

MAC midwest archives conference

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Preserving the Documents of the Past and Making Them Accessible to the Future!

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“Local Collections in the Digital Age”

November 4–5, 2021

Virtual Event

*By Lindy Smith, University of Missouri–Kansas City, and
Tara Laver, The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art*

After careful consideration and consultation, Council made the difficult decision to hold the 2021 MAC Fall Symposium exclusively online for the safety of attendees. Fortunately, the exclusively online format makes this event accessible to more people, and the format helps to keep registration fees significantly lower, with early bird rates of \$45 for members/\$55 for nonmembers, late rates of \$55 for members/\$65 for nonmembers, and \$10 for students. In addition, Council approved a series of need-based scholarships, two for professionals and ten for students. Real-time closed captions will provide another boost to accessibility. Due to the larger potential audience, though, attendance is capped at 75 registrants to allow for an intimate atmosphere similar to prior symposia.

With a focus on digital collecting and digital storytelling, the symposium “Local Collections in the Digital Age” will feature sessions on a range of topics reflecting how the digital age and technology have changed what and how we collect and how we share those collections. The program is as follows:

Keynote: “Community Partnerships and the Postcustodial Paradigm,” Dr. Andrea Copeland, Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis. Copeland’s research focuses on relationships between public libraries and communities with an emphasis on preserving individual and community cultural outputs. She is the coeditor of the recent book *Participatory Heritage*. She will share the benefits of and strategies for local individuals and groups and cultural heritage institutions partnering to preserve and provide access to the primary sources critical to ensuring comprehensive histories of communities through digital community archives.

“Web Archiving for Local Collections,” Dave LaCrone, Kansas City Public Library. LaCrone will cover developing a collection development policy and different software and strategies for web archiving.

“History Harvest How-To,” Stephen Lane, Indianapolis Public Library. Lane will explore how to plan and execute a local history harvest, including considerations like

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needed resources, promoting the event, and preservation and project sustainability.

“More than a Moment: Ethical Approaches to Archival Work,” Sandy Rodriguez, Dr. Anthony LaBat, and Lindy Smith, University of Missouri–Kansas City. Rodriguez, LaBat, and Smith will delve into their experience taking an antiracist approach to a recent digital exhibit on the 1968 uprising in Kansas City after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

“Go Tell It Online: Digital History Projects,” Jason Roe and Katie Sowder, Kansas City Public Library. Roe and Sowder will share experiences in packaging digital content for a local audience in projects related to organized crime, the American Civil War, and other digital special collections materials.

“Podcasting 101 for Local History,” Suzanne Hogan, KCUR Public Radio. Hogan, producer and host of the podcast “A People’s History of Kansas City,” will discuss how to create your own local history podcast.

“Taking It to the Streets with Digital Interactives,” Brad Wolf, City of Kansas City, Missouri, and Dr. Carmaletta Williams, Black Archives of Mid-America. Wolf and Williams will use their experience creating the African American Trail to advise on content and platform selection, collaboration, and how to create something similar for your own context.

Registration is open and we look forward to your virtual presence! The Local Arrangements Committee will be sharing more information with attendees about how to experience Kansas City from afar. More information is available on the MAC website (<https://www.midwestarchives.org/2021-fall-symposium>).



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