

Summer 2025
Vol. 36, Issue 4

ARCHIVISTS AND ARCHIVES OF COLOR

NEWS



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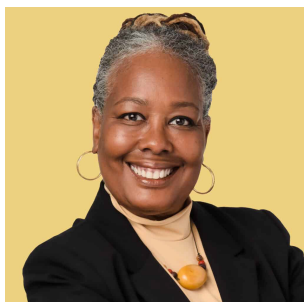
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Anacostia Historical Society Members, 1967

IMAGE: Members of the Anacostia Historical Society (Maryland) pose in front of the original Anacostia Neighborhood Museum, which opened in the renovated Carver Theater in September 1967. Courtesy of Smithsonian Institution Archives.



Letter from the Co-Chair

Greetings SAA AACS community,

How time flies! August is already upon us and the SAA 89th Annual Meeting & Expo takes place in a few short weeks. Starting Sunday, August 24 through Wednesday, August 27, the 2025 annual meeting in Anaheim, California opens under the theme, “Making it Count” how your work impacts the archives profession. There’s a smorgasbord of programs and activities lined up just for you. So if you haven’t

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already, view the online program schedule below and prepare to be
“Inspired - Engaged - Transformed”

<https://www2.archivists.org/am2025/program/schedule>.

And before summer officially winds down, (sunsetting on September 22nd) and as you wrap up your family or solo vacations or staycations, I’ve curated a list of Black Archives to hopefully add to your
“Inspiration - Engagement - Transformation.”

Yours in Archives,

Tamera Coleman

Co-Chair, AAC Steering Committee

Curated List of Black Archives

- "[How Black archives are highlighting overlooked parts of history and culture](#)" • By Harmeet Kaur, CNN (article)
- "[House of Aama Weaves Black History into Fashion](#)" • In the Making, PBS (video)
- [African American Heritage](#) • National Archives (website)
- [The Black Archives](#) (website)
- [Black Archives Sweden](#) (website)
- [The Black Ordinary](#) (website)
- [Black Cultural Archives](#) (website)

About AAC



The Changing Face of California State University, circa 1970s. Public Affairs. Photo Collection. Courtesy of the California State University Archive.

The Archivists and Archives of Color Section (AAC) is an interest group within the Society of American Archivists. SAA is the oldest and largest archival association in North America, serving the educational and informational needs of more than 5,500 individuals and institutional members. The AAC Section helps to identify concerns and promote the needs of archivists and archives of color.

Ways to Connect



Microsite

www2.archivists.org/groups/archivists-and-archives-of-color-section



Newsletter Archive

www2.archivists.org/groups/archivists-and-archives-of-color-section/newsletter



Directory of Archivists and Archvists of Color

aacdirectory.wordpress.com

Facebook: [aac.section](https://www.facebook.com/aac.section)

Instagram: [archivistsofcolor](https://www.instagram.com/archivistsofcolor)

Twitter/X: [aac_section](https://twitter.com/aac_section)

Email: aacr.roundtable@gmail.com



Announcements

FROM THE STEERING COMMITTEE

AAC Year in Review: 2024–2025

By Lauren Cooper, Newsletter Editor

In July 2024, the Archivist and Archives of Color (AAC) Steering Committee started with six members. Most of us were totally new to the steering committee and its processes. We began by meeting with the previous steering committee and felt well-situated to move forward.

However, within the first six months, two steering committee members stepped away, including the one person with steering committee experience, and we stalled out trying to figure out the path forward. In June 2025, a third member stepped away. The common thread was not having the time to take on the role and give it the time it needed.

Now, just three of us remain and we will soon be recruiting for a **Junior Co-chair** and **Steering Committee Member**. We are hoping some of you will consider joining us! Learn more on page 4.

However, despite our lull, we are pleased to revitalize the AAC newsletter with regular, quarterly publications. Past issues are available on the AAC microsite. **We would love to feature your stories** so please feel free to share highlights, photos, and achievements. More information about how you can contribute on page 11.

We also hosted a presentation of the **Black Visual Arts Archives Initiative** at our annual meeting on July 14, 2025. More details and video link on page 10.

Help Us Make a Difference!

By Arthur Carlson,
Steering Committee Member

As we continue to provide opportunities to foster engagement and feature work that highlights communities traditionally underrepresented in archival collections, the AAC Committee invites you to share your projects, exhibitions, or acquisitions that furthers this effort for inclusion in our newsletter. As a steering committee, we often hear there is a desire to have a platform to share and discover the increasingly important work taking place in our organizations and communities to preserve history and culture. We intend to explore additional opportunities to enhance networking opportunities among our section members, including more events that can bring individuals together to celebrate and support our community.

We especially encourage past AAC Steering Committee members or those that have had experience hosting programming events to offer your suggestions for future opportunities. We have nearly unanimously found these opportunities rewarding and great for expanding your professional network of individuals committed to uplifting our profession. To submit your idea, please contact us at: aacr.roundtable@gmail.com.



Announcements

UPCOMING DATES

Join us!

COMING SOON: Special Election for AAC Steering Committee Officers

The Archives and Archives of Color will seek candidates for the following positions:

- **Junior Co-chair**
- **Steering Committee Member**

MISSION

The mission of the section is to identify and address the concerns of archivists of African, Asian, Latino, Native American and Pacific Islander descent; promote wider participation of said archivists in the archival profession; and promote the preservation of archival materials that pertain to the people of color.

LEARN MORE:

<https://www2.archivists.org/groups/archivists-and-archives-of-color-section/standing-rules>.

REQUIREMENTS

Section officers and steering committee members must be SAA members in good standing.

SECTION OVERVIEW OF RESPONSIBILITIES:

<https://www2.archivists.org/governance/handbook/section9>.

DEADLINES:

Coming soon. The SAA Governance Team will release information in mid-August.



Now Accepting Applications for the African American Art History Initiative

Applications due: October 1, 2025

The Getty Scholars Program supports innovative research about art, conceived in the broadest terms, and its histories, by providing a locus for international scholars to forge collaborations across disciplines and professional practices. Each year the program accepts applicants under an annual theme, and under the umbrella of that theme, dedicated grants are available via the African American Art History Initiative (AAAHI).

LEARN MORE:

<https://www.getty.edu/projects/getty-scholars-program/>



Announcements

UPCOMING DATES

WORKSHOP • AUG. 21, 2025

Recipes for Digital Preservation Workflows

To conduct digital preservation activities, it is helpful to have a recipe or workflow. One can purchase a ready-to-bake off-the-shelf product, follow an existing recipe step-by-step, or one can improvise. We will hear from representatives of several institutions who will regale us with the progress they have made in developing/adapting their recipes for digital preservation workflows.

PRESENTERS: Daniel Noonan, The Ohio State University • Jason Kauffman, University of Notre Dame Archives • Scott Kirycki, University of Notre Dame Archives • Ellen LeClere, Wayne State University • Andrew McDonnell, University of Kentucky

REGISTER:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QB0Wa5qTSlyqabSZ-NV3zg#/registration.



Impacts of the Trump Administration on Archives and Archival Workers Story-Telling Initiative

The Archival Workers' Collective (AWC) is a grassroots collective seeking to gather and amplify the stories about the impacts of the Trump Administration on archives and archival workers. Have the disruptions to the IMLS, NEH, National Park Service, and other government agencies affected you and your institution? Have the White House's policies on DEIA initiatives or other activities caused you to change how you work? We seek to gather and amplify the stories of archives and archival workers on our blog to spread the word on how these actions are impacting our field.

Important note: Please only share information and phrasing that you feel comfortable with us sharing publicly. The responses will be reviewed by AWC organizers. We will do our best to share all submitted stories, but capacity constraints may require us to share selected submissions.

ONLINE FORM:

<https://airtable.com/appQzfWKfpL32e33k/pagZxtbEQXd2LtNk9/form>.

QUESTIONS or FEEDBACK:

archivalworkerscollective@gmail.com.

LEARN MORE:

<https://connect.archivists.org/discussion/impacts-of-the-trump-administration-on-archives-and-archival-workers-story-telling-initiative-3>.



Announcements

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Archivist for University Collections

University of Michigan

As part of the Curation Team, this position will focus on processing records of U-M units, executive officers, student organizations, and other university-related materials.

DEADLINE: Aug. 9, 2025

JOB POSTING:

https://careers.umich.edu/job_detail/266096/archivist-university-collections.



2 Archivists for Community-Driven Archives Initiative Arizona State University Library

Early career professionals are encouraged to apply. On August 14, ASU Library will host a webinar to share more information about these academic professional positions, working at ASU Library and living in the Phoenix area. Attendance is not required to apply for any open positions.

INFO SESSION: Aug. 14, 2025 • [REGISTER HERE](#)

JOB POSTINGS: [Arizona Political Collections Archivist](#) • [Collections Services Archivist](#)

DEADLINE: Sept. 3, 2025

Archivist for Visual Materials The Huntington

Working within the Archival Processing Team, the Archivist for Visual Materials will process rare materials and archives with an emphasis on historic and contemporary photography, visual and architectural materials, and ephemera. Located in San Marino, California.

FIRST DEADLINE: Sept. 2, 2025

JOB POSTING: [Archivist for Visual Materials](#).

Assistant Director of South Caroliniana Library University of South Carolina

Plays a vital role in the growth and development of one of the South's leading repositories of manuscripts, photographs, maps, newspapers, oral histories, and books related to southern history and culture.

JOB POSTING:

<https://uscjobs.sc.edu/postings/190165>.

Digital Curator and Processor of the Afkhami Collection Georgetown University

A full-time one-year term position (with the possibility of renewal). Responsible for the arrangement and description of the manuscript holdings of Mahnaz Afkhami and her late husband, Dr. Golan Reza Afkhami, as well as the archives of the Foundation for Iranian Studies.

JOB POSTING: [Digital Curator and Processor of the Afkhami Collection](#).

Dianne Dale: A Community Anchor in the Archives

By Jennifer Morris, Archivist, Anacostia Community Museum

Founded in 1967 as an outpost of the Smithsonian Institution, the Anacostia Neighborhood Museum, now Anacostia Community Museum (ACM), is the first federally funded community-based museum in the United States. Founding director John Kinard (1936-1989) worked closely with community advisory groups to develop the museum's mission to focus "broadly on African American history and culture." The museum soon gained national recognition for its participatory approach to museum research, exhibitions, and programming¹. Community-based projects supported local artists, illuminated social issues impacting the community, elevated neighborhood history, and resulted in the development of a unique museum collection.

Local historian, author and artist Dianne Dale has volunteered her time and expertise to several ACM initiatives. Ms. Dale donated her vast collection of family and community records to ACM in 2013. Soon after, she

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IMAGE: Portrait of Dianne Dale. Dale-Patterson Family collection, Anacostia Community Museum, Smithsonian Institution, gift of Dianne Dale.

¹ To learn more about the history of ACM see: Portia James, "Building a Community-Based Identity at Anacostia Museum," Curator: The Museum Journal, 39, no. 1 (1996): 19-44; Joy G. Kinard, The Man, the Movement, the Museum: The Journey of John R. Kinard as the First African American Director of a Smithsonian Institution Museum (Washington, DC: A.P. Foundation Press, 2017); "Anacostia Community Museum," Smithsonian Institution Archives, April 14, 2011, available at: <https://siarchives.si.edu/history/anacostia-community-museum>



IMAGE: Items from the Dale-Patterson Family Collection, which volunteer Dianne Dale is helping process and describe. Credit: Susana Raab. Courtesy of Anacostia Community Museum.

inquired about volunteering to support the processing and preservation of the collection. Following two weeks of archival training, Ms. Dale began labeling materials, placing them in folders and boxes, and assisting with the arrangement of the collection. Her deep personal knowledge of local organizations and businesses, including many no longer in

existence, helped ensure the accuracy and completeness of descriptions, and enabled item-level cataloging of many collection materials.

A fourth-generation Washingtonian who was deeply involved in community advocacy, Ms. Dale brings unique insights and experience to

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her work in the archives. She has served as the President of the Anacostia Historical Society, a founding member of the Anacostia Garden Club, and a member of the Organization for Anacostia Rowing and Sculling. She is also the second generation of her family to be involved with ACM. Her father, Almore M. Dale, served on the committee that selected the original location for Secretary S. Dillon Ripley's "experimental store-front museum" in the mid-1960s. The Dale- Patterson Family Collection provides unique historical insights into these and other community building efforts.

During the COVID-19 Pandemic, Ms. Dale

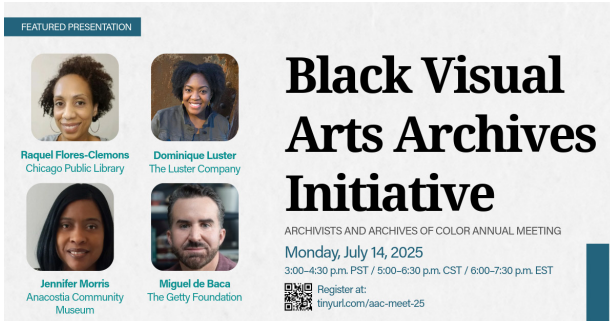
pivoted to volunteering remotely. I emailed her images from the collection, and she returned short texts identifying the people and events depicted. She also shared information that helped to locate biographical data on local residents, especially women, represented in the collection.

As ACM's archivist, it was beneficial to join efforts and share expertise, with this uniquely knowledgeable volunteer. Together we are charting a path for community-informed archiving that acknowledges and incorporates the perspectives of participants and source communities. To paraphrase ACM's mission, together with local communities, archives can illuminate and amplify our collective power.



IMAGE: ACM archivist Jennifer Morris (left) reviews collection items with volunteer Dianne Dale. Credit: Jennifer Morris, Still from video "Archiving a Community's Stories: The Dale- Patterson Family Papers" in the Explore with Smithsonian Experts YouTube series.

FEATURED PRESENTATION



Black Visual Arts Archives Initiative

ARCHIVISTS AND ARCHIVES OF COLOR ANNUAL MEETING

Monday, July 14, 2025
3:00–4:30 p.m. PST / 5:00–6:30 p.m. CST / 6:00–7:30 p.m. EST

Register at:
tinyurl.com/aac-meet-25

Featured Presenters:

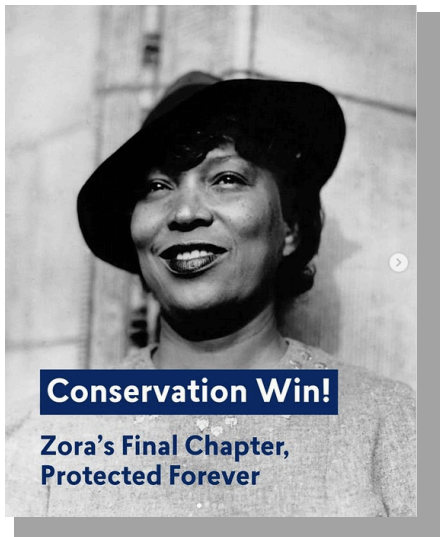
- Raquel Flores-Clemons, Chicago Public Library
- Dominique Luster, The Luster Company
- Jennifer Morris, Anacostia Community Museum
- Miguel de Baca, The Getty Foundation

PRESENTATION • July 14, 2025**AAC Annual Meeting and Special Presentation by the Black Visual Arts Archives Initiative**

On Monday, July 14, 2025, the AAC Steering Committee convened opening with a welcome and invitation to join the AAC Steering Committee by Tamera Coleman, Senior Co-chair, a recap of 2024–2025 activities by Lauren Cooper, AAC Newsletter Editor; invitation to suggest programming Ideas by Arthur Carlson, Steering Committee member; and a general SAA update by Jillian Cuellar, AAC's SAA council liaison. A special presentations on the Getty Institute's Black Visual Archives Initiative followed with presenters Raquel Flores-Clemons (Chicago Public Library), Dominique Luster (The Luster Company), Jennifer Morris (Anacostia Community Museum), and Miguel de Baca (The Getty Foundation).

WATCH ONLINE:

https://www.pathlms.com/saa/events/11920/event_sections/17503/video_presentations/364498#.



Screenshot of The Conservation Fund announcing on Instagram the protection of Hurston's final home in Fort Pierce, Florida. Accessed August 2, 2025.

ARTICLE • July 12, 2025**Zora Neale Hurston's Last Home Saved From Disrepair, To Be Preserved By Florida Foundation**

By Kandiss Edwards, MSN

"Hurston's last residence in Fort Pierce, Florida, was bought by The Conservation Fund. The organization made the announcement on June 30. In order to secure the legacy of Hurston the property has been transferred to the Zora Neale Hurston Florida Education Foundation."

Read story at:

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/zora-neale-hurston-s-last-home-saved-from-disrepair-to-be-preserved-by-florida-foundation/ar-AA1lusyP>.

We Want to Hear from You!

Contribute to the AAC Newsletter

The Archivists and Archives of Color Quarterly Newsletter aims to feature stories and news of archives and archivists of color. Please consider sharing about the work you are doing, achievements, and opportunities that can enrich the AAC community. Learn ways you can contribute and how to submit your content for inclusion.



Ways to Contribute

Spotlight



This type of article is a chance to go in-depth about a featured collection, share behind the scenes work of a project, or interview colleagues about their work. Accompanying photos/images are encouraged but not required.

Word count: ~300-1,000 words

Announcements



This includes news briefs, upcoming events, exhibits, grant and scholarship opportunities, calls for proposals, job updates and other useful information.

Word count: ~50-150 words

Images & Photos



Submit photos of items from your collections to feature on the newsletter cover, or as part of our Spotlight section.

Please include the collection name and institution.

File specs: .jpeg, .jpg, .png, .tiff and at least 300 dpi

Deadlines and Publication Dates

Fall 2025

Oct. 1	Spotlight Stories and Announcements due
Oct. 15	Publication Date

Winter 2026

Feb. 1	Spotlight Stories and Announcements due
Feb. 15	Publication Date

Spring 2026

April 1	Spotlight Stories and Announcements due
April 15	Publication Date

Summer 2026

July 1	Spotlight Stories and Announcements due
July 15	Publication Date

How to Submit Your Contribution:

Use our Google Form at bit.ly/aac-news-submit.
Questions: aac.roundtable@gmail.com.

Your 2024-2025 AAC Steering Committee



Tamera Coleman
Co-chair

Staff Archivist, Corporate
Collections, History Factory



Arthur Carlson
Steering Committee Member
Senior Archivist, Revs Institute



Lauren Cooper
Newsletter Editor
Digital Scholarship Librarian
& Managing Director, Center
for Black Digital Research
Penn State University