Safely Storing Art Collections and Teaching Materials With Quick Access

Overview

Teodora Bozhilova is the Director of the Visual Resources Center (VRC) at the California State University San Bernardino (CSUSB) Art Department. Her job function includes the support of educational material, research and archival needs of faculty, students, and staff. The primary function of the VRC is to facilitate art history courses that use digital images.

Currently, the VRC is focused on digitizing and archiving the extensive visual arts collections at CSUSB. The collection includes images of paintings, sculptures, architecture designs, manuscripts, graphic art designs, drawings, photography, ceramics, and glass. That's a lot of data.

Challenge

Teodora and her staff have a large collection of digital teaching materials that is continuing to grow. Being able to safely and efficiently store these materials in one location with quick access is a growing concern because of the large amounts of data in the VRC.

The VRC is a resource for the CSUSB art community to learn the best research techniques, find digital media, catalog artist's work, and participate in workshops for a variety of art-related studies. The ability to digitalize and work with the growing sets of digital teaching materials, images, short movies, archiving documents requires the VRC to utilize a simple, safe, secure, and reliable archiving and storage system.

Challenge

Teodora Bozhilova, Director of the Visual Resources Center (VRC) at the California State University San Bernardino (CSUSB) Art Department, became concerned when archiving and digitizing extensive, visual art collections for the department. She needed quick, reliable access to the collections from one location.

Solution

Teodora started using the Drobo 5D because of the high capacity and performance. She was impressed with the powerful technology and ease of use. Her collections are located in one place and she never has to rely on Internet connection or online storage capacity. The Drobo 5D has helped her workflow to be stress-free and efficient.

> **❝** *All assets are organized in one place. It is fast, reliable and it works with different brands and formats of hard drives.* **❞**

Solution

Teodora has been archiving works of art collections since 2006. For efficiency, the VRC needs to have all the images stored and organized in one place. Teodora was introduced to Drobo at the Adobe Photoshop Conference in Las Vegas. She was impressed by the new technology and how easy it is to use it.

"I have used WD and Seagate external drives," said Teodora. "They do not have the capabilities of Drobo. I can locate all images in less than a minute. That's help me out tremendously!"

The Drobo 5D is designed with media creatives in mind that need high capacity and high performance. It is a Direct Attached Storage (DAS) device that features USB 3.0 and dual Thunderbolt ports. The 5D also includes support for HDDs and SSDs with advanced memory storage, fast processing, and battery backup.

Results

By using Drobo at the VRC, Teodora has been able to quickly access all the resources she uses for teaching, archiving, and researching.

"All our assets are organized in one place," said Teodora. "I don't have to use Google Drive and I do not need to worry about the speed, security and availability of the Internet connection or the limited storage capacity of Dropbox. Drobo makes my work very efficient and less stressful due to its reliability."

She also appreciates its speed and reliability working with different brands, sizes and formats of hard drives.

Drobo's versatility to work with a variety of platforms makes their products incredibly user friendly. Easy access to data and ensured safety are incredibly important to professionals and the VRC. The VRC especially values this so they can continue to be a reliable resource for the digital media needs of students, staff, and faculty at CSUSB.

Summary

The Drobo 5D allows Teodora and the VRC to quickly and easily archive their large amount of digital data. The 5D's speed, simplicity and security is ideal for the demanding needs of the VRC. It makes archiving and retrieval of media a snap.