



2023 ANNUAL MEETING

***Forward Together:
Community Partnerships
and Public Service***

Dayton Metro Library

Thursday, May 11 (virtual)
& Friday, May 12 (hybrid)

#SOAAM23

Schedule At a Glance

Thursday

9:00—10:00 AM	Session Finding the Un(der)represented in Civil War Letters: Description Remediation and Subject Headings	Online
11:00 AM—12:00 PM	Session 25 Years in Community Service: Background, Current Directions, and Prospects for the Toledo's Attic Project	Online

Friday

8:30—9:15 AM	Registration / Continental Breakfast / Silent Auction	Eichelberger Forum
9:15—10:15 AM	Welcome & Morning Keynote: Mackensie Wittmer	Eichelberger Forum & Online
10:20—11:05 AM	Networking & Poster Session	Eichelberger Forum
11:05 AM—12:05 PM	Concurrent Sessions	
	Session 1a: Advocating for Your Own Slice of the Pie	Eichelberger Forum & Online
	Session 1b: America 250: How Can We Highlight the Importance of Archives & Records?	Community Room A & B
12:05—1:15 PM	Lunch / Business Meeting / Awards Ceremony	Eichelberger Forum
1:15—2:15 PM	Afternoon Keynote: Rosemary Pleva Flynn	Eichelberger Forum & Online
2:15—2:30 PM	Break & Silent Auction Ends	Eichelberger Forum
2:30—3:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions	
	Session 2a: Crucial Conversations: Undertold Stories and Histories—Working with Community Groups and Policymakers to Create Positive Change	Eichelberger Forum & Online
	Session 2b: A Journey of Understanding: A Century in the Harding Archives	Community Room A & B
3:30—4:00 PM	Closing	Eichelberger Forum



Help us Improve the Conference!

Conference Evaluation: <https://rb.gy/93pua>



Keynote Speakers

Morning Keynote: Mackensie Wittmer

Mackensie Wittmer will be welcoming attendees to the Dayton-Miami Valley area and presenting on the impact and importance of collaboration within the cultural heritage community.

Wittmer has served as the executive director of the National Aviation Heritage Alliance since 2018. The National Aviation Heritage Area is one of 62 national heritage areas designated by Congress as having a cohesive, distinctive landscape of historic and cultural resources of national importance. It shares our nation's aviation story sustaining the legacy of the Wright brothers and all men, women, and flying machines that changed our world. Wittmer works closely with the National Park Service, National Museum of the USAF, other aviation heritage organizations, and numerous informal partners to leverage cultural heritage as an economic catalyst in the region.



Photo courtesy Ms. Wittmer.

Afternoon Keynote: Rosemary Pleva Flynn

Rosemary Pleva Flynn will be discussing what it means to be an archivist, focusing on the intersection of archival work among memory workers, storytellers, community archivists, and “traditional” archivists, and the role we all play in preserving culture and knowledge.

Flynn is currently the principal librarian and archivist at the Energy & Environmental Research Center Library, University of North Dakota, where she has been employed since 2002. Prior to her position at the EERC, she was project archivist for Indiana University's Electronic Records Project. She serves as chair of the Society of American Archivists' Dictionary Working Group, which publishes the online Dictionary of Archives Terminology; the Academy of Certified Archivists Regent for Exam Administration; and regularly teaches professional workshops.



Photo courtesy Ms. Flynn.

Program—Thursday

9:00—10:00 AM

Session

[Online](#)

Finding the Un(der)represented in Civil War Letters: Description Remediation and Subject Headings

Presenters: *Greta Suiter, Ohio University; Camilla Stegall, Ohio University & University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*

At the Ohio University Mahn Center for Archives and Special Collections, the Civil War Correspondence digital collection contains more than 1000 digitized and fully transcribed items from 12 manuscript collections. Most of the items are letters written to and from soldiers and their families who were from or living in Ohio. In 2022 the Mahn Center was awarded a State Library of Ohio Metadata Mini-Grant to improve the subject headings of the digital objects and prepare the materials for ingest in the DPLA. A major goal for the project was to provide descriptions and subject headings that assist users in finding content related to slavery, political views, and women's perspectives. This presentation will report on the project, resources utilized, and lessons learned. This will be of interest to SOA attendees who are also doing or thinking about doing description remediation projects, especially those that incorporate updating and adding subject headings to digital objects or finding aids.

Session evaluation: <https://rb.gy/smgpp>

11:00 AM—12:00 PM

Session

[Online](#)

25 Years in Community Service: Background, Current Directions, and Prospects for the Toledo's Attic Project

Presenters: *Arjun Sabharwal, University of Toledo*

For 25 years, Toledo's Attic has been the virtual museum focusing on the commercial, industrial, and social history of the Maumee Valley region in Northwest Ohio and most prominently Toledo. In 2022, it has reached a milestone of having served the region's community for 25 years as a collaborative project involving the University of Toledo's Department of History, Maumee Valley Historical Society, WGTE Public Media, Toledo-Lucas County Public Library, and the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections. Changes in technologies have allowed these collaborators to develop their digital presence using social media, content management systems, and blogs, and has kept the Toledo's Attic Website evolving as well. It has become a virtual museum, digital archive, a digital humanities platform, and a hub for various community archiving activities. The presentation will focus on current projects, content migration and planning, and future prospects for the site.

Session evaluation: <https://rb.gy/b3fw6>

Program—Friday

11:05 AM—12:05 PM

Concurrent Sessions, cont.

Session 1b:

Community Room A & B

America 250: How Can We Highlight the Importance of Archives & Records?

Presenters: *Todd Kleismit, Director, and Chris Hurtubise, Communications Director; Ohio Commission for the U.S. Semiquincentennial*

The nation's 250th anniversary will culminate on July 4, 2026. The U.S. Constitution is the centerpiece of the nation's birth in 1776. The Northwest Ordinance and countless other documents and records tell important national, state and local stories. This mini-workshop is your opportunity to help provide direction about how Ohio's archival collections can contribute to the state commission's plans to prepare Ohio's participation in the upcoming commemoration.



Session Evaluation: <https://rb.gy/hzxlz>

12:05—1:15 PM

Lunch and Awards/Business Meeting

Eichelberger Forum

Congratulations to our Award Winners!

Student/New Professional Scholarship:

Colleen Badenhop
Paige Kinzer
Jacob Stickel
Kirsten Dilger

Merit Awards:

Warren County Records Center & Archives
Adam Wanter

SOA Business Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Recognition of Outgoing Leaders
3. Incoming Leaders Election Results
4. Award Winners
5. Treasurer Report
6. Committees Reports
 - a. Advocacy and Outreach
 - b. Membership and Awards
 - c. Educational Programming
 - d. Newsletter
 - e. Nominating
 - f. Marketing and Communications
 - g. JEDAI Committee
7. Old Business
8. New Business
 - a. Strategic Plan
9. Adjournment

Program—Friday

1:15—2:15 PM

Afternoon Keynote

Eichelberger Forum & [Online](#)

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2:15—2:30 PM

Break & Silent Auction Ends

2:30—3:30 PM

Concurrent Sessions

Session 2a:

Eichelberger Forum & [Online](#)

Crucial Conversations: Undertold Stories and Histories

Working with Community Groups and Policymakers to Create Positive Change

Presenters: *Nicole D. Sutton, Columbus Metropolitan Library; Mandy Altimus Stahl, Massillon Museum; Brad Lepper, Ohio History Connection*

Crucial Conversations: Undertold Stories and Histories—Working with Community Groups and Policymakers to Create Positive Change will focus on community-based, historical, and international outreach and the use of Ohio archives and cultural heritage sites. The Society of Ohio Archivists JEDAI Task Force (Justice, Equity, Diversity, Access, and Inclusion) presents a session of three panelists who are actively engaged in community partnerships and public service. The panelists focus on the diverse history of Ohio is relevant to the SOA community.



Session evaluation: <https://rb.gy/9b6tx>

Session 2b:

Community Room A & B

A Journey of Understanding: A Century in the Harding Archives

Presenters: *David McDevitt, Ohio History Connection*

As today’s generation of Harding archivists, we will give a brief history of Warren G. Harding and his papers, explain our archival processes for making them more usable, and discuss some of the challenges in undertaking such an enormous project.

Session evaluation: <https://rb.gy/zsm1z>



3:30—4:00 PM

Closing

Eichelberger Forum

Acknowledgements

Thank you to our Sponsors

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Thank you to Dayton Metro Library for hosting the conference!

Thank you to everyone who worked on this year's program and local arrangements!

Rachael Bussert, Dayton Metro Library; Melissa Dalton, Preserve It LLC (SOA Vice President/President-Elect); Matt Francis, Ohio Northern University (Co-Chair); Betsy Hedler, Ohio History Connection (SOA/ OHC Liaison); Sasha Kim, Denison University; Riza Miklowski, Akron-Summit County Public Library; William Modrow, Miami University; Sara Mouch, University of Toledo; Nathaniel Ricks, Student; Michelle Sweetser, Bowling Green State University; Adam Wanter, MidPointe Library System (Co-Chair)

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