
Archivists & Archives of Color Newsletter

Newsletter of the Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable

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Greetings from the Co-Chair

By Rose Roberto

The 2005 SAA Annual Meeting will be held in New Orleans, beginning on August 17, 2005 at 5:00 PM. Further details about the meeting, including the agenda, are currently posted on the AAC website at

<http://www.archivists.org/saagroups/aac>.

This meeting will mark the end of my tenure as AAC Co-Chair. I'm proud to say that I feel much has been accomplished during the last two years. Among the accomplishments, AAC established an advisory board. The AAC Roundtable is now fully online—current work as well as our history. Work has been done to update the Pinkett Award and make it more high profile and effective. And finally, we are beginning to look at other ways AAC in conjunction with the Diversity Committee can provide outreach for minority students during their college years and perhaps even younger. As information professionals, we have an important role in society, and many of us do very interesting work. We need to convey that to the next generation and continue laying the groundwork to make SAA as diverse as possible.

There are three very important reasons why all of us going to the SAA conference this year should attend the awards ceremony. Dr. Thomas Battle is being made a Society Fellow AND the roundtable is awarding the Harold T. Pinkett Award to two very talented people from UCLA: Jennifer Osorio and Paul Sevilla. Please see the other articles in the newsletter with more details about the award winners. I'm also pleased to announce that there are quite a few sessions dealing with diversity this year. As someone sitting on the Annual Meeting Program Committee this year, I had the opportunity to preview some very thought-provoking sessions. Although AAC sponsored many of them, some of them were proposed by other members of SAA who chose relevant topics, especially topics dealing with Middle Eastern communities. I highly encourage you to go to at least two of the following sessions.

- Destruction and Preservation of Archives in Wartime: The Balkan Wars of the 1990s and Iraq
- The Historically Black Colleges and Universities Archives Institute: A Model for Archival Training
- Controlling Human Reproduction: The Challenges of Documenting the Post-World War II Revolution
- Hidden Treasures: Strategies for Broadening Archival Access Via Visual Materials Depicting Women and Minorities

- Pluralizing the Archival Paradigm: How Archival Education Can Help
- Managing Diversity Programs in Archives
- Making "Us vs. Them" into "We": Resolving Conflicts between Institutions and Minority Groups
- Documenting the Middle East: A Look at Photograph Collections in the United States
- Latinos in the Archives: Documenting a Community on the Rise

I want to thank Petrina Jackson for doing significant work as Newsletter editor. I want to also thank Lisa Nguyen for agreeing to be the new listserv moderator and for keeping the AAC Directory up-to-date. Finally, I want to say that I am leaving you in the very capable hands of Teresa Mora. She has been industrious and extremely insightful, and I look forward to supporting her and the next co-chair in my old role as web liaison.

Thomas Battle Named SAA Fellow

By Danna Bell-Russel

Established in 1957 and conferred annually, the distinction of Fellow is the highest honor bestowed on individuals by SAA and is awarded for outstanding contributions to the archival profession. Long-time member and past Co-chair of the AAC Roundtable, Dr. Thomas Battle has been named an SAA Fellow.

Dr. Thomas Battle received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Howard University. He has his MLS from the University of Maryland and a Ph.D in American Studies with emphasis in African and African American History and Culture from the George Washington University. He started his career as a librarian at the District of Columbia Public Library and also served as an Exchange Librarian for the Sierra Leone Library Board.

Dr. Battle has spent nearly his entire career at the Moorland-Spangarn Research Center at Howard University. Starting out as a reference librarian, moving on to become the Curator of Manuscripts and eventually Director, Dr. Battle has worked tirelessly to improve the collections and encourage use of the collections. He helped to develop the Howard University archives, so that future scholars could study the history of this important institution. He wrote widely about the collections and about Dorothy Porter Wesley, the mother of the Moorland-Spangarn Research Center and an African scholar in her own right. He worked to improve the lecture series in

her name that works to bring information professionals of color to Howard to talk about issues of interest to the library and archival community. He also worked to provide information on other African American bibliophiles including co-authoring a book on the subject in 1990. Dr. Battle was also instrumental in the establishment of a Voting Rights History archive at Howard and in insuring the preservation of the Black Press by developing an archival repository to document the activities of this important communications arm of the African American community.

In addition to providing access to resources on African and African American life and culture via the print medium, in 1999 Dr. Battle created HUArchives.Net, an electronic periodical dedicated to the study of African and African American history and life. Included in HUArchives.Net are articles, scanned copies of archival materials, and links to other information resources of interest. In addition to reaching to the scholarly community, Dr. Battle also works to bring the story of African-American history to the general public. People living in the Washington, D.C. metro area may have seen Dr. Battle on television, talking about various aspects of the history of Howard and providing material from the Howard University archives and Moorland-Spangarn to highlight the topic of the presentation.

Though much of Dr. Battle's work has focused on the Moorland-Spangarn Research Center, he has also reached out to a wider community. To name a few examples of the many listed on his resume, he has served as a reviewer for the National Endowment for the Humanities since 1976 and also served as a member of several task forces. He has served as an advisor for the National Park Service, including his most recent work on the Underground Railroad Museum, and as a consultant for the DuSable Museum and the Avery Institution. He has served on advisory committees for the Smithsonian Institution, most notably on an advisory board relating to the development of an African American museum on the national mall. He has also served on the advisory board for the Index to Black Periodicals.

Within the archives community, Dr. Battle has been active on both the regional and national level. He has served on the program and nominations committees within the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference and also was elected as an At-Large member of the Steering Committee. Within SAA Dr. Battle served for four years as the chair for the Task Force on Minorities, the committee that eventually became the Archives and Archivists of Color Roundtable. He has also served on the Program Committee, as Chair of the Nominations Committee, on the Publications Board and as a co-chair of the Awards committee. He was elected to serve as Co-Chair for the Archives and Archivists of Color Roundtable in 1999 but had to step down to accept his position on Council where he served until 2003. He is also a certified archivist. For all of his work, Dr. Battle was awarded the 2004 Carter G. Woodson Medal by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History.

**2005 Harold T. Pinkett Award Winners:
Jennifer Osorio and Paul Sevilla**
Submitted by Rose Roberto

Established in 1993, the Harold T. Pinkett award recognizes and acknowledges minority graduate students, who, through scholastic and personal achievement, manifest an interest in becoming professional archivists and active members of the Society of American Archivists.

Jennifer Osorio and Paul Sevilla were chosen as the 2005 Harold T. Pinkett Minority Award winners.

Jennifer Osorio is currently enrolled in the MLIS program at UCLA, specializing in archives and records management. She is the incoming co-president of UCLA's SAA student chapter and the outgoing co-president of the ASIST student chapter. She is also the recipient of the [Mink Scholarship from the Society of California Archivists](#) and the [Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship](#) from the Midwest Archives Conference. Osorio is currently working as a Graduate Student Researcher on the International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems (InterPARES 2) Project in the UCLA Department of Information Studies.

Paul Sevilla was born in the Philippines and immigrated to the US when he was ten years old. Before he began his graduate degree, he provided reference support at the California Department of Health Services Resource Center. He is in his second year as an MLIS student at the UCLA. Currently, Sevilla is working at the Department of Special Collections at UCLA and interning as an archival research assistant at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in Hollywood, California. In addition to the Pinkett Minority Student Award, Sevilla also received a partial scholarship to attend the 46th Annual ALA/RBMS Preconference in St. Louis, July 2005. He has also received other numerous student honors and awards through the years, including the 2000 Gates Millennium Scholarship.

Join the New AAC Listserv!

By Lisa Nguyen,
AAC Listserv Moderator and China Projects Archivist,
Hoover Institution Archives, Stanford University

Greetings! The AAC listserv is a new email discussion list dedicated to providing a network of communication for the members of the [Society of American Archivist's Archivist and Archives of Color Roundtable](#). This discussion list is maintained by SAA webmaster, Brian Doyle, under the guidance of the AAC co-chairs.

The address of this list is: aac@lists.archivists.org

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