# AACR Newsletter

## August 2013 Vol. 27, No. 4



## Cuban Heritage Collection's theater exhibit wins ACRL award

Earlier this year, the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries announced the winners of its Katharine Kyes Leab and Daniel J. Leab "American Book Prices Current" Exhibition Awards program. The Cuban Heritage Collection's online exhibit "Cuban Theater in Miami: 1960-1980" received an honorable mention in the electronic exhibition category.

"Exemplifying a performance, this sleek, striking and elegantly stylish electronic exhibition captures the spirit of the community it represents: theater as a microcosm for the Cuban diaspora experience and culture," said RBMS Chair Cherry Williams.

In This Issue

3

Civil rights activists' papers open for research at the University of Delaware.

Mosaic, Pinkett award winners announced.

Circa-1950 portrait of a New Orleans jazz band. From the Charles L. Franck Photography collection at the Historic New Orleans Collection.

### Business meeting: Wed., August 14 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Meeting Agenda Hilton New Orleans Riverside

3:00 p.m.-3:05 p.m. CALL TO ORDER

- 3:05 p.m. 3:15 p.m. ANNOUNCEMENTS Pinkett Award Mosaic Recipients '13-'14 Officers
- 3:15 p.m. 3:35 p.m. REPORTS SAA Council Diversity Committee Mentoring Program

3:45 p.m. - 3:55 p.m. GENERAL DISCUSSION

4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. PANEL/Q&A

4:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. ADJOURNMENT

<sup>By</sup> Steven Booth, NARA

### This year's conference in New Orleans is the Joint Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archivists (SAA) and the Council of State Archivists (CoSa).

With the recent announcement of the ARL/SAA Mosaic Program, I strongly believe diversity and partnerships are two areas that require our immediate attention.

The AAC Roundtable business meeting will be held Wednesday, August 14th in the Fountain Room at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside. I am excited to have Andrea Jackson and Courtney Chartier from the Atlanta University Woodruff Library joining us to discuss "Strategic Outreach: Promoting the Tupac Amaru Shakur Collection." All invited to attend a "Meet & Greet" Happy Hour hosted by the Special Projects Team at Victory Cocktails.

I want to congratulate to Angel Diaz, Lori Harris, Barrye Brown, Rhonda Jones, and Kimberly Springer on receiving the Harold T. Pinkett Award,

## Co-Chair's Letter

Mosaic Scholarship and Josephine Forman Scholarship! Recipients' of SAA Student Scholarships and Travel Awards will be recognized during Plenary Session II on Friday, August 16th at 8:00 AM.

This August marks the end of my term and I am humbly grateful and appreciative for the opportunity to represent such an amazing group. In the past two years, I have had the pleasure to work alongside some outstanding individuals that genuinely care about the Roundtable and diversity in SAA and the profession.

Sincerest gratitude to Courtney Chartier, Derek Mosley, Harrison Inefuku, Stacie Williams, Susan Gehr, Jasmine Jones, Lisa Calahan, Krystal Appiah, Gabby Dudley, LaToya Devezin, Lisa Crues Welty, Jennifer Ho, Jeremy Brett, Laura Starratt, and Alexis Braun Marks for their commitment, dedication, and commendable service.

Special appreciation to Wilda Logan, Holly Smith and Michelle Gachette for their guidance and words of wisdom. ■



Jane E. Mitchell, left, and her husband Littleton Mitchell, Delaware civil rights activists who broke barriers locally and nationally.

The University of Delaware Library celebrated the opening of the Littleton and Jane Mitchell papers on May 14, 2013, with an event to recognize the life and career of the Delaware-based civil rights activist and educator Littleton P. Mitchell (1918-2004) and his wife Jane E. Mitchell (1921-2004).

The Mitchell papers contain material relating to Littleton Mitchell's education, activities as a member of the Tuskegee Airmen, his three decades-long leadership of the Delaware NAACP, his career as a teacher, and his involvement in a number of organizations.

The collection also highlights the career of Jane Mitchell, one of Delaware's first African-American nurses and former director of nursing at the Delaware State Hospital. There are also photographs, slides, and other media documenting the Mitchells' family life as well as their participation in local and national events. As a whole, the papers explore the professional, personal, and family relationships of an African-American family in the 20th century.

Littleton Purnell Mitchell, known as "Lit," attended Howard High School in Wilmington, Del., which was the only high school for African-American students in the Delaware activist's papers open for research

By E. Evan Echols, University of Delaware

(Littleton Mitchell) directed efforts to ensure equal rights for African Americans and other minorities in the state.

(continued on p. 4)

state of Delaware at the time. Mitchell graduated from Howard High School in 1939, and was admitted to West Chester State College of Pennsylvania (now West Chester University). After two years in college, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps and served in Tuskeaee, Alabama, as a member of the "Tuskegee Airmen" during World War II. While at Tuskegee Army Air Base, he served as an instructor for instrument simulator training.

In 1948, Lit Mitchell became the first African-American in Delaware to teach white students. He spent his entire career, until his retirement in 1984, as a teacher and counselor for emotionally troubled youth at the Governor Bacon Health Center in Delaware City, Del.

In 1961, Mitchell became president of the Delaware State Branches of the NAACP, and led the organization for over thirty years, until 1991. During his time as president, he directed efforts to ensure equal rights for African-Americans and other minorities in the state. Mitchell fought to address issues of fair housing, school desearegation, equal access to public accommodations, voting

rights, and increased employment and educational opportunities for African-Americans.

He served on the Brown v. Board of Education 50th Anniversary Commission as a presidential appointee representing Delaware.

Jane Evelyn Mitchell was a graduate of the Howard High School Provident Hospital Nursing Program and later graduated from the University of Delaware in 1963. She earned her Master's degree from Washington College in Chestertown, Md. She married Littleton Mitchell in 1943, while working at the Tuskegee Institute Hospital in Alabama.

Mitchell became the first African-American registered nurse employed in a hospital in Delaware, serving as Head Nurse at Governor Bacon Heath Center in Delaware City, Del. She spent the majority of her career at Delaware State Hospital in New Castle, Delaware, where she served as supervisor of Psychiatric Services, and Director of Nursing Services. Mitchell also served as vice president of the Delaware Nurses Association and was president of the Delaware State Board of Nursing. ■

View the Littleton and Jane Mitchell papers finding aid at www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/findai ds/html/mss0629.html.

## Elections, Awards, & Scholarships

We have a lot of changes going on with the roundtable! Welcome our new Roundtable executive board members and congratulate the Mosaic and Pinkett scholarship winners and the rest of the 2012-2013 HistoryMakers Fellows.

#### Executive Board Vice Chair/Chair-Elect:

Gabrielle M. Dudley serves as the Research Library Fellow for Reference and Instruction at the Manuscript, Archive, and Rare Book Library (MARBL) at Emory University. In May 2012, Gabrielle graduated from the University of South Carolina with a MA in Public History and a MLIS with an emphasis in African American history and archival administration. She also holds a BA in History from the University of Montevallo. Gabrielle has been a member of SAA and AACR since 2010.

#### Newsletter Editor:

Raegan Stearns is an archivist for the Black Ethnic Archives at Southern University in Shreveport. She has been a member of SAA since 2008 and is actively involved with the Ark-La-Tex Archivists, Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association, Society of Southwest Archivists, and Academy of Certified Archivists. Raegan holds a Bachelor of Arts in English and African and African Diaspora Studies from Tulane University and received a Master of Library and Information Science degree with a concentration in Archival Management from Louisiana State University.

#### Harold T. Pinkett Minority Student Award Winners

#### Lori E. Harris

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Harris works for the Project RIGHT NOW-Carolinas!, which is dedicated to preserving local African-American history.

#### Maria Angel Diaz

University of California at Los Angeles. Diaz has worked with the forthcoming Cesar Chavez Archives at the National Chavez Center in Keene, Calif., and other projects working to document and preserve the Mexican-American experience.

#### Mosaic Scholarship Winners

#### Rhonda Jones

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Jones is an assistant professor at North Carolina Central University and she managed the "Behind the Veil" oral history collection at the Center for Documentary Studies.

#### Barrye Brown

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Brown is currently working as a Carolina Academic Library Associate with an appointment in the Southern Historical Collection and Sonja Haynes Stone Center Library.

#### Josephine Forman Scholarship Winner

#### Kimberly Springer

University of Michigan School of Information. Springer served as a lecturer at the King's College London and while there, served on the advisory board for the Black Cultural Archives Black Women's Oral History project.

#### 2012-2013 HistoryMakers Fellows (cont. from May)

#### Alex Champion

Legacy of Slavery Project, University of Maryland. Champion's fellowship focused on the Dr. Loren Schweninger Collection, in which he explored records related to slavery probate disputes and fixed inaccurate or incomplete finding aids and digitization projects.

#### Skylah Hearn

Carter G. Woodson Regional Library/Vivian Harsh Research Center, Chicago (III.) Public Library. Hearn's fellowship consisted of processing the Reverends Addie and Claude Wyatt Photograph Collection and the Dempsey Travis Manuscript Collection. ■



Dudley



Stearns

## AAC Roundtable New Orleans 2013 Schedule At-a-Glance

#### Wednesday, August 14, 2013

#### 12:30 p.m. — 1:30 p.m.

Tour of the Historic New Orleans Collection (offsite) 553 Royal Street, New Orleans 70130 Sponsored by the Special Projects Team

**3:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.** AAC Roundtable Meeting

#### 5:00 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.

Meet & Greet Happy Hour (offsite), Victory Cocktails 339 Baronne Street, New Orleans 70112 Sponsored by the Special Projects Team

5:15 p.m. — 7:15 p.m. LACCHA Roundtable Lesbian & Gay Archives Roundtable

#### Thursday, August 15, 2013

9:30 a.m. — 10:00 a.m. SAA Mentoring Program Meet & Greet

#### 10:00 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.

Session 108: Labor Rights are Civil Rights: Discovering the Intersection between Labor History and Civil Rights in Labor Collections.

#### 12:00 p.m. — 1:15 p.m.

Diversity Forum: Memory and Power: How Diversifying the Archives Can Help Us Welcome the Future

Featuring Dr. Abdul Alkalimat, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

#### 1:30 p.m. — 3:00 p.m.

Session 208: Native Americans and Route 66: Hidden Stories of the Mother Road **3:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.** Professional Posters (P14 & P17)

#### Friday, August 16, 2013

#### 8:00 a.m. — 9:00 a.m.

Plenary Session II: Pinkett Award and Mosaic Scholarship Ceremony

#### 9:30 a.m. — 10:30 a.m.

Session 302: Archiving Hip Hop Culture: Collaborating Across Institutions and with Communities Session 310: Disability: Uncovering Our Hidden History

#### 10:45 a.m. — 11:45 a.m.

Session 405: Shout it from the Mountaintop: Changing Perceptions about Archival Advocacy Session 406: Journeys of Reconciliation: Institutions Studying Their Relationships to Slavery Endorsed by AACR

#### 4:00 p.m. — 5:30 p.m.

Native American Archives Roundtable Women Archivists Roundtable Women's Collections Roundtable

#### Saturday, August 17, 2013

#### 8:00 a.m. — 9:00 a.m.

Session 603: To Protect and Connect: Strategic Stewardship of Cultural Heritage Materials in the Archives

#### 9:45 a.m. — 11:15 a.m.

Session 703: Displaced Archives: Current Controversies and New Initiatives Session 704: Working on Your Perfect Pitch: Elevator Speeches