



# NEA

**SPRING 2014 MEETING**  
**PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**MARCH 20-22, 2014**

# WELCOME FROM NEA'S PRESIDENT



Welcome to New England Archivists' Spring 2014 Meeting. This is a historic meeting for NEA as we have officially transitioned into our new meeting structure—a longer two-day annual meeting in the spring with a symposium hosted in the fall.

With this spring meeting, NEA is embarking on several exciting “firsts.” We have awarded our first Meeting and Travel Assistance Scholarships to help defray costs to attend our annual conference. This new scholarship, which is awarded to one member and one student member, will be offered each spring. Don't hesitate to apply next year.

You will have an opportunity at this meeting to help craft and choose NEA's inclusion and diversity statement. Over the past three years, the NEA board has been working on an inclusion and diversity plan for the organization. As a next step in our efforts, we have made available three draft statements in the vendor hall for you to choose your preference. I encourage you to participate in this new and important initiative.

This year's meeting has offered a volunteer opportunity that goes beyond our traditional programming. Under the guidance of Program Committee members Camille Torres Hoven and Megan Schwenke, NEA has created a day of service for our members to help Portsmouth Public Library preserve and describe one of their unique collections. This outreach initiative follows in the tradition of last year's StoryCorps project, *Why Worcester?* in which we collected the stories of recent refugees to the city as part of our 40th anniversary meeting held at the College of the Holy Cross. In the future, we plan to continue to engage in exciting ways with the community where we hold our meetings.

Next year NEA and MARAC will host a joint annual meeting, held at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. It will be another historic year for NEA and a wonderful opportunity for our members to gather and exchange ideas with Mid Atlantic colleagues. More information about the meeting will be released in the coming months.

I would like to thank Spring 2014 Meeting Committee Chair Kelliann Bogan and her committee for the fantastic work they did planning a diverse program and bringing to fruition this meeting.

Alyssa Pacy  
2013-2014, NEA President

# WELCOME TO PORTSMOUTH

Welcome to New England Archivists' Spring 2014 Meeting in Portsmouth, New Hampshire at the Sheraton Harborside hotel. We are excited to hold our meeting in this city rich with history. Be sure to take a break from the professional development this weekend and explore all that Portsmouth has to offer, including historical sites, galleries, and book stores.

This meeting marks NEA's return to the hotel setting. We hope that staying in the same location as the meeting will create more opportunities to network and connect with friends and colleagues. With this in mind, we have created a unique program jam-packed with special events. Our plenary speakers, Ian MacKaye, citizen archivist and former front man of the influential D.C. punk bands Minor Threat and Fugazi, and documentary filmmaker Vivek Bald will offer two very different perspectives on the creation and use of archival collections. We also have the honor of hosting seven delegates from the International Council on Archives Section on Professional Associations. On Friday we hope you will join us in the very first NEA Jeopardy tournament where you can compete with or cheer for your fellow archivists as their archival knowledge is tested. Afterwards, I hope you'll join us to celebrate Portsmouth at a Friday night reception featuring local food and refreshments.

This meeting we are continuing the tradition of creating a day of service established at NEA's 40th anniversary meeting in spring 2013. This year we organized a volunteer opportunity for NEA members to process the papers of Portsmouth native Henry Clay Barnabee at the Portsmouth Public Library.

I'd like to close with a big thank you to my committee and all other NEA members who worked so hard to put this meeting together.

Kelli Bogan

NEA Spring 2014 Meeting Committee Chair

## Spring 2014 Meeting Committee

**Kelli Bogan, Chair**

College Archivist at Colby-Sawyer College

**Tessa Beers**

Processing Archivist, Baker Library, Harvard Business School

**Abigail Cramer**

Librarian/Archivist, Historic New England

**Sara Cheeseman**

Public Records Archivist, Connecticut State Library

**Benjamin Johnson**

Senior Processing Archivist, Baker Library, Harvard Business School

**Tom Blake**

Digital Projects Manager, Boston Public Library

**Rosalie Gartner**

Archives & Records Management Associate, Emerson College

**Megan Schwenke**

Acting Archivist/Records Manager, Harvard Art Museums

**Camille Torres Hoven**

Chomsky Project Archivist for the Institute Archives and Special Collections, MIT

# SCHEDULE-AT-A-GLANCE

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2014

8:00 a.m.–9:00 a.m. Workshop registration

## A DAY OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. NEA members volunteer in three shifts to help the Portsmouth Public Library preserve and describe the papers of local actor and singer, Henry Clay Barnabee. Portsmouth Public Library (175 Parrott Ave)

1:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m.

3:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

The collection includes scrapbooks, correspondence, images, and assorted ephemera. Volunteers will complete basic description tasks and assist in scanning materials to enable the library to provide greater access to this whimsical collection.

## WORKSHOPS:

9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Digital Curation Planning and Sustainable Futures (SAA DAS course) Harbor's Edge

9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Metrics for Special Collections Gardner

1:30 p.m.–5:30 p.m. Archives 101: Archival Exhibitions (NEMA) Gardner

1:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m. NEA Board meeting

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. **NEA DINNER OUT** Sheraton lobby  
Spending the night in Portsmouth and not sure where to go and what to do? Gather in the Sheraton lobby at 5:30pm to spend a night out on the town with fellow NEA members

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **NEMA RECEPTION** Portsmouth Brewery (56 Market Street)  
Following the Archival Exhibitions workshop, join NEMA for a chance to mingle and enjoy light refreshments.

# SCHEDULE-AT-A-GLANCE

FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2014

8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	Meeting registration	
8:00 a.m.–9:00 a.m.	Breakfast with vendors	Ballroom lobby
8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.	Vendor showcase	Ballroom lobby
9:00 a.m.–10:30 a.m.	Friday Plenary: Ian MacKaye	Ballroom
10:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.	Jeopardy Qualifier	Ballroom
10:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m.	Meet the NEA Roundtables (see pages 20-21 for info)	Ballroom
10:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.	<b>SESSIONS:</b> Meet the Board Elevator Pitches A Miscellany of Short Talks: Student Paper Pitches, Crafty Outreach, Agile Archives	Harbor's Edge Ampitheater Prescott
11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.	Resume review	
11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m.	Lunch on your own	
1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m.	<b>SESSIONS:</b> Free Open Source Tools Nostalgia, Art and the Archive DIY Wikipedia Edit-A-Thon Perfecting the Process	Harbor's Edge Ballroom Ampitheater Prescott
2:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m.	Afternoon break with the vendors	Ballroom lobby
3:00 p.m.–4:30 p.m.	Jeopardy Tournament	Ballroom
4:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m.	Local Foods and Refreshments Reception	

NB: Room assignments are subject to change. Please check hotel signs for updates.

# SCHEDULE-AT-A-GLANCE

## SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2014

8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	Meeting registration	
8:00 a.m.–9:00 a.m.	Meet the NEA Roundtables (see pages 20-21 for info)	Ballroom
8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.	Vendor Showcase	Ballroom lobby
9:15 a.m.–10:45 a.m.	Saturday Plenary: Vivek Bald	Ballroom
11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	<b>SESSIONS:</b> National History Day and the Archives Conversations with the ICA SPA Landing the Big One with Social Media NEA Story Corps Project World Café	Ballroom Ampitheater Harbor's Edge Prescott
12:30 p.m.–1:30 p.m.	Lunch/Business Meeting	Ballroom lobby
1:45 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	<b>SESSIONS:</b> The Boston Bombing Digital Archives Providing Access to Moving Image & Sound Archives Student Participation in Archives Provenance: The new chapter in the museum narrative	Ampitheater Prescott Ballroom Harbor's Edge
3:15 p.m.–3:45 p.m.	Afternoon break with the vendors	Ballroom lobby
3:45 p.m.–5:15 p.m.	<b>SESSIONS:</b> Developing a Preservation Framework for Complex Digital Artworks End of Analog Audiovisual Media Working in Harmony with Non-Archivists as Collaborators Statewide Repositories in New England	Prescott Ampitheater Ballroom Harbor's Edge

NB: Room assignments are subject to change. Please check hotel signs for updates.

## **DIGITAL CURATION PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURES (DAS) CO-SPONSORED WITH THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN ARCHIVISTS**

Learn from the experts! In this course you'll review the concepts, principles, and practices necessary for developing a digital curation program to effectively manage digital content - including archival records - across generations of technology. In addition, this course focuses on the advocacy, preservation planning, and policy development necessary to manage digital content far into the future.

### **INSTRUCTORS:**

Nancy McGovern, Head of Curation and Preservation Services  
MIT Libraries

Helen Tibbo, Alumni Distinguished Professor  
UNC Chapel Hill, School of Information and Library Science

## **ARCHIVES 101: ARCHIVAL EXHIBITIONS CO-SPONSORED WITH THE NEW ENGLAND MUSEUM ASSOCIATION**

Join NEMA at the NEA conference for the next installment of the popular Archives 101 series: Archival Exhibitions. In this half-day workshop led by presenters in the museum, archival, and exhibition fields, participants will investigate some of the issues involved in exhibiting archival material: why advocate for archival inclusion in exhibitions? How can archivists and collections managers work together on exhibitions, and what can you learn from other departments in your institution? How can you connect with audiences? What are the guidelines for the safe handling and display of material (and when is it ok to say no)? NEA members will also have the opportunity to learn more about the NEMA Library and Archives Professional Affinity Group.

### **INSTRUCTORS:**

Anne Bentley, Curator of Art and Artifacts  
Massachusetts Historical Society

Harrie Sloodbeck, Collections and Exhibits Manager  
USS Constitution Museum

Stephanie Cyr, Assistant Curator  
Norman B. Leventhal Map Center at the Boston Public Library

# WORKSHOPS

## **METRICS FOR SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

What is the difference between an output and an outcome? What do granting agencies mean by demonstrating effective change through evaluation? How can we foster and embed a culture of assessment in our repositories, regardless of the types of collections we hold or number of staff? How can we demonstrate the effective use of project staffing and funds? And what kind of data should we be trying to capture anyway?

This half-day workshop is designed to introduce participants to the national metrics conversation: why archivists need to think beyond user statistics; how assessment can improve project management and practice; and the value of metrics not only as a reporting mechanism for management, but as a way to advocate for staff and dynamically change workflow and patron interaction. At the end of this course, you will understand key metrics-related terminology and avenues for evaluation, and discover what tools and models are available to archivists to facilitate data collection.

Note: Attendees are encouraged to bring laptops and project/processing plans to use during the workshop (not required).

### **INSTRUCTORS:**

Kathryn Hammond Baker, Deputy Director

Center for the History of Medicine, Countway Library, Harvard Medical School

Emily Novak Gustainis, Collections Services Archivist

Center for the History of Medicine, Countway Library, Harvard Medical School

Adrienne Pruitt, Project Archivist

John J. Burns Library, Boston College

**Join the conversation on Twitter: #NEAsp14**



# PLENARY TALKS

## FRIDAY, MARCH 21: IAN MACKAYE



Join Ian MacKaye in an informal conversation about libraries, archives, documentation, and memory. MacKaye, currently the front man of The Evens and formerly of the influential D.C. punk bands Minor Threat and Fugazi, is the founder of his own music label, Dischord Records, and the mastermind behind the Fugazi Live Series online archive. Come ready to participate in an engaging dialogue about his work or anything else you feel like talking about.

## SATURDAY, MARCH 22: VIVEK BALD



Vivek Bald is a scholar and filmmaker whose documentary, *In Search of Bengali Harlem* has spurred a related book and website. The website is part of Bald's ongoing project to document the underrepresented communities of two groups of early South Asian migrants to the United States. Both were groups of Muslim men, predominantly from the region of Bengal, who entered the U.S. between the 1880's and the 1940's.

# FRIDAY, MARCH 21

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 10:30 AM–11:30 AM

### **THIS IS NEA JEOPARDY:**

#### ***Qualify to be a contestant!***

NEA is hosting its own version of the famous television game show *Jeopardy*. Complete the qualifying quiz and turn it in at the NEA Jeopardy table in the hotel ballroom before 11:30 a.m. to qualify to compete. Participants with top questionnaire scores will be put onto teams to test their archival knowledge in the second, live round on Friday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. before the reception (See page 12 for more details).

### **MEET THE BOARD**

Are you interested in running for an elected position, volunteering, looking to gain management experience or connect with regional archivists? Join members of NEA's Executive Board and Committee Volunteers for an informal discussion about the workings of NEA, our initiatives, programming and how you can get involved.

#### **NEA SPEAKERS:**

Alyssa Pacy, President

Jill Snyder, Vice President/President Elect

Juliana Kuipers, Treasurer

Silvia Mejia, Secretary

Colin Lukens, Joanie Gearin, Erica Boudreau,  
Tessa Beers, Reps-at-large

Emily Tordo, Registrar

Veronica Martzahl, Web Committee Coordinator

Jim DaMico, Education Committee Chair

Heather Cristiano and Pamela Hopkins  
Newsletter Senior Editors

Jessica Sedgwick, Membership Committee

Abigail Cramer, Fall 2014 Program Committee

Camille Torres Hoven, Spring 2015 Program  
Committee

### **ELEVATOR PITCHES TO DECLARE OUR SUPERPOWERS AND SHARE OUR COLLECTIONS**

Regardless of your size, your institution or your holdings, you've had to make a pitch for something or explain something—funding, staffing, space, care of collections, use of collections, national and local issues... and the list goes on. We know how wonderful our collections are and the many benefits archives provide to society, but how well do we explain ourselves to others? We talk about the need for “elevator speeches,” but how many of us have them? What makes them effective? This lightning session is an opportunity to find out what goes into a good elevator speech and to listen to some that have had impact. Attendees will be encouraged to share their speeches. Hopefully, you'll take away ideas for developing and using your elevator speech.

#### **SPEAKERS:**

Nora Murphy

Archivist for Reference, Outreach, and Instruction  
MIT Institute Archives and Special Collections

Elizabeth Caplise, Archivist  
National Library of Australia

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Elise Dunham, Metadata Production Specialist  
Roper Center, University of Connecticut

Mary Richardson, Project Archivist  
Yale Divinity Library

James Roth, Deputy Director  
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum

Kari Smith, Digital Archivist  
MIT Institute Archives and Special Collections

Jessica Tanny, Chair  
NEA Communications Committee

### A MISCELLANY OF SHORT TALKS

#### *Talk #1: Student Paper Pitches*

Students will present on a variety of topics including archival research from the student's perspective, how archivists have shaped the public's collective memory, and the difficulties of processing unique collections.

#### **SPEAKERS:**

Caitlin Birch, Archives Assistant  
Northeastern University Archives and Special Collections

Renée Elizabeth Neely, graduate student  
Simmons GSLIS, Archives Management

Katy Sternberger, founder and editor  
StarWrite

Myles Crowley, Admin Asst, Reference Assoc.  
MIT Institute Archives and Special Collections

*Talk #2: Crafty Outreach: Small Button, Big Impact*  
Mount Holyoke College Archives and Special Collections has been using a button making machine to support our outreach initiatives over the past year. We have featured the button maker at a variety of events, from study break teas to student exhibit openings to a Founder's Day button blitz, distributing hundreds of Archives-related buttons across campus. We'll share how small creative efforts have led to significant gains; the button maker coupled with social media outreach fosters engagement, leading to conversations about the work that we do and donations of new collections.

#### **SPEAKERS:**

Leslie Fields, Head  
Archives and Special Collections, Mount Holyoke

Mary Alice Martin, Student Outreach Assistant  
(Class of '15), Archives and Special Collections,  
Mount Holyoke

#### *Talk #3: Agile Archivist*

This talk bridges summer internships at ITA Software and the American Antiquarian Society, drawing parallels between Greene and Meissner's "More Product, Less Process" concept and agile software development methodology. Agile methods are a collection of practices that heavily rely on iteration and incremental progress within self-organized teams. Much like MPLP, it allows greater flexibility in planning and faster delivery through rapid response to change.

#### **SPEAKER:**

Chris Markman, Resource Library Coordinator  
Visual & Performing Arts, Clark University

# FRIDAY, MARCH 21

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 1:00 PM–2:30 PM

### FREE OPEN SOURCE TOOLS

Chris Lacinak will introduce four recently published free and open source tools for preservation: Fixity, MDQC, Interstitial, and AVCC. Yvonne Ng will discuss the much anticipated *The Activists' Guide to Archiving Video*, an online resource launched in the summer of 2013 that provides practical guidance for managing, storing, sharing, and preserving digital video. Finally, Jane Mandelbaum will discuss the recently published resource, *Levels of Digital Preservation*, from the National Digital Stewardship Alliance. Using case studies she will demonstrate how the *LDP* helps organizations manage and mitigate digital preservation risks and how it provides a useful framework for all organizations to approach digital preservation in a practical way.

#### SPEAKERS:

Chris Lacinak, Founder and President  
AVPreserve

Yvonne Ng, Archivist  
WITNESS

Jane Mandelbaum, IT Project Manager  
Library of Congress

### NOSTALGIA, ART AND THE ARCHIVE

Unusual, creative, and networked uses of archival materials provide a framework for thinking about how restorative nostalgia is expressed through the intersection of technology and cultural heritage. When properly leveraged with emerging technologies, archival materials can

take on dimensions not possible with traditional research uses. The panel discussion will examine projects such as HistoryPin and WhatWasThere, hauntological music, and colorizing photographs, all of which make new uses of archival materials and enable them to transcend their original forms and repositories. What do artistic uses of primary source materials (or re-contextualizations) mean for our understanding of neutrality in the archives? How do creative uses of archival materials complicate traditional notions of copyright? How can archives evolve to better accommodate “distributed creativity” common to the Internet? What archival principles might be challenged by these changes? Come prepared to discuss these ideas and more.

#### SPEAKERS:

John Campopiano, Project Archivist  
Harvard Film Archive, Mellon Foundation Scholar,  
WGBH

Dana Keller, graduate student and  
Digital Photo Restorationist/Colorist

Matt Spry, Data Curator at The Echo Nest and  
SharePoint/Library Catalog Analyst, Draper Lab

### DIY WIKIPEDIA EDIT-A-THON

Despite the seemingly universal visibility of Wikipedia, cultural heritage institutions have been slow to participate in it. Consequently, much that is documented in our collections has a minimal presence, if any, there. This session will first discuss why and how to host a Wikipedia edit-a-thon at a library, archives, or museum. How can

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 1:00 PM–2:30 PM

archivists “sell” the idea of hosting an edit-a-thon to their home institutions and get to know the local Wikipedia community? How does Wikipedia fit into emerging scholarly discourses in media studies, public history, and digital humanities?

The second half of this session will focus on explaining the nuts and bolts of creating and editing articles in Wikipedia. Feel free to bring a computer or mobile device to the session and ideas for Wikipedia entries you’d like to create. We’ll help you get started, discuss best practices, and answer questions. Attendees will leave with a plan on how to host their own edit-a-thon.

### **SPEAKERS:**

Amanda Rust, Assistant Head  
Research and Instruction, Northeastern University

Amanda Strauss, Research Librarian  
Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University

Jenny Gotwals, Lead Cataloger  
Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University

### **PERFECTING THE PROCESS:**

*Working with digital records, access restrictions, retention decisions, and evolving policies while processing manuscript and corporate archival collections*

In the workplace, archival processing can be more complex than it appears when presented

in graduate school. Amber LaFountain will discuss factors that determine access and privacy protections, including internal policies, donor agreements, institutional restrictions, and legal requirements. Meghan Bannon will discuss how the Center for the History of Medicine adapted tools from digital forensics to process electronic records using the Center’s FRED (Forensic Recovery of Evidence Device). Sara Beneman will discuss the process of identifying unlabeled scientific artifacts and minimally-described research data sets found in corporate research collections and making retention decisions about them through consultation with donors and other researchers. Krista Ferrante will explain how project archivists’ positions can often require more than just performing physical processing, requiring the archivist to learn new skills on the job, including web application development and project management.

### **SPEAKERS:**

Jennifer Betts, University Archivist  
Brown University

Amber LaFountain, Processing Archivist  
Center for the History of Medicine, Countway Library, Harvard Medical School

Meghan Bannon, Processing Archivist  
Center for the History of Medicine, Countway Library, Harvard Medical School

Sara Beneman, Project Archivist  
MIT Lincoln Laboratory

Krista Ferrante, Archivist  
The MITRE Corporation

# NEA JEOPARDY TOURNAMENT

Friday, 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

NEA's own Alex Trebek



NEA is hosting its own version of the famous television game show Jeopardy. Participants will be tested on their knowledge of NEA history, collections in local New England repositories, fun historical facts, and the representation of archives and archivists in pop culture.

Players will compete for bragging rights and cool prizes by answering questions from NEA's own Alex Trebek, Gregor Trinkaus-Randall. The team that

succeeds in the final round will win a free registration to NEA's Fall 2014 Meeting and, of course, will have bragging rights among their colleagues.

Make sure to fill-in and drop off your Jeopardy Qualifying Quiz to a representative in the hotel ballroom during the Friday session from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. so you can be eligible to play.

## Portsmouth Local Foods and Spirits Reception

Following the NEA Jeopardy tournament, congratulate the winning team and celebrate Portsmouth at a reception featuring local food and refreshments.

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS: | 11:00 AM–12:30 PM

### **ARCHIVAL PERSPECTIVES FROM ABROAD: *Conversations with Members of the International Council on Archives Section on Professional Associations***

The International Council on Archives Section on Professional Associations (ICA SPA) Steering Committee's members come from the four corners of the world. In some ways, American archival associations and members have been quite insular. National associations around the world are fighting some of the same battles and facing many of the same issues that associations do in the United States, but at times are much more apt to collaborate across boundaries on larger issues. In this session, members of the ICA SPA will present brief overviews of activities in their countries and then respond to questions from the NEA membership. Please join us to learn more about innovative and exciting accomplishments of our international colleagues.

#### **SPEAKERS:**

Gregor Trinkaus-Randall  
Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners

Claude Roberto  
Association of Canadian Archivists / Association des Archivistes du Québec

Cristina Bianchi  
Association of Swiss Archives

Vilde Ronge  
Norwegian Society of Records Managers and Archivists

Fred van Kan  
Royal Association of Archivists in the Netherlands

Bernhard Post  
Association of German Archivists

Michal Henkin  
Israel Archives and Information Association

### **NATIONAL HISTORY DAY AND THE ARCHIVES**

This session is designed to introduce National History Day to interested archives professionals and encourage archivists to become involved with their local NHD competitions. During the first half of the session we will introduce National History Day and discuss how we work with student researchers at the Massachusetts Historical Society. In the second half of the session, we will showcase completed student projects in several different competition categories to explore how students make use of their archival research.

#### **SPEAKERS:**

Anna Clutterbuck-Cook, Reference Librarian,  
Massachusetts Historical Society

Andrea Cronin, Assistant Reference Librarian,  
Massachusetts Historical Society

Kerin Shea, Judges Coordinator,  
Massachusetts History Day

# SATURDAY, MARCH 22

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 11:00 AM–12:30 PM

### **"MONSTER LAKE TROUT:"** *Landing the big one with social media*

How might the use of social media increase the use of your collection? How will it raise your public profile? Should you Blog, Tweet, Facebook or Pin? Learn about the audiences to which different applications appeal and learn how three different collections are using social media to increase awareness and usage of their collections.

#### **SPEAKERS:**

VivianLea Solek, Collections Management and Archival Consultant

Dan Bullman, graduate student  
Simmons GSLIS

Erik R. Bauer, Archivist  
Peabody Institute Library

Barbara Austen, Florence C. Crofut Archivist,  
Connecticut Historical Society

Dani Fazio, Creative Manager  
Maine Historical Society

### **SHARING STORIES:** *The NEA/StoryCorps project world café*

As part of our 40th Anniversary celebration last year, NEA partnered with StoryCorps to record oral history interviews with both Worcester immigrants and NEA members. Eight institutions and eighteen volunteers worked together for

nine months to see this complex collaboration to fruition. This session, in world café format, will highlight the NEA/StoryCorps project from several perspectives through four concurrent stations. After a 5-minute introduction, participants will have an opportunity to rotate through each of the four stations in 20-minute sessions, allowing for a more intimate dialogue between speakers and participants.

The first station will host Donna Webber and her StoryCorps interview partner, Liz Andrews, who will discuss their role in the project, different pedagogies for oral histories and their place in the archives, and what it is like for archivists to both capture and participate in the oral history process. The second station will host interview partners Jeannette Bastian and Megan Sniffin-Marinoff who will discuss the role memory plays in oral histories and give more insight into their interview about archival education.

In the third station, Lisa Long Feldmann, the NEA/StoryCorps Program Director will discuss the challenges involved with large collaboration projects and strategies to make a project successful. Her station partner, Dr. Anita Fábos will discuss her new project at Clark University to continue capturing oral histories of immigrants and refugees in Worcester. The last station will be a listening booth where participants can hear some of the NEA/StoryCorps interviews from both NEA and Worcester participants.



# SATURDAY, MARCH 22

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 11:00 AM–12:30 PM

### SPEAKERS:

Donna Webber, Associate Professor of Practice,  
Simmons GSLIS

Elizabeth Andrews, Archivist for Collections  
and Associate Head, MIT Institute Archives and  
Special Collections

Jeannette Bastian, Associate Dean for Academic  
Affairs, Professor, and Director, Archives Manage-  
ment Concentration, Simmons College

Megan Sniffin-Marinoff, University Archivist,  
Harvard University Archives

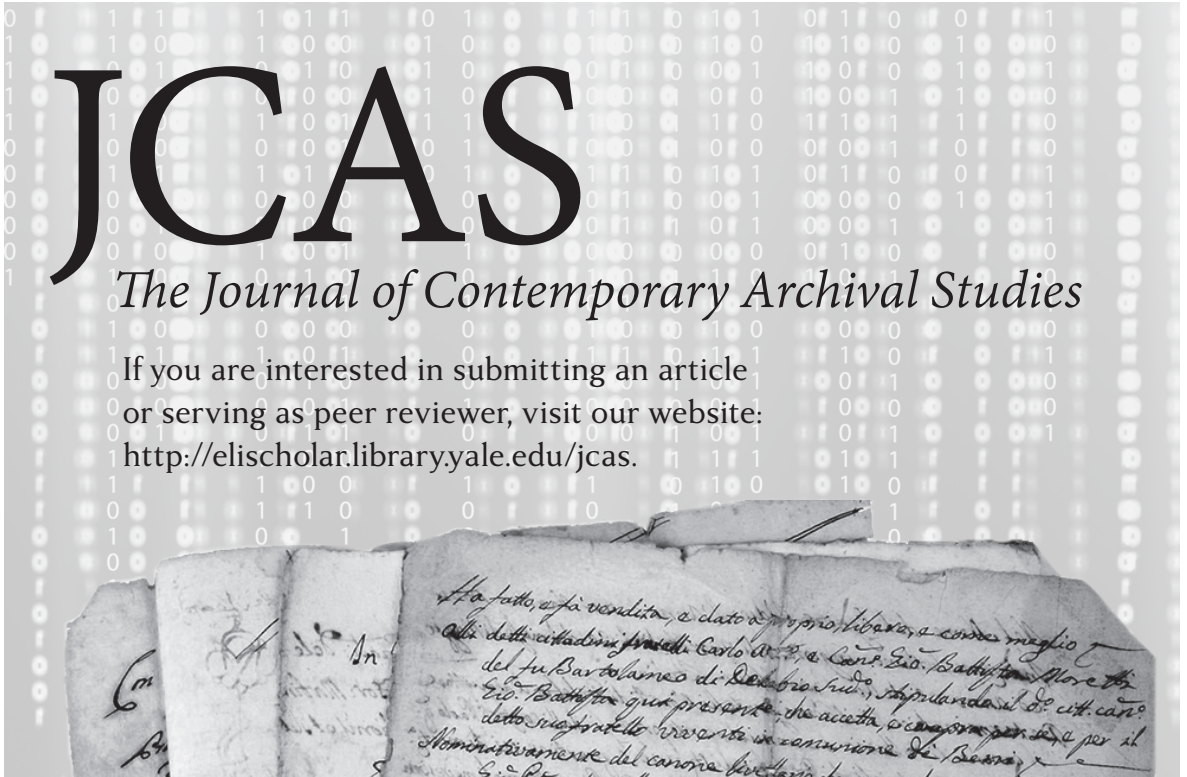
Lisa Long Feldmann,  
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

Dr. Anita Fábos, Associate Professor  
Department of International Development,  
Community and Environment, Clark University

# JCAS

*The Journal of Contemporary Archival Studies*

If you are interested in submitting an article  
or serving as peer reviewer, visit our website:  
<http://elischolar.library.yale.edu/jcas>.



# SATURDAY, MARCH 22

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 1:45 PM–3:15 PM

### **OUR MARATHON: *The Boston bombing digital archives***

In May 2013, faculty members and graduate students at Northeastern University's NULab for Texts, Maps, and Networks created Our Marathon: The Boston Bombing Digital Archive ([www.northeastern.edu/marathon](http://www.northeastern.edu/marathon)). Over the last six months, Our Marathon has become both a forum where the various individuals affected by the 2013 Boston Marathon bombings can share their stories and reflections and a central resource for related digital material (photos, social media, video, oral histories). The archive, built with Omeka, currently contains over 3,500 items, and has fostered partnerships with local media (the Boston Globe's GlobeLab, WBUR, WCVB-TV) and institutions like the Digital Public Library of America and the Countway Medical Library, among others.

Using Our Marathon as a case study of sorts, join us as we discuss questions such as: How can digital humanities projects effectively collaborate with archives and libraries? How can we collect and display "born digital" material in ways that consider both long-term preservation practices and the need to make this material compelling to site visitors? What challenges and opportunities arise when working on a "live" digital archive centered on a recent and traumatic cultural event, particularly one that relies heavily on crowdsourced material?

#### **SPEAKERS:**

Giordana Mecagni, Head of Special Collections, University Archivist, Northeastern University

Jim McGrath, Project Co-Director, Our Marathon; English PhD, Northeastern University

Alicia Peaker, Project Co-Director, Our Marathon; English PhD, Northeastern University

Andrew Begley, Archives Assistant  
Northeastern University Archives

Elise Dunham, Metadata Production Specialist,  
Roper Center for Public Opinion Research,  
University of Connecticut

John Campopiano, Project Archivist  
Harvard Film Archive, Mellon Foundation Scholar,  
WGBH

### **PROVIDING ACCESS TO MOVING IMAGE AND SOUND ARCHIVES THROUGH UNIQUE GRANT PROJECTS**

Though the use of grants to enhance and promote archival collections may seem like old news, grants focused on moving image and sound materials can be quite unique. The WGBH Media Library and Archive has been awarded a few large grants recently, with two set to end this Winter/Spring. For the first grant, from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, WGBH proposed exposing our private in-house catalog on our Archive's website, OpenVault, to enhance discoverability and collection access. We also proposed encouraging the use of our moving image and sound collections in scholarly work by soliciting scholars to explore the catalog and curate online collections.

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 1:45 PM–3:15 PM

For the second grant, awarded by IMLS and CLIR, WGBH partnered with the Boston Public Library, Northeast Historic Film, and Cambridge Community Television, to create the Boston TV News Digital Library. This resource provides access to local TV news footage from 1960-2000, with content voted on by the users. After a massive digitization effort, the Digital Library contains over 500 hours of content, with more to come. Speakers will discuss the grant outcomes, challenges, and the development of workflows and technology that allow users to become part of the preservation and digitization effort.

### **SPEAKERS:**

Allison Pikel, Project Coordinator, Mellon Foundation Participatory Cataloging Project at WGBH  
Sadie Roosa, Research Assistant at WGBH Educational Foundation: Media Library and Archives

### **STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN ARCHIVES ON A HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE LEVEL**

*Learn about two different projects being done with the help of high school students and college students.*

#### **Talk #1: Student-Created Oral Histories and Virtual Exhibits: Using College Archives for Student Learning**

Over the last five years, Colby-Sawyer's archivist and history professors have developed an on-going experiential learning project centered on the college's archives and history.

By conducting oral histories with alums, faculty, staff, and administrators, and by carrying out primary research in the college archives, students construct virtual history exhibits recreating various aspects of the institution's past. In the process, the college's History and Political Studies (HPS) majors learn—and more importantly practice—essential skills of original historical research and public history. In this presentation, a member of the history faculty and three History and Political Studies majors will describe in detail how they have used the college's archives as a laboratory to support student learning and to create an ongoing history of the college.

### **SPEAKERS:**

Randy Hanson, Multi-Disciplinary Studies  
Colby-Sawyer College  
Thomas McGrath, History and Political Studies  
Colby-Sawyer College  
Hermella Tekle, History and Political Studies  
Colby-Sawyer College  
Michellina Wuddah-Martey, History and Political Studies, Colby-Sawyer College

#### **Talk #2: Collaborative Micro-Archive**

During the summer of 2013, a group of eight Boston high school students involved with Boston's MYTOWN organization teamed up with archivists from Northeastern University, UMass Boston, Roxbury Community College, and Suffolk University to create a micro-archive based on Boston's activist and community organizing

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history. MYTOWN teaches Boston teenagers about the history of their own neighborhood, community and city. Once trained, students lead their own historical walking tours of Boston's neighborhoods.

This talk will share lessons, challenges, and pedagogical insights from this successful and wildly experimental archival research project. Key themes addressed include youth-led approaches to historical literacy, sourcing neighborhood self-education initiatives and the archive as intergenerational discussion hub.

### **SPEAKERS:**

Karilyn Crockett, founder and director  
MYTOWN

Rakeima Norris  
Roxbury Community College, MYTOWN

Taeia Downie  
John D. O'Bryant School of Mathematics &  
Science, MYTOWN

Michelle Zhang  
Boston Latin School, MYTOWN

### **PROVENANCE: *The new chapter in the museum narrative***

In 2010 the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston hired Victoria Reed as the first Sadler Curator of Provenance. A unique position in American museums, the Curator of Provenance is tasked with researching works with questionable histories both in the MFA's collection and on the

museum's list of possible accessions. Over the last decade there have been many controversies due to lootings of cultural heritage objects throughout the world. Reed uncovers these objects' past and gives them a new narrative.

Archives have also had their share of lootings, forgeries and destruction. So where do we go next with the narratives of our collections? By studying the past nature, practices, and habits of museums and archives, this lecture will discuss the importance of recording and sharing the provenance of collections, the positive effects and difficulties of proceeding with this type of research, how provenance can be used with today's technological world, and more.

### **SPEAKERS:**

Paul Caserta, Digital Archives Intern  
Rhode Island School of Design

Victoria Reed, Monica S. Sadler Curator of  
Provenance, MFA, Boston

### **DEVELOPING A PRESERVATION FRAMEWORK FOR COMPLEX DIGITAL ARTWORKS**

Last year the Rose Goldsen Archive of New Media Art at Cornell University received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to develop Preservation Access Frameworks for its complex digital media art objects. These objects consist of born-digital multimedia artwork dating back from the mid-1990s, many originally available only on CDs or DVDs and now only run on legacy computers and software. Our goal is to preserve access to these fragile materials and provide a scalable template that other cultural heritage institutions can adapt when considering preservation of similar materials.

The investigative work of the project involves analysis of the technical and software requirements for each work in the collection. From there, we must determine the best strategy to restore access to the work, which can involve tracking down older software, configuring emulators, and migrating portions of the ancillary files to function on modern hardware and software. This presentation will address some of the technical issues we have encountered along the way with examples of various emulation, migration, and preservation strategies for specific works.

#### **SPEAKERS:**

Desiree Alexander, Rose Goldsen Archive of New Media Art, Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections, Cornell University Library

Dianne Dietrich, Rose Goldsen Archive of New Media Art, Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections, Cornell University Library

Alex Duryee, digital preservationist  
AVPreserve

### **END OF ANALOG AUDIOVISUAL MEDIA: *The cost of inaction and what you can do about it***

This session formulates, articulates and empowers participants with unprecedented information, concepts and tools to help tackle one of the most critical issues facing archives today. Chris Lacinak will demonstrate The Cost of Inaction Calculator, an open and free tool which helps organizations analyze the implications of leaving their audiovisual media alone. Elizabeth Walters will present on SAVE, a Web-based application developed at Harvard to enable the collection and aggregation of item-level condition assessment data for AV materials. The application unites physical characteristics and condition data with curatorial information related to an item's research value. Joshua Ranger will present on Catalyst, an innovative system developed for performing large scale item-level inventories, and its use in a project with the New Jersey Network to inventory over 100,000 items left behind for over a year after NJN was shut down overnight. The details of the process, how the outcomes were used to perform and implement a preservation plan, and how this relates to organizations universally will be discussed.

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### SPEAKERS:

Chris Lacinak, Founder and President  
AVPreserve

Elizabeth Walters, Program Officer for Audiovisual Materials, Weissman Preservation Center, Harvard Library

### **WORKING IN HARMONY WITH NON-ARCHIVISTS AS COLLABORATORS: *Case studies from music repositories***

Whether you are a lone arranger or an arranger among many, cultivating relationships throughout your organization is key to getting things done. Effective outreach is especially important when working to break new ground, from the individual project level to the establishment of a fledgling archive. Performing arts archivists can offer a unique perspective on creative approaches to outreach and collaboration. Five music archivists, representing a range of recent projects, will present on their experiences in enlisting non-archivists as collaborators and allies. From a grant-funded project to digitize concert programs to various archives programs established from the ground up, the case studies in this panel aim to share ideas and strategies gained from working in the non-traditional environment of performing arts organizations and to demonstrate how to develop and apply creative outreach approaches to the archives field.

### SPEAKERS:

Sofia Becerra-Licha, Project Archivist  
Berklee College of Music

Brendan Higgins, Evening Library Supervisor  
Boston Conservatory

Michelle Chiles, Archivist  
Handel & Haydn Society

Sarah Funke Donovan, Digital Project Archivist  
Boston Symphony Orchestra Archives

Paul Engle, Director of Library Services  
Berklee College of Music

### **THE STATE OF STATEWIDE REPOSITORIES IN NEW ENGLAND AND HOW THEY ARE AGGREGATING SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

Archives, libraries, and special collections all over New England have digitized vast numbers of items from their collections and made them available on the Web. Metadata aggregation is one option for promoting discoverability to a wide audience. Some state organizations are working towards having the technological infrastructure and overseeing agency to host metadata and/or digital content. What is the current state of these statewide repositories at the beginning of 2014? What are the current issues and challenges faced by the institutions and/or collaborations that are responsible for these systems? What do organizations need to do to be included in these repositories? Could these statewide initiatives collaborate in any areas?

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## CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 3:45 PM–5:15 PM

### **SPEAKERS:**

Nancy Heywood, Digital Projects Coordinator  
Massachusetts Historical Society

Kathy Bolduc Amoroso, Director of Digital  
Projects, Maine Historical Society

Chris Burns, Center for Digital Initiatives  
University of Vermont

Chelsea Gunn, RHODI Project  
Rhode Island Historical Society

Joseph Fisher, University of Massachusetts  
Lowell, and Past President of Digital Common-  
wealth

Michael Howser, Connecticut Digital Archive,  
University of Connecticut Libraries

Katelynn R. Vance, New Hampshire History  
Network, New Hampshire Historical Society

## **VENDORS**

Take a moment to visit with our vendors to see the latest offerings in archival services.

**The Crowley Company**

**Gaylord Bros.**

**Hollinger Metal Edge**

**ArchivesSpace**

**Northeast Document Conservation  
Center**

**Preservation Technologies**

**Servicestar Document Management**

**BiblioLabs**

**Hudson Archival**

**Colorlab**

**VT Boston**

**Polygon**

**AYA Training**

**Backstage Library Works**

**Bridgeport National Bindery**

**University Products**

# NEA ROUNDTABLES

**Roundtables** provide an opportunity for members with related interests, positions, or career goals to discuss ideas and issues, to network and socialize, and to take on tasks related to their areas of interest. Roundtables are intended to provide a means of focusing attention on, and promoting discussion of, archives-related subjects outside of NEA's meetings and official activities.

See the Roundtables section of the NEA website for more information.

## **DIGITAL ARCHIVES ROUNDTABLE**

**Friday 1:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m.**

This is a group for discussing issues, challenges, and opportunities for digital archivists and those working in or with digital archives. Although the discussions may be primarily about dealing with born-digital materials, topics such as training, tools, and workflows for managing all kinds of digital archival material are appropriate within this round table.

## **LOCAL HISTORY ROUNDTABLE**

**Saturday 8:00 a.m.–9:00 a.m.**

This group connects professionals, para-professionals, and volunteers who oversee local history collections for any kind of organization or institution. They discuss local history communities, professional educational opportunities, current trends in the field.

## **MOVING IMAGE & RECORDED SOUND (MIRS)**

**Friday 10:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m.**

**Saturday 8:00 a.m.–9:00 a.m.**

The purpose of the MIRS Roundtable is to create a forum for individuals interested in film, video, and recorded sound. The Roundtable will serve as an advocate for those individuals and organizations that have audiovisual collections and will engage in activities that advance knowledge, communication, and archival professionalism in these areas. The group works to raise awareness of the unique archival challenges of time-based media and create resources for professionals working with moving image and recorded sound collections. They organize session proposals, connect with other related groups around the country, and plan for future workshops and media events.

## **RECORDS MANAGEMENT**

**Saturday 8:00 a.m.–9:00 a.m.**

This group works to foster a community (online and in-person) that encourages the discussion of issues related to records management and promotes a better understanding of the importance of collaborative efforts between archivists, records managers, and information professionals. They discuss emerging trends, issues, topics, and ways to encourage greater collaboration between archivists and records managers.



## **ROUNDTABLE FOR EARLY PROFESSIONALS AND STUDENTS (REPS)**

Friday 12:00 p.m.–12:45 p.m.

REPS provides a forum for discussion and professional growth among NEA members in the early stages of their archival careers. These members include professionals, paraprofessionals, interns, and volunteers engaged in archival work; individuals who are transitioning into or are interested in pursuing archival careers; and students enrolled in archival courses of study. Any NEA member, regardless of experience level or years in the profession, is welcome to join.

<http://repsnea.wordpress.com/>

## **LGBTQ ISSUES**

(No table at this conference)

This roundtable works to share news related to LGBTQ individuals in the archival professions, improve and promote the development, access, and visibility of collections related to LGBTQ history and issues. and provide resources and community support for LGBTQ individuals within the profession. Their separate website allows them to share resources, establish an email listserv, foster a virtual reading/discussion group, and plan for meet-ups and other events. LGBTQ Issues roundtable is open to all membership of NEA regardless of self-identification.

<https://sites.google.com/site/nealgbroundtable/home>

## **CRAFTERS' TABLE**

(No table at this conference)

Open to all knitters, crocheters, cross-stitchers, embroiderers and extremely informal, this group meets in a relaxed, casual atmosphere to get to know one another over a purl and a pint outside the NEA Meetings.

## **ACADEMIC ARCHIVISTS ROUNDTABLE**

(No table at this conference)

As academic archivists, we make up a large body of membership within the chapter. With this, comes a unique set of challenges, job descriptions, and blessings. There's a lot we can learn from one another in balancing priorities, meeting the unique challenges for academic archivists, share ideas, and help each reach our goals even with trying situations and seemingly difficult hurdles to overcome.

# 2013-2014 NEA BOARD AND COMMITTEES

## **EXECUTIVE BOARD:**

President: Alyssa Pacy

Vice-President/President-Elect: Jill Snyder

Immediate Past President: Paige W. Roberts

Representatives-at-large:

Tessa Beers

Erica C. Boudreau

Joan Gearin

Colin Lukens

Secretary: Silvia Mejia

Treasurer : Juliana Kuipers

## **NON-VOTING EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

Clerk of the Corporation: Jean Nielsen Berry

Archivist: Laura Smith, University of Connecticut

Membership Secretary: Kristine M. Sjostedt

Education Coordinator: James DaMico

Development Coordinator: Jane Ward

Listserv Moderato: Kristen Albert

Web Coordinator: Veronica Martzahl

Registrar: Emily Tordo

## **STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Communications Committee: Jessica Tanny

Education Committee: James DaMico

Membership Committee: Jessica Sedgwick and Hanna Clutterbuck

Newsletter Editors: Sally Barkan and Judy Farrar

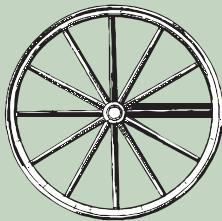
Web Committee: Veronica Martzahl

# November 1 Salve Regina University

This half-day symposium will focus on innovative implementations of technology and archival theory in a variety of institutions. The goal of this meeting is to provide attendees with practical advice to strategize for and successfully implement similar projects in their own institutions.

## archives in action

NEA FALL 2014 MEETING  
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND





**N E A**

**New England Archivists**

TAKING THE PAST INTO THE FUTURE