

REPORT OF THE CUSTER COMMITTEE

Submitted by Molly Tighe

November 4, 2013

The Custer Awards Committee is pleased to announce the 2013 award recipients.

The Arline Custer Memorial Award for Books goes to E. Richard McKinstry for his book, *Charles Magnus, Lithographer: Illustrating America's Past, 1850-1900*.

Published by Oak Knoll Press in April of 2013, *Charles Magnus, Lithographer: Illustrating America's Past, 1850-1900* is a visual delight that provides a well-written, clearly organized resource for exploring Magnus' important work as a leading lithographer in the United States in the late 19th century. McKinstry analyzes Magnus' within the context of the immigrant experience, highlighting the lithographer's significant artistic contributions now imprinted upon the American record.

The Custer Award for Articles goes to Christine Anne George for her article, *Archives Beyond the Pale: Negotiating Legal and Ethical Entanglements after the Belfast Project* published in the *American Archivist* in May of 2013

The committee felt the article provided a thought-provoking treatment of the Belfast Project oral histories case with a thorough survey of the legal basis for the concept of privilege as applied to journalists, scholars, and archival collections. Moreover, George challenges the professional archival community to consider how to protect the rights of participants in oral history interviews.

The Committee received 10 nominations for the Custer Award. The committee will continue to research publicity venues for the award announcements.

MARAC

Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference

Delaware • District of Columbia • Maryland • New Jersey
New York • Pennsylvania • Virginia • West Virginia

Distinguished Service Award Committee Report Fall 2013

Members:

- Ed Galloway – Chair
- Lauren Brown – Ex-Officio
- Claire Hope
- Karl Niederer

The “call” for nominations is gearing up. A leaflet announcing the DSA and how to nominate a colleague was created and will be stuffed in the Fall conference packets.

The portion of the MARAC Operations Manual that details the work of the DSA Committee is complete.

I will ask Caucus Chairs to kindly make an announcement about the DSA during their caucus meetings.

An article has been drafted for publication in the winter issue of the MAA encouraging nominations.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Galloway
Chair, DSA Committee

MARAC Education Committee Report
Brian Keough, October 30, 2013

Fall 2013 conference travel awards

The following individuals were selected for travel awards to attend the fall 2013 conference in Philadelphia:

\$400 – Sarah Denison, Processing Archivist, Delaware Public Archives

\$250 – Nicholas M. Beste, Graduate Assistant, University of Maryland-College Park

\$250 – Eisha Neely, Reproductions and Exhibitions Coordinator, Cornell University

\$250 – Erin Shaw, Graduate Assistant, New York University Archives

Leonard Rapport Modern Archives Institute Scholarship.

The scholarship covers the tuition, and up to \$750 in travel expenses with demonstration of need, a submitted budget, and receipts. For this scholarship, an individual must currently be employed in the MARAC region in an archival or archives-related position. Applicants should submit a resume; a cover letter including a statement of the expected benefits of attending the Institute; and two letters of recommendation from persons having knowledge of the applicant's work and qualifications. **DEADLINES:** Applications for the winter Institute scholarship should be received no later than **November 15, 2013**; the recipient will be notified by December 1. All scholarship applications should be sent by email to the current chair of the MARAC Education Committee by the deadlines listed: Brian Keough, University at Albany, bkeough@albany.edu

Recent Workshops

The Education Committee has organized the following workshops, which are eligible for Academy of Certified Archivist re-certification credit. To register for any of our upcoming workshops, please go to:

<http://www.marac.info/workshops>

Copyright Fundamentals for Archivists and Librarians – Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Location: University of Pittsburgh

Instructor: Peter Hirtle, Cornell University Library. **Number of attendees: 40**

Description: Even in the best of times, the uncertain copyright status of archival and special collection materials makes many archivists and librarians uncomfortable. As more and more repositories think about making material available on the web, anxiety about possible copyright infringement increases. This workshop will explore what strategies special collections can follow to minimize the risks inherent when reproducing and distributing unique and/or unpublished material. Topics covered will include an introduction to basic copyright law and the Digital Millennium Copyright Act; exemptions to copyright such as fair use and the specific exemptions for libraries and archives; methods for assessing the copyright status of materials; and issues associated with particular formats. Attendees should leave with a better understanding of the basics of copyright and be in a better position to work with senior administrators to establish a mutually acceptable level of institutional risk.

Project Management for Archival Processing, Friday, September 27, 2013

Location: National Archives & Records Administration, College Park, MD

Instructor: Vincent Novara, University of Maryland. **Number of attendees: 30**

Description: This workshop focuses on introductory techniques and common tools for project management. Workshop participants will learn how to establish, define, plan, implement, and execute archival projects. Attention is given to strengthening prioritization skills and workflow planning as they pertain to processing projects executed by various levels of staffing, including the lone arranger. The workshop also addresses interpretive projects such as exhibitions and digital initiatives. Attendees will learn how to determine project goals and objectives, compose project objective statements, establish work breakdown structures, estimate project budgets, create project and communication plans, schedule and track tasks using Gantt Charts, and conduct a post-project evaluation. Throughout the workshop, standard project management terminology is applied to common archives tasks, and an overview is given of Earned Value Assessment.

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November 7, 2013

To: MARAC STEERING COMMITTEE

FROM: ARIAN D. RAVANBAKSH, CHAIR, ELECTRONIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE

RE: ELECTRONIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT – FALL 2013

Submitted to the Steering Committee at the Fall Meeting on Thursday, November 7, 2013 in Philadelphia, PA.

Committee Membership

No changes to report.

Work of the ERC

The ERC has not met since the last Steering Committee meeting. However, the Committee has:

- 1) Worked with the a representative from the program committee for Philadelphia on the MARAC Guidebook mobile application.
- 2) Continued working with to maintain the MARAC Drum instance. We have 20 items from the Erie meeting in the DRUM and hope to increase that for each subsequent meeting.

Issues for Steering

None at this time

Finding Aids Committee Report
MARAC Steering Committee Meeting
Philadelphia, PA
November 9, 2013

The C. Herbert Finch Award was presented to The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) for the web site *Founders Online* (<http://founders.archives.gov/>). The site provides access to the writings of the founding fathers in partnership with the University of Virginia Press.

The committee received nine submissions for the Finch award.

The call for submissions for the Finding Aids Award was sent out. No submissions have been received yet, but follow-up calls will be sent in the coming months.

MARAC
Membership Development Committee Report
November 2013

Membership

- Rachel Grove Rohrbaugh, Chair
- Sara Borden
- Salome A.R. Jeronimo
- Jaime Margalotti
- Carolina Palacios
- Laurie Rizzo, Secretary (ex officio)
- Jason Speck
- Laurie Thomas
- Tammy Hamilton, MARAC Administrator (ex officio)

Progress and news

- Rachel and committee members Sara Borden, Jason Speck, and Laurie Thomas worked with Tammy to update the text of the MARAC membership brochure. A design mock-up was created by the graphic designer at Dickinson College, and we are currently soliciting photos from the membership and working with the designer to edit the layout.
- We are finalizing preparations for the new member orientation at the Philadelphia meeting.
- Rachel met and consulted with the working group that is examining the MARAC Strategic Plan in concert with an Action Plan based on recommendations from the Membership Survey.
- We recently updated the new member e-mail to include information on scholarships, contributing to the MAA, and the MARAC blog.



**Fall 2013 NATIONAL COALITION FOR HISTORY REPORT
MARAC Steering Committee Meeting
Philadelphia, PA--Nov. 7, 2013**

Last summer, the National Coalition for History (NCH) Policy Board adopted a new membership and marketing plan for the organization. Although this doesn't affect MARAC per se, a threshold of \$500 has been set for membership as of 2015.

In September, NCH Executive Director Lee White succeeded in establishing a Congressional History Caucus in the House. The lead co-chairs are Representatives John Larson (D-CT) and Tom Cole (R-OK). The other two co-chairs are Representatives Ander Crenshaw (R-FL) and Bill Pascrell (D-NJ). Congressman Larson's office is developing a "Dear Colleague" letter to be circulated among fellow Members of Congress urging them to join the caucus. The History Coalition's role is strictly advisory and does not see this as an opportunity to advocate for anything. Now that the History Caucus is established in the House, NCH will be take steps to form a similar one in the Senate.

To follow NCH history news, "friend" the National Coalition for History on Facebook, "follow" them on Twitter @HistCoalition or visit the website at <http://historycoalition.org/>. You can also subscribe to their free weekly newsletter, "The Washington Update," at <http://historycoalition.org/>

Jan Zastrow
MARAC NCH Representative
zastrow@hawaii.edu

Nominations & Elections Committee Report
MARAC Steering Committee Meeting
Philadelphia, PA
November 7, 2013

Committee members Ms. Tammy Hamilton, Mr. Dan Horvath, Ms. Jenny Kinniff, Mr. Dan Linke, and Mr. Matt Strauss have been extremely active over the summer and early fall in helping to build the next slate of candidates for the upcoming 2014 MARAC election. General e-mail calls to the full membership over the past couple of months led to greater awareness of our search for prospective office holders MARAC-wide. Additional inquiries sent out to incumbents, collecting volunteer nominations, and receiving recommendations by colleagues along with other valuable leads have made for a positive start overall. At this time we tentatively have the minimal amount of nominees for the Finding Aids Award and Custer Award Committees in addition to the caucus chairships in Maryland, New Jersey, and Virginia covered. Additional and more concerted efforts will be made to fill all vacant seats with at least two nominees throughout the remainder of this year.

A few additional changes have also been made to the Nominations and Elections Handbook during late September in line with update requests that will be forwarded to the Steering Committee prior to this meeting.

Respectfully Submitted By,
Alan DeLozier
Chair

**Publications Committee Report
Steering Committee Meeting
Philadelphia, PA
November 7, 2013**

Mid-Atlantic Archivist

The Fall issue of the MAA (Vol. 42, No. 4) was made available through the MARAC website to members on October 27. The deadline for the Winter issue is December 1.

Michael Martin, MAA Editor, submitted the following report:

Over the last year, there has been plenty of positive feedback from MARAC members due to additional content of reviews and articles by members to the *Mid-Atlantic Archivist*. The movement from rote press releases for events and exhibitions to the MARAC blog has also been given rave reviews so far.

The extra content to *Mid-Atlantic Archivist* has created a slightly larger burden in terms of finding time to edit. So thanks to Sharmila's recommendation, we have had added an Assistant Editor, Kathryn Puerini. She has had some experience with the NEA newsletter before moving to the MARAC region. She has already proved incredibly valuable in getting the latest issue out. These changes are all designed to make the *Mid-Atlantic Archivist* a more informative and diverse publication. We are well on our way to doing that.

Ilhan Citak, Advertising Editor, submitted the following report:

Our advertising vendors have continued except Star/Quadra. They chose not advertise in the MAA in 2013 because of their budget cuts. Even though our fees are reasonable, the current economy obviously has a negative effect on all their expenses. He will talk to Don Cornelius (vendor coordinator) and PC/LAC members for soliciting new advertisers.

Technical Leaflets

Maureen Cech, Technical Leaflet's editor, reports the following are in various stages of draft form:

1. Bill Carpenter is still in the drafting stages of Technical Leaflet #7.
2. She has an outline from Jason Byrd and Leah Richardson on the archival outreach and instruction leaflet. They are in the drafting stages.
3. She is in the process of editing Dale Patterson's draft leaflet on religious archives.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharmila Bhatia
Chair, Publications Committee