# Reviews Portal Podcast Proposal

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Summary

In order to leverage the [Reviews Portal](https://reviews.americanarchivist.org/) (RP) platform, we propose to launch a podcast with interviews of authors of publications and creators of digital tools and resources. The new WordPress platform has enabled us to increase engagement with readers and garner new interest from prospective reviewers. The functionality of the platform allows us to not only post reviews, but also potentially other types of content.

The podcast, tentatively titled “Retrospect,” will enable us to engage with the archival literature and resources in ways that complement the publication reviews in the journal and the reviews on the RP. It will also help us publicize the intellectual products of the archives profession more broadly.

As the SAA Publications Board is also considering launching a podcast that might focus on interviews of SAA book authors, *The American Archivist* / *Archival Outlook* article authors, we would need to explore how we could either collaborate on this endeavor or coordinate efforts to prevent duplication.

Podcast Content

We envision the podcast will consist of the following types of interviews:

* Conversational pieces with authors/creators about ideas for books, articles, software, tools, and digital projects, platforms, and collections.
* Discussions with authors of new and old publications, as well as various software, tools, and digital projects

Initially, we propose to publish six 30-minute episodes per year at a minimum. Interviews could be in-person (perhaps scheduled during the SAA annual meeting or at regional conferences attended by the Reviews Editor and the Reviews Portal Coordinator), or conducted virtually via Adobe Connect or Skype.

Some of examples of potential interviews:

* Hillel Arnold on StaticAid
* Jillian Cuellar on [Los Angeles Aqueduct Digital Platform](http://digital.library.ucla.edu/aqueduct/)
* Courtney Dean on [Acid Free](http://www.laacollective.org/magazine/), the Los Angeles Archives Collective’s magazine
* Christian Dupont on Aeon
* Kate Eichorn on *The Archival Turn in Feminism*
* Sheila Fitzpatrick on *A Spy in the Archives: A Memoir of Cold War Russia*
* Kate Flynn on Explore Chicago Collections
* Marisa J. Fuentes on *Dispossessed Lives: Enslaved Women, Violence, and the Archive*
* Lisa Gitelman on *Paper Knowledge: Toward a Media History of Documents*
* Matthew Hull on *Government of Paper: The Materiality of Paper in Urban Pakistan*
* Rand Jimerson on *Archives Power*
* Cal Lee on BitCurator
* Lev Manovich on *Software Takes Command*
* Mark Matienzo on ArchLight
* Sylvia Sellers-Garcia on *Distance and Documents at the Spanish Empire’s Periphery*

Logistics

* Hosting interviews: could be synced with and hosted on SoundCloud:<https://en.support.wordpress.com/soundcloud-audio-player/>, and audio files can be directly embedded in WordPress posts: <https://en.support.wordpress.com/audio/>
* Set up an RSS feed for the podcast so people can subscribe via iTunes or whatever app they use for podcasts
* Gloria and Bethany both have equipment for onsite interviews (a Snowball microphones and Zoom H-5 recorder)
* Skype or Adobe Connect for remote interviews
* Use GarageBand to edit podcasts
* Podcast theme music: Gloria knows a composer who has done podcast theme songs before, and could possibly write original song for us at no cost as long as we include credit

Production Team

In order to launch and maintain the podcast, we propose to work with two AA editorial board members to comprise a production team to identify interviewees; conduct research and develop interview questions; and solicit, conduct, edit, and post interviews. Potential roles are outlined below:

* Hosts: Bethany and Gloria and two AA editorial board members
* Research: Bethany and Gloria and two AA editorial board members
* Sound editor: Gloria and/or editorial board member
* Musician: Adam Fligsten
* Advisory Board: AA Editor, AA Editorial Board Members, Teresa Brinati, and Abigail Christian