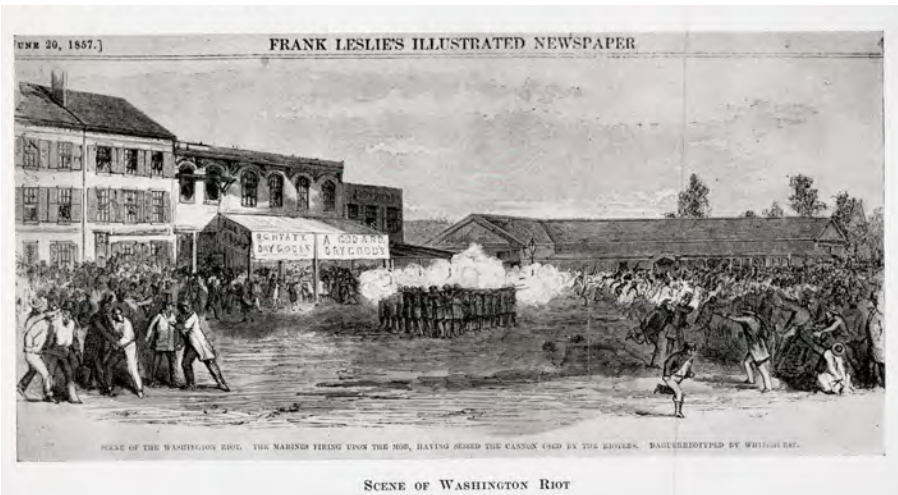




Conference Programs

2020s



**NOVEMBER 12-14
PROGRAM
2020**

ECHOES

**D.C. HISTORY
CONFERENCE**
★ ★ ★



D.C. HISTORY CONFERENCE



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COVER IMAGES CREDITS

TOP LEFT, UPPER — CHS 07170 - General Photograph Collection, Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

TOP LEFT, LOWER — Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C. Influenza ward, Walter Reed Hospital, Wash., D.C.

TOP RIGHT — FW 037 - Fisher-Waltz Photograph Collection, Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

LOWER RIGHT — CHS 03240 - Willard R. Ross Photograph Collection, Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

D.C. HISTORY CONFERENCE



ABOUT THE D.C. HISTORY CONFERENCE

The annual D.C. History Conference is co-presented by the DC History Center and American University, in partnership with additional local history organizations. Since 1973, the mission of the conference has been to provide a friendly and rigorous forum for discussing and promoting original research about the history of the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

In a year of upheaval, loss, pandemic, and protest, join fellow D.C. history enthusiasts in learning about the history of our city. How do memory and history echo through time? How do moments and eras in history stretch our understandings of memory? The 2020 D.C. History Conference theme ***Echoes*** explores the shared frequencies between our contemporary era and critical historic moments that left an indelible impact on Washington, D.C.

CO-PRESENTED BY



DC History Center

The Historical Society of Washington, D.C., dba DC History Center, is a 501(c)3 non-profit educational organization that makes local history available to the public to promote a sense of identity, place, and pride in Washington and to preserve this heritage for future generations



American University

American University is a student-centered research institution located in Washington, D.C., with highly-ranked schools and colleges, internationally-renowned faculty, and a reputation for creating meaningful change in the world. Our students distinguish themselves for their service, leadership, and ability to rethink global and domestic challenges and opportunities.

CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Mark Benbow, Kimberly Bender, Hannah Byrne, Mark Greek, Laura Hagood, Karen L. Harris, Julianna Jackson, Rebecca Katz, Lily Liu, Izetta Autumn Mobley, Maren Orchard (Conference Manager) M.J. Rymsza-Pawlowska, Ruth Troccoli, and Lisa Warwick



VIRTUAL CONFERENCE GUIDE

Our D.C. History Conference is fully virtual for the first time in 2020. The conference will take place on **Zoom** as a **webinar**, supported by the DC History Center and Digital Conventions. Supplementary conference content will occur asynchronously on **social media**. That means you can find it 24/7 across our platforms in the weeks leading up to and after the conference.

Virtual conferencing is new for many of us, but we hope to provide an excellent conference experience for attendees and presenters. Our **symposium-style program** provides consecutive sessions (*not concurrent sessions*) creating a shared experience and conversation. We encourage you to engage with the presenters and each other via chat and Q&A functions. You can participate on social media, tagging the conference with @DCHistCon and using #DCHistCon.

ACCESSING THE CONFERENCE

You will use the **same individual link** to access the conference each day. For your convenience, the link and password will be emailed to you each morning of the conference (Thursday-Saturday). If you purchase an All-Access or Supporter ticket, a separate link will be sent to your email to access additional programming.

You do not need a Zoom account to participate. If this is your first time using Zoom, you will be prompted to download the Zoom application. We recommend preparing for the conference by downloading Zoom in advance. For the best experience view on a laptop or computer.

SESSION ROLES

Each session will include: **host**, **panelists**, **chair**, **moderator**, and **tech support**. The **host** (Conference Manager) organizes and directs the conference and works with **tech support** to assign Zoom privileges, start and stop recording, assist with technology issues, and handle session disruptions.

The **chair** will introduce and guide each session. The **panelists** are responsible for presenting. The **moderator** (conference committee volunteer) monitors the chat and Q&A and provides background support for the chair.

QUESTIONS?

Contact us at conference@dchistory.org with questions.



ACCESSIBILITY

The D.C. History Conference is striving to provide an accessible conference for all attendees. The COVID-19 pandemic and our turn to video conferencing and other digital communications has highlighted the challenges of digital accessibility.

This year, we are not able to provide ASL interpretation but continue to seek a solution to provide closed captions on Zoom. Creating an accessible conference for all attendees is an essential component of our conference planning—as is acknowledging when we fall short due to a lack of resources, time constraints, and the challenges of digital accessibility. We will continue to follow best practice for digital accessibility on social media, including providing alt-text for images and adding closed captions to video content.

Given this information, if you are concerned that your accessibility needs will not be met, please contact conference organizers at conference@dchistory.org. If you experience a problem during the conference, please email or use the Zoom chat function for assistance.

We appreciate your feedback as we endeavor to create an accessible virtual conference.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Supplemental 2020 conference content is taking place on social media. During the two weeks preceding the conference, we will post about our sponsors, partners, and History Network and feature original research through posters and scholar spotlights. These will be asynchronous social media content posted to our feeds (Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook) available 24/7 to view when convenient for you. Engage with presenters, comment on posters, and join the conversation online.

Social media isn't just for presenters. Share your unique conference experience with your followers and networks. Tag us using our handle [@DCHistCon](https://twitter.com/DCHistCon) and the conference hashtag, [#DCHistCon](https://twitter.com/DCHistCon).

If you haven't already, follow us on Instagram, Twitter, and Instagram!



[@DCHistCon](https://www.instagram.com/DCHistCon)



[@DCHistCon](https://twitter.com/DCHistCon)



[@DCHistCon](https://www.facebook.com/DCHistCon)

#DCHISTCON

D.C. HISTORY CONFERENCE



October 25, 2020

Dear Friends,

A conference is, at its most basic, a gathering, a bringing together of individuals who possess knowledge and wish to share it with one another. Attendees learn as much from a casual encounter in a hallway, as from a formal panel discussion—and everyone feels passionately about the subject at hand.

In 2020, for its 47th edition, the D.C. History Conference gathers online. In this way, as in countless others, we feel the impact of the pandemic and the lost opportunity to be together. At the same time, we have gained something immeasurable, and our love for DC history is undiminished.

The D.C. History Conference, in its long-standing focus on bringing together community members and scholars, students, and researchers, is unlike your typical conference. And gathering online encourages us to expand access in new ways. Zoom allows seniors (as well as the rest of us!) to join from the comfort and safety of their living room. We can offer reduced registration at \$20 and free attendance to students and those experiencing financial hardship. Sessions can be recorded and made available to anyone curious about the DC stories we tell in this landmark year of pandemic, disruption, and protest.

Next year, I hope, we will be able to bump into each other again. In the meantime, let's enjoy the advantages of this online format and appreciate the improved inclusion and access that comes with it. Our 48th conference will be even more impactful and meaningful because of what we learn from the 47th.

So, I warmly thank our generous supporters, and particularly American University, the DC Preservation League, HumanitiesDC, and Digital Conventions, who were willing to invest in the conference's virtual reinvention. As ever, our appreciation goes to the committee whose dedicated work over many months makes this program a success each year.

Lastly, we owe a great deal to the outstanding work of our conference manager, Maren Orchard, a recent graduate of American University's excellent public history master's degree program—and already a first-rate professional.

Sincerely,

Laura Brower Hagood
Executive Director

HISTORICAL SOCIETY of WASHINGTON, D.C.

801 K STREET NW | WASHINGTON, DC 20001 | 202-516-1363 | DCHISTORY.ORG

D.C. HISTORY CONFERENCE



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

W A S H I N G T O N , D C

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

12 November, 2020

Dear Historians,

We are pleased to welcome you to the 47th Annual D.C. History Conference! American University, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Department of History are proud to contribute to this exciting and important effort. We see this partnership as part of AU's rich history of engagement with the city's schools, institutions, and people, engagement that we plan to broaden and deepen in the years to come.

Students, faculty, staff, and alumni from across American University have participated in the D.C. History Conference in many ways. Each year, we are excited to join the unique conversation between practitioners, scholars, and community members as they continue to remember and remake Washington history. In particular, students, alumni, and faculty from AU's Graduate Program in Public History appreciate learning about and engaging with the vibrant history community that the Conference, and all of its participants and partners, bring together.

The funding for American's sponsorship comes from The Robert Griffith Education Fund for Public History, which is named in honor of AU History Professor, and former Department Chair, Robert Griffith. Bob was a leader in the creation of our thriving MA program, and we are pleased to contribute in his memory.

We wish you a productive conference!


Sincerely,

Eric Lohr
Professor and Chair, History Department


Max Paul Friedman
Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Professor of History and International Relations

D.C. HISTORY CONFERENCE



all-access / supporter digital program 



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

- 4:00 - 5:15 PM** **A RIGHT TO THE CITY**
VIRTUAL TOUR, ANACOSTIA COMMUNITY MUSEUM 
- 6:00 - 8:00 PM** **TRACES OF A CHOCOLATE CITY: BLACKNESS, URBAN AESTHETICS, & THE POLITICS OF GENTRIFICATION** — DR. BRANDI T. SUMMERS
LETITIA WOODS BROWN MEMORIAL LECTURE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13

- 9:00 - 9:55 AM** **CAPTURING THE MOMENT: MAKING HISTORY RELEVANT** — DR. MELANIE ADAMS (ANACOSTIA COMMUNITY MUSEUM) & DR. IZETTA AUTUMN MOBLEY — *OPENING PLENARY*
- 10:00 - 11:15 AM** **TIMELESS ECHOES: VIRAL RACISM BEFORE AND DURING THE AGE OF COVID-19** (1882 FOUNDATION)
- 11:30 - 12:45 PM** **ECHO: SOCIAL MOVEMENTS**
- 1:00 - 2:00 PM** **FREQUENCY: DOMESTIC HISTORIES**
- 2:15 - 3:30 PM** **RESONANCE: THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**
- 3:45 - 5:00 PM** **HISTORIC PRESERVATION: OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE?**
- 5:15 - 6:30 PM** **DC HISTORY AND JUSTICE COLLECTIVE: REMEMBERING RENO CITY WITH STUDENTS, TEACHERS, PARENTS, & COMMUNITY MEMBERS**
- 6:45 - 8:00 PM** **KINDRED SPIRITS: ARTISTS HILDA WILKINSON BROWN AND LILIAN THOMAS BURWELL** — CINTIA CABIB

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

- 9:00 - 10:15 AM** **PANDEMIC PIVOT: HUMANITIESDC PROJECTS ON SHIFTING TERRAIN**
- 10:30 - 11:45 AM** **CIVIL WAR WASHINGTON RE-IMAGINED: HISTORIC SITES, CLASSROOMS, AND THE LEGACIES OF THE PAST IN A TURBULENT SUMMER**
- 12:00 - 1:15 PM** **HIGHLIGHTING THE HOUSEHOLD STAFF**
VIRTUAL TOUR, HEURICH HOUSE MUSEUM 
- 1:30 - 3:00 PM** **LINCOLN'S TOUGHEST DECISIONS:**
VIRTUAL PROGRAM, PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S COTTAGE 



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

★ all-access program

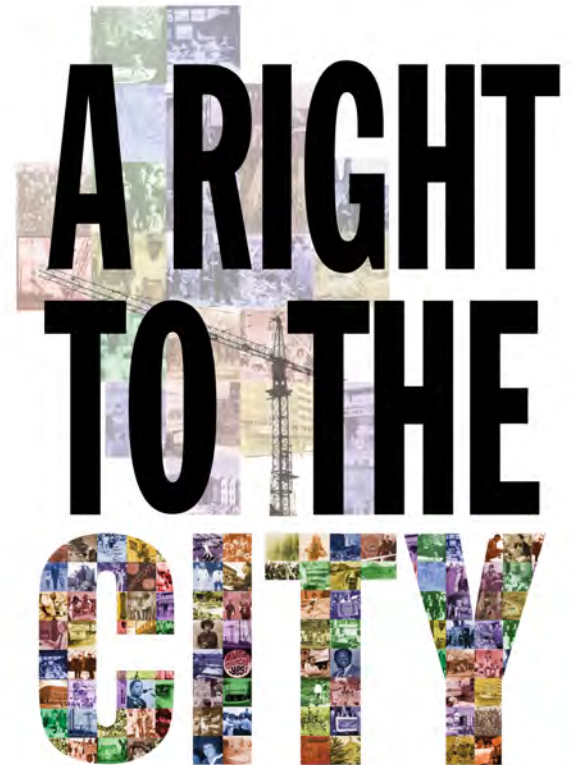
A RIGHT TO THE CITY

ANACOSTIA COMMUNITY MUSEUM

VIRTUAL TOUR

THURSDAY
4:00 - 5:15 PM

Join us for a tour/discussion of the Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum's "A Right to the City" exhibition with curator Dr. Samir Meghelli. As Washington, DC has been experiencing rapid population growth, mounting tensions over gentrification, and persistent racial inequality, this exhibition recounts the dynamic histories of six DC neighborhoods—Adams Morgan, Anacostia, Brookland, Chinatown, Shaw and Southwest—through the eyes of the Washingtonians who helped shape and reshape the city in extraordinary ways: through their fights for quality public education, healthy and green urban spaces, equitable development and transportation, and a genuinely democratic approach to city planning.



Smithsonian
Anacostia Community Museum



LETITIA WOODS BROWN MEMORIAL LECTURE

TRACES OF A CHOCOLATE CITY: BLACKNESS, URBAN AESTHETICS, AND THE POLITICS OF GENTRIFICATION

In describing DC's shift from a "Chocolate City" to a "post-chocolate," cosmopolitan metropolis, this talk focuses on the production of racial aesthetics through the management of black excess in the rapidly-gentrifying H Street commercial corridor. I use a small space to tell a much wider story about DC's urban history, cultural change, racial conflict, and gentrification as I discuss how blackness is integral to our understanding of the city. Important to this idea is how the aesthetics of everyday Black life highlight the usage of symbols invoking race, belonging, and space in a historical moment where diversity is used as a tool for commercial redevelopment, cultural tourism, architectural design, planning, and marketing. Where physical imaginations of the street are enforced as linear, blackness makes the street a site of paranoia, crime, danger, and excitement. Ultimately the talk highlights critical histories, theories, conflicts, and struggles over how to use the city, who belongs to the city, and who makes the city.



Letitia Woods Brown, historian and educator, brought her singular intellect and tenacity to colleagues and students at Howard University and George Washington University during the pivotal 1960s and 1970s. She was born in Tuskegee, Alabama, on October 24, 1915, to a family with deep roots at Tuskegee Institute. She received a B.S. from Tuskegee, taught grade school in Alabama, and went on to graduate studies at Ohio State University and Harvard University. Dr. Brown's dissertation centered on free and enslaved African Americans in D.C. After

completing her Ph.D in history at Harvard in 1966, she taught at Howard University. Dr. Brown was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship and in 1971 joined the faculty of George Washington University, where she remained until her untimely passing in 1976.

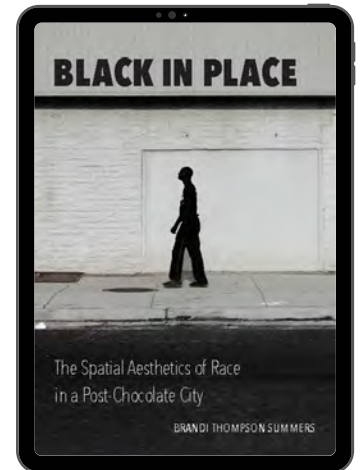
IMAGE CREDIT: Letitia Woods Brown. Courtesy of The George Washington University Gelman Library

THURSDAY
6:00 - 8:00 PM



DR. BRANDI T. SUMMERS

University of California, Berkeley





CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13



FRIDAY
9:00 - 9:55 AM



OPENING PLENARY

CAPTURING THE MOMENT: MAKING HISTORY RELEVANT

What does history have to do with it? What do history practitioners and museums need to confront, address, and repair after a year like 2020? This year has been a reckoning that has bluntly exposed America's legacy of racial inequity and injustice. Amidst a global pandemic that disproportionately impacts communities of color and the intensified activism and protests calling for Black life to matter after the killings of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, how does history account for itself? How has the field taken stock of how we tell history, why history matters, and how we think about the work we do. In this dialogue, Melanie Adams, Director of the Anacostia Community Museum, and Izetta Autumn Mobley, ACLS Emerging Voices Fellow discuss what role history and history practitioners can and should play in moving people towards the understanding and action needed to create a more just future for all.



DR. MELANIE ADAMS
*Director,
Anacostia Community Museum*



**DR. IZETTA
AUTUMN MOBLEY**
*ACLS Emerging Voices Fellow,
University of Texas at Austin*

IMAGE CREDITS
Anacostia History Society Members in Front of Original Museum Location 1967.
Source: Smithsonian Institution Archives. Image #92-1705
ACM Staff and Volunteers at the 2019 MLK Day parade in Anacostia by Dee Dwyer



TIMELESS ECHOES: VIRAL RACISM BEFORE AND DURING THE AGE OF COVID-19

FRIDAY
10:00 - 11:15 AM

Representatives of the 1882 Foundation will discuss adapting its historical education and community outreach to COVID-19 conditions. Panelists will share best practices and lessons learned from its new virtual platforms and the creations of its new "Timeless Echoes" series, which examines current sociopolitical issues through historical events, and its Literature Corner. Reconstructing a previous Timeless Echoes event, Professor Audrey Wu Clark (USNA) will examine anti-Chinese racial scapegoating and the historical and discursive intertwining of the "Model Minority" and "Yellow Peril" stereotypes. Professor Wu Clark, Professor Janelle Wong (UMD), and Dr. Adrienne Poon (OCA-DC, GWU School of Medicine & Health Sciences) will relate these enduring stereotypes to anti-Asian xenophobia and racism in the current pandemic. The panel will be moderated by community advocate and public health professional Yilin Zhang.

CHAIR

Ted Gong, Executive Director, 1882 Foundation, Washington, D.C.

PANELISTS

Audrey Wu Clark, Professor, United States Naval Academy

Janelle Wong, Professor, University of Maryland

Adrienne Poon, MD, MPH, George Washington University
School of Medicine and Health Sciences

Yilin Zhang, Washington, D.C. community advocate and
public health professional

Susan Li, 2020 Summer Intern,
Columbia University, Class of 2023

Kyle Wang, 2020 Summer Intern,
Stanford University, Class of 2022

ECHO: SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

FRIDAY
11:30 - 12:45 PM

Echo: Social Movements dives into movements against unchecked discrimination. Chioma M. Oruh examines and humanizes the life and family of Joy Evans of the landmark legal case in the quest for disability justice. A little over 40 years ago, *Evans v. Washington* brought claims of mistreatment against Forest Haven, the city's premiere institution for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Lauren B. Strauss examines Washington, D.C.'s Jewish communities, narratives of racial cooperation, and challenges to those narratives. She explores the long debate over Jewish ethnic and communal identity which continues today. Craig Keller examines the creation of the Community for Creative Non-Violence as part of a renewal of an older historical phenomenon — the creation of intentional communities. Keller recenters the history of CCNV and its political activism beyond the work of homeless advocate Mitchell (Mitch) Darryl Snyder by focusing on the

D.C. HISTORY CONFERENCE



conceptualization of CCNV, and some of the organization's early dimensions. By focusing on particular communities, each of these papers emphasizes inequities and challenges to gaping disparities in the District.

PANELISTS

A Diffracted Reflection: Jewish Memory and Self-Image as Fighters for Racial Justice in Mid-20th Century Washington, D.C.

Lauren B Strauss, Scholar in Residence,
American University, Jewish Studies Program

Looking Back to A New Vision: Race, Class, Gender and the Disability Justice Movement

Chioma M. Oruh, Independent Scholar

Re-Centering the Community for Creative Non-Violence

Craig Keller, American University, School of
Professional and Extended Studies

CHAIR

Mireya Loza, Professor, Georgetown University

FREQUENCY: DOMESTIC HISTORIES

FRIDAY
1:00 - 2:00 PM

Frequency: Domestic Histories puts into conversation two presentations on domestic work, highlighting why these histories are relevant today. In the face of a pandemic exacerbating contemporary caregiving crisis and highlighting the need for serious consideration of paid domestic work, how do museums talk about domestic work? Hannah Alms argues that 1917 white clubwomen in Washington, D.C. glorified sentimentalized relationships, not professionalization, and that they marshalled mammy stereotypes and embraced nostalgia for slavery. To explore this concept, Alms researches a "favorite servant contest" and its honoree, Theresa Harper, to facilitate a new understanding of race, domesticity, gender, and politics. Jenna Febrizio interrogates the history of Heurich House to go beyond Heurich's "rags-to-riches" story which leaves out the people whose hard work made his achievements possible. Febrizio focuses on themes of identity, experience, and memory to explore why it's important to re-interpret the past and make connections between the past and our modern world.

PANELISTS

'We Hope to Keep Her Until Death Do Us Part': Women, Politics, and 'Favorite Servants'

Hannah Alms, doctoral candidate, Department of
History, Indiana University

American Dream(s): Exploring Identity, Experience, and Memory of Household Staff at the Heurich House

Jenna Febrizio, Education Manager at the
Heurich House Museum; doctoral candidate,
Department of History, UMass Amherst

CHAIR

Ananya Chakravarti, Professor,
Georgetown University



RESONANCE: THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

FRIDAY
2:15 - 3:30 PM

Resonance: The Built Environment, three papers address the associations between place and memory — the past and present — embedded in the built environment of Washington, D.C. Jacqueline Carmichael approaches the topic by examining the historical chipping effects and erasure of African American cultural spaces created to maintain place and memory. She argues that urban transformation following the 1968 uprisings occurred when Washington, D.C. turned to local efforts to bring a systemized form of innovative governance to neighborhoods, attracting a new collective of the creative class. Johanna Bockman likewise discusses urban transformation through her research on restoration on Capitol Hill, in a single block. Bockman argues that restoration did not mean the preservation of buildings but rather the drawing of specific high-society residents to the area, elites often tied to Confederate-sympathizing, plantation-owning families. Finally, Joanna Wojdon addresses changing associations of memory and place through a single monument. She discusses the continuity and changes in the meaning of the monument of Thaddeus Kościuszko — the Polish hero of the American War of Independence. The monument, dedicated in Lafayette Park in Washington, D.C. in 1910, was recently damaged during Black Lives Matter protests. This panel provides an exploration of gentrification, restoration, and monumentalization while considering the communities these processes effect.

PANELISTS

Chocolate City to Chocolate Chip: Aesthetics of Urban Transformations – Murals, Music, Decor, and More

Jacqueline Carmichael ASID, CKD, NCIDQ,
Professor & Program Coordinator, Howard
University

D.C. Monument of Thaddeus Kościuszko and Its Changing Meaning

Joanna Wojdon, Professor, University of Wrocław,
Poland

Restoration that is Neither Historical nor Preserving: The Case of Capitol Hill in the 1940s and 1950s

Johanna Bockman, Professor, Sociology and
Global Affairs, George Mason University

CHAIR

Amanda Huron, Professor, Interdisciplinary
Social Sciences, University of the District of
Columbia



HISTORIC PRESERVATION: OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE?

FRIDAY
3:45 - 5:00 PM

DC's built environment reflects the diverse layers of history of its residents, but landmark listings on the DC Inventory of Historic Sites or National Register of Historic Places often fail to represent all those histories. In recent years, there has been an invigorated effort by preservationists, local organizations, and community members to promote and protect the many stories represented in Washington's historic places. This initiative requires identifying and nominating sites important to communities who have historically gone underrepresented in the Inventory and National Register.

Panelists from the DC Preservation League, 1882 Foundation, Quinn Evans, Prologue DC, LLC., and the DC Historic Preservation Office will describe their contributions to projects that address these absences in the landscape of resources currently deemed historic landmarks. Panelists will then explore the process of ensuring local and national protection of the places these projects recognize; identify obstacles that may arise; discuss the role of community activism in these initiatives; and delve into the importance of having these sites and their associated histories protected as historic landmarks or districts.

PANELISTS

Rebecca Miller, DC Preservation League

Kim Williams, DC Historic Preservation
Office, Office of Planning

Ted Gong, 1882 Foundation

Nakita Reed, Quinn Evans

Sarah Shoenfeld, Prologue, DC LLC

CHAIR

Jessica Kelly, Grants Management Specialist in
the State, Tribal, Local, Plans & Grants Division
of the National Park Service; Program Lead for
the Historically Black Colleges and Universities
(HBCU) preservation grant program



DC HISTORY AND JUSTICE COLLECTIVE: REMEMBERING RENO CITY WITH STUDENTS, TEACHERS, PARENTS, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

FRIDAY
5:15 - 6:30 PM

Reno City was once a vibrant neighborhood of over 150 families – both white and black – located adjacent to Wilson High School, encompassing 52 acres of land. Real estate companies and local municipal officers fighting against integrated neighborhoods in 1920s and 30s DC, systematically dismantled the neighborhood. Using manipulative ploys promising the construction of two new schools and creating a green park for the community, these bigoted forces displaced families from their homes. The Reno City community was destroyed — breaking up church congregations, closing Black businesses, and displacing children, parents, and grandparents from the very homes they owned and the community they loved.

This forum led by members of the DC History and Justice Collective (students, teachers, and parents) will highlight the frightening power of systemic racism in 20th century Washington, DC, by recognizing and sharing the stories of people from Reno City. This presentation will begin with a 15 minute pre-recorded video featuring student and community member voices who share the story of Reno City, followed by a forum style discussion.

PANELISTS

Marc Minsker, Teacher, Wilson High School

Judith Ingram, Parent, Wilson High School, DC History & Justice Collective co-founder

Athena Angelos, Graduate, Wilson High School, Archivist

James Fisher, descendant of families that lived at Reno City



film & discussion

KINDRED SPIRITS: ARTISTS HILDA WILKINSON BROWN AND LILIAN THOMAS BURWELL

FRIDAY
6:45 - 8:00 PM

The new half-hour documentary, "Kindred Spirits: Artists Hilda Wilkinson Brown and Lilian Thomas Burwell," examines the unique relationship between an African American aunt and niece who, despite the hardships of the Great Depression and the inequities of racial segregation, became accomplished artists and educators. This exploration of their lives and work is presented against a backdrop of a segregated Washington, D.C. where, denied the same access and opportunities as their white colleagues, black artists seized educational opportunities, became prominent faculty members of African American schools, and established their own venues to exhibit and publish their work. The screening will include a discussion and Q&A with producer Cintia Cabib. You can also hear more from Cabib in the Scholar Spotlight on Instagram.

Website: www.kindredspiritsfilm.com

PANELISTS

Cintia Cabib, Documentary Filmmaker



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

PANDEMIC PIVOT: HUMANITIESDC PROJECTS ON SHIFTING TERRAIN

SATURDAY
9:00 - 10:15 AM

When the world shut down in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, HumanitiesDC was supporting 40 active projects throughout the city, including 15 oral history projects that were slated to get started that March. Throughout the spring and summer, HDC grants managers and our community of public humanists worked together to find ways to both sustain and shift their work to account for the history unfolding in front of us. Oral historians experimented with remote interviewing techniques striving to maintain the intimacy of an in-person oral history experience. Documentary filmmakers wrapping up their projects pivoted to integrate stories of pandemic and protests. Youth-serving non-profits dealt with the fall-out from school shutdowns and dropping participation rates.

This forum of HumanitiesDC project directors who devised creative responses to the challenges of 2020 will discuss how they adapted, and in some cases even established new standards and methodologies for public humanities work which may stand for years to come.

CHAIRS

Jasper Collier, Deputy Director of Programs, HumanitiesDC
Andrea Carroll McNeil, HumanitiesDC Grants Manager

PANELISTS

Nicholas Lindner
Grant Program: DC Documentary Short Film
Project Name: "The Market"

Jewel Addy
Grant Program: DC Oral History Collaborative
Project Name: "See You There: the Corner at Whitman-Walker"

Rasha Abdulhadi
Grant Program: Soul of the City Youth Programs
Project Name: "Soul of the City Poetry Program"

Flonora Merritt
Grant Program: Humanities Vision
Project Name: "Fading Color: How Gentrification is Causing the Disappearance of DC's Black Community"

Akua Kouyate Grant Program: DC Oral History Collaborative
Project Name: "The Day Arthur Ashe and Robert Kennedy Played Tennis on Our Block"



CIVIL WAR WASHINGTON RE-IMAGINED: HISTORIC SITES, CLASSROOMS, AND THE LEGACIES OF THE PAST IN A TURBULENT SUMMER

SATURDAY
10:30 - 11:45 AM

Historic sites and classroom educators can work together to support meaningful teaching about historical complexities, particularly during a tumultuous year. The Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation Civil War Washington Institute is a longstanding professional development program for K-12 teachers. The workshop is organized by museum educators from Ford's Theatre, President Lincoln's Cottage, Tudor Place Historic House & Garden, Frederick Douglass National Historic Site, and the National Mall and Memorial Parks. While D.C. historic sites often host national field trips, this workshop provides teachers with tools to discuss the legacies of the Civil War in their classrooms by exploring D.C. history — local stories that reverberate nationwide. In this forum, presenters will assess 2020 program goals and methods, informed by teacher feedback. Museum partners update strategies yearly, but this year presented unique challenges requiring responsive programming. Re-imagining the power of place, the group found a reflective space online using Zoom and other tools. Against the backdrop of protest, participants examined identity and perspective. Because the Civil War and Reconstruction remain relevant, presenters will also identify areas for growth to better connect historic sites and classrooms.

PANELISTS

Joan Cummins, Program Assistant, President Lincoln's Cottage

Callie Hawkins, Director of Programming, President Lincoln's Cottage

Jennifer Epstein, Education Specialist, National Park Service, National Mall and Memorial Parks

Jake Flack, Associate Director of Museum Education, Ford's Theatre

Lauren Rever, Student, Universität Heidelberg

Hillary Rothberg, Director of Education & Visitor Services, Tudor Place History House & Garden



★ all-access program

HIGHLIGHTING THE HOUSEHOLD STAFF: A VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE HEURICH HOUSE MUSEUM

SATURDAY
12:00 - 1:15 PM

Join us for a live digital journey through the Heurich mansion... with a focus on the household staff who worked there! Heurich House Museum Education Manager Jenna Febrizio will be your tour guide, taking you through the historic home's Victorian-era interiors, exploring behind-the-scenes spaces that are not typically featured on public tours, and revealing innovative technology used by the Heurich family's household staff. Museum Collections Manager Allison LaCroix will spotlight some items from the museum's collections! This tour will connect to the information Jenna presents during the conference panel "Domestic Histories," and will include room for live Q&A.



 **HEURICH HOUSE**
MUSEUM THE BREWMASTER'S CASTLE



★ all-access program

LINCOLN'S TOUGHEST DECISIONS

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S COTTAGE VIRTUAL PROGRAM

**SATURDAY
1:30 - 3:00 PM**



While in residence at the Cottage, Lincoln faced an impressive slate of challenges as president, including the pressing question of what to do about slavery. In this multi-faceted and interactive virtual program, learn about how this place influenced his thinking on the subject and work in small groups to explore historical documents that showcase the perspectives of his adversaries, allies, and friends. Led by a museum facilitator, gain insight into Lincoln's leadership as you recreate their heated discussions on emancipation and grapple for yourself with the tough questions Lincoln had to consider as he developed his landmark idea: the Emancipation Proclamation.

**only the first 50 registrants to purchase an All-Access or Supporter registrations will have access to this tour.*





VIRTUAL POSTER SESSION — INSTAGRAM

Posters will be presented virtually on **Instagram** as posts including images and text. Presenters designed digital posters and videos explaining their projects. Find posters on Instagram during the two weeks preceding the conference. Posters will be asynchronous, available 24/7 to view at your convenience.

Archaeology in and of a Pandemic: the 1832 Cholera Epidemic

Ruth Troccoli, *DC Archaeologist, DC Historic Preservation Office (HPO)*

Christine Ames, *Assistant Archaeologist DC HPO*

Delande Justinvil, *doctoral candidate, Anthropology, American University*

Dr. Mark Herlong, *Independent Scholar*

DC Music: Collaborative and Digital Stories

Sojin Kim, *Curator*

"DC: The Social Power of Music" program presented by the Smithsonian Folklife Festival

Nichole Procopenko, *Co-Curator*

"Ghost" Tour: Demolished Sites Come Back to Life in DC Historic Sites

Kathryn Morgan, *Student, American University, DC Preservation League Fellow*

Memorializing the Great War: The D.C. War Memorial and Contemporary Issues of Representation on the National Mall

Joseph Sherren, *Researcher*

Queering Coronavirus: Community Resources from the HIV Epidemic in the Time of COVID-19

Kai Walther, *Student, American University*

Beyond The Arch: Residency, Resilience, and Relevance in D.C.'s Chinatown

Leah Baer, *Student, American University*

Jack Cunningham, *Student, American University*

Sarah Fling, *Student, American University*

Cameron Sandlin, *Student, American University*

From Redemption to Neurosis: White Single Motherhood at the Washington, D.C. Florence Crittenton Home, 1896 – 1983

Jenna Goff, *Student, American University*

How pieces of the Capitol landed in the Smithsonian

Aaron DeNu, *Independent Researcher*

Memories of a Market

Alyssa Stein, *EHT Traceries*

Women's Voices: An Oral History of DC Women

Judy Hubbard, *Project Manager*

Pamela R. Johnson, *President, WNDC Educational Foundation*

1881 International Sanitary Conference Map

Jackie Streker, *Albert H. Small*

Washingtoniana Collection, The George Washington University Museum and The Textile Museum



HISTORY NETWORK — SOCIAL MEDIA

The History Network will be presented across the conference **social media** (@DCHistCon). Participants created posts highlighting their organization and current projects. Find the History Network on social media during the two weeks preceding the conference, appearing asynchronously, available 24/7 to view at your convenience.

- The Albert H. Small Washingtoniana Collection
- Arlington Historical Society
- DC Historic Preservation Office
- DC History Center
- DC Photographic History
- DC Preservation League
- District Department of Transportation
- FREED - Female RE-Enactors of Distinction
- Marymount University
- Military Road School Preservation Trust & the Civil Defenses of Washington (NPS)
- The People's Archive at DC Public Library
- Prologue DC, LLC:
Mapping Segregation in Washington DC
- Smithsonian Institution Archives
- Washington Walks

SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHT — INSTAGRAM

The Scholar Spotlight is an opportunity to recognize individual scholar's work. Presented via short videos on **Instagram (IGTV)**, presenters will share a bit about their project. Find scholar spotlights on Instagram during the week of the conference, appearing asynchronously, available 24/7 to view at your convenience.

“
**BY BROAD
POTOMAC'S SHORE:
GREAT POEMS
FROM THE EARLY
DAYS OF OUR
NATION'S CAPITAL**
”

Kim Roberts, Independent Scholar

By Broad Potomac's Shore: Great Poems from the Early Days of Our Nation's Capital is a comprehensive anthology edited by Kim Roberts featuring both well-known and overlooked poets working and living in Washington, D.C. from the city's founding in 1800 to 1930. Roberts expertly presents the work of 132 poets, including poems by such celebrated writers as Francis Scott Key, Walt Whitman, Henry Adams, Frederick Douglass, Ambrose Bierce, James Weldon Johnson, and Paul Laurence Dunbar as well as the work of lesser-known poets—especially women, writers of color, and working-class writers. A significant number of the poems are by writers who were born enslaved, such as Fanny Jackson Coppin, T. Thomas Fortune, and John John Sella Martin. Christopher Sten calls this “a marvelously rich and satisfying project—a comprehensive treasure trove of poems and a valuable contribution to our understanding of Washington's literary history.”

“
**HONORING HISTORY
THROUGH STORIES:
40 STORIES FOR
40 YEARS**
”

Jewel Addy, Director of Communications,
Whitman-Walker Health

Website: bit.ly/ww40stories

Whitman-Walker operates a community-centered enterprise that provides whole-person healthcare to the greater DMV. We empower all persons to live healthy, love openly, and achieve equality and inclusion. The [40 Stories for 40 Years](#), digital, multimedia story series highlights programs, locations and people as part of Whitman-Walker’s 40th anniversary in 2018. Watch [“Fearless at 40: The Story of Whitman-Walker”](#), an hour-long documentary on Whitman-Walker’s shared history with community. Whitman-Walker was a DC Oral History Collaborative (DCOHC) grant recipient in 2017, 2019, and 2020. To learn more this project, visit the Whitman-Walker website.

“
**GUIDE TO
INDIGENOUS DC**
”

Elizabeth Rule, Director, AT&T Center for Indigenous Politics and Policy, Professor of Professional Studies, and Faculty in Residence at George Washington University

Explore the app:
Guide to Indigenous DC

In Summer 2019, Rule created the [Guide to Indigenous DC](#), which received media coverage on more than thirty outlets. The Guide to Indigenous DC deploys mapping technology and application development to confront the national myth of Indigenous invisibility. By highlighting sites of importance to Native peoples within, and contributions to, Washington D.C., the Guide to Indigenous DC showcases the empowering stories of how this prominent city is a place of tribal gathering, presence, and advocacy with a long, rich history. Dr. Rule is currently expanding this project as a MIT Solve Indigenous Communities Fellow.

Rule is an enrolled citizen of the Chickasaw Nation. Rule’s research on issues in her Native American community has been featured in popular and scholarly publications. Public speaking engagements and interviews on topics related to Indian Country have taken her across three continents and to seven countries.

“
**KINDRED SPIRITS:
ARTISTS HILDA
WILKINSON BROWN
AND LILIAN THOMAS
BURWELL**
”

Cintia Cabib, Documentary Filmmaker
Website: www.kindredspiritsfilm.com

The new half-hour documentary, "Kindred Spirits: Artists Hilda Wilkinson Brown and Lilian Thomas Burwell," examines the unique relationship between an African American aunt and niece who, despite the hardships of the Great Depression and the inequities of racial segregation, became accomplished artists and educators. This exploration of their lives and work is presented against a backdrop of a segregated Washington, D.C. where, denied the same access and opportunities as their white colleagues, black artists seized educational opportunities, became prominent faculty members of African American schools, and established their own venues to exhibit and publish their work. Join us for a screening on Friday night, and learn more from Cintia Cabib in the Scholar Spotlight. To learn more about the film, visit the website.

“
**LOCALLY PLAYED:
HOW HISTORY
AT PLAY CAN
STRENGTHEN
NEIGHBORHOODS**
”

Benjamin Stokes, Professor,
American University

This new book from MIT Press traces the rise of games that strengthen neighborhoods and circulate local history. Playing in parks and streets has always been a great way to meet our neighbors. In a digital age, the tactics for playful organizing are expanding, and the implications for cities are growing with new forms of real-world action. Pioneering cities, as different from each other as Mexico City and Macon, Georgia, are investing in games as a way to advance local goals and build local cohesion. This book traces how recent games for cities have circulated hidden history, helped contest the legitimacy of historic sites, and to crowd-source the collection of local stories. Local author Benjamin Stokes of American University will highlight some of the fascinating opportunities for DC historians and activists; recent collaborations include DC-specific games created with the DC Public Library and the Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum.

D.C. HISTORY CONFERENCE



THE CONFERENCE IS SPONSORED BY:



DC Preservation League

The mission of the DC Preservation League is to preserve, protect, and enhance the historic and built environment of Washington, DC, through advocacy and education.



HumanitiesDC

The mission of HumanitiesDC is to enrich the quality of life, foster intellectual stimulation, and promote cross-cultural understanding and appreciation of local history in all neighborhoods of the District through humanities programs and grants.



AARP Virginia

AARP is the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering Americans 50 and older to choose how they live as they age. AARP works to strengthen communities and advocate with a focus on health security, financial stability and personal fulfillment.



The Association of Oldest Inhabitants of the District of Columbia

As Washington's oldest civic organization, the Association of Oldest Inhabitants is dedicated to preserving D.C.'s heritage. It was founded in 1865 to foster pride in the nation's capital.



The Family of Letitia Woods Brown

Letitia Woods Brown, historian and educator, brought her singular intellect and tenacity to colleagues and students at Howard University and George Washington University. The Letitia Woods Brown Memorial Lecture is named in her memory.



Georgetown University Press

We publish authors whose ideas will shape our collective future and inspire readers to know the world better. Our books and resources enable readers to reach across barriers, locally and globally, to engage with one another. Our publishing embodies the Georgetown University ideals.



Digital Conventions

Digital Conventions' event digital signage solutions provide organizations the tools and technology to deliver key event information, powerful marketing messages, real-time event updates.

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



Smithsonian
Anacostia Community Museum

Anacostia Community Museum

Together with local communities, the Anacostia Community Museum illuminates and amplifies our collective power. ACM documents and preserves communities' memories, struggles, and successes, and offers a platform where diverse voices and cultures can be heard.



Arlington Historical Society

The Arlington Historical Society is a nonprofit educational organization incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia. AHS conducts research, preserves and disseminates knowledge relating to the history, archaeology, material culture, and geographical and socio-economic development of Arlington County, Virginia.



DC Historic Preservation Office

The Historic Preservation Office (HPO) in the Office of Planning promotes stewardship of the District of Columbia's historic and cultural resources through planning, protection and public outreach. HPO is the staff for the Historic Preservation Review Board and Mayor's Agent for historic preservation, and also houses the State Historic Preservation Office.



DC Office of Planning

DC Office of Planning's mission is to guide development of the District, including the preservation and revitalization of our distinctive neighborhoods, by informing decisions, advancing strategic goals, encouraging the highest quality outcomes, and engaging all communities.



DC Office of Public Records

The Office of Public Records schedules, collects, stores and manages records of the District government through the services of the District of Columbia Archives, Records Center and the Library of Governmental Information.

D.C. HISTORY CONFERENCE



DC Public Library

The District of Columbia Public Library is a vibrant center of activity for residents and visitors in the nation's capital. The library provides environments that invite reading, learning and community discussion and equips people to learn all their lives, to embrace diversity and to build a thriving city



Heurich House Museum

The Heurich House Museum works to reinvent the traditional historic house museum model by bridging Heurich's world with modern DC. The museum actively conserves the building, grounds, and significant original collections, and intentionally uses its resources to enrich the entire community.



Marymount University

Founded in 1950 Marymount is a comprehensive Catholic university offering a wide array of undergraduate and graduate degrees. Its History Program offers BAs specializing in either American or European History as well as a minor in Public History.



President Lincoln's Cottage

President Lincoln's Cottage is an historic site and museum located in the Petworth neighborhood of Northwest Washington, D.C. Through innovative guided tours, exhibits and programs, we use Lincoln's example to inspire visitors to take their own path to greatness, and preserve this place as an authentic, tangible connection to the past and a beacon of hope.



Public History Program at American University

The Master of Arts in Public History opens the door to careers in museums, cultural tourism, community history, historic preservation, cultural resource management, libraries, archives, new media, and many other professional fields.



Smithsonian Institution Archives

The Smithsonian Institution Archives collects, preserves, and makes available the history of the Smithsonian.

DC HISTORY CONFERENCE



March 31 to April 2, 2022



Welcome

The DC Public Library Foundation

is proud to sponsor the 48th Annual DC History Conference
at the newly modernized Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library.

The DC Public Library Foundation partners with the DC Public Library to enhance Washington, DC's public libraries, bringing private philanthropy together with government support to ensure that our libraries deliver the highest quality of service to the District's residents. With the help of many generous people, the Foundation provides educational programs for children and youth, workforce development training, cultural events, and collection enhancements for DC's libraries.

The permanent exhibit *Up from the People*, on the fourth floor of the MLK Library, was made possible, in part, with support from the DC Public Library Foundation.



DC Public Library

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CO-PRESENTED BY



DC Public Library

ABOUT THE DC HISTORY CONFERENCE

The DC History Conference is an interdisciplinary, community conference considering the past, present, and future of the District. The conference is co-presented by the DC History Center and DC Public Library, sponsored by the Graduate Program in Public History at American University, made possible by a grant from HumanitiesDC, and organized by a volunteer planning committee.

Since 1973, the conference organizers have aimed to provide a welcoming, educational, and stimulating forum for original research on and engagement with the history of the Washington, DC metropolitan area, including Maryland, Virginia, and the federal government.

CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Rina Alfonso, RGD, Studio Aorta

Mike Amezcua, PhD, Georgetown University

Mariana Barros-Titus, DC History Center

Mark Benbow, PhD, Marymount University/
Arlington Historical Society

Kimberly Bender, Heurich House Museum

Natalie Campbell (Committee Chair),
DC Public Library

Mark Greek, DC Public Library

Laura Brower Hagood, DC History Center

Karen L. Harris, DC History Center

Dominique Hazzard, John Hopkins University

Linnea Hegarty, DC Public Library

Crystal Hurd, Charles Sumner School
Museum and Archives

Julianna Jackson, DC Historic Preservation Office

Angela Kramer, Friends of Peirce Mill

Melyssa Laureano, DC Preservation League

Lily Liu, Liu Consultants

Lina Mann, White House Historical Association

Kathryn Morgan (Conference Manager/Junior Designer), DC History Center/Studio Aorta

Tracey Mullery, HumanitiesDC

Emily Niekrasz, Smithsonian Institution Archives

Maren Orchard (Program Manager),
DC History Center

Andrea Pedolsky, Cleveland Park
Historical Society

Amy Yeboah Quarkume, PhD, Howard University

Glenn C Reimer, Rainbow History Project

M.J. Rymsza-Pawlowska, PhD (Committee Chair),
Public History Program, American University

Trisha Smith, Trinity Washington University

Domonique Spear, DC History Center

Kimberly Springle, Charles Sumner School
Museum and Archives

Ruth Trocolli, DC Historic Preservation Office

PROGRAM

John DeFerrari, Editor

Studio Aorta, Art Direction and Graphic Design

GUIDE TO THE CONFERENCE

The 2022 DC History Conference in-person sessions take place at the **Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library**. You'll find the majority of conference sessions located in the **Conference Center** on the fourth floor of the library. Feature events will take place in the **Great Hall** on the first floor and the **Rooftop** on the fifth floor.

The **Letitia Wood Brown Memorial Lecture** featuring Marcia Chatelain on Thursday night is the only session hosted by **Charles Sumner School Museum and Archives**—a long-standing DC History Conference tradition.

Why no theme?

As many DC History Conference attendees, presenters, and volunteers may notice, there is no designated theme this year. Instead, the program committee made the decision to cast a wide net to all DC history researchers to propose their own session, unrelated to a theme. This resulted in a record number of submissions of all types. Two conference subthemes emerged, influencing the program creation from content to design to keynotes: the history of arts and culture and of education. These through-lines appear in the conference sessions and invite you to consider why the themes matter so deeply to Washingtonians.

What's on the program?

The program is laid out chronologically. Find the schedule-at-a-glance for a quick preview of content. Each panel in the main program calls out these aspects: **Keywords** help you quickly identify what a panel is about. **Descriptions** provide a greater level of detail about that panel. **Presenters** tell you who to expect in the room. As a new feature this year, the program designates sessions that might be of particular interest for **K-12 education**, either reflecting on the history of education in DC or directly relating to curriculum standards. For more, see "**For Educators.**"

In addition two **Keynotes**, one on Friday and one on Saturday, spotlight topics designed to bring the entire audience together in a single session with no other events competing in that hour.

Keep your eye out for special features, including the **History Network, Reception, and Poster Session**. Each of these are community-building, social opportunities. Connect with organizations, ongoing research projects, and other scholars and history enthusiasts about their work. Celebrate our collective work and meet with other conference presenters and attendees!

What kind of panels should I expect?

In the fall when the Conference Committee invited submissions, the form prompted presenters to categorize their session as one of the following: Individual Presentation, Panel Proposals, Group Conversations, and Creative Expressions. Accepted individual presentations were grouped into single panels under a common theme. You can find this distinction in the program where three presentation titles are listed underneath the session name. We envisioned Group Conversations to bring audience members into the dialogue, and Creative Expressions were a new type designed to encourage creativity, arts, and unique program formats.

Who's the moderator?

Each panel includes a **moderator**. Moderators are responsible for introducing panels, keeping time, and putting presenters in conversation with each other. They will also guide the Q&A in the last part of the session.

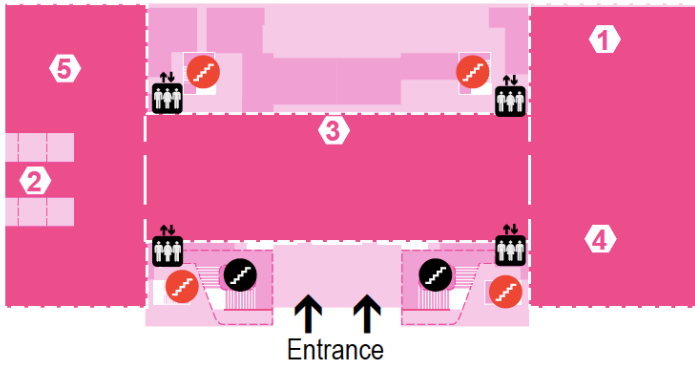
What's a hybrid program?

This year, the conference is **in person** with online components, making it a hybrid program. Each day consists of multiple sessions, designated by letters A-F. Each session block features three to four panel options. For the best experience, plan to attend **in person**, allowing you to select from all panels. But in order to meet you where you're at, select conference sessions will be livestreamed via Zoom. You can tune in and learn some new DC history wherever you are.



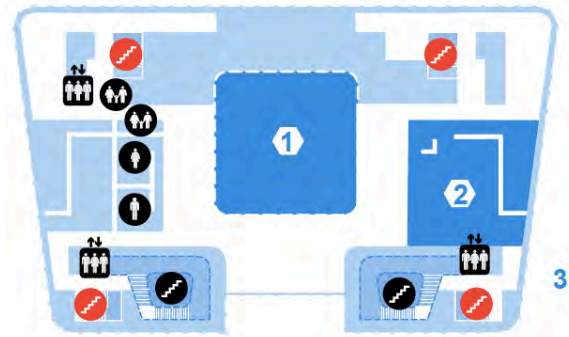
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. MEMORIAL LIBRARY

901 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20001



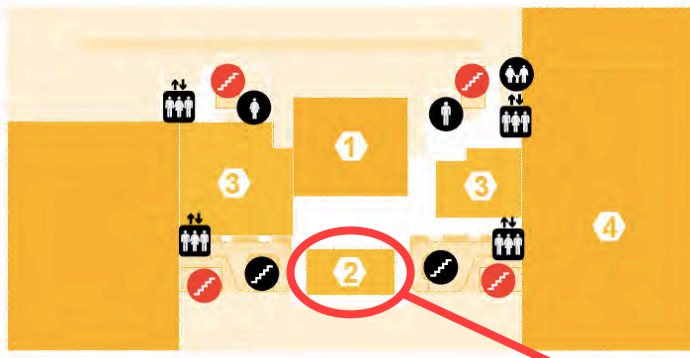
Great Hall, 1st Floor

- 1 Marianne's Café
- 2 Co-Working
- 3 History Network/Poster Session
- 4 New Books
- 5 Public Computers



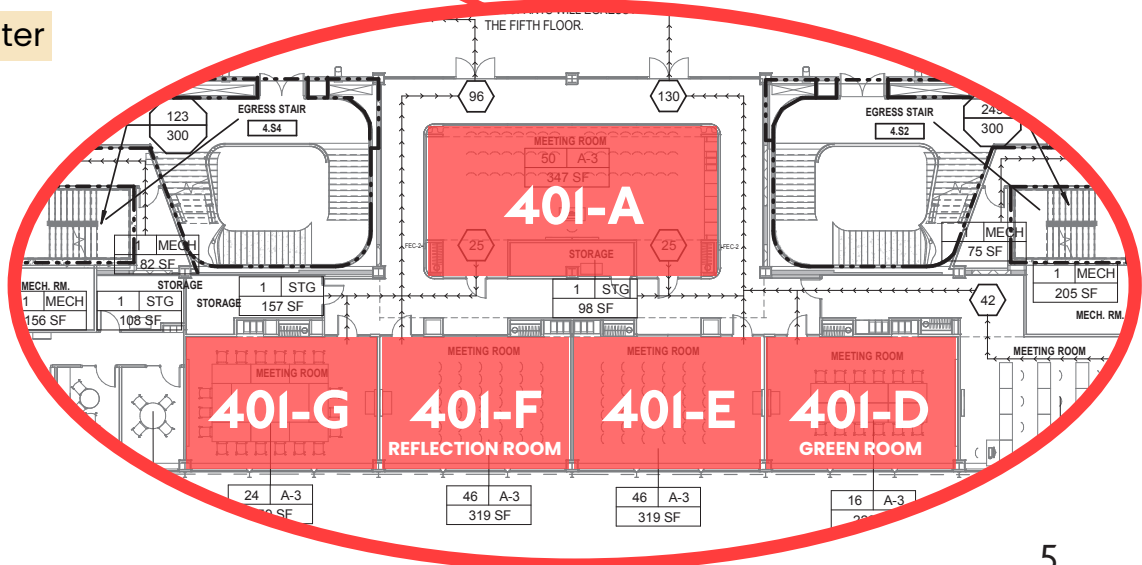
Reception Area, 5th Floor

- 1 Auditorium
- 2 Reception
- 3 Roof



Conference Center, 4th Floor

- 1 Auditorium
- 2 Conference Center
- 3 Exhibits
- 4 Local History



FOR EDUCATORS

Education is at the heart of the DC History Conference’s goals. To encourage young historians, the conference offers a platform to share their work. Educators can easily identify relevant **curricular connections** for their classrooms by reviewing sessions highlighted below. On this page, see spotlighted student-led and education-focused panels to inspire the K-12 audience to dream of the possibilities for their original research and classrooms.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, SESSION A 10:30 – 11:45 AM

The Invalid Corps: A Documentary

Keywords: 19th Century, Dis/ability History, Military History, Civil War History

SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION STANDARDS:

5.5.5 Describe the experience of the war on the battlefield and home front.

8.11.8. Explain how the war affected combatants, civilians, the physical environment, and future warfare.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, SESSION A 10:30 – 11:45 AM

African American Activism, Enfranchisement, and Empowerment in 20th-Century DC

“We Need a New Society”: The Far-Reaching Vision of the DC Statehood Party

Keywords: 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Black History, Community History, Neighborhood History, Civic Engagement, Statehood

EDUCATION STANDARDS:

12.DC.15. Students describe efforts to overcome discrimination in employment, public accommodations, housing, and education in the District (examine the National Committee on Segregation) and explain the local and national effects of these efforts.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, SESSION D 10:30 – 11:45 AM

Capturing the Voices of Black Career Educators: A Critical Race Analysis

Keywords: Black History, Cultural History, Education, Sociology

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, SESSION E 12:00 – 1:15 PM

Race, Place and Real Estate: Family Journeys

Keywords: Black History, Community History, Cultural History, Economic History, Indigenous History, Student Presentation

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, SESSION F 3:00 – 4:15 PM

Black Education Legacies: Remembering DC Schools

Keywords: Activism/Advocacy, Black History, Community History, Education, Historic Preservation

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, KEYNOTE 4:30 – 5:30 PM

A Mixtape from the 2021–2022 Great Migration Oral History Project

Keywords: 20th Century, Black History, Community History, Student Presentation

Accessibility and Social Media

This is the most accessible DC History Conference yet. Conference attendees can register for free and join us in person, onsite for conference sessions, including the Poster Session and History Network. Select panels will be livestreamed to virtual attendees with live transcription.

If you miss a session you wanted to see, don't worry! Select conference sessions will be recorded and made available on YouTube with closed captioning after the conference.

To request a reasonable accommodation, including ASL interpretation, please contact the DC Public Library's Center for Accessibility seven (7) days in advance at 202-727-2141 or by emailing DCPLaccess@dc.gov. During the conference, please contact the staff at the registration desk.

These services were made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Get excited for the 2022 DC History Conference by following us online. Leading up to the conference, you'll find:

- Poster Session sneak peeks
- Panel Session insights
- Project Spotlights

During the conference, watch for behind-the-scenes previews and live updates. But don't just listen. Join the fun! Share your unique conference experience with your followers and networks on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. If you're a virtual participant, all the more reason to start a conversation online. Include our handle [@dchistcon](https://www.instagram.com/dchistcon) and the conference hashtag, [#DCHistCon](https://www.instagram.com/hashtag/DCHistCon), to join the conversation.





March 31, 2022

Dear Friends,

After two years of pandemic, the 48th annual DC History Conference is a welcome reunion. The magic of this conference is not only in the sessions, but in chance encounters and casual conversations in the hallway between lectures. In these brief exchanges, we express our care for each other, but those first words quickly lead down a path of learning and discovery.

Exploring DC history together is to engage with moments of injustice, as well as inspiring instances of resistance and determination. We glean unforeseen insights and new information. This opportunity to gather and share together in an inviting space is no longer one we take for granted.

Indeed, in planning this conference, we continuously confronted the possibility that we would need to pivot to a virtual conference, but we remained hopeful that we would convene here, together, at the beautiful Martin Luther King Jr. Library.

Luckily we landed on a bit of both, with a heaping portion of accessibility. The DC History Conference is presented in a hybrid model, offering programming in-person and virtually to those at home—meeting people where they are. Select sessions can be livestreamed and are recorded to be made available on YouTube. The conference is also free for all to attend, thanks in part to those of you who generously donated at registration.

I warmly thank the generous supporters and sponsors who believed in this gathering of DC history enthusiasts, with a special shout-out to Humanities DC, American University, the DC Public Library Foundation, and the DC Office of the Secretary. Our deep appreciation goes to the Planning Committee. Their thoughtful dedication to diverse and inclusive programming makes this program nothing short of a victory each year.

The volunteer Planning Committee joins me in acknowledging DC History Center Program Manager Maren Orchard and Conference Manager Kathryn Morgan, a recent graduate of American University's public history master's program, whose dedicated planning and rigorous project management have brought us together.

Now, a warm welcome to this year's DC History Conference! I look forward learning from your passions, whether during a panel discussion, a poster board, or brief encounter during coffee break—and what an honor and pleasure it will be.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L".

Laura Brower Hagood
Executive Director



Dear Friends,

I am thrilled to welcome you to the newly modernized Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library for the 48th annual DC History Conference. We are especially pleased that this gathering of scholars, students, and D.C. history enthusiasts marks the first multi-day event to be held in the new library, and we look forward to two days of discovery and celebration.

As we were planning for the modernization of the MLK Library, we heard from the community that it was important for the building itself to represent the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. and to tell the stories of local activists and artists who have influenced the city. Through Nekisha Durrett's artwork at the library's entrance; the Alma Thomas paintings outside the Children's Room on the 2nd floor; the temporary exhibits on the 1st floor; and more, we aimed to show the diversity and beauty of life in the District.

The 4th floor, where the DC History Conference is being held, is the centerpiece of the Library's efforts to share knowledge about the District's history. Our permanent exhibit, *Up from the People*, provides a fresh look at the issues that moved local activists and Martin Luther King Jr. to take action for justice. It also highlights local politics and history through displays on D.C. Mayor for Life Marion Barry, D.C. home rule, and the cultural impact of go-go and punk music.

These exhibits provide a portal for engagement with the library's resources, most importantly, the local history collections of The People's Archive, where diverse stories — past and present — are preserved and amplified. The archive houses the DC Community Archives, the Washingtoniana Collection, Black Studies, and more. Many of the presenters and attendees of the Conference have contributed material to the Archive and use them on a regular basis. Whether you are a frequent or first-time visitor, we invite you to explore these resources further.

We are grateful to the DC History Center for their leadership in planning the conference, to HumanitiesDC and American University for their partnership, and to the DC Public Library Foundation for its sponsorship. We especially thank the volunteers of the planning committee for their commitment to hosting compelling, groundbreaking discussions about our city's history and culture. Most importantly, we thank you — the scholars, students, activists, and history buffs who are creating new scholarship and telling new stories, deepening our understanding of the wonderful city we live in.

Enjoy the conference,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Reyes-Gavilan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Richard Reyes-Gavilan
Executive Director

LETITIA WOODS BROWN MEMORIAL LECTURE

Sumner School Museum and Archives

1201 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20036

March 31, 6:00 – 8:00 PM

MARCIA CHATELAIN, PHD

The Other Franchise Fight: Fast Food and Black Freedom from U Street to Capitol Hill

In the 1970s, the United States was under the spell of a franchise frenzy, with fast food outlets popping up across cities overnight. These businesses not only catered to hankerings for burgers and fried chicken, but they also played a key role in the reinvigorated campaigns to use Black capitalism as a tool for civil and economic rights. Marcia Chatelain uses her award-winning research on Black communities and McDonald's to delve into the ways that the District played a central role in the complicated relationship between Black consumers and drive-thru civil rights. By examining the rise of Black fast food franchisees in the city, as well as the various pleas for more regulation of franchises on behalf of Black franchisees, Dr. Chatelain explains why DC is so important to understanding fast food's dominance today.

ABOUT LETITIA WOODS BROWN

The DC History Conference celebrates historian and educator Letitia Woods Brown with this annual lecture featuring a distinguished scholar of DC history. With the support of the Murray family, we honor Letitia Woods Brown for her influence on our study of DC history.

Letitia Woods Brown, historian and educator, brought her singular intellect and tenacity to colleagues and students at Howard University and George Washington University during the pivotal 1960s and 1970s. She was born in Tuskegee, Alabama, on October 24, 1915, to a family with deep roots at Tuskegee Institute. She received a BS from Tuskegee, taught grade school in Alabama, and went on to graduate studies at Ohio State University and Harvard University. Dr. Brown's dissertation centered on free and enslaved African Americans in DC. After completing her PhD in history at Harvard in 1966, she taught at Howard University. Dr. Brown was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship and in 1971 joined the faculty of George Washington University, where she remained until her untimely passing in 1976.





MARCIA CHATELAIN, PHD

Marcia Chatelain is a Professor of History and African American Studies at Georgetown University. The author of ***South Side Girls: Growing up in the Great Migration*** (Duke University Press, 2015) she teaches about women's and girls' history, as well as Black capitalism. Her latest book, ***Franchise: The Golden Arches in Black America*** (Liveright Publishing Co./W.W. Norton, 2020) examines the intricate relationship among African American politicians, civil rights organizations, communities, and the fast food industry. In 2021, Chatelain's *Franchise* received the Pulitzer Prize in History, the Hagley Prize in Business History, and the Organization of American Historians (OAH) Lawrence W. Levine Award. An active public speaker and educational consultant, Chatelain has received awards and honors from the Ford Foundation, the American Association of University Women, and the German Marshall Fund of the United States. At Georgetown, she has won several teaching awards. In 2016, the Chronicle of Higher Education named her a Top Influencer in academia in recognition of her social media campaign #FergusonSyllabus, which implored educators to facilitate discussions about the crisis in Ferguson, Missouri in 2014. She has held an Eric and Wendy Schmidt Fellowship at New America, a National Endowment for the Humanities Faculty Fellowship, and an Andrew Carnegie Fellowship.

FRIDAY

APRIL 1

FRIDAY, APRIL 1

SESSION A 10:30 – 11:45 AM

DC's Asian American Heritage: Engaging the Community and Preserving Its History

Keywords: 19th Century, 20th Century, 21st Century, Asian American History, Historic Preservation

ROOM 401-G

How do you capture and celebrate the history of an underrepresented group like DC's Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders? The speakers on this panel are part of a project called "AAPI in DC: Here in Plain Sight," which identifies, documents, and preserves Asian American history in Washington, DC. Through a series of "lightning talk" presentations, each team member will highlight a different site, theme, or activity they have pursued to collect stories, experiences, photos, and artifacts that illuminate the places and spaces of significance for DC Asian American history. They will share their highly collaborative approach and expansive ways of conducting archival research, oral histories, and fieldwork, particularly given ongoing COVID-19 restrictions. The project is part of the 1882 Foundation and is funded by the National Park Service's Underrepresented Communities Grant program and in partnership with the DC Historic Preservation Office and the DC Preservation League.

PRESENTERS:

Wei N. Gan, Project Director, 1882 Foundation/ PhD Candidate, Princeton University

Sojin Kim, PhD, Senior Consultant, 1882 Foundation/ Curator, Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage

Grace Dahye Kwon, Curatorial Assistant, Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage

Emma Lucier-Keller, Research Assistant, 1882 Foundation/University of Maryland

Mia Owens, Research Assistant, 1882 Foundation/American University

Claudia Vinci, Research Assistant, 1882 Foundation/American University

Mengshu Ye, Research Assistant, 1882 Foundation/American University

Karen Yee, Research Assistant, 1882 Foundation/University of Maryland

MODERATOR:

Michelle G. Magalong, PhD, Senior Consultant, 1882 Foundation/ Postdoctoral Associate, University of Maryland and President, Asian and Pacific Islander Americans in Historic Preservation

The Evolution of Hand Dance in Washington, DC

Keywords: Arts & Culture, Community History, Cultural History, Music, Dance

AUDITORIUM

Hand Dance is a contemporary swing-style partner dance that has been a social dance form for nearly 60 years, and DC Hand Dance is the official dance of the District of Columbia. The National Hand Dance Association's (NHDA) mission is to "Preserve, Educate and Promote the Art Form of Hand Dance." As few people know about hand dance, NHDA's goal is to educate and raise awareness as well as to record the history of hand dance. NHDA will showcase several hand dance styles showing the evolution of the dance from the classic styles of the 1960s to today's contemporary style. Both performance and education, hand dance is best learned through experience! A brief lesson will be included for the audience.

PRESENTERS:

Jacque Ballard, President, National Hand Dance Association

Maxine Grant, 2nd Vice President, National Hand Dance Association

Lawrence Bradford, 3rd Vice President, National Hand Dance Association

The Invalid Corps: A Documentary

Keywords: 19th Century, Dis/ability History, Military History, Civil War History

ROOM 401-E

In addition to the over 600,000 soldiers killed during the Civil War, more than 40,000 suffered amputated limbs, and even more endured other debilitating injuries and illnesses. Hospitals in Washington, DC, housed thousands of soldiers recuperating from injuries incurred on nearby battlefields. In July 1864, a Confederate Army of 15,000 advanced on Washington, DC. Because the Union Army had sent every able-bodied soldier to a raging siege at Petersburg, all who were left to defend Washington were clerks, government officials, and the Invalid Corps, made up of soldiers injured in battle or sickened by disease. Deemed "hopeless cripples," the Invalid Corps held the enemy at bay for a desperate 24 hours until Union General Ulysses S. Grant sent reinforcements. This documentary tells their often-overlooked story. After the screening, the director will discuss the themes of the documentary.

PRESENTER:

Day Al-Mohamed, Author, Filmmaker, and Disability Policy Strategist based in the DMV area

African American Activism, Enfranchisement, and Empowerment in 20th Century DC

This panel offers three different views of African American-led grassroots efforts to claim a place of equality in the city's social life, public spaces, and civil affairs.

Keywords: 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Black History, Civic Engagement, Community History, Neighborhood History

ROOM 401-A, LIVESTREAM

MODERATOR:

Khaleelah Harris, Curator/Graduate Student, Howard University

The Capital Was Never a Paradise: Mary Church Terrell and the Struggle for Racial Equality

Keywords: 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Black History, Community History, Neighborhood History

PRESENTER:

Alisa Hardy, Doctoral Student, University of Maryland

Mary Church Terrell was a public orator and writer who used her platform to advocate for the liberation of African Americans. Her speech, "What it Means to be Colored in the Capital of the United States," was delivered at the United Women's Club in Washington, DC on October 10, 1906. In this speech, Terrell challenged the belief that DC was a "paradise" for African American people by illustrating how systemic barriers to education, housing, and jobs hindered them from obtaining full citizenship. African Americans, as Terrell assessed, were excluded from public spaces such as theaters, restaurants, hospitals, and schools, which impacted their capacity to enjoy the nation's capital. The presenter will explore the contextual elements surrounding Terrell's speech to demonstrate the various ideologies and barriers that restricted equitable participation for African Americans in civic life.

Caring in Public: The Struggle for Community Park West

Keywords: 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Black History, Community History, Neighborhood History, Civic Engagement

PRESENTER:

Amanda Huron, PhD, Associate Professor, University of the District of Columbia

In the 1960s, a group of Black teenagers in Adams Morgan took over a four-acre, overgrown vacant lot. They needed a place to play because their neighborhood was short on recreational space. Over the years, they worked with neighbors to create an informal community-run park. Dubbed Community Park West, it became a place for ball games, gardening, festivals, dances, politicking, and many more expressions of community life. When property values started rising in the 1970s and the lot's owners decided to sell it to develop luxury townhomes, the neighborhood fought back—and won. This is the story of how a group of neighbors organized to create and preserve public space amid the pressures of a red-hot real estate market—a story relevant to our own times.

“We Need a New Society”: The Far-Reaching Vision of the DC Statehood Party

Keywords: 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Black History, Community History, Neighborhood History, Civil Engagement, Statehood

PRESENTER:

Tim Kumfer, Doctoral Candidate, University of Maryland

The radical origins of the modern struggle for DC statehood began over 50 years ago. Emerging from Black Power and New Left circles, the fight for equal status was formalized when the DC Statehood Party was created in 1971. Its initial aim was to secure political self-determination for the citizens of the District, but its goals soon expanded. At the local level, members worked to strengthen civil rights and increase the personal freedoms of women, sexual minorities, and the incarcerated. Nationally, party leaders called for an end to the Vietnam War and the transition to a peacetime economy that included a guaranteed income, universal healthcare, and free public transit. In tracing the rise of the DC Statehood Party and the development of its far-reaching platform, this presentation assesses the complex relationships between social movements and electoral campaigns during a pivotal era in local political history.

FRIDAY KEYNOTE 12:00 – 1:00 PM

Think-In: Archiving and Activating DC’s Art History

Keywords: 20th Century, 21st Century, Arts & Culture, Black History, Historic Preservation

AUDITORIUM, ASL INTERPRETATION

This conversation with community partners in the art field will generate ideas for preserving, studying, and celebrating Washington, DC’s regional art history and for building a more inclusive archive. A “Think-In” is an informal, collegial “state of the field” conversation that brings together artists, curators, collectors, and arts workers with archivists and historians to discuss current efforts, best practices, historical challenges, and new opportunities in the study and practice of regional art history. Participants will highlight perspectives on outstanding recent work, shortfalls, and opportunities in the field today, followed by a 30-minute conversation. Participants will be able to share contact information and join a google group to continue the conversation beyond the conference.

MODERATORS:

Natalie Campbell, Consultant, DC Public Library

Kayleigh Bryant-Greenwell, Community Engagement Officer, Smithsonian American Art Museum

HISTORY NETWORK 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Great Hall, 1st Floor

The DC History Conference History Network is an opportunity for conference attendees to meet representatives from organizations doing humanities-based work across the DMV. Learn about a new organization, project, or initiative you’d like to follow, volunteer with, or join! During the History Network, visit the tables to pick up information and swag from participating organizations and individuals.

Enlarging the (Color) Field: Rethinking the Washington Color School

Keywords: 20th Century, Arts & Culture, Black History, Community History, Cultural History

AUDITORIUM, LIVESTREAM

The artists Cornelia Noland, Alma Thomas, Kenneth Victor Young, and Mary Pinchot Meyer are among the women and Black artists often excluded from discussions of Washington's historic art scene. The traveling museum retrospective *Alma W. Thomas: Everything Is Beautiful* showcases the work of Thomas and others, including Gene Davis, Sam Gilliam, Morris Louis, and Kenneth Noland. The project has helped reinvigorate scholarly interest in the Washington Color School. Grouped primarily on the basis of a confluence of style, period, and geography, this constellation of color field artists emerged in the nation's capital in the late 1950s and flourished into the 1970s. The panel highlights previously underappreciated artists by critically reexamining the coherence of the Washington Color School as an artistic category and by exploring the diverse perspectives of artists practicing multifaceted approaches to color field painting and sculpture in postwar Washington.

PRESENTERS:

Miriam Grotte-Jacobs, PhD, Independent Scholar

Sarah Battle, 2021- 2022 Ailsa Mellon Bruce National Gallery Sabbatical Fellow, National Gallery of Art

Mollie Berger Salah, Curatorial Associate, National Gallery of Art

MODERATOR:

Jonathan Frederick Walz, PhD, Director of Curatorial Affairs, The Columbus Museum

Fresh Convos Breathe: The Untold Story of DC HipHop

Keywords: Arts & Culture, Black History, Community History, Cultural History, Music

ROOM 401-A

Everyone knows that the organic music of DC is Go-Go, but few people know that DC was once a hotbed of local HipHop talent. Through vintage video clips and recordings, this presentation shows U Street from a teenager's perspective in the 1990s to early 2000s, documenting the neighborhood in all its gritty glory. U Street HipHop artists never sought or received the limelight that was bestowed upon other cities' music scenes. Narrators and production team members of the *Fresh Convos: Voices of U Street HipHop Culture Oral History* documentary will discuss their origins, collaborations, and evolution; the uniqueness of DC HipHop from the 1990s to today; and the process of bringing so many artists together to highlight the previously untold history and significance of HipHop.

PRESENTERS:

Khalil Gill, Director, Editor and Arts Scholar, DC HipHop

Phil Henery, Screenwriter, Narrator, and Score Contributor, DC HipHop

Shatungwa Juma, Associate Director and Editor, DC HipHop

Gabriel Benn, Event Advisor, DC HipHop

MODERATOR:

Judy Cohall, Project Manager, Video Producer, Writer, DC HipHop

Environment and Society: Case Studies from the District

This panel encompasses three case study perspectives on local issues with an environmental impact: floodwater management, archaeological exploration, and noise abatement.

Keywords: 20th Century, Archaeology, Black History, Community History, Environmental History, Neighborhood History, Social History, Urban Planning

ROOM 401-G

MODERATOR:

Dominique Hazzard, PhD Candidate, John Hopkins University

The Routine and the Extreme: A Critical Environmental History of Water in Washington, DC

Keywords: 20th Century, Black History, Community History, Environmental History, Neighborhood History, Social History, Urban Planning

PRESENTER:

Carmen Bolt, Doctoral Student, American University

DC has a long history of racism and environmental injustice for low-income Black communities, especially east of the Anacostia. By focusing on water, this presentation explores the many ways water—in particular, routine and extreme floodwater—creates environmental hazards that disproportionately affect vulnerable DC residents. The city experienced multiple phases of physical change: rapid urbanization between 1920 and 1945, urban renewal during the 1950s–1970s, wide-scale white flight and divestment in the 1970s–1980s, and waves of gentrification since the 1990s. Each phase is marked by federal and municipal agencies' unjust water management decisions, which exacerbated the vulnerability of its poor and working-class Black residents to water-related hazards.

The Q Street Burial Ground: A Sacred Space Lost and Found?

Keywords: 19th Century, 20th Century, Archaeology, Black History, Community History, Environmental History, Neighborhood History, Social History, Urban Planning

PRESENTER:

Christine Ames, Assistant District Archaeologist, DC History Center

During the COVID-19 lockdown in 2020, the DC Historic Preservation Office Archaeology Team completed emergency salvage of historic burial spaces found in a Georgetown basement crawl space. They were part of a larger, undocumented cemetery that likely served Georgetown's large African American community—both enslaved and free—in the first half of the 19th century. The cemetery was additionally pressed into use for victims of the 1832 Cholera Pandemic. Historically, burials and burying grounds, and especially those serving disenfranchised communities, suffer benign neglect or have been intentionally obscured as the District expanded. Recent federal legislation, however, proposes to support identifying and inventorying African American cemeteries in an effort to preserve these historically Black sacred spaces. How would such a program serve the District? What opportunities would it afford us to reclaim these spaces?

Loud Flights, Angry Neighbors, and Indifferent Bureaucrats: The Civil Aeronautics Board Confronts Noise Pollution

Keywords: 20th Century, Community History, Environmental History, Neighborhood History, Social History, Urban Planning

PRESENTER:

Joanna Grisinger, JD, PhD, Associate Professor of Instruction, Northwestern University

In 1967, residents of the Palisades neighborhood in Washington, DC organized to prevent helicopters from flying over their homes, disturbing their peace, and reducing their property values. Palisades residents who resented jet noise and wanted to avoid additional helicopter noise brought their case to the Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB), which had never before given serious consideration to noise or environmental concerns. The resulting helicopter permit case pending before the CAB raised the issue of noise threats posed by proposed helicopter service across the Washington/Baltimore area. This fight—before the board and in the courts—demonstrates both the possibilities and the challenges of public interest group mobilization within the administrative state.

SESSION C 4:30 – 5:45 PM

From “Slum Clearance” to “Mixed-Income”: The Serial Displacement of Black Washingtonians

Keywords: 20th Century, 21st Century, Black History, Neighborhood History, Social History, Urban Planning

AUDITORIUM, LIVESTREAM

Black residents make up just 46 percent of DC’s population—down from over 70 percent in the 1970s. This panel addresses how new development and gentrification displaced Black residents from their homes and communities over the course of the 20th century. The presentation will begin with the big picture via an overview of the online exhibit Mapping Displacement, launched in 2021. Panelists will then home in on the role of alley clearance in dispersing long-standing Black communities and the repeated eviction of Black residents from one square block on Capitol Hill. Using Southeast DC’s Barry Farm Dwellings as a case study, the panel will highlight how anti-Black racism undergirds the transformation of public housing into mixed-income “new communities.” This discussion will provide context for how gentrification today is a continuation of historical movements that have repeatedly destabilized and removed Black residents from spaces deemed too valuable for them to occupy.

PRESENTERS:

Sarah Shoenfeld, Historian/Co-Founder, Prologue DC

Michael J. Fisher Jr., PhD, Assistant Professor, San José State University

Johanna Bockman, PhD, Associate Professor, George Mason University

Carolyn Swope, Doctoral Student, Columbia University

MODERATOR:

Daniel del Pielago, Organizing Director, Empower DC

DC In Revolt: Organizing the City's Most Underrepresented

These three case studies explore widely varying tactics used to further the interests of diverse groups of marginalized and underrepresented DC residents, from the late 19th into the 20th century.

Keywords: 19th Century, 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Black History, Cultural History, Community History, Economic History, Immigration, Labor, Latinx/Hispanic History, Neighborhood History, Public History, Transportation

ROOM 401-A

MODERATOR:

José A. Centeno-Meléndez, Oral Historian, National Museum of American History/ PhD Candidate, The University of Texas at Austin

El Pueblo Unido: Salvadoran Migrants, DC Activists, and Revolutionary Communities in the 1980s

Keywords: 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Cultural History, Community History, Economic History, Immigration, Labor, Latinx/Hispanic History, Neighborhood History, Public History

PRESENTER:

Patrick Scallen, PhD, Department of Critical Race, Gender, and Culture Studies, American University

This presentation analyzes the bonds forged between DC activists and Salvadoran migrants during the early days of Salvadoran immigration in the 1980s. These relationships birthed community organizations and grassroots networks that have played transformative roles in the Latinx DC community ever since. A dedicated cadre of Salvadoran and U.S. activists guided these efforts, and they have had an enduring impact in empowering Latinx communities across the metropolitan Washington, DC area.

Riot or Revolution? A Rhetorical Reimagining of the 1972 DC Jail Hostage Crisis

Keywords: 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Black History, Cultural History, Community History, Economic History, Labor, Neighborhood History, Public History

PRESENTER:

Carolyn Robbins, Doctoral Student, University of Maryland

On October 11, 1972, after airing grievances about jail conditions, some 50 inmates at the DC Jail seized control of their cell blocks and took 11 guards hostage, holding them for almost 24 hours before releasing them unharmed. As the 50th anniversary of the crisis approaches, incarcerated people are still fighting to have their civil rights honored in jails and prisons. The presenter will examine the details of the hostage crisis including the significance of this event taking place in a jail rather than a prison. The presentation will also highlight the rhetorical implications of referring to such events as "riots."

Washington Transit Workers and the Struggle to Organize, 1883–1916

Keywords: 19th Century, 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Black History, Cultural History, Community History, Economic History, Labor, Neighborhood History, Public History, Transportation

PRESENTER:

Jordan Patty, PhD, Historian

Washington, DC transit workers in the late 19th and early 20th centuries faced a protracted struggle to gain collective bargaining rights. In the 1880s, the Knights of Labor (KOL) attempted to organize workers from multiple Washington transit companies, and by the mid 1890s, workers at one company established a local KOL. But by this time, the KOL had lost power in the nationwide labor movement as the American Federation of Labor (AFL) rose to prominence. The Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU), another organization attempting to organize Washington transit workers in the early 1900s, joined the AFL rather than the KOL. They were initially stymied by the Washington Central Labor Union, which would not allow strikes. But in 1916, Washington transit workers finally went on strike, paving the way for the establishment of ATU Local 689, which continues to represent local transit workers.

“FIERCENESS SERVED!” The ENIKAlley Coffeehouse: A Documentary Screening and Discussion

Keywords: 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Arts & Culture, Black History, LGBTQ+

ROOM 401-G

“FIERCENESS SERVED!” is a short documentary on the history of a local Black LGBTQ+ artist performance venue and rehearsal space, as well as meeting place for LGBTQ+ activist organizations in Washington, DC. Active from the 1980s to mid 1990s, The ENIKAlley Coffeehouse, located near the H Street NE corridor, was the epicenter of a cultural renaissance reminiscent of the DC roots of the Harlem Renaissance. The Coffeehouse operated during a time of significant political ferment in the city, at the height of the AIDS and crack epidemics.

With the current anxiety surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, “FIERCENESS SERVED!” seeks to preserve the history of a cultural phenomenon and open viewers to its relevance during these precarious times. In literature, film, music, photography, visual arts, and performance, the creative force of these local artists today informs new generations of LGBTQ+ artists and activists internationally.

PRESENTERS:

Michelle Parkerson, Director, “FIERCENESS SERVED!”

Christopher Prince, Project Director, The ENIKAlley Coffeehouse Project

Mara Cherkasky, Historian/Co-founder, Prologue DC

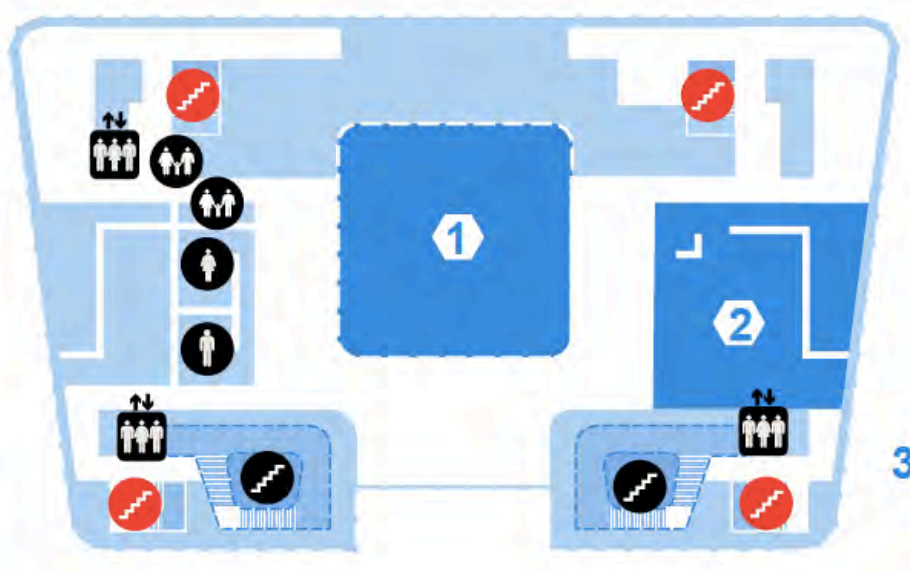
MODERATOR:

Sabiha Prince, PhD, Director/Senior Researcher, AnthroDocs

RECEPTION 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Martin Luther King Jr. Library Rooftop, 5th Floor

Gather with fellow DC history enthusiasts to celebrate another successful DC History Conference! While listening to music and enjoying light snacks, catch up with your friends and colleagues on the beautiful rooftop of the Martin Luther King Jr. Library. Connect with other attendees, meet presenters, and join us as we recognize this year's generous sponsors.



Reception Area, 5th Floor

- 1 Auditorium
- 2 Event Space
- 3 Roof

SATURDAY



APRIL 2

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

SESSION D 10:30 – 11:45 AM

Intimate DC Archives: Personal Processes of Collecting Outside of Institutions

Keywords: Activism/Advocacy, Arts & Culture, Black History, Community History, Latinx/Hispanic History

ROOM 401-G

What does it mean to collect and value the personal documents and objects of the still-living? What do living archives offer to the history of Washington, DC? This panel will explore the subject through the lens of four firsthand experiences:

- Wanda Hernández takes us through her mother’s bedside archive to explore questions of illegality, identity, and the politics of race and ethnicity in the Central American communities in DC, Maryland, and Virginia.
- keondra bills freemyn discusses the archives of 51 Black women she has curated on her website, the Black Women Writers Project, several of whom are from or lived in Washington, DC. This collection of collections both stitches together and uncovers, with the goal of making primary sources on Black women and gender-expansive writers more easily discoverable.
- Manuel Mendez presents what he calls “the Manny archives,” which he has kept in his bedroom since he was a teenager growing up in the District. With the goal of combating the erasure of AfroLatino/a/x, especially AfroDominican communities in Washington, DC, he uses archives for community conversations and public programs.
- Kristy Li Puma discusses the suitcases she and her family members have packed to fly between the DMV and Lima, Peru, for the past 20 years. Her archive illuminates the other side of “confiscatable objects” as they move through the highly policed and disciplined airport-border-screening space, where objects of affection stand in for controlled contraband.

PRESENTERS:

keondra bills freemyn, Founder, Black Women Writers Project

Wanda Hernández, Doctoral Student, University of Maryland

Manuel Mendez, Chair, DC AfroLatino Caucus

MODERATOR:

Kristy Li Puma, Doctoral Student, University of Maryland

Capturing the Voices of Black Career Educators: A Critical Race Analysis

Keywords: Black History, Cultural History, Education, Sociology

AUDITORIUM, LIVESTREAM

In Washington, DC, the largest generation of Black Career Educators has retired, and no one captured their historical career journeys and oral histories. They started teaching between the 1960s and 1980s. By the late 1990s, they were leaving the schoolhouse. They cherished their teaching careers, filled classrooms with ideas and inspirations, and found ways to counter systemic inequalities. They wrote curricula, built schools, and taught anyone who entered their classroom. For over 50 years, they were social reformers, community activists, and civil rights leaders. When Washington was burning, and drug wars were outside their classroom doors, they taught Black students. Their historical dialogues and journeys are portraits of the cities' public education system. Segregation to desegregation and back to resegregation, Black Career Educators can speak to the impact of systemic racism and inequalities in public education. From Brown to COVID, their historical journeys define teaching pedagogy in the District of Columbia.

PRESENTERS:

Gloria B. Allen, Retired Educator, DC Public Schools

Isaac W. Jackson, Sr., Retired Educator, DC Public Schools

MODERATOR:

Wanda A. Alderman, PhD, Author, *The Last Black Teacher: Race, Education, and Students of Color*

Living on Sixteenth Street NW: Architecture and Community

Keywords: Arts & Culture, Black History, Cultural History, Historic Preservation, Social History

ROOM 401-A

Sixteenth Street at various points in its history has been known officially and unofficially as "Avenue of the Presidents," "gateway to the nation's capital," and the "avenue of churches." At almost seven miles, it's one of the District's longer streets, and its architecture reflects the many communities that have lived on or near it since Washington's earliest days. This panel considers three different aspects of city life as reflected in the buildings of 16th Street. John DeFerrari examines the late 19th century African American community centered around 16th and M Streets NW. Peter Sefton delves into the street's rich and unheralded history of venues for live entertainment. Kim Williams concludes with a critical look at the 20th century rise of Modernist residential architecture as seen along and near upper 16th Street. DeFerrari and Sefton are co-authors of the new *Sixteenth Street NW: Washington, DC's Avenue of Ambitions*.

PRESENTERS:

John DeFerrari, Trustee, DC Preservation League

D. Peter Sefton, Trustee, DC Preservation League/Adirondack Architectural Heritage

Kim Williams, National Register Coordinator, DC Historic Preservation Office

MODERATOR:

Zachary Burt, Community Outreach and Grants Manager, DC Preservation League

Race, Place and Real Estate: Family Journeys

Keywords: Black History, Community History, Cultural History, Economic History, Indigenous History, Student Presentation

ROOM 401-G

Four senior students from Georgetown Day School will explore the importance of family history. “Race, Place, and Real Estate” explores the intersection of race and place within and beyond the Washington, DC area through the lives and experiences of four Black families. Using census records, city directories, family documents, and family lore, the students reconstructed their family stories, embedding them in the larger histories of neighborhood development and neighborhood change. The stories they uncovered reflect larger patterns and narratives about the Great Migration and about entrepreneurship, resourcefulness, and courage.

PRESENTERS:

Brock Davis, Student, Georgetown Day School

Ahlyah Albritton, Student, Georgetown Day School

John (Chris) Massey, Student, Georgetown Day School

Antonio Cyrus, Student, Georgetown Day School

MODERATOR:

Lisa Rauschart, Educator, Georgetown Day School

By Broad Potomac’s Shore: Early DC Poems as History

Keywords: 19th Century, Arts & Culture, Cultural History, Literature

ROOM 401-A

Poetry tells the story of the city in a nuanced way, allowing us to experience the emotional life of DC residents and round out our understanding of their lives. But too often, historians ignore creative works to focus on factual sources, such as court records, newspapers, and correspondence. In this session, Roberts will present poems by former DC residents that address important themes in the city’s history, such as abolitionism, the Civil War, and fights for women’s rights and civil rights.

PRESENTER:

Kim Roberts, Editor, *By Broad Potomac’s Shore: Great Poems from the Early Days of our Nation’s Capital*

MODERATOR:

Teri Ellen Cross Davis, Poetry Coordinator, Folger Shakespeare Library

Belonging In DC: Special Interests and Community Formation

Communities are constantly forming and growing as individuals with unique perspectives, interests, and backgrounds assemble and share their experiences. This panel assesses the intriguing case studies of three such communities in the DC area.

Keywords: 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Community History, Immigration, Latinx/Hispanic History, LGBTQ+, Arts & Culture, Black History, Education, Cultural History, Music, Social History

AUDITORIUM, LIVESTREAM

MODERATOR:

Lina Mann, Historian, White House Historical Association

“Nashville of the North”: When Country Was King in DC

Keywords: 20th Century, Arts & Culture, Cultural History, Music, Social History

PRESENTER:

Ken Avis, Performing Musician, Broadcaster Filmmaker, Writer, Veronneau Music

During the 1950s, the DC area was a major country music town; in fact, the term “country music” was first coined by an Arlington radio DJ, Connie B. Gaye. Fueled by wartime rural migration, DC became the nation’s country music capital and home to some of the biggest stars and media enterprises of the country music world. This examination of the development of country music in Washington focuses on media tycoon Connie B. Gaye, who became the first president of the US Country Music Association in the early 1960s after bringing the country sound to many local venues.

Mi Casa Es Tu Casa: DC Latinx LGBTQ+

Keywords: 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Community History, Immigration, Latinx/Hispanic History, LGBTQ+, Arts & Culture, Education, Cultural History, Social History

PRESENTER:

Jose Gutierrez, Founder, Jose Gutierrez Archives

This interactive presentation offers a retrospective of the Washington, DC Latinx LGBTQ+ community from the mid 1980s to the present. It includes historic photos, flyers, banners, and memorabilia from the various groups, organizations, and activists that promoted the DC Latinx LGBTQ+ community. This presentation is important because it identifies overlap in the Latinx and LGBTQ+ communities. Jose Gutierrez is a local leader and activist, founder of the Jose Gutierrez Archives, the Latino GLBT History Project, the DC Latino Pride and co-founder of the Rainbow History Project.

Re-Discovering Graphics: A History of the Smithsonian's Printmaking Program for DC Area Youth

Keywords: 20th Century, Arts & Culture, Education, Community History, Cultural History, Social History

PRESENTER:

Pamela Harris Lawton, PhD, Florence Gaskins Harper Endowed Chair, Maryland Institute College of Art

For 24 years, Discover Graphics, a museum-school-community partnership developed by the Smithsonian Institution, provided professional-level printmaking studio and museum experiences to high school students, college students, and art teachers in the Washington, DC metropolitan region. This presentation offers a historical account and analysis of the program's impact on school districts, students, teachers, artists, and museum professionals, as seen through the eyes of presenter Pamela Harris Lawton, a student participant in the program. Lawton will describe the transformative effect the program had on her education and career.

POSTER SESSION 1:30 – 3:00 PM

Great Hall, 1st Floor

The DC History Conference Poster Session is an opportunity for presenters to share their research visually with small groups of attendees. Visit the poster presenters to learn and to ask questions! Continue the conversation on social media, sharing your favorites and connecting with presenters.

LUNCH SESSION 2:15 – 2:45 PM

"Culture Unmuted": A One-Act Play

Keywords: Activism/Advocacy, Arts & Culture, Black History, Cultural History, Music, Youth Movements

AUDITORIUM

In present-day DC, Roxanne, a young Go-Go artist is in the midst of preparing for DC's annual block party. Tensions rise between Roxanne and her new neighbors as they clash on the culture and future of their neighborhood. This original play-written, produced by, and starring native and adoptive Washingtonians—explores issues of gentrification, social justice, African diasporic cultural traditions, and what was once Chocolate City. The creators hope this play—which reflects on DC's history, captures present conversations, and looks to the future—will spark constructive conversation and inspire action and support for both Washingtonian artists and the city's treasured Go-Go heritage.

PRESENTERS:

Shermica Farquhar, Director, Founder/CEO, Soka Tribe

Marjuan Canady, Playwright, Founder/CEO, Sepia Works

Josanne Francis, Music Consultant, Executive Director, Cultural Academy for Excellence, Inc.

Jazelle Hunt, Associate Producer

Blockbusting, White Flight, and the Price of Housing in Two Uptown Neighborhoods

Keywords: 20th Century, Economic History, Neighborhood History, Social History, Urban Planning

AUDITORIUM, LIVESTREAM

This panel chronicles demographic change in two Ward 4 neighborhoods, North Portal Estates and Brightwood Park, in the second half of the 20th century, as restrictive covenants fell and many White residents left the city. The panel focuses on the real estate industry's role in encouraging "White flight" and debunks the baseless fears real estate agents instilled in White homeowners that the arrival of Black residents would result in a decrease in property values and overall decline of the neighborhoods.

PRESENTERS:

Phylcia Fautleroy Bowman, PhD, Economist and Retired Executive Director, DC Public Service Commission

Tanya Golash-Boza, PhD, Professor, University of California, Merced

MODERATOR:

Mara Cherkasky, Historian/Co-Founder, Prologue DC

Black Education Legacies: Remembering DC Schools

Keywords: Activism/Advocacy, Black History, Community History, Education, Historic Preservation

ROOM 401-A

In honor of the Charles Sumner School's 150th anniversary, Charles Sumner Museum and Archives director Kimberly Springle leads a reflective conversation with scholars who have tapped into the Charles Sumner Museum and Archives Collection to illuminate Black education legacies in DC. Audience members are invited to contribute to the dialogue by responding to selected discussion topics that spring from the scholars' works. The audience is also invited to participate by sharing their own lived experiences that resonate with the topics under discussion.

PRESENTERS:

Anika Burtin, PhD, Associate Professor/Chair of the Division of Education, Health, and Social Work, University of the District of Columbia

Tikia Hamilton, PhD, Assistant Professor, Loyola University Chicago

Marya McQuirter, Curator, dc1968 project

MODERATOR:

Kimberly Springle, Director, Charles Sumner School Museum and Archives

After Redevelopment: Telling Lorton's Story Through Multiple Media

Keywords: 20th Century, 21st Century, Activism/Advocacy, Arts & Culture, Environmental History, Historic Preservation

ROOM 401-G

The Lorton Reformatory, formerly DC's prison for convicted felons, closed in 2001 after operating for 91 years. In 2017, the mixed-use suburban development Liberty Crest at Laurel Hill began welcoming new residents into apartments and townhomes located on the former prison site. This conversation focuses on the importance of continuing to tell the story of Lorton Correctional Facility, and particularly the experiences of its inmates. Three creators—a theater producer, a photographer, and an installation artist—share their stories of Lorton and reflect on what the site tells us about our city today. This panel brings together Roach Brown, a DC icon and founder of the prison theatrical group Inner Voices; photographer and activist Nancy Shia, who worked with inmate photographer Roland “Breezy” Shelvy to collect hundreds of photographs in the mid 1970s; and artist R.L. Martens, whose installation, *Material Witness*, uses material salvaged from the site (clay and incinerator remains, or “trashglomerate”) to tell an alternative history of the social and environment conditions of the complex. Whose story is being well told, and whose is not? In what media can you find alternative versions of Lorton's history? What can different forms of storytelling illuminate?

PRESENTERS:

Rhozier (Roach) Brown, Executive Director/Chairman, Inner Voices/Coalition of National Association of Ex-Offenders

Nancy Shia, Photographer, Political Artist, and Neighborhood Activist based in the DMV area

R.L. Martens, Founding Member, Urban Soils Institute's Art Extension Service

MODERATOR:

Katea Stitt, Program Director, WPFW Radio Station

A Mixtape from the 2021–2022 Great Migration Oral History Project

Keywords: 20th Century, Black History, Community History, Student Presentation

AUDITORIUM, ASL INTERPRETATION

Each fall, DC high schoolers enrolled in the Real World History program study the Great Migration—the mass movement of Black Americans out of the Jim Crow South to cities in the north and west (1915–1970). After reading Isabel Wilkerson’s *The Warmth of Other Suns*, the students conducted oral history interviews with people who came to DC as part of the Migration. As a class, the 2021–2022 cohort of Real World History identified key themes and topics of interest from their interviews and pulled excerpts to put their narrators’ experiences of migrating to DC in conversation with one another. This presentation is a student-facilitated discussion about the Great Migration and Washington, DC. Using a selection of audio excerpts from the students’ fall semester oral history projects, Real World History students will facilitate a conversation among their narrators about the experience of migrating to Washington, DC.

PRESENTERS:

Cosby Hunt, Educator, Thurgood Marshall Academy Public Charter School/ Real World History

Max Peterson, Oral Historian/Educator, Real World History

Dylan Park, Student, School Without Walls High School

Jerome Bettis, Narrator, Real World History

Eamonn McAloon, Student, Washington Latin Public Charter School

Frances Robinson, Narrator, Real World History

Ella Hankins, Student, Washington Latin Public Charter School

Laura Danley, Narrator, Real World History

Raymond Weeden III, Student, Washington Latin Public Charter School

Ardie Myers, Narrator, Real World History

Charles Tracey, Narrator, Real World History

Edith Crutchfield, Community Partner, Real World History

Thelma D. Jones, Community Partner, Real World History

MODERATOR:

Tori Tracey, Student, Thurgood Marshall Academy Public Charter School

HISTORY NETWORK

Friday, April 1 1:00–3:00 PM

Great Hall, 1st Floor

The DC History Conference History Network is an opportunity for conference attendees to meet representatives from organizations doing humanities-based work across the DMV. Learn about a new organization, project, or initiative you'd like to follow, volunteer with, or join! During the History Network, visit the tables to pick up information and swag from participating organizations and individuals.

1882 Foundation

AAPI in DC: Here in Plain Sight

Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, James Dent Walker Chapter, DC

Albert H. Small Center for National Capital Area Studies

Arlington Historical Society

Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Inc.

Back in the Day: A Boxing Memoir

Black Broad Branch

Capital Jewish Museum

Chevy Chase Historical Society

Cleveland Park Historical Society

Connecting the Dots Through Community Connection Via Literacy Development

DC Archives Advisory Group

DC Archives Advocates

DC by Foot

DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities

DC Cultural Narratives Collaborative

DC Historic Preservation Office Projects and Resources

DC History Center/*Washington History* magazine

DC Legacy Project

DC Legendary Musicians

DC Preservation League

"Digger Dave" Miller

Disruption as a Business Model

Exposed DC

Friday Morning Music Club

Friends of Peirce Mill

Friends of the DC Archives

The Friends of the Martin Luther King Jr. Library

Georgetown University Press

Heurich House Museum

HumanitiesDC

Humanities Truck

League of Women Voters

Mapping Georgetown

The People's Archive

Researching Latino/a/x DC–Community Outreach Program

Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, Robert Frederick Smith Center for the Digitization and Curation of African American History

The Map & Guide to New Deal Washington DC

Washington Walks

The Washington DC Hall of Fame

Tour Guide Tell All

White House Historical Association

Women of the Civil War Era in Washington, DC

Women's Organizations in Dupont Circle

FRIDAY FEATURES

Humanities Truck

Outside

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

In 2019, Apple opened its East Coast flagship store in the Carnegie Library in Mount Vernon Square. Many heralded the corporation's renovation and preservation of the dilapidated historical building. While the building remained, little mention was made of the displacement of the African American neighborhoods surrounding the square. *Downtown Displaced* examines the history of their removal as part of a much longer history, from the 1840s through the present, of displacement and gentrification in this downtown residential neighborhood.

Showcasing History with the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities and HumanitiesDC

Great Hall, 1st Floor

2:00 – 2:45 PM

DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities (DCAH) and HumanitiesDC (HDC) are two key supporters of public history work in DC. Come hear from representatives from DCAH, HDC, and recent grantees about the creative ways they are working with the humanities. This is a great place to ask questions, get ideas, and find ways to support your next project!



POSTER SESSION

Saturday, April 2 1:30–3:00 PM

Great Hall, 1st Floor

The DC History Conference Poster Session is an opportunity for presenters to share their research visually with attendees in small groups. Visit the poster presenters to learn and ask questions! Continue the conversation on social media, sharing your favorites and connecting with presenters.

“All the pomp and splendor”: Faith, Power, and Patriotism at St. Patrick’s Catholic Church, 1895–1917

Madeleine P. Shakotko, Ronald Stolk

The Animals Among Us: The History of the National Zoo’s Impact on the DC Area

Kara Arundel, Karie Kirkpatrick, William Xanten

The Awakening: Washington, DC’s 1927 Performance of a Ku Klux Klan Musical

Peggy Ann Brown

AAPI in DC: Using Instagram to Tell Our Stories

Wei Gan, Grace Kwon, Mia Owens, Mengshu Ye

Abner Cloud was not a Miller!

Catherine N. Ball

Amalia Steinhauser: Housekeeper and World Traveler

Katherine DeFonzo

Arming a New Navy: The Naval Gun Factory and its Local Workforce

Edward Valentin

Born Free: Embodying Legacies of Free People of Color in the DMV Area

Chelsea Dee Harrison

Chocolate City Childhoods: Investigating Play on the Hopscotch Bridge

Renee Scott

DC Liquor: What There Is and What There Was

Flore de Preneuf

Father to Daughter: Archibald Grimke Writing to Angelina Weld Grimke

J. Eric Robinson

From Lives Apart to Lives Together: An Oral History of Former Residents of Forest Haven

Tina M. Campanella, Ricardo and Donna Thornton, Robert Williams, Phyllis Holton

From Mecca to DC: Reminders of Islam in the Nation’s Capital

Nur Shaina Ayers

A History of the Adams Morgan Plaza and Its Easement

Nancy Shia

Hunting for Hunster: A Portrait of Thomas Watson Hunster, Art Education Pioneer in the District of Columbia

Pamela Harris Lawton, PhD

Hybrid Wayfinding Signs: Penn Ave East DC Case Study

Hazel Arroyo, Meagan Couture, Tambra Stevenson, Benjamin Stokes, PhD

Lady Bird Johnson Park: An Intersection of Recreation and Commemoration on the Potomac

Angelina Ribeiro Jones

COFFEE BREAK

SATURDAY, APRIL 2 2:30 – 3:00 PM

Sponsored by Georgetown University Press

Martin Luther King Jr. Library, 1st Floor
Marianne's Café

Making Historical Conversation: Ellen Wilson's Disputed Impact in Female Progressive Reform and the Transformation of Washington's Alleys

Laura Roa

Mapping Black Literary DC

keondra bills freemyn

Material Witness: Incarceration and Waste Management in Lorton, Virginia

R.L. Martens

Out of the Archives, Into the Streets: Mapping LGBTQ+ DC Spaces, 1969–2003

Emily Lefeber, Kathryn Morgan, Adara Woodcook

P Street Strip to Art Fairs: DC Art In the 1970s

Brett Abrams

Reclaiming Black Joy: Playgrounds, Parks, and Libraries

Catherine Frost, Sisi Reid

Reflections on Georgetown's History

Ellen Georgi, Deborah Sokolove, PhD

Representation and Leadership: Hidden History of the FDR Memorial

Mary E. Dolan, Kelly Douglas

Teaching DC History in Elementary School

Mellie Davis

The DC Housing Segregation Hearings, April 1962

Brian Gilmore

The DC I See: Art of a Vanishing "City"

Carolyn Toyé

The District's Masons: The History of Freemasonry in DC

Chris Ruli

The First Time I...

Jeronique Bartley

The Homeless Man who Made Alexandria History

J. McElhatton

The Life of George Washington Parke Custis

Charles S. Clark

Therapeutic Aquatic Center Oral History Project

Hilary Kacser

Walk the Walk of Fame: Celebrating 21 Years of the Washington DC Hall of Fame

Stanley Williams, Toby Horn, PhD

Washington, DC: A Transformative Destination

DC Metro Chapter of the North America Chinese
Writers Association

What Lies Beneath: Documenting the History of the Columbian Harmony Cemetery

Katlyn Calamito, Amanda Gallagher,
Rebecca Kaliff, Alexis Zilen

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Find on social media @DCHistCon

Project Spotlights shared on social media are short informational videos submitted by presenters. These features spotlight individual projects, including published book projects, documentaries, exhibitions, oral history projects, and more. Engage in conversation online and keep an eye out for the presenters at the DC History Conference to learn more about their work!

Asbury United Methodist Church Oral History Project: Voices from 11th and K

Adelle Banks

Barry Farm/Hillsdale: Our Roots Run Deep

Sabiyha Prince

Food for the People: Eating and Activism in Washington, DC

Dominique Hazzard

Francis Scott Key's Desk and Revisiting the "Snow Riot"

Rob DeHart

From Sitting In to Standing Up: Histories of Site-Specific Protest in the Nation's Capital

Roneva Keel

Gentrifying Northwest One

Melissa Daniel

A Guide to the History of LeDroit Park

Canden Arciniega

Hattie Sewell Project

Angela Kramer

La Manpleza: An Uprising Remembered

Cindy Centeno

Mapping DC's Lost Streams

David Ramos

An Oral History of Shaw, LeDroit Park and Bloomingdale from Segregation through Gentrification

Shilpi Malinowski

Rigging History: The Smithsonian "Skull Crew" and Dignified Black Labor in DC

Michelle Chatman

Rorschach Theatre's Psychogeographies Projects

Jenny McConnell Frederick

Spotlight on Cultural Connections

Karim Ali

The Day Arthur Ashe and Robert Kennedy Played Tennis on Our Block: Reflections of a DC Community

Akua Kouyate-Tate

The Making of the Channing Pollock Theatre Collection

Nubia Kai

The New Howard Woman: Lucy Diggs Slowe in Her Own Words

Amy Yeboah Quarkume

Unveiling Archive Voices: The Trinity History Project

Kimberly Monroe

Where to Go From Here? Heritage Tourism in Washington, DC

Lauren Rever

Who Cares About DC?

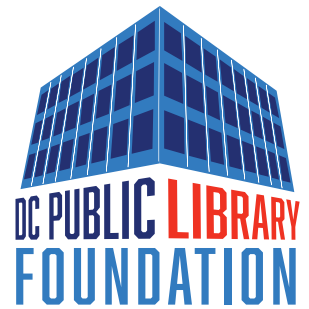
Stephen Kolb

CONFERENCE DONORS AND SPONSORS

The DC History Conference is co-presented by the DC History Center and the DC Public Library, sponsored by the Public History Program at American University, and organized by a volunteer planning committee.

The DC History Conference is made possible thanks to grants from HumanitiesDC, as part of the "Humanities Grant Program," an initiative funded by the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities; DC Public Library Foundation; and DC Office of the Secretary. It is sponsored by Georgetown University Press, AARP Maryland, DC Preservation League, White House Historical Association, and The Family of Letitia Woods Brown.

The DC History Center also recognizes support from the DC Historic Preservation Office and Office of Planning; the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities; and Humanities DC, as part of the "SHARP Grant Program," an initiative funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.





DC'S PUBLIC HISTORY GRADUATE PROGRAM

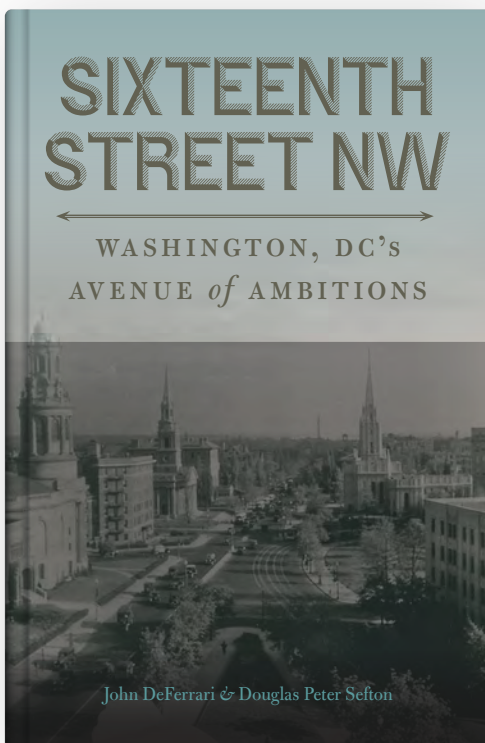
American University's Graduate Program in Public History prepares students for an exciting career with historical knowledge, research skills, and hands-on practical experience. Students have the freedom to develop their own unique set of skills and expertise, pursuing internships and classwork in fields of their choice and collaborating closely with DC-area practitioners and institutions.



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APPENDIX



Alma W. Thomas in the Studio, 1968, gelatin silver print. The Columbus Museum, Georgia. Photo Courtesy of Jonathan Frederick Walz, PhD.

Friday, April 1 Session B: 3:00 – 4:15 PM

Enlarging the (Color) Field: Rethinking the Washington Color School



Woodson High School Art Teacher Patricia Giles, Woodson students, and Museum Educator Teresa C. Grana. Collection of Teresa C. Grana. Photo Courtesy of Pamela Harris Lawton, PhD.

Saturday, April 2 Session E: 12:00 – 1:15 PM

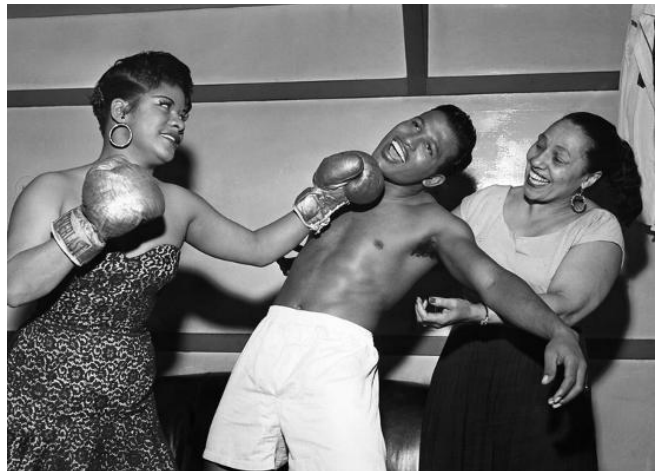
Belonging In DC: Special Interests and Community Formation



Nancy Shia, photographer. Photo Courtesy of Amanda Huron, PhD.

Friday, April 1 Session A: 10:30 – 11:45 PM

African American Activism, Enfranchisement, and Empowerment in 20th Century DC



Blance and Ruth Brown with Sugar Ray Robinson Bertrand Miiles, photographer. Photo Courtesy of Ken Avis.

Saturday, April 2 Session E: 12:00 – 1:15 PM

Belonging In DC: Special Interests and Community Formation

NOTES

NOTES



THURSDAY, MARCH 31

Sumner School Museum and Archives

LETITIA WOODS BROWN MEMORIAL LECTURE 6:00 – 8:00 PM

The Other Franchise Fight: Fast Food and
Black Freedom From U Street to Capitol Hill
Marcia Chatelain, PhD

FRIDAY, APRIL 1

Martin Luther King Jr. Library, 4th Floor

SESSION A 10:30 – 11:45 AM

DC's Asian American Heritage: Engaging the
Community and Preserving Its History
The Evolution of Hand Dance in Washington, DC
The Invalid Corps: A Documentary
African American Activism, Enfranchisement,
and Empowerment in 20th Century DC

FRIDAY KEYNOTE 12:00 – 1:00 PM

Think-In: Archiving and Activating DC's
Art History

HISTORY NETWORK 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Martin Luther King Jr. Library, Great Hall

SESSION B 3:00 – 4:15 PM

Enlarging the (Color) Field: Rethinking the
Washington Color School
Fresh Convos Breathe: The Untold Story of
DC HipHop
Environment and Society: Case Studies
from the District

SESSION C 4:30 – 5:45 PM

From "Slum Clearance" to "Mixed-Income":
The Serial Displacement of
Black Washingtonians
DC In Revolt: Organizing the City's
Most Underrepresented
"FIERCENESS SERVED!" The ENIKAlley
Coffeehouse: A Documentary Screening
and Discussion



RECEPTION

FRIDAY, APRIL 1 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Martin Luther King Jr. Library
Rooftop, 5th Floor

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

Martin Luther King Jr. Library, 4th Floor

SESSION D 10:30 – 11:45 AM

Intimate DC Archives: Personal Processes of
Collecting Outside of Institutions
Capturing the Voices of Black Career Educators:
A Critical Race Analysis
Living on Sixteenth Street NW: Architecture
and Community

SESSION E 12:00 – 1:15 PM

Race, Place and Real Estate: Family Journeys
By Broad Potomac's Shore: Early DC Poems
as History
Belonging In DC: Special Interests and
Community Formation

POSTER SESSION 1:30 – 3:00 PM

Martin Luther King Jr. Library, Great Hall

LUNCH SESSION 2:15 – 2:45 PM

"Culture Unmuted": A One-Act Play

SESSION F 3:00 – 4:15 PM

Blockbusting, White Flight, and the Price of
Housing in Two Uptown Neighborhoods
Black Education Legacies: Remembering
DC Schools
After Redevelopment: Telling Lorton's Story
Through Multiple Media

SATURDAY KEYNOTE 4:30 – 5:30 PM

A Mixtape from the 2021–2022 Great Migration
Oral History Project



☆ ☆ ☆ DC ☆ ☆ ☆
**HISTORY
CONFERENCE**

MARCH 23 - 25, 2023



KEYWORDS: ICON GUIDE

 DISCIPLINES Anthropology	 COMMUNITIES Indigenous History
 DISCIPLINES Archaeology	 COMMUNITIES Women's History
 DISCIPLINES Genealogy	 COMMUNITIES LGBTQ+
 DISCIPLINES Sociology	 COMMUNITIES Dis/ability History
 DISCIPLINES Social History	 ENVIRONMENT Built Environment
 DISCIPLINES Cultural History	 ENVIRONMENT Neighborhood History
 DISCIPLINES Arts & Culture	 ENVIRONMENT Environmental History
 POLITICAL/GOVERNMENT Political/Government	 PRACTICE/APPROACHES Public History
 POLITICAL/GOVERNMENT Economic History	 PRACTICE/APPROACHES Oral History
 POLITICAL/GOVERNMENT Military History	 PRACTICE/APPROACHES Memory
 POLITICAL/GOVERNMENT Immigration	 PRACTICE/APPROACHES Education
 COMMUNITIES Activism/Advocacy	 CENTURIES 18th
 COMMUNITIES Black History	 CENTURIES 19th
 COMMUNITIES Latinx/Hispanic History	 CENTURIES 20th

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ABOUT THE DC HISTORY CONFERENCE

The DC History Conference is an interdisciplinary, community conference considering the District's past, present, and future. Since 1973, the conference organizers aim to provide a welcoming, educational, and stimulating forum for original research on and engagement with the history of the Washington, DC metropolitan area (including Maryland, Virginia, and the federal government).

The DC History Conference is co-presented by the **DC History Center**, **DC Public Library**, and **HumanitiesDC**; sponsored by **American University**; and organized by a volunteer planning committee.

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Sajel Swartz, DC History Center

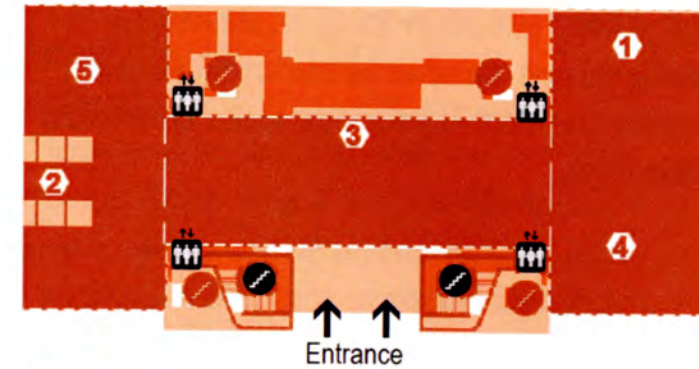
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Rebecca Kaliff, Editor

Alex Fraioli, Graphic Design

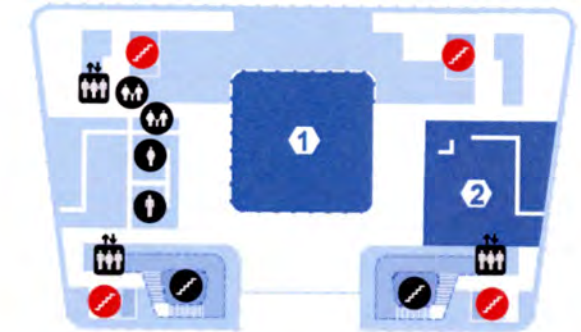
Shedrick Pelt, Photographer

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. LIBRARY LAYOUT



GREAT HALL 1ST FLOOR

1. Marianne's Café
2. Co-Working
3. History Network/Poster Session
4. New Books
5. Public Computers



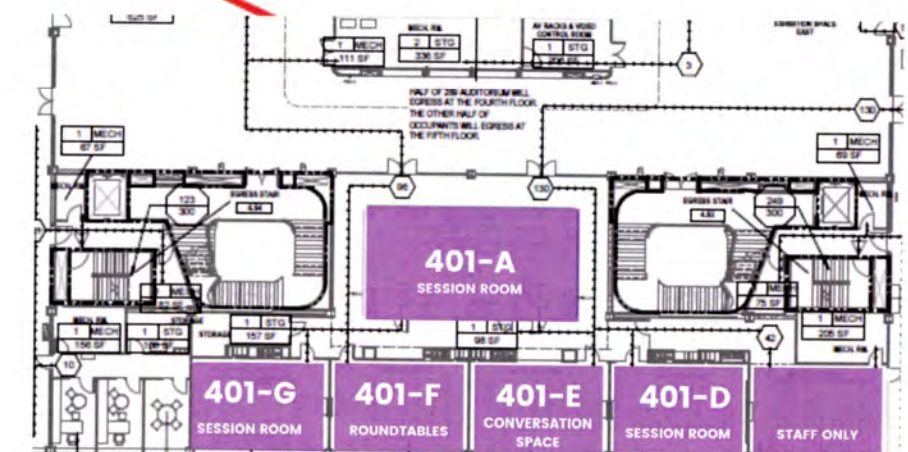
RECEPTION AREA 5TH FLOOR

1. Auditorium
2. Reception
3. Roof
4. Coffee Hour
5. Oral History Listening Lounge



CONFERENCE CENTER 4TH FLOOR

1. Auditorium
2. Conference Center
3. Exhibits
4. Local History



GUIDE TO THE CONFERENCE

The 2023 DC History Conference is held at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library. The majority of the conference sessions are located in the Conference Center on the fourth floor. Keynotes, including the Letitia Woods Brown Memorial Lecture on Thursday night, are in the auditorium.

IS THERE A CONFERENCE THEME?

The program committee cast a wide net to DC history researchers, educators, and enthusiasts to propose sessions unrelated to a theme. This resulted in a conference lineup dedicated to a wide variety of topics, time periods, and approaches. The interdisciplinary nature of this year's conference truly reflects the rich, diverse history of Washington, DC, and inspired the playful program design that uses representative icons to indicate each session's content.

Which sessions have similar themes? What questions appear again and again across panels? We encourage you to think about why these subjects resonate with Washingtonians this year, and every year.

WHAT'S IN THE PROGRAM?

The program is laid out chronologically. The schedule at-a-glance provides a brief preview of the conference. Sessions are categorized as one of the following: Panel, Combined Panel, Roundtable, or Creative Expression. Panels are presentations fully dedicated to one

topic. Combined Panels feature multiple presentations grouped under a common theme. You can identify this distinction in the program where 2-3 presentation titles are listed underneath the session name. Roundtables provide a forum for audience members to actively participate in a dialogue. Creative Expressions are designed to encourage creativity, arts, and unique program formats.

The Saturday Keynote honors the 50th anniversary of DC Home Rule and invites all attendees to collectively reflect on its importance. Special features throughout the conference, including the History Network, Poster Session, and Reception, are community-building social opportunities that provide space for attendees to connect with organizations, research projects, scholars, students, and other history enthusiasts about their work. Keep an eye out for new additions to the conference, including the Oral History Listening Lounge.

WHAT ARE THE ICONS?

When presenters submitted to present at the 2023 conference, they identified keywords relevant to their presentations. This year we used those keywords to inspire the program design. Each icon corresponds to a keyword. You can look at the guide at the front of the program and find the icons throughout the pages of the program to help you pick sessions based on your interests.

HOW DO I DECIDE WHICH PANELS TO ATTEND?

Each panel on the main program includes a title, description, and presenter names to help you quickly find a session of interest. Icons correspond to a keyword to help you identify the session's theme or approach. Moderators are responsible for introducing panels, keeping time, and encouraging conversation between presenters. They also guide the Q&A at the end of the session. The "For Educators" page highlights education-focused sessions and features teacher professional development opportunities!

We are very excited to welcome you to the 2023 DC History Conference, to celebrate our work, and to meet conference presenters and attendees!



ACCESSIBILITY AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Conference registration is free! Keynotes are recorded and will be available on YouTube with closed captioning after the conference.

ASL interpretation will be provided at keynotes and at one panel per session based on attendee requests. To request a reasonable accommodation, including ASL interpretation, please contact the DC Public Library's Center for Accessibility seven (7) days in advance at **202-727-2142** or by emailing **DCPLaccess@dc.gov**.



The Center for Accessibility will have a table next to the registration table to provide assistance and answer your accessibility questions. These services were made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

SOCIAL MEDIA

Join the fun! Share your unique conference experience with your followers and networks on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Include our handle **@dchistcon** and the conference hashtag, **#DCHistCon**, to join the conversation.



Welcome

We are honored to host the 49th Annual DC History Conference at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library.

The DC Public Library Foundation partners with the DC Public Library to enhance Washington, D.C.'s public libraries, bringing private philanthropy together with government support to ensure that our libraries deliver the highest quality of service to the District's residents. The DC Public Library Foundation is a proud sponsor of the fourth floor exhibit, *Up from the People*, one of the many features we hope you will explore during your visit.



DC Public Library

dcplfoundation.org | dclibrary.org

FOR EDUCATORS

EDUCATION-FOCUSED PANELS:

Friday, March 24th

Session A | 10:15 – 11:30 AM
Uncovering DC History at
the Library of Congress

Saturday, March 25th

Session D | 10:15 – 11:30 AM
Teaching Local History

Session E | 11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

Roundtable: Black Education
Exhibitions and Related Programming

Poster Session | 1:15 – 3:15 PM



SUMMER TEACHER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY

Looking for (paid) summer opportunities? If you're a 3rd-12th grade educator in Washington, DC, the Teach the District program might be just the right fit!

Join the White House Historical Association and the DC History Center to explore local history and classroom connections through the Teach the District (TTD) program. TTD is an immersive, five-day teacher professional development program that brings history to life through exploration of local stories and civic engagement. Teach the District connects you with collections representatives and museum educators to help you develop classroom resources to implement with your students.

The in-person program will be hosted July 24-28, 2023. Participants receive a \$600 stipend at the completion of the workshop and deliverables. Applications are open and will be reviewed on a rolling basis until June 30, 2023 at 11:59 pm. Please note, Teach the District will reach max capacity with 20 participants. Once 20 participants are accepted, applications will close.

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

The DC History Center and other museums, nonprofits, and cultural institutions in Washington, DC offer various educational resources to assist educators with incorporating local history into the classroom. Below are just a few examples of the vast amount of resources and subject matter that organizations in DC offer to educators.

The **DC History Center** offers lesson plans to support DC history topics found in the DC Public Schools curriculum for grades 3-12; resources such as materials to support Black Lives Matter at School; a timeline that tracks DC's history from the time when members of the Nacostine tribe occupied the land until 2019; and standalone downloadable activities relating to DC history topics.

dchistory.libguides.com/educator-resources

DC Public Library has a wide variety of services and resources to support educators and their students, including the **People's Archive** which connects users to resources that illuminate DC's local history and culture.

dclibrary.org/thepeoplesarchive

Anacostia Community Museum provides online teaching resources in history, art, and culture available via the Smithsonian's Learning Lab, an online learning platform.

learninglab.si.edu

Teaching for Change's D.C. Area Educators for Social Justice compiles resources for educators to teach local history, lists of books for the classroom in Washington, DC, and strategies for teaching DC history, among many other resources.

dcareaeducators4socialjustice.org/local-history



THURSDAY
MARCH 23RD

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. LIBRARY
AUDITORIUM
6:00 - 8:00 PM

LETITIA WOODS BROWN MEMORIAL LECTURE

The DC History Conference celebrates historian and educator Letitia Woods Brown with this lecture featuring a distinguished scholar of DC history. With the support of the Murray family, we honor Letitia Woods Brown for her contribution to the study of DC history.



TAMIKA NUNLEY, PHD

Tamika Nunley is Associate Professor of history and the Sandler Family Faculty Fellow of American Studies at Cornell University. In addition to her many articles, essays, and reviews, she is the author of *At the Threshold of Liberty: Women, Slavery, and Shifting Identities in Washington, DC*, which received the 2021 Letitia Woods Brown Memorial Book Award. This year, Dr. Nunley will release her new book,

The Demands of Justice: Enslaved Women, Capital Crime, and Clemency in Early Virginia.

BLACK WOMEN'S HISTORY AS AMERICAN HISTORY AND THE EVERYDAY STRUGGLES OF LIBERTY AND JUSTICE

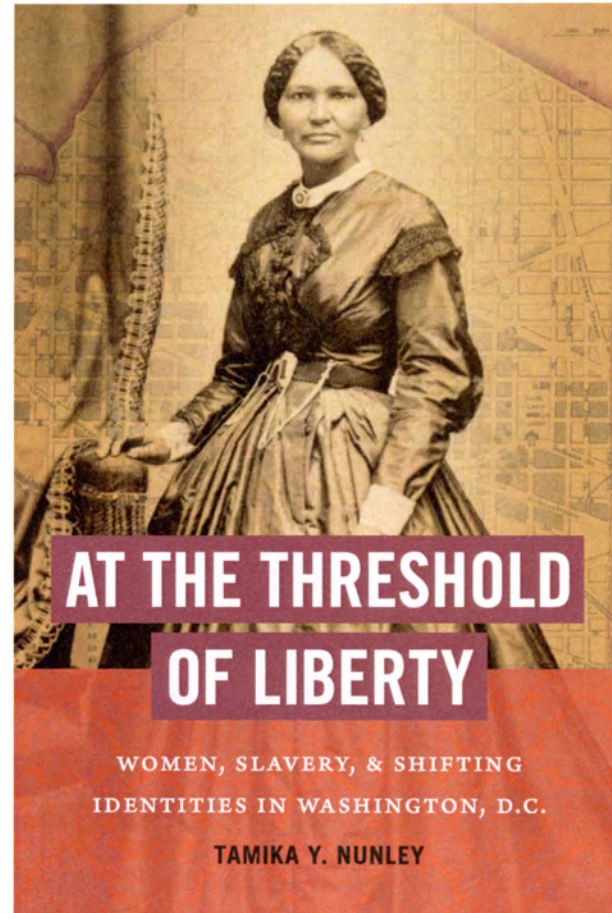
Black women—enslaved, fugitive, and free—imagined new identities and lives for themselves in 19th-century Washington, DC. The capital city was founded on the premise of liberty, and yet it was a center of urban slavery and an abolitionist target. Nunley reveals how Black women navigated the growing slave trade, strict Black codes, and rigid social restrictions intended to prevent them from ever experiencing liberty, self-respect, and power. She traces how Black women developed their own ideas about liberty as they navigated the city, escaped from slavery, initiated lawsuits for their freedom, created economic opportunities, pursued education, and participated in political work. In telling these stories, Nunley places Black women at the center of DC history in a momentous era.



ABOUT LETITIA WOODS BROWN

Letitia Woods Brown was born on October 24, 1915, in Tuskegee, Alabama, to a family with strong ties to the Tuskegee Institute—known today as Tuskegee University. She received her BS from Tuskegee Institute and taught elementary school in Alabama before pursuing her graduate studies at Ohio State University and Harvard University. In 1966, Dr. Brown received her PhD in history from Harvard University after completing a dissertation centered on free and enslaved African Americans in Washington, DC. She went on to

teach at Howard University and was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship. Dr. Brown joined the faculty of George Washington University in 1971 and taught there until her untimely passing in 1976.



The DC History Center will sell books after the program. Dr. Nunley will be available to sign.



COFFEE & TEA 9:30 - 10:30 AM

Come early to register (4th floor) and enjoy a free cup of coffee on the 5th floor, courtesy of Georgetown University Press!

LISTENING LOUNGE: ORAL HISTORY COLLABORATIVE 5TH FLOOR



Immerse yourself in impactful stories in the Listening Lounge, where you'll find a curated loop of oral history interview clips. This Special Feature provides a different way to engage with history: hearing eye-witness and firsthand accounts of events. Learn about the past through these individual stories. Practice deep listening. Take a break from sessions. Learn how you can get started on your own oral history work.



HumanitiesDC



DC Public Library

DC ORAL HISTORY COLLABORATIVE

Since 2017, the Collaborative has supported DC residents as they record oral history interviews with members of their communities. In that time, over 400 narrators have generously contributed their invaluable stories and memories on topics including: music, the arts, work, play, activism, and connection to place. Many of these interviews are available in the digital collections of the DC Public Library's People's Archive. We hope listening to these stories will encourage you to consider an oral history project of your own!

FRIDAY 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

SATURDAY 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM



THE GREAT MIGRATION ORAL HISTORY PROJECT: AN INTERGENERATIONAL DIALOGUE

In the Real World History program, DC high school students read *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson, which chronicles the Great Migration of Black Americans from the Jim Crow South to cities in the North and West (1915-1970). Listen to oral history interviews the students conducted with people who came to DC as part of the Migration.

SATURDAY 1:00 - 5:00 PM

THE DC MUSEUM OF SIDEWALK STUFF: POP-UP MUSEUM FRIDAY & SATURDAY 1:15 - 3:15 PM

ALLISON PRESS, XENA NI

Free sidewalk stuff is a cultural symbol of DC city life, inspired by centuries-old mutual aid traditions that reemerged during the COVID era. Whether it's an old pair of shoes, wooden clothes hangers, or an extension cord left curbside, free sidewalk stuff is an informal way of sharing resources with each other. The DC Museum of Sidewalk Stuff is a pop-up museum that shares the real stories behind these everyday objects. The museum connects a city of strangers through the stories behind the stuff they give away, elevating this everyday act of care by celebrating the objects themselves.

SESSION A 10:15 - 11:30 AM

THE DEAF PRINTERS PAGES: PRESERVING STORIES OF DEAF PRINTERS AT THE WASHINGTON POST



Keywords: 20th Century, Cultural History, Dis/ability History

Printing *The Washington Post* in the mid-20th century required a skilled labor force—nearly a quarter of whom were Deaf. In the composing room, ad department, and mail room, Deaf printers developed language strategies and social networks with their hearing co-workers to navigate their work. As technology transformed printing at *The Post*, the number of Deaf printers dwindled and their unique linguistic forms were lost to time. This panel is inspired by Gallaudet University's online exhibit, *Deaf Printers Pages*, and includes the perspectives of retired printers who reflect on their experiences of this unique community in Washington, DC.

PRESENTERS:

Jan DeLap, Retired Deaf Printer, *The Washington Post*

Janie Golightly, Retired Deaf Printer, *The Washington Post*

Dick Moore, Retired Deaf Printer, *The Washington Post*

MODERATORS:

Brian H. Greenwald, PhD, Professor of History and Director of the Drs. John S. & Betty J. Schuchman Deaf Documentary Center, Gallaudet University

Jannelle Legg, Assistant Professor of History and Project Manager of the Deaf Printers Pages at the Schuchman Deaf Documentary Center, Gallaudet University

SWANN QUEEN: REMEMBERING DC'S FIRST BLACK QUEER ICON, WILLIAM DORSEY SWANN



Keywords: 19th Century, 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Black History, Arts & Culture

Know the name: William Dorsey Swann. Swann, the first documented, self-described drag queen was the host of iconic underground drag balls in 19th-century DC. Born into slavery in Maryland in 1858, Swann created authentic, joyful, safe queer spaces in the nation's capital. In doing so, their chosen-family faced persecution and attacks on their lives, including by local police, marking some of the first documented instances of queer resistance in the United States. The producers of SWANN QUEEN, an upcoming historical fiction film, highlight Swann's contributions to Black, queer, DC history while evaluating film as a way to honor historical memory.

PRESENTERS:

L Cedeño Miller (they/them), *Writer/Director/Producer*, SWANN QUEEN

Lee Levingston Perine (he/him), *Producer*, SWANN QUEEN

Pussy Noir (she/they), *Producer/Actor*, SWANN QUEEN

UNCOVERING DC HISTORY AT THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



Keywords: 19th Century, 20th Century, Black History, Politics and Government

You might not think "local" when you hear "Library of Congress" (LOC), but the institution's Manuscript Division team wants you to know you're wrong! Learn from LOC specialists why you should be researching local, 20th-century Washington, DC at the world's largest library. Whether you're a historian, student, educator, researcher, or interested community member, learn how to access these resources to uncover the city's history, particularly on topics related to race and class in the city. Attendees will walk away with an understanding of what LOC holds in its collection, search tips, and suggested research topics.

PRESENTERS:

Loretta Deaver, *Reference Librarian*, Library of Congress, Manuscript Division

Ahmed Johnson, *African American Genealogy Specialist*, Library of Congress

Ryan Reft, *Historian*, Library of Congress, Manuscript Division

Lara Szypszak, *Reference Librarian*, Library of Congress, Manuscript Division

SESSION B 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM

DR. EDWIN BANCROFT HENDERSON: THE GRANDFATHER OF BLACK BASKETBALL IN WASHINGTON, DC



Keywords: 20th Century, Black History, Education, Arts and Culture

Dr. Edwin Bancroft (E.B.) Henderson spent the summers between 1904 and 1907 studying at Harvard University's Dudley Sargent School of Physical Training. He returned home to Washington, DC and introduced basketball to African American youth on a wide-scale basis for the first time. He established the first Black athletic leagues, an organization to train officials, and created opportunities for young people to participate in organized sports. Dr. Bancroft's 1910 *Spalding Official Handbook* and 1939 *The Negro in Sports* were the first books to document Black participation in athletics. This panel celebrates Dr. Henderson's life and legacy while encouraging DC to reclaim a place in the history of basketball.

PRESENTERS:

Edwin B. Henderson II, *Public Historian*, Tinner Hill Heritage Foundation

Keith Irby, *Archivist*, Eastern Board of Officials

Barrington Scott, *Trustee*, University of the District of Columbia

HISTORY BEHIND THE SCENES

Looking for inspiration and creative ways to examine the past? This panel provides three case studies using interdisciplinary approaches and unique types of evidence for historical research: compensation petitions, archaeological records, and photo collages.

COLD ACCOUNTING: COLORISM IN THE 1862 VALUATIONS OF EMANCIPATED PERSONS IN WASHINGTON, DC



Keywords: 19th Century, Black History, Economic History, Social History

The Compensated Emancipation Act of 1862 freed enslaved individuals in Washington, DC. The ugly truth? Emancipation resulted in payment to enslavers for their "losses." Deirdre Collier explains how she used the 1862 Compensation Petitions database to answer the question: Did the color of a freed person's skin inform the price paid to their enslavers? Most existing research focuses on age, gender, and skill set. This is the first accounting research project to investigate the role of colorism.

CURATION CRISIS: REINTERPRETING THE DISTRICT'S ARCHAEOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS



Keywords: 19th Century, Archaeology, Built Environment, Neighborhood History

Enormous 1980s and 1990s construction projects, including the Convention Center and what is now Capital One Arena at Gallery Place, replaced entire DC neighborhood blocks. In the process, District archaeologists preserved objects from these sites, which then suffered neglect from a lack of safe storage. Now, the collections are being rehoused at the renovated Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library. Ruth Troccoli describes why this is an opportunity for gaining new insights from old collections and how archaeology reveals past Washingtonians' stories that could otherwise disappear from the historical record.

PHOTO COLLAGE/PUBLIC ART: DOCUMENTING CHANGES TO THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT



Keywords: Activism/Advocacy, Arts & Culture, Black History, Cultural History, Public History

Time passes, and cities change—new layers built upon old ones. Gail Rebhan mirrors this dynamic through photo collages. Incorporating current photographs with research, ephemera, and historic photographs, she creates a single, layered image to explore the history of a site. She uses collage as public art to make neighborhood history accessible as residents, passersby, and workers live their daily lives. Rebhan is currently creating art that pushes back on the erasure of Bethesda River Road's Black history and community.

PRESENTERS:

Deirdre Collier, PhD, Associate Professor, Fairleigh Dickinson University

Ruth Troccoli, District Archaeologist, DC Historic Preservation Office/Office of Planning

Gail Rebhan, Photographer/Professor Emerita, Northern Virginia Community College

MODERATOR:

Stan Veuger, Senior Fellow, Economic Policy Studies, American Enterprise Institute

TURNING POINTS

Learn how glass bottles, the Potomac River Flood of 1936, and the founding of the Washington Canoe Club each uniquely signaled moments of change in the nation's capital. Connecting these three presentations offers commentary on questions of belonging, exclusion, and environmental justice.

UNEASY WATERS: A HISTORY OF FLOODING AND FLOOD CONTROL IN WASHINGTON, DC, 1870-1942



Keywords: 20th Century, Black History, Built Environment, Environmental History, Politics and Government

As sea levels rise and extreme weather rocks our communities, Carmen Bolt leads a discussion on a historic and current environmental issue: flooding. In 1936, a catastrophic flood on the Potomac sparked government action for flood-control measures across the country. In DC, those initiatives failed local communities. Instead, they protected the federal city and its financial standing. Facing climate change today, environmental justice calls on us to learn from the past to protect lives and livelihoods over economic gain.

DRINKING DEMOCRACY: GLASS BOTTLES AND CITIZENSHIP IN LATE 19TH-CENTURY WASHINGTON, DC



Keywords: 19th Century, Archaeology, Cultural History, Immigration, Social History

After the Civil War, the newly reunified government needed to rebrand the city. While DC's German immigrants oriented the drinking culture towards beer, Temperance Movement advocates classified Black and immigrant Washingtonians unfit for citizenship. These competing purposes collided over the regulation of glass bottles—from branding to recycling and policing. Nikki Grigg follows the circulation of bottles through living rooms, saloons, cellars, middens, washing facilities, and breweries to analyze how Washingtonians contended with citizenship in the nation's capital.

INDUSTRIAL WATERFRONT TO RECREATIONAL DESTINATION: THE WASHINGTON CANOE CLUB

Keywords: Built Environment, Environmental History



Walking along Georgetown's waterfront, it's difficult to imagine the site as an agricultural hub or industrial port. Angelina Ribeiro Jones describes how boating clubs, such as the Washington Canoe Club (WCC), ushered in change on the Potomac River with the creation of a boathouse row centered around the Alexandria Aqueduct's northern abutment. With WCC's 1904 founding, industrial and recreational land uses co-existed on the waterfront before eventually yielding to today's solely recreational uses. The story of riverfront land use lends historical context to current debates about water quality and access to recreational space.

PRESENTERS:

Carmen Bolt, *Doctoral Candidate, American University*

Nikki Grigg, *Archaeologist/Doctoral Student, University of Chicago*

Angelina Ribeiro Jones, *Cultural Landscape Architect, National Park Service, National Capital Region*

MODERATOR:

Lina Mann, *Historian, White House Historical Association*

HISTORY NETWORK 1:15 - 3:15 PM

RECLAIMING BLACK JOY: PLACING PLAY IN OUR LIBERATION (A PLAY) 2:00 - 2:45 PM

Location: New Books, 1st Floor

From the artist, Sisi Reid: Play is essential to our development as humans. This presentation illuminates that need by weaving together the past and present to imagine future liberation. It includes the perspective of two marginalized groups in the Black community (children and LGBTQ+ folks). My play allows audiences to witness with me while I perform and play as a child at Rosedale Park and as a member of The Clubhouse during Children's Hour. By recreating these historical DC sites I will embody how important play is for cognitive development, creating community relationships, and personal joy in the face of the realities of segregation and persecution. My presentation will be a form of activism and part of the ongoing conversation about the structural oppressions and state violence that harms Black children and LGBTQ+ people's ability to be safe and free.

SESSION C 3:30 - 4:45 PM

COMMUNITY MEMORY AND EMPOWERMENT: MOUNT ZION-FEMALE UNION BAND SOCIETY CEMETERY



Keywords: 19th Century, 20th Century, Anthropology, Black History, Memory Studies

The oldest African American burial ground in Washington, DC was nearly redeveloped in the late 1950s, but thanks to the work of dedicated community activists, the Mount Zion-Female Union Band Society Cemetery in Georgetown has been preserved. Mount Zion is the resting place for over 8,000 individuals who lived, worshiped, and worked in the city from the 1700s to the 1950s. The cemetery is a vital archive of Black memory and a space of community empowerment, place-making, and creative inspiration. Presenters will discuss their work identifying, naming, and researching individuals and family histories of those interred at Mount Zion.

PRESENTERS:

Mark Auslander, PhD, *Historical Anthropologist, Mount Holyoke College*

Lisa Fager, *Executive Director, Mount Zion-Female Union Band Society Historic Memorial Park*

Patrick Tisdale, *Volunteer Database Manager, Mount Zion-Female Union Band Society Historic Memorial Park*

Neville Waters III, *President, Board of Mt. Zion-Female Union Band Society Historic Memorial Park*

FIGHT FOR ENFRANCHISEMENT

Voting rights—who can vote and who cannot—and what representation citizens have in their government is a fundamental question in the United States political system. The lack of enfranchisement in DC offers its own unique case study. This panel spotlights three distinct moments in DC's long fight for enfranchisement.

A PROGRESSIVE LEGAL LEGACY: DC LEGAL REFORM DURING THE HOME RULE ERA



Keywords: 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Politics and Government

For decades, Washingtonians fought for the right to control their local politics. With the passage of the Home Rule Act in 1973, DC finally achieved self-rule. Approaching the 50th anniversary, Christopher Anglim explores how this change in governance structure opened the door to progressive policies, including reproductive rights, criminal justice reform, racial equity, and LGBTQ+ rights. All the while, federal intervention in local politics curbed local reform and perpetuated disenfranchisement in DC.

MAPPING SUFFRAGE: THE PUSH FOR THE 19TH AMENDMENT IN WASHINGTON, DC



Keywords: Activism/Advocacy, Education, Built Environment, Public History, Women's History

In the United States, women didn't gain the right to vote until 1920. This Women's History month, Kaitlin Calogera charts the suffrage movement's path across Washington, DC with an interactive map. Using images and videos to highlight monuments and historically significant locations, the project is an homage to the movement's use of maps as tools for advocacy and organizing. A Tour of Her Own, in partnership with the National Women's History Museum, developed these resources.

BLOODY MONDAY: IMMIGRATION, NATIVISM, AND THE ELECTION RIOT OF 1857



Keywords: 19th Century, Cultural History, Immigration, Politics and Government, Social History

Are we more politically polarized in 2023 than at any other point in history? Mark Herlong draws comparisons between today's political climate and 19th-century Washington, DC. Issues of the day—immigration, economic instability, election fraud, media bias—came down to this question: What does it mean to be American? The combustible political scene ignited during the 1857 local election, resulting in a riot at the city's Mount Vernon Square polling location.

PRESENTERS:

Christopher Anglim, *University Archivist/Reference Librarian, University of the District of Columbia*

Kaitlin Calogera, *Founder, A Tour of Her Own*

Mark Herlong, *Local Historian*

MODERATOR:

Mark Benbow, PhD, *Marymount University/Arlington Historical*

EVOKING MEMORY

This panel illuminates three lesser-known stories in Washington, DC history: an enslaved craftsman who built Tudor Place, the tuberculosis outbreak in the District, and the World War II Washington Plane Plotters. By bringing forth these once-lost memories, we are able to remember and honor the past.

SAMUEL COLLINS: UNCOVERING THE LIVES OF ENSLAVED ARTISANS IN WASHINGTON, DC



Keywords: 19th Century, Arts and Culture, Black History, Social History

Skilled craftsmen constructed buildings across the District—including the center block of Tudor Place in 1816. Typically, the names of craftsmen, especially enslaved craftsmen, were not recorded. At Tudor Place, however, one was: plasterer Samuel Collins. As part of an institutional project to tell enslaved craftsmen's stories, Rob DeHart introduces us to Samuel Collins, including his later life as a freedman living in Georgetown with his family.

FORGOTTEN PLAGUE: GLENN DALE TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIUM, A FAMILY STORY



Keywords: 20th Century, Black History, Built Environment, Memory Studies

By the 1950s, DC residents had lived for more than half a century under the threat of a deadly, contagious infection. Like COVID-19, tuberculosis spread through the air most often by coughing, and DC recorded the second-highest rate of TB deaths in the nation. Leah Latimer's research into this decades-long, largely overlooked era is inspired by her mother's experience in quarantine at the District's 400-bed Glenn Dale Tuberculosis Sanatorium. Latimer's work reveals a time of widespread control and confinement, and considers how political and public health responses harshly impacted Black families like her own.

"ARMY FLASH": FEMALE CIVIL DEFENSE WORKERS AT THE ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY COMMAND CENTER

Keywords: 20th Century, Cultural History, Military History, Women's History

During World War II, a group of volunteer, civilian women manually plotted aircraft traveling through DC air space. Anne Dobberteen discusses this select group of women, known as the "Washington Plane Plotters," who performed top-secret, unpaid, skilled labor under the supervision of male military officers. Through their work, they learned to see their familiar city from above using a global grid. World War II homefront historians largely overlook their work, as well as the national volunteer effort that these Plane Plotters were affiliated with, known as the Aircraft Warning Service (AWS).

PRESENTERS:

Rob DeHart, Curator, Tudor Place Historic House and Gardens

Leah Y. Latimer, Retired Reporter/Editor, *The Washington Post*; Founding Editorial Director, "Voices of Civil Rights" Collection, Library of Congress

Anne Dobberteen, Doctoral Candidate, George Mason University

MODERATOR:

Ashley Preston, PhD, Howard University



THE FIGHT TO DECRIMINALIZE: STREET VENDING IN THE DISTRICT

Keywords: Activism/Advocacy, Black History, Economic History, Latinx/Hispanic History, Politics and Government



Street vending has long been a path for survival, economic independence, and freedom for poor and working-class residents of Washington, DC—especially Black, Latino, and Indigenous Washingtonians. In fact, well-known figures Alethia Browning Tanner and Sophia Browning Bell sold produce downtown in the early 1800s to purchase freedom for themselves and their families. Historically, regulatory authorities in the District not only denied support to street vendors but criminalized their work. This panel of vendors and organizers from Vendedores Unidos/Vendors United and Beloved Community Incubator explore this history, as well as vendor activists' organizing efforts fighting restrictions and the public demonization of their work.

PRESENTERS:

Organizers with Beloved Community Incubator

Vendors with Vendedores Unidos/Vendors United

DC HISTORY CONFERENCE: AFTER HOURS

5:00 - 7:30 PM

Location: Rooftop, 5th Floor

Join us after Friday's final session for an evening of food, drink, music, and dancing! The conference "after hours" will include a short address from the conference partners, appetizers, drinks, and live music. Come celebrate a weekend of DC history with us!

SATURDAY MARCH 25TH

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. LIBRARY

COFFEE & TEA 9:30 - 10:30 AM

Come early to enjoy a free cup of coffee on the 5th floor to start the final day of the conference.

SESSION D 10:15 - 11:30 AM

THE REPERSAISSANCE: HONORING DC'S FIRST AND LAST PROFESSIONAL BLACK THEATER COMPANY



Keywords: 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Black History, Cultural History, Education

In the District today there is no major theater institution under Black ownership. But in the 1970s, Black theater had its heyday in DC. Members of the DC Black Repertory Company Alumni Association gather to discuss the city's first and last professional Black theater company. Founded by Robert Hooks in 1971, the DC Black Repertory Company provided free theater classes and presented productions about African American life. Forced to close its doors in the 1980s, this panel details the Black cultural movement in the second half of the 20th century, the legacy of the DC Black Repertory Company, and its role in shaping Washington, DC into a world-class city.

PRESENTERS:

Rev. Rhonda Akankè Mclean-Nu, *Griot Storyteller, Actress, President, DC Black Repertory Company Alumni Association*

Lyn Dyson, *Former Member, DC Black Repertory Company, The Rep, Inc.*

James Early, *Scholar, Smithsonian Institution*



SEEKING CHANGE:

The reality of justice-based work is that it takes time to make significant gains in a society turned against those asking for change. This panel explores national, neighborhood, and community efforts to gain autonomy and freedom in late 20th-century Washington, DC.

THE HISTORY OF DISABILITY RIGHTS IN WASHINGTON, DC

Keywords: 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Dis/ability History, Public History, Social History

Disability history is woven into all aspects of American history. Key moments in disability history in Washington, DC range from protest to policy change. Some important African American figures in DC also experienced disability. This presentation will highlight some of the more influential events and people related to disability rights in DC. Patricia Chadwick writes on disability and media issues. She co-founded the Disability Social History Project with her late husband Stephen Dias, a disability activist and archivist, to provide resources on disability culture, media, and history.

“PEOPLE SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN EVERY DECISION AFFECTING THEIR LIVES”: A FIGHT FOR NEIGHBORHOOD AUTONOMY IN THE 1970S

Keywords: 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Black History, Neighborhood History

Prior to Home Rule in Washington, DC residents created powerful grassroots movements for self-governance. The Adams Morgan Organization (AMO) created its own assembly as a forum for democratic decision-making. Their conviction was that “the people of Adams Morgan can govern themselves.” Tim Kumfer revisits this radical experience 50 years later, charting how the collective voice of this multiracial and multilingual body held elections and organized committees. Without statehood, Washingtonians continue to turn to their power through grassroots action.

SIEMPRE ESPERANDO: THE POLITICS OF WAITING IN EL SALVADOR AND THE DMV

Keywords: Built Environment, Economic History, Immigration, Latinx/Hispanic History

Since the 1970s, Salvadoran migration has shaped the DMV’s ethnic and cultural dynamic. Edwin Rodriguez discusses the role of “waiting” in migrant culture—waiting to immigrate or for remittances, for immigration reform, for rental assistance, for phone calls from home, and for the bus. As the DMV deals with a backlog of eviction cases and rental assistance paperwork, these stories center the realities of individuals in the DMV, financially surviving in a quickly developing region and in El Salvador, waiting.

PRESENTERS:

Patricia Chadwick, *Co-Founder*, Disability Social History Project

Tim Kumfer, *Doctoral Candidate*, University of Maryland

Edwin Rodriguez, *Doctoral Candidate*, Brown University

MODERATOR:

Rebecca Lemos-Otero, *Executive Director*, HumanitiesDC

TEACHING LOCAL HISTORY

This panel features three educators sharing methods to incorporate DC history into the classroom, creating ways to engage students in DC history, connect with their community, and explore the city’s public history infrastructure.

USING EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING TECHNIQUES TO TEACH DC HISTORY

Keywords: Black History, Indigenous History

We learn better by doing. Educator Raphael Bonhomme encourages educators to bring DC history into the classroom by using experiential learning techniques. Photographs, interviews, and other methods can make learning about history more engaging for students.

THE HISTORY OF LATIN PEDAGOGY IN WASHINGTON, DC

Keywords: 19th Century, Arts and Culture, Built Environment



Schools across Washington, DC—and the country—are dropping Latin from their curriculum. Educator Garret Dome digs into how Latin was taught in the 19th century and makes a case for continuing to teach it today. By studying past curriculums, we better understand today's curriculum.

MAXIMIZING AND MAPPING THE DC LEARNING AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Keywords: Activism/Advocacy, Built Environment, Education, Neighborhood History



When given the opportunity, taking students out of the classroom to visit historic sites and monuments helps students and educators connect to their city and community. Inside the classroom, using object-based learning deepens student understanding. Educator Rosalyn Lake shares the tools she learned about and implemented in her classroom after participating in Teach the District, a local teacher professional development program (formerly called the DC Declaration of Learning).

PRESENTERS:

Raphael Bonhomme, Elementary Educator

Garrett Dome, Latin and History Teacher, BASIS

Rosalyn Damiana Lake Montero, Youth Advocate, Entrepreneur, Educator

MODERATOR:

Juan Samperio, Librarian, McKinley Technology High School

ROUNDTABLE: WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE DC ORAL HISTORY COLLABORATIVE?

Keywords: Memory Studies, Public History, Oral History



HumanitiesDC convenes a town hall-style discussion with facilitators who have experience with the DC Oral History Collaborative. As the Collaborative turns six years old, we want to envision its future together. While hearing from grantees about their projects, the focus will be a facilitated conversation with the audience that seeks to answer questions such as:

- What stories have been left untold?
- How do we encourage Washingtonians to listen to and learn from recorded stories?
- What should the DC Oral History Collaborative be doing differently?
- How can the Collaborative better serve you? How can it be more accessible?

Audience: Washingtonians interested in oral history

PRESENTERS:

Jasper Collier, Senior Manager, DC Oral History Collaborative, HumanitiesDC

Benji de la Piedra, Oral Historian, DC Oral History Collaborative

Dominique Hazzard, Doctoral Candidate, Johns Hopkins University

John A. Johnson, Founder and Creator, Verbal Gymnastics Theater Company

Sami Miranda, Visual artist, Poet, Teacher

Judy Waxman, Oral Historian



FEDERAL CITY

This panel considers Washington, DC's identity as a federal city. By reinterpreting its founding, revisiting key figures, and analyzing a single structure, this panel asks questions about land, jurisdiction, policing, and fundamentally how DC's identity as local and federal shapes the city.

THE DISTANT DUTCHMEN AND THE FOUNDING OF WASHINGTON, DC

Keywords: 18th Century, Neighborhood History, Politics and Government, Public History, Genealogy

Genealogy can play an important role in reinterpreting local history. Virginia Nuta researched her family genealogy—including her ancestor Jacob Funk, who founded Hamburg, now Foggy Bottom—to consider George Washington's 18th-century motivations to locate the federal city on the Potomac. Using land records and property transactions, she takes a closer look at local interests to offer new interpretations of the founding of the nation's capital.

TENCH RINGGOLD: WASHINGTON, DC'S CONTROVERSIAL MARSHAL, 1818-1831

Keywords: 19th Century, Black History, Cultural History, Politics and Government, Social History

Tench Ringgold is a controversial figure in the history of early Washington, DC and thus is important to understand. Serving as United States marshal for the District of Columbia between 1818 and 1831, he enforced unpopular laws and Black codes. He was also a friend of three presidents and many justices of the Supreme Court. Terence Walz examines Ringgold's role as a prominent, if notorious, Washingtonian.

QUEER RIGHTS, POLICING, AND PUBLIC ACTIVISM IN LAFAYETTE PARK AS TOLD THROUGH THE HISTORY OF THE LAFAYETTE PARK LODGE

Keywords: 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, LGBTQ+, Politics and Government

It's possible you haven't noticed the National Park Service's Lafayette Park Lodge. Or maybe you noticed it when civil rights activists burned the building in protest of the police murder of George Floyd. An inconspicuous structure, the Lodge has a storied history as the backdrop for civil rights, especially queer rights, policing, and public activism in Washington. Kevin Wohlgemuth looks at the history of the Lodge as an example of the federal government's criminalization and policing of cruising in DC parks. The repressive crackdown, known as the "Sex Perversion Elimination Program," demonstrates the federal policing of local DC and how queer communities fought back to codify their civil rights.

PRESENTERS:

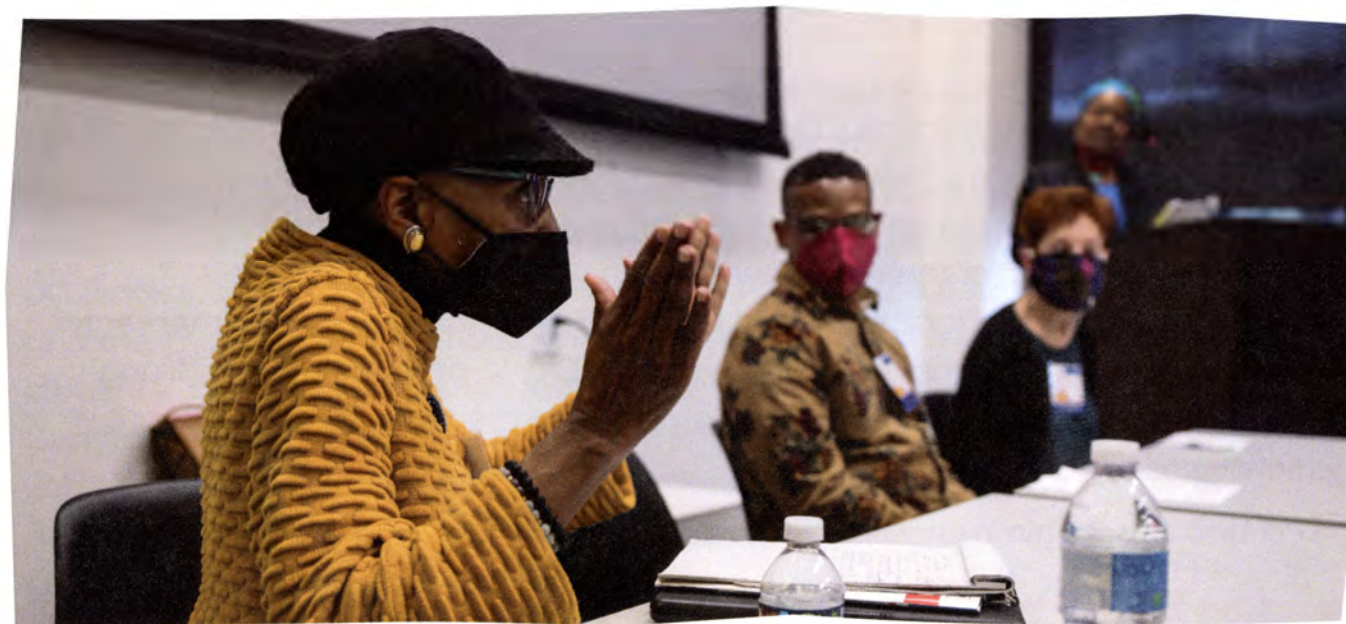
Virginia Nuta, *Historian, Attorney, Genealogist*

Terence Walz, PhD, *Independent Scholar*

Kevin Wohlgemuth, *Associate Conservator/Historic Preservationist, Building Conservation Associates, Inc.*

MODERATOR:

Cassandra Good, PhD, *Marymount University*



AFTERMATH: 1968 WASHINGTON, DC

The political uprisings and civil disturbances of 1968 left a mark on the city. This panel discusses their long-term effects.

DESTRUCTION, POLICY, AND THE EVOLVING CONSEQUENCES OF WASHINGTON, DC'S 1968 CIVIL DISTURBANCE



Keywords: 20th Century, Built Environment, Economic History, Neighborhood History, Politics and Government

What drives urban redevelopment? Using archival and administrative data, Stan Veuger studies the aftermath of the 1968 uprising in Washington, DC to track and explain the development of the 14th Street NW, 7th Street NW, and H Street NE corridors over the past half-century. He shows that the destroyed lots remained disproportionately vacant for over 30 years. Even if they were not vacant, the buildings' value remained below that of other lots on the same blocks until recently. As for-profit developers and owners are incentivized to leave lots vacant until "conditions improve," the city has purchased 90% of destroyed properties and half of all properties along the damaged corridors to accelerate redevelopment. This research can inform ongoing debates about the role of the public sector in real estate development and gentrification.

PLYWOOD DREAMS: AN URBAN-ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS OF RESURRECTION CITY, SUMMER 1968



Keywords: 20th Century, Black History, Built Environment, Environmental History, Politics and Government

The images from Resurrection City depict a grassy, manicured parkland turned into "rivers of mud" and a "warzone." Taking advantage of these images, press coverage drew visual connections to urban renewal and international warfare, clouding perceptions of the movement, which was, in reality, Black-led, intersectional activism for Civil Rights. Morgan Forde provides an environmental and urban historical reanalysis of Resurrection City to demonstrate the fraught relationship between the city's activist project and the physical environment in which it was situated.

"WE WANT TO REBUILD. . . WHAT DO YOU WANT?": COMMUNITY CONTROL AND REBUILDING AFTER THE 1968 REBELLIONS



Keywords: Activism/Advocacy, Anthropology, Public History, Social History, Sociology

After the 1968 rebellions, Washington, DC attempted to rebuild the Shaw neighborhood based on a community-centered model. DC officials and activists hoped that the process of rebuilding would generate jobs for Black Washingtonians, provide quality housing for low-income residents, and create a beautiful community out of the ruins. Although federal budget cuts created insurmountable hurdles to this community-based approach, Kyla Sommers aims to reframe our understanding of this period beyond violence and despair to see activism and awakening.

PRESENTERS:

Morgan Forde, *Doctoral Student, Harvard University*

Kyla Sommers, PhD, *Independent Historian*

Stan Veuger, *Senior Fellow, Economic Policy Studies, American Enterprise Institute*

MODERATOR:

Dominique Hazzard, *Doctoral Candidate, Johns Hopkins University*

ROUNDTABLE: BLACK EDUCATION EXHIBITIONS AND RELATED PROGRAMMING



Keywords: 19th Century, 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Black History, Education, Arts & Culture

In 2024, two local institutions will launch complementary exhibitions about the distinct history of Black education in Washington, DC, with research and programming support by a third. Marking the 70th anniversary of the desegregation of the DC public school system, the exhibits explore education for DC Black students, including the Reconstruction era, the *Bolling v. Sharpe* decision, and the impact of local African American artist-educators on generations of students. Join this community roundtable with staff members of the DC History Center, the Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum, and the Charles Sumner School Museum and Archives to contribute unknown stories, flag areas for research, workshop exhibit concepts, and propose programming ideas and K-12 engagement opportunities.

Audiences: Students of Lillian Thomas Burwell, Melvin Deal, Alma Thomas, Sam Gilliam, Bernice Hammond, and William N. Buckner, Jr., among many others; researchers of DC education history; K-12 educators

PRESENTERS:

Anne McDonough, Deputy Director, DC History Center

Crystal Hurd, Programs Coordinator/Marketing/Social Media Manager, Charles Sumner School Museum and Archives

Dr. Samir Meghelli, Senior Curator, Smithsonian's Anacostia Community Museum in Washington, DC

POSTER SESSION 1:15 - 3:15 PM

OPENING CHANNELS OF CULTURAL COMMUNICATION: STORIES FROM THE DC ART BANK 1:30 - 3:00 PM

Location: New Books, 1st Floor

Keywords: 19th Century, 20th Century, Arts and Culture

The District's Art Bank Collection is a valuable resource unknown to many District residents. The Commission on the Arts and Humanities collects artworks to display in public areas and government buildings across the city. Works from the collection were recently installed at MLK Library, including the very first artwork to enter the Art Bank, Sam Gilliam's *Ship*, 1967, up to recent works, such as Julia Bloom's typewriter drawings, created out of the urgent need to communicate during the COVID-19 pandemic. This panel provides insight into how visual art opens us to new forms of understanding.

PRESENTERS:

Jonathan P. Binstock, Vradenburg Director and CEO, The Phillips Collection

Julia Bloom, Artist

Jean Lawlor Cohen, Curator, Arts Writer, and Friend of Gene Davis

Irene Kellogg, Artist

Marcel Taylor, Artist

MODERATOR:

Melanee Harvey, PhD, Associate Professor of Art History, Howard University

SESSION F 3:30 - 4:45 PM

THE POLITICS OF REMEMBRANCE: WOMEN IN DC HISTORY

This panel pays tribute to prominent women—and women's groups—in Washington, DC history. The presenters analyze how we remember and memorialize their contributions.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BLACK MAMMY MONUMENT AND LOST CAUSE IDEOLOGIES



Keywords: 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Black History, Cultural History, Memory Studies, Women's History

In the early 1920s, the United Daughters of the Confederacy proposed the construction of a Black "mammy" monument in Washington, DC. This stereotype of Black women was common following the Antebellum era and is considered to be anti-Black. Alisa Hardy recounts the heated debate following United Daughters of the Confederacy's proposition, which triggered the opposition campaign of the National Association of Colored Women and the NAACP. This presentation analyzes activists' rhetorical strategies in the battle over the nation's memory of enslaved women.



LYDIA HAMILTON SMITH: A REMARKABLE BLACK BUSINESSWOMAN IN A TALE OF TWO CITIES

Keywords: 19th Century, Black History, Built Environment, Women's History

Lydia Hamilton Smith was a remarkable Black businesswoman who navigated the complexities of 19th-century America with few civil or legal rights. Born free in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Smith became the property manager and confidant of radical Republican Congressman Thaddeus Stevens for the last 20 years of his life—both in Lancaster and Washington, DC. Randolph Harris argues that Stevens and Smith, individually and as a pair, demonstrated a commitment to equality of races and genders, and rejected ideals that relegated women to a lesser status.

THE LGBTQ SIGNIFICANCE OF LUCY DIGGS SLOWE: AFRICAN AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL LEADER



Keywords: 20th Century, Black History, Built Environment, LGBTQ+, Public History

Combing historical records for queer individuals proves to be a tricky task. Susan Ferentinos digs into the “burden of proof” faced by historians identifying the LGBTQ+ associations and identities of historical figures. She presents Lucy Diggs Slowe (1885–1937) as an example. The first Dean of Women at Howard University, Slowe was partnered for 20 years with Mary Burrill, a playwright and teacher in DC’s segregated school system. With the call for cultural heritage sites to tell inclusive histories, how does the challenge of “proof” foil their efforts?

PRESENTERS:

Alisa Hardy, *Doctoral Student, University of Maryland*

Randolph Harris, *LancasterHistory*

Susan Ferentinos, PhD, *Public History Researcher, Writer, and Consultant*

MODERATOR:

Aungelic Nelson, *Founder, Majani Project*

UNICORN TIMES: 50TH ANNIVERSARY PANEL COMMEMORATION



Keywords: 20th Century, Arts and Culture, Cultural History, Social History

This panel commemorates the 50th anniversary of *Unicorn Times*, a monthly newspaper published in Washington, DC from 1973 to 1985. Started by the late Elliot Ryan, the beloved newspaper covered music, art, film, and theater and left a lasting cultural impression on the DC community. Former *Unicorn Times* editor, Richard Harrington, and several former staffers join together to discuss and celebrate the newspaper’s entire run. This independent paper is digitized and available on the DC Public Library’s site DigDC.

PRESENTERS:

Ken Coughlin, *Editor (1980–81), Unicorn Times*

Roger Glass, *Writer and Journalist*

Richard Harrington, *Music Journalist and Former Editor (1975–1980), Unicorn Times*

Mark Jenkins, *Staff Paste-Up Artist, Critic and Arts Journalist*

Judy Willard, *Staff Design and Executor, Estate of Elliot Ryan*

MODERATOR:

Jeff Krulik, *Filmmaker*

BEAUTY VS. JUSTICE

How does the city bridge its role as the nation’s capital with its role as a home for its residents? This panel of three case studies highlights Washington, DC’s history of displacement.

THE RIGHT TO OCCUPY PUBLIC SPACE: HOBO JUNGLES, HOOVERVILLES, AND HOMELESS ENCAMPMENTS IN WASHINGTON, DC



Keywords: Activism/Advocacy, Anthropology, Public History, Social History, Sociology

It is, unfortunately, always a timely moment to discuss the long history of Washington, DC’s criminalization of self-made homeless camps. From 19th-century hobo jungles to the Hoovervilles of the Great Depression to today’s contemporary encampments, Aaron Howe and Shannon Clark make an argument for the right of people experiencing homelessness to occupy public space when no humane alternatives exist. To do so, they center the daily lives of human beings navigating the District’s anti-homeless laws and institutions.

“PUBLIC USE” AND THE FATE OF THE COMMUNITY DISPLACED FOR THE SENATE OFFICE BUILDING: WHOSE USE, WHICH PUBLIC?



Keywords: 20th Century, Black History, Politics and Government, Social History

When the Federal Government constructed the first Senate Office Building in the early 1900s, they displaced local residents. While the stories of communities destroyed for government buildings are rarely told, they raise pressing questions about justice and democracy. Carolyn Swope tells the stories of the neighbors displaced by this structure. She asks how Black residents were inequitably impacted by the building project and how segregation developed and intensified on a larger scale.

EXPANDING RACIAL SEGREGATION ON CAPITOL HILL: EVIDENCE FROM THE 1930, 1940, AND 1950 CENSUS

Keywords: 20th Century, Black History, Built Environment, Sociology



By looking at an incredibly narrow section of the city, you can learn about racial segregation in DC. Johanna Bockman does just that with the G to I Streets SE, and 6th to 7th Streets SE—blocks that were destroyed in 1939 to build a white, segregated public housing project. Looking at Census data from the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s, she charts how racial segregation expanded in DC during the mid-20th century. The presentation illuminates the long-term effects of displacement on the city's residents.

PRESENTERS:

Aaron Howe, *Doctoral Candidate*, American University
Shannon Clark, *Doctoral Candidate*, American University
Carolyn Swope, *Doctoral Candidate*, Columbia University
Johanna Bockman, *Associate Professor*, George Mason University

MODERATOR:

Khaleelah I.L. Harris, *Public Historian and Art Curator*

ROUNDTABLE: SIN BARRERAS: DISMANTLING BARRIERS TO DOCUMENTING AND COLLECTING LATINO/A/X HISTORIES

Keywords: Activism/Advocacy, Immigration, Latinx/Hispanic History, Social History



Excluding Latino/a/x histories and narratives has been a persistent issue for DC's memory-keeping institutions. The newly created Latino/a/x Advisory Group at the DC History Center works toward understanding and forming strategies to address this gap in the historical record. This community roundtable will address the group's findings over the last year and discuss the next steps to address the root causes of these exclusions—known as archival silences. How do we best empower communities to tell their stories in a way that is impactful and represents their lived experiences?

PRESENTERS:

Mariana Barros-Titus, *Community Outreach Fellow*, DC History Center
José Centeno-Meléndez, *Pre-Doctoral Fellow & Oral Historian*
Rosalyn Damiana Lake Montero, *Youth Advocate, Entrepreneur, Advocate*
Jose Gutierrez, *Founder*, Jose Gutierrez Archives, the Latino LGBT History Project, the DC Latino Pride and co-founder of the Rainbow History Project
Kristy Li Puma, *Doctoral Candidate*, Columbia University
Manuel Mendez, *Founder*, DC Afro Latino Caucus

SATURDAY KEYNOTE 5:00 - 6:00 PM

Location: Auditorium, 5th Floor

THE DC HOME RULE ACT OF 1973: A 50TH ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE



Keywords: 20th Century, Activism/Advocacy, Black History, Built Environment, Politics and Government

The passage of the DC Home Rule Act of 1973 led to DC's first local election for the DC Council since Reconstruction. After a century of federal rule, DC residents would go to the polls in 1974 to elect a Mayor, members of the Council of the District of Columbia, the Board of Education (first elected in 1968), and Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, which were created to ensure that every District resident had a voice in decisions impacting their own lives. A city that was more than 70% Black could finally elect its own leadership and more fully participate in shaping the city's future. This panel discussion commemorates the 50th anniversary of the DC Home Rule Act through the voices of some of the surviving elected members of DC's first Home Rule government.

PRESENTERS:

Arrington Dixon, *Member of first Home Rule Council (later Council Chair)*
Carol Schwartz, *Member of first Home Rule Board of Education (later At-Large Councilmember)*
Frank Smith, *First Home Rule Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner (later Board of Education and Council Member)*

MODERATOR:

Denise Rolark Barnes, *Publisher/Owner of The Washington Informer*

HISTORY NETWORK

FRIDAY, MARCH 24TH 1:15 - 3:15 PM GREAT HALL, 1ST FLOOR

The History Network provides conference attendees with the opportunity to meet representatives from organizations doing humanities-based work across the DMV. Learn about an organization, project, or initiative you'd like to follow, volunteer with, or join and pick up information and swag from participating organizations and individuals.

Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society-James Dent Walker Chapter
Ahmadiyya Muslim Community
Albert H. Small Center for National Capital Area Studies
Alliance to Preserve the Civil War Defenses of Washington
Arlington Historical Society
Bethel Dukes Branch of Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH)
Black Broad Branch Project
Capital Jewish Museum
Charles Sumner School Museum and Archives
Chevy Chase Historical Society
Cleveland Park Historical Society
Council of the District of Columbia Archives Advisory Group
DACOR and DACOR Bacon House Foundation
DC Alliance for Response
DC Archives Advocates
DC Collaborative
DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities
DC Cultural Narratives Collaborative
DC Historic Districts Coalition
DC Historic Preservation Office
DC History Center
DC Legacy Project
DC Office of Public Records
DC Preservation League
DC Public Library / People's Archive
DMV Filipino History (Community Project)
EHT Traceries
Excavating Washington, DC
FDR Memorial Legacy Committee
Female RE-Enactors of Distinction (FREED)
Foggy Bottom Association History Project

Friday Morning Music Club (FMMC)
Friends of Peirce Mill: Peirce Mill (Art) History
Friends of the DC Archives
From Lives Apart to Lives Together Project
Georgetown University Press
German American Heritage Society of Greater Washington
Heurich House Museum
HumanitiesDC
Humanities Truck
La Union DC
Majani Project
Marigold Productions, LLC and The Last Battlefront film team
METRO Anthology
Prince George's County Genealogical Society Inc.
Psychogeographies Projects by Rorschach Theatre
"Shaw, LeDroit Park and Bloomingdale in Washington, D.C.: An Oral History"
Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum
Tropy: Explore Your Research Photos
Trust for the National Mall
Veterans Curation Program
Washington DC Hall of Fame Society, Inc.
Washington Walks
White House Historical Association
Women's History and Resource Center, General Federation of Women's Clubs
Women in Film and Video

POSTER SESSION

SATURDAY, MARCH 25TH 1:15 - 3:15 PM GREAT HALL, 1ST FLOOR

At the DC History Conference Poster Session, presenters share their research visually with attendees in small groups. Visit poster presenters to learn about their work and ask questions! Continue the conversation on social media, sharing your favorites and connecting with presenters.

40 Years and Still Running: A Preview Screening & Space of Reflection

Jose Centeno-Melendez, Quique (Enrique) Avilés, Delia Beristain Noriega, Hilary Binder, Carolina Fuentes

After the War: New Research on the Civil War Defenses of Washington as Part of the Modern City

Emily Button Kambic

Bringing DC's Music History to the Stage

John Ralls

Celebrating BIPOC Voices: Bringing Indigenous and Anti-Racist History into the Middle School and High School Classroom

Kyra Zemanick

"Dap Is a Love Language"

Rhonda Henderson

DC African American Housing Affordability through Modularity

Jaqueline Carmichael

Development of DC Chinatown: Beyond Gentrification

Emily Brignand

The DONtee Project

Hakim Tate

Easy Access: Queer Personal Ads, Digital Archives, and You

Haley Steinhilber

Francis Lewis Cardozo Sr.

Dinah M. Reese, Pamela Reese Smith

"Hurrah, We'll Retrocede!"

Paula Whitacre

The Lasting Legacy of Fountain No. 4 and Associated Designed Landscape in West Potomac Park

Cortney Gjesfeld

Lives Apart Project

Phyllis Holton, Ricardo and Donna Thornton, Bob Williams

The "Stuff" of Queer Black and Latinx DC Spaces: 1970-1990

José Gutiérrez, Kristy Li Puma

Oral History Processes: Collaboratively Collecting Transgender Histories of DC

Darby Hickey

Philippine-American Heritage in Washington, DC

Erwin R. Tiongson

Rebuilding Chocolate City: The History and Future of Black Political Power

Abiola Agoro

The Strange Case of Earl McFarland/The Lonely Life of Dorothy Berrum

Vina Hutchinson

Teaching Intersectional LGBTQ* Activist Histories in the Washington Metropolitan Area

Jamie Myre

Unity Park History

Nancy Shia

The Washington DC Chapter of the Black Panther Party: Community Activists

Natasha Isler

CONFERENCE PRESENTERS AND DONORS

The DC History Conference is co-presented by the DC History Center, the DC Public Library, and Humanities DC; sponsored by the Public History Program at American University; and organized by a volunteer planning committee. We gratefully acknowledge support from the DC Public Library Foundation, the DC Office of the Secretary, Georgetown University Press, AARP, DC Preservation League, the Family of Letitia Woods Brown, and the White House Historical Association, as well as Events DC and the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

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With our public programs we partner with local experts, scholars and creatives to design and host unique initiatives, workshops, discussions, performances, storytelling gatherings and more that explore the culture of our nation's capital.



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**SCHEDULE
AT-A-GLANCE**

☆ ☆ ☆ DC ☆ ☆ ☆
**HISTORY
CONFERENCE**

**49TH ANNUAL
@DCHISTCON**

THURSDAY, MARCH 23RD 6:00 - 8:00 PM

**LETITIA WOODS BROWN
MEMORIAL LECTURE:**

DR. TAMIKA NUNLEY

Black Women's History as American History and
the Everyday Struggles of Liberty and Justice

FRIDAY, MARCH 24TH

REGISTRATION ALL DAY

COFFEE 9:30 - 10:30 AM

SESSION A 10:15 - 11:30 AM

The Deaf Printers Pages: Preserving Stories of Deaf
Printers at *The Washington Post*

SWANN QUEEN: Remembering DC's First Black Queer
Icon, William Dorsey Swann

Uncovering DC History at the Library of Congress

SESSION B 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM

Dr. Edwin Bancroft Henderson: The Grandfather of Black
Basketball in Washington, DC

History Behind the Scenes

Turning Points

HISTORY NETWORK 1:15 - 3:15 PM

**RECLAIMING BLACK JOY:
PLACING PLAY IN OUR LIBERATION**

(A PLAY) 2:00 - 2:45 PM

SESSION C 3:30 - 4:45 PM

Community Memory and Empowerment: Mount
Zion-Female Union Band Society Cemetery

Fight for Enfranchisement

Evoking Memory

The Fight to Decriminalize: Street Vending in the District

RECEPTION

5:00 - 7:30 PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 25TH

REGISTRATION ALL DAY

COFFEE 9:30 - 10:30 AM

SESSION D 10:15 - 11:30 AM

The Reperassaance: Honoring DC's First and Last
Professional Black Theater Company

Seeking Change

Teaching Local History

Roundtable: What's Next for the DC Oral History
Collaborative?

SESSION E 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM

Federal City

Aftermath: 1968 Washington, DC

Roundtable: Black Education Exhibitions and Related
Programming

POSTER SESSION 1:15 - 3:15 PM

**OPENING CHANNELS OF
CULTURAL COMMUNICATION:
STORIES FROM THE DC**

ART BANK 1:30 - 3:00 PM

SESSION F 3:30 - 4:45 PM

The Politics of Remembrance: Women in DC History

The Unicorn Times: 50th Anniversary Panel Commemoration

Beauty vs. Justice

Roundtable: Sin Barreras: Dismantling Barriers to
Documenting and Collecting Latino/a/x Histories

**THE DC HOME
RULE ACT OF 1973:**

A 50TH ANNIVERSARY

REMEMBRANCE

5:00 - 6:00 PM



DC
HISTORY
CONFERENCE

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50TH ANNIVERSARY
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We partner with local experts, scholars and creatives to design and host unique initiatives, workshops, discussions, performances, storytelling gatherings and more that explore the culture of our nation's capital. Join your fellow inquisitive minds and storytellers today.



HISTORY LITERATURE ETHICS
LANGUAGES PHILOSOPHY
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To learn more about our work, 2024 opportunities and upcoming events visit us at [HumanitiesDC.org](https://www.HumanitiesDC.org)



ABOUT THE DC HISTORY CONFERENCE

The DC History Conference is an interdisciplinary, community conference considering the District's past, present, and future. The first conference was organized in 1973 and delivered in January of 1974, marking this as the 50th year of the conference. Since then, the conference organizers have provided a welcoming, educational, and stimulating forum for original research on and engagement with the history of the Washington, DC metropolitan area—prioritizing the local city but including nearby Maryland and Virginia, and the federal government.

The DC History Conference is co-presented by the **DC History Center**, **DC Public Library**, and **HumanitiesDC**, and supported by organizational partners and a volunteer planning committee.

ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERS

Anacostia Community Museum
DC History Center
DC Historic Preservation Office,
 DC Office of Planning
DC Office of Public Records and Archives
DC Preservation League
DC Public Library
Heurich House Museum
HumanitiesDC
White House Historical Association

CONFERENCE BRAINTRUST

Maren Orchard, *DC History Center*
(conference project manager)
Kim Bender, *Heurich House Museum*
Asantewa Boakyewa, *Anacostia Community Museum*
Laura Brower Hagood, *DC History Center*
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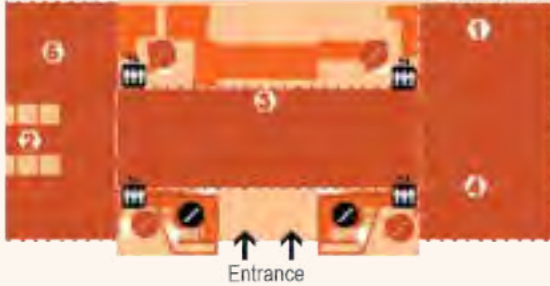
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Sajel Swartz, *DC History Center*

PROGRAM

Kyla Sommers, *Editor*
Alex Fraioli, *Designer*
Shedrick Pelt, *Photographer*

MLK JR. MEMORIAL LIBRARY LAYOUT



GREAT HALL 1ST FLOOR

1. Marianne's Café
2. Co-Working
3. History Network/Poster Session
4. New Books
5. Public Computers



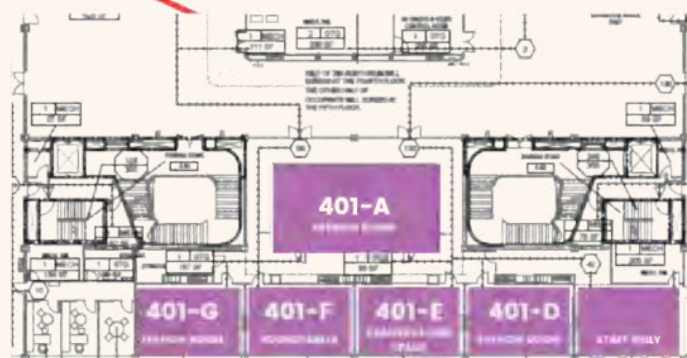
RECEPTION AREA 5TH FLOOR

1. Auditorium
2. Reception
3. Roof



CONFERENCE CENTER 4TH FLOOR

1. Auditorium
2. Conference Center
3. Exhibits
4. Local History





GUIDE TO THE CONFERENCE

BUILDING THE PROGRAM

The DC History Conference call for submissions casts a wide net to DC history researchers, educators, and enthusiasts to submit their topics to the DC History Conference. Conference committee volunteers sitting on the program working group make the final decision on what presentations make it into the program. This results in a conference lineup dedicated to a wide variety of topics, time periods, and approaches. The interdisciplinary nature of this annual conference reflects the rich, diverse history of Washington, DC. We can't include every important and timely topic in this one conference, but we do our best to create a program representative of what issues and histories are on our minds.

The committee considers what issues are of historical and present importance to

Washingtonians. As you choose sessions and listen to these thoughtful conversations, ask yourself: What throughlines are there across the program? Which sessions have similar themes? What questions appear again and again across panels? We encourage you to think about why these subjects resonate with Washingtonians over time, especially as we celebrate 50 years of the conference.

PROGRAM CONTENT

The program is laid out chronologically. The schedule at-a-glance provides a brief overview of the conference.

Sessions types include **panels** and roundtables. Some panels were proposed as a single submission. Combined panels include multiple presentations grouped under a common theme. You can identify

this distinction in the program where 2–3 presentation titles are listed underneath the session name. **Roundtables** provide a forum for audience members to actively participate in a dialogue. **Creative Expressions** are designed to encourage creativity, arts, and unique program formats and are scheduled during the poster session.

Special features—including the **History Network, Poster Session, the Authors’ Corner, and Friday After Hours**—are community-building social opportunities that provide space for attendees to connect with organizations, research projects, scholars, students, and other history enthusiasts about their work.

PICKING A PANEL

There are so many panels to choose from! Each panel on the main program includes a

title, description, and presenter names to help you quickly find a session of interest. Moderators are responsible for introducing panels, keeping time, and encouraging conversation between presenters. They also guide the Q&A at the end of the session. The **“For Educators”** page highlights education-focused sessions and features teacher professional development opportunities!

Please note that if a room no longer has any seats, it’s best for you to join one of the many other interesting panels taking place during the session.

We are very excited to welcome you to the 2024 DC History Conference, to celebrate our work, and to meet conference presenters and attendees!

ACCESSIBILITY

Conference registration is **free!** Keynotes are recorded and will be available on YouTube with closed captioning after the conference. **ASL interpretation** will be provided at keynotes and at one panel per session based on attendee requests. To request a reasonable accommodation, including ASL interpretation, please contact the DC Public Library’s Center for Accessibility seven (7) days in advance at [202-727-2142](tel:202-727-2142) or by emailing DCPLaccess@dc.gov.



The Center for Accessibility will have a table next to the registration table to provide assistance and answer your accessibility questions. These services were made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

SOCIAL MEDIA

Join the fun! Share your unique conference experience with your followers and networks on Facebook, X, and Instagram. Include our handle **@dchistcon** and the conference hashtag, **#DCHistCon**, to join the conversation.



THEN AND NOW

On January 11, 1974, attendees gathered for the first annual DC History Conference at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library. Sponsored by George Washington University and the Columbia Historical Society (now the DC History Center), the seed for the conference can be found in a 1971 memo written by Homer T. Rosenberger:

It seems to me that Columbia Historical Society should...seek ways to serve two audiences, the general public and scholars, and with a minimum expenditure of dollars.

Three years later, the two-day conference saw familiar names like Letitia Woods Brown, James Flack, Louise Hutchinson, and others. With a single track through the conference, four sessions on the first day featured 10 presenters on topics from religious institutions to the formation of neighborhood cultures, alley housing, and art history. The

second day was dedicated to a working session focused on graduate research in progress and local history projects of note. Over the years the conference has changed, shrunk, and grown. Kept alive by a dedicated group of volunteers—like those in 1971—the conference organizers consistently recognized the value in creating this annual event to advance scholarship about DC history for the benefit of DC residents and the general public.

For the 50th annual DC History Conference, we're hosting roughly 26 sessions with over 100 presenters—all free to attendees. We expect over 600 DC history enthusiasts to fill the halls of the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library throughout the weekend to reconnect with old friends, meet new ones, exchange ideas, and learn something new about our city.

June 21, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR Dr. Leonard Garibaldi, Dr. Elizabeth S. Vallentyne, Francis
DeLamus Rosenberger, Dr. Oliver Samoil Salovey, and John
Selen.

It seems to me that Columbia Historical Society should over some
years to serve the audience, the general public and scholars, and also
a million expenditures of dollars. However to a proposal for two one-
day institutes that might be held annually, at no money cost, to serve
the two audiences. The proposal is made in broad strokes so as to es-
tablish parameters for a committee study which it would have much freedom
to operate.

If the proposal has value at the present time, your comments for its
improvement will be appreciated greatly.

Sincerely,

Dean T. Rosenberger

6-25-74

To: Garibaldi

The idea for the 1974 has some merit. Could be an
exciting project. Want to ask that if the committee
about such an event. I
I expect to be a member of the committee.

First Annual Conference on Washington, D.C. Historical Studies

January 11-12, 1974
Martin Luther King Memorial Library of the District of Columbia

FRIDAY (JANUARY 11)

9:45 a.m.
Conference Opening

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Religious Institutions in 19th Century Environ-
ment • Francis Rosenberger, Columbia
Historical Society, Chairman
"Charles Bulfinch and the Washington Uni-
versity Community 1829-35" • Harold Fisher,
University of California, Santa Barbara
"The Metropolitan A.M.E. Church" • Leticia
Brown, George Washington University
"The Congregation of Adas Israel" • Evelyn
Greenberg, Jewish Historical Society of
Greater Washington

12:15 p.m.
Introduction to the Washingtoniana Collec-
tion • Arthur S. Ryan, Director, D.C. Public
Libraries

2:00-4:00 p.m.
The Formation of Neighborhood Culture •
Charles McLaughlin, American University,
Chairman
"A Demographic and Photographic Analysis
of Alley Life" • James Gresham, University
of California, Santa Cruz
"Capital Hill 1870-1900: The People and Their
Homes" • Susan Myers, Division of Pre-
industrial Cultural History, Smithsonian
Institution

7:00-8:00 p.m.
Residential Patterns in the Southwest 1840-
80" • Fayl Graves, University of Maryland

4:15-4:45 p.m.
Illustrated Lecture on Gilbert Stuart in Wash-
ington, His Subjects and Their Society •
Charles Merrill Stone

SATURDAY (JANUARY 12)

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Concurrent Working Sessions

Workshop A: Graduate Research in Progress •
James Flack, University of Maryland and
Perry Fisher, Columbia Historical Society,
Chairman

Workshop B: Major Local Oral History Pro-
jects • Roderick French, George Washing-
ton University, Chairman
Louise Hutchinson, Anacostia Neighbor-
hood Museum
Martha Egan, University of Maryland
Okon Oya, Howard University

Sponsored by George Washington University and The Columbia
Historical Society

Organizing Committee: Leticia Brown, Roderick French, Francis
Rosenberger

PLEASE PRINT

WHY DC HISTORY

At the heart of the conference is the question: why DC history? Most Americans view Washington, DC as a place where “movers and shakers” meet to impact the trajectory of the country. And while that’s true, the DC History Conference turns our focus to the residents of the city, the communities we form, our local governance, our position in proximity to power but deprived of representation, and more.

On December 24, 1973 the federal government signed the District of Columbia Home Rule Act into law—a concession for self-governance then implemented in 1974, the same year as the first DC History Conference. Home Rule, while permitting a local government, still limits the power of the people in the nation’s capital. The lack of congressional representation deprives a population of over 700,000 the democratic freedoms believed to be inherent in the United States. Due to that lack of representation, those of us who call the District home watch without recourse as our city is treated as a federal testing ground, a place to experiment with policy, a pawn in national politics. Studying local history puts our stories at the foreground. This is why studying local history matters.

Even more broadly, the DC History Conference encourages the importance of studying history itself as a way to become better citizens. DC is made up of sixth-generation Washingtonians as well as residents who arrived in the city just six days, six weeks, six months, or six years ago. The study of DC history helps newer residents better understand their new home, gives elders the chance to tell their story, and all of us the opportunity to connect and listen to each other.

To make sense of the present issues like gentrification, food deserts, heat islands, and flooded streets, we have to understand the past. To build a more just future, we have to know where we came from. By attending the DC History Conference, we hope you feel empowered to make a difference in your communities.

A COMMUNITY CONFERENCE

History is not an exclusive club, and in fact our understanding of the past is made stronger by including multiple perspectives. That’s why we strive to offer panels with a range of perspectives, balancing lived experience with scholarly study, and valuing what we learn from different ways of knowing. Community-based history encourages the perspective of community members, gives equal weight to lived experience, values memory, and creates space for dialogue.

The DC History Conference is for everyone with an interest in our city. Presenters range from academic scholars to high school students to community members with curiosity about the past and your neighbor with an interest in their family history. This mix of presenters is intentional because it challenges the idea that only trained professionals can study history and tell us about the past. The tools of history are accessible to everyone and can be used by anyone to understand the past to improve our communities. By hosting the conference at the public library, free to attendees, we’re saying that our history is for everyone—taking it out of the ivory tower of academia to meet people where they are.

CELEBRATING OUR OWN 50 YEARS OF HISTORY

Throughout the conference weekend, we encourage you to think about what it means to celebrate 50 years of the DC History Conference. At key moments, we will pause for collective reflection to honor the volunteers, presenters, and attendees who have made the conference a success year after year to uphold this five-decade tradition.

The DC History Center is commemorating the conference by digitizing all past conference programs in their collection and creating a database of the dates, location, committee members, Letitia Woods Brown

lecturers, and topics covered since the first 1974 conference.

The DC History Conference wants to hear from you. Our goal is to reflect, celebrate, and even critique the conference to continue building something that evolves with our community and continues to serve our audiences. How has the conference met its goals? Where have we failed? What do you want to see in the next 50 years of the conference? As an institution, it's our role to open the door to this conversation, but it's up to you—our community—to give feedback and interpret our own history.

ABOUT THE DESIGN

The 2024 conference design is inspired by the look and feel of the 1970s, in particular the work of Lou Stovall. In 1968 Stovall founded Workshop, Inc., initially a community studio which grew into a professional printmaking facility used by many artists in DC.



WATCH:
"Making DC History Awards: Di and Lou Stovall"



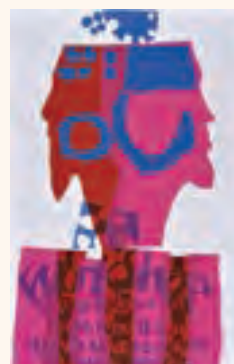
Lou Stovall Workshop



Lou Stovall, *Mobilize Against Repression - Mobilization to End the War in Vietnam, 1970*



Lou Stovall and Lloyd McNeill, *Arena Stage '68-68, 1968*



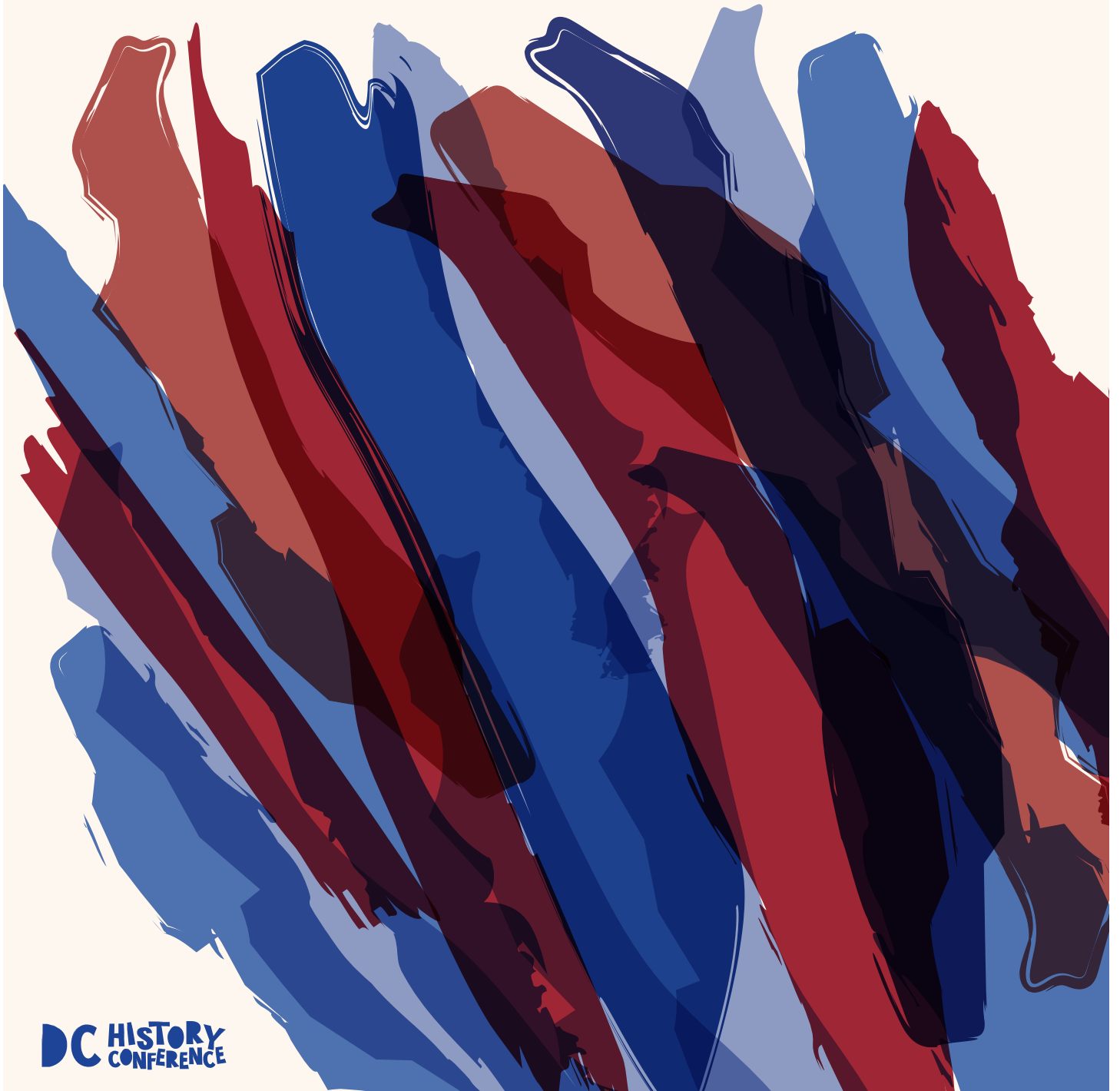
Lou Stovall and Lloyd McNeill, *Workshop-Corcoran, 1969*



Lou Stovall and Lloyd McNeill, *Excellence in Education - Charles Cassel, 1968*

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
MEMORIAL LIBRARY

THURSDAY
APRIL 4TH



DC HISTORY
CONFERENCE

LETITIA WOODS BROWN MEMORIAL LECTURE

VANN R. NEWKIRK II & JERUSALEM DEMSAS: IN CONVERSATION

6:00 – 7:15 pm

Location: Auditorium, 5th Floor

Reception to Follow

The Atlantic's senior editor Vann R. Newkirk II and fellow staff writer Jerusalem Demsas discuss the 50th anniversary of Home Rule and Newkirk's related reporting, which looks to the past to navigate our present. In *The Atlantic's* recent *Holy Week* podcast, Newkirk told the story of the 1968 uprisings that followed the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and how the political fallout transformed DC. Newkirk and Demsas will draw from their extensive reporting on the ways that race and class shape the country's and the world's fundamental structures, considering the role of history and memory work as tools to make sense of the present and build a more just future.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



VANN R. NEWKIRK II

Vann R. Newkirk II is a senior editor at *The Atlantic*, and the host and co-creator of narrative podcasts *Floodlines* and *Holy Week*. For years, Newkirk has covered voting rights, democracy, and environmental justice, with a focus on how race and class shape the country's and the world's fundamental structures. Newkirk is a 2022 Andrew Carnegie fellow, and was a 2020 James Beard Award Finalist, a 2020 11th Hour Fellow at New America, and a 2018 recipient of the American Society of Magazine Editors's ASME Next Award. In 2021, Newkirk received the Peabody Award for *Floodlines*.



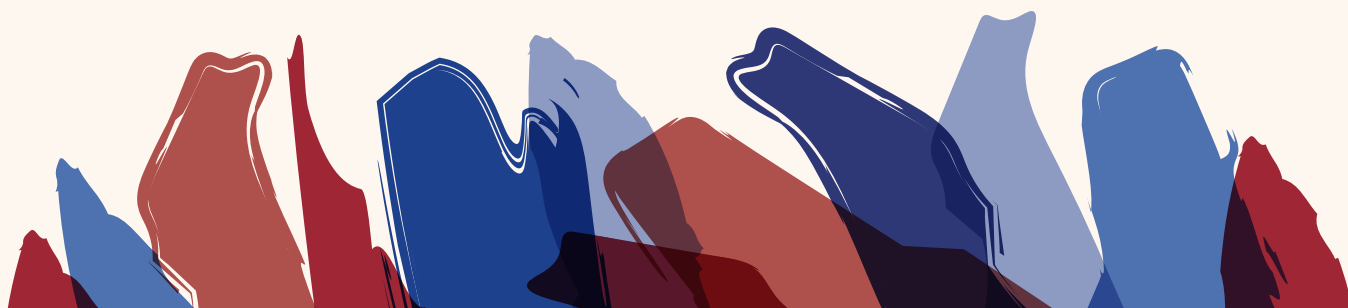
JERUSALEM DEMSAS

Jerusalem Demsas is a staff writer at *The Atlantic*, where she writes about institutional failure and democracy through stories on housing, infrastructure, and mobility. Her work touches on citizen voice, federalism, and the politics of exclusion, among other topics. Demsas is also a visiting fellow at Johns Hopkins University's Center for Economy and Society. Previously, she was a writer at Vox covering policy stories and co-host of the politics and policy podcast *The Weeds*. Demsas received the American Society of Magazine Editors' 2023 ASME Next Award for journalists under 30.

ABOUT LETITIA WOODS BROWN



Letitia Woods Brown was born on October 24, 1915, in Tuskegee, Alabama, to a family with strong ties to the Tuskegee Institute—known today as Tuskegee University. She received her BS from Tuskegee Institute and taught elementary school in Alabama before pursuing her graduate studies at Ohio State University and Harvard University. In 1966, Dr. Brown received her PhD in history from Harvard University after completing a dissertation centered on free and enslaved African Americans in Washington, DC. She went on to teach at Howard University and was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship. Dr. Brown joined the faculty of George Washington University in 1971 and taught there until her untimely passing in 1976.



**MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

FRIDAY APRIL 5TH

9:30 AM - 7:00 PM



**DC HISTORY
CONFERENCE**



NOTES. THOUGHTS. REFLECTIONS.

Coffee Break | 9:30–10:30 am

Come to the conference early on Friday morning to get registered (4th floor) and enjoy a free cup of coffee on the 5th floor, courtesy of the Downtown Business Improvement District.



BLACK FREEDOM STRUGGLES IN CHEVY CHASE, 1725 – TODAY

Black Washingtonians have resided in and shaped DC's Chevy Chase neighborhood for centuries, but this multiracial history is too often ignored. For example, generations of African Americans were enslaved on plantations in DC's northwest corner. Later, Black families were displaced from their land to create Lafayette Elementary School. This panel brings together descendants, scholars, and advocates to reflect on this fraught history and envision productive pathways forward towards restorative justice.

PANELISTS:

Mark Auslander, *Anthropologist*, Mount Holyoke College

Carl Lankowski

Jocelind Julien

Sharon Fletcher

MODERATOR: Cate Atkinson

EXPLORING BLACK DEAF HISTORY THROUGH THEATRE: VISIONARIES OF THE CREATIVE ARTS AND THE CENTER FOR BLACK DEAF STUDIES

Both the Black Deaf Theatre on H Street and the Center for Black Deaf Studies at Gallaudet University emerged in the last five years. They provide a creative way for scholars and educators to center historical narratives about Black deaf communities. These organizations make space for the neglected experiences and unknown talent of their communities. This work is especially important as the move to suppress and revise the teaching of the history of marginalized and diverse populations grows.

PANELISTS:

Carolyn McCaskill, PhD

Michelle Banks

Evon Black

Lindsay Dunn

MODERATOR: Sandra Jowers-Barber, PhD *Division Director*, Humanities and Criminology District of Columbia Community College

MONUMENTS AND MEANING

American history, politics, and identity are embedded in the creation and legacies of our national monuments. This panel explores how American monuments—and the public's experiences visiting them—connect to American civics and controversies.

COMING TO WASHINGTON: TRACING THE HISTORY OF VISITORS TO THE NATION'S CAPITAL

M.J. Rymsza-Pawlowska, *Associate Professor of History*, American University
Drawing from a larger research project, this presentation shows how expectations and experiences of the city and its residents have changed drastically over time, fueled by depictions in popular and political culture as well as decisions by local and federal officials. Many who visit DC don't interact with locals and end up with an understanding of the city as a mixture of a company town for politics and a staging ground for changing practices of citizenship.

THE FORGOTTEN, CONTROVERSIAL HISTORY OF WASHINGTON'S FIRST MONUMENT

Matthew Goetz, PhD, *Visiting Lecturer*, George Washington University
In 1808, American naval officers erected a monument in DC's Navy Yard dedicated to officers who died in the Tripolitan War (1801-1805). Both the monument and the war it commemorated were enmeshed within debates over slavery and liberty. On the eve of the Civil War, Congress decided to move the monument from its second location on the Capitol grounds to the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland where it remains today.

IN BETWEEN: THE LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON MEMORIAL GROVE ON THE POTOMAC

Angelina Ribeiro Jones, *Historical Landscape Architect*, National Park Service
Located close to DC's monumental core but separated from it by the Potomac River, the LBJ Memorial Grove was designed to be a "living memorial" inviting visitor interaction and engagement, while simultaneously providing opportunities for reflection. Envisioned by former First Lady Claudia "Lady Bird" Johnson and designed by landscape architect M. Meade Palmer, the grove sits in a liminal space physically due to its location and conceptually as both a commemorative and a civic space.

MODERATOR: Kasey Sease, *Curator*, Albert H. Small Washingtoniana Collection at The George Washington University Museum and The Textile Museum

THIS SESSION WAS ADOPTED BY THE **HEURICH HOUSE MUSEUM'S HUMANITIES SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE FELLOWSHIP** AND **PATRICK MALONE, MONUMENTAL-DC.COM.**

CAPITAL ARTS AND ITS PATRONS

What can we learn about DC's history from the visual arts and its patrons? Contemplate this question by learning more about a little-known glass plate negative collection and a personal take on an artist's history.

THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS: ROBERT SADLER'S PLATE NEGATIVES

Ann Bennett, *Anthropologist and Executive Director*, Laurel Historical Society
This presentation explores a little-known glass plate negative collection held at the Laurel Historical Society, taken by photographer Robert H. Sadler, Jr. in the first decades of the 20th century. The collection showcases the people and places of Laurel, Maryland, and Washington, DC, and reveals hidden histories of some of its subjects.

MAX WEYL, IMMIGRANT AND NOTED 19TH CENTURY DC LANDSCAPE PAINTER: THE PERSONAL STORY TOLD BY HIS GREAT-GRANDSON

Chris Wolf, *Board Chair*, DC History Center
Jewish immigrant Max Weyl, founder of the Washington Landscape School, made his way to Washington in 1860. He got his start peddling jewelry before opening a storefront on 7th Street NW, where his amateur paintings caught the eye of Samuel Kauffman—his future patron. Told through the lens of his great-grandson, this presentation features Weyl's work and tells the story of how Wolf came to acquire many of his paintings.

MODERATOR: Robert DeHart, *Curator*, Tudor Place Historic House & Garden



THE LEGACY OF LEE'S FLOWER SHOP

Lee's Flower Shop is the oldest Black-owned flower shop in Washington, DC. It has planted seeds of wisdom and perseverance in the District since 1945. Local filmmaker Kamilah Thurmon's short documentary shares the legacy of this community cornerstone and preserves the stories of new and old Washingtonians. This session includes a screening and a discussion.

PANELISTS:

Kamilah Thurmon, *Filmmaker*

Stacie Lee Banks

Rick Lee

Kristie Lee

WINNING WITH WISH: TENANT ORGANIZING IN WASHINGTON, DC, 1978–2003

Washington Inncercity Self Help (WISH) was founded in 1978 as a way for low-income Washingtonians to organize around issues of importance to them. Housing was consistently a critical issue for their members. WISH helped tenants turn their buildings into housing cooperatives and helped dozens of low-income tenant associations take ownership over their buildings. WISH disbanded in 2003, but its work lives on through its housing cooperatives that still exist throughout the city. In this panel, four members of WISH's staff reflect on their work and its relevance for today.

PANELISTS:

Linda Leaks

Benito Diaz

Martha Davis

Rozanne Look

MODERATOR: Amanda Huron, *Associate Professor of Interdisciplinary Social Sciences and Political Science, University of the District of Columbia*

CELEBRATING DC HISTORY THROUGH CHINESE POETRY AND ART

In 1851, Mr. Chiang Kai was the first Chinese person to register an address in DC on Pennsylvania Avenue. Immigrants of Chinese heritage have made DC and the metro area home ever since. Mr. Bing Huang, a renowned local calligrapher and artist, will present an artwork series spotlighting historic sites in DC. Ms. Xia "Jenny" Gao, a prolific local poet, will share poems highlighting lived DC history written in Chinese by members of the local Chinese-American Community. Lily Liu will read the English translations of the poems.

MODERATOR: Lily Liu, *Writer and Literary Translator*

PANELISTS:

Bing Huang, *Calligrapher and Artist*

Xia "Jenny" Gao, *Poet*

THIS SESSION WAS ADOPTED BY **AARP MARYLAND**.

ACTIVISM AND PROTEST

This panel discusses activism for gay rights and DC self-determination as well as the fight against anti-Semitism. Panelists will discuss how Washingtonians fought for their causes and what challenges they faced. Each of these presentations about activism of the past offers insight into activism in the present.

GAY RIGHTS AND THE RISE OF THE RELIGIOUS RIGHT IN WASHINGTON, DC, 1970-1980

Danny Ballon-Garst, *PhD Candidate, Emory University, DC History Center Totman Fellow*

This presentation traces the role of religious people and institutions in the gay rights movement—and its opposition—in 1970s DC. Public displays of gay liberation and local legislative successes in 1976 and 1977 elicited the anti-gay backlash of the increasingly powerful and dominating Religious Right. This rise was a response to a brief moment in time when it looked like the gay rights movement, and the gay Christian movement in particular, just might win.

SELF-DETERMINATION, EQUALITY, AND THE 1982 DC STATEHOOD CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

Tim Kumfer, *Fellow, Georgetown University*

The all but forgotten 1982 District of Columbia Statehood Constitutional Convention adopted the New Columbia Constitution which guaranteed employment or income, protected reproductive and sexual freedom, and upheld affirmative action. Local elected officials and media commentators cited this as a key reason that statehood found few backers on Capitol Hill. Drawing on transcripts of the convention proceedings and oral history interviews, this presentation offers a different perspective on the New Columbia Constitution and the process that led to its ratification.

"THE ROCKWELL MADNESS": JEWS ENCOUNTERING THE AMERICAN NAZI PARTY IN 1960S WASHINGTON, DC

Andrew Sperling, *Phd Candidate, American University*

George Lincoln Rockwell launched the American Nazi Party in Arlington in 1959 and sought publicity for his organization through pickets and demonstrations in DC. Jewish leaders in Washington disagreed on the best strategic approach to combating this hatred, from militancy to ignoring the neo-Nazi menace. Washington Jewry entered bitter disputes over the complexities of free speech and civil liberties. Some defended Rockwell's rights, leading to debates about how fascism succeeds in democratic societies.

MODERATOR: Benji de la Piedra, *Writer, Oral Historian*

THIS SESSION WAS ADOPTED BY **DC LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**.

HISTORY NETWORK 1:15 - 3:15

The History Network provides conference attendees with the opportunity to meet representatives from organizations doing humanities-based work across the DMV. Learn about an organization, project, or initiative you'd like to follow, volunteer with, or join and pick up information and swag from participating organizations and individuals.

SESSION C 3:30 - 4:45

CITIZEN STRUGGLES TO IMPROVE HOUSING IN WASHINGTON DC, 1983 AND 2023

How do housing struggles in 1983 compare to those in 2023 and what does that tell us about economic opportunity, social mobility, and public revenue in the capital? How do the disorientation, loss, and opportunity that accompany gentrification shape these issues? How can the District create policies that include rather than exclude? This panel engages these questions by revisiting the 1983 paper "Safe, Decent and Affordable: Citizen Struggles to Improve Housing in the District of Columbia, 1890-1982 " and discussing the direction of activism and policy today.

PANELISTS:

Jerome S. Paige, *Board Chair*, DC Fiscal Policy Institute

Erica Williams, *Executive Director*, DC Fiscal Policy Institute

Amanda Huron, *Associate Professor of Interdisciplinary Social Sciences*, University of the District of Columbia

MODERATOR:

Phylcia Fauntleroy Bowman, *former DC Public Service Commission Executive Director*

THIS SESSION WAS ADOPTED BY **CHRIS WOLF**.

ORAL HISTORIES AND HEIRLOOMS

Collecting first-hand accounts of a community's experiences is a vital way to appreciate and preserve a group's history. Learn about efforts to gather oral histories of DC's Black Pride and Black literary arts community—and how to research family heirlooms.

DC BLACK PRIDE, COMMUNITY SPACE AND RADICAL POSSIBILITY

Orilonise Yarborough, *Public Historian*, National Museum of African American History and Culture

A party is more than just a party and nowhere is this better illustrated than in the history of Pride celebrations. Black Pride programming, auxiliary events, and culture showcase the expansiveness of the local Black queer and trans communities. These communities make and remake traditions to respond to the needs of its people. This presentation will focus on the development of an oral history collection focused on DC Black Pride and the radical possibility of celebratory spaces.

THE IMPACT OF THE DC YOUTH WRITERS ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Khadijah Ali-Coleman, EdD, Hurston/Wright Foundation
DeAndrea Johnson, Hurston/Wright Foundation

The Hurston/Wright DC Youth Writers Oral History Project debuted July 2023 on the campus of Howard University. The project provides youth participants with training on how to conduct effective interviews, research, and gather historical data on the Black literary arts community in DC. This session shares the strategy for designing the program and discusses the impact of implementing oral history projects that showcase aspects of the Black experience.

LOVE LETTERS, HEIRLOOMS, AND TREASURES

Wanda Alderman, PhD, *Urban Sociologist and Author*

For nearly 100 years, 45 love letters stayed in a cardboard box. Every word described a Black couple's journeys and secrets during the Great Migration. The presenter outlines how to research and write family history with heirlooms and treasures gathered by ancestors. When family histories are overlooked, there is no ability to link family roots, heritage, and one's place in the world.

MODERATOR: Shilpi Malinowski, *Writer and Oral Historian*

DC'S BUILT ENVIRONMENT

From alleys to sewers to bike lanes, the city's infrastructure is the product of American culture and politics. Learn about the history of the sanitation system, sustainability projects, and bicycle lanes that are part of DC's built environment.

SANITATION SYSTEMS AND SLUMS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF WASHINGTON, DC

Carmen Bolt, *PhD Candidate*, American University

At the turn of the 20th century, government entities worked to expand public services and to address alley dwellings as part of the effort to implement the McMillan Plan, a design for the model capital city. Officials aimed to remove raw waste from the streets into the rivers and to displace predominantly Black residents from alley dwellings. Municipal officials believed in their capacity to address sanitation issues through public services but only for certain demographics and neighborhoods.

THE HISTORY OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE CAPITAL

Jaleel Shujath, *Graduate Student*, University of the District of Columbia

How have sustainable development initiatives in Washington, DC transformed from the post World War II era to today's Sustainability 2.0 initiative? Charting the evolution of policy frameworks, urban planning, and community-driven endeavors, this presentation sheds light on the intricate balance between socio-economic growth and environmental preservation in an iconic urban setting. Learn how sustainable development has shaped and continues to shape Washington, DC.

THE GROWTH OF BICYCLING IN WASHINGTON, 1970 TO TODAY

Peter Harnik, Washington Area Bicyclist Association

Learn about the 50-year political struggle to improve Washington's bicycling facilities, increase the number of cyclists, and reduce the tyranny of auto traffic. How can we boost this environmentally friendly urban transportation mode and protect cyclists' safety? The presentation will discuss bike lanes, trails, Bikeshare, bikes-on-Metro, bike parking, making Beach Drive a car-free road, river crossings, and more.

MODERATOR: Dominique Hazzard, *PhD Candidate*, Johns Hopkins University

HONORING THE LEGACIES OF THREE DC WOMEN

This panel examines the impacts of three Washington women on education, diplomacy, and religious institutions. Each woman navigated different eras and circumstances, and their biographies offer valuable lessons about DC's past.

LUCY DIGGS SLOWE: A LEGACY OF SISTERHOOD AND INFLUENCE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Amy Quarkume, *Associate Professor*, Howard University

Lucy Diggs Slowe was a trailblazing presence in Washington, DC, whose life and contributions were characterized by a profound commitment to unity and solidarity among college-educated Black women. Her enduring impact, both as an individual and as a symbol of communal empowerment and advocacy for women in academic circles, left an indelible imprint on the higher education landscape, influencing generations for years to come.

VIRGINIA MURRAY BACON: POLICY WHISPERER AND POWER HOSTESS

Elizabeth Warner, *Archivist*, Bacon House Foundation

Virginia Murray Bacon (1890–1980), the last private owner of the historic DACOR Bacon House, spent her life dedicated to international diplomacy, democracy, and the political process. Roles for women were highly restricted in her day, but she exercised considerable power and influence through the channels available to her which included hosting fabulous dinner parties as well as speaking at political rallies and sponsoring conferences on how to deal with nuclear weapons.

BLACK CATHOLIC RESILIENCY THROUGH THE LONG LIFE OF AUNT PIGEON

C. Walker Gollar, *Historian*, Xavier University

Aunt Pigeon served the Georgetown Jesuits both as an enslaved and a free individual. Her long story began generations before she was born, spanned centuries of injustice, and runs through the early history of Washington, DC. Her history indicts Catholics for fostering her ongoing oppression and challenges Catholic admirers, and all people of faith, to speak more honestly about the past.

MODERATOR: Daraja Carroll

FRIDAY AFTER HOURS

5:00 – 7:00 PM

LOCATION: 5TH FLOOR ROOFTOP

Join us after Friday's final session for an evening of food, drink, music, and dancing! Our "after hours" party will include a short address from the conference partners, a cash bar, light bites, and a DJ to get us grooving. Take this opportunity to connect with friends old and new, and raise a glass to 50 years of the DC History Conference!



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
MEMORIAL LIBRARY

SATURDAY
APRIL 6TH

9:30 AM - 6:00 PM



DC HISTORY
CONFERENCE



NOTES. THOUGHTS. REFLECTIONS.

Coffee Break | 9:30–10:30 am

Come to the conference early on Saturday morning to get registered (4th floor) and enjoy a free cup of coffee on the 5th floor, courtesy of EHT Traceries.



QUEER IDENTITY AND EARLY DC WRITERS

What are the ethical issues that arise from using modern labels to identify writers of earlier periods who were living before the words “homosexual” and “gay” came into widespread use? Why does this kind of discovery and uncovering feel so compelling and significant? This panel will discuss specific examples of early DC writers including Benjamin Banneker, Walt Whitman, Mary P. Burrill, Alice Dunbar-Nelson, and Angelina Weld Grimké. Panelists will explore issues of public denial, personal safety, and hidden references to “othering” identities that are revealed in these authors’ writing.

PANELISTS:

Shay Dawson, *Writer/Researcher and Museum Professional*

Kim Roberts, *Poet and Literary Historian*

Dan Vera, *Poet and Literary Historian*

MODERATOR:

Peter Montgomery, *Writer/Researcher*

THIS SESSION WAS ADOPTED BY **HAROLD M. LEICH**.

CHANGING CHALLENGES INTO POSSIBILITIES: MULTIGENERATIONAL PERSPECTIVES FROM BLACK MEN IN WARD 7

Life Pieces To Masterpieces (LPTM) is an arts-based youth development and mentoring organization for Black and Brown boys and young men ages 3–25 in Ward 7. Since its 1996 founding, 2,000+ young men have shaped LPTM’s Human Development framework. Panelists—current participants, alumni, and elders—will illuminate how LPTM’s unique framework provides tools to overcome community challenges rooted in systemic inequities. They will share their visions for the future of their city, and highlight how LPTM’s Human Development framework has already impacted Ward 7, Washington, DC, and the world.

PANELISTS:

William “Elder Bill” Pitts, *LPTM Counselor and Family Engagement Advisor*

Andre Johnson, *LPTM Alum and Educator*

Cateo Hilton, *LPTM Alum and Sophomore at Delaware State University*

Ricquan Greenfield, *LPTM Junior Mentor and High School Student*

Jevah Hubbard-Dance, *LPTM Junior Mentor and High School Student*

Josiah Maultsby, *LPTM Junior Mentor and High School Student*

MODERATOR:

Raymond Covington, *LPTM Board President*

ROUNDTABLE: THE ANC RAINBOW CAUCUS AND 50 YEARS OF LGBTQ+ ELECTED OFFICIALS

2024 marks the 50th anniversary of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission, DC's non-partisan neighborhood representative system. Members of the LGBTQ+ community have served as ANC commissioners from the very beginning. This panel discusses this history and the ANC Rainbow Caucus, a recent organization that helps LGBTQ+ ANC commissioners build community and support. Panelists will reflect on their experiences as "out" elected officials, evaluate the work of the Rainbow Caucus, and discuss an upcoming oral history project designed to preserve DC LGBTQ+ history.

PANELISTS:

Vincent Slatt, Kent Boese, Monika Nemeth, Phil Pannell, Rayceen Pendarvis, Brian Glover, Salvador Saucedo-Guzman, Mike Silverstein

MODERATOR:

Ra Amin, ANC Commissioner



NEIGHBORHOOD HISTORY AND HOUSING

What can we learn by narrowing our focus to a specific neighborhood or housing development? Gain an appreciation for neighborhood history as these presenters discuss white flight, housing development, and Black home ownership.

REAL ESTATE SPECULATION AND WHITE FLIGHT IN BRIGHTWOOD PARK, DC

Tanya Golash-Boza, PhD, *Executive Director of the University of California Washington Center*

In 1940, Brightwood Park had no Black residents. By 1990, 96% of the neighborhood's residents were Black. What changed during those 50 years? Many scholars argue that white flight was provoked by real estate agents' block-busting—convincing white families to sell their homes by telling them that Black people were moving there—and the accompanying profits. Based on hundreds of real estate transactions, oral histories, and archival records, this presenter found there's more to the story.

HOUSING WASHINGTON DURING WORLD WAR I

Neil Flanagan, *Public Historian*

The United States Housing Corporation was created during World War I to address housing shortages. In DC, the war workers in need of housing were overwhelmingly white-collar, and many were educated single women and politically active members of the Black bourgeoisie. The USHC's leadership navigated this political landscape for eleven frenetic months before largely abandoning the housing projects. Nonetheless, relationships formed during this effort were essential to transforming DC into a monumental National Capital in the two decades that followed.

HYPER LOCAL DC HISTORY AND THE BLACK HOMEOWNERS OF TRUXTON CIRCLE

M Marie Maxwell, *Neighborhood Historian*

This presentation is based on research examining Black home ownership during the early part of the 20th century and it will touch upon the issues of redlining, disinvestment, and attempts at renewal. Using resources such as Ancestry.com, deeds, newspapers, and traditional archival resources, this presentation will discuss African American homeowners in Truxton Circle from 1880-1950.

MODERATOR: Daniel del Pielago, *Housing Director, Empower DC*

THIS SESSION WAS ADOPTED BY THE **HEURICH HOUSE MUSEUM'S HUMANITIES SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE FELLOWSHIP** AND **JOE HIMALI, BEST ADDRESS.**



ROUNDTABLE: 50 YEARS OF LGBTQ PRIDE ACTIVITY IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL

In June 2025, Washington will host World Pride to coincide with the 50th anniversary of DC's first Gay Pride Day in 1975. The Rainbow History Project (RHP) is spearheading an 18-month initiative to create an exhibit on the history of Pride in DC. This roundtable will present the research findings and exhibit themes and solicit public feedback. Historians, activists, and community members are invited to review the progress, provide suggestions, and identify images and oral histories to include. Feedback will be critical before RHP designs the exhibit graphics in fall 2024.

PANELISTS:

Paul Kuntzler, Mattachine Society, White House Picket Participant, 1965

Leigh Mosley, *Photographer*, 1966 – Present

Lynne Brown, *Washington Blade*, 1987 – Present

Chris Dyer, Youth Pride Alliance, co-founder, 1997

Kenya Hutton, Center for Black Equity, 2013 – Present

MODERATOR: Vincent Slatt, *Director of Archiving*, Rainbow History Project

FROM ATLANTIS TO THE 9:30 CLUB

The 9:30 Club has been an incubator and important part of DC's music scene for more than four decades. It has inspired countless musicians and music fans, fostered community, and continues to inspire future generations to be involved in artistic expression and creativity. But how did this DC institution start? This roundtable discussion brings together the people who turned the short-lived Atlantis into the legendary venue that continues to inspire new generations of music lovers. Join this entertaining and informative conversation.

PANELISTS:

Bob Boilen, Tiny Desk Unit/NPR

Dody DiSanto, 9:30 Club/The Center

Kevin Duplain, Atlantis Nightclub

John Paige, Interzone/Universal Media, Inc.

Chris Thompson, Interzone/Tiny Desk Unit

MODERATOR:

Ian MacKaye, Dischord Records/Fugazi/Coriky

SATURDAY, APRIL 6TH

PLANNING PIONEER OR PARIAH? RETHINKING HARLAND BARTHOLOMEW'S LEGACY

As a planning consultant and later the National Capital Planning Commission Chair, Harland Bartholomew profoundly shaped the physical and social landscape of Washington, DC. His work set the stage for urban renewal and the construction of major highways within the city. However, his projects institutionalized segregation, racialized displacement, and physically disconnected communities. This discussion highlights his work, the complex and disturbing legacy, and the racially inequitable impacts of his planning work on the city's residents and the physical form of the city. How do we recognize and confront these historic inequities in meaningful ways today, including through reform and thoughtful re-development?

PANELISTS:

Kael Anderson, *Community Planner, NCPC*

Brittney Drakeford, *Community Planner, NCPC*

Carmen Bolt, *PhD Candidate, American University*

MODERATOR: Angela Dupont, *Senior Community Planner, NCPC*



STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS

This panel will discuss what the history of three DC schools—the physical buildings, students, and educators—can teach us about our city. Themes will include architectural design, Black history, and neighborhood history.

OPEN-PLAN SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY CONTROL IN “CHOCOLATE CITY”

Esa Syeed, *Assistant Professor of Sociology*, California State University–Long Beach
From its origins as a Black community-controlled school in the late 1960s, Marie Reed Learning Center (formerly the Thomas P. Moral School) was redesigned as an open-plan school and community center in the 1970s. The school's various incarnations speak to the critical connections between race, education, and space. This presentation re-frames school design as an antiracist practice that can build community identity as well as power.

UPTOWN: THE HISTORY OF BELL VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Christopher Stewart, *Librarian*

Bell Vocational High School is located in DC's Columbia Heights neighborhood. This presentation will discuss the school's history from the early 1900s to today and how national and local trends have shaped the school. Learn from the school's senior librarian about Bell's students, the communities they come from, what they've done after graduation, and how the school has changed over time.

THE MCKINLEY TECH YEARBOOK COMMITTEE AND THE 1969 TECHITE

Marya McQuirter, *Independent Historian*

This presentation focuses on the 1969 Techite, a yearbook produced by students at McKinley Technical High School. Through its "black awareness" theme, students collectively produced a rich text that researchers can mine for understanding Black aesthetics and Blackness in the late 1960s. While much of the scholarship on Black studies focuses on colleges and universities, this yearbook highlights how teenagers were artistically, intellectually, and physically producing Black aesthetics through their yearbook.

MODERATOR: Erica Sterling, DC History Center

POSTER SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

HONORING BLACK FUGITIVE FOLKLORE THROUGH CREATIVE STUDY

Workshop 1:30–3:00, 5th Floor Event Space

Jessica Valoris, Artist, Community Facilitator

The histories of slavery, abolitionist organizing, free Black towns, and Black liberatory practice are too often neglected in DC’s public discourse. Using archival documents and materials, this session will invite participants to engage local stories, people, and sites; and to reflect on their significance through creative writing and song. Through guided creative study and writing, this special poster session feature will honor local histories of Black resistance to slavery and the legacies of community care that they activated.

WE WHO BELIEVE IN FREEDOM: BLACK FEMINIST DC COMMUNITY VOICE PROJECT

Guided Experience at 1:30 and 2:30 First Floor West

Rebecca Ljungren, Educational Programs Manager, National Women’s History Museum

Attendees can experience an interactive audio tour inside the exhibition *We Who Believe in Freedom: Black Feminist DC* and hear more about co-creating interactive tours in public spaces during the poster session, a project presented as a collaboration between the DC Public Library, The Playful City Lab at American University, and the National Women’s History Museum. With the goal of democratizing the process of creating interactive, low-tech experiences in public spaces, this special audio tour uses the tool “Hive Mechanic,” which empowers anyone to create outdoor and immersive experiences from ordinary phones – no coding or programming skills required.

REIMAGINING DC THROUGH ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Nikki Grigg, Archaeologist, PhD candidate at the University of Chicago

Archaeology can help us recover the histories of ordinary people whose lives aren’t included in the documented or oral record. This special poster session feature invites participants to connect to neighborhood histories through archaeological artifacts. Reflect through drawing, painting, collage, and writing on DC’s past through neighborhood and household histories. Notice what themes reappear then and now: gentrification, immigration, and statehood. What District histories are remembered, forgotten, or obscured? How can DC’s past—and our own memories of the city—help us reimagine its future?

LEARNING FROM MEMORY: SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS ON ORAL HISTORY

Location: People's Archive 1:30 - 3:00 PM

Listen—no, really, listen to a sampling of oral history clips from the DC Oral History Collaborative and other DC-focused collections. Participants will immerse themselves in interviewees' stories and then will discuss them in small groups led by community oral history experts. What do we gain by closely listening to someone's memories? What might we hear? What might we learn: about history, about ourselves? Take this opportunity to explore, with us, oral history's incredible value as a medium for understanding life experiences beyond our own.

FACILITATED BY HUMANITIESDC:

Jasper Collier

Izy Carney

Dominique Hazzard

John Johnson



PROGRESSIVE BLACK FEMINIST ORGANIZING IN DC FROM 1960-1990S

This panel will uplift the stories of five Black women who were involved in the Black feminist movement in DC from the 1960s through the 1990s. Panelists will discuss the organizations they founded and were members of; ways they organized folks; how they lived, found joy, and built community; and how they ultimately modeled the kind of world they wanted to live in. These stories can be fuel for the next generation of liberation fighters.

PANELISTS:

Tania Abdulahad, MSW, Co-founder, Sapphire Sapphos

Linda Leaks, Organizer, MSCED, Inductee into the Cooperative Hall of Fame, 2023

Loretta J. Ross, Activist and Author Smith College, 2022 MacArthur "Genius" Awardee

Ajowa Nzinga Ifateyo, MSNIH, MBA, MSCED

Nkenge Toure, Founder, WPFW's In Our Voices, Member, Sophie's Parlor

MODERATOR:

Elizabeth Tibebu

CAPITAL CULTURE

How have Washingtonians historically worshiped, danced, and created music? Learn more about three pillars of DC culture at the turn of the twentieth century.

WASHINGTON, DC'S FULL GOSPEL ASSEMBLY 1907-1934

Donald Kammer, PhD

Full Gospel Assembly was a local church that offered some of the most dynamic and well-attended religious activities through the Roaring Twenties and Great Depression years. The church grew out of interracial meetings during the Jim Crow Era and it later welcomed some of the most dynamic female preachers to its pulpit. Despite skepticism of Pentecostalism at the time, the church grew and received positive press coverage in the city.

PLACES FOR DANCING ON U STREET, 1903-1910

Bridget Jamison, Graduate Student, University of Maryland

This presentation will discuss the opening of two U Street institutions—the True Reformer Building (1903) and the Howard Theatre (1910)—as the area took its first steps towards becoming “Black Broadway.” Washingtonians created these spaces to dance and watch dance performances. These spaces also fulfilled community needs for engaging with the arts.

THE MUSIC BUSINESS IN DC IN THE GOLDEN AGE OF PIANOS

John DeFerrari, DC History Center

Pianos were a versatile and ubiquitous home entertainment mechanism in late Victorian and early 20th century homes. DC piano merchants mostly clustered downtown on G Street NW around 13th Street, which became a center for the music business. The presentation will offer portraits of some of the most prominent DC piano dealers and explore their rise in the 1880s and ultimate decline beginning in the 1910s.

MODERATOR: Dwayne Lawson-Brown, Community Engagement Specialist, DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities

BURIED HISTORIES OF SLAVERY AND THE CIVIL WAR

A house buried beneath a garden; a forgotten freedom fighter; and the stories of Civil War sex workers. Learn more about the antebellum and Civil War eras in DC through three presentations.

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF AN ENSLAVED HOME SPACE IN GEORGETOWN

Ianna Recco, *Collections Manager, Tudor Place Historic House*

Invisible to the eye and buried beneath the Tudor Place Gardens in Georgetown lies what archaeologists in 2022 determined to likely be a dwelling used by enslaved individuals. Enslaved home spaces were built on foundations of bondage and oppression but were also homes where culture, community, and family bonds persevered. Although this home space was forgotten long ago, the stories contained within it continue to unfold as the legacy of its enslaved community persists.

THOMAS SMALLWOOD: AN ANTISLAVERY WASHINGTON HERO LOST TO HISTORY

Scott Shane, *Journalist and Author*

After Thomas Smallwood bought his freedom, he became a shoemaker near Navy Yard in Southeast and in 1842 started organizing mass escapes from slavery. Smallwood wrote about these escapes in real-time satirical dispatches for a newspaper, using the real names of the enslavers he mocked and the escaping people he celebrated. He also gave the underground railroad its name. Learn more about this fascinating figure who has largely been left out of history.

SEX WORK IN CIVIL-WAR WASHINGTON AND BEYOND

Katie Kirkpatrick, *Founder, Off the Mall Tours*

Washington, DC saw an unprecedented rise in sex work during the Civil War due to the thousands of Union soldiers who flooded into the city for training. Brothels provided income, shelter, and independence for women who in some cases had few other places to turn. They built businesses and turned access to politicians into influence. This presentation focuses on these sex workers' stories.

MODERATOR: Lisa Fager, *Executive Director, Black Georgetown Foundation*

COMMUNITY AND REPRESENTATION: THE 1960S AND 1970S IN DC

How did Washingtonians organize and fight for their communities and for political representation in the 1960s and 70s? Learn about DC's fight for democratic representation, the understudied stories of DC Latinos, and the power of go-go.

DC'S NONVOTING SENATOR: A LOST DREAM OF HOME RULE

Elliot Mamet, *Political Scientist*, Princeton

The DC Home Rule Act of 1973 included a provision awarding DC a non-voting Senate seat. While non-voting delegates date back to 1794, never before had a non-state entity been awarded a non-voting Senate seat. This provision was struck only at the very last minute. Fifty years after Home Rule, this presentation reconstructs that history.

DC LATINO HISTORY, 1968-1975

Arturo Griffiths, *Activist and Organizer*

DC Latinos who organized and worked in the community prior to the 1980s wave of Central American immigration have stories to tell. While little has been written on this era of DC Latino history, valuable resources exist in living room archives and oral histories. This presentation will discuss the experiences of those who worked and lived during the period 1968-1975.

GO-GO AND COMMUNITY IN THE LATE 1970S AND EARLY 1980S

Alan Parkes, *PhD Candidate*, University of Delaware

This presentation will uncover how go-go music both reflected and challenged racial politics. How did the political landscape of the late 70s—including the tension between local and national politics—inspire the go-go scene? Go-go scene members constructed a community in response to DC's political climate as well as a history of black suppression in the US.

MODERATOR: Jerome Paige, *Board Chair*, DC Fiscal Policy Institute

SATURDAY KEYNOTE ADDRESS

CRIME CAPITAL?: A HISTORY OF POLITICIZING DC CRIME AND HOW WASHINGTONIANS FOUGHT BACK

Kyla Sommers, PhD, *Independent Historian*

5:00 – 6:00 pm

Location: Auditorium, 5th Floor

Since desegregation, politicians have stoked fears of urban crime in Washington, DC to rally white voters and undermine civil rights. This reached a fever pitch after the 1968 rebellions. Richard Nixon turned the capital into an anti-crime policy laboratory and his “law and order” measures were modeled across the country. Yet amid rising crime rates and public panic, the DC Council ignored calls to expand police authority and instead launched initiatives to grant citizens more control over law enforcement. As DC crime dominates headlines today, this presentation examines the efforts of Washingtonians who fought to make the city a more equitable, safe, and democratic community.



Friday, April 5th 1:15 – 3:15 PM Great Hall, 1st Floor

The History Network provides conference attendees with the opportunity to meet representatives from organizations doing humanities-based work across the DMV. Learn about an organization, project, or initiative you'd like to follow, volunteer with, or join and pick up information and swag from participating organizations and individuals.

- A Tour of Her Own
- A Train Runs Through It: The Life and Loves from
Columbian Harmony Cemetery
- African American Holiday Association (AAHA)
- Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society -
James Dent Walker Chapter
- Albert H. Small Center for National Capital Area Studies
- Alliance to Preserve the Civil War
Defenses of Washington
- Anacostia Community Museum
- AOI of DC (The Association of the Oldest
Inhabitants of DC)
- Archives Advisory Group
- Arlington Historical Society
- Bethesda African Cemetery Coalition
- Black and White People in Washington DC
Getting Along Together
- Charles Sumner School Museum and Archives
- Coming to Washington Project / Humanities Truck
- DACOR Bacon House Foundation
- DC Alliance for Response
- DC Collaborative
- DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities
- DC Historic Preservation Office, Office of Planning
- DC History Center
- DC Office of Public Records and Archives
- DC Preservation League
- Diversity Equity and Inclusion Programming,
Woodrow Wilson House
- DMV Filipino History (Community Project)
- Events DC Cultural Affairs Department
- Exposed DC
- Female RE-Enactors of Distinction (FREED)
- Friday Morning Music Club
- Georgetown Heritage
- Georgetown University Press
- Georgetown-Howard Center for Medical
Humanities and Health Justice
- Heurich House Museum
- Historic Chevy Chase DC
- Historic Congressional Cemetery
- History of the American Fazl Mosque
- HumanitiesDC
- Indivisible - An Alternate History
- Master Calligrapher Bing Huang
- Mayor's Office of Racial Equity (ORE)
- Military Road School Preservation Trust
- National Capital Planning Commission Centennial
- National Postal Museum
- Rainbow History Project
- Rock Creek Park and the Friends of Peirce Mill:
William Beckett Project
- Rorschach Theatre's Psychogeographies Projects
- The Lillian and Albert Small Capital Jewish Museum
- University of Virginia Press
- U.S. Capitol Historical Society
- Veterans Curation Program
- Washington Walks
- Washingtonia Collection of Marc David Miller
- WETA Boundary Stones
- White House Historical Association
- Women's History and Resource Center at the General
Federation of Women's Clubs



Saturday, April 6, 1:15 – 3:15 PM Great Hall, 1st Floor

At the DC History Conference Poster Session, presenters share their research visually with attendees in small groups. Visit poster presenters to learn about their work and ask questions! Continue the conversation on social media, sharing your favorites and connecting with presenters.

25 Years of DC Archaeology Guidance, *Ruth Troccoli, Christine Ames*

Afrocentric Expression at the Malcolm X Park Drum Circle, *Rami Stucky*

All Things Great and Small: Conducting Collection Inventories, *Julie Botnick*

Beyond Granite, *Lauren Wilson, Johanna McCrehan*
Chocolate City Life Histories: DC's Long 1970s Through the Words, Work, and Worlds of Gil Scott-Heron and Herbert Denton, *Benji de la Piedra*

DC Archaeology Month Poster Process, *Ambria Safford, Beth Pruitt*

DC's Catholic Church in Spanish, *Elisabeth Macias*
Educating Our Youth: Explaining Sensitive Topics In Our History, *Melissa Havran*

Epiphany Church's Tuesday concerts, *Carol Morgan*
From Environmental Histories to Environmental Futures: A Collaborative Practice, *Sydney Luken, Jason Farr, Minji Jang*

History of the American Fazl Mosque, *Maliha Luqman, Yahya Luqman*

History of the Rollingwood Burial Ground for Enslaved People in Chevy Chase, Maryland, *Renata Lisowski*

Latino/a/x Advisory Group & Community Engagement: Addressing Archival Silences Through Comunidad, *Mariana Barros-Titus, Jose Gutierrez, Leti Gomez, Kristy LiPuma, Daniel del Pielago*

Leafing Through the Pages: The Role of Gay and Lesbian Bookstores in LGBTQ+ D.C., *Colette Combs*
Legacies, Contributions, Past and Present of African American Architects/Builders on the Built Environment, *Michelle Jones*

Mapping DC's LGBTQ+ Religious History: An Exploratory Conversation, *Elisabeth Macias*
Mapping Foggy Bottom: An Innovative Neighborhood House History Project, *Frank Leone, Denise Vogt*

"Mi Legado Familiar" DC History Through Our Students' Family Histories, *Rosalyn Lake*
NURSES SAVE LIVES: Train the Trainer: The Secret Weapon Program of Washington, DC (SWC), *Alicia Rucker*

SWANN QUEEN: Film Screening + Community Conversation, *L Cedeño Miller*

The Nation's Guest: Lafayette in Washington DC, *Elizabeth Reese*

The Strange Case of Earl McFarland; or The Lonely Life of Dorothy Berrum, *Vina Hutchinson Roberts*

Weird DC: Strange Tales From the District, *D Black*
Women on the Home Front WWI: The Four Minute Men, *Stephanie Vickers*

"You Have to Make Yourself Happy," *Okella Trice*



AUTHOR'S CORNER

Saturday, April 6, 1:15 – 3:15 PM Great Hall, 1st Floor

New to the conference this year, the Authors' Corner, takes place during the Poster Session and features some of the best books about Washington history that have been published since 2022. Meet and mingle with your favorite DC historians, buy a copy of their books or have yours signed, and discover new authorship!

Tanya Golash-Boza, *Before Gentrification: The Creation of DC's Racial Wealth Gap* (2023, University of California Press)

Jessica Grieser, *The Black Side of the River: Race, Language, and Belonging in Washington, DC* (2022, Georgetown University Press)

Barry Harrelson, *Dirt Don't Burn: A Black Community's Struggle for Educational Equality Under Segregation* (2023, Georgetown University Press)

Edwin B. Henderson II, *The Grandfather of Black Basketball: The Life and Times of Dr. E B Henderson* (2024, Rowman & Littlefield)

A. Kim Hoagland, *The Row House in Washington DC* (2023, University of Virginia Press)

Armand Lione, *Native American History of Washington DC* (2023, Arcadia)

Shirley Marshall, *A Radical Suffragist in DC: An Inside Look* (2024, The History Press)

Shahan Mufti, *American Caliph: The True Story of a Muslim Mystic, a Hollywood Epic, and the 1977 Siege of Washington, DC* (2022, Farrar, Straus & Giroux)

Chip Py, *DC Go-Go: Ten Years Backstage* (2022, The History Press)

Elizabeth Reese, *Marquis de Lafayette Returns: A Tour of America's National Capital Region* (2024, The History Press)

Kyla Sommers, *When the Smoke Cleared: The 1968 Rebellions and the Unfinished Battle for Civil Rights in the Nation's Capital* (2023, The New Press)

Robert Watson, *When Washington Burned: The British Invasion of the Capital and a Nation's Rise from the Ashes* (2023, Georgetown University Press)

Katie J. Wells, Kafui Attoh & Declan Cullen, *Disrupting DC: The Rise of Uber and the Fall of the City* (2023, Princeton University Press)



A GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

The DC History Center and other museums, nonprofits, and cultural institutions in Washington, DC offer various educational resources to assist educators with incorporating local history into the classroom. Below are just a few examples of the vast amount of resources and subject matter that organizations in DC offer to educators.

The **DC History Center** offers lesson plans to support DC history topics found in the DC Public Schools curriculum for grades 3-12. Examples include the Clarice Smith Neighborhood History program; materials to support Black Lives Matter at School; and standalone downloadable activities relating to DC history topics. Apply for the Summer 2024 Teach the District professional development cohort for hands-on experience with materials and training implementing them!

dchistory.libguides.com/teach-the-district
dchistory.libguides.com/educator-resources

DC Public Library has a wide variety of services and resources to support educators and their students, including the People's Archive which connects users to resources that illuminate DC's local history and culture.

dclibrary.org/thepeoplesarchive

Anacostia Community Museum provides online teaching resources in history, art, and culture available via the Smithsonian's Learning Lab, an online learning platform.

learninglab.si.edu

Teaching for Change's D.C. Area Educators for Social Justice compiles resources for educators to teach local history, lists of books for the classroom in Washington, DC, and strategies for teaching DC history, among many other resources.

dcareaeducators4socialjustice.org/local-history

SCHEDULE & STANDARDS AT-A-GLANCE

And the teacher becomes the student: Here's a cheat sheet aligning conference sessions with selected District of Columbia K-12 Social Studies Standards as approved by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) in June 2023.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

LETITIA WOODS BROWN MEMORIAL LECTURE 6:00 – 7:15 pm

Vann R. Newkirk II & Jerusalem Demsas in Conversation

DC.36 Evaluate the efforts and opposition to the struggle for greater self-determination and suffrage for Washington, DC residents in the 1960s and 1970s, culminating in the passage of the Home Rule Act of 1973.

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

SESSION A 10:15 – 11:30 am

Black Freedom Struggles in Chevy Chase, 1725 – Today

3.7 Analyze how populations in Washington, DC have changed over time, including population increases, immigration and examples of racial and ethnic integration, segregation, and displacement (e.g., in Southwest DC).

Exploring Black Deaf History Through Theatre: Visionaries of the Creative Arts and the Center for Black Deaf Studies

3.38 Analyze how groups maintain their cultural heritage and how this heritage is manifested in the symbols, traditions and culture of Washington, DC.

Monuments and Meaning

3.11 Evaluate the utility of different representations of Washington, D.C. and the Chesapeake region, and use them to answer specific questions about the past.

3.41 Analyze the history and legacy of major monuments and historical sites in and around Washington, D.C..

Capital Arts and Its Patrons

3.39 Analyze the impact of significant local organizations and businesses on the history of Washington, D.C..

SESSION B 11:45 am – 1:00 pm

The Legacy of Lee's Flower Shop

3.25 Evaluate the cultural and civic impact of significant people and institutions that comprised the Black U Street community in the 1920s and 1930s.

Winning with WISH: Tenant Organizing in Washington, DC, 1978–2003

DC.38 Evaluate the roles different grassroots community organizations played in fighting for the expansion of political and economic power in the District and nation from the mid- to late 20th century, including local organizing for tenant protections, LGBTQ+ rights and immigrant rights; national struggles for welfare rights and against poverty; and international fights against the Vietnam War, Apartheid and US imperialism in Latin America.

Celebrating DC History Through Chinese Poetry and Art

DC.24 Analyze the reasons for the growth of the Asian American community in Washington, DC, and evaluate the methods used by the community to resist displacement resulting from urban planning and federal policy.

Activism and Protest

DC.26 Analyze the impact of the Lavender Scare on LGBTQ+ life in Washington, D.C., and the actions taken by specific individuals and organizations (e.g. William Dorsey Swann and the Gay Liberation Front-DC), to increase the visibility and equality for LGBTQ+ individuals in Washington.

HISTORY NETWORK 1:15 – 3:15 pm

SESSION C 3:30 – 4:45 pm

Citizen Struggles to Improve Housing in Washington DC, 1983 and 2023

3.42 Evaluate the different perspectives on the challenges facing current residents, and develop a plan for action to address one of those challenges.

3.35 Identify multiple ways people in the Washington community can influence their local government.

Oral Histories and Heirlooms

1.3 Explain the ways in which different populations including but not limited to Latinx, Black, Asian, white, immigrant, religious, LGBTQ+ and Indigenous communities, have shaped and defined the community of Washington, D.C..

3.12 Create a personal history of Washington, DC using oral histories, written sources and artifacts collected from family or community members.

DC.26 Analyze the impact of the Lavender Scare on LGBTQ+ life in Washington, D.C., and the actions taken by specific individuals and organizations (e.g. William Dorsey Swann and the Gay Liberation Front-DC), to increase the visibility and equality for LGBTQ+ individuals in Washington.

DC's Built Environment

3.9 Explain the impact of at least one significant urban planning decision in the history of Washington, D.C. on the health and composition of different communities in Washington, D.C. (e.g. redlining, public transit planning, the construction of highway 295).

Honoring the Legacies of Three DC Women

3.22 Analyze the lived experiences of different Washingtonians in the 19th century, including efforts to resist enslavement and the growth of a free Black community in the District.

US2.45 Analyze the social, political and economic impact of World War II on American society, including the contributions of and discrimination faced by different Americans, including women, Black Americans, Indigenous Nations, Asian Americans and Latinx Americans.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

SESSION D 10:15 – 11:30 am

Queer Identity and Early DC Writers

1.3 Explain the ways in which different populations including but not limited to Latinx, Black, Asian white, immigrant, religious, LGBTQ+ and Indigenous communities, have shaped and defined the community of Washington, D.C..

Challenges into Possibilities: Multigenerational Perspectives From Black Men in Ward 7

3.42 Evaluate the different perspectives on the challenges facing current residents, and develop a plan for action to address one of those challenges.

The ANC Rainbow Caucus and 50 Years of LGBTQ+ Elected Officials (Roundtable)

3.28 Evaluate the impact of significant political movements, including labor movements, the Civil Rights movement, the Disability Rights movements, LGBTQ+ liberation and women's suffrage on life for District of Columbia residents.

DC.44 Assess the multiple ways District residents can influence the DC local government.

Neighborhood History and Housing

US2.60 Evaluate the impact of federal and local policies in housing, infrastructure and economic development, such as redlining and housing covenants on the distribution of economic opportunity in the early 20th century.

DC.21 Evaluate the impact of city planning and federal policy on the geography of Washington, DC in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, including the city's alley dwellings, local efforts at housing reform, and the development and displacement of the city's first Chinatown.

DC.25 Analyze the impact of World War I, the New Deal, and World War II on the District's population, geography and residents.

SESSION E 11:45 am – 1:00 pm

50 Years of LGBTQ Pride Activity in the Nation's Capital (Roundtable)

1.3 Explain the ways in which different populations including but not limited to Latinx, Black, Asian, white, immigrant, religious, LGBTQ+ and Indigenous communities, have shaped and defined the community of Washington, D.C..

3.28 Evaluate the impact of significant political movements, including labor movements, the Civil Rights movement, the Disability Rights movements, LGBTQ+ liberation and women's suffrage on life for District of Columbia residents.

DC.26 Analyze the impact of the Lavender Scare on LGBTQ+ life in Washington, D.C., and the actions taken by specific individuals and organizations (e.g. William Dorsey Swann and the Gay Liberation Front-DC), to increase the visibility and equality for LGBTQ+ individuals in Washington.

From Atlantis to the 9:30 Club

3.39 Analyze the impact of significant local organizations and businesses on the history of Washington, D.C..

Planning Pioneer or Pariah? Rethinking Harland Bartholomew's Legacy

3.9 Explain the impact of at least one significant urban planning decision in the history of Washington, D.C. on the health and composition of different communities in Washington, D.C. (e.g. redlining, public transit planning, the construction of highway 295).

Schools and Students

DC.32 Analyze the successes and unfinished work of the fight to desegregate schools in Washington, DC, including the role of *Bolling v. Sharpe*.

DC.33 Analyze the rationale for and the impact of urban planning decisions — including urban renewal policies and city infrastructure — on communities in Washington, DC, as well as how communities resisted some of these policies.

DC.35 Evaluate the reasons for and impact of immigration to Washington, DC at the end of the 20th century, including the impact of immigration from Central America, Asia and Africa.

POSTER SESSION 1:15 – 3:15 pm

Special Feature: Honoring Black Fugitive Folklore through Creative Study

3.22 Analyze the lived experiences of different Washingtonians in the 19th century, including efforts to resist enslavement and the growth of a free Black community in the District.

7.69 Analyze the methods of abolition and emancipation undertaken by enslaved people during the Civil War.

Special Feature: We Who Believe in Freedom: Black Feminist DC Community Voice Project

US2.69 Analyze the contributions of different groups to the Civil Rights Movement and how it inspired and intersected with various other civil rights movements and events including but not limited to the gay rights movement, the Stonewall Uprising, the American Indian Movement (AIM), the United Farm Workers, the Women's Liberation Movement, the Asian American Movement, disability rights movement, Chicano Movement, Latinx resistance and the anti-war movements.

Special Feature: Reimagining DC through Art and Archaeology

3.12 Create a personal history of Washington, DC using oral histories, written sources and artifacts collected from family or community members.

Special Feature: Learning from Memory: Small Group Discussions on Oral History

3.12 Create a personal history of Washington, DC using oral histories, written sources and artifacts collected from family or community members.



SATURDAY, APRIL 6 (cont.)

SESSION F 3:30 – 4:45 pm

Progressive Black Feminist Organizing in DC from 1980-1990s

DC.38 Evaluate the roles different grassroots community organizations played in fighting for the expansion of political and economic power in the District and nation from the mid- to late 20th century, including local organizing for tenant protections, LGBTQ+ rights and immigrant rights; national struggles for welfare rights and against poverty; and international fights against the Vietnam War, Apartheid and US imperialism in Latin America.

DC.48 Assess successful efforts for creating change in Washington, DC, and evaluate the efficacy of methods for achieving change in the District.

Capital Culture

3.38 Analyze how groups maintain their cultural heritage and how this heritage is manifested in the symbols, traditions and culture of Washington, DC..

DC.22 Analyze the origins and the impact of segregation and Jim Crow laws on the culture, geography and economy of Washington, D.C..

5.43 Analyze the rise in Black art, music, literature, businesses and queer culture in the Black Renaissance period including but not limited to Harlem and DC (e.g Black Broadway).

US2.37 Analyze the impact of the Harlem Renaissance and the Black Renaissance in Washington, DC on American culture, including analysis of literature, music, dance, theater, queer culture and scholarship from the period.

Buried Histories of Slavery and the Civil War

3.22 Analyze the lived experiences of different Washingtonians in the 19th century, including efforts to resist enslavement and the growth of a free Black community in the District.

7.69 Analyze the methods of abolition and emancipation undertaken by enslaved people during the Civil War.

5.27 Describe how the Underground Railroad developed in the United States, including the work of activists from the District of Columbia in assisting enslaved people fleeing to the North.

5.35 Evaluate the political and social impact of the end of the Civil War and the assassination of Abraham Lincoln on different individuals in America, including the experiences of emancipation.

Community and Representation: The 1960s and 1970s in DC

DC.34 Evaluate the roots and impact of cultural changes to Washington, DC in the 1970s, including the rise of go-go and punk.

3.26 Explain the reasons for the growth of Asian American, Latinx, East African, and Caribbean communities in Washington, DC, and efforts taken by different individuals to claim a voice in the city, such as the organization of the Latino festival or the role of a community organization.

DC.29 Analyze the rise of Latinx-owned businesses and non-profit organizations and the methods by which different individuals have exercised political power in Washington, D.C..

DC.37 Evaluate the executive and legislative powers of the DC government, as established by the Home Rule Act, and analyze the extent to which limited government under home rule addressed issues facing the District.

KEYNOTE 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Crime Capital?: A History of Politicizing DC Crime and How Washingtonians Fought Back

DC.37 Evaluate the executive and legislative powers of the DC government, as established by the Home Rule Act, and analyze the extent to which limited government under home rule addressed issues facing the District.

DC.38 Evaluate the roles different grassroots community organizations played in fighting for the expansion of political and economic power in the District and nation from the mid- to late 20th century, including local organizing for tenant protections, LGBTQ+ rights and immigrant rights; national struggles for welfare rights and against poverty; and international fights against the Vietnam War, Apartheid and US imperialism in Latin America.



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The DC History Conference is co-presented by the DC History Center, the DC Public Library, and HumanitiesDC, organized by a volunteer planning committee, and sustained by our organizational partners. We gratefully acknowledge support from the DC Public Library Foundation, EHT Traceries, DowntownDC Business Improvement District, Georgetown University Press, DC Preservation League, the Family of Letitia Woods Brown, and the White House Historical Association, as well as Events DC and the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

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Upcoming Exhibits

In a Moment of Tenderness...

A Group Art Exhibit

Curated by Adam Odomore

Opens April 11, 2024

Planning Washington: Capital and Community

A Centennial Exhibit by the

National Capital Planning Commission

Opens June 6, 2024

Capital Connections

A Group Art Exhibit

Curated by Winston Harris

Opens June 26, 2024

The Negro Motorist Green Book

Created by the Smithsonian Institution

Traveling Exhibition Service in

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Learn more: [dclibrary.org / exhibits](https://dclibrary.org/exhibits)



Image Credit: Photo from *The Negro Motorist Green Book*, [Four young African American women standing beside a convertible automobile], ca. 1958. WANN Radio Station Records, Archives Center, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution

SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE



@DCHISTCON
APRIL 4-6, 2024

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

Letitia Woods Brown Memorial Lecture:

Vann R. Newkirk II &
Jerusalem Demsas

6:00 - 7:15 pm | Reception to Follow

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

REGISTRATION All Day

SESSION A 10:15 - 11:30 am

Black Freedom Struggles in
Chevy Chase, 1725 - Today

Exploring Black Deaf History Through Theatre:
Visionaries of the Creative Arts and the Center for
Black Deaf Studies

Monuments and Meaning

Capital Arts and Its Patrons

SESSION B 11:45 am - 1:00 pm

The Legacy of Lee's Flower Shop

Winning with WISH: Tenant Organizing in
Washington, DC, 1978-2003

Celebrating DC History Through Chinese
Poetry and Art

Activism and Protest

HISTORY NETWORK 1:15 - 3:15 pm

SESSION C 3:30 - 4:45 pm

Citizen Struggles to Improve Housing in Washington
DC, 1983 and 2023

Oral Histories and Heirlooms

DC's Built Environment

Honoring the Legacies of Three DC Women

After Hours Party
5:00 - 7:00 pm

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

REGISTRATION All Day

SESSION D 10:15 - 11:30 am

Queer Identity and Early DC Writers

Changing Challenges into Possibilities:
Multigenerational Perspectives from Black
Men in Ward 7

The ANC Rainbow Caucus and 50 Years of LGBTQ+
Elected Officials (Roundtable)

Neighborhood History and Housing

SESSION E 11:45 am - 1:00 pm

50 Years of LGBTQ Pride Activity
in the Nation's Capital (Roundtable)

From Atlantis to the 9:30 Club

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Rethinking Harland Bartholomew's Legacy

Schools and Students

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Special Feature: Learning from Memory: Small
Group Discussions on Oral History

SESSION F 3:30 - 4:45 pm

Progressive Black Feminist Organizing
in DC from 1960-1990s

Capital Culture

Buried Histories of Slavery and the Civil War

Community and Representation:
The 1960s and 1970s in DC

Closing Keynote:
Crime Capital?: A History of
Politicizing DC Crime and How
Washingtonians Fought Back

Kyla Sommers

5:00 - 6:00 pm



Conference Programs

Explore Topics,
Presenters, and
Committee Members
Over the Years

