Épigraphie et patrimoine/ Epigraphy and Heritage

This panel provides an opportunity for museum professionals and epigraphers to collaborate in evaluating methods of engaging the public in collections of inscriptions on display in museums, and in exploring future directions of doing so. It offers the opportunity for discussing initiatives in facilitating access to Latin inscriptions for the general public, for sharing guidelines for public engagement in epigraphic collections, and for involving the community in the knowledge and preservation of inscribed cultural heritage. Presentations are invited that review specific innovative museum events and educational activities for children of different ages, students, and adults. They may present overviews of past, present, or future activities, whether new gallery installations, digital resources, temporary exhibitions, use of social media, family events, and public lectures. We would like to discuss ways of diversifying the audiences who engage in inscriptions, in terms of age, disability, and cultural/ racial background. We invite speakers to address how to introduce visitors to inscribed objects of all shapes and sizes. We would encourage speakers to consider the pros and cons of incorporating different types of technology within museum activities, such as digital apps, worksheets, arts and crafts activities, social media, and websites. Museums have recently experienced huge challenges during the pandemic, with funding threatened and visitors curtailed. We hope that by 2022, it will be possible to look forwards positively and to collaborate in designing exciting ways of opening up inscriptions to new audiences.

Panel Organisers: Silvia Orlandi, Alison Cooley