

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
Public History Newsletter
2019

CONTENTS:

Student Spotlight

Internship Placement

**Class and Faculty
Projects**

Alumni

Stay in Touch

Get Involved

**Compiled by:
Tracy K'Meyer
Emily Tingle**



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



NCPH History Relevance Conference 2019

On Friday, November 8th, graduate students Jill Dunagan, Olivia Raymond, Emily Tingle, and undergraduates Hannah Bishop and Emma Johansen, participated in the National Council of Public History mini-convention at Conner Prairie in Indiana, a living history museum outside of Indianapolis. The conference was part of a series of events sponsored by the history relevance initiative (historyrelevance.com). In addition to hearing the presentations, the students had the opportunity to network with public history professionals from around the country and join in conversations that are significant to the direction in which the field is moving. The Department of History supported the student's attendance by providing transportation and covering registration costs.



Elizabeth Standridge

Home is Not a House

In preparation for an exhibit on housing insecurity at the Louisville Public Library, I conducted four oral history interviews with five homeless people. We talked about their lives, their experience with homelessness, their view of the Permanent Supportive Housing program, and finally their ideas about the meaning of “home.” I then chose particularly salient excerpts from the interviews and assembled them into an audio compilation to be played as a part of the exhibit. These interviews were by far my favorite part of creating the exhibit as they allowed people who had experienced homelessness themselves to share their stories. The oral histories were also accessioned into the University of Louisville Archives and Special Collections, making their stories and thoughts on homelessness and the Permanent Supportive Housing program a part of the historical record.



HOME IS NOT A HOUSE

A History of Housing Security and Homelessness in Louisville



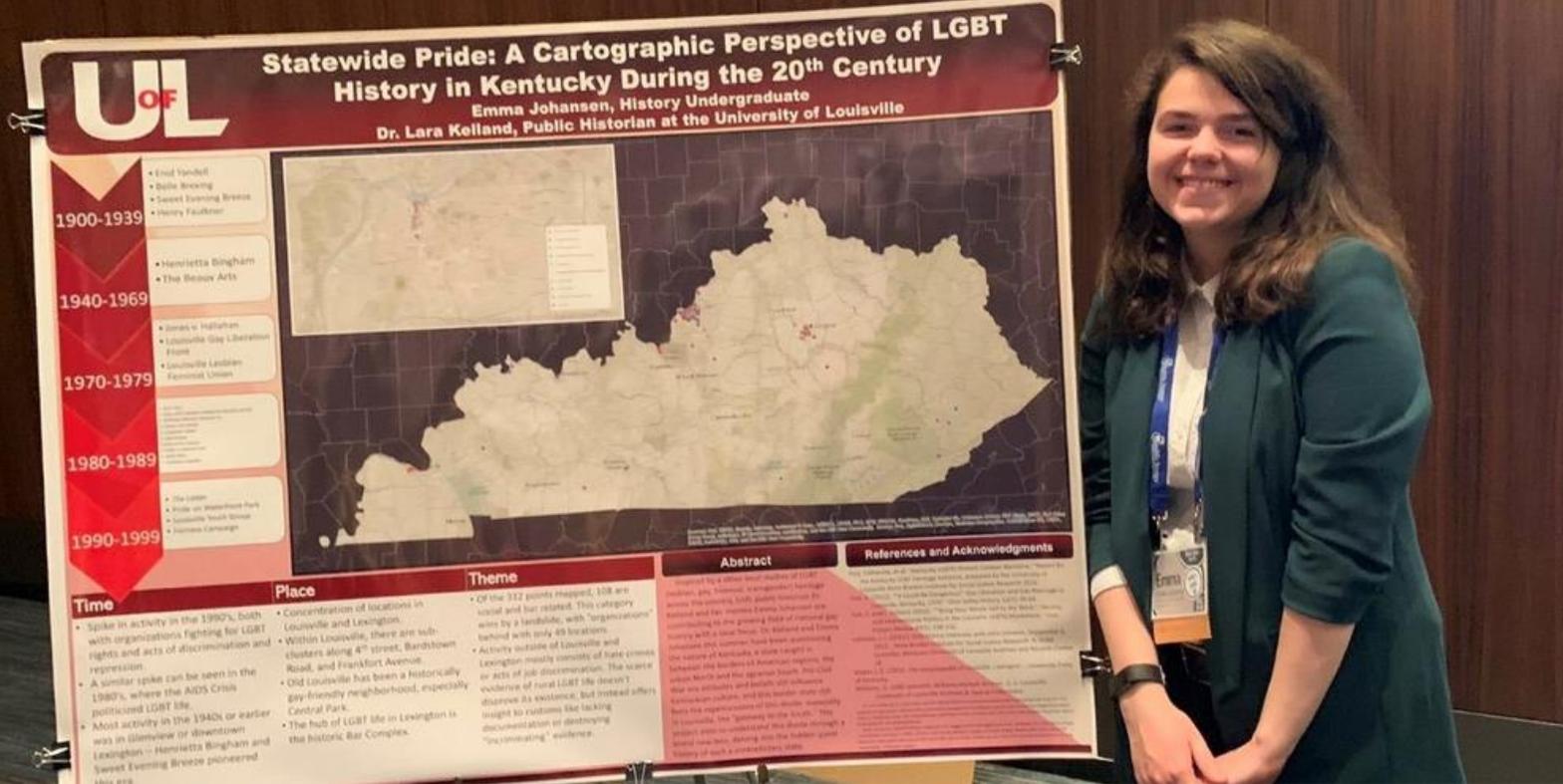
OCTOBER 14 - DECEMBER 1, 2019 • MAIN LIBRARY • 301 YORK ST.
GALLERY RECEPTION: OCTOBER 26, 3-4:30PM • INFO: LFPL.ORG

 DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

 LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE
 ANNE BRADEN INSTITUTE

With contributions from the Ball and Drag Scene Strength and Needs Assessment Project
University of Louisville Kent School of Social Work



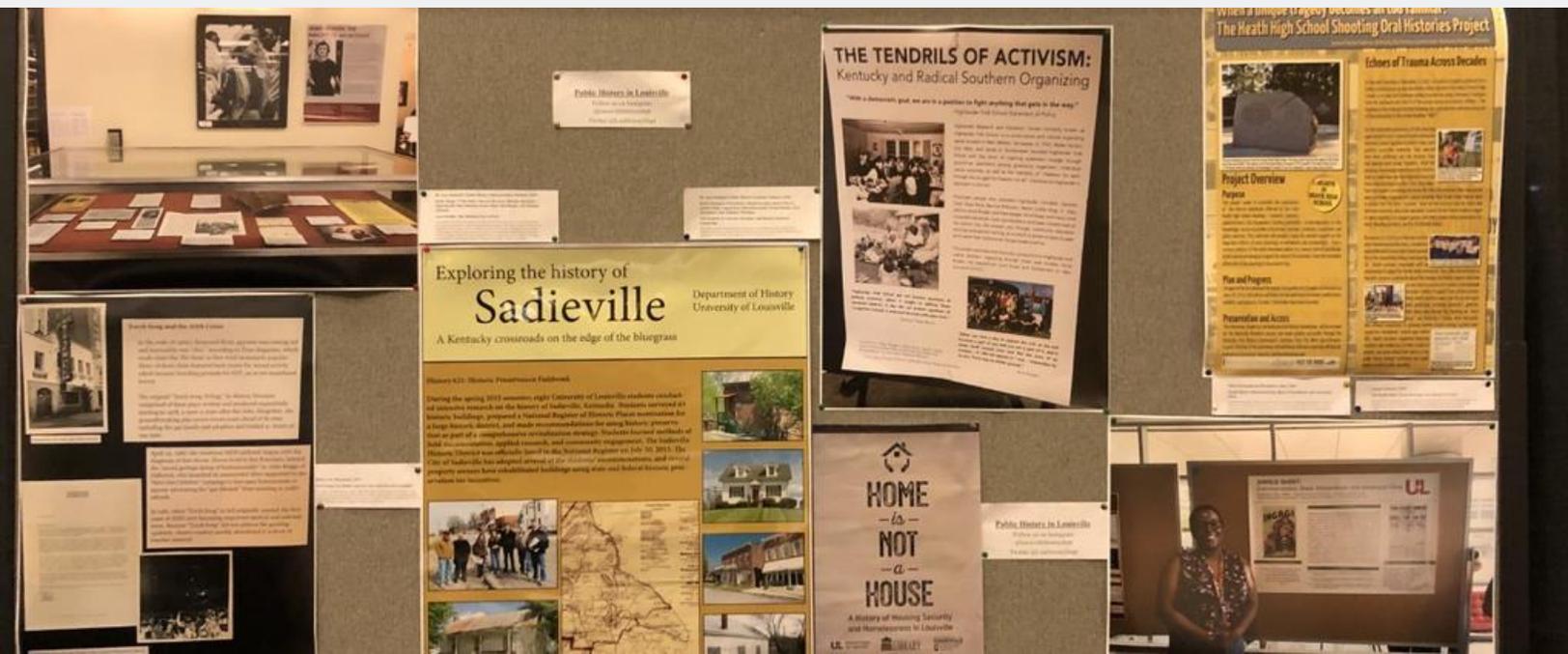
Emma Johansen

For my Commonwealth Center for Humanities and Society internship I worked in the Filson Historical Society's Digital Collections. I digitized portions of the collections and created multiple digital exhibits available to the public using Omeka and the Dublin Core metadata system. Most particularly, I worked with the Filson's collection of sheet music, and I'm publishing an online exhibit on female composers from Kentucky. I also completed a side project researching Enid Yandell, a Louisville sculptor who studied under August Rodin and was a group member of "The White Rabbits," a collective of female artists from around the world in Paris. My previous public history experience includes working with Dr. Lara Kelland to produce a research poster mapping the LGBT experience in Kentucky.



Emily Tingle

I curated an exhibit for the Southern Historical Association conference that was held here in Louisville in November 2019. I collected projects from current students and alumni to showcase the amazing public history work that is being done at the University of Louisville. I also collaborated with local public history institutions, such as the Filson Historical Society, the Frazier History Museum, Historic Locust Grove and many others to encourage the attendees of the conference to explore the rich public history experiences that the city of Louisville has to offer.





INGAGI
THE MOST SENSATIONAL PICTURE EVER FILMED!

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

- What is the role of African women in "racial adventure" films?
- How did the African-American community of Louisville come together to ban a dehumanizing film?

BACKGROUND:

Released on March 15, 1930, *Ingagi* lead audiences on a safari into the "dark continent" of Africa. Produced by Congo Pictures, *Ingagi* contended tribes of "Africans" sacrificed women to giant gorillas, who gave birth to half-human apes. The film is part of a long tradition of "racial adventure films" such as *The Blonde Captive* (1931), *Tarzan, the Ape Man* (1932), and most famously, *King Kong* (1933). Central to these films is the threat of miscegenation, or racial mixing. African-American newspapers like *The Pittsburgh Courier*, *The Chicago Defender*, and *The Louisville Leader* reported outrage over the film. In July of 1930, a council of three prominent African-American men attended a screening of *Ingagi* at the Walnut Theatre: J. A. Thomas, I. Willis Cole, and Joseph R. Roy. The men returned disgusted and determined to have the film banned by Mayor William B. Harrison. While the ban didn't last, it revealed how African-Americans pushed back against dehumanizing stereotypical representations in the early twentieth century.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Beckwith, Wang J. "Racial Heroism and Images of Blackness: Gender and Empire in 1930s Jungle Films." *Early History and Critique of American Cinema*. 1994. 22-37. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/2614926>.

Doherty, Thomas. "White as Black: The Color Wheel of the Racial Adventure Film." In *The Color of the Screen: Ideology and Spectacle in American Cinema*. New York: New York University Press, 1989. 253-293.

Edwards, "INGAGI" THE GORILLA "FAKE" PICTURE IS STOPPED BY NEGRO UNIVERSITY FOLLOWING PROFESSOR COMMITTEE RE COLORED MEN." *The Louisville Leader & Journal*, Kentucky, July 12, 1930. Louisville Leader Collection.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

We would like to thank Dr. Tyler Fleming from Pan-African Studies for his guidance. We would also like to thank the University of Louisville. We are proud to be part of the first cohort awarded grant money under the Early Undergraduate Research & Creative Activities Initiative.

Olivia Raymond

I created a project for the Early Undergraduate Research & Creative Activities Initiative Project. The University of Louisville awarded me \$1,000 and my partner Brooklynn Collier \$500. Our project examines Black Louisville's response to the film *Ingagi*, released on March 15, 1930. We presented our research at the UofL Summer Research Day and received an honorable mention. In Fall 2019, I collected oral histories from people involved in radical southern activism and created a podcast with a group called "Rad South." I continue to work on preparing public history products from the project for <http://radicalsouthernhistory.org>



INTERNSHIP PLACEMENTS

Olivia Raymond, Portland Museum

Mason Strange, Cave Hill Cemetery

Samuel Dunn, Frazier History Museum

Elizabeth Standridge, Filson Historical Society

Rachel Lachut, Frazier History Museum

Hailey Bangers, Frazier History Museum

Alexis Doerr, Filson Historical Society

Matthew Mooser, Commonwealth Center for Humanities
and Society

T'Nia Fuller, Filson Historical Society

Michael Reikes, Patton Museum

Eric Shoemaker, Frazier History Museum

CLASS PROJECTS AND FACULTY ACTIVITIES



Dr. Tracy K'Meyer

Kentucky Opera Veterans Oral History Project HIST 212- Honors

On November 8 and 10 the Kentucky Opera presented *Glory Denied*, the story of America's longest held POW in Vietnam. The Opera asked the History Department to help them to contextualize the work in local history. Working in partners, Dr. K'Meyer's HIST 212-Honors students used oral history interviews with Kentucky's Vietnam veterans to research the war and the return home. They then created posters with images and quotes to illustrate key themes in the experience. The students presented their work before both performances, answering questions from Opera patrons. The following week, the History Department displayed the posters in Gottschalk Hall and invited veterans on campus to come view them and have refreshments.

Gottschalk Lecture 2019

On March 21st and 22nd, the Louisville history department held its annual Gottschalk Lecture and Public History Panel. The keynote speaker was Dr. Cheryl LaRoche, author of *The Geography of Resistance: Free Black Communities and the Underground Railroad*. LaRoche gave a talk on her research in Chao Auditorium on campus, and then the next day participated alongside local historians in a discussion of how black resistance has been portrayed in museums and other cultural sites. Among the speakers at the event were the History Department's own Professors Lara Kelland and Chaz Yingling. The Department was grateful for the support of the Frazier Museum, which hosted the panel. The events were organized by Professor Glenn Crothers.



THE GOTTSCHALK
LECTURE PRESENTS

WILLIAM PAUL
QUINN,
THE UNDERGROUND
RAILROAD,
AND THE
EXPANSION OF THE
AME CHURCH

THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2019 | 6 PM | CHAO AUDITORIUM



Dr. Cheryl LaRoche is
the award-winning
author of *The
Geography of
Resistance: Free Black
Communities and the
Underground Railroad*

A promotional poster for the Gottschalk Lecture. The background is a light-colored map with street names like "Pratt", "ACRE", "N° 7", "N° 6", and "N° 7". The text is centered and reads: "THE GOTTSCHALK LECTURE PRESENTS WILLIAM PAUL QUINN, THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD, AND THE EXPANSION OF THE AME CHURCH". Below this, it says "THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2019 | 6 PM | CHAO AUDITORIUM". At the bottom left is a portrait of Dr. Cheryl LaRoche, and to its right is a short biography: "Dr. Cheryl LaRoche is the award-winning author of The Geography of Resistance: Free Black Communities and the Underground Railroad". A QR code is in the top left corner.



Dr. Glenn Crothers

Louisville's Jazz Community Oral History Project

In Fall 2019, the students in Dr. Crothers's HIST 597/697: Intro to Public History course launched a new project documenting the history of Louisville's Jazz Community. Each student interviewed a local jazz musician or other professional related to the music industry and produced a transcript of the recording. These interviews will be donated to the UofL Archives, which also includes collections on the area's underground music scene, orchestra, and blues tradition. Together, these collections help to document the performers that make this city an arts Mecca. As part of the class, each student also presented a proposal for a public product using the interviews. The project will be supplemented with future classes.



Dr. Daniel Krebs **Cooperation with the U.S. Army**

In 2019 Dr. Daniel Krebs led a U.S. Army Strategic Broadening Seminar at UofL. The Army sent 30 officers and senior non-commissioned officers to Louisville for a month for a variety of lessons and lectures and to participate in research projects. Dr. Krebs provided the information about the U.S. Civil War and Lost Cause History. He also organized a Military History Day surrounding a presentation of Dr. Kara Dixon Vuic (Texas Christian University) on American women and military entertainment from WWI through WWII.



Dr. Cate Fosl

Southern Radicalism: Highlander Project

In Spring 2019, Dr. Fosl taught "Oral Histories of the Radical South," one of three courses partnered with the Highlander Center, a social justice organizing and educational center in east Tennessee. The partnership began when a group of students traveled with Fosl and Dr. Lara Kelland to Highlander to meet the staff there and discuss how the UofL departments of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies and History could help the organization to document and share its rich 87 year history. In the oral history class, students completed at least one interview with an activist or educator connected to Highlander. Dr. Kelland also taught a Digital History class which produced products for Highlander, including a digital timeline and a digital story map. The project was interrupted when an arsonist's fire destroyed the Highlander office. But the professors and students picked up the work in September 2019 with a second trip to the organization's Homecoming conference. History GTA Olivia Raymond is working part-time with the Anne Braden Institute to make more of the products available and to transfer all oral history materials to the UofL Archives. The project has been sponsored by the ABI. An example of the products can be seen at: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/radical-southern-history/id1492162889>

ALUMNI



T'Nia Fuller

In her last semester at UofL, Fuller interned at the Filson Historical Society, where she conducted research for a digital history project that focused on women's suffrage in Louisville. After graduation, she interned at the National Museum of American History (June 2019-August 2019) under the Director of Experience Design. Among other activities, she coordinated and facilitated the Adirondack Boat Weekend Program.



Jessica Riley

Jessica Riley graduated from UofL in May 2019 and is now a master's student in the Department of History at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) with a track in public history. Jessica works as a graduate assistant in UMBC's Special Collections where she is currently curating an exhibit display case for the main reading room.



Emma Bryan

After graduation in May 2019, Bryan took a position at the Filson Historical Society. She currently works on the Education and Development team assisting with membership, programming, and marketing.



Joanna Federico

After her graduation, Federico received a grant from the Kentucky Oral History Commission to conduct interviews documenting memories of the deadly shooting at Heath High School in Paducah in 1997. She is now enrolled in the PhD program in history at Rutgers University and working on an article about federal government responses to school shootings in the late 1990s.



Sarah McCoy

While in the MA program, 2017-2019, McCoy interned at the Museum of the American Printing House for the Blind and the Frazier History Museum in Louisville. In the summer of 2018, she also interned at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History in Washington, DC, where she focused on collections and museum education. After graduating in May 2019, McCoy took a job at the University of Georgia in the Special Collections Libraries as the Oral History Coordinator, responsible for preserving and archiving all incoming oral histories. She is point person for a new oral history project which will document the stories of American Latinos in Georgia, starting with political and social activists.



Hannah O'Daniel McCallon

After graduating in December 2017, McCallon moved to Chicago, Illinois, where she worked in temporary archives and digital collections positions at the Newberry and Northwestern University Libraries, Pritzker Military Museum and Library, Rotary International, and Theodore Roosevelt Center Digital Library. She will complete a MLIS with specializations in archives and digital content management through Wayne State University in 2020. Most recently, McCallon accepted a position as the Assistant Archivist at the Tennessee Tech University Archives and Special Collections.

NOT PICTURED

Ash Braunecker is currently completing her public history certificate and has recently been promoted to be the Executive Co-Director of the Portland Museum.

Bryan Bush recently became the park manager for the Perryville Battlefield State Historic Site. Bush graduated from the University of Louisville in 2005 with a Masters in Western European history with an emphasis on the Civil War in the Western Theater.

To keep up with the latest news and events follow the University of Louisville History Department on: Facebook at **UofL History**, Twitter **@LouHistoryDept**, Instagram **Louisvillehistorydept**
<http://louisville.edu/history/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Public History Panel, March 25, noon at the Filson Historical Society. A Panel of regional public of women's suffrage and voting rights. historians and educator, along with Dr. Ellen DuBois (UCLA) will discuss the public commemoration

Gottschalk Lecture, March 26, 6 pm, at the Chao Auditorium in Eksrom Library. Dr. Ellen DuBois (UCLA) will discuss the history of women's suffrage in the United States. The event will also include the opening of an exhibit on women's suffrage in the Library created by History Department students.

60 Years of Kentucky Shakespeare in the Park Oral History Project

Student produced exhibit on Women's Suffrage in Ekstrom Library

GET INVOLVED

STUDY PUBLIC HISTORY

Undergraduates may take 500 level Public History courses, do internships, and get involved in public history projects.

Graduate students may do a major track in Public History in the History Department's MA program, or pursue a stand alone Graduate Certificate in Public History.

For information, see: <http://louisville.edu/history/public-history/what-is-public-history>

SUPPORT PUBLIC HISTORY

To donate to the History Department to support public history projects by our faculty and staff, and collaborations with local cultural institutions, please go to: <http://louisville.edu/history> and click on "Give Now."