

DC
HISTORY
CONFERENCE

The 49th Annual DC History Conference
March 31 – April 2, 2022

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

Presenters:

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

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

Grace Dahye Kwon, Curatorial Assistant, 1882 Foundation/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/Postdoctoral Associate, 1882 Foundation/University of Maryland and President, Asian and Pacific Islander Americans in Historic Preservation

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, which 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.

The Evolution of Hand Dance in Washington, DC

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

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

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.

The Invalid Corps (Documentary)

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

Presenters:

Day Al-Mohamed, author, filmmaker, and disability policy strategist based in the DMV area

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 and a panel will discuss the themes of the documentary.

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

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 on 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 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

[Location/virtual availability]

Presenters:

Representatives from: The People's Archive, DC Public Library; the DC Cultural Narratives Collaborative; Blair Murphy, Arlington Arts Center; Andy Johnson, member, DIRT DMV + editor and creative director of *Archeion: Journal of Queer Archives*; Will Stovall, Workshop, Inc.; Donnell Williams, One Creative Source; Sign of the Times Art Gallery

Moderator:

Natalie Campbell, Consultant, DC Public Library

How can we best preserve, study, and celebrate Washington, DC's regional art history? Join our presenters in generating new ideas for building more inclusive archives and better engaging the public with local art history. This conversation will bring together independent artists, curators, collectors, and arts workers in conversation with archivists and historians from larger institutions. These representatives will share knowledge about current efforts, best practices, historical challenges, and new opportunities.

SESSION B 3:00 – 4:15 pm

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

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

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 and Curator of American Art, The Columbus Museum

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.

Fresh Convos Breathe: The Untold Story of DC HipHop

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

Presenters:

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

Khalil Gill, Director, Editor & 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: TBD

Everyone knows that the organic music of DC is Go-Go, but fewer 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.

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

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, Archaeology, 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: 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, Archaeology, 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

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

Black residents comprise 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 hone 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.

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

Moderator:

Mike Amezcua, PhD, Assistant Professor, Georgetown University

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, Immigration, Labor, Latinx/Hispanic History, 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+

[Location/virtual availability]

Presenters:

Michelle Parkerson, Film Director, "FIERCENESS SERVED!"

Christopher Prince, Project Director, The ENIKAlley Coffeehouse Project

Mara Cherkasky, Historian/Co-founder, Prologue DC

Moderator:

Sabiyha Prince, PhD, Director/Senior Researcher, AnthroDocs

“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.

RECEPTION 6:00 – 8:00 PM

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

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

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 Afro Latino/a/x, especially Afro Dominican 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.

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

Keywords: Black History, Cultural History, Education, Sociology

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*

In Washington, DC, the largest generation of Black Career Educators (BCEs) 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 curriculums, 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.

Living on Sixteenth Street NW: Architecture and Community

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

Presenters:

John DeFerrari, Trustee/Author, DC Preservation League

D. Peter Sefton, Trustee/Author, 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

Sixteenth Street has a reputation as one of DC's more formal boulevards, known officially and unofficially at various times during its history 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 longer streets in the District, and its architecture reflects the many communities that have lived on or near it since Washington's earliest days. This panel will look at three different aspects of city life as reflected in the buildings that still stand or have stood on and around 16th Street. John DeFerrari will examine the late 19th century African American community centered around 16th and M Streets NW; Peter Sefton will delve into the street's rich and unheralded history as a venue for live entertainment; and Kim Williams will conclude with a critical look at the rise of Modernist architecture in the many houses that were built along and near upper 16th Street in the 20th century.

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

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

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.

"By Broad Potomac's Shore": Early DC Poems as History

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

Presenters:

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

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.

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

Moderator: TBD

"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. Fueled by wartime rural migration into the area, 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 presentation will examine the development of country music in Washington, focusing on media tycoon Connie B. Gaye, who became the

first president of the U.S. Country Music Association in the early 1960s after bringing the sound of country music to many local venues.

Mi Casa Es Tu Casa: DC Latinx LGBTQ

Keywords: Activism/Advocacy, Community History, Immigration, Latinx/Hispanic History, LGBTQ+, 20th Century, 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.

SPECIAL: LUNCH SESSION, 2:15 – 2:45 pm

Culture Unmuted (A One-Act Play)

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

Presenters:

Marjuan Canady, Playwright, Founder/CEO, Sepia Works

Shermica Farquhar, Director, Founder/CEO of Soka Tribe

Josanne Francis, Music Consultant, Executive Director, Founder/CEO, Cultural Academy for Excellence, Inc./Steel on Wheels

Jazelle Hunt, Associate Producer

Paul "Jus Paul" Spires, Music Consultant

It is present day DC, and 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, looks to the future, and captures present conversations, will spark constructive conversation and inspire action and support for both Washingtonian artists and the city's treasured Go-go heritage.

SESSION F 3:00 – 4:15 pm

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

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

Presenters:

Phylicia 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

This panel will chronicle 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 will focus on the real estate industry's role in encouraging "White flight" and will debunk 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.

Black Education Legacies: Remembering DC Schools

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

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

In honor of Sumner School's 150th anniversary, Sumner Museum director Kimberly Springle will lead a reflective conversation with scholars who have tapped into the Sumner Museum 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.

After Redevelopment: Telling Lorton's Story Through Multiple Media

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

Presenters:

Rhozier (Roach) Brown, Executive Director/Chairman, THE 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

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. The focus of this conversation will be 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, will 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 Shelvy, aka Breezy, to collect hundreds of photographs in the mid 1970s; and artist RL 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?

SATURDAY KEYNOTE 4:30 – 5:30 pm

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

Keywords: 20th Century, Black History, Community History

Presenters:

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

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

Each fall, DC high schoolers enrolled in the Real World History program study the Great Migration—the mass migration of Black Americans out of the Jim Crow South to cities in the north and west (1915-1970). They read *The Warmth of Other Suns*, by Isabel Wilkerson and conduct 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 will be 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.

HISTORY NETWORK

Friday, April 1, 2021

1:00–3:00 pm

1882 Foundation	Filipino Community History in the DMV
A 21st-Century Chinese-American	Friday Morning Music Club
Calligrapher Looks at D.C.	Friends of Peirce Mill
AAPI in DC: Here in Plain Sight	Friends of the DC Archives
Albert H. Small Center for National Capital	Goodwill of Greater Washington
Area Studies	Heurich House Museum
Arlington Historical Society	Mapping Georgetown
Black Broad Branch	Researching Latino/a/x DC - Community
Capital Jewish Museum	Outreach Program
Chevy Chase Historical Society	Smithsonian National Museum of African
Cleveland Park Historical Society	American History and Culture (NMAAHC)
Connecting the dot through community	Robert Frederick Smith (RFS) Center for the
connection via literacy development	Digitization and Curation of African
DC Archives Advocates	American History
DC by Foot	Taking Village History to our Youth
DC Cultural Narratives Collaborative	The First Black Ladies of Education: 1921
DC Historic Preservation Office Projects	The Map & Guide to New Deal Washington
and Resources	D.C.
DC History Center	The Washington DC Hall of Fame
DC Legacy Project	Tour Guide Tell All
DC Preservation League	White House Historical Association
"Digger Dave" Miller	Women of the Civil War Era in Washington,
Disruption as a Business Model	DC
Exposed DC	Women's Organizations in Dupont Circle

POSTERS
Saturday, April 2, 2021
1:30–3:00 pm

“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 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

Enslaved Washington, DC (1790-2021)

Edward Ingebretsen

Father to Daughter: Archibald Grimke Writing to Angelina Weld Grimke

J. Eric Robinson

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

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

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

Nur Shaina Ayers

GW@200: The University's Growth from a Struggling College to the Capital's Largest National Research University

Stephen Wyman

A History of the Adams Morgan Plaza and its Easement

Nancy Shia

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

Pamela Harris Lawton, PhD

Hybrid Wayfinding Signs: Penn Ave East DC Case Study

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

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

Angelina Ribeiro Jones

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, & 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

Steeple and Domes: Early Places of Worship in Washington, DC

Brian Kraft, Ann Slattery

Tales of a Cabby: Immigrant, Small Businessman/Entrepreneur, Family Man, Purveyor of History

Teresa Neville Brendler, Brenna Hill

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 Toye

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 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

Lily Liu

Water Wizards Make A Splash: Seniors Find Friendship and Exercise

Ernestine Brown, Maurice Butler, Audrey Hipkins, Laretta Jenkins, Sonja Williams

What are they listening for? A Group Conversation on History Podcasts about Washington, DC

Jasper Collier

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

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 Arciniaga

Hattie Sewell Project

Angela Kramer

La Manplesa: An Uprising Remembered

Ellie Walton

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