Archives Spotlight

Eric N. Mack: Lemme Walk Across the Room
Press Release, NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale

(Fort Lauderdale, February 24, 2021) - NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale will present Eric N. Mack: Lemme walk across the room from March 6 through October 31, 2021. This large-scale installation by New York-based artist Eric N. Mack expands the boundaries of painting, sculpture, and fashion while dynamically reflecting and framing the rich visual experiences of the everyday. Originally presented at the Brooklyn Museum in 2019, the installation is being reimagined for its NSU Art Museum presentation. Mack's textile-based works will be hung, mounted and draped in conversation with the architecture of the Museum’s grand second floor gallery, transforming this space while acknowledging the history of abstract (expressionist) painting.

Mack considers the essential elements of abstract painting, including color, form, and gesture, but does so through a distinct focus on nontraditional materials such as multi-textured and hand-stained textiles, pegboard, photographs, and images clipped from magazines. He encourages the viewer’s intimate relationship with the work by folding, fastening, draping, or even suspending it.

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Message from the President

Dear SFA Members,

I hope everyone is getting for the upcoming 2021 SFA Annual Meeting. While, I am saddened that we could not meet in person this year, we have amazing presentations planned! Please save the date for our 2021 SFA Annual Meeting. The year’s conference, scheduled for May 5 to May 7, 2021. Not only is it going virtual but will be free to all SFA members.

This year’s theme is “Collections at Risk” and will have some exciting sessions, including: Keynote speaker Ruta Abolins, Director of the Walter J. Brown Media Archives & Peabody Awards Collection; Preservation Planning workshop, conducted by Laura Hertz Stanton from the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts; Virtual Happy Hour and Breakaway sessions; and presentations from your colleagues, including topics such as “Small Collections and Records of Enslavement and Sharecropping in Florida State University Special Collections and Archives;” “Oral History Access, or What to do with all These Interviews: A Case Study;” and “Taking Outreach Online.” As the Annual Meeting Committee finalizes the details, we will make them available here: http://www.florida-archivists.org/2021-SFA-Annual-Meeting.

We are recommending that everyone register in advance of the meeting. To register, simply log into the SFA website, however over “Education & Events” in the navigation bar and select “Events.” From then on, follow the directions for registration.

I want to take a moment to thank our 2021 Annual Meeting Committee, who have worked tirelessly in planning this wonderful, virtual event to mark our 38th Anniversary of Society of Florida Archivists’ continued on next page.

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New SFA Members

- **Luis Berthin**, Black Archives History and Research Foundation
- **Devorah Burgess**, Winter Park History Museum
- **Stephanie Corrigan**, Polk County History Center
- **Rachel Dobbs**, University of North Florida
- **Michael Gelman**, Gelman Historical Research
- **Kristin Hagaman**, Florida State University
- **Anna Kephart**, University of Central Florida
- **Kimberly Logan-Hynes**, Brockway Memorial Library
- **Susan O'Shea**, The Ringling
- **Beatrice Skokan**, University of Miami
- **Casey Wooster**, University of Florida George A. Smathers Libraries
- **Elaine Wotton**, Digital Library Systems Group
2021 SFA Award of Excellence

Deadline: April 16, 2021

The SFA Awards Committee is for seeking nominations for the 2021 SFA Award of Excellence.

The SFA Awards Committee annually recognizes the exceptional work and significant contributions our archivists make to the preservation of Florida’s documentary heritage.

Please nominate your outstanding colleagues!

SFA Award of Excellence

The Society of Florida Archivists Award of Excellence recognizes outstanding contributions to the preservation of Florida’s documentary heritage. Any person, institution, or exemplary program that has provided noteworthy leadership in the field, promoted excellence through outstanding achievements, or contributed significantly to the betterment of the profession may be considered for the award. Nominees are considered annually by the SFA Awards Committee and are approved by the SFA Executive Board. The winner(s) of the SFA Award of Excellence are announced at the Annual Meeting.

Criteria for writing a nomination for the SFA Award of Excellence:

1. The Nominator and the Nominee must be current, active members of SFA.
2. The nomination must include Nominee’s name, title, and institution, and years of service in the archives profession.
3. The nomination must include Nominator’s name, title, institution, and professional relationship to the Nominee.
4. No self-nominations are permitted.
5. Current members of the SFA Awards Committee may not nominate persons for this award.
6. The nomination must be a minimum of 300 words.
7. The nomination must include specific examples of at least three criteria from the list of significant contributions below and include a discussion of the impact each of these examples has had on the profession, either in the Nominee’s institution, community, the state of Florida, or nationally.
8. The nomination must explain in detail how the Nominee’s work meets these criteria. Bullet points are acceptable to provide additional details of this work. Additional documentation or links to websites/publications is encouraged but not required.

The Nominations for the 2021 Award are due by April 16, 2021 and should be emailed to Annia Gonzalez, Chair of the Awards Committee.

Click here for a list of previous Award of Excellence recipients
Applications are currently being accepted for the annual SFA Judith Beale Scholarship Award. SFA members, please feel free to forward this opportunity to other groups and individuals who may be interested in applying.

This scholarship opportunity promotes educational and professional development by providing students and archives professionals with funding to attend the Society of Florida Archivists Annual Meeting. Named in honor of professional archivist and member of the Society of Florida Archivists, Judith Beale (d. 2010), the scholarship pays tribute to Judith’s boundless enthusiasm for the archives profession and her passion for working with students.

Qualified applicants must be current college students pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree or professionals in the archival community. The applicant must be a current or new member of the Society of Florida Archivists. Special consideration will be given to students and individuals new to the archives profession in Florida. Successful applicants receive complimentary registration for SFA’s Annual Meeting. Exceptional applicants also receive a stipend to help defray travel and lodging costs.

*Due to COVID-19 and the continued concern for the health and safety of our members, presenters, and sponsors, the 2021 SFA Annual Meeting will be held virtually. In lieu of complimentary registration to the SFA Annual Meeting, this year’s scholarship recipients will chose one of the following options:

- Option 1: Funding of registration fees for the virtual Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archivists (up to $300).
- Option 2: Funding for an approved professional development opportunity (up to $300).

All applications should be sent directly to the Chair of the Judith Beale Scholarship Committee, Mindy Berg (bergmindy5@gmail.com).

The deadline for all applications is March 15th, 2021.

For more information, please visit the Awards page on the Society of Florida Archivist’s website: http://www.florida-archivists.org/Beale-Scholarship.
Our very own Althea Silvera and Beatrice Skokan will be participating in the webinar, "Undaunted Archivists and Curators from the American South Speak!"

They will be joined by a panel that will unpack several ideas. First, it will tackle the question of what it means to be an undaunted archivist or a curator in time of climate-based externalities as well as pandemics such as COVID-19. Since most of the panels have been about the librarians and library administrators from both coasts, this panel will provide a forum to the archivists and curators and the Special Collections Curators from the South.

**Details**
**Date:** February 18, 2021  
**Time:** 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm

Please register for the event at ucblib.link/39V

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**Virtual Events**

The Georgia Tech Library is hosting Georgia Tech Astronomer Jim Sowell and Research Services and Instruction Archivist Alison Reynolds for an exploration of and conversation about Sir Isaac Newton’s *Principia* and *Opticks*.

You’ll get a virtual look at the Georgia Tech Archives copies of Newton’s *Principia*, which established the modern science of dynamics and serves as the basis for the modern study of physics, and *Opticks*, which provided our modern understanding of light and color. Participants will discuss intersections between rare books and science and why these works are pivotal to our current understanding of physics and astronomy.

**Title:** Georgia Tech Archives Rare Book Spotlight: Newton’s *Principia* & *Opticks* (VIRTUAL)  
**Date:** February 2, 2021  
**Time:** 12:00-1:00pm EST  
**Link to register:** https://www.eventbrite.com/e/136831174727

Mellon Foundation President Dr. Elizabeth Alexander will lead a wide-ranging conversation with Librarian of Congress Dr. Carla D. Hayden, UCLA Professor/Project Director, Million Dollar Hoods Dr. Kelly Lytle Hernández, and Liberatory Memory Worker and PhD candidate of the Department of Anthropology at Harvard University Jarrett Martin Drake. The panelists will discuss how libraries and archives are both empowering underrepresented communities and advocating for increased representation of marginalized stories and experiences in our country’s historical record.

Join us as we learn about the power and potential of these memory institutions to confront race, policing, and mass incarceration, to foster equity of access and participation, and to educate and train the next generation of librarians, archivists, and activists.

**Title:** Storytelling for Justice: How Libraries and Archives Hold History to Account  
**Date:** February 10, 2021  
**Time:** 5:00 pm EST  
**Link to register:** RSVP here.
The deadline for submissions has been extended to March 15, 2021.

The Lighting the Way project team requests proposals from groups of around 3 to 6 participants to participate in a series of online meetings and collaborative activities over the course of six weeks, starting the week of April 19, 2021. Each working group will develop a written contribution of 5 to 10 pages, exploring topics related to improving archival discovery and delivery, intended for inclusion in a larger handbook compiled and published by the Lighting the Way project team. To apply, please complete an application form, including a 250-word abstract of your proposed topic and potential group participants, no later than March 15, 2021, using the following link: https://stanforduniversity.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_diLMHizD8ka3rkF?source=ltwann. A PDF version of the application form is available for your reference. Participants will be notified by March 29, 2021 if selected to participate.

These contributions are intended to build on the work of Lighting the Way: A National Forum on Archival Discovery and Delivery, held at Stanford University in February 2020, which focused on information sharing and collaborative problem solving to improve discovery and delivery for archives and special collections. The Forum provided rich opportunities for discovering points of convergence, which can be explored in the Preliminary Report on the Forum. Topics generated by Forum participants may provide a starting point for proposals, but applicants are welcome to propose topics that are not represented in the Preliminary Report appendices.

Some possible topics for exploration drawn from the Preliminary Report include:

- Virtual reading rooms, or providing remote access to archival collections in a sustainable manner
- User experience and discoverability of archival materials
- How institutions or projects have integrated systems and software supporting archival discovery and delivery
- Integrating archival description with other access and fulfillment systems, including for digital collections
- Copyright policies and practices

Written contributions may take the form of:

- Case studies of archival discovery and delivery in local contexts
- Proposals of new or emerging models of archival discovery and delivery
- Analysis or position papers on key components and/or systems in archival discovery and delivery
- Analysis of a specific project or collaboration involving archival discovery and delivery, or opportunities to collaborate across institutions
- Discussion of institutional workflows and systems implicated in archival discovery and delivery

While we ask prospective participants to provide 250-word topic abstracts, we recognize that topics may evolve in focus as their group engages in the working meeting. We do not require topics to be fully fleshed out, but we ask contributors to identify areas for exploration as they explore the ideas or focus described in the proposed topic. The working meeting and collaborative writing are intended to allow groups to develop their topics over the course of the working meeting. Selected participants are asked to commit to a series of four two-hour synchronous working meetings held over six weeks, and to both meet and work asynchronously with their groups to produce an initial draft of their written contribution during this period. Written contributions will be compiled following this period for inclusion in the project’s handbook on archival discovery and delivery; as such, we ask prospective participants to agree to license their contributions under the Creative Commons Attribution License (CC-BY) version 4.0. All participants are also expected to follow the project’s Community Agreements and Code of Conduct in all project activities.

More information on the Lighting the Way Working Meeting can be found on the project website. If you have any questions or feedback about the process, please contact the project team at lighting-the-way-team@lists.stanford.edu, or Mark Matienzo, Project Director, at matienzo@stanford.edu.
Greetings SFA members,

The nominations form can be found here: https://forms.gle/CJ7LeygRmG3QntsKA

**Society of Florida Archivists Executive Board: Call for Nominations**
The Society of Florida Archivists is seeking nominations for the Executive Board for the following positions. Please consider nominating someone or running for office yourself!

**Vice-President/President-Elect (1-year term)**
Bylaws Article IV, Section 3. The Vice-President/President-Elect shall have the following responsibilities: assist the President in the management of the affairs of the Society; perform such duties as the President may assign; and perform the duties of the President in his or her absence, particularly at Executive Board meetings. The Vice-President/President-Elect shall become the President when his or her term as Vice-President expires.

https://floridaarchivists.wildapricot.org/Resources/Documents/Administrative%20Manual/Vice%20President.pdf (As noted in the Administrative Manual's Vice President duties: Serves as a member of the Annual Meeting Committee.)

**Director (2-year term)**
Bylaws Article IV, Section 6. The Directors shall serve as general members of the Executive Board and as members of committees as designated by the President. They shall perform other duties as assigned by the Executive Board.


**Secretary (3-year term)**
Bylaws Article IV, Section 4. The Secretary shall have the following responsibilities: keep a record of all meetings of the Society and the Executive Board; keep a record of all Executive Board discussions conducted in-person, by telephone, or electronically; retain and file all Society records in the Society’s Archives; send meeting notices to members; and prepare an annual report to be presented at the Annual Meeting.


Nominations will be accepted until Friday, March 5th, 2021. More information on these positions is available here: http://www.florida-archivists.org/administrative-documents. The process is open to all SFA members. Please contact the 2021 SFA Nominating Committee with any questions.

Thank you!

**Mary Rubin (Chair) and Melissa VandeBurgt**
Nominating Committee
Eric N. Mack was born in 1987 in Columbia, MD, and lives and works in New York. He received his BFA from The Cooper Union and his MFA from Yale University. In 2017, Mack was the recipient of the inaugural BALTIC Artists’ Award and completed artist residencies at the Rauschenberg Residency, Captiva Island, FL, and Delfina Foundation, London, UK. In 2020 he curated Pedestrian Profanities, a group exhibition at Simon Lee Gallery, New York, NY; and participated in the focused exhibition, Lynda Benglis, Eric N. Mack, Kelley Walker at Paula Cooper Gallery, New York, NY. His work has been shown extensively internationally and has been the subject of numerous solo exhibitions including Face it, Morán Morán, Los Angeles, CA (2020); Scrap Metal Gallery, Toronto, Canada (2019); The Power Station, Dallas, TX (2019); Brooklyn Museum, New York, NY (2019); Simon Lee Gallery, London, UK (2018); BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead, UK (2017); Albright–Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY (2017). Major group exhibitions include Whitney Biennial, Whitney Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY (2019); Desert X, Coachella Valley, CA (2019); Serpentine Gallery, London, UK (2019); Kunsthalle Basel, Basel, Switzerland (2017); Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, Massachusetts, MA (2017); Pulitzer Arts Foundation, St Louis, MO (2017); Camden Arts Centre, London, UK (2016); and MoMA PSI, Long Island City, NY (2015).

Eric N. Mack: Lemme walk across the room is organized by NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale based on an exhibition originally presented by the Brooklyn Museum. The Brooklyn Museum presentation was curated by Ashley James, former Assistant Curator, Contemporary Art, Brooklyn Museum (currently Associate Curator, Contemporary Art, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum).

Additional support for the exhibition is provided by The Dalmar.

Exhibitions and programs at NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale are made possible in part by a challenge grant from the David and Francie Horvitz Family Foundation.

Funding is also provided by the City of Fort Lauderdale, AutoNation, Community Foundation of Broward, Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale is accredited by the American Association of Museums.

President’s address, continued from front page

If you are thinking about lending a little extra support, with this year’s conference being free to members, consider donating to the Judith Beale Scholarship Fund. The scholarship is traditionally funded by the silent auction held during in-person meetings. The Judith Beale Scholarship promotes educational and professional development by providing students and archives new professionals with funding to attend the SFA Annual Meeting. We will acknowledge your donation to this fund before our keynote address. For more information on this fund, please visit the Judith Beale Scholarship page.

I can’t wait to see everyone in May!
The Society of Florida Archivists seeks to connect, educate, and empower archivists and those working with historical records to preserve and promote Florida's documentary heritage.

www.florida-archivists.org

Getting Your Foot in the Stacks*: Interviewing in All Kinds of Archives

The Society of Florida Archivists' (SFA) Ad Hoc Committee for the COVID-19 Archival Workers Relief Fund is pleased to announce the Getting Your Foot in the Stacks*: Interviewing in All Kinds of Archives webinar taking place on Thursday, March 4th at 11 am ET.

The webinar will feature Sarah Coates, Tyeler McLean, Whitney Broadaway, and Michael Zaidman. Sarah Coates is the Interim University Archivist at the George A. Smathers Libraries at the University of Florida and she has been in the archival field for nine years. Tyeler McLean is the Archives Collections Management Supervisor at the State Archives of Florida and she has been in the field for eleven years. Whitney Broadaway is the Collections Manager at the Orange County Regional History Center and she has been in the field for ten years. Michael Zaidman is the Senior Corporate Archivist at JM Family Enterprises and he has been in the archives field for sixteen years.

For registration and information on the webinar, please contact SFA at societyofflarchivists@gmail.com or through the listserv. The webinar will be recorded and uploaded to the SFA YouTube channel within 24 hours after the webinar. The SFA YouTube channel can be found here: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6KlHlr1GhuymG-TML_grw

Brought to you by:
Ad Hoc Committee for the COVID-19 Archival Workers Relief Fund
Gerrianne Schaad (Chair), Sarah Coates, Carady DeSimone, Rhia Rae, Mary Rubin, and Jay Sylvestre