

AMA 2017 – CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Wednesday, March 29th

9:30am-10:45am

A: “History as Choice: Don't Debate, Deliberate!” – Kathleen Pate, Clinton Presidential Library and Christina Standerfer, Clinton School of Public Service – Little Rock, AR

History revolves around choices made by individuals and groups who weighed the costs and benefits of multiple solutions to complex situations. Learn how you can recreate the decision making process by developing an "Historic Decisions" program based on the National Issues Forums Institute method to facilitate deliberation.

B: “A Museums Natural Pests: Creatures That Undo What We Do” – Aaron Loehndorf, Shiloh Museum of Ozark History – Springdale, AR

This session will give a basic overview of common types of museum pests, basic identifying characteristics and treatment methods. We will look at pictures of the insects, rodents, and other pests and evidence that they leave which helps to identify them. Basic preventative methods for treating artifacts will be discussed.

*** C: “Beyond Facebook: Take Your Social Media Strategy to the Next Level” – Carly Squyers, Shiloh Museum of Ozark History – Springdale, AR**

Social media is a great way to forge connections, but are you making the most of your time, especially if social media manager is one of your job descriptions? We will discuss the different platforms, how to maximize engagement, and look at real-world examples.

1:00pm-2:15pm

A: “: #InclusiveArkansas” – Christina Shutt, Bryan McDade, and Elizabeth Marg, Mosaic Templars Cultural Center – Washington, AR

This session will focus on recent endeavors by the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center, an African American museum of the Department of Arkansas Heritage, to make their museum more welcoming to all Arkansans. Particular focus will center on the #InclusiveArkansas initiative as well as outreach to families affected by autism.

*** B: “Making Connections Between History and Modern Technology – Part I” – Kathleen Lawson, Arkansas Discovery Network and Brittney Kugler, Museum of Discovery – Little Rock, AR**

This session will explore historic technology and demonstrate hands-on approaches to engage your visitors with modern technology through making and tinkering. (Limit – 30. Pre-Registration required)

C: “Team Collections Attacks Grandma’s Attic: Tips, Tricks, & Sources for Reduced Costs of Collections Management – Part I” – Diane Karlson, William J. Clinton Presidential Library – Little Rock, AR and Angela Gibbs, Jacksonport State Park – Newport, AR

Want to know where other museums get their storage material and supplies? Or how to create special storage on a budget? Which tools should you have? Come to this informal meeting to talk about how to think outside the catalog and make-it-yourself and other unusual solutions to collections management issues.

3:15pm-4:30pm

A: “Veterans History Project in Arkansas Communities” – Raymond Screws, Arkansas National Guard Museum and COL (Ret.) Anita Deason, Military and Veterans Affairs Liaison, Senator John Boozeman’s Office – Little Rock, AR

The Library of Congress Veterans History Project was created in 2000 by the United States Congress. The project’s mission is “to collect, preserve, and make accessible the personal accounts of American wartime veterans so that future generation may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war.” Presenters will discuss the program and provide information on how Arkansas communities can get involved through local historical organizations. Field Kit booklets will be provided.

*** B: “Making Connections Between History and Modern Technology – Part II” – Kathleen Lawson, Arkansas Discovery Network and Brittney Kugler, Museum of Discovery – Little Rock, AR**

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Thursday, March 30th

9:30am-10:45am

A: “I Ain’t Afraid of No Troll: Surviving the 2016 Election at the Clinton Library” – Diana Chavez and Rebekah Childers, Clinton Presidential Library – Little Rock, AR

The phenomena of the 2016 presidential election put the William J. Clinton Presidential Library in an unprecedented position. This session will dive into the dark side of social media as panelists share their experience running the Library’s Twitter account. Attendees will learn how to gracefully promote their institutions and educate online despite the negativity the internet brings.

*** B: “Past Perfect and the Museum System, a general overview of two collections software” – Joseph Alley, Historic Arkansas Museum and Neal Grumbine, Clinton Presidential Library – Little Rock, AR**

Have you ever had to listen to another institution rave about their collections software and wonder if it is really as good as they say it is? Come and listen as two budding museum colleagues go over PP5 and TMA and compare their experiences with both of these programs.

*** C: “Teaching a Web of Arkansas History – Part I” – Shannon Lausch and Chad Garrett, UALR Center for Arkansas History and Culture – Little Rock, AR**

This two-part session will teach educators and curators best practices in creating a web exhibit. During the workshop, participants will learn professional standards for locating and digitizing historic photographs and how to write for the web environment.

* indicates Technology track

12:15pm-1:15pm

A: “Arkansas World War | Centennial Project” – Mark Christ, Arkansas WWI Commemoration Committee - Little Rock, AR

Arkansas will remember the Great War in 2017 and 2018 and Governor Asa Hutchinson created the Arkansas World War I Centennial Commemoration Committee to coordinate the event. This session will provide an overview of Arkansas’ role in WWI, the committee’s mandate, and will discuss ways that Arkansas museums and organization can participate.

B: “Basic Box Making – Part I” – Angela Gibbs, Jacksonport State Park – Newport, AR

Has your collection ever needed an expensive custom box for a prized artifact? Making one is not as hard as you think! This session features a step-by-step demonstration of how to make both a basic box and an oversized box as well as materials and support tips. Workshop sponsored by the Arkansas Humanities Council. . (Limit – 15, Pre-Registration Required)

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1:30pm-2:30pm

*** A: “Museums & Schools, Partner Up! How to Add Your Artifacts to the WWI Centennial Digital History Teaching Collection” – George West and Mike Polston, Cabot High School & Encyclopedia of Arkansas Butler Center for Arkansas Studies – Little Rock, AR**

This workshop shares lesson plans and sample student projects showing ways museums can partner with nearby schools to identify—and digitize—WWI items for the statewide centennial. The Butler Center will publish projects on the Arkansas History Hub and give author credits to contributing schools and partner museums. Materials include how students can: transcribe & index soldier letters, record podcasts using historical documents, create “Artifact Spotlight” webpages of photos/objects, create Google/ESRI maps tracing travels of local doughboys, make virtual tours of museum’s “Top Ten” WWI items, interview veterans’ families, and collect “patriotic recipes” for WWI food rationing in local cookbooks.

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*** C: “Digital Place-Based Learning in Historic Washington – Part I” – Billy Nations, & Leita Spears – Historic Washington State Park – Washington, AR**

The use of digital technology allow staff at Historic Washington State Park to provide interactive programming with groups at remote locations. This session will demonstrate the equipment used and the process used to connect to groups. Park staff use a variety of demonstration techniques, including first-person interactions.

3:30pm-4:45pm

A: "When History Changes: Re-Interpreting the Clinton House Museum after the Presidential Election" – Angie Albright, Clinton House Museum – Fayetteville, AR

The recent high-profile candidacy of Hillary Rodham Clinton for President of the United States offers an opportunity to reinvent the Clinton House Museum to a site that, in addition to its current exhibits focusing on the presidency of Bill Clinton, offers programs and historical interpretations of women in politics, markets to younger audiences, and addresses a changing political and cultural landscape.

B: "Been There, Done That – A Panel Discussion of Unique Fundraising Events for Small Museums" – Don Warden, Siloam Springs Museums – Siloam Springs, AR

Some ideas work better than others. We always try to learn from our efforts and the efforts of others. Come discuss ideas that have, have not, or might work as a fundraiser for your museum.

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