

Maureen McGuire is a Ph.D. candidate in Visual Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Maureen earned a Bachelor's in Art History from Sweet Briar College and a Master's in Art History from the University of South Florida. Maureen has been very interested in the cultural matronage of imperial Late Antique, Byzantine, and Medieval women throughout her academic career. She is very excited by the opportunities digital tools provide for exploring this topic. In her dissertation titled "Unacknowledged Influence: The Impact of Anikia Juliana's Cultural Matronage on 6th-Century Constantinople," Maureen explores the Christian monuments constructed at the behest of Anikia Juliana across Constantinople and their links to her matrilineage, her religious convictions, and the beautification of the city. A dissertation component includes creating a digital simulation of one of Juliana's monuments, the Church of St. Polyeuktos.