

As part of the Boston Center for the Humanities Internship program I worked as an Archival Intern at the Boston Symphony Orchestra's archives. Working with Bridget Carr and Sarah Funke-Donovan, I had two main projects this summer. The first involved the creation of a virtual exhibit surrounding the BSO's 125th anniversary celebration and programming. The exhibit focuses on non-BSO events at the Hall, or performers and events where the venue was made available to outside vendors. The goal of the exhibit is to highlight the many uses of the hall over time and to highlight notable events. Landing on separating out the events into different categories to best represent the Hall, the exhibit includes instrumental performances, political events, trade shows, dance performances, and graduations. I brainstormed ideas with Bridget and Sarah for how it would be formatted, scanned relevant archival programs, conducted research on individual events and performers, and wrote label text for approximately sixty events. After my PhD I aim to work in curation at museums and archives, researching and designing exhibits. An internship at the BSO provided an invaluable opportunity to continue to hone my exhibit writing skills and to write specifically for a public-facing audience. The exhibit was conceived, written, and completed within the time frame of the internship and will be published online in early September.

The second major project I completed while at the BSO involved updating a database of non-BSO events at the Hall that spans from its founding in 1900 to the present. A database of these events provides critical information for the archive and for the preservation of the history of the BSO broadly. The archive's collection of programs recording the events at the Hall is most comprehensive pre-1950 and so much of my research and additions to the database was from 1950 to the 1990s. Combing through databases like the Boston Public Library's digitized records of the *Boston Globe*, I went through over 7,000 articles that reference the Hall and its events. Over the course of the internship I added over 1,600 entries. I filled in significant gaps which included adding performances given by Bob Dylan and Johnny Cash and fashion shows put on by *Ebony*. Because the time period for my dissertation is based in the 20th century, this database research fell within my area of study. Since I also study dress and fashion history, I was able to look into specific fashion-focused events that occurred at the hall. My training from the PhD in historical research and archival work directed factored into my ability to successfully complete projects with the BSO. The internship at the BSO was very valuable for my ongoing professional work in museums and archives. Having the opportunity to conduct in-depth database research as well as execute a virtual exhibit from start to finish were important experiences for my continued career development.