Activist Archivists Document the Living Wage Movement

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Abstract: The Living Wage Project began in February 2014 as a graduate student-led project intending to document the current movement fighting for a living wage across the United States. While the project seeks out organizations who are currently a part of this movement, the project founders are also archiving their own archivist experience in the movement by documenting rallies they have attended and donating personally collected ephemera as well as donating their personal photos to the digital archive.

The project founders of The Living Wage Project also promoted archiving within the activist organizations they encountered, teaching them the importance of archiving and encouraging them to take a more active role in archiving their organization’s materials. The project founders also discuss the impact of technology in promoting the collection, the development of strong relationships between archivists and social justice activists, and the importance of strong social networking skills for collection building.

About the authors:

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