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Fondazione Fedrigoni  
Fabriano

# Exploring Fabriano Paper: History, Art and Preservation



in collaboration with



Città di  
Fabriano



FEDRIGONI



under the patronage of



FOR INFORMATION

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Fabriano, 14-17 October 2025

[www.fondazionefedrigoni.it](http://www.fondazionefedrigoni.it)

# Exploring Fabriano Paper: History, Art and Preservation

A four-day program designed for English-speaking conservators and related professionals

The program is made up of four distinct modules and will take place mostly in the city of Fabriano, Italy within the Cartiere Miliani historic paper mill complex, including the Fedrigoni Fabriano Foundation's historical archive. The final day will take place in Pioraco, the establishment for the production of papers made with continuous-papermaking machines.

Fabriano, the “city of paper” holds a special attraction for conservators who work with paper every day, examining, analyzing and conserving papers of many varieties and time-periods, because of its remarkable feature of having produced paper continuously beginning in the 13<sup>th</sup> century to today. The 2025 program, sponsored by the Fedrigoni Fabriano Foundation, is an opportunity to explore many aspects of the papermaking industry both historically and as it is currently practiced in Fabriano, from traditional craftsmanship to modern technologies, from preservation to international trade. The city's long papermaking tradition makes it an ideal place to bring together international experts from museums, libraries, archives and special collections of paper-based materials to observe and exchange information.

Conservators are aware that the art of papermaking has a fascinating and complex history. From its earliest craft production in China to its introduction in Europe during the Middle Ages, to today's modern production technologies, paper has played a critical role in the dissemination of knowledge and culture. In this program participants will have the opportunity to revisit historical milestones in paper production at this site, and witness how changing techniques and materials have influenced the quality and durability of paper made here over the years. In the course of its 750-yr-old papermaking history the city of Fabriano has earned a reputation for artisan excellence, the use of fine quality raw materials, and technical innovation.

Participants will have the opportunity to explore the treasures of the Fedrigoni Fabriano Foundation as well as witness the craft of papermaking as it is practiced today, both by hand and by machine. The Foundation manages the business archive of the Miliani papermills: an invaluable resource for researching the history of the local industry and preserving its memory. The Foundation's holdings include documents, tools and equipment, including historic paper samples dating from the 13<sup>th</sup> century to the present that demonstrate the evolution of papermaking by hand and machine over time.

With the example of a case study the 2025 program will also follow Fabriano paper beyond Italy's national borders, where it reached international markets and established a reputation for quality and excellence for use by artists and printers. In the early twentieth century two American companies: the Japan Paper Co. of New York and the F. Weber & Co. of Philadelphia played signature roles in the import and marketing of Fabriano paper in the United States. Purchase orders and formulas for export papers preserved in the Cartiere Miliani Fabriano Archives testify to the importance of such international collaborations for the success and expansion of the industry and a selection of specifications, orders and marketing materials will be shared with participants.

A visit to the Foundation warehouse will highlight the craft of producing moulds for handmade paper as demonstrated by a professional mould maker, an engraver and a creator of wire watermarks. The extensive collection of historic paper moulds that were used to create sheets of paper over the centuries will be on display. These moulds are themselves works of art, made with great skill and attention to detail.

A guided tour of the Fabriano city center is also planned. Art and architecture in the city are closely linked to its medieval guild history. The Paper and Watermark Museum includes many artifacts, tools and documents about papermaking both local and international. Every corner of the city has a story to tell, from ancient workshop remains to the modern paper mills and the works of art that celebrate this tradition. For instance, we will visit the church of S. Maria Maddalena where the Pia Università dei Cartai, the medieval papermakers' guild began and continues its association. The guild has played a fundamental role in the training and protection of paper craftsmen, and its history is intertwined with that of the papermaking industry in Fabriano, helping to preserve and pass on traditional techniques.

In summary **Exploring Fabriano Paper: History, Art, and Preservation** is a is an opportunity for anyone interested in the history, art, preservation and production of paper to learn more from original sources and participate in an exchange of knowledge, helping to keep the centuries-old papermaking tradition alive

# Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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8:30 am

FABRIANO | Fondazione Fedrigoni Fabriano  
Viale Pietro Miliani 31/33

**8:45 am** | Registration

**9:00 am** | Introduction

**Chiara Medioli Fedrigoni**, President of the Fedrigoni Fabriano Foundation

## Module 1 | **Fabriano paper: 750 years of history**

**9:00 am – 1:00 pm**

**Livia Faggioni**, Board Member and Coordinator of the Fedrigoni Fabriano Foundation  
**Giovanni Luzi**, Archivist, Fedrigoni Fabriano Foundation

- The historical archive of the Miliani Mills of Fabriano and the Fedrigoni Fabriano Foundation
- The Augusto Zonghi collection of historical paper samples
- Il Corpus Chartarum Fabriano watermark database

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3:00 pm

FABRIANO | Fondazione Fedrigoni Fabriano  
Viale Pietro Miliani 31/33

**3:00 pm – 5 pm**

**Stefania Zeppieri**, Conservator of library and archival materials, works of art on paper and related artifacts

**Sylvia R. Albro**, Senior Paper Conservator (retired), Library of Congress

- Conservation and Preservation of historic paper materials in Fabriano, on-site laboratory and activities: The Album of Fabriano ancient watermarks of Augusto Zonghi
- Collected editions of bilingual books on paper history published in and about Fabriano
- Case study: Fabriano paper in American collections. 20<sup>th</sup> century exports of Fabriano paper to the Japan Paper Co. and F. Weber & Co. for use by artists and printers. Specifications, papermaking formulas and marketing catalogues

# Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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## Module 2 | **Papermaking in Fabriano: between tradition and innovation**

9:00 am

FABRIANO | Piazza del Comune  
Corso della Repubblica  
Fontana Sturinalto

Destination: **Carifac'Arte**

**9:30 am – 12.30 pm**

**Alaimo Angelelli**, President of Carifac'Arte

**Bruno Sebastianelli**, Watermark Artisan

**Gilberto Micucci**, Engraver

**Daniela Pompili**, wire watermark sewer

- The art and craft of paper mould-making

*\* Professional Italian/English translation provided by Ylenia Marcucci (YM Language Services)*

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2:30 pm

FABRIANO | Fondazione Fedrigoni Fabriano  
Viale Pietro Miliani 31/33

Destination: **FABRIANO Paper Mill in Fabriano** (transfer by bus)

[*Visit to the hand papermaking vat room*]

**3:00 pm – 5:00 pm**

**Giuseppe Prezioso**, Export Sales Area & New Paper Development Manager at Fedrigoni Group

- Craftsmanship and technology: papermills of Fabriano today
- The water-powered stamping machine, hand papermaking and watermarks.
- Making handmade paper

# Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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## Module 3 | **Fabriano e the voyage of papermaking**

9:00 am

FABRIANO | Museo della Carta e della Filigrana di Fabriano  
Largo Fratelli Spacca, 2

**9:00 am – 1:00 pm**

**Francesca Mannucci**, Director of the Museum of Paper and the Watermark in Fabriano  
**Claudia Crocetti**, Tourist guide

- The Museum and the Fabriano Archive
  - Art and Architecture of Fabriano: all things speak of paper  
[*Visit to the Museum of Paper, the City Historical Archive, and tour of the city*]
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3:00 pm

FABRIANO | Fondazione Fedrigoni Fabriano  
Viale Pietro Miliani 31/33

Destination: **Chiesa di Santa Maria Maddalena**

**3:30 pm – 5:00 pm**

**Franco Oppiotti**, Camerlengo of Pia Università dei Cartai (Chamberlain of the Guild of Papermakers)  
**Stefania Zeppieri**, Conservator of library and archival materials, works of art on paper and related artifacts  
**Federica Buccolini**, Conservator and restorer of cultural heritage, art historian

- The medieval art of papermakers continues: Pia Università dei Cartai (the Papermakers' Guild)
- “The miracle of Saint Mary Magdalene, protector of the paper-makers”: two restored works of art.

# Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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## Module 4 | **Pioraco il “paese della carta” (Village of Papermaking)**

8:30 am

FABRIANO | Fondazione Fedrigoni Fabriano  
Viale Pietro Miliani 31/33

Destination: **FABRIANO Paper Mill in Pioraco village** (transfer by bus)  
[*Visit to the Pioraco paper mill*]

**9:30 am – 12.30 pm**

**Giuseppe Prezioso**, Export Sales Area & New Paper Development Manager at Fedrigoni Group

- History and transformation of the site: Paper industry set in stone
  - The continuous papermaking machine, Pioraco
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13:30 pm

FABRIANO | Taverna del Palazzo  
Via Balbo, 70

*Closing with lunch offered by the Fabriano Fedrigoni Foundation.*

# Participation Guidelines

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The program is intended **for twelve participants from museums, libraries, archives and/or special collections of paper-based materials selected from an international pool. Private practice conservators will also be considered.**

**The participation fee of € 900 for the program** will be required in two separate installments by the selected candidates: a deposit of € 300 in May and the balance of € 600 in September.

*\*NOTE The program fee for “Exploring Fabriano Paper: History, art and preservation” includes all costs relative to the organization of the program (transportation to all locations, entry tickets for the various establishments described, professional guides for each venue, professional Italian/English translator, group mid-day meal on October 17<sup>th</sup> at the Taverna del Palazzo, and various coffee breaks). In addition, each participant will be invited to select three publications from the Foundation’s various series: “Storia della Carta” and L’era del Segno” (volumes from special limited bi-lingual editions that are not commercially available) to be shipped directly to the participant’s specified address by the Foundation.*

**\*\*\* NOT included in the program are the costs of travel, food and lodging, which must be covered by the participant.** Information regarding options for housing and travel will be provided upon acceptance.

**Interested candidates must complete the application form available online at the website of the Fedrigoni Fabriano Foundation.**

*\*The completion of the form is connected to participation. If you are selected, you will be automatically directed to the procedure for making the initial deposit securing your place.*

The Fedrigoni Fabriano Foundation will select the participants according to the following criteria:

1. Professional field: conservator, archivist and related professionals.
2. Affiliation / Membership in cultural organization
3. How will you share the information acquired in this program

**Deadline:**

- 14 – 28 April: Registration open
- 29 April – 12 May: Selection of Candidates
- 13 – 26 May: Deposit due € 300\*
- 1 – 8 September: Balance due € 600

*\* Refund of the initial deposit will not be available after July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.*