

# *Suffrage Legacies:*

## CIVIL RIGHTS, POLITICAL ACTIVISM, AND ARCHIVES



MARAC SPRING 2021 • VIRTUAL CONFERENCE • APRIL 12 - 16





[Woman's Suffrage Parade, New York], Frederick M. Harrison Photos, NY, 1915. Theodore Stanton Papers, Rutgers University Libraries - Special Collections and University Archives.

## *Welcome* TO MARAC'S FIRST-EVER VIRTUAL CONFERENCE!

The Virtual Arrangements and Program Committees welcome MARAC to a completely online conference experience for spring 2021. This program is based on the Spring 2020 Harrisonburg conference, which was MARAC's first conference canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, followed by Long Branch and Saratoga Springs. While we all can't wait to meet together in-person again at the Fall 2021 Gettysburg conference, we hope that this spring 2021 virtual conference will assist with your professional goals and give you a chance to interact with fellow archivists from the comfort of your home, office, home office, or wherever you find yourself working these days.

2020 marked significant anniversaries of both the Fifteenth (1870) and Nineteenth (1920) Amendments to the U.S. Constitution. These amendments profoundly influenced individual voting rights, while leaving much unfinished civil rights and social justice work to be accomplished and continued into the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Fittingly, the theme for this meeting remains "Suffrage Legacies: Civil Rights, Political Activism, and Archives." Sessions at this conference

reflect the fact that many archival and cultural institutions commemorated these anniversaries in 2020, made accessible records related to voting rights and civil rights activism, and highlighted collections documenting American politics and society in this presidential election year. Whatever your interests or experience level, you will find sessions that enhance your career, inspire your daily work, and deliver insights for positive change.

We endeavored to create a conference format that accommodates a variety of work schedules, caregiving situations, and all-too-prevalent “Zoom fatigue.” While we realize not everyone will be able to attend every session or event, hopefully, there are times that will work for you to find focus and enjoy the conference.

The MARAC Chair will provide welcoming remarks to kick-off the virtual conference on Monday, along with the Program Committee Co-Chairs. The Membership Committee will host a new member orientation immediately after and provide information to new and seasoned members alike about the benefits of being involved in MARAC.

On Tuesday, Sandra Treadway, the Librarian of Virginia, will deliver the Plenary Address, reflecting on her experiences as a historian of Virginia women, her work during the past 40 years in the archival collections of the Library of

Virginia, and the challenges that remain in documenting women’s lives.

Plan to attend the Wednesday state caucus meetings and the Thursday morning business meeting to stay informed on key issues facing the organization. MARAC is *your* organization and values your participation in our shared governance.

Don’t miss the Friday “Luncheon” speaker! Bring your own meal and attend a live episode of *An Archivist’s Tale* podcast, hosted by MARAC members Geof Huth and Karen Trivette, who will interview Kelly Wooten, Reference Librarian at the Sallie Bingham Center for Women’s History and Culture at Duke University. Given Kelly’s work on women’s and LGBTQ history collections, as well as in curating zines, artists’ books by women, and materials documenting modern feminist activism, this interview amplifies the meeting’s theme.

Also included with your registration will be a set of virtual tours showcasing repositories and organizations from the MARAC region. The tours will be available on demand during the conference with live Q&A sessions also scheduled. Please check Sched for full details and tour times during the conference.

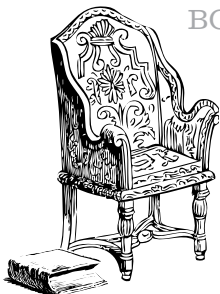
Registration is open on the MARAC website:  
[www.marac.info/spring-2021-conference](http://www.marac.info/spring-2021-conference).

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John Zarrillo, *Georgetown University*

#### CO-CHAIRS, PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Melissa Ziobro, *Monmouth University*

### VENDOR COORDINATOR

Nick Zmijewski, *Industrial Archives & Library*

### PROGRAM CO-EDITORS

Emily Connell, *St. John's College*

David Ranzan, *Adelphi University*



## MONDAY, APRIL 12

- 12:30–1:30 p.m. . . . . Welcome /  
New Member Orientation
- 1:30–3 p.m. . . . . **S1–S2** Concurrent Sessions
- 3–3:30 p.m. . . . . Vendor Sessions
- 3:30–4 p.m. . . . . Break / Chat Rooms
- 3:30–4 p.m. . . . . **Virtual Tour:** Equality in the  
Workforce: Behind the Scenes at  
the IBM Corporate Archives
- 4–5:30 p.m. . . . . **S3–S5** Concurrent Sessions

## TUESDAY, APRIL 13

- 9:30–10:30 a.m. . . . . Plenary
- 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m. . . . . **S6–S7** Concurrent Sessions
- 12–12:30 p.m. . . . . Vendor Sessions
- 12:30–1 p.m. . . . . Break / Chat Rooms
- 12:30–1 p.m. . . . . **Virtual Tour:** Discovering HERstory:  
the Military Women's Memorial
- 1–2:30 p.m. . . . . **S8–S10** Concurrent Sessions

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

- 12:30–1:30 p.m. . . . . Caucus Meetings
- 1:30–3 p.m. . . . . **S11–S12** Concurrent Sessions
- 3–3:30 p.m. . . . . Vendor Sessions
- 3:30–4 p.m. . . . . Break / Chat Rooms
- 3:30–4 p.m. . . . . **Virtual Tour:** African-American  
Suffrage and Civil Rights in the  
Performing Arts from the Civil War  
Through the Vietnam War Era at  
the Library of Congress
- 4–5:30 p.m. . . . . **S13–S15** Concurrent Sessions

## THURSDAY, APRIL 15

- 9:30–10:30 a.m. . . . . Business Meeting
- 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m. . . . . **S16–S17** Concurrent Sessions
- 12–12:30 p.m. . . . . Vendor Sessions
- 12:30–1 p.m. . . . . Break / Chat Rooms
- 12:30–1 p.m. . . . . **Virtual Tour:** Votes for Women:  
Vassar and the Politics of Women's  
Suffrage
- 1–2:30 p.m. . . . . **S18–S20** Concurrent Sessions

## FRIDAY, APRIL 16

- 12:30–1:30 p.m. . . . . Luncheon Speaker
- 1:30–3 p.m. . . . . **S21–S23** Concurrent Sessions
- 3–3:30 p.m. . . . . Vendor Sessions
- 3:30–4 p.m. . . . . **Virtual Tour:** Get Out the Vote:  
Suffrage and Disenfranchisement  
in America
- 3:30–4 p.m. . . . . Break / Chat Rooms

**For additional conference information:**  
[www.marac.info/spring-2021-conference](http://www.marac.info/spring-2021-conference)

**All conference times are Eastern Standard Time. Some  
content may be recorded, including any audience  
participation.**



[Women's Political Union, Private School Teachers], Frederick M. Harrison Photos, NY, undated. Theodore Stanton Papers, Rutgers University Libraries - Special Collections and University Archives.

**MONDAY, APRIL 12**

- 12:30–1:30 p.m. . . . . Welcome /  
New Member Orientation
- 1:30–3 p.m. . . . . **S1–S2** Concurrent Sessions,  
**SEE PAGE 10**
- 3–3:30 p.m. . . . . Vendor Sessions
- 3:30–4 p.m. . . . . Break / Chat Rooms
- 3:30–4 p.m. . . . . **Virtual Tour:** IBM Corporate  
Archives, **SEE PAGE 8**
- 4–5:30 p.m. . . . . **S3–S5** Concurrent Sessions,  
**SEE PAGE 10–11**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 13**

- 9:30–10:30 a.m. . . . . Plenary, **SEE PAGE 7**
- 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m. . . . . **S6–S7** Concurrent Sessions,  
**SEE PAGE 11**
- 12–12:30 p.m. . . . . Vendor Sessions,
- 12:30–1 p.m. . . . . Break / Chat Rooms
- 12:30–1 p.m. . . . . **Virtual Tour:** The Military Women's  
Memorial, **SEE PAGE 8**
- 1–2:30 p.m. . . . . **S8–S10** Concurrent Sessions,  
**SEE PAGE 12**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14**

- 1:30–3 p.m. . . . . **S11–S12** Concurrent Sessions,  
**SEE PAGE 12–13**
- 3–3:30 p.m. . . . . Vendor Sessions
- 3:30–4 p.m. . . . . Break / Chat Rooms
- 3:30–4 p.m. . . . . **Virtual Tour:** African-American  
Suffrage and Civil Rights in the  
Performing Arts, **SEE PAGE 8**
- 4–5:30 p.m. . . . . **S13–S15** Concurrent Sessions,  
**SEE PAGE 14**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 15**

- 9:30–10:30 a.m. . . . . Business Meeting
- 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m. . . . . **S16–S17** Concurrent Sessions,  
**SEE PAGE 15**
- 12–12:30 p.m. . . . . Vendor Sessions
- 12:30–1 p.m. . . . . Break / Chat Rooms
- 12:30–1 p.m. . . . . **Virtual Tour:** Vassar and the Politics  
of Women's Suffrage, **SEE PAGE 9**
- 1–2:30 p.m. . . . . **S18–S20** Concurrent Sessions,  
**SEE PAGE 16–17**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 16**

- 12:30–1:30 p.m. . . . . Luncheon Speaker, **SEE PAGE 7**
- 1:30–3 p.m. . . . . **S21–S23** Concurrent Sessions,  
**SEE PAGE 17**
- 3–3:30 p.m. . . . . Vendor Sessions
- 3:30–4 p.m. . . . . Break / Chat Rooms
- 3:30–4 p.m. . . . . **Virtual Tour:** Get Out the Vote  
exhibition at The University of  
Maryland, **SEE PAGE 9**

## VIRTUAL POSTER PRESENTATION

The MARAC virtual poster presentation is an asynchronous presentation focusing on the conference theme of “Suffrage Legacies: Civil Rights, Political Activism, and Archives” and archives generally. Each presentation is less than 5 minutes. To view the posters, please visit: <https://go.rutgers.edu/MARACposters>. We encourage you to leave feedback for our poster presenters, many of whom are students and emerging scholars. The posters will remain online after the conference.

## TUESDAY, APRIL 13

## PLENARY | 9:30–10:30 A.M.

**Making Invisible Women Visible: Women’s History and Women in the Archives, 1970–2020**

**Sandra Gioia Treadway, Librarian of Virginia**

The development of women’s history as a vibrant field of study had a profound effect on the archival profession across the United States. Drawing on her experience as a historian of Virginia women and her work during the past 40 years in the archival collections of the Library of Virginia, Sandra Gioia Treadway will describe the transformations in both fields that she has witnessed during her career. She will reflect on the great strides that archival repositories in Virginia have made in preserving the record of women’s lives and activism while looking ahead to the challenges that remain.

Treadway has served as Librarian of Virginia since July 2007, overseeing the Library’s comprehensive collection of print and manuscript materials documenting the history, culture, and government of Virginia. She holds a doctoral degree in American History from the University of Virginia and a master’s degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Tennessee. The author of *Women of Mark: A History of the Woman’s Club of Richmond, Virginia, 1894–1994*, Treadway is also co-editor of *The Common Wealth: Treasures From the Collections of the Library of Virginia* and several women’s history anthologies. She has served as president of the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies and the Southern Association of Women Historians, and on the board of the Council of State Archivists.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 16

## “LUNCHEON” SPEAKER | 12:30–1:30 P.M.

**An Archivist’s Tale: Live with Kelly Wooten**

**Kelly Wooten, Reference Librarian at the Sallie Bingham Center for Women’s History and Culture at Duke University**  
**Geof Huth and Karen Trivette, Co-hosts of An Archivist’s Tale**

Married archivists Geof Huth and Karen Trivette began recording episodes of their weekly podcast, *An Archivist’s Tale*, in February 2018. They have recorded over 100 conversations across many states and in nine countries. To date, all the interviews have been recorded in person; however, this event will be the first episode to be recorded with an audience. Please join in the conversation with Huth and Trivette as they interview Kelly Wooten, Research Services and Collection Development Librarian for the Sallie Bingham Center for Women’s History and Culture, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University. Audience members will have an opportunity to submit questions ahead of time and as many as possible will be addressed at the end of the episode.

In her role as a librarian, Wooten offers reference, instruction, and outreach for women’s and LGBTQ history collections, and curates zines, artists’ books by women, and materials documenting modern feminist activism. She is co-editor of *Make Your Own History: Documenting Feminist and Queer Activism in the 21st Century*.

Huth is the Chief Records Officer and the Chief Law Librarian of the New York State Unified Court System. Associate Professor Trivette is Head of Special Collections and College Archives, Gladys Marcus Library, Fashion Institute of Technology-State University of New York; she is the first incumbent to hold this position and has served in this role since 2008. She holds an MLS with a concentration in Archives and Records Management, University at Albany (NY) and a BA in Art History, UNC-Chapel Hill (NC).

## VIRTUAL TOURS

MARAC is pleased to offer a selection of free virtual tours in conjunction with the conference. Each tour will explore aspects of the conference's Suffrage Legacies theme and will provide insights into repositories from throughout the MARAC region. The tours will be offered in both live and asynchronous formats and there will be a live Q&A session following each presentation. Institutions offering tours include the IBM Corporate Archives, the Military Women's Memorial, Vassar College Library. Look for more information about these and other tours on Sched.

## MONDAY, APRIL 12 | 3:30–4 P.M.

## EQUALITY IN THE WORKFORCE: BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE IBM CORPORATE ARCHIVES

**PRESENTER:** Jamie Martin, *IBM*

The IBM Corporate Archives has a collection of images, documents, and videos that showcases aspects of IBM's overall commitment to diversity, inclusion, and equity initiatives in the workplace. The virtual tour will show off some highlights from the collection, including materials such as IBM's Equal Opportunity hiring practices and early policy documents, the IBM Chinese typewriter, the Navajo font for the IBM Selectric Typewriter, the IBM Braille typewriter, IBM's activities with text-to-speech technology, and other products and programs geared to people with disabilities. The tour will highlight the ingenuity of these programs and machines that made the workforce more equitable for IBMers and for office workers in general.

## TUESDAY, APRIL 13 | 12:30–1 P.M.

## DISCOVERING HERSTORY: THE MILITARY WOMEN'S MEMORIAL

**PRESENTER:** Amy Poe, *The Military Women's Memorial*

The Military Women's Memorial, located at the gateway to Arlington National Cemetery, honors and tells the stories of women, past and present, who serve our nation in, or with, the United States Armed Forces. This virtual tour will highlight the Memorial's history and hard-won efforts to create a national memorial to women's military service and an education center and will walk participants through key features of the facility. An overview of the collections and the recently updated Register—the two methods by which the staff at the Memorial gather and preserve stories of women's service—will be followed by a snapshot of the most recent exhibit, “The Color of Freedom: Honoring the Diversity of America's Servicewomen.”

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14 | 3:30–4 P.M.

## AFRICAN-AMERICAN SUFFRAGE AND CIVIL RIGHTS IN THE PERFORMING ARTS FROM THE CIVIL WAR THROUGH THE VIETNAM WAR ERA

**PRESENTER:** Anita Weber, *Library of Congress*

Resistance to racial segregation and discrimination takes many forms in the United States, from civil disobedience, to boycotts, marches, and protests. That resistance also became impassioned music, poetry, theater, and dance. The Library of Congress Music Division invites you on a virtual tour of its wealth of holdings documenting the civil rights struggle from the Civil War to the Vietnam War era. Through notated music, photographs, correspondence, and the stories behind compositions, the presenter will share the creation of new songs from political events including the efforts of jazz musicians Max Roach and Abbey Lincoln to create “We Insist! The Freedom Now Suite;” the passion of the early 1960s civil rights movement expressed in Billy Taylor's “I Wish I Knew How It Feels to Be Free;” and works by bassist/bandleader Charles Mingus, who composed, “Fables of Faubus” in reaction to the resistance toward school integration and channeled his anger over racial discrimination into “Haitian Fight Song.” Dance collections of Alvin Ailey, and Edith Segal, who proudly proclaimed “Art is a Weapon” will be featured. Through these unique collection materials, the Music Division can share the perspective of many artists, and how their work gave voice to the civil rights movement.



**THURSDAY, APRIL 15 | 12:30–1 P.M.**

## **VOTES FOR WOMEN: VASSAR AND THE POLITICS OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE**

**PRESENTERS:** Mark Seidel and Nicole Scalessa,  
*Vassar College*

"Votes for Women: Vassar and the Politics of Women's Suffrage" is an online exhibition launched in September 2020 to coincide with the centennial of the 19th Amendment. The exhibition was originally planned as a physical exhibit in the Vassar College Library. However, restrictions compelled by the COVID-19 pandemic required those who were planning the exhibition to rethink it for an online environment.

The exhibition highlights the contribution to the women's suffrage movement of the students, alumnae, and faculty of Vassar College. Drawing on materials in the College Archives, the exhibition documents their involvement with the suffrage issue both on and off campus. Among the featured names, some—such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Harriot Stanton Blatch, and Inez Milholland—will be familiar to many viewers. Others, such as Elsie Hill, Elizabeth McShane Hilles, and Hazel Hunkins Hallinan—may be less so. Together, these activists' achievements make up the rich story of Vassar's involvement with one of the great struggles for full citizenship in the United States.

The virtual tour will guide participants through the exhibition website, highlighting some of the notable documents and images it includes. In addition, the tour will address design and technological issues related to the website.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 16 | 3:30–4 P.M.**

## **GET OUT THE VOTE: SUFFRAGE AND DISENFRANCHISEMENT IN AMERICA**

**PRESENTERS:** Laura Cleary and Amber Kohl,  
*University of Maryland*

"Get Out the Vote: Suffrage and Disenfranchisement in America" uses collections from the University of Maryland Libraries Special Collections and University Archives to illustrate the history of voting rights in America. Join exhibition curators for a guided tour of the virtual exhibition, highlighting items from the collections that inspired it.

One of the driving forces behind the American Revolution was demand in the colonies for a representative government free from the tyranny of the British monarchy. Since then, arguments about the nature of American democracy and who has the right to vote have been at the forefront of our nation's politics. Despite the importance of suffrage in America, voting rights have not always been ensured for everyone. Limitations in election laws and how they are applied have made a significant impact on who can vote, often excluding African-Americans, women, minority populations, and poorer communities. Racism, sexism, and classism, as well as fear of voter fraud and apprehension over losing political power have led to the passage of laws that disenfranchise specific populations and restrict opportunities for citizens to participate in democracy. At the heart of the fight for voting rights are these advocates and grassroots organizations who have demanded expanding the right to vote. Their individual and collective voices have driven major changes to American voting rights, moving the nation closer to the ideal of "one person, one vote."



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**MONDAY, APRIL 12 | 1:30–3 P.M.****S1. CRAWLING THROUGH CURRENT EVENTS: HOW WEB ARCHIVISTS DOCUMENT POLITICS, RACIAL JUSTICE, AND COVID-19****MODERATOR:** Steven Gentry, *University of Michigan*

**SPEAKERS:** Zakiya Collier, *Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture*  
 Christie Moffatt, *U.S. National Library of Medicine*  
 Kara McClurken, *University of Virginia*  
 Melissa Wertheimer, *Library of Congress*

Web content is uniquely ephemeral. Resources with significant historical value are frequently removed from public access without notice. This panel will explore how archivists use web archiving to document the current moment, especially the COVID-19 pandemic, women in politics, and racial justice. Panelists from the Library of Congress, National Library of Medicine, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, and University of Virginia will discuss practical and theoretical considerations underpinning their web archiving projects, collecting goals and scopes, challenges experienced, solutions devised, and lessons learned.

**S2. RECENT ARCHIVAL RESEARCH BY GRADUATE STUDENTS****MODERATOR:** Joni Floyd, *University of Maryland*

**PRESENTERS:** Marissa Ajanian, *New York University*  
 Ben Jackson, *University of Maryland*  
 Max Thorn, *Queens College, City University of New York*

This session features three papers by graduate students in the region. Topics include the connection between archives and dance, popular music collections and the digital humanities, and the integration of civil rights materials into archival literacy. Abstracts available at the MARAC blog: <https://bit.ly/3skuyya>

**MONDAY, APRIL 12 | 4–5:30 P.M.****S3. URBAN ACTIVISM AND ARCHIVES****MODERATOR:** David Grinnell, *University of Pittsburgh*

**PRESENTERS:** Chris Anglim, *University of the District of Columbia*  
 Jon Klosinski, *University of Pittsburgh*  
 Elizabeth E. Parker, *Cornell University*

Documenting urban activism is a complex endeavor for any archival program. The remaining record reflects the unpredictable conditions of urban living, as well as the passion of community members for various causes. This session will examine those considerations as pursued by three different institutions in the Mid-Atlantic. One paper will cover the legacy of activism found at the University of the District of Columbia and its predecessor institutions. Another paper will address the intersection of environmental and community activism as documented in the University of Pittsburgh Archives. The third paper will explore the relation of labor organizing, urban protest, and archives as captured in the Kheel Center for Labor-Management Documentation & Archives, Cornell University.

**S4. ARCHIVES AND FOIA IN THE POST-UNITE THE RIGHT RALLY ERA****MODERATOR:** Arian Ravanbakhsh, *National Archives and Records Administration*

**SPEAKERS:** Timothy D. Baker, *Maryland State Archives*  
 Alan Gernhardt, *Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council*  
 Megan Rhyne, *Virginia Coalition for Open Government*

In the years since the Unite the Right white supremacy rally in Charlottesville and the removal of Confederate statues in cities across the country, supporters and opponents have utilized archives and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests in response to these issues and events. This panel discussion will open dialogue on how archives can help inform the process of political decision-making, the issues FOIA requestors and responders face, and how FOIA application is uniquely both bi-partisan and non-partisan. Questions from attendees are welcomed, as well as shared experiences related to these topics.

## S5. EDUCATION AND OUTREACH: TOOLS TO ENCOURAGE AND HIGHLIGHT DIVERSITY IN COLLECTIONS

### MODERATOR/SPEAKER:

Maria Day, *Maryland State Archives*

### SPEAKERS:

Mario Harley, *Piscataway Conoy Tribal Council*

Gabrielle Tayac, *George Mason University*

Archivists in this session will discuss how using outreach activities and techniques can be a function of advocacy, leading to greater community engagement and bolstering diversity and representation in the archives. A leader of the Piscataway Conoy in Maryland will discuss the challenges of doing archival research on a resurging Tribal community to document and present their community history. Archivists from the Maryland State Archives will focus on their long-term outreach efforts working with the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives to establish relationships with communities throughout the state. A historian from George Mason University will add to the conversation, highlighting the importance and challenges of documenting indigenous communities' histories.

## TUESDAY, APRIL 13 | 10:30 A.M.–12 P.M.

## S6. ENGAGEMENT WITH LOCAL AND INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY INITIATIVES: RECENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE ARCHIVES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

### SPEAKERS:

Emily Bowden, *University of Virginia*

Dan Cavanaugh, *University of Virginia*

Randi Flaherty, *University of Virginia School of Law*

In recent years, interest in local and institutional history in the Charlottesville-Albemarle region has created new opportunities and challenges for archivists at the University of Virginia. This session will share work undertaken at the University of Virginia Claude Moore Health Sciences Library and Arthur J. Morris Law Library in response to these developments. The presentation will discuss the archivist's role as an active researcher, scholarly collaborator, and exhibition curator, as well as ways in which local and institutional history initiatives have reshaped technical archival work in our repositories. The speakers hope that sharing these experiences with MARAC colleagues will prompt discussion about how archivists balance different roles to serve their institutions and local communities.

## S7. UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES AT 2021: ARE WE THERE YET?

**MODERATOR:** Aaron D. Purcell, *Virginia Tech*

### SPEAKERS:

Zach Brodt, *University of Pittsburgh*

Maureen Cech, *Misericordia University*

Marilyn Parrish, *Millersville University*

College and university campuses are vibrant places, full of change in terms of technology, leadership, and purpose. Two decades into the twenty-first century, academic archivists are faced with the challenges of today, yesterday, and tomorrow. The struggle between completing analog-based archival work while building digital collections with the latest and greatest tools is all too real. This session features three university archivists, at different stages of their careers, who will discuss how changes in practice in the past twenty years has affected their archives programs and shaped the future. The moderator will contextualize the session by reviewing several predictions about the future role of archivists made in the book *Academic Archives* (Neal-Schuman, 2012).



"Civil Rights March on Washington, D.C.," August 28, 1963. Warren K. Leffler, photographer, Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress. [www.loc.gov/item/2003654393/](https://www.loc.gov/item/2003654393/)



**TUESDAY, APRIL 13 | 1–2:30 P.M.****S8. AFRICAN AMERICAN VOTING IN KENTUCKY AND VIRGINIA: 1867–1902****MODERATOR:** John G. Deal, *The Library of Virginia***PRESENTERS:** Donald A. DeBats, *University of Virginia*  
Cara Griggs, *The Library of Virginia*  
Sarah John, *University of Virginia*

In 1867, African American men voted for the first time in Virginia. In 1870, the Fifteenth Amendment enfranchised African American men across the United States, including in Kentucky. Poll books, which document those who voted in late nineteenth and early twentieth century elections, can be used to address questions ranging from voting methods to the early impacts of the Fifteenth Amendment. Cara Griggs will discuss how she uses these records to teach about resources that are useful for researching African Americans in Virginia in the decades following the Civil War. Don DeBats and Sarah John will show that, when matched with other records, poll books reveal high levels of Black political participation into the 1890s, directly challenging the idea of the Fifteenth Amendment's failure.

**S9. INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORY AND ARCHIVES PARTNERSHIPS AND FUTURES****MODERATOR:** Brigitte Kamsler, *George Washington University***SPEAKERS:** Elizabeth James, *Marshall University*  
Lindsey Harper, *Marshall University*  
Lori Thompson, *Marshall University*  
Gretchen Beach, *Marshall University*

While institutional repositories are traditionally understood as platforms for collecting, preserving, and disseminating the scholarly output of an institution, archivists and archives at these institutions can be left out of conversations regarding their development and use. Marshall University's institutional repository, Marshall Digital Scholar, not only hosts university archives materials and other output created by the university but was expanded to include finding aids for manuscript collections, digital exhibits, digitized materials, and complex digital objects. The speakers will discuss the advantages and disadvantages this project, as well as future opportunities for developing unique forms of scholarship using institutional repositories.

**S10. POSTMODERNISM IN THE PERFORMING ARTS ARCHIVE****MODERATOR:** Matthew V. Testa, *Johns Hopkins University***PRESENTERS:** Rachel McNellis, *Library of Congress*  
Christina Taylor Gibson, *University of Maryland*  
Susan Wiesner, *University of Maryland*

As Jacques Derrida observed in *Archive Fever*, the decision to preserve something and incorporate it into cultural memory is an act of power. Although traditional archival practice privileges institutional records kept in original order, post-modern critiques like Derrida's have caused scholars and archivists to formulate creative approaches to description, discovery, and access. Such techniques have particular implications for the performing arts archive. Through case studies and life experiences, each of the scholar-archivists on this panel will explore post-modern approaches within the archival environment.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14 | 1:30–3 P.M.****S11. UNFOLDING STORIES: CONVEYING DIFFICULT HISTORIES THROUGH THE ARCHIVES****MODERATOR/SPEAKER:**Blair Williams, *Cumberland County Historical Society***SPEAKERS:** Lindsay Varner, *Rokeby Museum*  
Cara Curtis, *Cumberland County Historical Society*

Founded in 1874, the Cumberland County Historical Society (CCHS) was not inclusive within the local community. CCHS discriminated against People of Color, the LGBTQIA community, and lower income groups. These policies were not expressed in writing; they were implicit and impact the institution's current collections scope. CCHS is working with residents and local organizations to recognize the exclusive standards of the past and build a more inclusive narrative. Speakers will discuss how confronting difficult topics in the community and within the institution, including utilizing a Pennsylvania Humanities program called "Community Heart & Soul," will inform outreach efforts by asking what matters most and cultivating connections to communities underrepresented in the collections.

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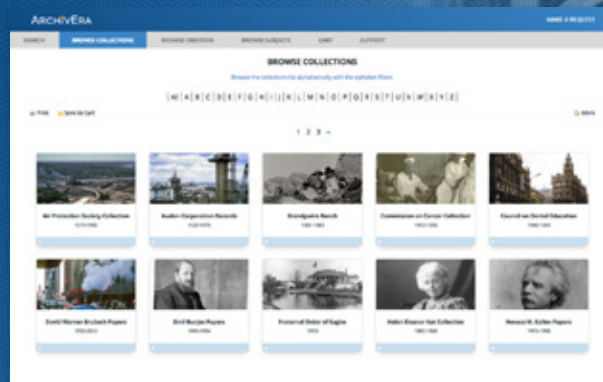
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## S12. DIGITAL PRESERVATION PEER ASSESSMENT: PLANNING TO PROTECT TODAY'S DIGITAL ACTIVIST RECORDS TOGETHER

**INSTRUCTOR:** Sean Ferguson, *Northeast Document Conservation Center*

Archives of all sizes are showing an interest in collecting records of political activism, including community archives, historical societies, and university repositories. Records of political activism created today are predominantly digital, and planning, implementing, and maintaining a digital preservation program to protect them is a complex undertaking. Assessment helps repositories at varying stages in their programs find solutions to shared challenges. Session attendees will use the Digital Preservation Peer Assessment Handbook, a free resource, to begin assessing their digital preservation activities and create paths forward together.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14 | 4–5:30 P.M.**

## S13. COMMEMORATING WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN THE COMMONWEALTH

**MODERATOR:** Wesley Chenault, *Cornell University*

**PRESENTERS:** Barbara Batson and Mari Julienne, *The Library of Virginia*

Ted Delaney, *Lynchburg Museum*

Pamela Johnson and Julia Merkel, *James Madison University*

Karen Sherry, *Virginia Museum of History & Culture*

This session focuses on Virginia's statewide commemoration of the centennial of the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The Virginia Museum of History & Culture and the Library of Virginia are the primary organizing bodies of the commemoration and are partnering with cultural institutions throughout the commonwealth. Presenters from four of these institutions will discuss their exhibitions, as well as their research projects and educational initiatives. They will highlight local history discoveries, successful collaborations, and the challenges of telling women's suffrage history in the 21st century.

## S14. YOU GOTTA START SOMEWHERE: LEVERAGING EDUCATION AND COLLABORATION TO CREATE MEANINGFUL INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCES

**MODERATOR:** Don Cornelius, *State Archives of New Jersey*

**SPEAKERS:** Ray Barker, *District of Columbia Public Library*

Laura Cleary, *University of Maryland*

Sheridan Sayles, *Seton Hall University*

Student and non-archivist employees and interns are a fundamental part of the archival workforce that often fall into the background. While training these rising archivists can be a challenge, these relationships also provide archival professionals a chance to develop projects that address backlogs, while also providing educational opportunities to potential future colleagues. At the same time, these projects give us the chance to see our processes with fresh eyes and more diverse ideas. In public and academic library settings, these experiences help expose emerging archivists to the daily workload of archives professionals. This presentation will showcase examples of how three distinct organizations have integrated students and non-archivists into their processing, exhibition, and outreach activities.

## S15. VISUAL LITERACY MINI-WORKSHOP

**INSTRUCTOR:** Hillary Kativa, *Science History Institute*

Like letters, diaries, and other written records, photographs are forms of historical evidence that convey information about a subject, place, or time period. Yet, archival photographs often are treated as mere illustrations taken at face value rather than examined critically to uncover the narratives they tell. Through a combination of discussion, exercises, and lecture, this workshop will provide an introduction to the concept of visual literacy and engage participants with common strategies for reading and researching pictorial images. In addition, a portion of the workshop will be devoted to strategies for teaching visual literacy to students, researchers, and the general public.



THURSDAY, APRIL 15 | 10:30 A.M.–12 P.M.

**S16. CHALLENGING WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE NARRATIVES****MODERATOR:** Ashleigh D. Coren, *National Portrait Gallery***PRESENTERS:** Amanda Burdan, *Brandywine River Museum of Art*Rachel Guberman, *Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America*Fernanda Perrone, *Rutgers University*

Exhibitions provide archives, libraries, and museums the opportunity to consider new historical narratives, showcase collection materials, collaborate across the profession, and commemorate important historical events, including the centennial of the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Panelists in this session will address how and why their institution decided to observe the women's suffrage centennial with a major exhibition. From "restoring" women's right to vote in New Jersey, to the usage of visual culture and representations as media tactics, each institution decided to focus on different elements of the suffrage narrative and the political strategies suffragists used in their fight for the vote. Inequities in the suffrage movement and the challenges of incorporating contributions of women from all walks-of-life into a more inclusive narrative will be an important focus of the discussion.

**S17. ONE STEP BACK, TWO STEPS FORWARD: APPROACHES TO REPROCESSING FOR ACCESS AND DIGITAL ASSETS****MODERATOR:** Laura Bell, *University of Baltimore***SPEAKERS:** Dara Baker, *National Archives and Records Administration*Amanda Brent, *George Mason University*Renee Brown, *University of Maryland Global Campus*Ashley Todd-Diaz and Felicity Knox, *Towson University*

Many archives face the challenges of juggling large backlogs, a continuous stream of accessions, and outdated collection descriptions with limited resources, or all the above. Although the archival literature increasingly discusses arrangement and description as a cyclical process, these ideas are not as acknowledged in archival education or practical training. Concepts to be addressed in this session include learning to process or reprocess previously created artificial collections with poor description to improve in-person and digital access; tackling legacy practices and creating reprocessing workflows; and thinking about reprocessing in the age of born-digital and digitized collections. Panelists will share details of their projects, theoretical and real-world challenges, and lessons learned.

"Penn[sylvania] [suffragists] on the picket line," 1917. Harris & Ewing, Washington, D.C., photographer, National Woman's Party records, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress. [www.loc.gov/item/mnwp000212](http://www.loc.gov/item/mnwp000212)





"National Anti-Suffrage Association," circa 1911. Harris & Ewing, Washington, D.C., photographer. Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress. [www.loc.gov/item/97500067](http://www.loc.gov/item/97500067)

**THURSDAY, APRIL 15 | 1-2:30 P.M.**

#### **S18. ARCHIVING PEACE WORK COLLECTIONS**

**MODERATOR:** Stephanie S. Gardner, *Bridgewater College*

**PRESENTER:** Rachel M. Grove Rohrbaugh,  
*Elizabethtown College*

Devin Manzullo-Thomas, *Messiah College*

Anne M. Yoder, *Swarthmore College*

From the Anabaptist traditions of the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia to other historic peace work, presenters will share the challenges and rewards of managing nonresistance, pacifist, and peace-building archives, and speak about why preserving and voicing the peace perspective is important. Topics to be addressed include curating, interpreting, and teaching about faith-based peace work, both as an archivist previously unfamiliar with such traditions and as one who affiliates with the tradition, but works closely with constituents who have little knowledge of faith-based peace work—and are sometimes skeptical of it. The session will include a discussion of the secondary trauma that may be experienced when working with archival collections that contain peace workers' troubling accounts of wartime, famine relief, and medical work, and will offer strategies to prevent being overwhelmed.

#### **S19. ARCHIVING THE ALSO-RANS: THE VALUE OF DEFEATED PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE PAPERS**

**MODERATOR:** Sharmila Bhatia, *National Archives and Records Administration*

**SPEAKERS:** Michael Comeau, *Massachusetts State Archives*

Alan Delozier, *Seton Hall University*

Autumn Haag, *University of Rochester*

When it comes to the race for the White House, have you ever wondered what becomes of those who finished behind the victor? Even those who did not have a successful campaign—regardless of party—still constitute an important, yet often-overlooked body of archival records in most cases. The diversity of candidates and where their manuscript collections ultimately end up is an interesting study in how their respective legacies are preserved. This panel will explore various aspects of political records, including the topic's background, acquisition stories, and examples of research use. An emphasis will be placed on advocating for resources needed to process and make these collections complete and dynamic. Individual examples will include Bill Bradley, Thomas E. Dewey, George McGovern, and Adlai Stevenson among others whose legacies have lived on past Election Day.

## S20. CONFLICT IN THE COMMONWEALTH: DISCOVERING AND DISSEMINATING RACIST CONTENT IN VIRGINIA COLLEGE YEARBOOKS

**MODERATOR:** Brenda Gunn, *University of Virginia*

**SPEAKERS:** Lynn Eaton, *George Mason University*  
Jodi Koste, *Virginia Commonwealth University*  
Steve Bookman, *Old Dominion University*

In 2019, the Commonwealth of Virginia found itself amidst controversy with the discovery of racist photographs in the college yearbooks of Governor Ralph Northam and other high-ranking officials. As a result, many colleges and universities in Virginia initiated audits of their yearbooks. In this breakout session, the panelists will begin with presentations highlighting the motivations behind the audits at their institutions, how they accomplished their tasks, what they discovered, how they presented their findings to the public, and how this controversy may have caused archivists to question their own collection management decisions. The session will continue with a discussion about how others have conducted yearbook audits and what they discovered and learned.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 16 | 1:30–3 P.M.**

## S21. HEAR HER VOICE: COLLABORATING TO SHARE A CENTURY OF WOMEN'S ACTIVISM

**MODERATOR:** Lindsay Van Tine, *Historical Society of Pennsylvania*

**SPEAKERS:** Margery Sly, *Temple University*  
Jessica Clark, *University of Pennsylvania*

Twenty archives, five grants, four co-PIs, and two project managers walk into a database... and walk out with 200,000 digitized frames. The Philadelphia Area Consortium of Special Collections Libraries project, "In Her Own Right," showcases the stories of women working to expand women's rights during the century prior to gaining the right to vote in the United States. Looking back on the last few years and looking forward to the project wrap-up in mid-2021, some of those who "made it happen" will tell tales of challenges met (or not) and opportunities uncovered. A staff member from a participating institution, a principal investigator, and the project manager will each share their top tips for large-scale, long-term, grant-funded, collaborative success.

## S22. RESTORING THE HARMONY: (RE)ESTABLISHING ORDER IN ARCHIVES

**MODERATOR:** Christine Ameduri, *McDonogh School*

**SPEAKERS:** Brianna LoSardo, *Archdiocese of Newark Archives*  
Heather Perez, *Stockton University*  
Stephanie Sussmeier, *Westminster Choir College of Rider University*

Managing an archival repository can be a daunting task for any professional archivist, but even more so when those collections have been "meddled" with by well-intentioned, but untrained personnel. Where do you begin to (re)-establish archival standards? How do you process these records and manuscripts that have lost some—or most—of their original order, provenance, or were adulterated with ancillary materials? What is the best approach to organizing and describing these collections without further disturbing their current organization? Panelists will discuss problems they have encountered processing their institution's collections, presenting inventive solutions and workarounds that still meet archival standards. They will also discuss when and where they found it important to compromise and move on.

## S23. SUFFRAGE LEGACIES AT HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

**MODERATOR:** Gladys Bell, *Hampton University*

**PRESENTERS:** Ida Jones, *Morgan State University*  
Lopez Matthews, *Howard University*

Archivists and archival collections at Historically Black Colleges and Universities are uniquely situated to offer insights into voting rights struggles for people of color and in particular for women of color. Participants in this session will discuss how their institution and collections have preserved voting rights history and how the material that tells this story is being shared during the anniversaries of both the Fifteenth and Nineteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.



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