

# Not to be Forgotten:

the resiliency and sustainability of  
archives to preserve untold stories

Northwest Archivists Annual Meeting  
2022 Virtual Conference

May 2-5, 2022

#NWA22



**Schedule at a Glance** *(all Times in PDT)***Monday, May 2, 2022**

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- 10:30 am - 12 pm **Welcome, Land Acknowledgement and Keynote**  
 Keynote Presenters: Audra Eagle Yun, Dr. Krystal Tribbett, Dr. Thuy Vo Dang  
**“Pushing archives to C.A.R.E.: the potential of community-centered archives practice to transform our institutions”**
- 12 - 1 pm **Break**
- 1 - 2:30 pm **Poster Sessions and Virtual Tours**
- 2:30 - 3 pm **Break**
- 2:30 - 3 pm **Native American Collections Roundtable Networking Mixer**

**Tuesday, May 3, 2022**

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- 9:30 - 10:30 am **Session Block 1**
- 10:30 - 11 am **Break**
- 11 am - 12 pm **Session Block 2**
- 12 - 1 pm **Break**
- 1 - 2 pm **Native American Collections Roundtable Panel: A Work in Progress: Implementing Protocols for Native American Archival Materials in the Pacific Northwest**
- 2 - 2:30 pm **Break**
- 2:30 - 3:30/4\* pm **Session Block 3**

**Schedule at a Glance** *(all Times in PDT)***Wednesday, May 4, 2022**

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- 9:30 - 10:30 am **Session Block 4**
- 10:30 - 11 am **Break**
- 11 am - 12 pm **Session Block 5**
- 12 - 1 pm **Break**
- 1 - 2 pm **Native American Collections Roundtable business meeting**
- 2 - 3 pm **Break**
- 3 - 5 pm **3rd Annual NWA Archival Screening Night**

**Thursday, May 5, 2022**

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- 9:30 - 10:30 am **Session Block 6**
- 10:30 - 11 am **Break**
- 11 am - 12 pm **Session Block 7**
- 12 - 1 pm **Break**
- 1 - 2:30 pm **NWA business meeting**

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## President's Message

Welcome to Northwest Archivists' second online conference!

This year we selected the conference theme "Not to be Forgotten: the resiliency and sustainability of archives to preserve untold stories" to celebrate and reflect upon the work that our profession has continued to engage in throughout these difficult years experiencing the COVID-19 pandemic.



Our keynote speakers Audra Eagle Yun, Dr. Krystal Tribbett, and Dr. Thuy Vo Dang will begin our conference with their presentation, "Pushing archives to C.A.R.E.: the potential of community-centered archives practice to transform our institutions" to inspire us in our work as we respond to and engage with the communities we serve. We then have over a dozen sessions in which colleagues from across the Pacific Northwest share their projects and ideas, as well as two special events - the Native American Collections Roundtable Networking Mixer and the 3rd Annual NWA Archival Screening Night - for us to relax and socialize. Our conference will close with the NWA Business Meeting which will include committee reports, the 2022 election results, plans for next year, and retirement recognitions.

Thank you to the Program Committee members Amy Thompson, Sara Piasecki, and Courtney Berge, as well as the Virtual Arrangements Committee members Lourdes Johnson and Andrew Weaver, for your work creating this opportunity for us to meet, connect, and learn from each other.

And thank you to all the conference speakers and attendees for joining us this week to engage as a professional community!

Natalia Fernández  
Interim Director of the Special Collections and Archives Research Center, Oregon State University  
Northwest Archivists President 2021-2022

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**Monday, May 2, 2022****10:30 am - 12 pm Welcome, Land Acknowledgement and Keynote**

Welcome by NWA President Natalia Fernandez

Land Acknowledgement by Native American Collections Roundtable

Keynote Presenters: Audra Eagle Yun, Dr. Krystal Tribbett, Dr. Thuy Vo Dang

**“Pushing archives to C.A.R.E.: the potential of community-centered archives practice to transform our institutions”**

**Abstract:** Reanimated social movements for liberation in the US and around the world at this historical moment should garner greater attention, care, and involvement by library and archival institutions. Starting from a recognition of our shared goals to advance a more inclusive cultural heritage, we propose a framework of C.A.R.E. approaches in community archives from our location in an institutional context. This presentation/conversation will situate our personal and professional commitments in community-centered archives practice and expand on the practical application of how we do this work alongside partners on our campus and organizations beyond.

**Audra Eagle Yun, MLIS, (she/her)** is Head of Special Collections & Archives and University Archivist at the University of California, Irvine. Her research areas include archival technical services, community-centered archives, and feminist leadership. Audra was selected to join the 2013 cohort of the Archives Leadership Institute. She has been a member of the Society of American Archivists since 2008 and was elected to serve on the SAA Council from 2017 to 2020. She is a coauthor of “Guidelines for Efficient Archival Processing in the University of California Libraries” (2012; 2020) as well as a contributor to the 2019 Statement of Principles for Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS). Audra is the editor of *Archival Accessioning* (SAA, 2021).

**Monday, May 2, 2022 (Continued)****Krystal Tribbett, Ph.D.**

**(she/her)** is Curator for Orange County Regional History at the University of California, Irvine. She is especially focused on supporting the creation, preservation, and accessibility of histories underrepresented, misrepresented, or absent from dominant narratives of the region. At UCI, Krystal serves on the steering committee for a number of groups focused on improving the university’s commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion including the UCI End Racism Initiative and the UCI Truth and Racial Healing and Transformation Center. She is a member of Orange County Archives in Action, a community volunteer organization that hosts the OC Archives Bazaar. In 2020, she was named an Andrew W. Mellon Fellow for Diversity, Inclusion & Cultural Heritage (Rare Book School – Mellon Cultural Heritage Fellowship).



**Thuy Vo Dang, Ph.D., (she/her)** is Curator for the Southeast Asian Archive and Research Librarian for Asian American Studies at the University of California, Irvine. She has a Ph.D. in Ethnic Studies from UC San Diego, with expertise on Southeast Asian diaspora, oral history, ethnography and community archives. Coauthor of two books, *Vietnamese in Orange County* (2015) and *A People’s Guide to Orange County* (2022), her work brings ethnic studies and archival studies in dialogue to advance social justice in the historical record and public education. Thuy also serves on the board of directors for Arts OC and the Vietnamese American Arts & Letters Association.



**Monday, May 2, 2022 (Continued)**

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12 - 1 pm **Break**1 - 2:30 pm **Poster Sessions****Call for Presenters: Focusing on Diverse Presenters and Archives for University of Washington Student Chapter**

Cali Vance, Stella Haynes Kiehn, Eleanor Schulz

The last two years have been anything but normal. When the 2021-2022 school year started we were told that classes and meetings were to be held in person. This made all officers in the SAA-UW student chapter very excited because we would have the opportunity to hold different types of events and talk with students who are interested in archives in person. However, these plans quickly changed as the COVID virus changed. Starting Winter quarter 2022 all of our classes and events moved online.

The change to online is not new to us nor too many professionals in the field. We originally planned to have all of our speaker events online for the entire 2021-22 school year to increase accessibility, connect with our online cohort, and bring in presenters from across the state. Thankfully planning for this change of format allowed us to remain focused on our key goal of increasing the diversity of our presentations. This desire arose from the lack of archive centered classes at University of Washington, the lack of diverse representation that we saw as students interested in archives and special collections, and the need to highlight different styles and functions of an archivist. Our first presentation was from three employees at the University of Washington Libraries Special Collection talking about new projects that they are implementing to increase equity and inclusion in the archives. We also wanted to bring in presenters that come from different forms of archives and archives that preserve material from historically and presently oppressed groups. Densho, a Seattle based community archive for Japanese American collections, spoke with us in Winter 2022. We are also in the process of lining up speakers for Winter and Spring quarters to include Native archivists, city and state archivists, and digital archivists.

The push to online events was something that every student expected to happen, but we did not want that to change our drive to seek out more diverse presenters and presentations. As students who started our Master's education in an online format due to COVID, we are accustomed to sudden changes in our schedules. By committing to having all of our speaker events online for 2021-22 we could focus on the presenter and the information being disseminated instead of how to change to a different platform.

**Monday, May 2, 2022 (Poster Session Continued)**

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**Schrodinger's Incunabula**

Sophia Bogle

There is little written about conducting surveys of rare books in Special Collections towards preservation treatments, yet there are many rare books tucked away in archival boxes buried deep in (hopefully) climate-controlled vaults. To know what is going on inside the boxes they must be opened, but before they are shut again, they need to be surveyed.

I was given the charge to create a survey that would give the University of Oregon's Special Collections and University Archives Giustina Director an idea of the extent of the current damage and a way to prioritize the items. On the other side of those decisions, the conservators in the University's Beach Conservation Lab needed specific information to help them to look ahead and to group the treatments to be most efficient.

The survey literature I found focused on issues such as circulation, environmental issues, and treatment choices. These are all external to the item itself. The questions regarding condition ranged from vague: "Wear and tear" and "Other damage" to specifics such as "Loose covers" and "Post-it notes."

I had three goals for this survey. One was to create a survey that would be useful to both archivists and conservators. This required an understanding that there are some terms that may not be understood on both sides. I focused on creating clear communication using agreed-upon terminology through several sources. The second goal was to make the information easily accessible so that it could be built upon in different directions as needed. I broke the information into understandable sections and Excel was used to create the spreadsheets. The third goal was to keep notes explaining the survey so that someone who is not an expert in the field could fill in the blanks with just a little training.

The focus of the survey started with incunabula and has expanded into books from 1500-1601 so far. This is a currently ongoing research project and I expect to have more to report as I follow the items from the survey into the conservation lab. As the world moves forward into the digital age, there is a danger that the more obscure rare books will be forgotten. There is an assumption that they are in archival boxes and therefore they are safe. Meanwhile, some of them are being slowly consumed by their own acidic pages or disintegrated one paper flake at a time. What information is being lost? Digitization can't capture every element of these books. It cannot do text recognition on the handwritten marginalia or capture the feeling of awe when holding a book with illuminated vellum pages. The first step to preserve these rare books is to find out what is in the box.

**Monday, May 2, 2022 (Poster Session Continued)**

**"Thank you...for assisting humble far flung independent researchers like me under all this duress."**

Lauren Goss, Austin Munsell

University of Oregon Libraries Special Collections and University Archives (SCUA) provided over 61,000 free scanned images to researchers from around the world during the first phase of the pandemic (March 2020 - August 2021). During this time, a campus lockdown blocked all researchers from accessing any non-digitized SCUA materials. Recognizing the impact of a closed reading room on accessibility to primary sources, public services and collection management staff quickly pivoted from in person services to remote access via an ad hoc scanning service. The Public Services Librarian worked with researchers to refine their inquiries and identify portions of collections (up to 5 folders) integral to their research. The Collections Manager managed retrieval of identified materials from secured storage and remotely supported student workers in accessing SCUA during lockdown. Effectively, we offered free scans in lieu of an abridged research visit.

To implement this service, undergraduate student workers (normally in public facing roles) were reassigned to perform digital capture on idle KIC Bookeye scanners transferred from the main library. Student workers were trained remotely on image capture and upload of PDF files to the department server. Microsoft Teams served as the platform for remote communication and assignment of scanning tasks. All PDF files (200dpi) were sent to researchers using WeTransfer. The service averaged an 11-day turnaround time even with a small staff of part-time student workers, staggered onsite work schedules, and quarantine protocols for all materials. Researchers were appreciative and grateful for access to materials vital to their research interests. Access to these primary sources meant they could proceed with writing articles, dissertations, and books regardless of geographical constraints. The end of the program coincided with the reopening of the library to the general public and the return of the scanners to use in public areas. Staffing and budgetary constraints prevent SCUA from continuing a similar scanning service in conjunction with the reopened reading room. However, it serves as a more equitable model of future access to primary source materials for all researchers regardless of ability to travel for an in-person research visit.

**Virtual Tours: TBD**

2:30 - 3 pm

**Break**

**Monday, May 2, 2022 (Continued)**

2:30 - 3 pm

**Native American Collections Roundtable Networking Mixer**

Members of the Native American Collections Roundtable [NACR] welcome you to come meet, greet and network! During this session, participants will meet current members of the Roundtable, have the opportunity to introduce themselves and pose organizational questions to members or one another. There will be multiple games AND prizes as well as a preview to the online NACR 2022 Silent Auction! There are a lot of great auction items this year, so please check our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/NWANAC> in addition to joining us at this session.



Photo credit: Oregon State University Special Collections and Archives

**Tuesday, May 3, 2022**

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9:30 - 10:30 am **Session Block 1****Session 1.1      Going Virtual: Reaching new Special Collections users through remote access**

Allee Monheim, Cali Vance, Claire Cannell

On September 9, 2021, University of Washington Libraries Special Collections launched our first remote research service: the Virtual Reading Room (VRR). The VRR consists of a 55 minute Zoom appointment where a user consults material while a staff member operates a document camera and handles material. The VRR was originally intended to be a pilot project to last through December 2021 (the end of the University of Washington's Fall Quarter). Our goal was to have a method of providing access before we reopened for in-person services, as well as to have a backup method of access in the event of another shutdown. However, the VRR's popularity exceeded all expectations. There was no drop in demand or appointments after we reopened for in-person research - in fact, the VRR was booked to capacity more often than the actual reading room. By the end of Fall Quarter, over 75% of all available appointments had been booked. We began to realize that the creation of this service had allowed us to expand our user base and provide wider access to more collections.

Shortly after it became clear that the VRR was a success, Special Collections began looking for other applications for this setup. It has been heavily used in teaching, especially after many of UW's classes went remote following the surge of COVID-19 Omicron in January 2022.

In this presentation, we will share the results of our user survey to show how this service has allowed us to expand our user pool in ways that have impacted not only access, but collections and teaching as well. We will also share some of the future applications that UW Special Collections is considering.

**Tuesday, May 3, 2022 (Session Block 1 Continued)**

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**Session 1.2      Out of Order: Abandoning Original Order for Better Access**

Jolene Kennah, Rosemary Austin

Archivists are trained to respect provenance and records' original order when processing, but what happens when the original order hinders access to the information contained in the records? Or what if you want to bring forward topics of high researcher interest within extremely large collections? In this session we will discuss two different cases in which we re-ordered records for easier researcher access.

One example comes from the Ted Stevens Foundation which holds an extremely large collection of congressional papers from the late Senator Ted Stevens. His papers alone number roughly 4,100 boxes. These have been intellectually arranged into thirteen series and numerous sub-series, however it still makes research an onerous process. The collection is also closed to public access at this time due to ongoing processing and cataloging. However, December 18, 2021 marked the 50th anniversary of the extremely influential legislation the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), and the Foundation planned on making the ANCSA-related portion of Senator Stevens' papers available to the public. Due to how widespread his papers collection is, the decision was made to rearrange his collection into a more accessible format - thus the rearrangement project was started. This presentation will discuss how, why, and what the final product was for the Foundation's choice to rearrange the ANCSA Papers and how it helps researchers and the public better access this collection.

The other case comes from the National Park Service Alaska Regional Office. Records from the office of the Subsistence Program coordinator, who held that position from 1989 to 2019, were in the archives backlog. Subsistence in some park units is codified by not only ANCSA, but by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). Implementation has been guided by federal and state regulations which can make for some complicated decision-making, all documented in the records. The records were prioritized for processing because of the high level of interest in subsistence uses of resources on Park Service lands in Alaska. Yet the collection was very unorganized and relatively large (21 record cartons). The extent and anticipated high research interest in the materials were factors in the decision to impose an order that would enable better access and set a framework for accretions.

We know that each collection is unique and may require a unique processing procedure. Not every collection should be reordered, but it is useful in certain cases. The two examples discussed here provide case studies for why and how archivists may decide to reorganize a collection.

10:30 - 11 am **Break**

**Tuesday, May 3, 2022 (Continued)**

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11 am - 12 pm **Session Block 2****Session 2.1 Safe and Supported Work: Applying Trauma-Informed Care to Archival Practice**

Alexa Goff

The global scale of trauma we have all recently endured during the pandemic has confirmed the necessity to normalize discussion of the impact of trauma, both direct and vicarious, on our labor and wellbeing. Staff and users from marginalized communities, or whose trauma may be documented by archival records, have faced this vulnerability for far longer. To begin to attend to the gaps in emotional support set out in archival theory, methods, and practice, we must first shift the focus of archival work away from being a records-centered practice and re-orient to a people-centered practice.

Following a call to action set out by Sloan et al., this paper echoes the need for labor support and a cultural shift towards empathy and care in the archival community, particularly around the experiences of working with traumatic records, affected survivors of trauma, and the emotional dimensions of archival work.

To achieve this radical and reformative work, archivists can apply trauma-informed care, a framework borrowed from social services and healthcare settings, to improve safety, support, and wellness in archival practices. Being trauma-informed does not mean archivists will be providing therapeutic care; rather, it means recognizing the diverse physical and emotional needs of individuals and groups in our communities—and actively working towards making services and spaces safe and empowering for all. This paper aims to expand the community of practice of trauma-informed archivists in the Northwest by introducing the literature and standards of trauma and trauma-informed care, identifying tools that can be used to scope and advocate for this type of care work in our organizations, and, finally, suggesting examples and methods to implement and apply trauma-informed care in our daily work.

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Sloan, Katie; Vanderfluit, Jennifer; and Douglas, Jennifer (2019) "Not 'Just My Problem to Handle': Emerging Themes on Secondary Trauma and Archivists," *Journal of Contemporary Archival Studies*: Vol. 6, Article 20.

**Tuesday, May 3, 2022 (Session Block 2 Continued)**

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**Session 2.2: Affordable and Accessible Preservation Actions - Tips for Sustainable Collections Care**

Tara Puyat

A common problem faced by cultural heritage organizations in the Northwest United States is limited access to resources and to trained preservation practitioners, in comparison to other parts of the country. Professional conservators tend to be concentrated in high density, urban areas, and there are regions where there are no practicing conservators, resulting in higher costs for organizations needing to access these services. Many untold stories are housed in smaller, localized archives and museums that are focused on the history of their town or county. These types of organizations are frequently underfunded, with many being run by volunteers since they do not have the resources to hire dedicated staff, which compounds the problem. Preservation initiatives related to collections care are often difficult to sustain because institutions have barriers in terms of affordability and accessibility to the tools and skills needed.

The aim of this presentation is to provide foundational preservation information to anybody involved in the care of archival collections by providing tips for accessing resources and practical advice that is within reach for smaller institutions, but will also be useful for larger organizations. Information will include affordable collections care suggestions, such as environmental monitoring and IPM, that most institutions can undertake with reasonable expenditure and minimal guidance. In addition, advice will be provided on finding targeted training so that helpful preservation skills can be acquired as needed. As a takeaway, a Resource Guide will be shared to provide even novices with a tangible starting point that takes into account the difficulty of access and high cost of archival supplies. Participants will be empowered and ready to make the preservation improvements that their institution needs in an accessible and sustainable way, all in the service of continuing their missions.

12 - 1 pm

**Break**

**Tuesday, May 3, 2022 (Continued)**

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1 - 2 pm      **A Work in Progress: Implementing Protocols for Native American Archival Materials in the Pacific Northwest**  
Steven Bingo, Selena Ortega-Chiolero, River Freemont, Elizabeth Joffrion

The Protocols for Native American Archival Materials describes itself as a work in progress out of a realization that best practices may need to be adapted depending upon the histories of specific collections, institutions, and Tribal nations. In other words, the practical work of implementing the Protocols needs to be fleshed out both collectively and on a case-by-case basis. While some Northwest institutions have had an ongoing regional engagement with the Protocols, others may be just beginning. This panel invites questions and participation from audience members regardless of the length of their engagement in Indigenous / settler collaborations. While the Protocols represent a significant step forward for non-Indigenous institutions, it will also impact the work of Indigenous institutions. The panel includes archivists from both Indigenous and non-Indigenous institutions so that participants may gain a better understanding on what the process of implementation looks like from both perspectives. Panelists will discuss work related to access and repatriation, resources available to support archivists, potential gaps to address, the ongoing need to support Tribal sovereignty through the Protocols and roadblocks experienced in the process. The panel will also include an audiovisual presentation of individuals impacted by the collaborative work described by the Protocols.

2 - 2:30 pm      **Break**



Photo credit: University of Idaho Library  
Special Collections and Archives

**Tuesday, May 3, 2022 (Continued)**

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2:30 - 4 pm      **Session Block 3**

**Session 3.1: Combo Session Lightning Talks**

**Library and Archives Specific Antiracism Work: From Taskforce to Reimagined Committee**

Erin Baucom

In the fall of 2020 the Dean of the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library at the University of Montana instituted an Antiracism Task Force. The Task Force was charged to identify and address racism and implicit bias in the Mansfield Library's policies, practices, and behaviors. The Task Force was also asked to explore how the Mansfield Library could proactively respond and take preventative measures to oppose racism. The Task Force was granted a small budget that was to be used to enlist the services of outside consultants which was spent on a Library specific antiracism training and BIPOC reviewers for the final recommendations produced by the Task Force. The Task Force completed its work in the Spring of 2021 and has become an ongoing effort as part of the Mansfield Library's reimagined Diversity Committee. This presentation will discuss the work of the Task Force from the point of view of a member. The discussion will include our initial problems defining the scope of the project, coming to grips with the fact that task force was made up of almost entirely white members, determining how to learn about and come to a common understanding of racism and the development of the final recommendations. The discussion will also cover the final recommendations created by the Task Force and reviewed by paid consultants from the BIPOC community in Missoula, and the current status of those recommendations.

**Preserving video on a shoestring**

Marty Blackson

Central Washington University Archives and Special collections were given several old video tape decks by the public affairs department. We also got a small grant and purchased a machine to convert the tapes to digital files. I propose to make a video talking about the creation of the transfer station and our processes for digitizing and storing the videos. The video could be shown at the conference, and I could be available for virtual questions at the end. The video should be under 15 minutes.

**Tuesday, May 3, 2022 (Session Block 3 Continued)**

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**Developing Records Management Workflows for the University of Montana**

Donna McCrea

The University of Montana (UM) does not currently have a records management program, nor does it have dedicated records management staff. Individual campus offices retain their own physical and electronic inactive records, and there is no formal process for ensuring that records of long-term value are identified and transferred to the university's Archives and Special Collections. Donna McCrea was awarded a sabbatical for Spring 2022 to research and recommend practical workflows to facilitate the management of university records of archival value. During this presentation, McCrea will provide an overview of the current status of records management at UM and share the ideas and recommendations her research has generated to date. As this is a research-in-progress presentation, McCrea is especially interested in feedback and ideas from session attendees.

**Digital Stewardship Training**

Lotus Norton-Wisla

OCLC's WebJunction and Washington State University have developed free on-demand courses for small public libraries and tribal archives, libraries, and museums (TALMs) wanting to create, manage, preserve and share digital collections in collaboration with their communities (overview available here: <https://www.webjunction.org/news/webjunction/digital-stewardship-training-courses.html>).

In this talk, I will walk through the digital stewardship courses, highlighting topics such as planning, policies, community engagement, partnerships, digitization, description, archival storage, and providing access to digital collections.

In the courses, participants will gain an understanding of the lifecycle of digital stewardship, and the range of knowledge, skills, and resources needed to successfully plan, implement, preserve, manage, and share digital collections. This presentation is for anyone working or volunteering at a library, archive, or museum, or other organization who wishes learn more about the free courses and how they could be helpful in their digital stewardship work. These individuals might be undertaking or participating in digitization and digital preservation projects in a leading, planning, or operational role.

This training is adapted from the Tribal Digital Stewardship Cohort Program originally created by Washington State University's Center for Digital Scholarship and Curation for staff of TALMs. I will highlight origins of the original training through perspectives of participants in the original program, sharing powerful examples from TALM staff about how their digital stewardship work supports the

**Tuesday, May 3, 2022 (Session Block 3 Continued)**

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needs of their communities. An important part of each course are interview videos with digital stewardship practitioners, along with practical examples from their work. Through this lightning talk, I'll share about the courses, where to find them, the collaborative creation process, and how I've learned from tribal librarians, archivists, and other information professionals through the past trainings and the development of these courses.

2:30 - 3:30 pm **Session Block 3****Session 3.2: Leaning In To Efficiency: Process Improvement in Accessioning and Processing**

Anne Jenner, Jodi Allison-Bunnell, Emily Hughes Dominick

Over the last 15-20 years, archives have put great effort into reconsidering processing and making it more efficient. However, the profession lacks many examples of applying process improvement strategies from other fields that are proven to increase productivity. We find the Lean process revision applied to preparing archival collections yields transformative results, including measurable improvements in reducing processing time and resource use; adherence to standards; and coordination of multiple people and functions across departments. This session presents the experiences of two Northwest academic repositories that implemented a Lean process for archival workflows. In 2021, Special Collections at Montana State University Library Archives partnered with the Mauch Group and Cresta Solutions to conduct a Lean redesign of the processes for preparing collections. During the redesign, balancing structure and "specialness" became primary to the work of the sixteen-person team. They were motivated to implement the Lean process by the experience of the University of Washington Special Collections who have used Lean process improvement tools for several workflows starting in 2014.

The Lean redesign processes at UW and MSU occurred at very different organizations and more than five years apart. However, both processes share some common themes: collections stewardship, the function of standards compliance, and developing and sustaining organizational change. In both cases, the Lean redesign resulted in significant positive outcomes along with challenges that should inform similar projects at other institutions.

Archivists from each repository will discuss the Lean methodology and the application in their shops. The session will also present practical strategies for implementing a process improvement method like Lean. Attendees are encouraged to join the discussion.

**Wednesday, May 4, 2022**

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9:30 - 10:30 am **Session Block 4****Session 4.1 "Significant Properties": Tracing and Archiving Interpretive Change in National Park Service Media**

Rebecca Gordon

Over the past several years, many individual parks in the US National Parks Service have retired older audiovisual stories shown in their visitor centers for newer media that intentionally update interpretations of the parks, defining them at least in part as indigenous spaces. Though Harpers Ferry Center, the Media Production center for the NPS, keeps the original media produced for each park and has records on the media types, it is not clear which entities hold the records detailing how media changes at each park were made, or if such records exist. Indeed, the lack of documentation about the evolution of Parks' Service interpretative media has been remarked on by National Parks archivists themselves.

Not surprisingly, Canadian archivists have been at the forefront in understanding how indigenous knowledge and memories can and must become part of the archives, including what indigenous knowledge withholds from western-trained researchers. This work—especially the scholarship of Krista McCracken and the Association of Canadian Archivists regarding how to act on the findings of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission—informs how I understand what individual parks within the NPS have begun to do. This paper traces how interpretive media at a number of NPS sites has been archived at the federal level—or not, taking Whitman Mission in Walla Walla as a case study.

The relationship between US National Parks and Native Americans has been an active area of research for some time; to a smaller extent, so has the study of National Parks films and visitor information centers. How the two overlap and how film preservation and culturally inclusive cataloguing play a role in the ways the parks are understood externally (by the public) and internally (by the NPS itself) is less developed. At present, there seems to be no emphasis at the National Park Service on its own story of itself; but changes of such magnitude—literally reframing the US's origin story—signify a kind of “significant property,” and belong in the archive as well.

**Wednesday, May 4, 2022 (Session Block 4 Continued)**

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**Session 4.2 Visioning a Northwest Digital Video and Moving Image Repository**

Ross Fuqua, Maureen Flanagan Battistella, Andrew Weaver, Hannah Palin, Chris Petersen, Melodie Moore, Christopher Lucas

The stories that make up our collective Pacific Northwest heritage are legion and they can be found in television and radio studios, film production bureaus, community and home video collections, in libraries and academic programs at colleges and universities. They exist in many formats among them text, image, artifacts, ephemera, sound and video. The standards, processes and infrastructure of establishing and maintaining digital archives of image and text files and ephemeral and artifact collections have been the subject of significant study over the last five years. It is time to have that same conversation about video and sound files. This panel will assess the need for a regional digital video repository, the challenges of establishing and maintaining these at the institutional level and begin the conversation that can serve to envision a shared, data driven and harvestable regional repository.

10:30 - 11 am **Break**11 am - 12 pm **Session Block 5****Session 5.1 Amplificando Historias in the Walla Walla Valley with The Listeners Project: Queremos Escucharte**

Ben Murphy, Tia Kramer, Erik Muro, Brandon Martinez Serrano

The Listeners Project: Queremos Escucharte is a place-based project promoting listening as a tool for building community, empowering one another, and celebrating our lives. We record and share stories from communities who have been historically left out and whose stories are lost or misrepresented in narratives from our location of Walla Walla, Washington. The Listeners Project: Queremos Escucharte is a collaboration between the Colectivo de Arte Social (a group of creative immigrants and immigrant advocates from the Walla Walla Immigrant Rights Coalition), the Whitman College and Northwest Archives, and the Walla Walla Public Library. In this panel, we will discuss the multiyear history of collaborative efforts that led to the creation of the project, and situate the collaboration in the dual contexts of archives and socially-engaged art. As an archival project, The Listeners Project: Queremos Escucharte seeks to add previously underrepresented voices to the collections of the

**Wednesday, May 4, 2022 (Session Block 5 Continued)**

Whitman College and Northwest Archives, specifically those of Latino/a/x and Spanish-speaking community members. While institutionally housed at Whitman, we will also discuss how the project is inspired by community-based archives and community-based learning. Similarly, our project draws upon, but is in many ways distinct from, oral history methodology. As a participatory project, we have a team of twelve trained Listeners. Any community member can sign up to be interviewed by a Listener, and we provide interview kits with digital recorders available to check out from the Walla Walla Public Library. Relatively unique to the project is our emphasis on socially engaged art. The project seeks not only to collect, share and amplify stories, but to activate those stories in creative performances and installations in the community. Our panel will include an archivist, a Walla Walla-based social practice artist, a volunteer member of our Listening team, and two Whitman student fellows. The goal of our panel will be: 1) to share what we have learned engaging in an interdisciplinary, community-based project, as well as the challenges we have faced in these efforts; 2) to encourage archivists to think creatively about outreach and community engagement; and 3) to include reflections from the undergraduate fellows who have participated in this work.

**Session 5.2      Managing an Artist's Archive: Documenting a Creative Life**  
Rebecca Gilbert, Jennifer Viviano

Representatives from X Gallery will offer a presentation about working with artists' archives, touching on the importance of career documentation, collection preservation and storage, management, legacy planning, and stewardship specific to artwork collections.

As an artist's career advances, documentation of the artworks, exhibits, collectors, correspondence, and personal papers often falls to the wayside in service of creating in the studio. Suddenly there is a decade or two of materials to deal with, which can be overwhelming and time consuming to sort through. If the collection has not had attentive custodians, proper storage and preservation of the artwork also suffers. Often the knowledge that makes this work valuable as cultural history is lost when the artist is no longer able to care for their legacy.

Without current documentation and inventory of their studio work, heirs or estate administrators are challenged to navigate storage and/or dispersal. In the case of an unplanned bequest to a museum, cultural center, or historical society, this places undue burden and requires specialized knowledge and time. In many cases, the necessity to make hasty decisions results in loss of the artist's personal legacy, as well as a loss to our cultural heritage.

**Wednesday, May 4, 2022 (Session Block 5 Continued)**

X Gallery works with artists, estates, institutions, and collectors to gain intellectual and physical control of their collections and to define the next step in their life cycle. Initial arrangement and description is informed by archival standards, making artists' collections and papers more easily assessed for acquisition and easing the process of accession or dispersal. While our view is that this aids in the preservation of the art and culture of the Northwest, we are also aware that it simply eases the burden and expands the capacity of both individual heirs and collecting entities to appreciate the value of their bequests.

12 - 1 pm	<b>Break</b>
1 - 2 pm	<b>Native American Collections Roundtable business meeting</b>
2 - 3 pm	<b>Break</b>
3 - 5 pm	<b>3rd Annual NWA Archival Screening Night</b> Libby Hopfauf, Paul Siple, Jen Zook

MIPoPS would like to host the third annual NWA Archival Screening Night this year at the virtual annual meeting of the Northwest Archivists. Following the same format as the past two screenings, this presentation would be an event of entertainment and awareness for archival moving images, featuring film and video recordings from archival collections. In 2019 and 2021, the screenings created a valuable opportunity for NWA archives to showcase the rich moving image recordings preserved at their institutions. MIPoPS would put out an open call to all archivist members of NWA to submit video and film content housed at their organization. Archivists will be encouraged (but not required) to select submission materials that are in line with the 2022 conference theme "Not to be Forgotten: the resiliency and sustainability of archives to preserve untold stories." As noted in NWA's description, "relevant topics could include building community connections or overcoming societal, economic, or environmental changes or barriers." A deadline would be set for submissions and once that date passed, MIPoPS staff would review the content and select clips to be included in the screening to ensure robust and diverse programming. Priority would be given to content adhering to the theme, as well as content created by and about BIPOC, AAPI and Indigenous communities in the NWA region. Archivists with materials included in the presentation will be given the opportunity to record an introduction to the content to provide context to the

**Wednesday, May 4, 2022 (Continued)**

creators, preservation process, footage contents, etc. In 2019, these introductions were presented in person, but in last year's virtual environment, MIPoPS queued the introductory video recordings to play prior to the associated archival footage.

MIPoPS would program, edit and present the compiled footage as a polished video (with a running time of 1 - 2 hours) as part of the NWA virtual conference.



Photo credit: Alaska State Archives



Photo credit: University of Montana-Missoula

**Thursday, May 5, 2022**

9:30 - 10:30 am **Session Block 6**

**Session 6.1 Whose Story? Decolonizing the Narrative through Grassroots Archiving**

Andrea Floersheimer, Dawn Randazzo

Chugachmiut is a tribal consortium that serves seven tribal communities in the Chugach Region of Alaska. Just over a year ago, the Chugachmiut Archive was created to inventory, organize, and digitize records and artifacts central to Chugachmiut's story. Unlike some other museums and archives, the items in Chugachmiut's collection were not collected for external anthropological or research purposes. The items represent internal Sugpiaq and Eyak revitalization efforts and reflect the archive's foundational purpose to promote cultural preservation. The process of organizing the archive's holdings has generated countless moments of connection as historic records and items of cultural heritage are made accessible to families and community members. At the same time, the process has exposed the layers of loss that created these separations in the first place. The archive's journey and purpose has compelled our team to grapple with a central question: when so much knowledge has been intentionally or unintentionally suppressed and extracted, how can a budding tribal archive actively affirm community ownership of cultural knowledge and memory?

Our archive is embarking on several projects to answer this question. The first project involves commissioning regional artists to create cultural art and, more importantly, document the subsurface cultural knowledge connected to each art piece. Through this project, an important archival perspective is presented - Rather than focusing solely on preserving the surface culture expressed through the physical art or artifacts, the emphasis is also placed on preserving the intangible aspects of culture embedded, which is central to the Chugach people's worldview that was almost destroyed. Each artist will be interviewed about their artistic process and about their art's cultural significance to add even more informational depth to the archive. The project will also encourage collaboration between master and emerging artists to ensure that their knowledge and skills are not lost to the past, but instead passed to the next generation.

Our archive is also in the process of developing structures to ensure that community input directs archive programmatic development as well as the protocol for information collection and preservation. This started through informal conversations and quarterly meetings with the elders from our region, which helped determine our CMS design and the development of our digitization policy for culturally sensitive materials.

As we grew, we also recognized that we needed a regular platform to share what was happening internally within the archive and ask for support and feedback from our community members. We developed an "Open Archive" zoom meeting series

**Thursday, May 5, 2022 (Session Block 6 Continued)**

every Friday at 9:00 AM to work with our regional Elders and culture-bearers to create descriptions for archive holdings, work on translation projects, and receive direction on various projects. These sessions have been more popular than we anticipated, and have generated deeply meaningful community resources. They have also intensified our understanding of how we can strengthen our archive and affirm community ownership through collaboration.

We believe that these experiences within our small archive meaningfully contribute to the larger conversation about community archival ownership, especially surrounding the topics of collaboration, community building, engagement, advocacy, and innovation in archival stewardship. Our presentation will encourage archivists to think about the relationship between preservation, intangible aspects of culture, community identity, and ways that archives can play an important role not only in preservation of the past, but in cultural revitalization for the future.

**Session 6.2 Making the Switch to Open Source in Archives West**  
Majja Anderson, Tamara Marnell

In January 2022, the Orbis Cascade Alliance transitioned Archives West from proprietary software to BaseX, an open source database engine. In this session, Alliance central staff will discuss the factors that influenced the decision to move to open source. The change will be contextualized within the consortium's explicit commitment to open strategies. Speakers will highlight the pros and cons of proprietary vs. open source systems, and explain how these distinctions were weighted in decision-making. The session will define "open" in context of libraries, archives, and consortia. It will present strategic concepts as well as practical guidelines for evaluating open source software, which will be broadly informative for archivists considering open source for their own databases and repositories. The speakers, who were respectively trained as an archivist and a systems librarian, will also discuss their collaborative process and how to "speak each other's language." The session will be of interest to archivists who are actively considering migrating to open source systems, archivists seeking to initiate or improve collaboration with systems staff, and those who want a more general introduction to principles and concepts of open.

10:30 - 11 am **Break**

**Thursday, May 5, 2022 (Continued)**

11 am - 12 pm **Session Block 7**

**Session 7.1 Indigenous Knowledge Embedded in Stone – Contextualizing Native and Indigenous Knowledge and Praxis in the Donald E. Crabtree Lithic Comparative Collection**  
Marco Seiferle-Valencia, Jylisa Doney

In spring 2021, the University of Idaho Library and Alfred W. Bowers Laboratory of Anthropology received a Digitizing Hidden Collections grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources to digitize the Donald E. Crabtree Lithic Comparative Collection, a preeminent collection of lithic (stone) artifacts created by Crabtree as well as documents, slides, and photographs related to his work. Crabtree is himself non-Native, however he is regarded as one of the world's exemplary creators and inventors of flintknapping tools and techniques. This grant is now underway and has presented many interesting philosophical and technical questions. This presentation will focus on some of the unique challenges presented by the provenance of this collection, as well as related questions about how to combine disciplinary practices amongst complimentary but distinct fields.

This session will explore how we have approached and resolved questions such as:

- What is the best way to meaningfully engage Native and Indigenous stakeholders on a project like the Crabtree collection which simultaneously contains Native knowledge and techniques, but where the items themselves are not actually Native belongings?
- What is our role as a land grant institution in respecting both the intellectual heritage of these objects as Indigenous, while understanding that we were effectively asking contemporary Indigenous and Native people to engage with a potentially appropriative collection?
- And can any of these dilemmas be meaningfully resolved or engaged with through the contemporary praxis of digital collections such as assembling advisory boards, requesting input, or co-creating contextual materials?
- In projects with competing or contrasting disciplinary digitization practices, in this case archeology and archival science, what practice or knowledge should be applied?

Our session will explore our answers to these questions in the context of creating and starting our grant process and implementation. We believe that sharing our process for engaging with these questions, as well as discussing our own successes and challenges, will push anthropology/archaeology and archival/library science toward greater honesty, openness, and collaboration when creating digital collections with unique embedded or embodied knowledge.

**Thursday, May 5, 2022 (Session Block 7 Continued)**

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**Session 7.2 DV Rescue! Lessons Learned and Outcomes from Battling DV  
Obsolescence**  
Libby Hopfauf, Dave Rice

Falling in between the substantial eras of analog video tape and digital audiovisual files, DV tape was a transitional format which has not been sufficiently addressed by research and development in audiovisual preservation. Whereas preservation communities bring substantial expertise on the digitization of analog videotape and on the preservation of digital files, there are few resources or tools to support the migration of data from the surfaces of DV tapes into digital files.

Since May 2019, MIPoPS and RiceCapades has worked on the NEH funded DVRescue project, developing the procedures, tools and documentation to assist audiovisual archivists with preserving their DV videotapes. Through this work, we have developed, tested and modified a variety of tools and documentation that encompass a set of best practices we recommend to the greater archival community for all aspects of DV videotape preservation, including capturing, troubleshooting, analysing, and quality control.

The panelists, all participants in the DV Rescue project, will share findings, discuss the challenges, and provide demonstrations of newly established workflows, tools and resources. The panelists, whose perspectives span broadcast archives, community archives and academic libraries, will seek to demystify the entire process of planning, maintaining and troubleshooting in-house DV digitization projects and discuss future work building off of their discoveries. The audience will gain a clearer understanding of how to integrate the DVRescue tools into their current preservation workflow, resources available to aid this work, as well as how the knowledge gained from this project will inform and support the second phase of the project, applying these procedures into other digital-analog preservation work. Demonstrations will feature key components of DVRescue project deliverables, including:

- dvcapture: a tool to facilitate the most complete and accurate transfer of DV video from tapes to files.
- dvanalysis: support visualization of uncorrected DV data, including categorizing DV transfer errors, illuminating when selective re-transfer may be most likely to offer improvements, and providing a method to easily distinguish authentic DV data, from error concealment techniques, and unconcealed damage (using dvmerge).
- dvguidance: universal training materials and tools that address a range of learning styles and skill levels. One of the main goals of the DVRescue project is to create open source tools for the greater archival community, coupled with interfaces and documentation that makes their use intuitive and accessible to all skill levels and learning styles.

**Thursday, May 5, 2022 (Continued)**

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12 - 1 pm      **Break**1 - 2:30 pm      **NWA business meeting****END OF CONFERENCE**

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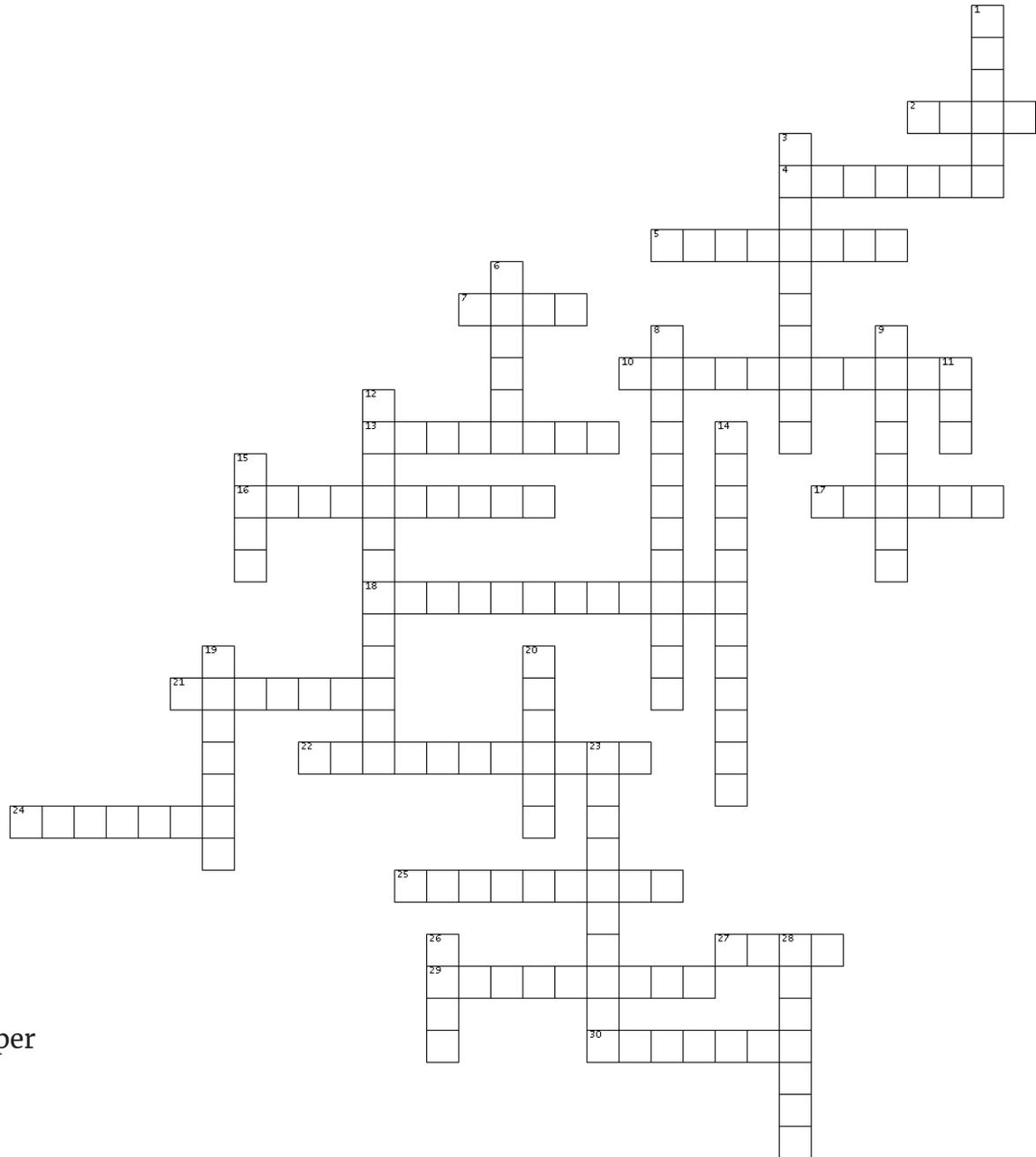
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ACROSS

- 2. A patron
- 4. A display
- 5. Relative \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. An object complete in itself
- 10. Organization and \_\_\_\_\_
- 13. Larger than normal
- 16. The origin
- 17. A pH of 3
- 18. To make copies
- 21. The unprocessed (we all have one)
- 22. Originating
- 24. Abbr. federal publications
- 25. Changing from white to cream or brown
- 27. Abbr. a descriptive standard
- 29. An acquisition
- 30. A principle theme of a work

DOWN

- 1. The quantity
- 3. A transfer agreement
- 6. A shelved area of storage
- 8. Passionate family searchers
- 9. Just scan it
- 11. Abbr. This regional organization
- 12. The only archivist
- 14. Container with metal edge
- 15. Abbr. minimum processing for access
- 19. Discoloration of metal
- 20. Small, irregular, brown blemishes on paper
- 23. Managers of the historic record
- 26. \_\_\_\_\_ use
- 28. Surrounds material creation



**Special Thanks to:**

**2022 Program Committee**

Amy Thompson (Chair)  
Sara Piasecki  
Courtney Berge

**2022 Virtual Arrangements Committee**

Lourdes Johnson (Chair)  
Andrew Weaver

**Virtual conference platform: Whova**

Conference print program layout and design by Amy Thompson.



**The Northwest Archivists, Inc. is a regional association of professional archivists, users of archives, and others interested in the preservation and use of archival materials in the Pacific Northwest United States, including Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. The organization holds a general meeting once a year with a program to enhance professional development and networking among archivists throughout the region.**

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