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# ~Archivists & Archives of Color Newsletter~

Newsletter of the Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable

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Vol. 21 No. 2

Summer 2007

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## Message from the Co-Chair

By Lisa Nguyen

This year, the Society of American Archivist Conference convenes in Chicago, thus returning to the “sweet home” of its national headquarters. The 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting includes a wealth of programs that promises to be thought-provoking, informative and stimulating.

If you plan to attend *ARCHIVES/CHICAGO*, we invite you to join us at the annual **Archivists and Archives of Color (AAC) Roundtable business meeting on Wednesday, August 29th, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM in the Gold (Level 2) room of the Fairmont Hotel.** The business meeting will provide an opportunity for fellow archivists to converge, connect and converse with other kindred spirits.

During the first hour of the meeting, three invited Archivists will discuss outreach programs and advocacy initiatives at their home institutions. The featured panelists will be **Tamar Evangelestia-Dougherty**, Consortium Archivist, Black Metropolis Research Consortium, University of Chicago; **Sal Guereña**, Director, California Ethnic and Multicultural Archives, University of California at Santa Barbara; and **Dylan Yeats**, Graduate Assistant in Archives, Asian/Pacific/American Institute, New York University.

If you are looking for an opportunity to actively engage in a leadership capacity within SAA, we ask you to consider running for one of the three key positions within the AAC Roundtable: co-chair, newsletter editor, and listserv moderator. These positions will serve a two year term from 2007-2009. Elections will be held during the last half of the Roundtable’s business meeting.

For members who are interested in exploring topics on civil rights, diversity and outreach to underserved communities, and collaborative efforts between archival repositories, here are just a few conference sessions that may tickle your fancy:

**\*\* A Special Brew: New Perspectives from the National Archives on Civil Rights, Race Riots, and Brown vs. Board of Education**

(Thursday, August 30th, 10:00 - 11:30 AM)

**\*\* Outreach to Those Less Served**

(Thursday, August 30th, 2:45 - 4:15 PM)

**\*\* Administering the Martin Luther King Jr. Collections**

(Friday, August 31, 2:30 - 4:00 PM)

Details on these and other program sessions can be found in the preliminary program catalog online at [http://www.archivists.org/conference/chicago2007/SAA07\\_Pr elimProg.pdf](http://www.archivists.org/conference/chicago2007/SAA07_Pr elimProg.pdf)

Lastly, we encourage you to attend the awards ceremony on Friday, August 31 at 6:30 PM, when we will announce the recipients of this years’ Harold T. Pinkett Award: graduate students Bergis K. Jules from Indiana University and Janel Quirante from the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa. For award recipients’ bios, please see the related article in this issue of the newsletter.

Thank you for your support of the AAC Roundtable. We look forward to seeing both new and returning members in Chicago as we celebrate the Roundtable’s 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

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## Professional Servitude: The Joys of Being a Certified Archivist

By Tomaro I. Taylor, M.A., C.A.

*Asst. Univ. Librarian, Spec. Collections Librarian, & Latin Amer. and Caribbean Studies Librarian, Univ. of South Florida Tampa Library*

I am not unlike a number of professional archivists when I say that my career chose me. In 2001, I began a Master’s degree in library and information science, which led to opportunities as a graduate assistant and, later, resident librarian at the University of South Florida Tampa Library. Between 2001 and 2003, I developed educational and technical skills in providing reference and research assistance- an almost certain career path. However, the desire to make myself as marketable as possible, within the short, two-year timeframe of a visiting position, led me to entertain other options in librarianship.

A few semesters into my residency, I asked that my job assignment include a percentage in Special Collections. That was more than four years ago; I still have not left. What has changed in that time, though, is that I have since become a permanent member of the faculty and a Certified Archivist (C.A.). The decisions to hire and then retain me as a faculty member were, in large part, the decisions of university administration. But, the decisions to use the opportunities presented and become a Certified Archivist were mine alone.

Becoming a Certified Archivist is both a personal and professional decision. Not all members of the archival profession feel the need or desire to become certified. Many feel that it may not enhance or affect their professional experiences, while others may feel a bit of trepidation at applying and sitting for the exam... not to mention the wait to

find out if you've passed. And, there are those who have long survived the profession without a standardized test of their knowledge or who entered the profession prior to needing the qualifications now commonly advertised. In these instances, and more, certification may not be the right choice. However, it may be the right choice for those who perceive an identifiable personal or professional goal. My primary goals for certification were personal - a sense of accomplishment, an acknowledgement of the skills I had gained through hands-on work, and a declaration of my commitment to the profession. Career-wise, the C.A. currently does not afford me an increased salary or an apparent differentiation in responsibilities, but it has opened the door to other opportunities that promote the profession such as guest lecturing for graduate-level classes and providing consultation to other institutions.

Since becoming certified nearly two years ago, I have realized just how little is understood or known about the certification process and the organization overseeing certification. Established in 1989, the Academy of Certified Archivists (ACA) serves as the certifying agency for the archival profession. Certification is accomplished by achieving a certain percentage of correct responses on a 100-question, multiple choice examination that tests the candidate's knowledge in the following areas: appraisal, arrangement and description, reference and access, preservation and protection, outreach and promotion, program management, and professional ethics and the law (untitled pamphlet, Academy of Certified Archivists, distributed 2005). To sit for the examination, candidates must fit a set of criteria based on educational and professional experience. The test is administered once a year, typically during the first week of the Society of American Archivists' annual meeting. Once attained, certification is valid for a period of 5 years. As the five-year mark approaches, those interested in maintaining their status must recertify either by petition or by taking the exam.

To some, the certification process may seem an arduous task for seemingly little reward. I believe that the greatest rewards of certification are forthcoming. As more people become Certified Archivists the process will be viewed more valuably, thereby leading to greater prestige for the profession and its allies. This is not to say that the archival profession should embrace certification as a "make it or break it" deal but only that the process should be respected and regarded for what it is - an opportunity for many to showcase the profession while also demonstrating to the world how proud they are to be archivists. I gladly insert the C.A. after my name, even if some people still think it stands for California.

*More information can be found on the Academy of Certified Archivists' website at <http://www.certifiedarchivists.org/>*

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## **Internet Archive to Preserve Online Exhibitions featuring Abolition of British Slavery**

*By Rose Roberto  
Oxford University &  
Internet Archive UK Project Representative*

The Internet Archive (IA) is a non-profit organization based in California, but with mirror sites located around the world. Founded in 1996 with the aim of building a library of internet sites and other cultural artefacts in digital form, IA's mission is to archive the entire web. While that may seem unrealistic, IA has made a good start: take a look at the *Wayback Machine* and it is likely you will find something from that old website of your organization. Like a paper repository, IA provides free access to researchers, historians, scholars and the general public.

This year marks the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the abolition of the slave trade throughout the British Empire, and numerous websites and online exhibitions throughout Britain are being created to commemorate this event. IA sees this as an opportunity to get UK Archivists, Librarians, and Curators involved with helping to preserve and share this event by collecting websites and online from libraries, archives, museums, local studies centres, city councils, and universities. Information about how to contribute or suggest British Anniversary related online exhibitions can be found here:

[http://www.archive.org/details/uk\\_slavery\\_abolition](http://www.archive.org/details/uk_slavery_abolition)

During the last 200 years, Britain has become a diverse society. Events in its history can now be looked at in different ways, and many anniversaries, such as this one, present an opportunity for institutions to not only show off their collections, but also to conduct outreach activities among diverse communities and broaden their audience. Capturing websites and online exhibits that commemorate this event will provide the world not only with a record of the celebration itself, but also with a snapshot of technology intersecting with cultural institutions in Britain and the audiences they are trying to serve.

*More information on the mission and history of IA is available at: <http://www.archive.org/about/about.php>.*

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## **Lincoln University receives Digitization Grant**

*By Susan Gunn Pevar, M.A., C.A.  
Special Collections Librarian, Lincoln Univ. of Pennsylvania*

Lincoln University of Pennsylvania's Langston Hughes Memorial Library has received a grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) to microfilm and digitize five collections in its Special Collections Department. In addition to these five projects, two smaller ones are also underway.

With the completion of all seven, the Langston Hughes Memorial Library's digital collections will include Lincoln University's catalogs from 1865 through 1998, alumni newsletters from 1894 through 2000, student newspapers from 1925 through 2003 and alumni directories spanning the years 1912-1991, as well as several other smaller collections.

Projects currently underway include handwritten minute books of the Pennsylvania Colonization Society and the Young Men's Colonization Society, the handwritten nineteenth century minute books of the Lincoln University Board of Trustees, Lincoln University's oldest catalogues (1865-1917), Lincoln University's more recent catalogues (1937-1998), The Lincoln Bulletin alumni newsletters (mid-20<sup>th</sup> century), The Lincoln Lion alumni newsletters (late 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> century), and a handwritten nineteenth century Lincoln University "Class Book."

These current projects will join the existing online collections, which are accessible from <http://www.lincoln.edu/library/specialcollections/digitalcollections.html>

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## University of Delaware announces George Handy Bates Samoan Papers

*By E. Evan Echols  
Affiliate Assistant Librarian, Univ. of Delaware*

In 1942, The University of Delaware Library Special Collections Department acquired the George Handy Bates Samoan Papers. Active and successful in Delaware State politics, Bates was appointed in 1886 by President Grover Cleveland to serve as a special agent to investigate conditions in Samoa. Bates was subsequently appointed as a United States Commissioner to the 1889 Joint Conference on Samoan Affairs held in Berlin. As a special envoy he participated in the negotiations with England and Germany over the ownership of the Island of Samoa.

The George Handy Bates Samoan Papers, 1869-1916 include correspondence, memoranda, clippings, photographs, and other material relating to his work with Samoan affairs. Even prior to the availability of an online finding aid describing this collection, the Bates Samoan Papers have attracted worldwide interest from scholars. These papers are valuable for studying the culture and history of Samoa, particularly during the 1880s. The issues of colonialism and foreign intervention are chronicled in these papers, drawing consistent interest from historians of the American Territories and others located in the South Pacific.

The papers also include a series of one hundred and forty-four albumen print photographs of named persons and scenic views of Samoa, Pago Pago, Tahiti, New Zealand, Fiji, and Hawai'i. Many of the photographs were commercially produced by the Burton Brothers, a regionally significant firm whose work documents life in the late nineteenth century Pacific islands.

Native Hawai'ians and Samoans, many of them individually identified, are depicted in portraits and scenes, representing an important period in ethnographic photography.

These photos are now available as an online digital collection through the University of Delaware Library website. The digitization of the Bates photographs now offers instant accessibility for interested parties anywhere in the world, whether they are researching the South Pacific or their own family history. Selected photos are also available on Flickr, a photo sharing website, which was used to promote the availability of the collection.

*View the George Handy Bates Samoan Papers finding aid:*  
[http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/findaids/bates\\_g.htm](http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/findaids/bates_g.htm)

*View the George Handy Bates Samoan Papers: Photographs Series at:*

<http://fletcher.lib.udel.edu/collections/bsp/index.htm>

*For further information, visit the Special Collections of the University of Delaware Library website at*

<http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/>

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## Tuskegee Syphilis Study Records available at Southeast Region of National Archives

*By Mary Evelyn Tomlin  
Public Programs Specialist, Nat'l Archives Southeast Region*

As the nation's record keeper, the National Archives and Records Administration serves American democracy by safeguarding and preserving the records of our Government, ensuring that the people can discover, use, and learn from this documentary heritage. In the 1930s, the U.S. Public Health Service began studying the effects of syphilis on African-American men. Most of the work took place in Macon County, Alabama, in and around the county seat of Tuskegee. The men in the study were given periodic medical examinations, but were not given treatment. Many were followed until their deaths, and autopsies were routine. The study was not kept secret. Medical and professional journals published findings periodically throughout the study.

Objections to the study were raised during the 1960s. It received wide-spread media coverage/attention, was the subject of Congressional hearings, and federal litigation filed by a number of study participants. The study was finally terminated in 1972, after approximately 40 years. The last study participant died in 2004. The costs of the study, in the lives (and deaths) of participants, and the effects on their families and communities are incalculable. And the study left a legacy of mistrust for the government among African Americans.

The Southeast Region of the National Archives in Atlanta has custody of the administrative records related to the study as well as the patient medical files. The files consist of records related to individual patients; publications based on findings

of the study; copies of other studies and publications, apparently used for reference by physicians and scientists in the study; correspondence between medical personnel; correspondence with various foundations which provided funds for the study; administrative records created during the study; photographs of various medical tests or procedures; and photographs showing the conditions in the area around Tuskegee.

*The region recently compiled a list of all participants in the study which is available online at*

<http://www.archives.gov/southeast/finding-aids/tuskegee.html>

*To see a sampling of photographs and documents from the study, visit the National Archives, Southeast Region's website at* <http://www.archives.gov/southeast/exhibit/6.php>

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### **Four New Collections Processed at Fisk University**

*By Jessie Carney Smith*

*University Librarian, Fisk University*

**Fisk University Institute for Research in Black American Music Collection (1920 - 1985):** Organized in 1978 by Samuel A. Floyd, the goal of the Institute was to support, collect, preserve and publicize the major achievements of African Americans in music. The collection documents the establishment, activities and accomplishments of the project. Resources include correspondence, financial records, brochures, programs, invitations, booklets, sheet music, dissertations, photographs and miscellaneous materials.

**James Dallas Burrus Collection (1827 - 1929):** Burrus, a member of the first Fisk class to graduate in 1875, was one of the first blacks to graduate from a liberal arts college south of the Mason Dixon line. He became the first African-American faculty member at Fisk. The collection includes biographical material, photographs and artifacts. The papers also include evaluations of Burrus by John Ogden, one of the co-founders of Fisk.

**John B. Nail Collection (1888 - 1928):** Nail, a Harlem businessman, political leader, and philanthropist was the first life member of the NAACP. The collection contains documents related to civic, civil rights and educational groups, including the NAACP, Daytona Educational and Industrial Training School for Negro Girls, the Fourth Pan-African Congress and the New York Society for Ethical Culture. It also documents correspondence with prominent people such as Arthur Spingarn, Mary McLeod Bethune and James Weldon Johnson.

**Elmer S. Imes Collection (1902 - 1942):** A 1903 graduate of Fisk, Imes became the second African American in the U.S. to receive a Ph.D. in physics. Imes was a pioneer and gained international acclaim for his research in infrared spectroscopy. His collection contains biographical information, course material, photographs, and drawing notes and plans. It also has correspondence related to cooperative activities and projects with other schools.

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### **Indiana University South Bend Archives acquires Two New Collections**

*By Alison Stankrauff*

*Archivist & Asst. Librarian, Indiana Univ. South Bend*

The Indiana University South Bend Archives received the Civil Rights Heritage Center Collection in 2006. IU South Bend's Civil Rights Heritage Center was established in 2000. The Center promotes awareness and knowledge of social justice issues and civil rights history.

The Civil Rights Heritage Center operates as an active learning and research center and sponsors many activities and programs both on campus as well as in the greater South Bend area, often in partnership with community organizations and agencies. The Center also sponsors an annual Freedom Summer trip for IU South Bend students to travel to, learn about, and study the key sites of the Civil Rights Movement in the South. Further, the Center has completed over seventy oral histories with local South Bend area civil rights leaders, and plans to complete another set in the coming two years.

Both the Center's Collection as well as its oral histories are deposited at the Indiana University South Bend Archives. The Archives is currently working on a digitization project of the oral histories, and soon wants to be able to post them to the Archives' webpage.

*The Civil Rights Heritage Center Collection finding aid:* <http://www.iusb.edu/~libg/archives/inventory/CivilRights.shtm>

*Civil Rights Heritage Center:* <http://www.iusb.edu/~civilrts/>

The Indiana University South Bend Archives also received the Helen Pope Collection in the spring of 2007. Helen Pope was a South Bend community activist and nurse. Ms. Pope worked in many organizations locally, state-wide, and nationally to address the needs, civil rights, and concerns of African Americans, women, and the poor. The collection reflects Ms. Pope's activism in desegregating health care facilities and factories, and her leadership roles in many organizations such as Model Cities, Job Corps, neighborhood improvement associations, African American women's groups, and area day care centers. The collection is currently being processed and, once completed, the finding aid will be posted on the IU South Bend Archives' webpage.

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## **Women of the CBC Virtual Exhibit**

### **launched by Avoice**

*By Adrena Ifill*

*DoubleBack Productions*

Avoice: African American Voices in Congress, the virtual library project of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF), launched its latest exhibit - *Women of the CBC*, during Women's History Month in March 2007. [www.avoiceline.org](http://www.avoiceline.org)

African American congresswomen have played a major role on a broad range of domestic and international issues including Civil Rights, Voting Rights, Education, Healthcare, Homeland Security and the current engagements in Iraq and Afghanistan. This exhibit highlights the important role that African American women played in the advancement of healthcare for all Americans by displaying the important legislation that women of the CBC have sponsored or supported regarding healthcare. The virtual library showcases the important link between community advocacy and legislation.

In addition, Avoice now contains video and audio elements. They include a speech by Barbara Jordan at the Watergate Hearings, an interview with Shirley Chisholm and a tribute to Parren Mitchell, recently deceased.

Avoice has four other exhibits. They are the *Origins of the CBC*, the *Making of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Bill*, the *Anti-Apartheid Movement* and the *Voting Rights Act*.

Avoice is a collaboration of CBCF, Dell Inc., the Moorland Spingarn Research Center of Howard University and University of Texas at Austin. Other content partners include Texas Southern University - the Barbara Jordan Collection, Rutgers University, George Washington University Gelman Library- the Walter Fauntroy Collection, and the Library of Congress.

“With the addition of the Morehouse King Collection, the Woodruff Library will serve an increasingly important role in its West End community, attracting visitors and spurring economic and cultural growth,” said Lewis.

The grant will help fund physical improvements within the Library, such as enhancing the aesthetics of the reading room and staff areas and expanding and improving the climate control capabilities and size of the archival storage facilities. Additionally, the Special Collections staff will receive training in current digitization processes and technology, further increasing public access to Library holdings.

“The information seeking behaviors of the 21st century student require different resources and spaces for instruction and research,” said Loretta Parham, CEO and Library Director of Woodruff Library. “This generous gift from Bank of America will allow us to start improving Library spaces, specifically the Archives and Special Collections reading room. Historically, the Atlanta University Center and the institutions it represents, have served as a touchstone for social, intellectual and economic progress within the City of Atlanta. It is fitting that Bank of America’s contribution will support enhancements to the Archives & Special Collections reading room that makes historical records and artifacts chronicling those activities more accessible to the public.”

The Library’s Archives & Special Collections dates back 81 years to the Negro Collection of the Trevor Arnett Library of Atlanta University, the oldest among the separate and special collections of AUC member schools that were combined and relocated to the Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center. Materials within the Woodruff Library Archives & Special Collections are regularly referenced in articles, books, exhibits, films, Web sites and other scholarly works and used daily by students, faculty, authors, journalists, curators and other researchers nationally and internationally.

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## **\$1 Million Grant awarded to Robert W. Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center**

*By Adrian Carver*

*Communications Manager, Robert W. Woodruff Library, AUC*

The Robert W. Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center (AUC) today received a \$1 million donation from the Bank of America Charitable Foundation. The gift was presented by Bank of America Corporation chairman and chief executive officer Kenneth D. Lewis during a celebration marking the Library’s 25th anniversary.

The contribution will be used to upgrade the Archives & Special Collections reading room, which supports scholarly access to the many manuscripts, books and artifacts housed within the Woodruff Library of the AUC.

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## **PEOPLE**

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### **HAROLD T. PINKETT AWARDEES**

In honor of archival pioneer Harold T. Pinkett, the first African American to be appointed an archivist at the National Archives, **Bergis Jules** and **Janel Quirante** were selected as the 2007 Harold T. Pinkett Award recipients. The award recognizes and acknowledges minority graduate students who, through scholastic and personal achievement, manifest an interest in becoming professional archivists and active members of the Society of American Archivists. The award provides full registration and related expenses for winners to attend this year's SAA Annual Meeting in Chicago.

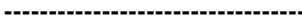
**Bergis Jules** is currently enrolled in the MLIS program at Indiana University where he is pursuing a dual Master of Library Science/M.A. African American and African Diaspora Studies program and the SLIS Archives and Records Management Specialization. Although Jules just completed his first year at Indiana University, he has already made an impression on faculty and future colleagues alike. Mr. Philip C. Bantin, University Archivist at Indiana University, describes Jules as “a leader in every group in which [he] participates [and]...will emerge as a valuable contributor to the national dialogue on archives in the future.” One of his major goals is to return to his native country of St. Lucia and help build and improve the country’s library and archives programs. Jules was also selected as a 2006 - 08 Diversity Scholar by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) Initiative to Recruit a Diverse Workforce.

**Janel Quirante** is a recent graduate from the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa’s Library & Information Science Program. Dr. Andrew Wertheimer, Chair and Assistant Professor of Library & Information Science Program, stated that Quirante is “a rare gem...and her intelligence and socially engaged agenda will help her to become an important actor in archival leadership...” While at UH Mānoa, Quirante not only served as disaster recovery technician in the Preservation department at Hamilton Library, she also provided reference service at the Hawaiian Mission Children’s Society Library and Archive and was involved in the Louis Vuitton Hawai’i International Film Festival Archive Project. Quirante recently landed a position as Visual Collections Archivist at the Hoover Institution Archives at Stanford University.



### ARCHIVISTS AT WORK

**Helen Wong Smith** assumed the position of Archivist for the Edwin H. Mookini Library at the University of Hawai’i at Hilo this past January. This position is adjunct to her position as Librarian for their Hawai’ian Collection, as there has yet to be an archivist approved by the Board of Regents for the University. Recognizing the need, Library Director, Dr. Linda Golian-Lui requested that Smith assume the responsibilities of archivist, which includes processing the existing collection, establishing policies and procedures, and educating the University of Hawai’i at Hilo’s administration, faculty, and staff about what constitutes a university archive. Smith is a Certified Archivist and the current president of the Association of Hawai’i Archivists. Fortunately, she is also a close colleague of Jim Cartwright, the archivist of the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa and they are scheduled to present “**Providing Basic Archival Instruction to People of Hawai’i**” Thursday, August 30, 2007 2:45 PM-4:15 PM



After a nine-month national search, historian and archivist **Diane D. Turner** has been named the next curator of Temple's renowned Charles L. Blockson Afro-American Collection, one of the nation's foremost university-based collections of African-American prints, photographs, slave narratives, manuscripts, letters and other materials. "Diane's deep understanding of the African-American experience, her professional record and her connections to local communities make her the ideal person to lead the Blockson Collection as it moves into a wonderful new home in Sullivan Hall this academic year," said Temple President Ann Weaver Hart.

From 2002 to 2006, Turner was curator of collections and exhibitions for the African-American Museum in Philadelphia. She is currently a course director for the Bard College Clemente Course in the Humanities, and also teaches African-American history at Camden County College. Additionally she serves as project director for the African-American Community in Woodbury, New Jersey Oral History Project; and is a consultant for several museums. Her latest book is *Feeding the Soul: Black Music, Black Thought*. Turner holds a B.A. in anthropology and art, a M.A. in history, and a Ph.D. in history – all from Temple University.



**Marisol Ramos** is the new Curator for the Hispanic History and Culture Collection at the Univ. of Connecticut's Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, Archives and Special Collection. She also serves as the Reference/Liaison Librarian for Latin American & Caribbean Studies, Puerto Rican/Latinos Studies and Spanish subject areas. A native of Puerto Rico, Ramos obtained a B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras. She began her graduate studies at the State University of New York - Albany where she earned a Masters degree in Latin American and Caribbean Studies in 1997. Later, she attended the UCLA Department of Library and Information Sciences Program (now known as Dept. of Information Studies) where her professor, Anne Gilliland, convinced her to study Archival Science. Since completing her degree in 2001, she has worked as both an archivist and a librarian.

Ramos is very excited to simultaneously employ her background interests in Latin American & Caribbean studies and archives. She is the contact person at the University for the Latin Americanist Research Resources Project (LARRP) and Latin American Microform Project (LAMP) initiatives, as well as the curator of the Hispanic History and Culture Collection, where she supervises a scanning project involving the Latin American periodical collection and offers reference and research services.



The Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr., Collection team has begun processing the papers of the renowned civil rights leader. Working directly with Brenda Banks, former Deputy Director of the Georgia State Archives, and Karen Jefferson, Head of Archives and Special Collections at Robert W. Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center (RWWL-AUC), four new staff members are diligently preparing the collection for access.

**Bridget Lurette** serves as a Processing Archivist for the collection. Educated with a B.A. from Oglethorpe University, a M.A. in Art History from Rice University, and a M.L.S. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Lurette's prior experience includes working as Processing Archivist at the Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library at Columbia University. She was also employed with the American Express corporate archives as well as the Bronx County Historical Society.

A former Librarian with the Center for American History and Research and Research Assistant with the *Mississippi Encyclopedia*, **Courtney Chartier** joins the project as a Processing Archivist. She is a graduate of the University of Texas with a B.A. in American Studies and M.S. in Information Studies. Chartier also holds a M.A. in Southern Studies from the University of Mississippi.

**Gail Spears** is the Cataloger for the Morehouse College Martin Luther King, Jr. Collection. Her experience as Cataloger with the Cadence Group, at the Atlanta History Center, and at Georgia State University's College of Law Library - combined with her B.A. in Communications and M.L.S. from Florida State University - will prove valuable to the team.

Employed as Graduate Assistant for the project, **Melvin Collier** is currently enrolled at Clark Atlanta University where he is pursuing a M.A. in African and African-American Studies. Collier previously worked as a Scanning Technician at RWWL-AUC for their HBCU Library Alliance Digitization Project with Cornell University.

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**Bernard Forrester** is a "man with a mission." Not only was he recently asked by Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives, to serve as one of six appointees to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress, but he also finds time to share his expertise on historical African Diaspora materials while growing the collection at Texas Southern University (TSU).

Forrester is the Archivist and Coordinator of Special Collections at the Robert J. Terry Library at TSU. After impressing visitors from the University of East London (UEL), he collaborated with them to identify 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Century original pamphlets and books relating to slavery in Britain at UEL for their Black History Month Celebration. He also presented at UEL's public lecture series. Forrester stated, "I would sincerely hope that the focus of my discussion,

'Black Histories and the Hidden Mysteries of African History,' stimulates today's British youth of African Heritage to achieve more, to look further with pride and dignity, and a greater understanding that things they are told and taught to them are not necessarily true, and to investigate for themselves."

Containing the Barbara Jordan Collection, and the TSU Archives, the Special Collections at TSU were established in 1948 when the university purchased the Heartman Collection - which consists of books, pamphlets, slave narratives, journals, music scores, and other documents relating to the Black experience in the United States and the world.

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## EVENTS

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The National Archives will celebrate Hispanic American Heritage Month with special films, programs, and lectures. These events are free and open to the public and will be held at the National Archives Building in Washington, D.C., which is located on the National Mall at Constitution Ave. and 7th Street, N.W., and is fully accessible.

### *New Thinking on Lincoln's Legacy: Hispanic Perspectives*

Tuesday, September 18, at noon, William G. McGowan Theater

Abraham Lincoln's 200th birthday is in 2009. Does his legacy have resonance within Hispanic communities? Estevan Rael-Galvez, New Mexico State Historian; Ernesto Chavez, associate professor of history at the University of Texas at El Paso; and Jerry Thompson, Regents Professor, Social Science Department, Texas A&M International University, will unearth fresh historical perspectives on Lincoln, his era, and his legacy.

### *Film: The Lemon Grove Incident*

Friday, September 21, at noon, William G. McGowan Theater

Based on historical events, this docudrama, which blends archival photos, dramatic reenactments, and interviews with former students, portrays the efforts of the Mexican American community in Lemon Grove, CA, to challenge local school segregation practices and racial discrimination in Depression-era America. Produced by Paul Espinosa. (1985, 58 minutes.)

### *Playing America's Game: Baseball, Latinos, and the Color Line*

Wednesday, September 26, at noon, Jefferson Room

Latinos have emerged as baseball's largest minority group over the last two decades, highlighted by the pitching of Pedro Martinez and the hitting exploits of Alex Rodriguez. In *Playing America's Game: Baseball, Latinos, and the Color Line*, Adrian Burgos examines the long history of Latinos in U.S. professional baseball, focusing particularly on their significant presence in the Negro Leagues.

### **Zoot Suit Riots**

Friday, October 12 at 12 noon, William G. McGowan Theater

In August 1942 the murder of a young Mexican-American man ignited a firestorm in Los Angeles, California. In no time at all, ethnic and racial tensions that had been building up over the years boiled over. Police fanned out across the city in a dragnet that netted 600 Mexican Americans. Among those accused of murder was a young "zoot-suiter" named Hank Leyvas -- the poster boy for an entire generation of rebellious Mexican kids who refused to play by the old rules. These dramatic events are chronicled in this 2001 documentary from the PBS series, American Experience. Written, produced, and directed by Joseph Tovares. (60 minutes.)

### **RELATED NATIONAL ARCHIVES "KNOW YOUR RECORDS" PROGRAMS**

All programs are open to the public and are free unless otherwise noted.

#### ***Hispanics in the 19th Century through Military and Census Records***

Wednesday, September 26, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Jefferson Room

National Archives staff archivist Constance Potter and archives specialist John Deeben will present a workshop on Hispanics in the Southwest in the 19th century, focusing on Civil War military service, regimental, and pension records for volunteers from New Mexico, Arizona, and Texas as well as population and non-population census schedules. Reservations are required, and a fee of \$20 is payable by cash or check at the door. Call 202-357-5333.

#### ***Mexican Border Crossings***

Thursday, September 13, at 11 a.m., Room G-24, Research Center

National Archives staff archivist Claire Kluskens will discuss Mexican border crossing records that document the arrival of permanent and temporary immigrants to the United States at the U.S.-Mexico border.

#### ***Hispanic Volunteers in the Antebellum U.S. Army***

Tuesday, September 18, at 11 a.m., Room G-24, Research Center

National Archives staff archives specialist John Deeben will discuss service records and other documentation for Hispanics who served in the U.S. Army, 1835-55. Many fought in the Second Seminole War, the Mexican War, and the Apache and Navajo wars of the 1850s. (This lecture will be repeated at the National Archives at College Park, MD, in Lecture Room B, on Thursday, September 20, at 11 a.m.)

#### ***Hispanic-Related Films from the National Archives***

Friday, September 21, at 11 a.m., Room G-24, Research Center

National Archives staff present and discuss a variety of film clips illustrating Hispanic population, culture, activities, and families in the early to mid-20th century.

#### ***Documenting Community, Politics, and the Economy in Puerto Rico, 1898-1950***

Tuesday, September 25, at 11 a.m., Room G-24, Research Center

National Archives branch chief Kenneth Heger will provide an overview of the records of the two Federal agencies that administered Puerto Rico -- the Bureau of Insular Affairs and the Office of Territories -- focusing on their value to local historians. (This lecture

will be repeated at the National Archives at College Park, MD, in Lecture Room B, on Thursday, September 27, at 11 a.m.)

To verify the date and times of the programs, the public should call the Public Programs Line at: (202) 357-5000, or view the Calendar of Events on the web at: <http://www.archives.gov/calendar/>. To contact the National Archives, please call 1-866-272-6272 or 1-86-NARA-NARA (TDD) 301-837-0482.

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## ***REMINDERS:***

Plan to join the AAC Roundtable at SAA's 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting as we travel home to Chicago! Help us celebrate our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! **The annual business meeting will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 29 from 4:00 to 6:00pm in the Gold Room (Level 2) of the Fairmont Hotel.**

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We are looking for you! Interested in volunteering to make a difference in the Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable? The positions of **co-chair, newsletter editor, and listserv moderator** are available! Not coming to SAA, but still interested? Please contact **Lisa Nguyen**, at 650-723-2050 or [lisa.nguyen@stanford.edu](mailto:lisa.nguyen@stanford.edu)

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Joining us at *ARCHIVES/CHICAGO*? Don't forget to attend the following Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable Endorsed Sessions:

- A Special Brew: New Perspectives from the National Archives on Civil Rights, Race Riots, and Brown vs. Board of Education (Thursday, August 30, 10:00 - 11:30am)
- *Outreach to Those Less Served* (Thursday, August 30, 2:45 - 4:15pm)

And the following events:

- Repository Tour: The Center for Black Music Research (CBMR) at Columbia College, Chicago 623 South Wabash Ave., 6<sup>th</sup> Fl. (Tues., Aug. 28, 10:00am-12:00pm) Capacity - 25. Contact Suzanne Flandreau at [sflandreau@cbmr.colum.edu](mailto:sflandreau@cbmr.colum.edu) or (312) 344-7586)
- Graduate Student Paper Session: Kelvin L. White, University of California Los Angeles, "Remembering the Past, Shaping the Future: el corredor as Record in Afro-Mexican Communities" (Fri., Aug. 31, 4:30-6:00pm)



**VISIT THE  
ARCHIVISTS AND  
ARCHIVES OF COLOR  
ROUNDTABLE WEBSITE!**

<http://www.archivists.org/saagroups/aac/index.htm>

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The Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable Newsletter is usually published twice a year.

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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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