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RSA Member Anne Leader and IATH Awarded National Endowment for the Humanities HCRR Grant

RSA Member Anne Leader (Visiting Fellow, Institute for Advanced Technology in the Humanities, University of Virginia) and her project team at IATH were awarded a 2021 Humanities Collections and Reference Resources grant from the Division of Preservation and Access of the National Endowment for the Humanities. This two-year grant of \$299,000 will support research on the relationships between the living and the dead in premodern Florence and will further development of *Digital Sepoltuario*, an internet accessible resource based on archival registries kept by church officials to keep track of patronage rights and burials on their grounds. Known as *sepoltuari*, these manuscripts list burials according to their physical proximity to chapels, altars, and other furnishings and to each other. Antiquarians later compiled individual registers into comprehensive, citywide *sepoltuari*, adding descriptions of tomb components, materials, and decorations and transcribing inscriptions. The *Digital Sepoltuario* built by Leader and IATH includes not only the data contained in these manuscript *sepoltuari* but also facts about family, corporate, and neighborhood networks and the employment, marriages, and political service of the deceased as gleaned from a variety of additional primary sources and the rich scholarship on Florentine history. NEH funding will enable an extensive expansion of the dataset, the construction of more robust search mechanisms, and the development of mapping features. These enhancements will allow students, scholars, genealogists, and visitors to Florence, whether in person or virtually, to explore and interpret the tombscape of this treasured UNESCO heritage site.

For more on the history of Digital Sepoltuario, please visit:

http://ocm.auburn.edu/newsroom/campus_notices/2021/06/220845-olli-neh-award.php. For the full list of award winners, see: <https://www.neh.gov/news/neh-announces-24-million-225-humanities-projects-nationwide>



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

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About IATH:

IATH is a research unit of the University of Virginia established in 1992. IATH explores and develops information technology as a tool for scholarly humanities research. IATH provides Fellows

with consulting, technical support, applications development, and networked publishing facilities. The Institute also cultivates partnerships and participates in humanities computing initiatives with libraries, publishers, information technology companies, scholarly organizations, and other groups residing at the intersection of computers and cultural heritage. Additional information about IATH and its sponsored projects is available at: www.iath.virginia.edu.

About the NEH:

Created in 1965 as an independent federal agency, the National Endowment for the Humanities supports research and learning in history, literature, philosophy, and other areas of the humanities by funding selected, peer-reviewed proposals from around the nation. Additional information about the National Endowment for the Humanities and its grant programs is available at: www.neh.gov.