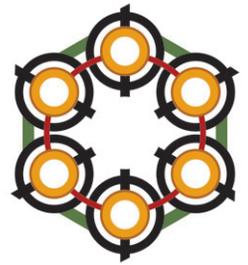


Erowid Center

Shulgin Archiving Project

September 2023



Funding Needs for Next Stage of Shulgin Archiving

[\$35,000 immediate; \$120,000 in 2024]

Shulgin Collection Archiving

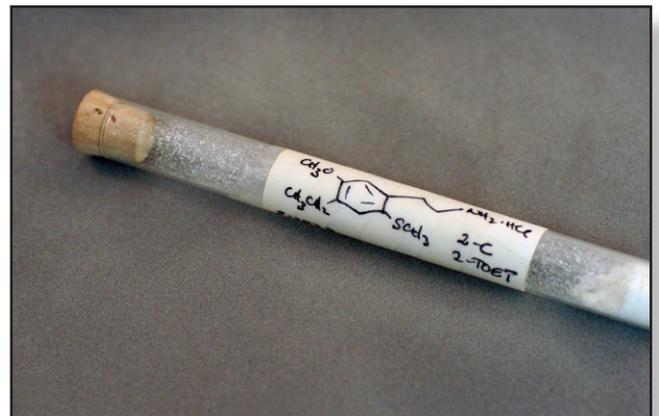
Sasha and Ann Shulgin were transformative elders in the psychedelic community. It's our goal to ensure that their knowledge is preserved. The collection contains over 275,000 items (~900 linear feet of shelving) that require sorting, digitizing, cataloging, and eventual publishing. We have completed most of the sorting and digitization of paper documents, and are actively cataloging the collection. We're working closely with the Shulgin family following Ann's death to protect the physical archives and finish digitization.

Timeline & Budget

Erowid has spent \$375K on this project out of our general budget over the past eight years. This includes \$50,000 in 2022. We need to raise \$35,000 immediately to complete scanning (top priorities below) and ensure the long-term safety of the data. With an additional \$120,000 in funding, Erowid can continue to process the digital data at full-speed through the end of 2024. (See Future Costs.)

Shulgin Collection Components & Next 18-Month Budget Needs

- Paper Document Scanning: (\$5,000 for completion; scanning by Erowid staff—**PRIORITY**)
There are roughly 500 linear feet of documents in the collection. Scanning is a key step to ensure that the data from fragile, unique physical documents is preserved. This is 99% complete.
- Photo Prints: (\$25,000 for commercial scanning—**PRIORITY**)
The Shulgin Collection contains ~40,000 print photos spanning six decades of conferences, events, friends, travel, and family. We've sorted them by category/year and they're ready for commercial scanning. Scanning will be done at 600 DPI, with a small selection scanned at 1200 DPI. After scanning comes crowdsourced collaborative filtering, editing, image processing, and databasing.
- Book Cataloging: (\$5,000 for Erowid staff time—**PRIORITY**)
There are more than 500 on-topic books yet to be sorted for historical interest/value/rarity or margin notes, then cataloged and reboxed. We have already sorted, cataloged, and boxed 1,350 off-topic books.
- Digital File Cataloging: (\$75,000 over next 18 months)
Erowid staff work daily to digitally index the files and create metadata: 50,000 files have already had metadata fully added, such as document type, date, author, title, and privacy status. An important part of this process is identifying documents with privacy concerns. (See Privacy Concerns.)





- Sasha's Chemistry & Pharmacology Lab Books: (\$5,000 to complete scanning)
These are great treasures in the Shulgin Collection. All 14 pharmacology notebooks (with experiential records and dose workups) have been digitized and published on Erowid. Our crew transcribed the often difficult to read hand-written notebooks and recreated identically-laid-out typewritten and searchable PDF versions, available in addition to the originals. Seven of eight chemistry notebooks have been digitized and three published. https://erowid.org/books_online/shulgin_labbooks/
- Other Media: (\$15,000 for evaluation and some digitization/recovery)
There are approximately 15 linear feet of boxes containing glass slides, video tapes, undeveloped film of odd sorts, and many forms of out-of-date digital storage media. These need to be evaluated to determine what can be easily processed and what will take additional or extraordinary steps to recover.
- Archival Supplies: (\$10,000 for archival-quality supplies)
Includes archival quality supplies such as acid-free, pH-balanced boxes and envelopes for storage.
- Administration & Management: (\$15,000)
Includes data transfer media, server costs, and rotating backups.
- Audiotapes: (\$0)
The digitization of 150 relevant audio cassettes has been completed.

Privacy Concerns

One complexity of Shulgin Archiving is that some documents have privacy concerns. Sasha and Ann entrusted Erowid with unrestricted access to their home, offices, and personal effects. That trust requires a secure first-pass review of documents for privacy. From private communications, to emails about illegal activity, to medical records, we promised the Shulgins that we would appropriately handle these issues and redact or embargo documents for the right period of time (or not publish some at all). We take this pledge seriously.

Future Costs

There will be additional costs related to completing each of the subprojects above. There may be a temporary need to move the physical collection into climate controlled storage before transfer to a university library.