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*Canadian Museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg hosts exhibits to First Nations traumas*

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On Friday, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a proposal that would limit the ability of states to halt pipelines and other energy projects. Currently, Section 401 of the Clean Water Act authorizes states to block energy projects due to environmental concerns. The EPA proposal looks to change Section 401, arguing that states have utilized it to excessively delay projects, or halt projects for reasons beyond water protection. The

proposal has received backlash from several states, with New York Governor Andrew Cuomo calling it a “gross overreach of federal authority.” [Reuters](#)

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[Canadian Museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg hosts exhibits to First Nations traumas](#) Posted By [Corinne Oestreich](#) August 12th, 2019 Blog

If you have never been to Winnipeg, or have never seen the Canadian Museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg, I highly recommend adding it to your list of “must-see”s.

The museum had 8 levels in total, and each level is dedicated to an aspect of Human rights. This includes a large scale physical timeline of world events, to a 360 degree film that shares stories of Indigenous rights and life, to a wall filled with hanging red dresses in honor the [MMIW](#). (Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women).

The museum was sure to involve First Nations, Métis and Inuit perspectives on many of the issues discussed in the exhibit. One of the exhibits brings specific focus to Residential Schools and the trauma that has been passed down to the generations of today.

[Read More...](#)



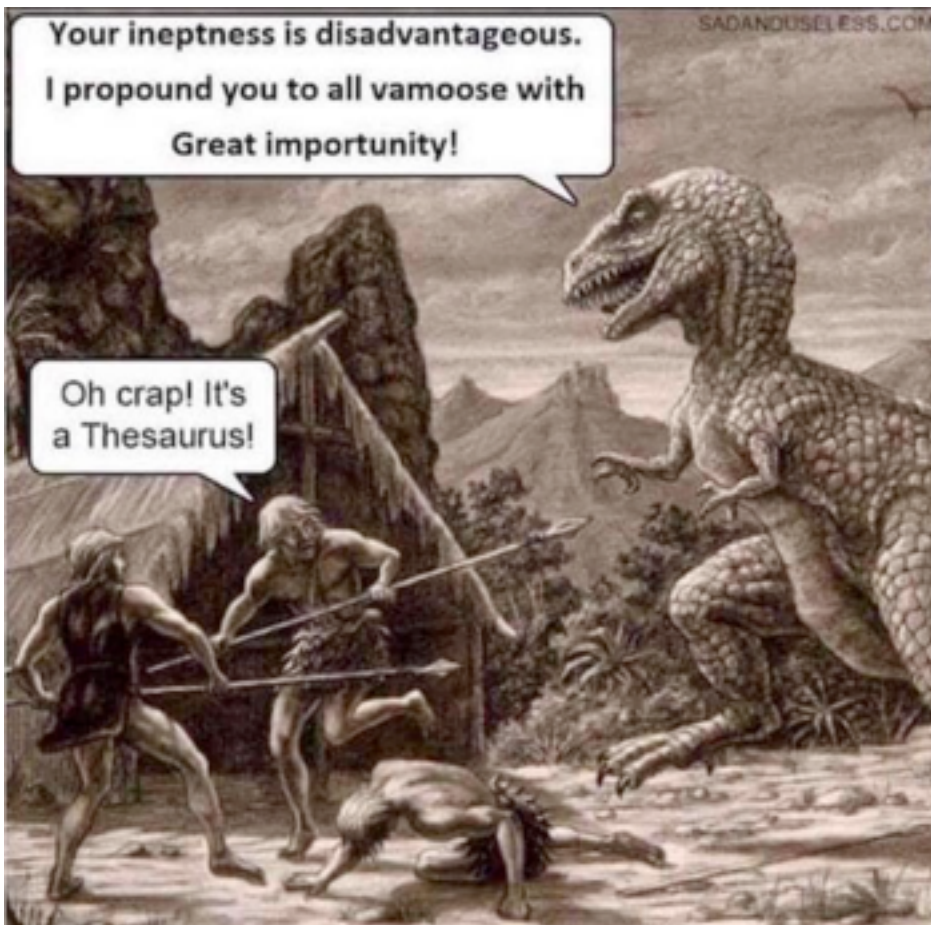
**Today's selection -- from *A Country of Vast Designs* by Robert W. Merry.**

The rise of Texas, from a sparsely populated prairie to an independent country choosing between a possible annexation by the United States and remaining an independent country buttressed by Great Britain:

"In the meantime, Mexico established its independence from Spain in 1821 and set about to address a problem that had plagued the Span-ish overlords for generations -- the dearth of settlement in Texas and California and a consequent inability to establish dominion over those lands. Unlike the robust Anglo-Saxon migrations to the New World, the Spanish influx had not encompassed large numbers of families seeking land for cultivation and settlement. The Spanish migrants had been bent more on establishing themselves as a societal elite superimposed over the established Indian societies. This worked in the New Spain heartland, where the populous Indians had established a high degree of civilization. But in areas such as Texas, where the landscape was forbidding and Apache and Comanche Indians posed a brutal threat, it faltered. To address this problem, Spain had granted large tracts of Texas land to an American group headed by Moses Austin. His son Stephen arrived in 1821 and established sway over 100,000 acres of arable land. He set about to sell it to American settlers will-ing to brave the hardships of weather and Indian attack.

"They arrived in a torrent, reaching nearly forty thousand inhab-itants by 1835 and nearly 150,000 a decade later. Down in Mexico City, the new independent government watched all this with grow-ing alarm. The nation's leaders foresaw a burgeoning cultural chasm as the newcomers rejected loyalty to Mexico and cast their devotion to their ethnic brethren in the United States. In 1830, Mexico out-lawed this immigration wave, but it proved inexorable. As





Mexican officials had feared, in March 1836 the tough-minded migrants of Texas declared their independence and repulsed efforts by Mexican president Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna to bring them to heel. Three battle names -- the Alamo, Goliad, and San Jacinto -- etched the cultural struggle into the consciousness of two peoples on either side of the Rio Grande.

"There matters stood for the better part of a decade. Mexico

never recognized the Texans' right to split off and vowed to retake the territory. Hence, an official state of war existed between the two entities, although it never erupted into full-scale fighting. In Washington, many expansionists advocated bringing the new republic into the Union, but the country's leaders remained wary. Jackson, who wanted the territory as much as anyone and who had sought to purchase the province from Mexico before Texas independence, concluded any annexation effort would overwhelm his other domestic and foreign initiatives. His only concession was a formal recognition of the defiant new nation, extended just before he left office. [Martin] Van Buren, cautious by nature and highly conscious of his northern political base, followed suit. He particularly feared any sectional flare-ups over slavery that could ensue from an annexation effort.

"[John] Tyler had other ideas. The Texas republic was in financial distress, and the always meddlesome British were hovering over it with an aim of establishing an alliance of mutual convenience with the struggling republic. In exchange for financial help and military protection, Britain would be positioned to undermine the United States's supremacy over the Gulf of Mexico and to menace its dominion over New Orleans, gateway to the strategically crucial Mississippi River. Besides, if Britain could dominate this southwestern territory, it would have the United States neatly hemmed in between that region and its Canadian possessions to the north. Britain's premier New World aim was to thwart the American dream of a burgeoning power stretching from sea to sea.

"Then there was slavery. As an antislave power, Britain sought to end the institution wherever it could. Thus, many southerners feared a British-Texas alliance could lead to the abolition of

Texas slavery, which in turn would threaten slaveholders in the southern states. Fugitive slaves would have a new and relatively easy route to free-dom, which would encourage escapes and complicate southern rela-tions with a free Texas and its British protectors. The British minister to Mexico, an ambitious and scheming naval captain named Charles Elliot, had actually formulated a plan for extensive British loans to Texas in exchange for abolition and a free trade policy between the two countries. His clear aim was to detach Texas completely from United States influence. The plan quickly generated agitation in the Amer-ican South and diplomatic concern in London. Lord Aberdeen, the British foreign secretary, on three occasions sought to assure Amer-ica that Britain harbored no such ambitions. Although his country would continue its 'open and honest efforts' in behalf of worldwide abolition, said Aberdeen, his government 'shall neither openly nor secretly resort to any measures which can tend to disturb [the slave states'] internal tranquility, or thereby to affect the prosperity of the American Union.' "

**A Country Of Vast Designs** Author: **Robert W. Merry** Publisher: **Simon & Schuster**

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### **From the Council of State Archivists:**

We welcome **Dennis Preisler** Ph.D., Deputy State Archivist, to the position of Interim State Archivist at the Arizona State Library Archives and Public Records.

### **Survey on Participatory Archiving Process Requested**

University Archives & Special Collections (UASC) in the Joseph P. Healey Library at the University of Massachusetts Boston recently launched a [two-year project, "Destination Preservation,"](#) funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services to build an accessible, adaptable, and engaging "roadmap" to guide libraries of all kinds and sizes through the participatory archiving process.

In order to create the best roadmap possible, we need your help!

We are seeking input from staff and volunteers representing a wide range of institutions committed to documenting shared cultural heritage, including libraries, archives, historical societies, museums, and cultural centers. We would be grateful if you would please [complete our survey here](#) to share your experiences and perspectives with us.

The survey is between 31 and 75 questions, and we estimate it will take about 35 minutes to complete. Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary.

Please complete the entire survey before closing your browser. While you can use the arrows in the bottom right corner to go back and change previous answers in the survey, you will not be able to exit and return to saved answers.

As a thank you for those who complete the survey, we will be raffling off the chance to win one of three \$100 Amazon gift cards.

The results of this survey will inform the development of a suite of resources empowering libraries to plan participatory archiving programs with the communities they serve, preserve the resulting digital collections, and make those collections accessible to the public. You can learn more about the project and survey [here](#).

Thank you for taking the time to help us by taking our survey! Please share the survey with your networks and any relevant stakeholders you think would benefit from the roadmap.

We're excited to share what we learn from you all and look forward to creating a roadmap that incorporates your wisdom!

If you have questions about the survey, would like to participate in material reviews, or would like to receive a copy of the final survey results, please contact the Community Archiving Grant Project Manager, Sarah Collins, at [Sarah.Collins@umb.edu](mailto:Sarah.Collins@umb.edu).

### **Call for Proposals for New Archival Futures Series**

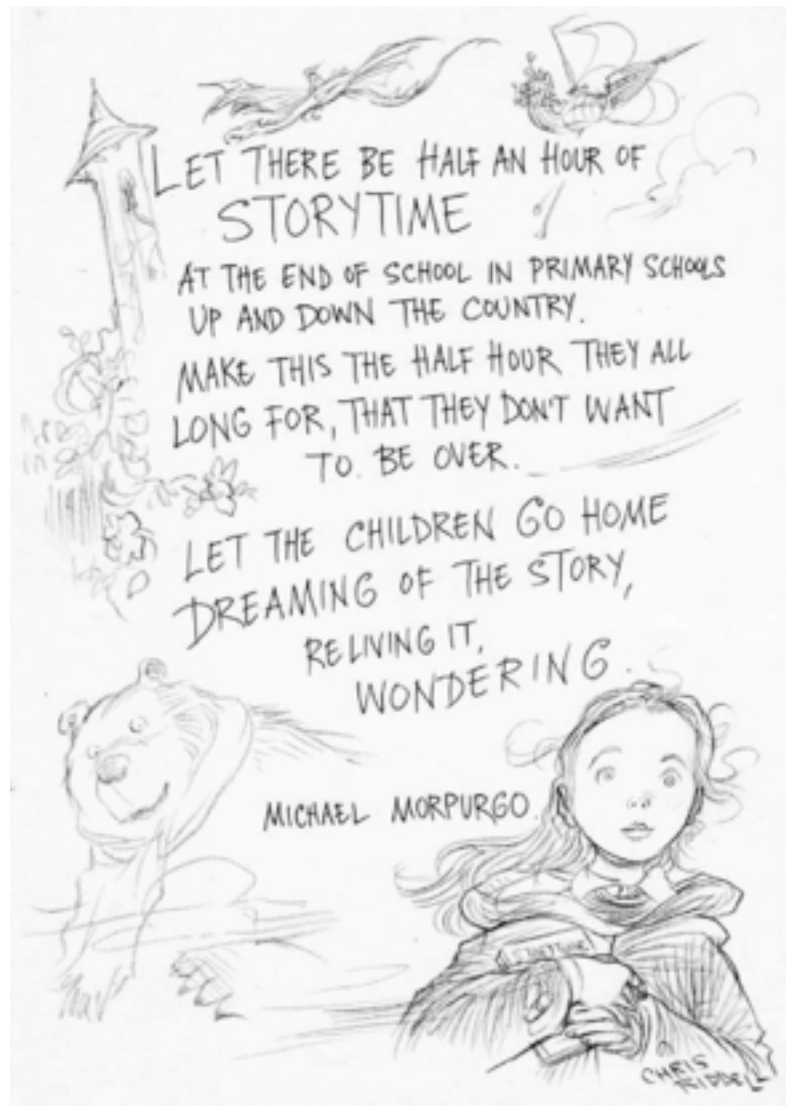
Archival Futures is a new series, published jointly by SAA and the American Library Association, that critically engages issues related to archives as—and for—the public good. This series combines provocative discussion with practical insight, examining professional values and current innovations in archival and library practice. Have an idea for a book? We are seeking proposals for volumes of 20,000 to 50,000 words, that demonstrate innovative thinking, cut across cultural and professional boundaries, and stimulate discussion about archives as institutions and sustaining forces in modern society. Contact series editors [Bethany Anderson](#) and [Amy Cooper Cary](#) with questions or [submit a proposal](#).

### **Conferences and Workshops**

#### **Save the Date - BitCurator Users Forum 2019**

The [BitCurator Consortium](#) (BCC) is excited to announce that the [2019 BitCurator Users Forum](#) will be held **October 24-25, 2019**, on the campus of BCC member [Yale University](#). We are delighted to be hosting the BitCurator Users Forum in the northeast and look forward to organizing a stimulating and engaging event!

Further details regarding registration logistics and a call for proposals will be issued in March 2019. In an effort to make the Forum accessible to as many people as possible, the BCC is



committed to ensuring the registration fees associated with the forum are reasonable. Registration, transportation, and lodging information will be available soon!

### *About the Forum*

The BitCurator Users Forum brings together representatives from libraries, archives, museums, and related information professions engaged in (or considering) digital forensics work to acquire, better understand, and make available born-digital materials. The two-day forum will balance discussion of theory and practice of digital forensics and related digital analysis workflows with hands-on activities for users at all levels of experience with the BitCurator environment, digital forensics methods in general, and other tools for use in digital analysis and curation.

## **Funding Opportunities**

### **NEH Funding Opportunities**

#### **Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections**

The Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections (SCHC) program helps cultural institutions meet the complex challenge of preserving large and diverse holdings of humanities materials for future generations by supporting sustainable conservation measures that mitigate deterioration, prolong the useful life of collections, and support institutional resilience: the ability to anticipate and respond to disasters resulting from natural or human activity.

Deadline: January 15, 2020

### **NHPRC Funding Opportunities**

#### **Access to Historical Records: Major Initiatives FY 2021**

*For projects that will significantly improve public discovery and use of major historical records collections. This program has two phases. You must be invited to submit a Final Proposal*

- [Preliminary Proposals](#): January 26, 2020
- [Final Deadline](#): July 9, 2020

### **Council on Library and Information Resources Funding Opportunities**

#### **Digitizing Hidden Special Collections and Archives: Enabling New Scholarship through**

**Increasing Access to Unique Materials** is a national grant competition administered by the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) for digitizing rare and unique content in collecting institutions.

Next funding announcement: January 2020

**Recordings at Risk** is a national regranting program administered by CLIR to support the preservation of rare and unique audio, audiovisual, and other time-based media of high scholarly value through digital reformatting.

Next open application period begins May 2019



## Call for Course Hosts

Bring SAA Education courses to your institution! Hosts benefit from timely and convenient education as well as discounted courses. [Learn more about hosting](#) and fill out the [Call for Course Hosts](#) to be in touch with Education staff.

## Urge Your Representative to Join the Congressional History Caucus

What actions can we take to support federal funding of the humanities, even as we keep an eye on Congress's appropriations discussions? As we fight to ensure that drastic cuts don't become law, our most important assets are our allies in Congress. That's why this is the perfect time to make a push for the Congressional History Caucus! The History Caucus is the brainchild of the National Coalition for History (NCH), of which SAA is a policy board member. It provides a forum for members of Congress to share their interest in history and to promote awareness of the subject on Capitol Hill. Find resources for contacting your representatives.

## Upcoming Webinars

### *CoSA Annual Meeting Review*

Thursday, August 22, 2019 | 3:00 pm Eastern | [Register Now](#)

Presenters: CoSA Board and Committee Members

Join CoSA Immediate Past President John Dougan, CoSA President Jodie Foley, and CoSA committee chairs to review events, decisions, and updates from the 2019 Joint Annual meeting with SAA, in Austin, TX. We'll catch up on CoSA's 2019 Award recipients, work session discussions, other CoSA business and more!

***SHRAB Town Hall***      *Thursday, September 26, 2019 | 3:00 pm Eastern | [Register Now](#)*

[Read about and register for the entire 2019 Webinar Series >](#)

[Find slides and recordings of Member webinars from June 28, 2018 to the present >](#)

## CoSA-NARA Webinars

[Find slides and recordings of CoSA-NARA Webinars from December 2018 to the present >](#)

## State Electronic Records Initiative (SERI) Webinars

[Find slides and recordings of SERI Webinars from February 13, 2018 to the present >](#)

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## Water Shorts

Snow droughts could become the new normal in the western United States by 2050, scientists warn. Currently, researchers say that there is a 7 percent chance that the region will get two or more years of below-average snowfall. By the middle of the century, the odds could rise to 40 percent. From 2012-2015, the Sierra Nevada mountains endured the worst snow drought in at least 500 years. [National Geographic](#)

## [New channels planned for the Upper Truckee River in South Lake Tahoe](#)

### [By South Tahoe Now, 8/13/19](#)

SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, Calif. - The California Tahoe Conservancy had originally planned to get work started on their \$9 million, multi-stage Upper Truckee River project to restore and enhance over 500 acres of floodplain this fall, but that has been postponed until 2020. They will be



redirecting the Upper Truckee River flows to a historical network of channels through the current Marsh while creating new channels for the river in the vicinity of the Silverwood neighborhood. These new channels will capture flow during periods of high water to spread the river throughout the Marsh. The main channel will continue to carry all of the flow during low-water periods

**California Natural Resources secretary probing 'dummy' files at oil and gas agency**      **By Palm Springs Desert Sun, 8/13/19**

California Natural Resources Secretary Wade Crowfoot said Tuesday that his agency was conducting an internal review of thousands of permits issued to petroleum companies in wake of a Desert Sun report on so-called "dummy" files created by the state oil regulator. Crowfoot said the review would look at whether the permits were properly issued. Frustrated employees at the oil and gas regulator told The Desert Sun that the placeholder files have been used by higher-ups to give petroleum companies a shortcut around legally required safety and environmental reviews. They provided copies of related folders and emails.

**Farmers turn to tech as key river in US West faces distress**  
**By Washington Post, 8/13/19**

GREELEY, Colo. — A drone soared over a blazing hot cornfield in northeastern Colorado on a recent morning, snapping images with an infrared camera to help researchers decide how much water they would give the crops the next day. After a brief, snaking flight above the field, the drone landed and the researchers removed a handful of memory cards. Back at their computers, they analyzed the images for signs the corn was stressed from a lack of water. This U.S. Department of Agriculture station outside Greeley and other sites across the Southwest are experimenting with drones, specialized cameras and other technology to squeeze the most out of every drop of water in the Colorado River — a vital but beleaguered waterway that serves an estimated 40 million people.

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**A Gambit to Sell Off Public Lands**      **sierraclub.org**

In the span of a few months, entire sections of the US government have been turned upside down with around 1,000 federal employees given a stark choice: relocate or lose your job.

That dilemma lies at the heart of a decision to move parts of two federal departments out of Washington, DC. The Trump administration argues that the relocations are a cost-saving measure that will bring federal workers closer to the people they serve. But opponents say the situation is part of an effort to diminish agency power and force out career officials who have been at odds with President Donald Trump's policies.

The relocations also come saddled with environmental implications. The Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will be headquartered in Colorado, a move critics say will help private interests wield influence over public lands. Meanwhile, parts of the Department of Agriculture (USDA) will move to the Midwest at a time when the department is facing allegations of burying climate research.

The fast-moving timeline for the relocations has shocked impacted workers and observers.      More: [https://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/critics-call-blm-and-usda-relocations-gambit-sell-public-lands?suppress=true&utm\\_source=greenlife](https://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/critics-call-blm-and-usda-relocations-gambit-sell-public-lands?suppress=true&utm_source=greenlife) &utm\_

medium=email&utm\_campaign=newsletter



Come celebrate the newest adventurer to our PBS KIDS family, *Molly of Denali!*

SUNDAY • August 18, 2019 • 2-5 PM

Western Heritage Interpretive Center & The Plaza Pavilion  
6000 Bartley Ranch Road, Reno, NV, 89511



Join KNPB for a screening of *Molly of Denali*, a guided kid-friendly nature walk, and fun activities for the whole family!

Free to the public. First 200 Kids will receive a special MOLLY OF DENALI adventure kit.