

Preliminary Schedule: Rise Up!
New England Archivists/Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York, Inc.
Joint Spring 2018 Meeting
March 22-24, 2018, Omni Hotel, New Haven CT

NOTE: All information is subject to change.

THURSDAY, March 22, 2018

8:00 → Registration opens

9:00-5:00 → Workshops

- ❖ **"You're Hired! How to Navigate the Job Application Process"**
 - Peter Carini, Dartmouth College
 - Whether you're new to the job market or returning after a hiatus, join Peter Carini, College Archivist at Dartmouth College, as he demystifies the job seeking process by breaking it down into manageable parts. As part of this hands-on workshop you'll learn about all aspects of the application process, from reading and assessing a job advertisement to navigating an interview and learning to present yourself in a competent and professional manner. After reviewing and discussing advertisements, resumes, and cover letters, you'll have the opportunity to write a model cover letter and gain feedback from the instructor and the group, and to participate in (or observe) a mock interview.

- ❖ **"Documenting Dissent: How LIS Professionals Can Support Community Archives"**
 - Maggie Schreiner, New York University Libraries
 - Marie Lascu, XFR Collective
 - For the past several decades, community archives such as the Lesbian Herstory Archives, Densho: The Japanese American Legacy Project, and the Freedom Archives have been important sites of self-determination, memory, and inspiration for historically disenfranchised communities. In recent years, archivists and information workers have become increasingly interested in using their professional skills to support these projects. This workshop will discuss what community archives are and why they are important. We will consider some of the ethical considerations for professionals interested in supporting community-based projects. We will cover topics including record keeping for activists, community archives and digital security, and the benefits and pitfalls of institutional partnerships. A variety of low-cost and practical tools will be introduced. Participants will leave the workshop with a theoretical grounding in the current activist and professional conversations around community archives, knowledge about how LIS professionals can support this work, and suggestions for practical tools.

- ❖ **"Principled Archivists: How to Make the New DACS Principles Work for You and Your Users"**
 - Adrien Hilton, Harvard University
 - Maureen Callahan, Smith College
 - In this workshop, participants will test the newly revised DACS principles against real-world researcher needs. The revised DACS principles provide an updated framework for archival description. This workshop is a chance for the community to learn more about the revision process and the rationale for revision. Most important, archivists will leave the workshop with a framework for determining how these principles can help structure a descriptive program.

- ❖ **"Digital Curation Planning and Sustainable Futures" [SAA]**
 - This course reviews 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, it will focus on the advocacy, preservation planning, and policy development necessary to manage digital content far into the future.

10:30-12:00 → Morning Tours

- ❖ **Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library Technical Services and Yale University Library Preservation and Conservation Services**
 - This tour will include a visit to Beinecke's processing spaces and photography studio, the Yale University Library's conservation laboratory, and a shared digital archaeology laboratory. Meet at 10:00 at the bus stop on the New Haven Green at the corner of Chapel Street and College Street (about 1 block from the Omni) to catch the Yale Shuttle to the facility. Look for a volunteer holding an NEA sign and board the bus as a group.

- ❖ **Harvey Cushing and John Hay Whitney Medical Library**
 - The Harvey Cushing and John Hay Whitney Medical Library is the central library for Yale's medical school and is home to the Cushing Brain Collection, a historic collection of brains of people diagnosed with Cushing's Syndrome. This tour will feature a view of archival workspace as well as the Cushing Brain Collection.

- ❖ **New Haven Museum**
 - The Whitney Library collects and preserves records of New Haven history from its founding through the present day. This tour will give an introduction to the library's collections with a focus on the balance between preservation and access. It will feature discussions concerning collecting policies, collection housing, conservation decision-making, researcher access, and how collection materials are used in museum exhibits.

2:00-3:30 → Afternoon Tours

- ❖ **Manuscripts and Archives**

- Manuscripts and Archives is Yale's primary repository for Yale and local history, including collections that document diplomatic history and LGBTQ+ history. This tour will include a look at both the repository's archival processing workspace and its newly renovated reading room.
- ❖ **Knights of Columbus**
 - The museum and archives preserve the history of the Knights of Columbus organization. This tour features the museum's current exhibition—***World War I: Beyond the Front Lines***—and will focus on exhibit development and the preservation considerations for long-term display of collection materials. The tour will also include a behind-the-scenes view of the archives workspace and a discussion of lone arranging within a larger organization.
- ❖ **Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library**
 - The Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library is Yale's primary repository for literary archives, early manuscripts, and rare books. Join this tour of the library in downtown New Haven to see the Beinecke building along with exhibitions on view.

9:00-1:00 and 2:00-5:00 → Day of Service Events: New Haven Pride Center and New Haven Free Public Library

- ❖ **Project #1: New Haven Pride Center**
 - The New Haven Pride Center serves the needs of Connecticut's LGBTQI community through education, social, and support programming. In collaboration with Patrick Dunn, Executive Director of the NHPC, volunteers will participate in a video-recorded oral history project to document the stories of queer-identifying people in the New Haven community. Volunteers can participate in this project through a variety of possible roles: interviewing, video recording, transcribing, cataloging, and uploading videos online. This project can accommodate 6-8 volunteers in the morning shift and 10-15 in the afternoon.
- ❖ **Project #2: New Haven Free Public Library**
 - The mission of the New Haven Free Public Library (NHFPL) is to ensure all of New Haven's citizens have full and unlimited access to information and knowledge so that they may meet the needs of daily living, have opportunities for self-education, and participate successfully in self-government. Volunteers will help establish intellectual control over a variety of records related to library history (photographs, slides, scrapbooks, journals, and borrowing ledgers), enabling the library to provide better access to these materials. Volunteers will also help develop workflows for continuation of this work beyond the Day of Service. This project can accommodate 8-10 volunteers per half-day shift.

1:00-5:00 → New England Archivists Board Meeting

5:30-7:00 → Movie Night! A film screening and discussion with the XFR Collective @ the Lecture Hall in Sterling Memorial Library

This event and screening offers a chance to learn more about the work of the XFR Collective, a New York-based nonprofit organization that partners with artists, activists, individuals, and groups to lower the barriers to preserving at-risk audiovisual media. XFR members will discuss the work of the collective and screen some of their material. Time will be available at the end for a Q&A. Don't be late—entry will not be allowed after 6 p.m.

6:00 & 7:15 → Dinner

Get to know someone new while enjoying delicious food. We are offering the opportunity for small groups of conference participants to get to know one another while visiting some of the best restaurants in the area. Reservations for up to 10 people will be made at 5 restaurants. New members are encouraged to sign up as a way to meet established NEA/A.R.T members. We will reserve spots within each dining group specifically for new members who are interested in getting to know seasoned professionals and to ensure a mix of membership levels. Sign-up sheets will be posted via a Google Doc. Participants will meet in the Omni Hotel, head to the restaurant as a group, and pay for their own meals.

FRIDAY, March 23, 2018

7:30 → Registration Opens

8:00-4:00 → Vendor Showcase

8:00-9:00 → Breakfast and New Member Meet-Up

9:00-10:00 → Plenary: Matthew Connelly, Columbia University

Matthew Connelly is Professor of History at Columbia University. Connelly received a Bachelor's degree from Columbia and a PhD in History from Yale University. His publications include *A Diplomatic Revolution: Algeria's Fight for Independence and the Origins of the Post-Cold War Era* (2002) and *Fatal Misconception: The Struggle to Control World Population* (2008). Connelly's current research focuses on confronting the national security state in the age of "big data." In 2013, he created the "Declassification engine," a MacArthur Grant-funded project, which attempts to use metadata, computational methods, and digital tools to uncover redacted material in declassified documents to facilitate access for researchers. Connelly also teaches an interdisciplinary course, "Hacking the Archive," and serves as principal investigator for [History Lab](#).

10:00-10:30 → Break with Vendors

10:30-12:00 → Sessions

1 → What the Archives Reveal: Slavery in American Churches and Universities

In recent years, churches and universities have begun to reckon with their deep-rooted connections to slavery. Material evidence of these institutions' engagement with slavery lies "hidden in plain sight" in archives and special collections, providing both subject and means for historical truth-telling. In the Episcopal Church, archivists are leading efforts to identify strategies of reconciliation in recognizing the legacies of slavery and segregation and advocating for church-wide spiritual and political justice. Once examined primarily for their ability to tell histories of "great men doing great things," church records are now being reevaluated and mined for their usefulness as primary sources of social and political history. Similarly, over the past decade, universities, including Brown and Harvard, have been exploring their ties to slavery. Archivists have played critical roles in these efforts by presenting exhibitions and websites that reveal stories of real people whose lives until recently have been ignored and unrecognized.

- ❖ Juliana Kuipers, Harvard University Archives **[CO-CHAIR]**
- ❖ Ross Mulcare, John Carter Brown Library
- ❖ Jean Ballard Terepka, St. Michael's Episcopal Church in New York City **[CO-CHAIR]**

2 → Documenting Connecticut Communities: Conversations with Local Community Archives

Join the Community Archives Advocates Roundtable for a panel presentation that will introduce NEA to local community archives in the Connecticut area. Attendees will come away with a better understanding of community archives, including their similarities and differences, missions and goals, and day-to-day operations, as well as an overall knowledge of their existence. This is NEA's time to listen to community archives, embrace and appreciate their work, and possibly find avenues for collaborative projects or supportive partnerships. The panel will include presentations from three community archives: the Shoeleather History Project, the Gay Spirit Radio Archive, and the Winchester Workers Exhibit and Book Project. This presentation will mark the beginning of this Roundtable's efforts to bring knowledge of community archives into the spotlight of NEA.

- ❖ Keith Brown, Gay Spirit Radio Archive
- ❖ Joan Cavanagh, Winchester Workers Exhibit and Book Project
- ❖ Rebecca Morin, Holyoke Community College **[CHAIR]**
- ❖ Steve Thornton, Shoeleather History Project

3 → Many Hands / Whose Hands? Archiving the Web, Collaboratively

Social and institutional changes taking place on the web have embodied impacts, and web archiving is an important means of documenting such processes. Web archiving brings new narratives and sociotechnical challenges into archival spaces. The breadth, depth, and ephemerality of collective and individual experiences of the web demands collaborative archival approaches. This session focuses on working together to capture the live web efficiently, comprehensively, and sensitively. With sustainability, collection building, and division of labor as central themes, we'll discuss experiences with outreach, collection policy development, and maintenance. We'll also consider what strategies are or can be used to advocate for the documentation of the web within and beyond institutional infrastructures. How can archivists, creators, and subjects of web-based material collaboratively establish context-sensitive ethical approaches to web archiving? We hope to leave participants with both answers and questions as they embark upon collaborations within and beyond institutions.

- ❖ Samantha Abrams, Ivy Plus Libraries, Columbia University **[CHAIR]**
- ❖ Ashley Blewer, Independent consultant
- ❖ Amy Wickner, University of Maryland, College Park

4 → Capturing the Squid: Creating Access to Complex Cultural & Creative Production

Recently acquired by Providence Public Library, the records of two Providence-based arts organizations engaged in social practice - AS220 and UPP Arts - share many similarities. They reflect organizations that have evolved organically in response to community needs. They also reflect the output of artists, performers, and musicians who have moved outside the commercial or gallery worlds to engage with issues related to race, gender, sexuality, socioeconomic disparities, urban development, and the environment. Each collection includes a wide variety of record formats and reflects contemporary local history created by individuals often ignored in archives. In response, PPL shifted its traditional processing approach to integrate the values of social practice into the archival method. Archivists worked collaboratively with donors to develop processing plans, to identify potential users of the materials, and to think creatively about description and access for those users. Discussion with both archivists and donors will highlight the opportunities and challenges that have arisen.

- ❖ Dave Dvorchak, AS220
- ❖ Janaya Kizzie, Providence Public Library
- ❖ Wendy Korwin, UPP Arts
- ❖ Kate Wells, Providence Public Library **[CHAIR]**

5 → Advocacy in Renovation Projects

Planning a renovation or building project for archives requires advocating not only for the space needed for processing, shelving, and researcher interaction with collections, but for the appropriate preservation environment and security measures. Our work requires square footage and infrastructure that many outside our profession do not immediately understand; archivists must communicate effectively with administrators and architects to achieve a functional space that is designed well for the work we do. It's best to begin such a project knowing what to expect of the process. In this session, architects will explain the phases of design and construction and discuss ways in which they have learned from archivists and librarians about their work and needs, and archivists with experience in renovation projects of varying scale will discuss how they advocated within their institutions and with architects for space and improvements. Presentations will be followed by time for discussion and questions.

- ❖ John Apicella, Apicella + Bunton Architects
- ❖ J Bunton, Apicella + Bunton Architects
- ❖ Ellen Doon, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University
- [CHAIR]**
- ❖ Nanci Young, Smith College
- ❖ Peter A. Nelson, Phillips Exeter Academy
- ❖ Karen J. Trivette, Fashion Institute of Technology

12:00-1:00 → Lunch (on your own)

1:30-3:00 → Sessions

6 → Organizing for Power

Want to get things done? Organizing principles and practices are valuable skills for any archivist to master. Whether you need to advocate for a new copy machine, make the case for a digital preservation program, or address wages or working conditions within your institution, you can't do it alone: you need a crew of impassioned people working together to get the goods. This session will teach two fundamental organizing skills: how to talk to people when you want them to join your team, and how to make and assess lists so you know who you need to talk to and how. Participants will learn—and practice!—necessary organizing skills and will leave the session ready to get started at their home institutions.

- ❖ Jessica Farrell, Harvard Law School Library **[CHAIR]**
- ❖ Emily Drabinski, Long Island University

7 → Finding Common Ground: Collaborative Training for Cultural & Emergency Response Communities

Disasters disrupt people's lives, impact continuity of governmental functions, and jeopardize the existence of our nation's cultural collections. The documentary/cultural heritage of our nation is at risk from man-made and natural disasters. Funded by a two-year grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, COSTEP MA, and the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services/Massachusetts Firefighting Academy are presenting a series of five workshops co-taught by instructors from the cultural heritage and firefighting communities. The focus of these workshops is to train people to prepare for and respond to disasters and to develop a close relationship between these two communities, especially since as cultural heritage organizations recover so does the community. These workshops include Risk Assessment, Disaster Preparedness, Disaster Response, a Live Burn, and Salvage. Participants hail from both cultural heritage and firefighting communities. Speakers will address their experiences in this endeavor from their perspectives.

- ❖ Donia Conn, Cultural Heritage Collections
- ❖ Captain Greg Morin, Deputy Fire Chief, Auburn, Massachusetts
- ❖ Anthony Vaver, Westborough Public Library
- ❖ Gregor Trinkaus-Randall, Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners
[CHAIR]

8 → **Advocacy and Sustainability: Current Issues in Digital Preservation**

Information professionals are often tasked with advocating for and implementing digital preservation practices within our institutions. This session will explore various approaches to digital preservation and the questions we face, including: How do we advocate effectively? What does collaboration look like and how are digital preservation issues presented to “non-experts”? How do environmental, financial, and social ethics concerns affect our approaches to digital preservation? What can we learn from colleagues outside of the archival profession? How do institutions balance unique priorities, resources, and digital preservation needs? Incorporating examples from diverse institutional contexts and record types, the speakers will discuss case studies and resources to inform future collaboration and sustainable digital preservation efforts that will provide wider, more equal access to our collections.

- ❖ Elizabeth England, Johns Hopkins University
- ❖ Amber La Fountain, Center for the History of Medicine at Harvard Medical School
- ❖ Cate Peebles, Yale Center for British Art **[CHAIR]**
- ❖ Jenn Schlick, MIT Energy Initiative
- ❖ Surella Seelig, Brandeis University

9 → **Archives in a Museum World: Navigating Internal and External Outreach**

Museums and museum staff tend to be object-centered in their concerns and cataloging, and so archives situated within museums face unique challenges and opportunities. Internal outreach that educates museum staff about archival best practices is key, from one-on-one meetings about records management to developing a controlled vocabulary to discuss manuscripts with non-archivists. Internal outreach goes hand in hand with promoting the archives to external audiences as well—as we clarify the role and importance of archives to museum staff and to ourselves, we find common ground, synergy with the object collections, and new partners for archival advocacy. We aim to explore specific cases of internal and external outreach: what kinds of challenges they present, scalable strategies, and how internal and external outreach influence each other.

- ❖ Michelle Chiles, Rhode Island Historical Society **[CHAIR]**
- ❖ Ellen Dyer, Maine State Museum
- ❖ Kate Herbert, Maine State Museum, Maine State Library, and Maine State Archives
- ❖ Michelle Interrante, Harvard Art Museums
- ❖ Katherine Meyers Satriano, Harvard's Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

10 → **Oral History as Public Engagement**

Have you been looking for ways to reach out and work with your community to document their experiences? Have you identified a group that is underrepresented and aren't sure how to represent their experiences in your institution? An oral history project may be for you! Oral histories can be a source of strength and power while preserving these experiences. Join us to hear about the experiences and community-led projects run by three different organizations: New York Public Library, Weeksville Heritage Center, and the Newton Free Library.

- ❖ Kim Hewitt, Newton Free Library **[CHAIR]**
- ❖ Alexandra Kelly, New York Public Library
- ❖ Obden Mondésir, Weeksville Heritage Center

3:00-3:30 → Break with Vendors

3:30-4:30 → Sessions

11 → **Power, Agency, and Representation in the Archives**

How is power perpetuated in the archival record, and how can archivists empower underrepresented voices in the archives? The session discusses archival initiatives

designed to empower Black and Indigenous communities by finding underrepresented voices and gaps in the archives, creating new archives, and reclaiming physical and intellectual control of their archives. Case studies will include the Black Sound and the Archive Working Group at Yale University, the History Keepers Program at Yale University, the Protocols for Native American Archival Materials, and the Indigenous decolonization initiative at the San Diego Museum of Man. Viewing archives through the lens of power, agency, and representation forces us to radically reimagine research processes, professional training and recruitment, access protocols, appraisal methods, and what it means to be an archivist.

- ❖ Stephanie Bredbenner, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University **[CHAIR]**
- ❖ Polly Cancro, Pratt Institute School of Information, The Morgan Library & Museum
- ❖ Emily DiLeo, Irving S. Gilmore Music Library, Yale University
- ❖ Afua Ferdnace, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University

12 → **History Speaks: The Making of CRIS Radio's "Voices of WWI"**

This project provides access to archival documents and publications for individuals unable to read print materials through human narrated recordings and eBooks. CRIS, Connecticut's radio-reading service, the Connecticut State Library (CSL), and IDEAL Group, a technology company dedicated to enhancing independence for individuals with disabilities, collaborated on this project. The documents came from CSL's rich collection of World War I materials; the voice talent and recording production from CRIS; and the tools to create searchable eBooks from IDEAL Group. Panel members will moderate a conversation on the process, challenges, and benefits of collaborating among diverse organizations. They will also discuss the challenges of working with and creating transcripts from various document formats, including government records and publications, diaries, newspapers, and questionnaires compiled from returning World War I military personnel. Participants will be able to explore the recordings and receive a demonstration from panel members on the free open source eBook and knowledge mining tools developed for this project.

- ❖ Diane Weaver Dunne, CRIS Radio **[CHAIR]**
- ❖ Christopher Kelly, CRIS Radio
- ❖ Lizette Pelletier, Connecticut State Library
- ❖ Christine Pittsley, Connecticut State Library
- ❖ Allen Ramsey, Connecticut State Library

13 → **Holding the Line: Self-care as an Act of Resistance**

For many individuals working in archives and special collections, challenging work environments arise when social and political climates quell diversity, discourage inclusive behaviors, and devalue archives and the labor that sustains them. This session explores how archivists can advocate for themselves, prioritizing self-care while juggling professional and institutional demands. Speakers will present first-hand accounts of confronting oppressive systems, coping with micro- and macro-aggressions on the job, and dealing with cultural devaluation of their labor. Then discussion will open to all participants, focusing especially on identification of practical tactics for dealing with workplace stresses and models for behavior that can help de-escalate or eliminate problematic interactions. This session aims to find solutions for how those working in the archives field can respectfully and ethically support each other, while protecting their own mental, physical, and professional well-being.

- ❖ Erik Bauer, Peabody Institute Library
- ❖ Nicole Greenhouse, Center for Jewish History
- ❖ Peniey McClary, City Mission Boston
- ❖ Gayle Schecter, Robert W. Woodruff Library, Atlanta University Center
- ❖ Jessica Steytler, Congregational Library and Archives **[CHAIR]**

14 → **Equity, Access and Advocacy: Stories of Archival Transformation**

Recent archival discourse reflects an increasing attention to complex issues concerning equity, access and advocacy: **Equity** not only in terms of diverse collections that reflect the experiences of marginalized communities, but also regarding progressive approaches toward developing inclusive repositories; **Access** in terms of the research skills, discovery tools, and institutional openness required to utilize collections for educational, civic, and personal enrichment; **Advocacy** in terms of robust support for collection development and usage, both internally and externally.

This session will present stories of experimentation and transformation in public libraries within the Northeastern region and across the nation, particularly focusing on the evolving roles of community-centered archivists whose decisions have social, educational, and political implications. The enduring civic importance of public libraries—where issues of openness, neutrality, and ethics continuously inform archival practice—confirms that archival work cannot be static or insular and must instead strive to be dynamic, transparent, and participatory.

- ❖ Diantha Dow Schull, DDSchull Associates **[CHAIR]**

15 → **Coming Full Circle: Advocacy Throughout the Records Lifecycle**

Archives and records management activities are intertwined within the records lifecycle model and are often implemented in tandem to ensure the successful management of

information. This being the case, it is very important for archivists and records managers to work together in order to promote each other's activities. When records managers stress the importance of archives in maintaining permanent records, it helps to provide a compelling argument for the funding of archival activities. Likewise, if archivists stress the need for a fully developed records management program in order to ensure that all permanent records are properly maintained, it helps to bolster support for records programs. This session will focus on how archivists and records managers can work together to advocate for one another as well as promote a more complete information management program within their organization.

- ❖ Lauren Barnes, S&P Global, NYC
- ❖ Dorothy Dougherty, National Archives at New York City **[CHAIR]**
- ❖ Jennifer Williams, Emerson College

4:30-5:15 → Fair Use Game Show hosted by Kyle Courtney, Copyright Advisor, Harvard University

In this game show format, our host Kyle Courtney will present several fair-use cases. Expert panelists will make arguments for and against fair use. Then, you decide! The audience will weigh in and anonymously vote with their cell phones—fair use or not? Music, sparkly jackets, and prizes await those who attend. Who will win? Everyone wins when they better understand copyright and fair use.

5:30-7:00 → All Attendee Reception, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

SATURDAY, March 24, 2018

7:30 → Registration Opens

8:00-4:00 → Vendor Showcase

8:00-9:00 → Resume Review

9:00-10:00 → Plenary: Emily Drabinski, Long Island University

Emily Drabinski is Coordinator of Library Instruction at Long Island University, Brooklyn, where she also serves as secretary of the faculty union, the Long Island University Faculty Federation. She sits on the board of *Radical Teacher*, a journal of socialist, feminist, and anti-racist teaching practice, and edits *Gender & Sexuality in Information Studies*, a book series from Library Juice Press/Litwin Books. Drabinski's research and writing interests include critical perspectives on knowledge organization and access and the role of information workers as organizers for social change. Drabinski holds a

BA in political science from Columbia University, an MSLIS from Syracuse University, and an MA in composition and rhetoric from Long Island University, Brooklyn.

10:00-10:30 → Break with Vendors

10:30-12:00 → Sessions

16 → Artists, Artifacts, Accessibility: Fostering Creative Practices in the Archives

This interactive session will bring together archivists who have worked closely with artists as both content creators and researchers and will offer attendees a space to brainstorm and share their experiences. Angela DiVeglia and Jeremy Ferris will discuss their process of creating and publishing the comic book “Lizard Ramone in Hot Pursuit: A Guide to Archives for Artists and Makers.” Colleen Quigley will dance her presentation, which addresses the myriad of practical and philosophical issues relating to the archiving of the performing arts from the archivist/dancer perspective. Finally, the presenters will facilitate a conversation about the challenges and rewards of working with artists, with a focus on creative research, outreach tools, access points, documenting performance, and research-based art.

- ❖ Colleen Quigley, Memorial University of Newfoundland’s Archives and Special Collections
- ❖ Angela DiVeglia, Providence Public Library **[CHAIR]**
- ❖ Jeremy Ferris, Simmons College School of Library and Information Science

17 → The Legislative Process and Political Advocacy

Archivists’ jobs, practices, and institutions are impacted by government budgets, policy decisions, and political maneuvering. With an understanding of legislative processes we can all become advocates for our profession. Seasoned political organizer Michele Evermore will discuss how budget-making happens on a national and local level and will cover some basic tools of advocacy, such as meeting with your legislators, phone banking, and letter-writing.

- ❖ Michele Evermore, SEIU 1199 **[CHAIR]**

18 → Radical Empathy in Archival Practice

Responding to Michelle Caswell and Marika Cifor’s foundational text, “From Human Rights to Feminist Ethics: Radical Empathy in Archives,” this roundtable will provide a forum for discussing the ways in which our profession can “center radical empathy and obligations of care.” Following brief presentations from speakers, attendees and

speakers will participate in small-group conversations focused on the application of radical empathy as a theory and practice within their work.

- ❖ Elvia Arroyo-Ramirez, Princeton University Library
- ❖ Molly Brown, Simmons College
- ❖ Rosemary K. J. Davis, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University
- ❖ Jasmine Jones, Smith College
- ❖ Giordana Mecagni, Northeastern University Archives and Special Collections
- [CHAIR]**
- ❖ Anna Robinson-Sweet, Simmons College
- ❖ Kelly Wooten, Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History & Culture, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Duke University

19 → **Looking Up, Looking Out: Personal Advocacy in the Workplace**

When faced with a personal challenge in the workplace, we often feel alone. We find ourselves in situations that make speaking up for what we need difficult. What we fail to realize is that we are not alone. Many of our colleagues face the same self-advocacy conundrums. In this session, we'll hear from four panelists about their own efforts to advocate for themselves. From organizing forums to combat oppressive power structures in LIS institutions and pedagogy, to advocating for oneself and one's archive in underfunded institutions, speakers will present strategies and lessons learned from their self-advocacy. There will also be time to engage in some small participatory discussion groups to strategize our way forward. Let's combat isolation by working together.

- ❖ Quincy Knapp, Simmons College
- ❖ Bridgett Pride, Simmons College
- ❖ Cynthia Tobar, Bronx Community College, City University of New York
- ❖ Molly Wheeler, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University
- ❖ Casey Davis, WGBH Archives **[CHAIR]**

20 → **Acknowledging the Gap: Diversifying Our Collections, Services, and Workforce**

To properly document, serve, and reflect our communities, inclusion and diversity in the archives are imperative. This session will address these issues as they relate to our collections, services, and workforce. How can we design systems that account for diverse cultural materials and ways of knowing? How can we ensure that underrepresented voices and perspectives are represented in our collections, exhibits, events, and outreach efforts? How do we build bridges between large organizations and communities to help capture their stories? How do we increase diversity within the

archives community and create a work environment where all members can thrive? The session will incorporate perspectives from an interdisciplinary information systems design project, an LGBTQ+ community archives, an international audiovisual preservation organization, and institutional programs to increase mentorship and diversity.

- ❖ Joan Ilacqua, The History Project and the Center for the History of Medicine at Harvard Medical School
- ❖ Gabriela Redwine, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University
- ❖ Amanda Rust, Digital Scholarship Group at Northeastern University Libraries
- ❖ Juana Suárez, New York University - Tisch School of the Arts
- ❖ Rose Oliveira, Connecticut College **[CHAIR]**

12:00-1:30 → Lunch/NEA Business Meeting (All are welcome to attend!)

1:30-3:00 → Sessions

21 → Out From the Shadows

Challenging collections offer our institutions an opportunity to relate to current events and enrich our audience's understanding of and connections to the past. Through the use of artifacts and facsimiles from their collections, Frank Mitchell will describe recent efforts at the Wadsworth Atheneum that use difficult collection material to foster constructive dialogue on equity, bias, and inclusion; Ira Revels will highlight intersectionality, advocacy, and LGBTQIA collections at True Colors, Inc.; and Linda Hocking will discuss various programs the Litchfield Historical Society has undertaken to create conversations around sensitive collections, as well as challenges with cataloging and digitizing such collections. Presenters will describe the changing ways in which these relics have been used, interpreted, described, and displayed in their institutions. They will also explore ways in which these collections can help us understand and contextualize current events. Participants will be invited to give their own perspectives on using challenging documents and artifacts.

- ❖ Frank Mitchell, The Amistad Center for Art & Culture at the Wadsworth Atheneum
- ❖ Ira Revels, Gay Spirit Radio Archive Project
- ❖ Linda Hocking, Litchfield Historical Society **[CHAIR]**

22 → Connections and Context: Three Projects in Archival Description

Changes in descriptive and encoding standards and tools have created new opportunities for archivists to describe collections and creators. One presenter, focusing on the SNAC (Social Networks in Archival Context) project, will discuss issues

of applying demographic terms in authority records, both their potential value and the issues raised for archival description. A group of cross-institutional archivists will report on their recent “Relationships Workshop,” at which invited participants (archivists, educators, and students) discussed issues surrounding the representation of relationships in archival description, including issues of directionality, temporality, and sensitivity, resulting in a forthcoming best-practices whitepaper. Speakers from Yale University will report on an ArchivesSpace reclamation project, sharing best practices for creation of agent and subject records, methods for reconciling existing finding aids and collection-level catalog records, and experiences in collaborating with vendors to enhance legacy data, including addition of linked open data URIs.

- ❖ Mark Custer, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University
 - ❖ Susan Pzyznski, Houghton Library, Harvard University
 - ❖ Jessica Sedgwick, Center for the History of Medicine, Harvard Medical School
 - ❖ Karen Spicher, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University
- [CHAIR]**
- ❖ Katherine Wisser, School of Library and Information Science, Simmons College

23 → **Transcending the Narrative of Neutrality**

At a time when citizen engagement in local, regional, and national politics is on the rise and activists across the political spectrum are asking questions about the accountability of local, regional, and national government to the people, many archivists are wrestling anew with our responsibilities as political actors. What professional ethics and personal values inform, or should inform, our daily work? What form does political advocacy take in archival spaces? What political inequities are replicated in archival collections, spaces, and practices—and how do archivists acknowledge and challenge these patterns? What is the role of archivists in advocating for, and facilitating as, government employees, as well as advocating for government record-keeping, accountability, and transparency? Roundtable participants will discuss the sociopolitical urgency of archives work and suggest ways for archivists to engage in political action and debate.

- ❖ Anna J. Clutterbuck-Cook, Massachusetts Historical Society
- ❖ Ashley Levine, Artifex Press **[CHAIR]**
- ❖ Rachel Muse, Vermont State Archives and Records Administration
- ❖ Dennis Riley, New York State Archives
- ❖ Ayoola White, Simmons SLIS, DERAIl Forum

24 → **When It’s More Than Just Business: Advocating the Value of Corporate Records**

Business records play a vital role in documenting society. Yet their importance is not always recognized by the public or even by the very institutions that create these rich materials. Archivists who work with business records must often advocate their worth to internal audiences, record creators, and even the community at large to prove how these critical and underused resources can provide value.

Kerri Anne Burke will explain how she advocates for archives as a tool to drive business value and promote culture within her institution. Bob Clark will discuss his efforts to protect the legacy of philanthropic foundations and nonprofits by raising awareness of archives and promoting good record-keeping practices. L. J. Strumpf will demonstrate the use of corporate records to inform a local documentary on urban renewal, and how his business repository became a trusted community partner. Through their presentations, the speakers will examine the relationship between business archives and users, and the role of business records within society.

- ❖ Jamie Martin, IBM Corporate Archives **[CHAIR]**
- ❖ Kerri Anne Burke, Citigroup Center for Culture
- ❖ Bob Clark, Rockefeller Archive Center
- ❖ Lewis (L. J.) Strumpf, IBM Corporate Archives

25 → Enhancing Underrepresented Collections and Reaching New Users

Speakers will present on efforts to improve collection access to underrepresented communities and to highlight collections documenting those communities via enhanced description and digitization. Projects discussed will include Boston College's re-processing and digitization of Jamaican folk tales recorded by schoolchildren from the Joseph J. Williams Ethnological Collection, and UMass Boston's processing of the papers of Theresa-India Young, a practitioner of traditional African fiber arts and coil basketry, community organizer, and artist activist. We will also hear how Lawrence History Center's outreach efforts are bolstering its immigrant community's interest in and passion for their new city's history, despite a potential disconnect created by socioeconomic challenges and language barriers that could set the stage for an indifferent community.

- ❖ Meghan Bailey, John P. Healey Library, UMass Boston
- ❖ Stephanie Hall, John J. Burns Library, Boston College
- ❖ Amita Kiley, Lawrence History Center
- ❖ Annalisa Moretti, John J. Burns Library, Boston College **[CHAIR]**
- ❖ Lynn Moulton, John J. Burns Library, Boston College

3:00-3:30 → Break

3:30-4:30 → Roundtable Meetings