

PBPF Equipment Use at SJSU

The need for educational programs in audiovisual preservation continues to increase, as our window of opportunity to preserve these materials is quickly narrowing. The WGBH Educational Foundation Fellowship Program is a huge move forward in addressing this problem.

As the SJSU faculty advisor for the Fellowship Program, I know that the experience gained through our participation has been of great benefit not only to the Fellow, and it will be to future students as well. The training materials and equipment that resulted from this program will help SJSU to give our students a unique internship opportunity in audio/visual preservation at BAVC, which we will continue to promote each semester.

PBPF Equipment Use at BAVC Beyond the PBPF

Bay Area Video Coalition (in San Francisco) has regularly hosted MLIS interns from San Jose State University who wish to gain hands on experience in video preservation. As a natural extension of this partnership with SJSU, BAVC was invited to participate in the first round of the AAPB's Public Broadcasting Preservation Fellowship which began in the spring semester of 2018. Funds were provided to BAVC for the purchase of equipment to set up a dedicated transfer station for the fellow. The equipment to be purchased was determined based on the formats in the collection that the fellow would be processing, thus the equipment needed at each of the five fellowship locations across the country ended up being slightly different based on the formats in their collections.

The 2018 SJSU fellow captured content from the video collection of the Center for Asian American Media (CAAM) in San Francisco. The fellow and their mentor at CAAM focused on four video formats within the CAAM collection: U-matic, Betacam, Betacam SP and Digibeta. As these formats are regularly transferred at BAVC, only supplemental equipment and supplies were purchased in order to set up the fellow's transfer station. A U-matic deck, computer, capture card, CRT monitor and various other pieces of hardware and software were incorporated into the station from BAVC's existing inventory. BAVC's tape cleaning decks and an oven for baking troublesome tapes were also used.

As a non-profit with over forty years of teaching courses in video production and post production (and more than twenty years as a leader in video preservation) BAVC is in an ideal position to continue to provide hands on opportunities to students interested in preserving analog and digital video. The BAVC preservation department typically hosts one intern or fellow each semester. Applicants for BAVC internship positions come from all over the Bay Area and may be working towards a masters in library and information science, archives management or museum studies.

Jackie Jay, Bay Area Video Coalition, 11/02/18