Meanwhile...in west Texas, storm chaser Laura Rowe captured the picture of a lifetime last night (May 17, 2021), with this fantastic shot of a mature supercell thunderstorm, illuminated at varying heights from the setting sun.

News, Thoughts and Funding Opportunities from the Council of State Archivists

What can you and your staff take advantage of this year? How about training from NEDCC, Lyrasis, and EveryLibrary; NAGARA online forums; AAM, AASLH and SAA annual meetings; diversity and inclusion training from Equity in the Center, and MUCH MORE!

FOR MORE INFORMATION >

Recorded CoSA webinars are available with transcripts and full-text searching using Aviary, thanks to our new corporate sponsorship with AVP.

[?]

An audiovisual content publishing platform, Aviary provides intended users with search, navigation, and playback across audio and video archives, collections, and files, pinpointing search results with playback exactly where a search term is found.

Aviary is the result of a collaboration between AVP and the Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies.

2021 Member Webinar Series
Conscious Editing
Thursday, May 27, 2021 | 3:00 pm Eastern | Register

The Conscious Editing Initiative at the University Libraries at UNC Chapel Hill seeks to redress inequities and injustice in the description and narrative framing of archives and special collections. Conscious editing is an active, critical awareness of bias, privilege, and power and an ethos of deliberate care used in the assessment, creation, and refinement of descriptive texts and metadata. Presenters will discuss the values and vision supporting the Conscious Editing Initiative in the context of our institutional history and special collections holdings. Presenters will also share and explain before-and-after examples of problematic texts and metadata and the consciously edited descriptions that replaced them.

View and register for 2021 all Member Webinars >

Find slides and recordings of CoSA Member Webinars from 2019 >

State Electronic Records Initiative (SERI) Webinars

Building Your Resume for the Digital Age
Tuesday, June 8, 2021 | 2:00pm Eastern | Register Now

Presented by: Patrick McCawley, Christian Skipper, Camille Tyndall Watson, Bonnie Weddle

Applying for archival jobs can be overwhelming. Throw alternating hiring practices and the increasing demand for digital skills into the mix and the process can become mysterious and frustrating. You may ask: how should I market myself? What do employers really want? What skills or certifications could I be adding to my repertoire? How can I draw on and connect tangential skills? If my digital experience is limited, how can I make my case? In this session, four panelists will discuss their experience with the hiring process and offer their advice on how to build a resume for the digital age.

Audience(s): Archivist Practitioners and Records Analysts/Managers

No technical expertise is required.

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

New Conversations Ahead
    Funding from a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) CARES grant kicked off our new program series, ["In Conversation With..."](#) last year, featuring on-demand recorded conversations with archives thought leaders. With support from Atlas Systems, the program will continue in 2021, addressing the topics of Diversity + Inclusion, The Workplace Here + Now, and The Future of Work. All conversations can be viewed on demand at [CoSA's YouTube channel.](#)

NEW: An [informal live conversation](#) with Roger Christman, Senior State Governor's Records Archivist at the Library of Virginia; Dr. Anthea Seles, Secretary General, International Council on Archives; and Nick Connizzo, CoSA Project Manager, and others about artificial intelligence as an emerging tool for archives.

COMING UP: Be on the lookout for conversations with **Mark A. Puente**, Associate Dean for Organizational Development, Inclusion and Diversity, Purdue Libraries, who will discuss advancing diversity and inclusion across libraries, archives, and museums and Educopia Executive Director **Dr. Katherine Skinner** who will talk with us about shifting power dynamics in libraries, archives, and museums, and the leadership skills most needed now.

Wyoming Chronicles COVID-19 with New Website
Wonder what happened in Wyoming last year? Visit the new ["COVID-19 in Wyoming" website](#) to catch a glimpse of the past. The new website shows some of the many fascinating donations shared with the Wyoming State Archives, Wyoming State Museum and the University of Wyoming's American Heritage Center (AHC) that help tell the history of the pandemic in Wyoming.   READ MORE >
> *Ed note: Has your community documented its personal story/ies related to Covid?*
> *It may not seem important now, but a few years from now, you will be glad you did. From the "little guys" (you can record their comments) to those that kept journals to the many that can be askied/invited to share their thoughts and experiences, this "storytelling" will personalize the community's experience that may only be a footnote in history if left to others.*
>
> *While there may be a few who remember the stories of their grandparents/parents of the 1918 flu, there is not a lot of oral histories or documents, save those of the Indian Service nurse's records. Do see the chapter about tribal leadership at this juncture by Helen Stone in ZZZZ. sdc)*

CoSA PREPARE: Preparing Archives for Records in Email
    CoSA's PREPARE grant to increase email capacity and community in state and territorial archives is underway. Significant work has increased email preservation capability throughout the nation, the PREPARE grant allows CoSA to help state and territorial archives figure out how to best implement email preservation elements.

PREPARE's advisory committee includes Jason R. Baron, University of Maryland; Roger Christman, Library of Virginia; Stephanie Clark, Oregon State Archives; Bryan Collars, South Carolina State Archives; Glynn Edwards, Stanford University; Deborah Gayle, NARA; Joanne Kaczmarek, University of Illinois; Julio Lopez, Gates Foundation; Kathleen O'Neill, Library of Congress; Elizabeth Perkes, Utah State Archives; Jeanette Plante, U.S. Department of Justice; Camille Tyndall Watson, NC State Archives; Brian Watts, Senior Principal Systems Engineer at Peraton; and Brent West, University of Illinois.

The needs assessment survey will end on Friday, May 21, 2021. If your state or territory has not yet completed the survey, please do so here: https://survey.sogosurvey.com/r/hTeiRe Your participation is vital to the success of this project, and the improvement of email management for all state and territorial archives. PREPARE has also been featured in presentations at CNI and BPE and will be part of the SAA conference this August.

Up next: PREPARE will be developing best practices documents, finalizing data sets for software testing, and working with volunteer archives to develop testing plans. If your archives has email records you're able to share, or would like to participate in testing, please contact Michelle Gallinger at mgallinger@gallingerconsult.org.

SERI Webinars and Videos
   If you have SERI webinar ideas, please contact Bonnie Weddle or Kathryn Baringer with your suggestions.

Resources Needed!
   Do you have policies, procedural documents, forms, templates, and tools that would be useful to your colleagues? Consider uploading them to the CoSA Resource Center! It's easy to upload your documents and, once you do, we'll take it from there.

Amazing Shining Sunbeam Hummingbird with a rainbow back

Rich Aarstad has been named State Archivist at the Montana Historical Society.

Angela Fritz has been appointed as the Administrator of the Collections Division, filling the position vacated by Matt Blessing's retirement in March 2020.

Curator of Manuscripts **Tom Mooney** has been named interim Curator of Government Records at History Nebraska.

Mike Strom has been appointed Division Administrator, Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records.

kingfisher

CoSA's 2021 Meeting Dates

May 17-19: Joint Annual Meeting with BPE (virtual)

August 11: Work Session, 3 - 5 pm Eastern, sponsored by Ancestry (virtual) - stay tuned for additional information

August 18: Annual CoSA Business Meeting, 3 - 4:30 pm Eastern (virtual) - stay tuned for additional information
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The Future of Archives: Collecting in Times of Crisis
May 25, 2021 | 11:00 a.m. CDT
FREE webinar | Register Now

Join the co-chairs of the Crisis, Disaster, and Tragedy Response Working Group of the Society of American Archivists, Kara McClurken and Vanessa St. Oegger-Menn, and Carol Summerfield, Executive Director of the Lake Forest Lake Bluff History Center, as they discuss the ethics, legalities, and complications of archival work in critical times.

Chris Cummings, Founder and CEO of Pass It Down, will host this fireside chat about how archivists are handling the challenges of collecting in response to contemporary events. Themes discussed will include: crowdsourcing collections, working with communities, the ethics of donating/collecting sensitive material, and trauma-informed care for archival staff and researchers.
 Hosted by Pass It Down and SAA

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Looking for Professional Development Opportunities?
    For yourself and your staff? CoSA's got 'em!!   READ MORE >

REALM literature review and new toolkit resources available
The REALM project has released a literature review of SARS-CoV-2 research published through November 2020 that summarizes current research on how the virus spreads, its survival on materials and surfaces, and the effectiveness of various prevention and decontamination measures. The new toolkit materials include resources on vaccines, reopening considerations, social distancing measures, and virtual programming.

Access the literature review and toolkit resources at https://www.oclc.org/realm/happening-now/20210304-lit-review.html
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macaroni penguin

Call for Proposals
BitCurator Users Forum 2021
Please note that BUF2021 will be virtual. We will be adding information to the *Event page* ***as it becomes available. We hope to see you there!***

The BitCurator Consortium (BCC) invites proposals for the 2021 BitCurator Users Forum to be held virtually October 12-14, 2021. An international, community-led organization with 35 member institutions, the BCC promotes and supports the application of digital archives tools and practices in libraries, archives, museums, and other cultural heritage organizations.

In previous years, the BitCurator Users Forum has focused on sharing strategies, approaches, and best practices for using digital archives tools and methods within processing workflows in archives, libraries, and museums. While we still encourage proposals in these topic areas, we also invite community members to explore themes that focus on areas such as starting from scratch, iteration and scalability, implementing "good enough" practices, issues pertaining to access and discovery, and hearing from intersecting perspectives and new voices.

The Program Committee welcomes participation from organizations and individuals working outside of academic and special collections libraries, members from BIPOC communities, students, and new professionals.

The BitCurator Users Forum is open to all. You do not need to be a BCC member or user to submit a proposal and/or attend the event.

Submission Information
Deadlines
Submission Deadline: May 28   Acceptance Notification: June 25
Speaker confirmation/changes: July 9   Program Posted: July 19

Workshops and participant-focused session formats
Sessions facilitated by individuals or groups welcome. 60 minutes - 4 hours
Please submit a 250-word (maximum) abstract describing the session format and topic(s), as well as learning objectives if applicable.

The Program Committee particularly encourages participant-focused session formats that incorporate interactivity. This can include any type of non-traditional session format, such as peer-to-peer learning sessions, collaborative working sessions, roundtables, goal-oriented hack-a-thons, etc. These workshops (approximately 2-3) will take place after the sessions at the end of each day of the BitCurator Users Forum.

Presentations
Individual or group submissions welcome. 30 - 60 minutes

Please submit a 250-word (maximum) abstract. If submitting as a solo speaker, individual panelists may be matched by the BCC Program Committee based on the complementarity of subjects or overarching themes.

We encourage presentations to move beyond the case study (see Lightning Talks for this format) and address pressing issues, best practices, opportunities for collaboration, visions, and expanded uses for digital archives in libraries, archives, museums, and beyond. The Program Committee strongly encourages proposals from underrepresented groups, and/or those that feature the perspectives of a variety of roles -- including students -- organizations, or fields. For group presentations, we strongly discourage proposals from all white male presenters. We particularly welcome alternative panel formats that will facilitate engagement, including group discussions.

Lightning Talks
1 presenter, 5-12 minutes
Please submit an abstract of no more than 250 words.
Lightning talks are a great format for case studies, digital forensics "success stories" or "tales of woe," research updates, and short demos or how-tos.

Themes
The BCC Program Committee recognizes that the field of digital archives is broad and diverse, and accepts proposals that focus on any related topic from any areas of interest. We particularly encourage proposals to consider:
   •   **Starting from scratch**
o   How are you developing a digital archiving program from scratch? How are you determining the immediate and long-term needs of your organization and setting priorities?
o   How are you determining the resources and capacity available for digital archiving at your organization and setting priorities based on the available resources? How are you using that assessment to advocate for additional resources?
o   How are you managing expectations from stakeholders during this initial development stage?
o   How can you build iteration and review of workflows and documentation into your plan from the very beginning?
   •   **Iteration and scalability**
o   How are you building capacity for acceptance of constant change and uncertainty? What does successful education and cross-training around this subject look like?
o   How are you working to review, iterate, and improve policies and workflows? What types of policies and workflows are you reevaluating? What changes are you implementing and what is informing your decisions?

o   How do you advocate for reevaluation of work that is considered "done"? How has incremental development helped you scale solutions and approaches to digital archival work at your organization?

- **Implementing "good enough" practices**

o   How have you adapted "best practices" to match the needs and available resources at your institution? What are some examples of best practices or standards that you have chosen not to follow, and why? What obstacles did you encounter?

o   How did you determine baseline standards for your organization? What decision-making processes have you implemented that allow for "good enough" practice while also allowing for further enhancement and growth?

o   How are you working to set realistic expectations -- internally and/or externally -- about the longevity of our infrastructure, the viability of our
practices at scale, and the impermanence/obsolescence inherent to technology? What constitutes acceptable loss?

- **Access and discovery**

o   How are you balancing the goal of efficient aggregate description with the reality of item-level metadata generated during processing?

o   How are your access methods addressing accessibility guidelines and accommodating researchers with disabilities?

o   How do privacy and security, donor relations, institutional risk tolerance, and other ethical issues affect your work with digital archives?

- **Intersections and new voices**

o   How are you incorporating aspects of social justice into your digital archives program and/or workflows?

o   What strides can digital archives practitioners make toward dismantling white supremacy?

o   What role do (or can) students play in processing born-digital materials? Are there certain aspects of this work that may not be appropriate for them to undertake? How can managers make the student's role in processing born-digital materials an educational opportunity?

o   How do practitioners make the labor involved in accessioning, processing, and describing born-digital visible to the selectors of the material being processed? Are there examples of collaborations between digital archives practitioners and curators that seek to bridge the divide?

o   How can we improve or modify the BitCurator Consortium to hear from new voices -- including students -- rethink and expand our practices, and make our work more visible while preserving the intimacy that our small community has cultivated?

How to Submit
Submit proposals https://forms.gle/mECKcxXhnmdoe36x7.

How Proposals will be Evaluated
The BCC Program Committee will review all 2021 BitCurator Users Forum proposals. To see the criteria used to evaluate proposals, https://docs.google.com/document/d/16X9VfwT7MUVuIM1G2a2tkq6fs_n4SmD2FhaR-87qclA/edit?usp=sharing.

The Program Committee strongly encourages proposals including a diversity of views, including members of BIPOC communities, students, new professionals, and first-time attendees. We welcome proposals from archivists, librarians, digital archives software and systems providers (vendors), scholars, and other individuals working with digital archives or forensics on a regular

basis. We particularly welcome submissions from individuals working outside of the United States and/or outside of academic and special collections libraries.

Eligibility & Requirements

Presenters must register for and attend the conference. Presenters must also designate their permission in the submission form related to livestreaming their presentation during the event, making a recording of their presentation available online, and posting their presentation slides online.

BitCurator Consortium

The BitCurator Consortium (BCC) is an independent, community-led membership association that supports born-digital archives in libraries, archives, and museums in order to help ensure the longevity and reliability of the cultural, scientific, and historical record. We strive to address the needs of the BCC community through training, collaboration, research, software development, documentation, integration, and scripts, while also advocating for the expansion of born-digital archives practice worldwide.

For more information on how to get involved, visit https://bitcuratorconsortium.org/join

Beautiful Red Lory https://www.instagram.com/igdolory/

Funding Opportunities

Applications Open for Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts' Assessment Programs

CCAHA is offering a limited number of subsidized assessments, valued at over $5,000 each, to qualifying institutions in the following categories: Preservation Needs Assessments/ Preservation Plans, Risk Assessments/ Emergency Plans, and Digital Preservation Assessments.

These opportunities are available for collecting institutions nationwide, as well as a collaborative assessment model providing peer-to-peer connections in regions served by CCAHA's Regional Heritage Stewardship Program (Alabama, Florida, and Mississippi as well as Appalachian regions of Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia).

If you have questions or want to discuss the suitability of this program for your institution, please contact CCAHA's Preservation Services Office at 215.545.0613, www.ccaha.org, or pso@ccaha.org.

All applications must be submitted or postmarked by Tuesday, June 15th, 2021.
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National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

The Division of Preservation and Access of the National Endowment for the Humanities is accepting grant proposals for Humanities Collections and Reference Resources. Grants support projects to preserve and create intellectual access to such collections as rare books,

manuscript and archival materials, born-digital records, maps, still and moving images, sound recordings, art, and objects of material culture. Awards also support the creation of reference works, online resources, and research tools of major importance to the humanities. Eligible activities are wide-ranging. Further details, including links to the updated notice of funding opportunity and other resources, are available at: https://www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/humanities-collections-and-reference-resources.

Submit an optional draft for review by NEH staff by June 3, 2021; Application Deadline is July 15, 2021. See recent awards in this category: https://www.neh.gov/blog/march-2021-awards-preservation-access. Questions to preservation@neh.gov.

Applications Due June 9, 2021:
• Digital Projects for the Public
Applications Due July 15, 2021:
• Humanities Collections and Reference Resources
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National Historical Publications and Records Commission
Final Deadline: June 9, 2021:
• Archives Collaboratives
For projects to plan and develop a working collaborative designed to enhance the capacity of small and diverse organizations with historical records collections.
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Preliminary Proposal Deadline: February 25, 2021
Final Deadline: July 13, 2021
• Access to Historical Records: Major Initiatives
For projects that will significantly improve public discovery and use of major historical records collections. This program has two phases. You must submit a Preliminary Proposal. Selected applicants will then be invited to submit a Final Proposal.
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Final Deadline: June 9, 2021:
• State Board Programming Grants
For projects that strengthen the nation's archival network through activities undertaken by state historical records advisory boards
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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.

Red Cracker.   Photographer: Ken Myers (Wondershots)

PYRAMID LAKE WAR MEMORIAL

Sunrise Ceremony & Staff Run/Walk
Friday, May 21, 2021

Individuals must be present to receive a t-shirt

TIME: 6:00 AM—Check-in Registration Open Until Run/Walk Begins

6:30 AM—Sunrise Ceremony—Prayer & Pyramid Lake War History—Ben Aleck, Tribal Elder

7:30 AM—Start Walk/Run

ROUTE: Start Point: Below Numana Hatchery—Off SR447 / Ends: Nixon Gym
Due to COVID there will be no activities other than the run, at the end of the race runners will be given a snack bag.

This event is in honor of family lost due to COVID-19 and to provide education on the Pyramid Lake War

This event promotes health/wellness, non-violence and is drug & alcohol free. Event sponsored by the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Pyramid Lake Police and EMS Department, Pyramid Lake Tribal Health Clinic, Pyramid Lake Victim Services, Pyramid Lake Veterans & Warriors Organization and Community Volunteers.

KooYooe Panunadu
(Pyramid Lake)