 70th Street

Frick Art Research Library: Open Monday through Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. No appointment necessary; registration required. For further information, visit frick.org/library.

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For further press information, contact us at communications@frick.org.