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Apply Now For Book Conservation Summer School Scholarship

A luxury French Romanesque limp binding, a Sikh binding of the 18th century and re-creating the medieval palette are just some of the topics the winner of this year's Nicholas Hadgraft Memorial Scholarship could be enjoying thanks to Conservation By Design Limited (CXD).

CXD invites conservators and skilled book binders to apply for the renowned scholarship for the 15th consecutive year. The winner will receive £1,500 towards the cost of attending the Montefiascone Book Conservation Summer School, a unique bookbinding & restoration course held each year in the medieval town of Montefiascone, Italy.

Running from the heart of the medieval town throughout the month of August, each week, the summer school features a different specialised course and tutor, which this year includes; Cheryl Porter, Jim Bloxham, Shaun Thompson, Élodie Léveque, Cédric Lelièvre, Jasdip Singh Dhillon and Sukhraj Singh.

Conservation By Design's Commercial Director, Caroline Checkley-Scott, said: "As a former student and teacher on the project I am so proud that CXD continues to support this incredible project. Hands on training in book conservation at this level is hard to find, added to this the level of networking for students and of course the wonderful location, makes it the ideal place to learn. Each year the variety and quality of applications from across world make it more and more difficult for us to decide the winner."

Tony King, from the Cumbria Archive Service in the UK, was the lucky recipient of the 2018 scholarship. He used the scholarship to attend two weeks, experiencing tuition from; Jim Bloxham, Shaun Thompson, Anne Hillam and Maria Fredericks.

Tony commented: “Attending these courses was a fantastic experience, for which I am extremely grateful to the Conservation By Design Nicholas Hadgraft Scholarship for making it possible.

“For me, the experience went beyond the training offered by the summer school program, as spending time with Conservators from across the world in such a collaborative atmosphere was extremely rewarding, and I am certain the experiences and contacts made will continue to inform my work for many years to come.”

The scholarship is offered in memory of Dr Nicholas Hadgraft, a good friend of Conservation By Design who died tragically in 2004. Nicholas was a fellow of the University of the Arts London and a key collaborator on the “Squelch Drying” technique devised by Stuart Welch (the founder of CXD), the most effective way to date of drying valuable rare books.

Application forms are now available from the CXD website www.conservation-by-design.co.uk. Completed applications must be received by midnight on Sunday 7th April 2019 and the successful applicant will be notified by the end of April.

For further information on the Nicholas Hadgraft Memorial Scholarship, contact Conservation By Design on 01234 844 260 or visit www.conservation-by-design.co.uk.

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