

# Archiving in Color: Reflections on the History and Future of the AAC

Archivists and Archives of Color Business Meeting  
SAA Annual Meeting  
July 28, 2017

# Panelists

- Steven D. Booth, Archivist, Barack Obama Presidential Library (AAC Co-Chair, 2011-2013)
- Angel Diaz, Processing Archivist, UCLA Library Special Collections (AAC Co-Chair, 2016-2018)
- Petrina Jackson, Head of Special Collections and University Archives, Iowa State University (AAC Co-Chair, 2005-2007)
- Wilda Logan, Supervisor, NARA Records Management Training Program (AAC Co-Chair, 1988-1990)
- Moderator: Harrison W. Inefuku, Scholarly Publishing Services Librarian, Iowa State University (AAC Co-Chair 2015-2017)



# Archivists and Archives of Color Section Timeline

- 1936: Society of American Archivist was founded.
- 1972: Committee for the 1970s releases report recommending, in part, that SAA “strive for more representative officers and Council members, commit to the social goals of racial justice, and recommend that the Society appoint a standing committee on minority groups to press for the rights and advancements of minorities in the archival professions.”
- Fall 1981: Harold Pinkett chaired the session, “Minorities and the Profession: An Agenda for Action,” at the SAA 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Berkeley, California.
- 1981: “Diana Lachatanere and Paula Williams draft a proposal addressing minority concerns and present it at the SAA Business meeting, and it was approved by the membership.
- 1981: Council establishes Task Force on Minorities.
- 1982: Idilio Garcia Pena was identified and appointed to the Task Force on Minorities as representative for Hispanic Archivists. Up until then, there was only Black representation.
- 1987: Task Force on Minorities disbanded because of SAA Council’s lack of interest. There were less than 25 minority members in SAA in 1987.

# Archivists and Archives of Color Section Timeline

- **1987:** The Minorities' Roundtable was established to address concerns of archivists of color, promote their participation in the profession, promote preservation of archival materials from those communities.
- **1987:** The Minorities' Roundtable informally changes its name to Third World Archivists Round Table.
- **September 1988:** Roundtable membership voted to change its name to the African American and Third World Archivists Roundtable.
- **1991:** First AACR Membership Directory created, including ethnic/racial heritage of each member.
- **1993:** AACR-sponsored Minority Student Award was created.
- **1994:** Members voted to change its name to Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable
- **1995/1996:** SAA Council appointed the Task Force Organizational Effectiveness, which, in part, addressed diversity in SAA and the profession. From that grew the Task Force on Diversity.
- **1996:** Archivists of Color Directory compiled, focusing exclusively on archivists of color rather than entire Roundtable membership.



# Archivists and Archives of Color Section Timeline

- 1997: At Annual meeting, Council voted to create a Diversity Brochure Task Force, it was later disbanded.
- 1998: The Minority Student Award was renamed in honor of Dr. Harold T. Pinkett, one of the first Black archivists employed at NARA and tireless advocate for archivists of color in SAA.
- 1999: After accepting the report of the Task Force on Diversity, SAA Council issued a Position Statement on Diversity
- 2002: AACR website launched.
- 2003: The AACR newsletter begins publishing electronically.
- 2004: A \*CENSUS identified “attracting archivists who will reflect the diversity of society at large” as one of the challenges that U.S. archivists face.
- August 2008: The Mosaic Scholarship was established by the SAA Diversity Committee.
- 2012: AACR Directory compiled, but limited to only the name, job title, and contact information of members.

# Archivists and Archives of Color Section Timeline

- 2013: AACR History Task Force created.
- 2015: AACR established *Our Vision*, a set of ideas that shapes the work of the Roundtable
- 2016: Final Report of the Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable History submitted by Rebecca Hankins, finishing the work of the AACR History Task Force.
- December 2016: Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable becomes Archivists and Archives of Color Section
- 2017: AAC-sponsored Brenda S. Banks Travel Award created
- 2017: AAC Section Directory published, including work title, archival education, race/ethnicity, and areas of expertise.

Adapted from the Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable History Final Report



2016 Archivists and Archives of Color Annual Meeting, Auburn Avenue Research Library, Atlanta, GA



# ARCHIVISTS AND ARCHIVES OF COLOR

Photo courtesy of Angela Ford, Executive Director, AACF Foundation





**Harold T. Pinkett Minority Award Winners: Paul Sevilla and Jennifer Osorio with Rose Roberto, 2005**



**Harold T. Pinkett Minority Award Winner: Krystal Appiah, 2009**





**Harold T. Pinkett Minority Award Winners: Kapena Shim, 2012  
Angel Diaz and Lori E. Harris, 2013**





## AAC Meetup – New York, 2013







**AAC Meetups – Los Angeles, 2015 and Chicago, 2013**



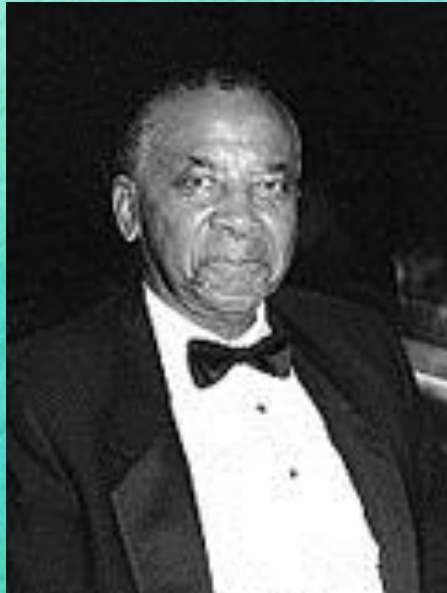


**New Orleans and Washington D.C., 2013**









**Dr. Harold T. Pinkett Minority  
Student Award, established  
1993**



**Brenda S. Banks Travel Award, established 2017**