

Art Glass - Code of Ethics

1. The Conservator shall make every effort to attain the highest possible standards in all aspects of his work, to include: preventative stabilization, inspection, documentation, execution of restoration techniques and his continued education.
2. The conservator shall make every effort to cooperate with, educate and empower architects and professionals in related fields, stewards, owners and the public so that our cultural property may be fully appreciated and preserved.
3. All actions of the conservator must be governed by an informed respect for the aesthetic, historic and physical integrity of the window or object under consideration.
4. While recognising the owner's right to determine the scope and magnitude of the work to be completed, the conservator shall always make a strong attempt to act as an advocate for the preservation of the cultural property. In this capacity, the conservator has the responsibility to inform the owner of any possible negative effects that may be associated with any techniques that are proposed for the window or object under consideration. This would include any negative effects of foregoing treatment and leaving the window or object in its present condition.
5. While budget constraints and other considerations may limit at times the resources allocated to a particular window or object, the quality of the conservator's work must not be compromised.
6. The quality and / or extent of the work performed shall not be determined by the "value" of the piece to be worked on. The quality and extent of the intervention shall be determined by a frank and open discussion between the conservator and the steward \ owner of the window or object.
7. It is the responsibility of the conservator to undertake the investigation or treatment of a window or object only within the limits of his professional competence and facilities. Upon the request of the steward \ owner, the conservator shall provide a written statement of his work experience and areas of competence.
8. The conservator must use methods that are considered reversible, to the best of current available knowledge, which do not damage the window or its support system, or hinder its future examination, or treatment. Non-reversible techniques or materials should only be used if and when there is no suitable, reversible process available and the failure to use the non-reversible process will result in permanent loss of all or a significant part of the window or object.
9. The conservator shall document all existing conditions found on and around the stained glass prior to beginning any conservation treatment which shall include all techniques, procedures and

materials employed during treatment. Copies of all documentation must be provided to the steward of the property after treatment. While the extent of the documentation will be determined by the steward \ owner of the property. The conservator shall ensure that at the minimum, basic 35mm photography and a written description of the condition before, the methods and materials used during, and the condition of the window or object after treatment, is recorded.

10. The conservator, with the explicit consent of the client, should provide access to all project documentation to all interested non-profit preservation, historical or archival organizations.
11. The conservator, while acting as a third-party consultant to a project, or as an arbiter in a dispute, must exclude himself from consideration to execute the work in question. Efforts, direct or indirect, in any way to encroach upon the professional employment of another conservator are considered unprofessional and unethical.
12. The conservator must accept the responsibility to contribute to the greater body of knowledge within the field of stained glass preservation, and to freely share any special knowledge gained as a result of his work within the field.
13. The conservator shall employ techniques and materials in a careful and thoughtful manner. His actions will minimize the possible adverse effects on the well being of his co-workers, the general public and the environment.
14. The conservator has the obligation to promote the awareness and understanding of preservation through open communications within the profession and to the public.
15. When extreme conditions force the removal of Stained Glass from its original architectural context, the conservator shall provide proper guidance to the steward \ owner on the salvage of the imperilled glass. This includes the retention of the glass on site when possible, the effort to keep sets of windows or related objects together if they must leave the site, and the discouragement of permanently altering the glass so that it may be used for other purposes. The conservator must document the process as well as the circumstances that resulted in the removal of the Stained glass from its original context.