

Memories of Conflict and Disaster:

Oral History and the Politics of Truth, Trauma, and Reconciliation

ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION



PROGRAM FOR THE 45TH ANNUAL MEETING

Denver, Colorado | October 12–16, 2011

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*Front cover: Women in Egypt. Photo courtesy of Leil Zahra Mortada.
Rocky Flats Protest. Photo courtesy of Boulder Carnegie Library.
Columbine Memorial Wall. Photo courtesy of Carolyn Mears.*

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**Full program schedule can be
downloaded from our web site:
www.oralhistory.org**

**For registration and hotel information
see inside back cover.**

Welcome to the 45th Annual Meeting of the Oral History Association. This year brings OHA to Colorado—first time since 1980—with Denver (and the Renaissance Hotel) as our host. Denver gives us awesome opportunities to engage with our colleagues on an intellectual level and to explore the thriving city surrounded by beautifully rugged landscapes.

This year's theme, "Memories of Conflict and Disaster: Oral History and the Politics of Truth, Trauma, and Reconciliation," comes just after the 10th anniversary of September 11, 2001. The events that occurred in Japan, the Middle East, and the U.S. Southeast over the last year have added more contextual credence to the theme.

With contributors from all over the country and world, we have built a program that fits our topic while offering space for the presentation of myriad subjects within oral history. For example, panelists will address their work documenting events such as the Dust Bowl, the Holocaust, and the conflict in Vietnam, to mention a few of the over 70 slated sessions.

Our two plenaries will offer attendees two distinct and relevant subjects. The first, scheduled for Thursday, will highlight groups from Columbia University as they discuss 9/11 and how we can teach and learn from that catastrophe. Friday's presentation will focus on environmental history, with the presenters exploring how public lands history, federal agencies, and environmental inquiry can enrich oral history.

In addition, two keynoters are sure to provide much thought to accompany the food. Friday's lunch speaker, Dr. Doug Boyd, will discuss Oral History in the Digital Age and the ways that this grant specifically addresses how new technologies affect the process of recording, preserving and providing access to materials. Saturday night's awards dinner presenter, Dr. Carolyn Mears, will discuss her upcoming work, *Reclaiming School in the Aftermath of Trauma*, which offers educators advice based on her research with teachers, administrators, and staff. Mears, as a Columbine mother, offers a perspective that joins this year's theme and location.

Along with Saturday night, we offer evening activities on Wednesday and Thursday. On Wednesday, the Film Spotlight will showcase several documentaries from Colorado and beyond. Thursday brings the annual Presidential Reception, which will take place at the Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library, a public institution that serves to display the story of African Americans throughout the Rocky Mountain West. Along with ample opportunity for food, drink, and mingling in this interesting locale, a long-time contributor to the OHA will be honored. This year at the reception, we give tribute to Dr. Timuel Black—educator, activist, and oral historian.

The 2011 conference will also host a book spotlight on Thursday afternoon, entitled "New Tools for Teaching and Learning about African American Life and Communities in the 20th Century." Along with this offering, we have planned two other unique sessions: "So, What Do You Do?" on Thursday and "Speed Transformation, Spotlight on Oral History in the 21st Century Classroom: A Special Issue of *The Oral History Review*" on Friday.

As usual, workshops will furnish attendees with professional development options for every level of oral historian. Participants can be introduced to the field, learn about new technologies in publishing, or get the inside scoop on how to apply the law to oral history collection. Those choices only touch on 3 of the 8 workshops scheduled for Wednesday and Saturday.

Besides all those programmatic offerings, the local arrangement committee, headed by Jen Myronuk and Cyns Nelson, has brought together a variety of interesting activities. There will be a Community Showcase, where several Denver and regional-based project and programs will display and discuss their oral-history endeavors. Also, continuing the OHA tradition, there are wonderful dine-arounds and a special Friday night live performance: A People's History of Colorado.

We want to thank the folks from around the country who agreed to join us on the program committee. Every committee member's work enhanced this year's efforts. We also applaud Madelyn Campbell for helping us from the initial CFP to these days in Denver. We appreciated her advice, support, and wealth of annual meeting knowledge. If we may paraphrase Hillary Clinton (and the African proverb she borrowed from), it did indeed take a village to raise this annual meeting!

Jennifer Abraham Cramer and Troy Reeves
2011 Program Committee Co-Chairs

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

FRIDAY LUNCHEON KEYNOTE

12:00–1:30PM

Doug Boyd, Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History at the University of Kentucky Libraries “Oral History in the Digital Age”

BALLROOM B

Doug Boyd is a recognized national leader in oral history, archives and digital technologies. He is currently managing the IMLS grant project, Oral History in the Digital Age, establishing current best practices for collecting, curating and disseminating oral histories. MATRIX, at Michigan State University, directs the grant which partners the Library of Congress, the Smithsonian, the Oral History Association, and the American Folklore Society. Oral History in the Digital Age has brought experts together from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines to discuss cutting edge issues pertaining to oral history and the impact of new technologies on the process of recording, preserving and providing access to oral history. Boyd will reflect on the process, and discuss insights, and outcomes of the Oral History in the Digital Age initiative.

Doug Boyd PhD serves as the Director of the Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History at the University of Kentucky Libraries. Most recently, Boyd led the team that designed and implemented the open source OHMS system that synchronizes text with audio and video online, and he is currently completing implementation of an open source, online oral history collection management database system. He is the author of the book *Crawfish Bottom: Recovering a Lost Kentucky Community* published in August 2011 by the University Press of Kentucky as well as “Achieving the Promise of Oral History in a Digital Age,” a chapter in *The Oxford Handbook to Oral History* (Oxford University Press) by Donald A. Ritchie. Boyd also regularly writes, lectures and consults on oral history and digital technologies, archives, and digital preservation. Previously, Boyd established and administered Digital Programs for the University of Alabama Libraries, served as the Director of the Kentucky Oral History Commission and prior to that worked as the Senior Archivist for the oral history collection at the Kentucky Historical Society. He was elected to the Executive Council of the Oral History Association in 2010. Doug Boyd received his PhD and MA degrees in Folklore from Indiana University and his BA degree in History from Denison University in Granville, Ohio.



For those not attending the luncheon, the program will begin at 12:45PM.



SATURDAY AWARDS DINNER AND KEYNOTE SPEAKER

6:30–9:00PM

Carolyn L. Mears, University of Denver

“Stronger at the Broken Places: Learning from the Columbine Tragedy”

TELLURIDE

For her insider research, Carolyn Mears developed a distinctive methodological approach into lived experience and perceived meaning. Her dissertation was recognized as the Outstanding Qualitative Dissertation of the Year award by the American Educational Research Association (AERA).

In response to requests for information on how to conduct such a study, Mears wrote *Interviewing for Education and Social Science Research: The Gateway Approach* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2009). The text was a finalist as AERA Book of the Year 2010.

Her upcoming work, *Reclaiming School in the Aftermath of Trauma*, offers educators advice based on firsthand experience from teachers, administrators, and faculty at schools that have been shattered by rampage shootings, natural disaster, or acts of terrorism. It will be published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2012.

Mears has presented to a variety of audiences in the U.S., Europe, and Australia on such topics as trauma response and recovery, safe school environments, leadership in times of crisis, and gateway research.

Carolyn L. Mears, PhD, holds a research appointment and is adjunct faculty at the University of Denver. As an educator and parent whose son was a student at Columbine High School at the time of the shootings, she knew that much could be learned from the tragedy. As a result, she enrolled in a doctoral program to conduct dissertation research into the impact of the tragedy on schools and families.



PLENARY SESSIONS

THURSDAY PLENARY, OCTOBER 13, 2011

1:15–3:00PM

Teaching and Learning from Catastrophe: September 11, 2001, a Case Study

BALLROOM A

Chair: Don Ritchie, U.S. Senate Historical Office

Commentator: Michael Frisch, University at Buffalo, SUNY

Speakers: Mary Marshall Clark, Frank Moretti, Mark Phillipson

One of the deadening effects of catastrophe is that it is difficult to express, in ordinary language, the loss of meaning that occurs as the result of traumatic injury and must be rebuilt over time. This presents a challenge of how to teach traumatic events, particularly political ones, to future generations. While it is clear that oral history is able to make a unique contribution to documenting catastrophe, through preserving the agency of the narrator in the act of telling and framing meaning, the question remains. How do we teach an event like September 11, 2001 without risking transferring trauma to those who hear the stories for the first time, and extending the injury of catastrophe?

This plenary brings together two partners at Columbia University working along parallel tracks to provide students, faculty and the public at large with the creative digital tools to use their own agency in exploring the multiple impacts of injury, and the slow process of recovery. Mary Marshall Clark, the director of the Columbia Center for Oral History, and co-director (with Peter Bearman) of the September 11, 2001 Oral History Narrative and Memory Project, will be joined by her colleagues Frank Moretti, director of the Columbia Center for New Media Teaching and Learning and Mark Phillipson, senior outreach specialist at CCNMT&L, to reflect on the challenges of creating innovative learning environments to teach the history and experience of injury and recovery. Each center has been deeply involved with understanding the multiple impacts of September 11, 2001 in New York City. The Columbia Center for Oral History conducted life histories with over 600 people from October 2001 to June 2005, totaling 900 hours, in a diverse set of communities throughout New York City resulting in a collective memory of catastrophe. Through a partnership with *Project Rebirth*, a film by Jim Whitaker that integrates time-lapse photography with longitudinal interviews taken with nine family members of those who died, CCNMTL has provided educational strategies for understanding how recovery takes place over time. The creative challenges of teaching September 11, 2001 through these contrasting approaches will lead to an open forum for discussing the uses of oral history and multimedia digital environments to transmit memory from one generation to another.



The final proposed design for the rebuilding of the World Trade Center. The September 11th Memorial is in the park in the foreground.

PLENARY SESSIONS



Mary Marshall Clark
Director, Columbia Center
for Oral History

In addition to being the Director of CCOH, Mary Marshall Clark is co-director of Columbia's Oral History Master of Arts (OHMA) degree program with Peter Bearman, founded in 2008-09. Formerly, she was an oral historian and filmmaker at the New York Times. Mary Marshall has been involved in the international oral history movement since 1991, and was president of the Oral History Association in 2001-2002. She is the founder, with Peter Bearman, of the September 11, 2001 Oral History Narrative and Memory Project, and directed related projects on the aftermath of September 11th in New York City. Mary Marshall, Peter Bearman, Stephen Smith and Catherine Ellis are co-editors on a book drawn from the collection, titled *After the Fall: New Yorkers Remember September, 2001 and the Years that Followed*, published by The New Press. Mary Marshall writes on issues of memory, the mass media, trauma, and ethics in oral history. Her current work focuses on the global impact of torture and detention policies at Guantánamo Bay. She is a distinguished lecturer for the Organization of American Historians.



Frank A. Moretti
Executive Director,
Columbia Center for New Media
Teaching and Learning

Frank Moretti is co-founder of the Columbia Center for New Media Teaching and Learning, for which he provides pedagogical, strategic and managerial leadership. In addition to defining the goals and disseminating the CCNMTL message on campus, Frank serves as Professor of Communications, Computing and Technology at Teachers College. Prior to joining Teachers College, Frank served as the Associate Headmaster at the Dalton School, where he was also Executive Director of their New Laboratory for Teaching and Learning, which he co-founded in 1989, and of the internationally known Dalton Technology Plan. His many degrees include a PhD in History and an M. Phil from Columbia University, an M.Ed. from Teachers College and a BA in Greek and Latin from St. Bonaventure University. Frank is recognized as one of America's leading theorists and practitioners in the use of digital technology in education.



Mark Phillipson
Senior Program Specialist,
Columbia Center for New Media
Teaching and Learning

Mark leads the Digital Bridges strategic initiative at CCNMTL. He works with faculty at Columbia, Columbia University Libraries, museums, media archives, film productions, and scientific data repositories to build innovative educational activities around curated digital resources. Mark's projects at CCNMTL include Mapping the African American Past (winner of the Award for Innovative Use of Archives from the Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York), Project Vietnam (an IMLS-funded partnership with WGBH), and MediaThread (an open source image and video analysis platform).

Mark also teaches in the Core Curriculum and Columbia's English Department, where he has developed several seminars in British romanticism. Before joining CCNMTL in 2006, he was an assistant professor of English at Bowdoin College; his early models of class wikis there attracted coverage from EDUCAUSE and the Chronicle of Higher Education. Mark holds a PhD from the University of California, Berkeley and a BA in English from Columbia College. He also earned a degree in library science at Simmons College in 2006, and was designated an Association of Research Libraries Academy Fellow.

PLENARY SESSIONS

FRIDAY PLENARY, OCTOBER 14

10:15–11:45AM

Personal Stories and Public Lands: Exploring Common Ground in Oral and Environmental History

BALLROOM A

This session draws inspiration from Denver's majestic Colorado Rockies setting and the long prominence of environmental issues in the American West. The plenary roundtable will explore the fruitful intersections between oral history and environmental history, with an emphasis on federal lands. For over a century, U.S. citizens have crafted a system of public lands that is both a source of pride for the nation and a wellspring for seemingly endless conflict. Though national park and national forest lands are as diverse as Americans themselves, oral histories with those who live near, work with, and regularly visit them reveal a striking pattern of deep relationship. These passionately felt relationships with common lands are central to many Americans' understanding of "place" and their own identity, but have gone largely unexplored by scholars, land administrators, and public historians alike.



Drawing on the work of historians within and outside federal agencies, the plenary roundtable will demonstrate how oral history can shed light on public lands history, and how environmental inquiry can enrich oral history. Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness scholar Debbie Lee, Pisgah and Nantahala National Forest researcher Kathryn Newfont, and Joshua Tree National Park historian Hannah Nyala West will offer insights from their oral history work on particular federal tracts. National Park Service historian Lu Ann Jones will discuss her recent work spearheading that agency's oral history program. Environmental historian Paul Sutter, of the University of Colorado-Boulder, will chair the roundtable and put the work in broad context. Together these presentations will offer insights into environmental history, oral history, and the meanings of Americans' public lands inheritance.



Kathryn Newfont studies the rich temperate forests of the southern Appalachians and the people they have sustained, with a particular emphasis on national forest history. She began interviewing forest activists while a graduate student with the Southern Oral History Program at UNC-Chapel Hill. Now an Associate Professor of History at Mars Hill College in mountainous western North Carolina, she also serves as Faculty Chair of the college's Liston B. Ramsey Center for Regional Studies. She recently completed her first book manuscript, with support from a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship. The book, *Blue Ridge Commons: Environmental Activism and Forest History in Western North Carolina*, is forthcoming in February 2012 from University of Georgia Press. She is currently collaborating with Debbie Lee on a co-edited volume exploring oral history and public lands.

PLENARY SESSIONS



Debbie Lee is a professor of English at Washington State University. She is the author of, most recently, *Romantic Liars* (Palgrave 2006), a book that traces the lives of six women impostors who lived in 19th-century England. She is currently working on an oral history book chronicling the human history of the Selway-

Bitterroot Wilderness of Idaho and Montana. Her book and oral history project are funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. In addition, she and Kathy Newfont are co-editing a collection of essays on oral history and public land.



Hannah Nyala West is a writer, anthropologist, and historian who is completing a PhD at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her published works include the memoir *Point Last Seen* and the novel *Leave No Trace*. She is currently coordinating an oral history project and two Traditional Cultural Property studies at Joshua Tree National Park.



Lu Ann Jones is a staff historian with the National Park Service's Park History Program in Washington, DC. Much of her work focuses on oral history training for NPS personnel. Before joining the Park Service, Lu Ann taught at the University of South Florida in Tampa and East Carolina University in Greenville,

NC. Between 1986 and 1991 she directed An Oral History of Southern Agriculture at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. Her publications include *Mama Learned Us to Work: Farm Women in the New South* (Chapel Hill, 2002) and the co-authored *Like a Family: The Making of a Southern Cotton Mill World* (Chapel Hill, 1987, 2000). Lu Ann has served the Oral History Association as a member of council and is currently a member of the nominating committee.



Paul Sutter is an Associate Professor of History at the University of Colorado, Boulder. He received his PhD from the University of Kansas in 1997, where he studied with Donald Worster. He then served as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Virginia from 1997-2000, and he was a member of

the History Department at the University of Georgia from 2000-2009. Paul is the author of *Driven Wild: How the Fight Against Automobiles Launched the Modern Wilderness Movement* (University of Washington Press, 2002), co-author of *The Art of Managing Longleaf: A Personal History of the Stoddard-Neel Approach* (University of Georgia Press, 2010), and co-editor of *Environmental History and the American South: A Reader* (University of Georgia Press, 2009). Paul has also published numerous articles and book chapters on the American wilderness movement, southern environmental history, U.S. imperial environmental history, and other topics, and he is the academic editor of the "Environmental History and the American South" book series published by the University of Georgia Press. Paul has held fellowships from the Smithsonian Institution, the Huntington Library, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. He is currently working on two book projects. The first, tentatively titled "Pulling the Teeth of the Tropics: Environment, Disease, Race, and the U.S. Sanitary Program in Panama, 1904-1914," interprets American expansion and imperial public health through the lens of environmental history. The second, tentatively titled "Let Us Now Praise Famous Gullies: Georgia's 'Little Grand Canyon' and the Soils of the South," examines the history of soil erosion and conservation in the U.S. South through the unlikely history of Providence Canyon State Park, which preserves a network of spectacular erosion gullies.

SPECIAL EVENTS

WEDNESDAY EVENING OPENING EVENT

7:30–9:30PM

Wednesday Night Short Film Screening & Bourbon Tasting

TELLURIDE

Join us for a lively evening of short films, digital stories, poetry and previews with a special bourbon tasting sponsored by the Buffalo Trace Distillery. Co-presented by Colorado Voice Preserve and Her Story Media.



Featured short film: *Quest for the Perfect Bourbon: Voices of Buffalo Trace Distillery* (30 mins)

Producer and Director: Joanna Hay
2011 OHA Nonprint Media Award, Honorable Mention

As a project of the Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History at the University of Kentucky Libraries, *Quest for the Perfect Bourbon: Voices of Buffalo Trace Distillery* provides an insider's look at life in the distillery and how world-class bourbon is made. In addition to producing award-winning bourbon in Frankfort, Kentucky, one of the oldest distilling sites in the country, the distillery also has a remarkably rich history. *Quest For the Perfect Bourbon* features the people and stories of the Buffalo Trace family, such as Master Distiller Emeritus Elmer T. Lee and descendents of iconic figures like Col. Albert Blanton, Col. E.H. Taylor, and Pappy Van Winkle.



The Distillery in 1870.

Short film: *Mosaic: Voices of Women's Suffrage* (30 mins)

Producer and Director: Jen Myronuk

Mosaic: Voices of Women's Suffrage is a filmed version of the play written and performed by local Colorado students Jessica Miller, Liesl Jensen & Nicole Polglaze.



Mosaic: Voices of Women's Suffrage.

Mosaic features historic portrayals of suffragists Julia Ward Howe, Caroline Churchill and Alice Paul. Shot on location at the Hotel Boulderado in Boulder, Colorado, the play showcases accomplishments of three American suffragists and imagines a conversation comparing their experiences from the 1860's til 1920, when the 19th Amendment passed granting women the right to vote.



Short Film: *Packed: A Film About Fire, People, and Possessions* (15 mins)

Producers: Mary Ann Williamson and Angie Burnham

On Sept. 6, 2010 in the mountains west of Boulder, Colorado, a wildfire swept through a 6,000 acre area, burning 169 structures. Most of these structures were homes, and over 3,500 people were evacuated during the eleven-day blaze. Some had a day to organize and pack their cars, while others left with only the clothes they were wearing when the fire roared too close. *Packed* is a film about the evacuees and what they chose to take with them, not knowing if the possessions left behind would survive the massive blaze.

Previews & Trailers:

Protest and Poetry: Anne Waldman and Allen Ginsberg

Sponsored by the Maria Rogers Oral History Program of the Boulder Public Library's Carnegie Library for Local History, Boulder, Colorado, Protest & Poetry features a recording of poet Anne Waldman reading her own protest poetry and a poem by Allen Ginsberg at a 2006 reunion of activists who protested against the Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant in the 1980s. Poems include "Plutonium Ode," "Mega Death Chant," and "I Remember Being Arrested."



Ginsberg, Waldman, Dilley @ Naropa University (being recorded). Photo by Rachel Homer.



Cowboy Poetry.

Cowboy Poetry: A Woman Ranching in the Rockies

Producer: Kent Gunnufson

Cowboy Poetry is a warm and insightful portrait of Peggy Godfrey by award-winning filmmaker Kent Gunnufson. The biographical film, *The Miracle of Peggy Godfrey*, tells the story of her hard-fought ranching career, through striking images and her own voice, in stories and poetry. Exerpts from the film and three poems will be screened.

Center for Digital Storytelling: A Collection of Short Digital Stories

Producer: Daniel Weinschenker

Digital storytelling has been an effective tool for conducting both oral and visual histories in a format in which the author retains control as editor of his/her own story. As such, it is an important step in both the oral history and social justice movements because it ensures that stories are not removed from the communities and individuals that live them, to be edited by "historians." In short, through the digital storytelling process, each individual that lives a story becomes the historian and editor of that story.



The Murmur of Time

Julio Girona, a Cuban artist living in New Jersey, enlisted in the U.S. Army to fight the fascists in World War II. After 50 years, an old army buddy discovers him on the internet and goes to Havana to see him. Girona recounts war experiences and his life as an artist in Cuba.



Julio Girona, with filmmaker Lourdes Prieto.

Victor Casaus, poet and documentary filmmaker from Havana, Cuba, will comment on his film and read some selected poems. Full screening is scheduled for Friday, October 14, 9:30PM, Ballroom A.



Victor Casaus.

Gay Revolt At Denver City Council, Oct. 23, 1973, And The Beginnings Of An Organized Gay Community

Producer: Gerald Gerash

Told by Gerald Gerash, one of the co-founders of a gay liberation group in Denver, *Gay Revolt* chronicles the origins of the community from 1972 and how the group organized the community around issues of gay rights and gay liberation. This documentary chronicles the achievements of their astonishing successes in the following years. Full screening is scheduled for Thursday, October 13, 3:15PM, Durango.



Gay Revolt. Photos by Gerald Gerash.



SPECIAL EVENTS

THURSDAY PRESIDENTIAL RECEPTION

October 13, 2011, 6:00–8:30PM

BLAIR-CALDWELL AFRICAN AMERICAN RESEARCH LIBRARY

2401 Welton Street, Denver, CO 80205 · 720-865-2401
Buses depart from the hotel beginning at 5:30PM; the last bus will return to the hotel at 9:15PM.

This year at the Presidential Reception we will pay tribute to Historymaker Timuel D. Black, known to us all as “Tim.”

As a life-long educator, community activist, experienced and seasoned oral historian as well as published scholar, Mr. Black personifies the essence of OHA. Tim’s actions as a community activist are legendary in promoting racial and social justice, demanding quality educational stewardship within the high schools and the City Colleges of Chicago as well as working with the late Mayor Harold Washington, and President Barack Obama. His long association and friendship with Studs Terkel is an example of Mr. Black’s ability to promote interracial cooperation and sanction justice for working families.

Tim has done more than simply work in the fields of activism; he has interviewed, recorded, written and published a people’s history of Black Chicago, *Bridges of Memory: Chicago’s First Wave of Black Migration* and a second book is entitled: *Bridges of Memory Volume 2: Chicago’s Second Generation of the Black Migration*.” As he approaches his mid-90s, he does not want to slow down.

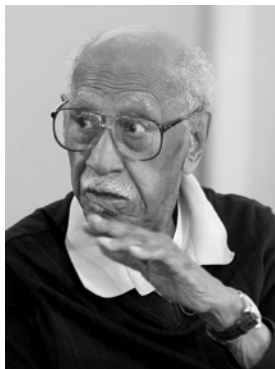


Photo courtesy of Alan Stein.

*Notes: *In a History Makers interview on June 19, 2000, Mr. Black revealed that he has spent his life furthering the cause of racial and social justice for all people. **Northwestern University press is releasing the third volume this summer. This descriptive tribute/session was written by Dr. Alphine Jefferson and edited by Al Stein.*

Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library

The 2011 Presidential Reception will take place at the Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library. Blair-Caldwell, a full-service branch of the Denver-Public system, focuses on the history, literature, art, music, religion, and politics of African Americans in Colorado and throughout the Rocky Mountain West. In addition to circulating material and archival collections—including audio and video oral history—the library maintains more than 7,000 feet of gallery space for fixed and rotating exhibits.

Blair-Caldwell is located in Denver’s “Five Points” neighborhood, part of the Welton Street Historic District. Five Points is one of the city’s oldest neighborhoods and one of the few predominantly African American-owned commercial strips in the country. Named for its unusual intersection (where the Downtown diagonal grid meets East Denver’s rectangular grid), Five Points also has been a junction where music greats such as Billie Holliday and Miles Davis would find tight space in Jazz-loving venues.

FRIDAY NIGHT: LIVE MUSIC AND THEATER PERFORMANCE

7:30PM Pre-Show Reception and Performance

8:00PM Featured play: “A People’s History of Colorado” presented by the Romero Theater Troupe BALLROOM A

Join us for an evening of music and organic theater as the voices of Colorado’s untold history are brought to life by the Romero Theater Troupe. Inspired by the late Howard Zinn, “A People’s History of Colorado” is a multi-media performance designed to teach history through the lens of those who did not enjoy political, economic, cultural, or social privilege and have been largely written out of the history books and social studies taught in schools today. Challenging the conventional teachings of Colorado’s history, “A People’s History of Colorado” tells stories from the perspective of Lupe Briseno, Mother Jones, the lost voices of the Sand Creek Massacre and the 17,000 peaceful protesters of Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant as a way to explore the mentality of imperialism that dominates our current conflicts.



Romero Theater Troupe

From the dominance of the KKK to Japanese Internment Camps of World War II, “A People’s History of Colorado” highlights the actions of courageous people with the hope of transforming the teaching and telling of history for students and the community-at-large.

Invoking the spirit of Oscar Romero, the Romero Theater Troupe is a community-based, all volunteer performance group—all of the art is constructed together, the intersection of many visions and experiences. The mission is to grow together in community with others, to engage the general public in the practice of exploring history, and to promote social justice through the art of organic theater.

So, What Do You Do, Parts I & II Concurrent Event, Thursday Morning

SESSION 10 AND 17 BALLROOM A

Building on the successful double panel in Atlanta last year, “So, What Do You Do?” returns to OHA Denver in 2011. So, What Do You Do consists of two consecutive sessions, with rapid fire presentations in Part I followed by a series of round-table discussions in Part II. Modeled after formats growing popular in tech and arts conferences like “Dork Shorts” at George Mason University’s “THATCamp” or Pecha Kucha nights, hosted in cities worldwide, the format allows attendees and participants to see what others are doing “at a glance” and connect like-minded people in an informative, fun, social mode of exchange.

Presentations in the first session will focus primarily on innovative applications of technology to oral history and be strictly limited to 6 minutes each. In lieu of traditional question-and-answer following the presentations, presenters and audience members will convene in multiple group discussions during the second session, organized by the core questions raised by these short talks. Reorganizing in 2 or 3 additional rounds of discussion, group interests will steer the direction, depth, and topics of the conversation. Themes will represent current trends in oral history, like the following core issues discussed in Atlanta in 2010:

- Publication of Oral History
- Preservation and Access
- Content development and management
- Project Management and volunteer coordination

For more specifics on SWDYD 2011, email Doug Lambert, organizer, at doug@randforce.com

Speed Transformation

SESSION 41 BALLROOM A

Spotlight on “Oral History in the 21st Century Classroom”: A Special Issue of *The Oral History Review*.

As the recent issue of *The Oral History Review* demonstrates, grade to graduate school classrooms and programs are being transformed through oral history projects. Maximize information and idea gathering when you attend three mini-sessions in one. Welcome to “Speed Transformation.”

The OHA Speed Transformation format allows you to choose three oral history projects that meet your needs and interests. Eight presenters will sit at their own tables, leaving room for attendees to sit down and learn from their experience of using oral history as an educational methodology. Designed for innovative teachers, these intimate, 15-minute information-packed “dates” will dispense with the small talk and instead focus on the important themes, details, and challenges and solutions, associated with bringing oral history projects to students. After 15 minutes of inspiring idea exchange, you will move on to a second and third speaker who will share insights on your next favorite projects. The remainder of the session will include additional idea exchanges among all session attendees.

In one session, you’ll get to sit down with a total of three innovative educators who can address your most pressing needs and desires to transform the learning landscape for students. The cutting-edge ideas you’ll take back to your teaching and learning environment will prove invaluable and show where oral history has been and where oral history is going as a 21st-century educational methodology.

FEATURED EVENTS

EXHIBITS

“The Ditch Project” – 150 Years of Ditches: Boulder’s Constructed Landscape

Water development constructed the Boulder-Valley landscape, just as dams and ditches have etched complex patterns across the American West. “The Ditch Project” (2009) was a multi-venue exhibition of artwork, photo essays, and historical/educational material about ditches. The Project inspired tours, a symposium, videos, a film series, and storytelling; it also sparked curiosity about the human and natural consequences of systematic irrigation. During the OHA conference, a portion of the exhibition—including “Ditch Riders” portraits by photographer Stephen Collector—will be on display. Elizabeth Black curated the Project and has pulled its electronic contents into a Web site: <http://bcn.boulder.co.us/basin/ditchproject/>.

COMMUNITY SHOWCASE

Friday morning will be an opportunity to learn about programs and projects coming from the Intermountain region. A “Community Showcase” will be held in the area outside Ballroom A, where Friday’s plenary takes place. Stop by for coffee, conversation, and to check out the work conceived by local folks. Colorado is not part of any regional oral-history organization, so this conference gives locals the rare chance to put their projects on display.

BOOK EXHIBITS, VENDORS AND AUTHORS’ TABLE

**Thursday, October 13, Friday, October 14
9:00AM–5:00PM**

**Saturday, October 15, 9:00AM–12:00 NOON
TELLURIDE**

From Thursday morning at 9:00AM through Saturday at 12:00 NOON, exhibit tables will provide information and examples from equipment vendors, transcribers, publishers, oral history programs, and state and regional organizations.

Authors will be available at various times throughout the meeting to talk with participants.

A special book signing will held on Friday, 3:15PM.

NEWCOMERS BREAKFAST

**Friday, October 14, 7:15–8:15AM
BALLROOM A**

Those attending their first OHA meeting are invited to join association officers, committee chairs, and editors for a complimentary continental breakfast. This will be an opportunity to meet some seasoned colleagues as well as people who are relatively new to the field. If you plan to attend, please indicate this on your registration form. We look forward to meeting you.

COFFEE BREAKS/BOOKSIGNING

**Friday, October 14, 3:15–3:45PM
TELLURIDE**

A chance to refresh and re-energize! On Friday, conference participants are invited to come together for conversation, refreshments and a chance to meet some of the authors whose work is being spotlighted in the plenaries, special programs, and keynote addresses. On Friday morning, stop in at the Community Showcase outside Ballroom A and talk with community members about their current projects.

DINE AROUND DINNER GROUPS

**Friday, October 14, 6:00PM
HOTEL LOBBY**

Experience Denver’s diverse dining scene. Join us on Friday, October 14 to meet with members of the local history community and sample some of Denver’s eclectic culinary options. Sign up at the Dine Around display at the registration desk for the option that appeals to you most.

Transportation information will be provided at the display.

COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY RECEPTION

Saturday, October 15, 5:30–6:30PM
ASPEN

OHA's Committee on Diversity invites all those attending the conference to join together for conversation and networking at a cash bar reception.

AWARDS PRESENTATION

Saturday, October 15 7:30–9:00PM
TELLURIDE

For those not attending the dinner at 6:30PM, we invite you to attend the full Saturday evening program beginning at 7:30PM.

The following awards for outstanding use of oral history will be presented:

- **Book Award**
- **Martha Ross Teaching Award**
- **Nonprint Format Award**
- **Emerging Crises Research Grant**

The **Vox Populi Award** honors outstanding achievement in the collecting and use of oral histories of individuals and organizations whose work has contributed to change for a better world.

The award is named in honor of Stetson Kennedy, a pioneer oral historian whose work has been an important tool for advocacy on behalf of human rights. His work has also had a significant, continuing impact on the oral history movement itself.



Photos by Naropa University.

TOURS

Buddhists and Beat Poets: Multi-Media Presentation of Boulder's Counter Culture & Community in the 1970s and 1980s and Afternoon Tea at Dushanbe Tea House

Travel to the nearby community of Boulder, Colorado, for an engaging, multi-media presentation at Boulder's Public Library including video and audio recordings of Marcia Usow, Barbara Dilley, and Lee Worley as they share memories of the early 1970s when the Boulder Buddhist community grew around the teachings and leadership of Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche.

Explore how Boulder and Naropa University came to be a center of Buddhist engagement, drawing influential figures such as nun Pema Chodron and Sakyong Mipham Rinpoche. Recorded interviews with poet Jack Collom explore his long and colorful literary career including becoming a poet, teaching poetry in the schools and at Naropa University, and the folk-music community of the 1970s, including a reading of three of his poems and a yodeling performance. Poet Anne Waldman reads works by her and by Allen Ginsberg—including "Mega Death Chant" and "I Remember Being Arrested"—about the Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant in the 1980s and the issue of nuclear weapons. Sponsored in part by the Maria Rogers Oral History Program of Boulder's Carnegie Branch Library for Local History.

After the presentation, an afternoon tea and discussion will be hosted at the Boulder Dushanbe Tea House, a gift from Boulder's sister city in Tajikistan. With its hand-carved and hand-painted ceiling, tables, stools, columns, and exterior ceramic panels, the Dushanbe Tea House is one of the area's local gems, serving teas and global culinary delights.

Chartered bus to Boulder departs at 12:30PM and returns to the conference hotel at 4:30PM.

Cost: \$40

ACTIVITIES ON YOUR OWN

DENVER ART MUSEUM (DAM)

The DAM was founded in 1893 and is the largest art museum between Kansas City and the West Coast. The 356,000-square-foot complex includes two buildings that are situated on the north and south sides of 14th Ave. Parkway. The American Indian collection is internationally renowned, and two renovated floors are dedicated to European, American, and Western painting, sculpture, design, and textiles. Still, visitors needn't step inside a gallery to be impressed. The Hamilton Building, commissioned by architect Daniel Libeskind and completed in 2006, is a sight to behold. Its titanium-clad, geometrically-jumbled, slicing and jutting exterior can't fail to illicit reaction; and the space inside matches the bold architecture with Modern and Contemporary art, along with temporary exhibitions. The companion North Building is no less noteworthy: Constructed in 1971, the North Building has a glassy, castle-like façade. Italian architect Gio Ponti said: "Art is a treasure, and these thin but jealous walls defend it." Hours are 10-5; admission is \$13. www.denverartmuseum.org

DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS (AT YORK STREET)

Home to 15,000 plant species, 20,680 fungi specimens, and more than 30 distinct gardens, Denver's Botanic complex showcases native and adapted plants that thrive in Western gardens. The York Street location also features the city's first publicly-accessible "green roof," demonstrating the environmental and aesthetic benefits of building-top horticulture. But the Botanic Gardens are not just about plants—they are a major part of Denver's cultural scene, hosting classes and lectures, symposiums, summer concerts, festivals, and art exhibits. During the OHA conference, attendees can look forward to an outdoor sculpture exhibition, "Native Roots/Modern Forms: Plants, Peoples, and the Art of Alan Houser." And, if the spirits are willing, there might even be a Ghost Tour. Hours are 9-5 daily; admission is \$12.50. www.botanicgardens.org/

DENVER MICROBREW TOUR

California has its Napa Valley; and Denver's Lower Downtown (LoDo) is a veritable "Tap Valley," yielding craft-brewed ales and lagers that make Denver notoriously sudsy (and number one in per-capita beer production). The Microbrew Tour is a guided walk through LoDo, punctuated by stops at four microbreweries and one tap room. In addition to liquid samplings, the tour includes information about beer, beer making, and beer's significance in shaping Denver's history. The 1.5 mile walk takes just over two hours, and tours are offered Friday, Saturday, and Sunday (3:00-5:15; 12:00-2:15 & 3:00-5:15 on Saturday). No better way to educate your taste! Reservations are required; the cost is \$25. www.denvermicrobrewtour.com

WORKING ART AT THE COLLABORATORY

Tucked behind the Renaissance Hotel (one block west, on the corner of Pontiac Street and 38th Ave) is Old Fire Station #26—except that it's not a fire station anymore. The structure has been repurposed into The Collaboratory, which is about "making ideas tangible." Working Art explores the intersection of art and architecture through welding and metal craft. During the OHA conference, The Collaboratory may have open hours for people to stop by, check out the creative space, visit with the designers, and purchase a unique boutique piece. 7045 E 38th Ave, 80207, www.thecollaboratory.com.

RUN AROUND, LITERALLY.

Denver has more than 200 parks and approximately 4,300 acres of green space. Three blocks west of the Renaissance Hotel is Martin Luther King Junior Park (between 38th and 39th Avenues, Olive and Newport Streets). The park has a Rec Center, playground, basketball court, pedestrian path, sport fields, and picnic tables. If you want to stretch your legs or unwind your mind, this small oasis might be just the ticket.

WORKSHOPS & COMMITTEES

See Program Schedule by session number for full descriptions.

WEDNESDAY WORKSHOPS

1 Introduction to Oral History

ASPEN

Wednesday, 9:00AM–4:30PM with a lunch break

12:00 – 1:15PM

Cost: Members \$55; Non-members \$65

Workshop Leaders:

Jennifer Abraham Cramer, Louisiana State University

Troy Reeves, University of Wisconsin, Madison

2 Digital Preservation of Oral History

TELLURIDE

Wednesday, 9:00 – 12:00PM

Cost: Members \$40; Non-members \$50

Workshop Leader:

Doug Boyd, University of Kentucky Libraries

3 Publish It Yourself: Demystifying Publishing Technologies for Oral Historians

STEAMBOAT

Wednesday, 9:00–12:00PM

Cost: Members \$40; Non-members \$50

Workshop Leader:

Irene Reti, University of California Santa Cruz

4 Motivate, Organize, Train, and Accomplish: Oral History and Community-Based Practices

DURANGO

Wednesday, 9:00AM-12:00PM

Cost: Members \$40; Non-members \$50

Workshop Leaders:

Michelle Holland, Elinor Mazé, and Stephen Sloan

Baylor University Institute for Oral History

5 Gathering Oral Histories with Radio in Mind

TELLURIDE

Wednesday, 1:00 – 4:30PM

Cost: Members \$40; Non-members \$50

Workshop Leaders:

Rachel Anne Goodman, Freelance Radio Documentary Producer

6 Oral History and the Law

STEAMBOAT

Wednesday, 1:00 – 4:30PM

Cost: Members \$40; Non-members \$50

Workshop Leader:

John Neuenschwander, Carthage College (Emeritus)

SATURDAY WORKSHOPS

59 Integrating Oral History and the Arts in the Elementary Classroom

ASPEN

Saturday, 9:00AM–4:30PM with lunch break

12:00-1:15PM

Cost: \$25

Workshop Leader:

Debbie Ardemento, Alvin Keith and Shirley Taylor,

Apollo Theater

60 Introduction to Grant Proposal Writing

STEAMBOAT

Saturday, 8:30AM–12:00PM

Cost: Members \$50; Non-members \$60

Workshop Leader:

Jay Katz

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

All committees will meet Thursday, October 13, 12:00–1:15PM in the locations indicated below.

Committee on Diversity

DURANGO

International Committee

STEAMBOAT

Education Committee

SNOWMASS

New Media and Digital Technology Taskforce

LONGS PEAK

Nominating Committee

BRECKENRIDGE

Oral History Review Editorial Board

MAROON PEAK

Publications Committee

PIKES PEAK

State and Regional Forum

BLANCA PEAK