

MAC in NoDak: Join us North of Normal for the 2019 MAC Symposium, Fargo, North Dakota, October 4–5, 2019

By Lisa Sjoberg, Concordia College

The 2019 MAC Symposium “I’m Alone, No You’re Not: Solo & Small Shop Archivists Retreat” will be a truly first-of-its-kind experience. It will be the first MAC-sponsored event held in North Dakota and the first Fall Symposium focused on the needs of those who find themselves to be the only archivist or one of a few professional archivists on staff. Solo archivists often feel alone, navigating the tensions of long to-do lists and not enough time; big goals and limited resources; professional aspirations and limited professional development opportunities. This two-day Symposium will offer a chance to network with colleagues who have shared experiences and to engage in conversations about professional development, leadership, project management, and more.

The program will open with a keynote delivered by Dayna Del Val, CEO and president of the Arts Partnership, a local organization that supports and advocates for arts and cultural organizations. The Arts Partnership is small, and Del Val often functions as a lone arranger in her field. Her address will focus on the value that artists and cultural heritage organizations bring to their communities and will provide pointers to improve outreach and advocacy.

Kelly Meyer, life coach and career counselor, will lead the next session, introducing attendees to the leadership program of Masterminds. Masterminds groups are participant-driven communities that create and implement goals, brainstorm ideas, and support each other with total

honesty, respect, and compassion. Masterminds participants act as catalysts for growth, serve as the proverbial “devil’s advocate,” and provide general support for their colleagues.

The remainder of the program will be structured to promote networking with the same four sessions on day one and the same three sessions on day two. This structure will enable participants to rotate through sessions in smaller numbers, allowing space for goal-oriented instruction, conversation, and workshopping. Members of MAC Council will lead these breakout sessions throughout the retreat, focusing on topics such as project management, advocacy and development, professional growth, digital preservation, arrangement and description, and access. Stephanie Kom, head of Technical Services for the State Historical Society of North Dakota and the North Dakota representative for the Digital Public Library of America, will copresent a session on providing online access to collections.

This rich program will be offered in the welcoming community of Fargo, North Dakota, and the neighboring city of Moorhead, Minnesota. Home to a population of over 200,000, Fargo-Moorhead is a vibrant area that boasts a booming economy and is a regional hub for arts, culture, education, and health care. This retreat will leave participants with an enhanced professional network of resources and skills to take back to their shops. We are excited for you to join us in NoDak!

Archival Issues, Upcoming Issues and Opportunities

By Alexandra A. A. Orchard, CA, Archival Issues Editorial Board Chair, Wayne State University

Big changes are happening at *Archival Issues*! Three long-time board members are cycling off. A big thanks to John A. Fleckner, Russell Horton, and Sammie L. Morris, who conclude their third, and final consecutive terms on the Editorial Board at the end of June. I am grateful to all of them for their contributions to the journal. I particularly want to call out John, whose guidance and kindness when I transitioned into my role as Editorial Board chair was vital.

While it is bittersweet to say goodbye to these wise voices on our board, it also presents an exciting opportunity for MAC members. As I write this, we have already received 10 inquiries into filling these positions. I look forward to working with the continuing and new members on our board.

As always, if you have any questions about article ideas, or submissions, please contact me, Alexandra A. A. Orchard, *Archival Issues* Editorial Board Chair, at alexandra@wayne.edu. As a reminder, we encourage contributions from both new and experienced authors (you!).