

ART & CULTURAL HERITAGE LAW

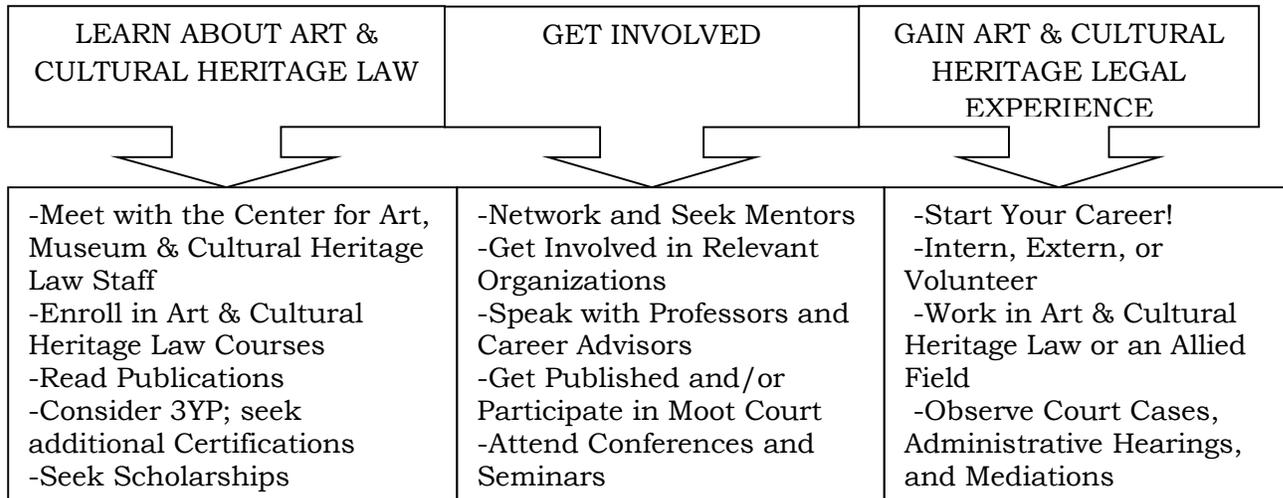
The field of art and cultural heritage law addresses the creation, ownership, and transactions involving works of art, immovable historic structures, and cultural objects. It includes the areas of contracts, trust and estate law, intellectual property rights, historic preservation, public and private international law, and litigation.

Art and cultural heritage lawyers may work in firms that have an art law department or that include art law as part of the firm's litigation department. They represent people who are buying and selling art, artists who create works of art, and people and institutions who need help determining ownership of art. They may also work with museums and other cultural institutions, government agencies, archaeologists, and antiquities and fine art collectors and dealers. Art and cultural heritage crime is a specialized area of the law for art and cultural heritage law practitioners.

Jobs are scarce in art & cultural heritage law, so it is helpful to gain experience in an "allied field" such as copyrights & trademarks, international law, Native American and indigenous issues, contracts, estate planning, nonprofit institutions, and/or environmental law. For museum work, experience in corporate, transactional, insurance, and employment law can also be helpful.

This guide provides a quick overview of sample resources, ideas, and opportunities. It is not meant to be all-inclusive, nor does it guarantee success in your job search and career development. Please meet with the [Center for Art, Museum & Cultural Heritage Law \(CAMCHL\)](#) staff members, and your [Law Career Services](#) Advisor to broaden your scope and to obtain personalized advice for your career.

INTERESTED? HERE'S WHAT TO DO:



LEARN ABOUT ART & CULTURAL HERITAGE LAW

- Meet with the Center for Art, Museum & Cultural Heritage Law Staff**

At your earliest convenience, meet with DePaul's [Center for Art, Museum & Cultural Heritage Law](#). Sign up for the Center's mailing list (listserv) via the Center's website, and plan to go to as many of their events as possible. Your involvement in these programs could be the key to your art & cultural heritage law career. Join the student organization, Art and Cultural Heritage Law Society (ACHLS). Attend the many programs offered through CAMCHL and ACHLS, including the Arts Law Colloquium and special conferences.
- Enroll in Art & Cultural Heritage Law Courses**

DePaul offers specialized courses, including Art and the Law and a Seminar in Cultural Heritage Law, as well as numerous courses in allied fields. Sign up for one of many [clinics, including the Technology/Intellectual Property Clinic](#). Work for class credit with an externship through DePaul's [Field Placement Program](#). Professional skill-building courses in business planning, estate planning, dispute resolution, mediation, trial advocacy, and litigation strategy can also be helpful.

- **Read Publications focusing on Art & Cultural Heritage Law**
A sampling of relevant titles includes DePaul's *Journal of Art, Technology & Intellectual Property Law* (JATIP), the *International Journal of Cultural Property* (published by Cambridge Journals), and the *Columbia Journal of Law and the Arts* (Columbia Law School). Also follow relevant blogs such as [The Art Law Blog](#), [Lawyers' Committee for Cultural Heritage Preservation Blog](#), and [the Cultural Heritage Lawyer Rick St. Hilaire Blog](#); find additional blogs in the [ABA Blawg Directory](#). Join the [Art and Cultural Heritage Law Society \(ACHLS\)](#), and follow it on facebook.
- **Consider 3YP; seek additional Certifications**
For an immersive learning experience, consider enrolling in DePaul's [Third Year in Practice Program \(3YP\)](#). An [Arts and Museum Law Certificate](#) can supplement your law degree. You may also seek an [LL.M. in International Cultural Heritage Law](#) or an [LL.M. in IP Law](#).
- **Seek Scholarships, Grants, Loan Forgiveness, and Income Based Repayment**
Lessen the cost of a legal education by applying for scholarships and grants through DePaul or through regional and national organizations. If working in the public sector, apply for financial assistance through the Center for Public Interest Law's Summer Scholarship and Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP). PSJD and The Chicago Bar Foundation also provide information on available funding opportunities. Scholarships, fellowships, and grants are sponsored by bar associations, law firms, community foundations, employers, ethnic and religious associations, and more. Look for information on the [College Cost Reduction & Access Act, including Public Service Loan Forgiveness](#).

GET INVOLVED

- **Network and Seek Mentors**
Connect with alumni and other professionals through Professor Patty Gerstenblith, DePaul's [Alumni Sharing Knowledge \(ASK\)](#), the law school and university alumni associations (including your undergraduate school), and social networking sites such as [LinkedIn](#). Check the [Vincent](#) and [law school event](#) calendars for opportunities to meet art & cultural heritage law professionals. Additional networking opportunities are available through local, regional, and national bar associations; seek mentors by becoming involved.
- **Get Involved with Relevant Organizations On and Off Campus**
Gain hands-on experience, contribute to the art & cultural heritage legal field, network, and enhance your resume by joining and becoming active in student organizations such as DePaul's [Art and Cultural Heritage Law Society](#); consider taking on a leadership role. Become involved in regional and national organizations such as the American Bar Association's [Art & Cultural Heritage Law Committee](#), ASIL ([American Society for International Law](#)) [Cultural Heritage & the Arts Interest Group](#), [Lawyers' Committee for Cultural Heritage Preservation](#), the [Museum Security Network](#) (listserv), the U.S. Committee of the Blue Shield, the Chicago Bar Association's [Media & Entertainment Law Committee](#) and their [Young Lawyers Section Creative Arts Committee](#), and art & cultural heritage, IP, international and other law sections of the [Illinois State Bar Association \(ISBA\)](#), and other regional and national organizations. Look for student membership rates.
- **Speak with Professors and Career Advisors**
Professors (especially Professor Gerstenblith) can be good sources of information, job opportunities, networking contacts, and research assistant positions. Establish a relationship with your [Law Career Services \(LCS\)](#) Career Advisor as well. Meet with your advisor early and often for advice and support to facilitate your future in law.

- **Get Published and/or Participate in Moot Court**

Submit work to writing competitions sponsored by bar associations, art & cultural heritage law related websites, and blogs; some offer monetary prizes such as the annual writing competition of the Lawyers' Committee for Cultural Heritage Preservation. Write for a law school journal such as DePaul's *Journal of Art, Technology & Intellectual Property Law* or a bar association publication. Publication credits give your resume more cachet, show your "expertise," and make you more attractive to potential employers. If you're focused on litigation, become involved in IP Moot Court or the National Cultural Heritage Law Moot Court Competition to hone your litigation skills; volunteering for the latter is also a good opportunity to become familiar with current issues and to network with lawyers judging the competition.

- **Attend Seminars and Conferences**

Check the Vincent and law school event calendars for offerings on and off campus. CIPLIT and the Center for Art, Museum and Cultural Heritage Law host many conferences and symposiums, including the Arts Law Colloquium and Visiting Artist Series. Search online for art & cultural heritage law conferences and committee/section meetings held by organizations including the ABA and CBA. IP conferences around Chicago include IPLAC's Judicial Conference and programs from Lawyers for the Creative Arts. Nationally, look for opportunities including the Annual Conference of The Lawyers' Committee for Cultural Heritage Preservation, and ALI-ABA's Legal Issues for Museum Administrators. Apply early to the ALI-ABA program for a discounted student rate. Internationally, look for programs from UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization).

GAIN ART & CULTURAL HERITAGE LEGAL EXPERIENCE

- **Start your Career!**

Refine your resume to brand yourself as a promising art & cultural heritage law job candidate. Create strong cover letters, and search effectively for jobs and internships with the help of Professor Gerstenblith, LCS advisors, and CAMCHL staff. See Vincent's Resources tab or contact LCS (312/362-8385) for more information.

- **Intern, Extern, or Volunteer**

Check Vincent (for internship opportunities, paid or unpaid), the Field Placement Program (for externship opportunities, working for class credit), and the Pro Bono & Community Service Initiative (for volunteer opportunities). Volunteer to help with DePaul's National Cultural Heritage Law Moot Court Competition and projects sponsored by the ABA's Art and Cultural Heritage Law Committee. Opportunities at the Field Museum of Natural History, the Chicago History Museum, and the DePaul Art Museum may be available through the Center for Art, Museum and Cultural Heritage Law; funding may also be available. The Lawyers' Committee for Cultural Heritage Preservation publishes an internship and externship guide and often has research opportunities available. The Chicago Bar Foundation and American Bar Association have many links on public service opportunities. Network to find job opportunities.

- **Work in Art & Cultural Heritage Law or an Allied Field**

It helps to have good contacts in the art & cultural heritage legal field. Paying jobs are scarce, so plan to begin working in an "allied field" such as copyrights & trademarks, international law, international trade law (import/export), Native American and indigenous rights, environmental, contracts, and wills & trusts law. For museum work, experience in corporate, transactional, insurance, and employment law can also be helpful. Plan to make a lateral move into an art & cultural heritage law position with solid transferable skills. Law students may contact Center for Art, Museum & Cultural Heritage Law staff for possible summer jobs, internships, and research assistantships. Check for postings through the Center's listserv and in Vincent's Job Posting tab.

- **Observe Court Cases, Administrative Hearings, and Mediations**

Even if not specific to your practice area of interest, understanding how the legal system works is important in the practice of law. With limited exceptions (i.e., juvenile cases), most judicial processes are open to the public. To observe a court in session, check the court calendar at the federal courthouse, and watch a proceeding; try to enter the courtroom before court is called into session; dress professionally.

RESOURCES

Blogs

- [Art Law Gallery Blog](#)
- [Arts Law for Everyone](#)
- [Center for Art Law Blog](#)
- [Cultural Heritage Partners, PLLC Blog](#)
- [Cultural Heritage Lawyer Rick St. Hilaire Blog](#)
- [Illicit Cultural Property](#)
- [Lawyers' Committee for Cultural Heritage Preservation Blog](#)
- [Art Law](#)
- [The Art Law Blog](#)

Conferences

- [ALI-ABA's Legal Issues for Museum Administrators](#)
- [Annual Conference of The Lawyers' Committee for Cultural Heritage Preservation](#)
- [National Cultural Heritage Law Moot Court Competition](#)

DePaul University College of Law

- [Alumni Sharing Knowledge \(ASK\)](#)
- [Art and Cultural Heritage Law Society](#)
- [Center for Art, Museum & Cultural Heritage Law](#)
- [Center for Intellectual Property Law and Information Technology \(CIPLIT\)](#)
- [College of Law Event Calendar](#)
- [Field Placement Program](#)
- [Intellectual Property Law Society](#)
- [Journal of Art, Technology & Intellectual Property Law \(JATIP\)](#)
- [Law Career Services Website](#)
- [Law Career Services Job Postings/Event Calendar - Vincent](#)
- [Pro Bono & Community Service Initiative](#)
- [Third Year in Practice Program \(3YP\)](#)

Professional Organizations

- [American Alliance of Museums](#)
- [American Bar Association International Law: Art and Cultural Heritage Law Committee](#)
- [American Intellectual Property Law Association \(AIPLA\)](#)
- [American Society for International Law \(ASIL\) Cultural Heritage and the Arts Interest Group](#)
- [Chicago Bar Association Young Lawyers Section Creative Arts Committee](#)
- [U.S. Committee of the Blue Shield](#)
- [Chicago Intellectual Property Alliance](#)
- [Illinois State Bar Association Intellectual Property Section](#)
- [Intellectual Property Law Association of Chicago \(IPLAC\)](#)
- [Lawyers for the Creative Arts](#)
- [Lawyers' Committee for Cultural Heritage Preservation](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Museum Security Network](#)
- [United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization](#)
- [United States Copyright Office](#)
- [United States Patent & Trademark Office](#)

Publications

- [Columbia Journal of Law and the Arts](#)
- [International Journal of Cultural Property](#)
- [Journal of Intellectual Property Law and Practice](#)

Twitter Feeds

- [@Clancco ArtLaw](#), [@ArtLawPosts](#), [@CHPllc](#), [@IFCPP](#)
- [Law Career Services on Twitter](#)
- More at [ABA Blawg Directory](#)