

# Making Analog Video More Discoverable and Accessible

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## Project Background

MARMIA's three-year **CLIR-funded project, *Broadcasting Baltimore: Digitizing Hidden Histories in the WJZ-TV Collection***

- Hires an AV Archivist to describe and digitize 1000 hours in-house
- Hires a local research consultant to search through the collection and make digitization selections based on keywords and key dates
- Integrates and improves MARMIA's access platforms

### The WJZ-TV Collection

- Baltimore's third television station in history (1948)
- WJZ-TV donated the collection to MARMIA in 2017
- There are only a handful of network affiliate station archives in the U.S. that have survived and that are this comprehensive
  - 22,000+ videocassettes
  - 75 Linear Feet : Paper documents and still photographs
  - Bulk of collection from Fall 1977-Summer 2000
- Documents not only the history of broadcasting in Baltimore but that of the city, its surrounding areas, and the nation



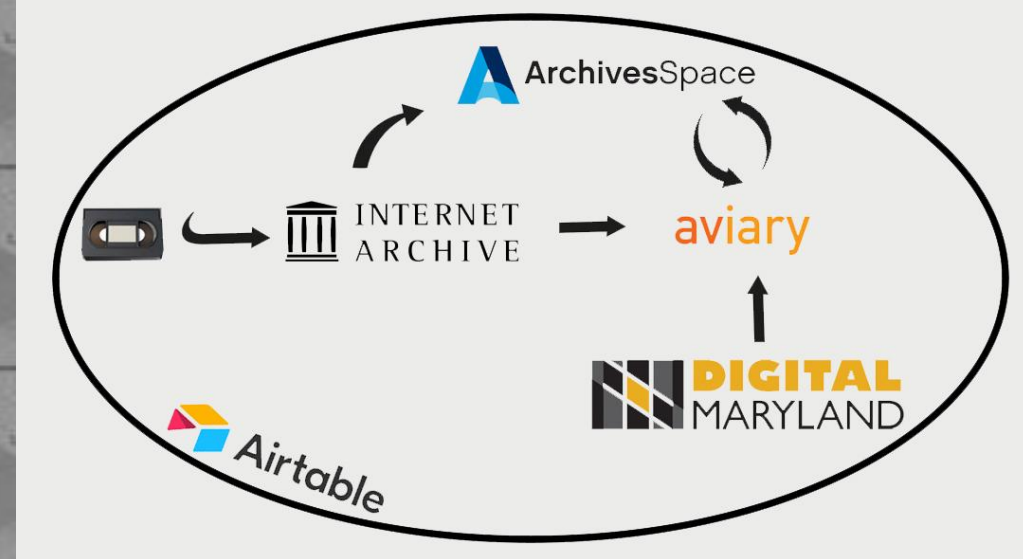
## Research Statement

Our **project goal** is to digitize and describe 1000 hours of video from the WJZ-TV Collection that documents the voices of underrepresented communities in Baltimore City from 1977-2000.

Our **project objective** is to increase the visibility of historically excluded voices and prioritize this content in our current and future description efforts, research, blogs, and outreach efforts. Potential histories to be represented in the project includes Black Americans, the Lumbee Tribe, Asian Americans, immigrant populations, the LGBTQI community's fight for equal rights, among many others.



## Methodology



## Preliminary Results

- **Recent activations of the collection**
  - Local and national documentaries
  - Local exhibitions
- Searching audiovisual collections are notoriously difficult, but with our new workflow and platform integration, internal and external users find it **easier to search** our transcripts, indexes, and updated finding aids to locate specific content



*City Line* was a public affairs television program with topics centered around Baltimore City's Black community and had a Black cast and crew. The show covered a wide range of cultural, social, and political topics. It aired from 1982 through 1989.



Jewish American Festival on Eyewitness News (1994)



American Indian Festival on Eyewitness News (1993)

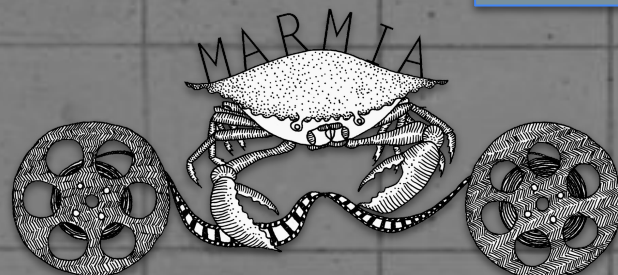


## Next Steps

- Currently, we are one year and 32% into our digitization goal and we will continue to digitize and describe the collection keeping our project objective as our central focus.
- We will continue to take external user requests and interests as they qualify within the CLIR grant and digitize and describe those materials.
- We will build more efficiencies into our workflows.
- We will keep track of the content we have found, continue to search for more, promote and share with Baltimore, the Mid-Atlantic, and beyond!

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