
~Archivists & Archives of Color Newsletter~

Newsletter of the Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable

Vol. 21 No. 1

Spring 2007

Message from the Co-Chair

By *Petrina Jackson*

Senior Assistant Archivist, Cornell University

Greetings AACR members and friends! I would like to briefly reflect on the past year, including our time at the SAA Annual Meeting. Boasting temperatures in the triple digits, the Joint Annual Meeting of NAGARA, COSA, and SAA in Washington, D.C. was a very hot, yet eventful one. SAA had its biggest meeting ever with archivists from every sector of the profession. We spotlighted the Harold T. Pinkett Minority Student Award and the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Archives Institute in the 2006 GreatIdea! InfoExpo; witnessed the debut of the newly formed Native American Roundtable; and congratulated our new Pinkett award winners Lanell James and Shawn Phillip San Roman and new SAA Fellow Wilda Willis.

Assisting SAA in recruiting people of color to the profession was a main topic at the AACR meeting. Ideas ranged from linking with national or local history day celebrations, inviting students to present their work with primary resources at the SAA Annual Meeting, and sponsoring rap or spoken word contests about archival or primary resources. It is important that we not only continue these discussions and plan strategies, but also learn from what allied professions have done and are doing in the area of recruitment. At this year's American Library Association's Midwinter Meeting in Seattle, members of the Rare Book and Manuscript Section of the ALA Diversity Committee met with students from Seattle University and the University of Washington to share the joys of choosing a career in Special Librarianship. This same committee is creating a toolkit for recruitment outreach for campus presentations that can be adapted to the needs of the RBMS membership.

SAA continues to make steps in recruitment. The newly formed Diversity Brochure Task Force is in the initial stages of producing literature in Spanish and English to promote recruitment of people of color to the profession. But we, as individuals and ambassadors to our collections, are one of our greatest secret weapons in getting people interested in archives. We promote our profession all of the time through outreach and need to make our efforts known. When our work is brought to "the people," the impact is immeasurable. I would love to showcase all of the archivists and collections that are doing great work, but due to limited time and space, I will highlight just three examples.

The January 2007 issue of *Ebony* Magazine featured in the CenterStage article the distinguished career of SAA Fellow Brenda Banks, chief archivist of the Martin Luther King Jr. Collection at Morehouse College, and the importance of preserving the King papers. Outreach extended beyond the United States in Fall 2006 when Bernard Forrester, archivist and co-coordinator of Special Collections at Texas Southern University, was invited to the University of East London for his talk, "Black Histories and the Hidden Mysteries of African Heritage" and an exhibition of materials related to slavery in Great Britain. And lastly, Michael Flug, senior archivist at Chicago Public Library's Vivian G. Harsh Research Collection was acknowledged in Sara Paretsky's 2003 *New York Times* Bestseller *Blacklist: A V.I. Warshawski Novel* for his direction in helping the author find documents about the Negro Theater Project, which featured prominently in her book. Who knows how many people are reached when our work is publicized widely. We need to keep spreading the good news about our collections and the valuable work we do.

I could not end this column without expressing my gratitude to those who have helped so much in doing the work of the AACR last year. Thank you: Teresa Mora, our outgoing co-chair, for making my first year as co-chair a smooth one; Lisa Nguyen, our new co-chair, for continuing to moderate the AAC listserv in addition to taking on your new role; Rose Roberto, for your work as webmaster all the way from the UK; Paul Sevilla, immediate past AAC Newsletter editor, for his work in that role; Andrea Jackson, for taking the lead as head editor of the AAC Newsletter; Rebecca Hankins, new SAA Council member, for your initiative in chairing our committee on outreach; Kathi Neal, for being a great SAA Council liaison; Kathy Zimmerman, we look forward to working with you as the new Council liaison; Danna Bell-Russel, for your relentless work of advocating for and nominating our very deserving archivists for the SAA Fellowship; and Thomas Battle, for taking on the helm as the new SAA Diversity Chair. Thank you all AACR members and friends for your participation in making this past year another positive step in creating a profession that is more reflective of the world in which we live.

**Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable
Minutes
Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting
19th Annual AAC Roundtable Business Meeting
August 3, 2006
Washington, DC**

Submitted by Teresa Mora

- I. Teresa Mora called the meeting to order and introduced herself and co-chair Petrina Jackson. Elizabeth Adkins, SAA President Elect, introduced herself to the membership. First time attendees of SAA and the Roundtable were welcomed. Lisa Nguyen, listserv moderator, asked members to update the directory as needed.
- II. Committee and Project Reports
- A. Pinkett Award Winners: Jackson introduced the Pinkett Award winners, Lanell James and Shawn Phillip San Roman. James had recently completed her first year of graduate study at the University of Michigan, School of Information. San Roman has just completed the Library and Information Studies Program at the University of Wisconsin, Madison and will shortly be starting work as an archivist for the Credit Union National Association. Members were encouraged to attend the award ceremony to support the Pinkett recipients.
- B. Annual Collection for Pinkett: Funds totaling \$300 were collected for the award.
- III. SAA Fellowship Announcement: Danna Bell-Russel announced that Wilda Willis would be named a fellow of SAA at the Awards Ceremony. She noted that she was looking for others to be nominated and asked that members contact her with suggested nominees.
- IV. Election of Co-Chair: Mora announced that the only nomination received prior to the meeting was that of Lisa Nguyen. She then opened the floor to nominations, no additional nominations were made. Nguyen was named co-chair as she ran unopposed. Nguyen, currently serves as listserv moderator and works for the Hoover Institution at Stanford University.
- V. AAC Newsletter: Newsletter assistant editor, Andrea Jackson announced that current editor, Paul Sevilla was resigning his post and asked that anyone interested in serving as co-editor or assistant editor contact her (ajackson@aucr.edu). She also asked that members contact her with articles and announcements for inclusion in the newsletter.
- VI. Council Liason Report: Kathi Neal announced that Dr. Thomas Battle had been appointed chair of the

Diversity Committee and noted that the formal charge of the Diversity Committee was to be added to the Council Handbook. She noted that a resolution had been passed by Council to endorse National History Day.

- VII. Old Business: Outreach Efforts: Mora announced that Rebecca Hankins will no longer be able to chair this committee, due to her commitment to serve on Council. She asked that anyone interested in taking the lead on this issue contact her. Mora then opened up the floor for discussion of the issue, specifically what steps the Roundtable could take to aid in SAA's outreach efforts. Ideas included, links with National History Day; looking towards RBMS for examples of successful outreach efforts; contacting schools to bring students into repositories or to targeted sessions at SAA; participation of archivists at local career days; asking students to present work with primary resources at SAA (eg. Chicago Metropolitan History Fair or National History Day projects); and creative ways to get students to think about what history means to them (eg. poetry slams, rap contests).
- VIII. New Business: Danna Bell-Russel asked members to submit program proposals, noting that the roundtable will be able to endorse two proposals for the 2007 meeting in Chicago. The submission deadline is October 9, 2006. She also noted that Solveig DeSutter was looking for proposals for pre-conference workshops. David Shongo, Chair of the Native American Archives Roundtable, noted he was interested in proposing a session about how one's culture influences his/ her understanding of his/ her collections. He asked that anyone interested in such a session contact him (dshongo@sni.org). Jim Cartwright, noted he was interested in proposing a session on outreach to particular communities, please contact him if interested (jimc@hawaii.edu).
- IX. General Announcements: Wilda Willis thanked Danna Bell-Russel for nominating her as a fellow. Karen Jefferson announced that the papers of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. would be given to the Robert W. Woodruff Library at the Atlanta University Center.

The meeting was adjourned.

Legacy Showcases Treasures at MSRC
Moorland-Spingarn Research Center
Howard University

Inspired by the treasures housed at Moorland-Spingarn Research Center (MSRC), National Geographic published *Legacy: Treasures of Black History* in October 2006. *Legacy* presents the astonishing collection of African-Americana from the treasures of Howard University's renowned Research Center. While researching and accessing the collections of the

MSRC for other publishing projects, the editorial staff of National Geographic became keenly aware of the vastness and richness of the Center's resources.

Legacy is edited by MSRC Director, Dr. Thomas C. Battle and Prints and Photographs Librarian, Donna M. Wells of the MSRC. The book focuses on various themes and chronological periods and is richly illustrated with selections from the Center's various graphic resources and artifacts. More than 150 historic items – including letters, documents, and images – are displayed in this new contribution to African-American history. The Black experience and its impact on our nation's culture and character come alive in twelve chapters that sweep from ancient Africa and the slave trade to such key eras as the Civil War, Emancipation, Reconstruction, the Harlem Renaissance, the Jim Crow Era, and the modern Civil Rights and Black Power/Black Arts movements.

In addition to the introduction composed by revered historian, John Hope Franklin and the afterword written by the notable scholar and author, Charles Blockson, readers will find 18th-century maps of Africa; the pincushion of Elizabeth Keckley, Mrs. Lincoln's seamstress; Depression-era images by Robert M. McNeil; and a Langston Hughes letter in which he first shares his famous poem *I, Too, Sing America*. Rare photographs show a unique daguerreotype of Frederick Douglass in profile and the Fisk Jubilee Singers, circa 1880. Objects include a bell belonging to Sally Hemmings, Thomas Jefferson's slave and companion, and NAACP membership buttons from the 1960s.

Bronx County Historical Society Uncovers Forgotten History of African-Americans

Megan Hibbits

Project Archivist, Bronx African-American Archival Survey

The Bronx County Historical Society was recently awarded a grant from the Metropolitan New York Library Council's (METRO) Documentary Heritage Program to conduct an archival survey of records regarding African Americans in the Bronx.

This archival survey will identify all types of records of organizations and individuals that will help to tell the story of blacks in the Bronx. These include paper records (such as correspondence files, manuscript collections, baptismal records, church brochures, etc.), photographs, original music scores, taped interviews, as well as other types of records. These primary sources of information about life of the community from earliest settlement through recent times will establish the true breadth and depth of Bronx African-American life. The Bronx County Historical Society does not seek to acquire collections, but document the locations of records so that they might be used by individuals interested in finding out more about the African-Americans in the Bronx.

This project is an integral part of the Bronx African-American History Project (BAAHP), which was established by The

Bronx County Historical Society and Fordham's Department of African and African-American Studies. The primary aim of the BAAHP has been to document the black community through oral histories and the identification and preservation of archival records regarding African Americans in the Bronx. Since the spring of 2003, over 150 oral histories have been conducted and are available to the public at the Bronx County Historical Society.

Dr. Peter Derrick, the Archivist at The Bronx County Historical Society, and Dr. Brian Purnell, the Research Director of the BAAHP, are responsible for the implantation of this project. In August, 2006, Archivist Megan Hibbits was hired by the Bronx County Historical Society to conduct this survey.

More information about the BAAHP can be found at <http://www.fordham.edu/baahp/project.html>. Additional information is available at The Bronx Historical Society's website, www.bronxhistoricalsociety.org. Please also contact Megan Hibbits at mhibbits@bronxhistoricalsociety.org.

NASA History Program features Prominent Administrator in Online Oral History Transcripts

By Eleanor Blackman

Archivist, RS Information Systems for NASA Glenn Res. Ctr.

The History Program at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, Ohio, is pleased to announce the availability of the transcript of oral history sessions with Dr. Julian M. Earls. This transcript was created for the NASA Administrators Oral History Project, which is sponsored by the NASA Headquarters History Office in Washington, D.C. The transcript records a two-day video interview with Dr. Earls conducted by Historian Rebecca Wright in February 2006 in Cleveland. The interview covers Dr. Earls' nearly 40 years of service with NASA at the Glenn Research Center. He started at Glenn in 1965 as a physicist and in the ensuing years held a succession of administrative posts. He retired from Glenn in 2005 as Center Director. In this interview, Dr. Earls describes his rise in service to the Federal Government as well as his service to African-American cultural, educational, and social organizations in Cleveland and the United States. To read the online transcript of this interview, please visit the Web site of the NASA Glenn Research Center History Program at <http://grchistory.grc.nasa.gov/>.

Hampton University Museum Receives Grant for Conservation Initiative

By Juliette Harris

Editor, International Review of African American Art

Hampton University Museum received a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services for \$83,161, which will be matched for a little over \$90,000 to "Strengthening the Three C's: Collecting, Conservation and Collaboration." The Museum will provide specialized training and create a generously-illustrated publication to improve curatorial and conservation operations for African-American museums. The three-part project will include the presentation of a web seminar, the publication of a special issue of the *International Review of African American Art (IRAAA)*, and technical training workshops for museum professionals. The 90-minute interactive online training seminar and conservation workshops will increase the knowledge and skills of African-American museum professionals in the ongoing care and preservation of artifacts and documents.

The contents of the special issue of *IRAAA* will be the first published comprehensive volume on the history and functioning of African-American museums, with an emphasis on the care and conservation of collections. Funding for this project will help African-American museum professionals preserve the unique collections that have been entrusted to their care.

View http://www.ims.gov/news/2006/092806_list.shtm for more information on other museum grants awarded for African-American history and culture by IMLS.

Hooks Institute Announces Opening of Benjamin L. Hooks Papers

By Valerie Jean Love

Archivist, Hooks Institute, University of Memphis

The Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change and the Department of Special Collections in the Ned R. McWherter Library at the University of Memphis announce the opening of the papers of noted civil rights leader, Benjamin L. Hooks. The collection was processed by Hooks Institute Archivist, Valerie Jean Love, with the assistance of Deborah Compton-Holt, Sara Smith, and Leah C. Wells. The papers span Dr. Hooks' professional career, including his years as the Executive Director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), from 1977 to 1992, and his tenure as the first African American appointed to the Federal Communications Commission, from 1972 to 1978, as well as materials pertaining to his ministry in the Baptist church. The collection comprises 425 cubic feet and contains 397 boxes of correspondence, memoranda, speeches, newspaper columns, articles, subject files, reports, minutes, board and administrative material, printed materials, photographs, audio and video recordings, and other materials regarding Hooks career.

The Hooks Institute for Social Change came into existence when Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks donated the largest percentage of his personal and professional papers to The University of Memphis. The Amistad Research Center at Tulane University in New Orleans houses his earlier papers, and the Library of Congress in Washington D.C. is home to the official papers of the NAACP.

The Department of Special Collections at the University of Memphis houses a number of related civil rights collections including the Records of the Fayette County Civic and Welfare League, also known as the "Tent City" Papers, which detail the events of the 1960 eviction of black sharecroppers from their lands in retaliation for having registered to vote in Fayette County, TN, as well as the records from the Memphis Sanitation Workers Strike in April 1968.

The finding aid for the Benjamin L. Hooks Papers can be found at http://benhooks.memphis.edu/archiveproject/archiveproject_finding_aid.pdf

I HAVE A DREAM: The Morehouse College Martin Luther King, Jr. Collection

By Hillary Hardwick

VP, Marketing Communications, Atlanta History Center

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., leader of America's greatest nonviolent movement for justice, equality and peace, remains an icon in American history. The Atlanta History Center is honored to be the first, and only, venue to exhibit highlights of the newly acquired Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. Collection.

This premier exhibition uses audio and visual components to provide visitors the opportunity to gain a greater understanding of the timeless values King taught the world -- the values of courage, truth, justice, compassion, dignity, humility, and service that so radiantly defined Dr. King's character and empowered his leadership.

I Have A Dream: The Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. Collection displays King's personal papers in his handwriting, documenting the progress of his campaign for human justice. This exhibition includes more than 600 pieces from the 10,000 piece collection which was acquired by the city of Atlanta, under the guidance of Mayor Shirley Franklin, for King's alma mater, Morehouse College. The remainder of the collection is housed at the Robert W. Woodruff Library, which is jointly owned by Morehouse and the member institutions of the Atlanta University Center.

Highlights of the exhibition include drafts of King's famous "I Have A Dream" speech, his Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech, sermons from his ministry, personal notes he maintained in hundreds of his books, and his celebrated "Letter from Birmingham Jail."

In honor of King's 78th birthday and MLK Jr. Holiday, *I Have A Dream* opened January 15, 2007 and will remain on display through May 13, 2007. Organized into ten sections, the exhibition highlights King's personal journey, from his education years to his final speech, "I've Been to the Mountaintop," delivered the night before his assassination.

Exhibition sections include:

I. The Measure of A Man: Education:

Highlights of this section include notebooks containing King's notes on religion, philosophy, sayings, and benedictions; blue book examinations, including one of King's earliest surviving academic and theological writings; one of King's earliest sermons in which he encouraged people to fight social injustice; grade transcripts; and index cards with facts, quotations, and other information that King returned to throughout his life for references and quotations for his sermons and speeches.

II. The King Library: King's personal library contains more than 1,000 volumes he acquired throughout his life. As one of the most important, intact working libraries of the 20th century, this section includes a concentration of books on religious theology, civil rights, and Mahatma Gandhi, as well as college textbooks, encyclopedias, and reference works, many of which show King's personal notes in the margins. Also featured in this section are King's four publications: *Stride Toward Freedom: The Montgomery Story*; *Strength to Love*; *Why We Can't Wait*; and *Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?*

III. Strength to Love: Sermons: Sermons featured in this section are *A Knock at Midnight*, delivered in Montgomery in the late 1950s; *Loving Your Enemies*, a sermon King delivered at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in 1957; and *Paul's Letter to American Christians*, which was delivered by King to a congregation of 10,000 at the National Baptist Convention in Denver, Colorado during September 1956. This sermon became one of his most celebrated works.

IV. Stride Toward Freedom: This section includes "The Montgomery Bus Protest," a document outlining the development and organization of the protest; "A Statement to the South and Nation," which was given by King when the SCLC was founded; and "Martin Luther King and the Montgomery Story," a comic book that recounts the story of King, Rosa Parks, and their boycott as well as sections about life under Jim Crow, the terrors of KKK, and Gandhi's influence.

V. Why We Can't Wait: Highlights of this section include a diary King kept while in the Albany city jail in July 1962. The entries provide a glimpse of the private King, as opposed to his public role as a civil rights leader, as he writes of the demoralizing effect of imprisonment. Also displayed is "Project C," for confrontation, which was a strategic plan created during the Birmingham campaign. Also included in this section is the telegram from Robert F. Kennedy inviting King to attend the funeral services for President Kennedy as well as the Epitaph that King drafted for the four little girls killed in the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church bombing.

VI. Where Do We Go From Here?: This section includes a Strategic Planning List drafted by King in New York City on February 1, 1965. The plan includes a number of assignments seeking to involve state and federal authorities, encourage a congressional investigation, and push for President Johnson to intervene. Also included in this section is a telegram from Lawrence F. O'Brien, special assistant to President Johnson, to King. Sent in August 1965, the telegram invited King to the signing of the Voting Rights Act at the U.S. Capitol.

VII. Letter From Birmingham Jail: The original document was smuggled out of jail and discarded after a fair copy was typed. The printed version of the letter as it was published in *Christian Century* magazine is extensively corrected and revised by King and shows his final edits and additions prior to publication of the letter in his third book, *Why We Can't Wait*.

VIII. I Have A Dream: On August 28, 1963, King stood on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial with his prepared speech, "Normalcy – Never Again." King kept close to the script, and then as he reached the end, singer Mahalia Jackson called out: "Tell them about the dream, Martin!" At that point, King departed from the written speech and spoke spontaneously using the dream metaphor to create a more heightened and climactic ending than the original conclusion. On display in this section is "Normalcy – Never Again," an early transcript of the speech King delivered at the Lincoln Memorial. The back of the last page includes King's handwritten notes and is thought to be the only existing draft that bears King's handwriting.

IX. The Nobel Peace Prize: This section features the Nobel Peace Prize lecture delivered by King as well as a draft of King's Nobel Peace Prize Acceptance speech.

X. Memphis: King spoke in Memphis on the night of April 3 when he delivered the speech, "I've Been to the Mountaintop." In it, King reflected on the possibility he might not get to the Promised Land with his people.

Highlights of this section include an outline of the sermon, "The Drum Major Instinct," played at King's service. Also featured in this section is a note containing a quote by Gandhi in King's handwriting, "In the midst of death, life persists. In the midst of darkness, light persists. We are today in the midst of death and darkness. We can strengthen life and life [i.e., live] by our personal acts by saying "no" to violence, by saying "yes" to life."

For more information on the exhibit, visit <http://www.atlantahistorycenter.com/template.cfm?cid=779>.
For more information on the Morehouse College King Collection at the Robert W. Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center, visit <http://www.auctr.edu/>.

Yale University's Beinecke Library exhibits Sheet Music from the J.W. Johnson Memorial Collection

By Nancy Kuhl

Associate Curator, Coll. of American Lit., Beinecke Library

A new web exhibition showcases the sheet music holdings in the James Weldon Johnson Memorial collection. The exhibition traces the historical development of a broad range of African American musical genres during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, including ragtime, black musical theater, concert spirituals, the blues, and early jazz music. Blackface minstrelsy scores by black and white composers contextualize the legacy of racism in which black music developed. An article on the history of black music and a series of brief biographies of famous and now-forgotten composers gives depth to this visually rich exhibit.

James Weldon Johnson's individual and collaborative musical contributions profoundly influenced the course of black musical theater in the first decade of the twentieth century. He collaborated with Bob Cole and J. Rosamund Johnson on the wildly popular *Under the Bamboo Tree* (1902) and many other works; the Beinecke collection contains over one hundred pieces of their published sheet music. In addition to his talents as a lyricist, a poet, and anthologist, Johnson made important contributions as a scholar of black music. His cultural and political history of African Americans in New York City, *Black Mantattan*, and autobiography, *Along This Way*, offer remarkable insight into black musical trends, while his *Book of American Negro Spirituals* asserts the centrality of these works to America's cultural heritage.

Other exhibition highlights include sheet music by W.C. Handy, popularly known as the "father of the blues," Langston Hughes, Ella Fitzgerald, "Fats" Waller, Count Basie and other notable blues and jazz innovators. More recent works include rhythm and blues performed by Nina Simone, Michael Jackson, and Stevie Wonder.

View Let It Resound! Sheet Music in the James Weldon Johnson Memorial Collection at:

<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/LetItResound/>

StoryCorps Griot Initiative to Preserve Oral Histories of African-Americans

Corporation for Public Broadcasting,
National Museum of African American History and Culture,
and Library of Congress

StoryCorps Griot is on a mission to record the stories of "everyday African-Americans" in cities across the United States. The year-long initiative will gather and preserve the life stories of at least 1,750 African-American families across the country. It is the largest oral history project of its kind since 2,300 former slaves were interviewed in the mid-1930s as a part of the WPA's Federal Writers Project.

A collaboration between the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), the National Museum of African

American History and Culture (NMAAHC), and the Library of Congress, StoryCorps Griot builds upon the success of the 2003 StoryCorps program. The "Griot" is part of a West African tradition of storytelling; they are highly respected member of a nation or tribe who acts as a living repository of births, deaths, marriages, and significant events in the community. They are responsible not only for transmitting oral history through the generations, but also for ensuring that people find meaning in their own lives.

A StoryBooth – a mobile recording studio – is set up near a cultural institution, and makes stops of up to six weeks in various cities. In the Griot StoryBooth, participants record their stories in pairs where one person interviews the other. A trained facilitator guides the participants through the interview process and handles the technical aspects of the recording. Participants are presented with a CD of their interview after the 40-minute session.

The stories will be archived and preserved for future generations at the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress and at the NMAAHC. "Recording the rich and compelling stories of African-Americans across this country is in perfect alignment with a key commitment of this museum which is to encourage all Americans to remember, to reflect, and to celebrate our shared humanity," said Lonnie Bunch, founding director of NMAAHC. "Through this unprecedented relationship we will ensure that the history of 20th century Black America will be preserved, understood, and made accessible for years to come." Griot segments air on the NPR news program, "News and Notes," hosted by journalist Farai Chideya.

The StoryGroups Griot tour is scheduled to visit the following cities during 2007: Atlanta, GA; Newark, NJ; Detroit, MI; Chicago, IL; Oakland, CA; Clarksdale, MS; Memphis, TN; Selma, AL; and Montgomery, AL. Additionally, StoryCorps will visit Houston, TX, Jackson, MS, Lafayette, LA, Columbia, SC, Fayetteville, AR, Richmond, VA, Kalamazoo, MI, and Hartford, CT.

Reservations for the Griot tour can be made by calling 800-850-4406 or visiting www.storycorpsgriot.net.

Grant Awarded to University of Kansas for African-American Archival Collections

By Deborah Dandridge
Field Archivist, Kansas Collection
Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas

Thanks to a \$30,000 donation from the Dana and Sue Anderson Family Foundation, the on-going processing of the African American collections at the University of Kansas is now at warp speed. All of these recently processed collections have EAD finding aids published on the Spencer Research Library website at <http://spencer.lib.ku.edu>.

This financial award was given to the African American documentation program in Spencer Research Library's Kansas

Collection. Originating in 1986 from a National Historical Publications and Records Commission three year grant awarded to the Kansas Collection, donations of archival materials are actively solicited from African American community leaders, families, organizations, churches and businesses throughout the region.

AACR MEMBER NEWS

Bernard Forrester, Archivist and Coordinator of the Special Collections at Texas Southern University, Robert J. Terry Library, was appointed member of the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress. Membership in the committee is composed of the Clerk of the House, Secretary of the Senate, Archivist of the United States, historians for the House and Senate and six additional members appointed by House and Senate Leadership. In a letter addressed to Forrester Lorraine Miller, Vice-Chair of the Advisory Committee, stated that Forrester was selected for his "expertise in United States history, archival management, publishing, library science or use of legislative records."

WANTED AACR NEWSLETTER EDITOR and LISTSERV MODERATOR

Looking for a fun and challenging way to be active in the AAC Roundtable?

The Newsletter comes out twice a year and is a great way to show your support for the mission and goals of the Roundtable. Contact the current editor, Andrea Jackson, for more information.

The AACR listserv is an email discussion list dedicated to provide a network of communication for the members of the Society of American Archivist's Archivist and Archives of Color Roundtable. This discussion list is maintained by SAA webmaster, Brian Doyle, under the guidance of the AACR co-chairs. The listserv moderator will also be responsible for maintaining and updating the AAC membership directory. Contact Lisa Nguyen for more information.

Both positions will take effect after the SAA Annual Meeting.

REMINDER:

Plan to join the AAC Roundtable at SAA's 71st Annual Meeting as we travel home to Chicago! The AAC Roundtable will meet on Wednesday, August 29 at 4:00-6:00 PM.

We look forward to seeing you August 29 through September 2, 2007.

Editor Andrea Jackson

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Mission Statements

The Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable

The Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable was established in 1987 as an interest group within the Society of American Archivists. The Roundtable's purposes are to:

- 1) identify and address the concerns of Archivists of African, Asian, Latino, and Native American descent.
- 2) promote wider participation of said archivists in the archival profession.
- 3) promote the preservation of archival materials that pertain to people of color.

The co-chairs of this Roundtable are:

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The Society of American Archivists

The Society of American Archivists (SAA), founded in 1936, is a professional association of individuals and institutions interested in the preservation and use of archives. Its membership includes individuals serving government, academic institutions, businesses, churches, libraries, historical societies, museums, and professional associations in more than sixty countries. Through its publications, annual meetings, workshops, and other programs, SAA provides a means for contact, communication and cooperation among archivists and archival institutions:

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