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# Archivists & Archives of Color Newsletter

Newsletter of the Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable

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## Message from the Co-chairs

by Rebecca Hankins

The 2004 SAA annual meeting will be held in Boston, August 2-8. This conference marks the end of my tenure as co-chair. I want to thank everyone for providing me with this opportunity to work with all of the wonderful people in AACR. It has been a rewarding experience and has energized me to continue as an active participant in AACR and SAA. I want to personally and sincerely thank Rose Roberto for all of her work and support this past year. Everyone should be so lucky to have someone of her intelligence, commitment, and imagination serving with him or her as co-chair. I look forward to offering her my support in the coming year.

The AACR meeting takes place Thursday, August 5, 5:30-7:00 p.m. We co-sponsored two sessions of interest to our members and a special session to highlight diversity in the profession. The session is titled, "Lasting Legacy or Broken Promise?: The First Decade of the Harold T. Pinkett Award," and takes place on August 5, 3:45-5:15 p.m. Kathryn Neal will chair this session that will also feature many of our past Pinkett winners, Michelle Baidon, Petrina Jackson, Teresa Mora, and Ida Jones. Additional information about this and the other sessions is available on the SAA website. Please attend and offer them your support.

We have to elect a new co-chair, so please submit your nominee names or suggestions to Rebecca at [rhankins@tamu.edu](mailto:rhankins@tamu.edu) or Rose at [rrobert@glam.ac.uk](mailto:rrobert@glam.ac.uk). Also, if you have additional agenda items, please forward them to me by the end of July.

I want to personally thank Petrina Jackson for taking on the responsibility to develop the newsletter and post it to our website. Thank you also to Danna Bell-Russel and Karen Jefferson, your support has been extremely helpful.

I hope to see everyone in Boston as we go forward in this organization and our profession.

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## 2004 Harold T. Pinkett Award

By Rose Roberto

On behalf of the Pinkett Award Committee, I am pleased to announce that Josue Hurtado and Georgette Mayo have won the 2004 minority student award.

Josue received a Bachelor of Arts in History from Stanford University in 1997, and a Master of Science in Information

with a specialization in Archives and Records Management from the University of Michigan School of Information in 2004. He is also the recipient of the ALA Spectrum Scholarship in 2002, the Chris Larew Memorial Scholarship in Library and Information Technology from LITA in 2003, as well as a scholarship to attend the 2003 Managing Electronic Records Conference from Cohasset Associates. His archival experience includes interning at the Bancroft Library at UC Berkeley, volunteering at the New York Historical Society, and participating in a directed field experience at the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan. In addition, he has worked part-time at The Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan. He now works at JSTOR, the online Scholarly Journal Archive.

Georgette Mayo is a working mother and a student who was instrumental in establishing the Archival Students Guild (ASG), the student chapter of the Society of American Archivists at the University of South Carolina. She was nominated by her advisor and fellow students. Unfortunately, she has been under a doctor's care for the past few months and will not be attending the SAA meeting in Boston. Georgette sends her sincere thanks for the award.

The committee was also impressed with the application of Ruth Bayhille, a PhD student from the UCLA Department of Information Studies. Ruth has worked on numerous projects related to records and cultural memory within the Native American community. The Pinkett Award Committee voted to give her a one-year free SAA student membership.

The Pinkett Award Committee this year was composed of Rebecca Hankins, Chair, Rose Roberto and Paula Whitlow. For more information on the Pinkett Award, named after archival pioneer Harold T. Pinkett, please see: <http://www.archivists.org/saagroups/aac/Awards.htm>

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## Two Special Presidential Sessions of Interest to AAC

Reported by Rose Roberto

1) Lasting Legacy or Broken Promise? The First Decade of the Harold T. Pinkett Award

In 1993, SAA established the Minority Student Award (later renamed in honor of archival pioneer Harold T. Pinkett) to encourage students of color to consider archival careers and become involved in the organization. A decade has now passed, and ten archivists have received the scholarship. Has the award fulfilled its purpose? Four past recipients will discuss how the award has affected their career development and whether SAA meets their professional needs.

Please make plans to join us at SAA, just before the AAC Annual Business meeting on Thursday, August 5, 2004 at 3:45-5:15 pm. Kathryn Neal, Manuscripts and Archives Librarian at San Diego State University and, currently, an SAA council member, was the first recipient of this award. Kathi will chair the session. The panelists for this session are: Michelle Baildon, Petrina D. Jackson, Teresa Mora, and Ida E. Jones. Michelle Baildon, last year's winner, will present a paper titled, "Making More Than One Opportunity: Getting and Keeping Archivists of Color." She currently works at Boston College in the areas of digital initiatives and reference and instruction. Petrina D. Jackson, Pinkett recipient in 2002, and Assistant Archivist at Cornell University, will present a paper called "Opening Doors: My Experience as a Harold T. Pinkett Award Winner." Presenting "Diversity in Archives: From Colleagues to Collections" is Teresa Mora, NAACP Project Archivist at UC Berkeley. Teresa received the Pinkett Award in 1999. The final presenter is Ida E. Jones, Senior Manuscript Librarian at Moorland-Spingarn Research Center who received the award in 1995. Her paper is titled, "Looking Back from the Inside Out: The Legacy of African American Public History Practitioners."

## 2) Native American Perspectives on the Treatment and Usage of Tribal Materials in Archives

Since European colonization of the Americas, tribal materials were often acquired and managed by non-Native people. With more Native People becoming archivists, a culturally sensitive perspective has begun to emerge. With the differences between standard archival management and management of tribal archives in consonance with First Peoples cultural traditions, there are sometimes misunderstandings among peers. This session will inform SAA colleagues of the challenges and distinctions in treating Native American materials and collections from a tribe's perspective. This session takes place Friday, August 6, 2004 from 2:00-3:30 p.m.

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## Real World Reference Workshop at Texas A&M University

By Rebecca Hankins

The Cushing Memorial Library and Archives and the Society of American Archivists will co-sponsor a workshop on reference services in archival or special collections environments. The workshop will take place in the Cushing Library at Texas A&M University on October 14 and 15, 2004. The workshop is designed to provide an overview of traditional reference service as well as enhancements introduced with electronic databases and digitized collections. Developing mission statements, policies and procedures, and rules and regulations will be discussed as well as issues relating to copyright, inter-library loan, serving and handling materials and locating reference resources on the Internet. Much of the time will be devoted to the reference interview, providing instruction to readers, and dealing with the influx of new researchers to archives. The workshop will be led by Danna C Bell-Russel of the Library of Congress and Kathleen

Marquis of the Albany County Public Library in Laramie, Wyoming. For more information and to register, go to: <http://www.archivists.org/prof-education/workshop-detail.asp?id=1260>

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## Day in the Life of an Archivist: The Guerrilla Archivist by Karen Jean Hunt

Director, John Hope Franklin Collection for African and African American Documentation/African American Subject Librarian

*(This is the first in a series of "Day in the Life of an Archivist" columns.)*

9:30 pm – It's the seventh inning stretch and the Durham Bulls have yet to take the lead. Still, there's just not much else to complain about as I sit in the warm North Carolina breeze, watching the Bull City skyline darken before my eyes. In two hours, I'll head to the Raleigh Durham Airport. Archival guru Bill Landis is flying in from California. He's one of my oldest SAA conference buddies, so there's just no way that I'm going to let him fly in and catch a shuttle bus to Chapel Hill.

Midnight – With Bill in tow, I make my way down Hwy 85 to Chapel Hill. At 2:45 am, my head hits my pillow. 7:00 am, I'm up, but it's not pretty. When I sit down at my office computer to check email, an hour later, the yellow post-it notes around the screen no longer look like the happy petals they did the day before. What a silly way to create a To Do List? Speaking of silly, one day I'm going to figure out my Franklin email account. What was perhaps a great idea, ten years ago, has turned into SPAM city. Of course, seeing "Franklin-center, your Girlfriend will thank you BIG TIME!" always gives me something to laugh about each morning. Why complain?

My personal account scares me. It contains messages concerning HIPAA guidelines, schedules for library candidates, and inquiries about new collections. Then, of course, there are those messages that I simply tend to ignore, like the one concerning my duties for the Association of African American Museums conference pre-workshop this August. Don't ask! Even I'm unclear on how an archivist, working in a library, has become involved in a conference for museum professionals. Email and voice mail aside, the bulk of the morning is spent on a budget analysis project. Call me crazy, but I kind of like doing it. And on the plus side, I've finally made time to go through my predecessors' files.

*Lunch (never alone and never in my office)*

1:15pm – Just received a call from the reference desk. Someone from the city needs help on researching the origins of the term "Black Wall Street." Providing reference service, for both RBMSCL and the main library, has become a big part of my job. Discovering how much I enjoy library reference seems odd and opposite of how I felt in library school: Guerrilla Archivist or die! Once back at my desk, I've got a full hour until my 3 pm research consultation with a graduate student working on slave life in the Sea Islands.

While on the computer, researching the Sea Islands, my email pops up a GOBI2 slip view alert. Now that I've gone from paper order slips to GOBI2, I can select new books right from my desktop. Someday, I'll figure out a routine for the computer slips. For now, they pop up, I deal with them.

3:00 pm, I meet the Sea Island researcher down in reference services. After we're done, I spend time setting up the Rare Book Room for the American Dance Festival reception tonight at 7. I've agreed to host the event in support of the St. Joseph's Historic Foundation in Durham. It's nice having people of color, from the local community, in the library. After setting up the room, I head to my office to review catalogs for rare books and to check email and voice mail before heading out.

Around 5:00 pm, I head downstairs to unlock the room for the dance reception. Slowly, the food and drink for the event arrives by the box load. This is my first "official" community event, so my fingers are crossed. The reception is at 7 pm and the performance starts at 8 pm. The room needs to be cleared and cleaned before I can lock up and go home for the evening.

Whew! The reception is a hit, with over sixty people in attendance! It's been a long day, but a good one. By 8:20 pm, the room is clean, and all I have left is to empty the trash and lock up. Oops! While leaving, I notice that the campus has been besieged with flyers for the reception. Someone needs to take those down. Say hello to someone. I slowly make my way from the library, pass the Divinity School, around the Chapel, to the parking lot. The 8 x 10 flyers are on trees, light poles, campus signs and even taped to the ground. After 20 minutes, I think I've got them all.

It's 9:00 pm and I'm too tired to eat. I head home, away from the darkness of the Duke University campus, to the lights of Downtown Durham. It's time for this Guerrilla Archivist to get some sleep.

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**CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL CRISIS:  
Time Line and History Commission Source Guide**

*Revised May 2004*

Submitted by Russell P. Baker, CA

Arkansas History Commission and State Archives

**TIMELINE**

**1954**

May 17: U. S. Supreme Court finds in *Brown v. Board of Education* that "separate but equal racial segregation laws relating to public education are unconstitutional.

**1955**

May 31: U. S. Supreme Court rules in *Brown II* that segregation in public schools must be ended "with all deliberate speed."

Sept.: Peaceful school integration takes place in Fayetteville.

Fall: formation of the White Citizens Council of Arkansas takes place.

**1956**

NAACP files suit to force immediate integration in Little Rock schools.

November: passage of anti-integration Amendment 44 to Arkansas Constitution.

**1957**

NAACP targets Little Rock's Central High for integration.

February: passage of anti-segregation laws by Arkansas General Assembly.

August: Nine Black students assigned to Central High.

Sept. 2: Gov. Orval E. Faubus sends Arkansas National Guard troops to Central High to "keep the peace."

Sept. 4: National Guard turns away seven of the Black students.

Sept. 20: Federal Court orders Faubus to withdraw troops.

Sept. 23: "Black Monday": crowds gather outside of Central High; "mob action" feared.

Sept. 24: President Eisenhower federalizes Arkansas National Guard.

Sept. 24: Elements of the 101st Airborne Division arrive in Little Rock and begin patrolling Central High.

Sept. 25: All nine Black students allowed to enter Central High.

**1958**

June 3: Ernest Green becomes Central High's first Black graduate.

August: Special session of Arkansas General Assembly passes laws allowing governor to close any school "being integrated by force."

Sept.: Faubus closes all Little Rock high schools, including Central High, for 1958-1959 school year.

Sept.: Women's Emergency Committee to Open Public Schools (WEC) is formed.

November: Dr. Dale Alford is elected to Congress.

**1959**

May: Recall election removes extreme segregationists from Little Rock School Board.

June: A Federal Court rules state's school closing laws unconstitutional.

Summer: Little Rock School Board announces the reopening of closed schools.

August 12: Segregationist mob tries to prevent opening of Central High.

September 8: Small bomb explodes in Little Rock neighborhood.

Sept.: Central High and other school reopen for 1959-1960 school year; eight Black students attend Central High and Hall High with little trouble; crises is over.

#### **PRINTED SOURCES AVAILABLE AT THE HISTORY COMMISSION**

Dale Alford, *The Constitutional Crisis*

Dale and L'Moore Alford, *The Case of the Sleeping People*

Daisy Bates, *The Long Shadow of Little Rock*

Virgil T. Blossom, *It Has Happen Here*

Robert R. Brown, *Bigger Than Little Rock*

Ernest Q. Campbell and Thomas F. Pettigrew, *Christians in Racial Crisis: A Study of Little Rock's Ministry*

Wilmer Counts, *A Life is More Than a Moment: The Desegregation of Little Rock's Central High*

Ralph Creger, *A Look Down the Lonesome Road*

Osro Cobb, *Memoirs of Historical Significance*

Orval Faubus, *Down From the Hills, vols. 1 and 2*

Brooks Hays, *A Southern Moderate Speaks*

Elizabeth Huckaby, *Crisis at Central High, Little Rock, 1957-1958*

Elizabeth Jacoway, *Understanding the Little Rock Crisis: An Exercise in Remembrance and Reconciliation*

Frances Ross, *Grand Central: A Short History of Little Rock High School and Little Rock*

Beth Roy, *Bitters in the Honey: Tales of Hope and Disappointment Across Divides of Race and Time*

John F. Wells, *Time Bomb*

See also files of the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* and the *Pulaski County Historical Review*.

#### **MICROFILM SOURCES AVAILABLE AT THE HISTORY COMMISSION**

General Microfilm File: "Integration" and two rolls of newspaper clippings from 1957

Files of Arkansas secular and religious newspapers 1954-1960, especially the *Arkansas Gazette*, the *Arkansas Democrat*, and the *Arkansas State Press*.

Files of the *Little Rock [Central] High School Tiger*, 1928-1958, filed under "Educational Publications."

Women's Emergency Committee Manuscript Collection

#### **MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES**

Books and Publications File index under "Integration Crisis," "Segregation," "Little Rock Central High," and "Central High"

Subject-Place File index under "Integration Crisis," "Segregation," "Central Hill," and "Little Rock Central High"

Biographical File index under names of persons involved

Photograph Collection index under Central High and name of persons involved

#### **INTERNET SOURCES**

Visit our Website at [www.ark-ives.com](http://www.ark-ives.com) for copies of many of our Central High related photographs.

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#### **The Library of Congress Commemorates the Fiftieth Anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education** Submitted by Danna C. Bell-Russel

The Library of Congress commemorates the fiftieth anniversary of the landmark Supreme Court decision to end segregation in U. S. public schools through the exhibition "With an Even Hand" Brown v. Board at Fifty. The exhibition is on view in the Jefferson building of the Library through November 13, 2004. A permanent, online version of the exhibition is available at:

<http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/brown/>. Additionally, a related LC website comprises a list of Brown v. Board of Education materials from the Library of Congress. For links to the materials, please go to <http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/afam/afam-brown.html>.

On Wednesday, August 25 and Saturday, October 2, 2004, the Library of Congress is hosting, free of charge, a Brown v. Board Teacher's Institute to help educators teach about this landmark decision and its related issues as well as apply the aforementioned online Brown v. Board resources in their classrooms. For more information, please go to <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/brown/brown-teacher.html>.

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#### **Career Moves**

SAA's Diversity Committee Chair La Nina Clayton began as Head of Public Services for Rare Books and Special

Collections at Princeton University in January 2004. She was previously employed by George Washington University in Washington, D.C. as Public Services and Collection Development Librarian in the Special Collections Department. You may contact her at <clayton@princeton.edu>. Congratulations La Nina!

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**Cornell Becomes New Steward of Historic Native American Collection of Bronx Huntington Free Library, June 15**

(Reprinted from June 10, 2004 Cornell University Press Release)

BRONX, N.Y. A New York state appeals court ruling this January paved the way for the Huntington Free Library to find a new steward for its Native American collection, one of the largest in the world. On Tuesday, June 15, at the private library's red brick home in the Bronx, papers were signed to transfer the collection to Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y.

The \$2.5 million that the Huntington library will receive for the collection from Cornell will allow the library to remedy losses from a 15-year lawsuit over the ownership of the collection and return to its main mission of serving the Bronx community.

The move, which will take place later this summer, will ensure that the collection stays in New York and remains accessible to students and researchers as well as the general public. The collection contains more than 40,000 volumes on the archaeology, ethnology and history of the native peoples of the Americas from the colonial period to the present. At Cornell University Library the collection will be fully cataloged, with online records made available in national and international bibliographic databases. Over the coming years, Cornell also plans to digitize and make available on the Web some 1,300 rare books and monographs as well as approximately 100,000 pages of the Huntington's manuscript holdings.

"We are delighted that the Huntington has entrusted Cornell with this invaluable collection," said Sarah Thomas, Cornell University Librarian. "These spectacular historic materials will join other major documents in our collections, including the Gettysburg Address in Lincoln's hand, collections on the antislavery movement, witchcraft, the French Revolution and the papers of the Marquis de Lafayette. The Huntington Free Library titles will complement and significantly augment our current Native American holdings." Thomas added, "The Cornell Library offers deep infrastructure and cutting-edge expertise in digital libraries that will ensure the preservation of the Huntington's print materials and broad dissemination of important materials from the collection through Internet access."

"We at the Huntington Free Library are thrilled at the completion of this transfer of our Native American collection to Cornell University," said Edward A. Morgan, the library's president. "This transfer marks the beginning of a new and

promising era for the library. With our endowment now restored, we can return to the original vision of Collis P. Huntington and build upon it using 21st-century ideas and technology as we involve the entire Bronx community in the library's existing work and our new community center venture."

The transfer will provide closure to a 15-year chapter of litigation in state and federal courts over ultimate ownership of the Native American collection. In 1930, the Huntington library received the collection from the Museum of the American Indian, then located in New York City, and agreed to care for it and make it available to the public, scholars and museum staff. In 1990, the American Indian museum was absorbed by the National Museum of the American Indian, which was part of the Smithsonian Institution. The Smithsonian assumed that the library collection would accompany the artifacts collections it had acquired from the old Museum of the American Indian. A lawsuit followed, during which the Huntington Free library fought to protect its ownership of the collection and other rights to it. Although the library ultimately won all key New York and federal court decisions, including appeals court rulings in 1994 and January 2004, the litigation nearly ruined it financially. The transfer of the collection to Cornell will remedy the losses and help the library return to its mission: serving the Bronx community, said Morgan.

Why did the Huntington choose Cornell as its new steward? "We believe the Huntington was looking for a new home that would embrace its Native American collection as a living, vibrant resource for learning and research," said Katherine Reagan, curator of rare books in Cornell Library's Rare and Manuscript Collections. "The strengths of the Cornell Library and its staff, the university's long history of outreach and collaboration with local Native American communities and the eagerness of the Cornell faculty to work with the collection, we think, made a difference."

Jane Mt. Pleasant, associate professor and director of Cornell's American Indian Program, said: "The collection provides enormously rich materials for teaching and research and will enable us to attract outstanding scholars from across the hemispheres."

Reagan said the collection, appraised at \$8.3 million in 2001, is "full of treasures." Highlights include early printed books on travel and exploration with accounts of encounters with native peoples; rare dictionaries of Native American languages; original drawings of American Indians by the artist George Catlin; field notes by 19th century ethnographers and papers of archaeological expeditions; a German prince's account of travels in North America's interior considered one of the finest early 19th century works on American Indian life; a 1765 original manuscript peace treaty between the Delaware Nation and Britain's superintendent of Indian affairs; and papers of the Women's National Indian Association.

For information on the Huntington Free Library, see: <<http://www.binc.org/hfl/>>; for information on the Cornell Library, see: <<http://www.library.cornell.edu/>>.

**Editor**

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**Mission Statements**

**The Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable**

The Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable was established in 1987 as an interest group within the Society of American Archivists. The Roundtable's purposes are to:

- 1) identify and address the concerns of Archivists of African, Asian, Latino, and Native American descent.
- 2) promote wider participation of said archivists in the archival profession.
- 3) promote the preservation of archival materials that pertain to people of color.

The co-chairs of this Roundtable are:

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**The Society of American Archivists**

The Society of American Archivists (SAA), founded in 1936, is a professional association of individuals and institutions interested in the preservation and use of archives. Its membership includes individuals serving government, academic institutions, businesses, churches, libraries, historical societies, museums, and professional associations in more than sixty countries. Through its publications, annual meetings, workshops, and other programs, SAA provides a means for contact, communication and cooperation among archivists and archival institutions:

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