



UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH

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Contact: Laura Sheehan, Associate Vice President for Marketing, Media and Communications

Telephone: 860.231.5297

Email: lsheehan@usj.edu

PRESERVING CULTURAL TREASURES: USJ ART HISTORY LECTURE ON POST-WWII PRESERVATION

**University of Saint Joseph Professor Dorothy Keller on Connecticut's
"Monuments Man"**



Captain Deane Keller with "Cosimo I" by Giovanni Bologna in Florence after World War II.

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. (October 8, 2014) – Professor Dorothy Bosch Keller of the University of Saint Joseph will present an art history lecture, "Preserving Cultural Treasures in Florence and Pisa, Italy: Capt. Dean Keller, Monuments Man" on Thursday, October 16, 2014. The lecture will take place at 7:00 p.m. in the Hoffman Auditorium, located on the University's main campus: 1678 Asylum Avenue, West Hartford. The event is free and open to the public.

Professor Keller, a renowned art historian, is the daughter-in-law of Captain Dean Keller, who restored art damaged during World War II. He was assigned to the cities of Florence, Pisa, Milan, and Siena, Italy, where he was instrumental in identifying, rescuing, and preserving art taken from major museums.

"During World War II, a unique group of highly-skilled men and women were specifically recruited by the United States government and given the responsibility of preserving the cultural legacy of various countries involved in the war," Professor Keller said. "These individuals were also responsible for repatriating works of art which were looted by the Nazis who attempted to create a museum of world treasures in Germany."

Professor Keller's lecture will incorporate archival photographs and segments of the documentary film *The Rape of Europa*, as she takes the audience through the salvaging and preservation of major works of art. The event will conclude with a Q & A session.

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The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) offers a wide range of graduate, undergraduate, and certificate programs that combine a professional and liberal arts education with a focus on service. Coeducational graduate master's and doctoral degree programs are taught on the University's two campuses in West Hartford and Hartford, Connecticut; at off-campus locations throughout the state; and online. Undergraduate programs for women and for coeducational adult students take place on our beautiful suburban campus and include more than 22 majors and six pre-professional programs, each of which provides personal attention in a caring environment. Founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy, the University of Saint Joseph welcomes students from diverse backgrounds and religious traditions. To learn more, view our website at www.usj.edu.

OFFICE OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

1678 Asylum Avenue ♦ West Hartford, Connecticut 06117-2791 ♦ Tel: 860-231-5204 ♦ Fax: 860-231-5882