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MAC News

Midwest Archives Conference

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MAC's 40th Anniversary!

Check out the 2012 Annual Meeting blog (<http://2012mac.wordpress.com/>) for more information.

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Courtesy of the Grand Rapids Convention and Visitors Bureau.

MAC at Forty: The Future is Now

Whether you are one of the original founders of MAC or a proud new member, you undoubtedly want to come to Grand Rapids, Michigan, to help celebrate MAC's 40th anniversary. Today, MAC is the nation's largest regional professional association for archivists, but much has changed since MAC began in 1972, not only within the archival profession and within MAC, but also in the host city of Grand Rapids. Once known as the "Furniture City," Michigan's second largest city is constantly reinventing itself and is currently making a name as the originator of the international art competition, ArtPrize; for putting the rapids back into the Grand; for its thriving local food and beer scenes; for the 5 x 5 competition and prize-supporting innovative ideas; and especially for bringing people back into the city to live and enjoy all of its offerings. When you aren't celebrating MAC's anniversary, attending sessions, or catching up with old friends, you will want to set aside time to explore. Check out the 2012 Annual Meeting blog (<http://2012mac.wordpress.com/>) for more information on restaurants, local attractions, and recommendations on what to see and do while in Grand Rapids. Follow *Experience Grand Rapids* (<http://www.experiencegr.com/>) for an up-to-date calendar of events, exhibits, and performances.

There are a few things happening during conference week in April: Grand Rapids Public Museum features the exhibits "Facing Mars" and "Thank God for Michigan! (Stories from the Civil War)"; "Rauschenberg: In Context" is on display at the Grand Rapids Art Museum; Grand Rapids Classical Series presents Mahler's *Symphony of a Thousand*; and the Whitecaps are in town. No time for an event? Sit outside in Rosa Parks Circle and people-watch, or stroll down Division Street's Heartside District to the many galleries and shops featuring local and other art.

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

University Library
University Archives
Archives Research Center
1707 South Orchard Street
Urbana, IL 61801



April 2012

Dear MACers:

It's been a quiet winter here in central Illinois. I always hope we will have a blizzard or two to make the coming of spring even more welcome, but even without blizzards, there is a lot to look forward to this spring, and the Grand Rapids Annual Meeting is at the top of the list! The Program Committee has excellent sessions planned, and the Local Arrangements Committee is offering all kinds of fun local flavor. As you know, we will be celebrating MAC's 40th anniversary at the meeting with a special "look back" at MAC's history, an ice sculpture at the reception, and a few other surprises.

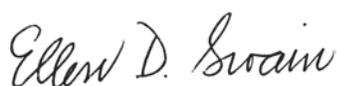
During the members' meeting, we'll be voting on changes to our By-laws and Constitution suggested by a special task force led by Menzi Behrnd-Klodt. The changes will update these important MAC documents to reflect our twenty-first century communication needs and practices. Please review the blue-lined documents via the link on the home page of the MAC Web site: <http://www.midwestarchives.org/>. I will be happy to receive any comments or questions about these updates prior to the meeting at eswain@illinois.edu.

I want to sincerely thank everyone who has contributed to the "\$40 for 40" campaign to endow the Motley and Bowen scholarship awards. All donations—in any amount—ensure that these awards continue to support and encourage student involvement in MAC and in the profession. Thank you for your continued generosity!

In January, Council voted to engage AMC Source (DMN), our current office management company, to provide meeting services for our 2013 Annual Meeting and Symposium. DMN staff will observe operations at the Grand Rapids meeting to learn more about our needs. Since 2013 will serve as a "trial process," Council is funding these initial services from our operating reserves. In February, Council approved Josh Ranger and Debra Anderson to serve as planning coordinators for our 2013 Symposium, slated for September 25–27 in Green Bay, Wisconsin. The Symposium topic, still under development, will focus on "refining the on-line presence of the archives." Council also approved transitioning to a new printer, Martin Graphics and Printing Services (Champaign, Illinois), as we explore moving some of our publications on-line.

Finally, I want to reinforce how important volunteers are to MAC's operation and existence. If you are interested in getting involved and working closely with others committed to the advancement of our profession, please fill out the volunteer form on the MAC Web site. We need you, and I think you'll find this service a rewarding and invigorating experience!

Best wishes,



Ellen D. Swain
President, Midwest Archives Conference

MAC at Forty: The Future is Now

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On Wednesday, prior to the start of the conference, you can attend the Society of American Archivists' pre-conference workshop, "Basic Electronic Records." This course is one of the Foundational Courses in the Digital Archives Specialist (DAS) Curriculum and Certificate Program. Registration for this workshop must be done through SAA: <http://www2.archivists.org>. Click on the "Education and Events" tab and select "Continuing Education," then "Calendar." Other continuing education opportunities are available Thursday morning before the Plenary Session. MAC is offering two workshops: "Introduction to Records and Information Management," taught by Caryn Wojcik, and "Legal Issues for Archives" with Menzi Behrnd-Klodt. Full workshop descriptions are available in the program.

Alternatively, if you want to start the conference by sightseeing, four area tours are scheduled for Thursday morning. Choose from a bus tour of the historic Heritage Hill Neighborhood with a side trip to the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Meyer May house; or a bus trip to the Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park (named one of the top 30 "Must-See Museums" in the world), where you can see "Butterflies Are Blooming" and the featured exhibit "Essence: The Horses of Deborah Butterfield." For something closer to the hotel, choose from two walking tours: a behind-the-scenes look at the collections of the Grand Rapids Public Museum, founded in 1854, and the holdings of the Grand Rapids City Archives at the Community Archives and Research Center; or a guided tour of the Grand Rapids Public Library History and Special Collections Department, and the Michigan Masonic Museum and Library.

The Meeting formally begins on Thursday afternoon with plenary speaker Kate Theimer, who will address



Kate Theimer

the issue of participatory archives. Rather than present participatory archives as a new construct brought about by technology, Theimer will approach it as a continuation of traditional archival practice. Theimer is the author of the popular blog *ArchivesNext*, and is a frequent writer and speaker on issues relating

to archives and the use of social media. The vendor fair also begins on Thursday afternoon and will continue throughout the day on Friday.

Following Thursday's sessions, help us celebrate MAC's anniversary in style at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. A short walk across the Grand River will take you to the kick-off event for MAC's 40th anniversary. Enjoy food, drink, and live jazz music. During the celebration, feel free to explore the exhibit *Bob Hope: An American Treasure*. New members, first-time attendees, and Pals program participants are invited to a pre-reception mixer to network with MAC officers and committee members. After the reception, the Student/Young Archivists' Night on the Town will provide an opportunity to mingle and meet.

Friday features a day of conference sessions. Back in July, you told the Program Committee what you wanted, and the Committee has delivered. The top three requested topics were digital curation, electronic records, and using primary sources in the classroom. You will be able to attend sessions on preserving Web sites and digital preservation. Other sessions look at using History Day as an outreach tool and using primary resources in the classroom.

If you are looking for sessions on other topics, there is no need to worry. Additional sessions include those on social media, celebrating anniversaries and milestones, juggling small shops, and religious archives. Those interested in practical tips may want to attend sessions on archival content management systems or remote reference. Last, but certainly not least, students figure prominently both programmatically and as presenters in sessions on job-seeking advice and utilizing students and volunteers in the workplace; and in Thursday afternoon's student research session and the Saturday morning student poster presentations. More information about the program can be found on-line at <http://www.midwestarchives.org/2012meeting>.

When sessions are finished for the day, attendees will be pleased to find that Grand Rapids has a lively night life. There are over 40 different restaurants and pubs in the downtown area, with choices that include Moroccan food and belly dancing, margaritas and Mexican cuisine, and authentic Irish dishes and music—whatever one's food tastes, Grand Rapids will provide. Be sure to sign up early for Friday night's Restaurant Tours and Lone Arrangers' Social!

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MAC at Forty: The Future is Now

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Anyone planning to stay in Grand Rapids for additional nights might consider taking in a Whitecaps baseball game or hanging around to celebrate Earth Day. Alternatively, one could head north to Traverse City and its wineries, visit the Sleeping Bear National Dunes, or go south to Saugatuck, Douglas, or Grand Haven for the lighthouses.

We would like to thank the significant number of vendors, foundations, businesses, archival organizations, and individuals from the MAC regions who have provided the necessary funding to help support this conference. Their generous assistance helps to keep the costs of the meetings low, while maintaining a high-quality program and social opportunities.

Registration can be completed on-line at <http://www.midwestarchives.org/-2012-registration>, or by using the form available in the Annual Meeting program book. We look forward to seeing everyone in Grand Rapids! Be sure to visit the member's forum area on the MAC Web site for session recaps and presenters' slides following the meeting.

Between-Meeting Council Actions

Unless otherwise indicated, all motions were approved with all Council members voting.

Council passed the following motion unanimously via E-mail on November 22, 2011: To retain Alexa Hand for one year (November 2011–November 2012) as MAC copyeditor at the rate of \$40 per hour.

Council passed the following motion unanimously via E-mail on January 10, 2011: To approve the Bylaw changes of the Constitution and Bylaws Revision Task Force of November 29, 2011, and to forward these, and the previous changes agreed upon at the Council meeting of October 19, 2011, to the full membership for a vote.

Council passed the following motion unanimously via teleconference on January 20, 2012: To contract with AMC Source (DMN) to provide meeting services as per their proposal from August 15, 2011, for both the 2013 Annual Meeting and Symposium for a one-year trial. The testing of these services will be paid for with fund reserves. All members of Council voted except for Council member Koch, who was unavailable.

Council passed the following motions unanimously via E-mail on February 3, 2012:

1. To engage the Hyatt on Main hotel in Green Bay, Wisconsin, as the location of the 2013 Fall Symposium;
2. To hold the 2013 Fall Symposium from September 25–28, 2013;
3. To approve the October 19, 2011, Council meeting minutes from the 2011 Fall Symposium.

All members of Council voted except for Secretary Ranger, who recused himself from motions 1 and 2.

Council passed the following motions unanimously via E-mail on February 16, 2012:

1. To approve Joshua Ranger and Debra Anderson as co-coordinators of the 2013 Fall Symposium;
2. To approve the plenary honorarium for the 2012 Annual Meeting at \$750;
3. To approve hiring Martin Graphics and Printing Services in Champaign, Illinois, as the MAC printer;
4. To move the dates of the 2013 Fall Symposium to September 25–27.

All members voted except for Council Member Koch, who was unavailable, and Secretary Ranger, who recused himself from voting on motions 1 and 4.