

srma

The Rocky Mountain Archivist

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Summer Issue

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Breaking Barriers in History
National History Day 2020

Don Felipe Baca (1829-74): Baca broke barriers as one of the first settlers of the Purgatoire River valley in Baca County, Colorado.

Owl Woman (1810-47): Also known as *Mistahela*, she broke barriers by spearheading and maintaining good relations between settlers and the Plains Indians.

Justina Ford (1871-1952): Ford broke barriers as Denver's first licensed African American doctor.

Minnie Reynolds Scalabrino (1865-1936): Scalabrino broke barriers as a female journalist and devoted her life to the fight for suffrage.

Pam Greer (1949-): Born and educated in Colorado, Greer broke barriers by becoming one of the first African American women to star in an action film.

Nathan C. Meeker (1817-79): Meeker broke barriers by establishing the Union Colony, an agricultural cooperative in present-day Greeley. He also championed suffrage in Colorado.

Temple Grandin (1947-): Grandin broke barriers as a pioneer in the study of animal behavior. She was also one of the first people to share her insights as an individual on the autism spectrum.

Bob Sakata (1926-): Sakata, a Japanese American, broke barriers by establishing himself as one of the nation's most respected produce farmers, after spending WWII in an internment camp in Utah.

It's a bird...

It's a plane...

It's the History Heroes!

NHD NATIONAL HISTORY DAY

To learn more about Breaking Barriers in History, visit nationalhistorydayincolorado.org and nhd.org. Scan the QR codes on the back for more info on these History Heroes.

University of Colorado Denver
National History Day in Colorado
A pre-collegiate social studies and literacy program

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From the President

We're off to a great start this year on the heels of a highly attended and rated Spring meeting, "Touching History: Teaching with Archives," at the University of Denver, as well as a very exciting and hot (!) Society of American Archivist conference in Austin. I am so honored and pleased to take the SRMA reigns from the very capable Kate Crowe who has done a lot of great work leaving us in a good, solid place to move forward and grow. Thank you, Kate!

Highlights from SAA

So, there were quite a few of us who attended SAA this year, and by the looks of it we all learned a lot, reunited with old colleagues, and made many new friends. We had not one, but TWO SRMA meetups while we were there. I was at the second of these where we did our best to stay cool with some icy drinks, as seen pictured below. What a great bunch!



Fall Meeting

I am very pleased to share that plans are underway for our Fall meeting which will be held on October 25th, 2019 in Greeley at the University of Northern Colorado Libraries. The focus of the meeting will be on born-digital collections. The SRMA board decided to make use of my expertise on the topic while I am president, so I will be working with one or two co-presenters to bring you a workshop that will include practical overviews as well as some hands-on learning. We will be announcing a call for presenters very soon, so keep a watch on the SRMA listserv. In the meantime, mark your calendars and start thinking about what born-digital experience you have to share!

Spring Meeting – The NEW ‘Western Roundup’

Kate Crowe mentioned in her President’s letter in the May newsletter that our Spring meeting will be coinciding with what we all know as the “Western Roundup.” She also mentioned that those of us representing the regions hosting the conference were discussing a name change. After some discussion, we all settled on the Western Archivists Meeting, or WAM! (exclamation mark added for effect). We are very happy with the new name as it is much more indicative of what the meeting is about, and it is focused on the people who make archives happen, us, the archivists! WAM will be taking place in San Francisco, CA from April 21-25, 2020 and is being hosted by the Society of California Archivist. More information is online here: <https://calarchivists.org/WAM2020>

Supporting All of Our Members

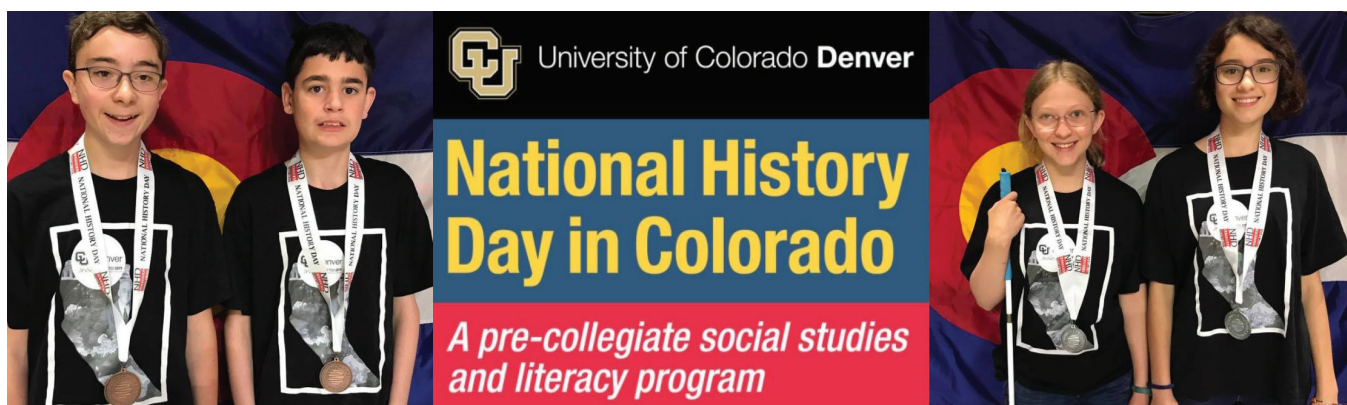
I would also like to share that we heard your desire to bring SRMA programming to the northern and southern regions of our reach. This is precisely why we are hosting the Fall meeting in Greeley and we are hoping to hold the next Fall meeting in the south, so somewhere like Pueblo or Colorado Springs. If you are in our southern region, and would like to host a meeting, please reach out to me or any of our board members!

Contribute to the Newsletter

I also want to encourage all of you to contribute to the newsletter. Afterall, this is for YOU! Everyone in SRMA would love to hear about your archives experiences be they grand or small. If you presented at the 2019 Spring meeting, please consider writing a brief synopsis and sharing some images related to your presentation. It would be a great way to share with those who were not able to attend.

Once again, I’m thrilled to be leading the charge this year. SRMA truly is my favorite professional organization and I hope to be able to give back at least a little of what I’ve received from you all over the years.

With warmest regards,
Heather



National History Day in Colorado

Jody Georgeson; The Telecommunications History Group

Cover Story

National History Day in Colorado (NHDC) is a social studies and literacy program that equips students in elementary, middle, and high school with the skills necessary to succeed in college and their post-secondary real world experiences. Students participate in a project-based learning curriculum that emphasizes critical reading and thinking, research, analysis, and the drawing of meaningful conclusions. Students can complete these projects in groups or as individuals in one of five categories: documentary, paper, exhibit, performance, or website. They then compete in one of fifteen regions across the state of Colorado in either junior (middle school) or senior (high school) division, or in the elementary poster contest (4th and 5th graders). Regional winners compete at the State Contest in May on the University of Colorado Denver campus. Elementary winners are displayed at the History Colorado Center on Colorado Day (August 1).

The program reaches well over 24,000 students across the state each year. NHDC also provides teacher workshop training, research field trips, supply grants for project supplies, classroom resources, scholarship opportunities for students, and graduate and continuing professional education courses for teachers.

The ultimate goal for students in NHDC is to learn how to “do” history. Participants select a topic that will allow them to answer the historical questions that arise from the documents and archived collections that document the history of our world. The projects are based on an annual theme – this year’s theme is “breaking barriers.” These historical projects begin as an effort to answer questions about origins, happenings, and consequences--like finding a puzzle and trying to solve it. It involves telling a story, and proving a stated conclusion. This is where the hard work of the archivists come into play. Student historians have to “mine” the primary sources found in the vast collections of history.

Whatever its subject, the student’s chosen study of history will be a detective story immersed in archives. They try to solve the mysteries in the evidence and to tell a story that will give order to the confusion of information they learn from

the past. Our student historians make connections, assign causes, trace defects, make comparisons, uncover patterns, locate dead ends, and find influences that come together to prove developed theses. Archivists, librarians, curators, educators, experts and all history makers become student partners in creating meaningful projects. To that end, research events are held throughout the year. Students are encouraged to make cold calls to discover their sources. Lists of possible topics are developed by cultural partners. In the end, NHDC provides a community-based opportunity for students to discover history, showcasing their hard work in multiple modalities and creating a way for young academics to experience the same sorts of finish line cheers that their student athlete peers experience. To learn more or take part in this exhilarating exercise in primary source and archive diving, reach out to Celeste Archer at celeste.archer@ucdenver.edu. Feel free to visit the website for National History Day in Colorado at <https://clas.ucdenver.edu/nhdc/>.

Preservation Kits

The photo and environment kits are available to you free with no shipping cost if you are in Pueblo or Colorado Springs. Publications on a variety of preservation topics in the Myra Jo Moon Memorial Preservation Reference Collection are held at the Jefferson County Public Library in Lakewood, borrowable through ILL.

https://jeffcolibrary.bibliocommons.com/v2/search?custom_edit=false&f_TOPIC_HEADINGS=Myra+Jo+Moon+Memorial+Preservation+Reference+Collection&query=anywhere%3A%28Myra+Jo+Moon%29&searchType=bl&suppress=true



For more information on the kits, find the SRMA preservation page here: <https://www.srmarchivists.org/resources/preservation/>.

Contact me at aaron.ramirez@pueblolibrary.org if you are interested in borrowing the preservation kits. I will also be bringing the kits to Greeley for the Fall Meeting.

Aaron Ramirez
SRMA Preservation
Member-at-Large

Born Digital for Everyone

**Save the date for SRMA's Fall 2019 Conference:
"Born Digital for Everyone"!**

As we move into a world where archives are acquiring more and more born digital content it can be daunting to consider what steps to take to preserve it. Join us as we discuss realistic methods of digital preservation with small budgets and busy schedules.

**Friday, October 25
University of Northern Colorado's James A. Michener Library
Greeley, Colorado.**

Registration for the conference will open in mid-September.

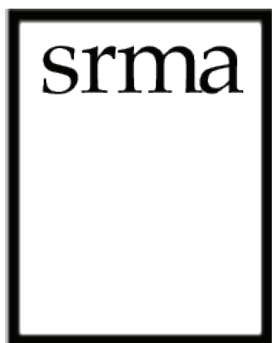
If you have any questions or suggestions for this fall's conference, please contact Emily Schwartz (Program Director, emilydkschwartz@gmail.com) or Erin McElroy (Member-at-Large, erinmcelroy@gmail.com).

Call for Proposals



**We are now accepting
proposals for presentations
about your experiences with
born digital content and
digital preservation!**

**See more at <https://forms.gle/cxddB3LkaunNqjs17> and
submit your ideas by
September 13, 2019.**



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**Need to renew your
membership?**

Contact David Fasman
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**Do you have any interesting projects
or collections to feature in the next
issue of *Rocky Mountain Archivist*?**

Contact Nathalie Proulx at
nathalie.proulx@du.edu