

**Name of Section/Roundtable:** Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable

**Date:** November 1, 2012

**Officers:**

- Chair: Courtney Chartier, Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library (2010-2012)
- Vice Chair/Chair Elect: Steven Booth, National Archives and Records Administration Name (2011-2013)
- Newsletter Editor: Rabia Gibbs, University of Tennessee, Knoxville (2010-2012)
- Webmaster: Eugenia Kim, Purdue University (2010-2012)

**Report from annual meeting:**

*Number of attendees:* 61

*Election results:*

- Vice Chair/Chair Elect: Derek Mosley, University of Louisiana, Lafayette
- Newsletter Editor: Stacie Williams, Harvard University
- Webmaster: Harrison Inefuku, Iowa State University

*Summary of meeting activities:* Meeting minutes can be found at

<http://www2.archivists.org/groups/archivists-and-archives-of-color-roundtable/annual-business-meeting>

**Completed projects/activities:**

- Annual meeting endorsements: AACR received 10 session proposals for endorsement. The Co-Chairs chose to endorse the following two:
  - “Asian and Pacific Islanders (API) Creating Diverse & Collaborative Community Archival Methods,” Ellen-Rae Cachola, Anne Gilliland, Florante Ibanez, Elnora Kelly, Lessa Pelayo-Lozada, & Vivian Wong.
  - “Building Collections through Collaboration: A Collaborative Archive from the African Diaspora,” Yolanda Cooper, Jameatrix Johnson & Beatrice Skokan.
- By-laws: Co-Chairs drafted By-laws for the Roundtable and submitted them to the membership. The By-laws were voted on and passed at the annual meeting.
- Center for Black Music Research, Columbia College: An advocacy campaign was established in response to the proposed closure of the CBMR. Co-Chairs drafted and circulated a protest letter template, member Jamillah R. Gabriel created a petition on Change.org and the membership was encouraged to demonstrate their concern via these tools. The Theater Library Association joined the Roundtable as a co-sponsor of the petition.

- Diversity Speaker Bank: Co-Chairs created and circulated a survey to student groups and recent graduates to evaluate the need and desire of speakers on diversity topics to students. The survey results indicated that there was a high level of interest. A call for volunteers was issued to the membership to be listed in a “Speaker Bank” that would match speakers to groups geographically or, topically if distance presentation technology was available. There were no volunteers.
- Emerging Leader Award: The Roundtable officers drafted and submitted a nomination for SAA’s new Emerging Leader Award, nominating Samip Mallick, Director of the Ranganathan Center for Digital Information (RCDI) at the University of Chicago Library.
- Harold T. Pinkett Award:
  - Co-Chairs drafted and submitted revisions to the Pinkett Award language. These changes were approved by Council.
  - 23 applications were received for the Pinkett Award. Kapena Shim (University of Hawaii, Manoa) was chosen as recipient.
- Membership directory: Co-Chair Steven Booth collected and collated entries from the membership to update the AACR directory. The new directory includes social media contact and is on an “opt in” basis.
- Social media interns: Co-Chairs recruited two “social media interns” to update the Roundtable Facebook page and Twitter feed. The interns were Harrison Inefuku and Susan Gehr.
- Summer reading club: Co-Chair Steven Booth started a summer reading club, which read two historical nonfiction books related to the AACR mission statement and “met” via Google Hangout for discussion.
- Website: All materials were migrated by the Webmaster to the new Drupal site provided by SAA.

**Ongoing projects/activities:**

- Annual meeting session endorsements: The Co-Chairs received and reviewed 6 sessions for endorsement for the 2013 SAA annual meeting. The Co-Chairs chose to endorse the following two.
  - "Adapting the ARL Leadership Symposium Experience: Enhancing Diversity Through Discussion," submitted by Eugenia Kim
  - "Journey of Reconciliation: Institutions Studying Their Relationships to Slavery," submitted by Amy Schindler
- Harold T. Pinkett Award: Revisions of the Pinkett award requirements have continued based on concerns raised at the annual meeting. Changes made in previous years to the parameters for the award (and approved by Council) had not been recorded in any Roundtable procedural documents, or in the guidelines of the Award kept by the Awards Committee. Specifically, it was decided that the Pinkett should go to two recipients each

year. The language of the Award has been updated again, and approved by Council, to reflect this decision and avoid confusion in the future.

- Roundtable history: In celebration of the Roundtable's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Co-Chair Steven Booth started collecting information for a history of the group. This included retrieving materials that had been deposited at Howard University and moving them to the official archives at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.
- Website: Roundtable members are encouraged to send photographs from their collections or of the membership to refresh the website.

#### **New projects/activities:**

- Heritage Months: The Roundtable will highlight archival repositories and collections pertaining to people from underrepresented racial and ethnic backgrounds, including women and LGBTQ persons on Facebook and Twitter from September 2012 to June 2013.
- Project Teams: In lieu of a Steering Committee, AACR has implemented a Special Projects Team to develop and coordinate social events for the Roundtable during the 2013 New Orleans annual meeting; and an Awards and Nomination Team to review the guidelines of SAA sponsored awards that require nomination, and submit the qualifications of deserving individuals or organizations. Each team will consist of four roundtable members.
- Diversity Brochure: Collaborate with the Diversity Committee and other ethnic roundtables to create a brochure that explains diversity within SAA and the profession as well as archival materials.
- Newsletter: Increase the number of issues from 4 to 6.

#### **Strategic Priority - Technology initiatives:**

- Social media
  - Interns were recruited
  - Facebook page and Twitter account were established
  - Google Handout used to "meet" for Book Club
  - Change.org used to encourage advocacy campaign
- Website: All materials were migrated from the old website to the new. Officers continue to refine the site and request submissions from the membership.

#### **Strategic Priority - Diversity initiatives:**

- Diversity Speaker Bank: Although this was not a successful project, it would have fulfilled a need and desire for speakers of diverse backgrounds or working with diverse collections to share their experiences with student groups.

- Harold T. Pinkett Award: Co-Chairs greatly increased promotion of the Award. The number of applications rose from 2 in 2011 to 23 in 2012.

**Strategic Priority - Advocacy/Public Awareness initiatives:**

- Center for Black Music Research campaign: This campaign successfully involved the Roundtable members, created a strategic partnership between AACR and another professional group and encouraged/consolidated public outcry over the proposed closure of the CBMR.
- Social media interns: Not only were these positions created to involve more students in the Roundtable, but also to increase the profile of the Roundtable.

**Questions/concerns for Council attention:**

- Harold T. Pinkett Award: The Co-Chairs awarded the Pinkett Award to one recipient this year. At the Roundtable's annual meeting, there was a heated conversation as to why this happened, as the Pinkett Award is intended for two students. The Co-Chairs learned that in 2004 Council approved a request from AACR to extend the Award to two students. While this was recorded in Council minutes and the AACR newsletter, it was not written into the description of the Award in the governance manual, or on the Awards page and the Awards Committee was not notified. This lack of follow up in 2004 created a problem for the Co-Chairs in 2012, as the changes to the Pinkett were only shared by word of mouth. While the Co-Chairs accept that it is their duty to create written instructions to hand down to future Roundtable officers, they feel that Council also had the responsibility to communicate down and/or delegate the necessary administrative actions that must be taken when changes like this are approved. It was especially disconcerting that Awards Committee leadership was unaware of the parameters of the Award.
- Transfer of records: The Co-chairs will attempt to follow through with transferring records from Howard University to the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee before the annual meeting in New Orleans. Council approved this transfer in 2007, along with members of the Roundtable; however, nothing was done to ensure that the records were transferred. Senior Co-Chair Booth has volunteered to visit Moorland-Spangarn Research Center in DC and investigate the state of the records. Before a transfer can take place several questions must be answered: Is there a deed of gift? Is the deed of gift still valid? How large is the collection? What's the condition of the collection? What time frame does the collection capture? What types of materials are in the collection? Are there duplicates within the collection? Are these records copies of what is currently housed at UWM? The Roundtable officers are aware that neither the SAA executive office nor the UWM Libraries will help with the cost of shipping.