DIGITAL ARCHIVE SPECIALIST BOOTCAMP

The Labor Archives of Washington, UW Libraries Special Collections is partnering with the Society of American Archivists and Seattle Area Archivists to offer significant portions of the Digital Archives Specialist (DAS) certificate program at the University of Washington Libraries during the week of June 11-15, 2018 at the University of Washington Libraries!

There is an enrollment cap, so be sure to sign up ASAP!

The courses can be taken individually or as part of a program for the DAS certificate.

Enrollment does not require membership in the Society of American Archivists.

If you have any further questions that can’t be answered on the SAA class registration page, please feel free to email Labor Archivist Conor Casey cmcasey@uw.edu

DISCOUNT FOR JUNE DAS BOOTCAMP AT UW

Special SeArch Member discount of 10% for early bird registration!

On the registration page, in the fees drop down menu, select the fee labeled ‘SeAA Member’.

Remember, only currently paid SeArch members are eligible for the discount. Renew online here: tinyurl.com/SeArchisAwesome

IN THIS ISSUE

Standards for 3D preservation, page 2

SeArch Spotlight, page 3

Living Computer Museum Recap, page 3-5

Teaching with Primary Sources Recap, page 5

SLA PNW Library Crawl, page 6

Upcoming Conferences, page 7
STANDARDS FOR 3D DATA PRESERVATION

By Micheal Conyers, SeArch member

The Community Standards for 3D Data Preservation (CS3DP) project is an IMLS funded forum that is working to create standards for digital 3D images. The first forum was a couple of weeks ago, but we are still looking for people who may be interested in joining a working group and attend the 2nd Forum at the University of Michigan sometime in late Aug/early Sept. The working groups are Management/Storage, Preservation, Metadata, Copyright/Ethics and Access.

The Community Standards for 3D Data Preservation (CS3DP) project will bring community stakeholders together to begin the process of developing standards for preservation of digital 3D data. The effort includes practitioners, archivists, librarians and curators.

Two forums comprised of leading experts and key stakeholders from the U.S. and abroad, in consultation with leading organizations. The project team assembled working groups at the first forum and will meet regularly to develop reports on key issues for presentation and discussion at the second forum. The national forums will lay the foundation for an organized community of practice (CoP) to move forward on shared standards for 3D data preservation.

The First forum was Feb 5-7 at Washington University in St. Louis. The second will be coming up at the University of Michigan in early fall with a goal of published standards in the spring of 2019.

The CS3DP is funded via a national leadership grant from the Institute of Museums and Library Services (IMLS).

If interested please contact Michael Conyers at michael.conyers@arck-project.org for more information.
SeArch Spotlight

BEYOND THE FRAME: TO BE NATIVE

Rather than highlighting a person this quarter, we’re looking at Beyond the Frame: To Be Native. Beyond the Frame is a community-wide initiative revisiting the photographs of Edward S. Curtis and sparking conversations on Native identity, race and resilience, art and culture.

What began as a coordinated endeavor by more than 20 organizations to recognize the work of North American Indian photographer Edward S. Curtis on his 150th birthday evolved into an opportunity to go “beyond the frame” with a community campaign that also focusing on the role of Tribes and Native peoples the Pacific Northwest.

To get more involved with Beyond the Frame: To Be Native, there are a handful of ways to do so:

Become a Sponsor

If you’d like to sponsor the Beyond The Frame campaign, please contact Shannon Kopelva at BTFcoordinator@gmail.com

Make an Individual Donation

You can make a contribution to Beyond The Frame through the Seattle Foundation. Support organizations working on Native issues

You can have a direct impact on Native issues in the Northwest. Learn more about Potlatch Fund’s work to support tribal communities.

Got a new intern you love? A new job? Send us a blurb!

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LIVING COMPUTER MUSEUM + LABS TOUR RECAP

Guest post by Ryan Anthony Donaldson

On December 21st, the Living Computers Museum + Labs (LCM+L) hosted over 20 members of the Seattle Area Archivists (SeArch) for the year-end business meeting. Amelia Roberts, LCM+L Archivist, and Dorian Bowen, Media Archivist, also led the group on an informative behind-the-scenes tour of the museum’s archives & collections.
LIVING COMPUTER MUSEUM Recap, Continued

Amelia began by providing an overview of the museum and its activities. Founded by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen, LCM+L engages visitors by providing opportunities to directly interact with vintage technology. The LCM+L collection includes approximately 35,000 catalogued items, comprising of equipment of all sizes, hardware and software, and critical technical documentation such as manuals and drawings. One key function of the archives is to support the LCM+L engineering team for a number of restoration projects. The archives team actively acquires more materials for the ever-growing collection.

In 2016, the museum expanded, adding an additional floor along with flexible lab spaces. Today, visitors can operate the earliest of Apple computers, gaming consoles such as the Atari 400 and Commodore 64, and IBM computers. Other models on display include a dual cassette deck created by a hobbyist as part of the “Homebrew Computer Club.” The interactivity extends beyond the museum, as anyone can request a guest account from LCM+L to remotely access early operating systems. To apply, visit the LCM+L website.

The group toured the archives storage, and marveled at the breadth of the collections, particularly the wide variety of large mainframe computers, along with peripherals. In addition, there are neatly arranged shelves full with programming and gaming software, still in the original packaging, spanning decades. Iconic games such as Where In the World is Carmen Sandiego? stood alongside more obscure titles.

One of the tour highlights was stopping by the engineer’s workshop space and meeting one of the engineers, Keith Perez, restoring a Bendix G-15 mainframe computer. LCM+L employs 3 engineers to manage the aging fleet of machines that are made available for public use. Creative solutions have been crafted to meet the immense challenges involved, including manufacturing new parts with a 3d scanner based on specifications from the original manuals and other product literature! Read more about the Bendix B-15 on LCM+L's Tumblr.

Bendix G-15 from LCM+L’s collection.

Via the LCM+L Tumblr: https://livingcomputers.tumblr.com/post/107972791289/artifact-spotlight-the-bendix-g-15
LIVING COMPUTER MUSEUM RECAP, CONTINUED

Amelia also explained how the collections are utilized for a number of exhibitions, including the current show From the garage to the iMac: 1976-1999. LCM+L also loans out selected items from the archives and fulfills research requests to support period television shows and movies, including Madmen and Halt and Catch Fire. More information about the collection can be accessed with the LCM+L Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC).

All of us with the SeArch group were impressed with the depth of the LCM+L collection and the efforts of the LCM+L archivists to engage with a variety of communities, whether visitors, at conferences and special events, or online. Thanks again to Amelia and all the LCM+L for hosting!

TEACHING WITH PRIMARY SOURCES: A RECAP OF THE SAA WORKSHOP IN JANUARY

By Megan Churchwell, SeArch Board Member & Curator of Puget Sound Navy Museum

Thanks to everyone who was able to join us for the Teaching With Primary Sources workshop, co-hosted by SeArch and SAA on February 8th!

I attended this workshop because my museum is preparing to build our very first classroom space. The primary goal of that project is to give our educator room to teach with robots, 3D printers, and all sorts of other STEM concepts, but it’s also got us thinking about how else we might be able to use that space to expand our reach. As my museum’s curator, I work much more often with primary sources (including both 2D and 3D artifacts) and history than with tech toys and science, so I was drawn to the SAA workshop with this in mind.

I enrolled in the class with the hope that I’d walk away with some ideas that I can put into practice as soon as our new classroom is built. The class certainly lived up to its promise! I walked away with a brainstormed list of ideas that I’m excited to offer to our visitors. In particular, I was introduced to the book Using Primary Sources: Hands-On Instructional Exercises by Anne Bahde. It offers dozens of program ideas that can be adapted to different institutions, primary sources, and audiences.

Another key takeaway for me was the importance of active learning techniques. That is, moving beyond the traditional show-and-tell, or the me-talking-in-the-front-with-a-Powerpoint, which is my default method of teaching. Viewing this course through the lens of a curator, I also was inspired to think of other ways to incorporate primary sources in exhibits than just as an artifact (or facsimile) with a static caption. This course gave me strategies to match our collections with learning objectives, lesson plans, and audiences. I’m looking forward to putting it all into practice in my museum’s brand-new classroom and in the rest of our exhibit spaces!
SLA PNW Library Crawl

PORTLAND, OREGON APRIL 13 & 14

Please join SLA-PNW for their quarterly Library Crawl, this time in Portland! The libraries lined up are the Albert Solheim Library at Pacific North West College of Art, the Bonneville Power Administration Library & Visitor Center, and the Mazamas Library.

The event is free to all SLA PNW members and takes place Friday and Saturday, April 13th and 14th. Though the tours are free, SLA-PNW would like to know how many people to expect. Please RSVP to Ilse Allison at ilse.rallison@gmail.com with which tours you are able to attend (some have attendee limits!). Housing and transit are self-arranged but please reach out if you’d like to coordinate with other members of SLA-PNW.

Friday, April 13th, 1pm
Albert Solheim Library at PNCA
511 NW Broadway
Portland, OR 97209

PNCA’s library houses over 30,000 books and other items. This collection includes PNCA student thesis works (1958-present), over 3,600 DVDs and VHSs about art, culture, psychology, history, and other subjects, including some hard-to-find works, and an excellent selection of art and liberal arts related periodicals.

Friday, April 13th, 3pm
Bonneville Power Administration Library & Visitor Center
905 NE 11th Ave.
Portland, OR 97232

Libby Burke, archivist/researcher, and possibly Sandy Macke, cataloger, will give the tour and say it will take 45-60 min depending on our schedule. They’ll show us around the (small but jam-packed) Visitor Center, talk a little about BPA history and the history of the library, the archives projects and reference files, Sandy can show the print collections and talk about their digital collections and answer our questions. **

Saturday, April 14th
10:30am
Mazamas Library
527 SE 43rd Ave (at Stark)
Portland OR 97215

Expect to see the library collection of books on hiking, camping, climbing, and mountaineering; archival collections related to the history of the Mazamas; and the collection of objects, which includes walking sticks, ice axes, skis, boots, clothing, and other gear.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

Northwest Archivist Annual Meeting, April 25-27 in Warm Springs, OR
AAM Annual Meeting & MuseumExpo, May 6-9 in Phoenix, AZ
SLA Annual Conference, June 11-18 in Baltimore, MD
Washington Museum Association, Bellingham, June 20-22 2018
ALA Annual Conference, June 21-26 in New Orleans, LA
SAA Annual Meeting, Aug 12-18 in Washington, DC

SPNHC 33rd Annual & TDGW Joint Meeting - Collections & Data in an Unstable World, August 25-Sept 2 in Dunedin, New Zealand
Otago Museum & University of Otago Western Museum Association, Tacoma, October 21-24 2018
Association of Science-Technology Centers Annual Conference, Sept 29-Oct 2 in Hartford, CT
PastForward, November 16-19 in San Francisco, CA
HISTORY CAFÉ AT THE MOHAI:
HOW MINORITY MEN AND TRADESWOMEN WON JUSTICE ON THE JOBSITE

Civil rights and labor activists in the 1960s and 1970s broke down barriers for women and workers of color in the construction industry, opening a pathway to long inaccessible jobs. UW Labor Archivist and Labor Archives head Conor Casey presented on how Seattle workers fought for justice on the job through the lens of the historical collections that document this history. And Assistant Labor Archivist Crystal Rodgers introduced and contextualized her pop-up exhibit on “Women in the Trades,” presented on the event.

Labor Archivists Conor Casey and Crystal Rodgers presented at MOHAI History Cafe on the history of minority tradeswomen and men.

Did we forget anything?

Questions, comments, communication, and newsletter contributions are always accepted and appreciated!

Please email us your ideas and projects, any articles you’ve authored. We’re interested!

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