

About the Digital Collections Stewardship Practitioners

You'll meet several practitioners during the Digital Collections Stewardship course series. Read their introductions below and learn more about their communities and their digital collections work.

Keau George

Hula Preservation Society (Hawaii)

<https://hulapreservation.org/>

<https://hpsarchive.libraries.wsu.edu/>

Aloha, my name is Keau George. I am originally from the Ko'olauloa area of O'ahu in Hawai'i. I now live in Kaneohe in Ko'olaupoko, and I love it here. I work for the Hula Preservation Society (HPS) as the collections manager. Our community is a global community of students, practitioners, educators, researchers, and Native Hawaiians. We also have a very close knit community of Elders, and po'e hula, (dance people) that we work with.

HPS has digital video recordings of oral history interview sessions with Elders, as well as videos of events, celebrations, and dance group performances. The physical archives, which are being digitized, includes items from the personal collections of Elders that reflect their hula lives.

Samantha Odegard

Upper Sioux Community (Minnesota)

<https://www.upperSiouxcommunity-nsn.gov/>

I am Samantha Odegard; I'm the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) for the Upper Sioux Community. We call ourselves Pezuhutazizi Oyate and the area is Pezuhutazizi Kapi (the place where they dig for yellow medicine). We are one of the four Dakota communities within the state of Minnesota. As THPO, my primary role is not only serving the Upper Sioux Community but Oceti Šakowin as a whole—the Seven Council Fires (what people know as the Sioux Nation). Our responsibility is to preserve our sacred sites and burial sites. I have a great support staff here at Pezuhutazizi and we work closely with other THPOs across our traditional homelands.

Collections include historical documents, recorded interviews with community members, especially Elders. These, as well as physical items, such as pottery shards, stone tools, and photographs will be digitized for sharing with the community to help connect them with their culture and history.

Selena Ortega-Chiolero

Chickaloon Village Traditional Council (Alaska)

<https://www.chickaloon-nsn.gov/>

<https://ugheldzeleccilaes.libraries.wsu.edu/>

Greetings, my name is Selena Ortega-Chiolero, I am Rarámuri (also known as the Tarahumara of the Barranca de Cobre region in Chihuahua, Mexico). I live and work on Matanuska River Land, traditional homelands of the Ahtna and Dena'ina Dene where I am the Museum Specialist for Chickaloon Village Traditional Council (CVTC).

Chickaloon Native Village is a federally recognized tribal government located in South Central Alaska. We're located in a remote area where a vast amount of the landscape remains untouched. However, we are just a one-hour drive north of Anchorage. Dating back to the early 20th century, Chickaloon Native Village's traditional territories were subjected to large scale resource extraction of coal and gold and related infrastructure developments of the Alaska railroad and the Glenn Highway that resulted in the introduction of new settlers that brought diseases, boarding schools and alcoholism that devastated the tribe. For many years, these factors, along with the inability to share their story in their own words, created a generation of tribal citizens who are now Elders, disconnected from their cultural traditions. Chickaloon Native Village has dedicated staff time and resources towards developing and growing our cultural resources to support healing and cultural perpetuation.

The CVTC Collections consist of a wide assemblage of materials that provide deeper examination of the cultural and historical context of the Ahtna Dene of Nay'dini'aa Na' Kayax, Chickaloon Native Village. They include photographs periodicals, personal correspondences, cultural workshop, lesson plans, oral history recordings, traditional songs, and Ahtna language recordings.

Monique Tyndall

Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin

<https://www.menominee-nsn.gov/>

<https://menomineemuseumandarchives.libraries.wsu.edu/>

At the time the course interviews were recorded, Monique Tyndall served as the Tribal Archivist for the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin. Currently, she is Director of Cultural Affairs, Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohicans (Wisconsin).

Hello, my name is Monique Tyndall. I am Mohican and Munsee Lenape from the Stockbridge Munsee band of Mohicans. I'm also Omaha and Muscogee (Creek), and I'm from the Elk clan. My Mohican and Munsee ancestors were removed from our mother lands in what is now known as New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and Vermont. We have resided as guests on the traditional lands of the Omāēqnomenēwak, or the Menominee peoples, for over 165 years.

The Menominee Nation is located in north central Wisconsin; they are an Algonquin speaking tribe. The Menominee Nation was terminated by a federal Indian policy during the mid-20th century, later restored in the 1970s. Termination meant that the tribe no longer had their federal recognition, so during that

time, the reservation was turned into Menominee County. After restoration, the restoration committee was established. They were charged with forming the tribe's constitution and a new governing body, which is what is in place today. However, the county still remains active. So the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin is a reservation, a tribal reservation, and is also a state county. This impacts the types of records that were created and also how the community was built, rebuilt over time.

The Tribal Archives holdings include digital return collections, which come from partnerships with external repositories that have materials relating to the Menominee. These materials can help Menominee leadership and supporting departments by providing a history of how the tribe has exercised its sovereign powers in the past so that they can make informed decisions about the present.

Amelia Wilson

Huna Heritage Foundation (Alaska)

<https://www.hunaheritage.org/>

<https://archives.hunaheritage.org/>

My Tlingit name is Tlaagoonk. I belong to the Chookaneidí, Brown Bear Clan. I'm grandchild of the Kaach.adi Yadi, and grandchild of the Irish. My English name is Amelia Wilson and I work as the Executive Director for Huna Heritage Foundation. We are the nonprofit branch of our village Native Corporation, Huna Totem, and I oversee our Library and Archives. We serve shareholders. There are approximately 1400 shareholders that are primarily based in Hoonah, and Juneau, Alaska, however, we have shareholders and descendants that we serve all over the world.

Huna Heritage Foundation collections include photos, videos, documents, maps, audio recordings, and oral histories, which are being digitized. Because they have always been a fishing community, there is an extensive collection of recordings and photographs on fishing history.

Chris Brown

Pella Public Library (Iowa)

<https://www.cityofpella.com/190/Library>

<https://cdm17106.contentdm.oclc.org/>

I'm Chris Brown, the assistant library director at the Pella Public Library in Pella, Iowa. The Pella Public Library serves primarily the citizens of Pella, Iowa, and rural Marion County, where Pella is located. In terms of our community context, the city of Pella was founded by Dutch refugees who came from the Netherlands because of religious persecution. We are working on preserving this history for the future.

For the Pella Community Memory Database Project, Pella Public Library is scanning, sharing, and preserving historical materials such as documents, photographs, and letters—many of which are located

across numerous different holding institutions. With these materials accessible online, Pella Public Library is engaging community members and reaching people worldwide.

Tracey Hambleton

Jaquith Public Library (Vermont)

<https://www.jaquithpubliclibrary.org>

<https://www.jaquithpubliclibrary.org/marshfield-story-project.html>

<https://digitalvermont.org/MarshfieldStoryProject>

My name is Tracy Hambleton, and I'm a volunteer at Jaquith Public Library in Marshfield, Vermont. I've been living in Marshfield for about 15 years, and I took an active role as a volunteer at the library. Marshfield is a very small town, with a population around 1300. It's a rural community. We are about 15 miles from our state capital of Montpelier. A lot of people will drive to Montpelier for work, and we also have a lot of farming communities in Marshfield.

Marshfield Story Project is about bringing together the residents of Marshfield to preserve community memory through intergenerational dialog, oral history and the digital preservation of materials from the Marshfield Historical Society. The digital collections include oral history interviews, photos, artifacts and ephemera that have been shared online.

Laura Kayacan

Door County Library (Wisconsin)

<http://www.doorcountylibrary.org/>

<https://doorcountynewspapers.org/>

<http://pubinfo.co.door.wi.us:8080/jsp/RcWebBrowseCollections.jsp>

My name is Laura Kayacan; I'm the Adult Services Librarian at Door County Library. I work in the headquarters library in Sturgeon Bay, we have eight branches. Door County is a county in Wisconsin, it's the peninsula sticking out of Wisconsin into Lake Michigan in Green Bay. We have a population of about 20,000 people here in the county. The largest city is Sturgeon Bay with 9,000 people. We have a huge summer resort population that comes here. We also have a lot of retirees that settle here. There's a lot of support here for cultural events like history, art, music, theater.

Door County Library staff has digitized microfilm of old newspapers (dating to as far back as 1862) and shared them online to make them more accessible. While they have been especially useful to those researching genealogy and have sparked interest in local history, they are accessed by people all over the world.

Amanda McLaren

Benzonia Public Library (Michigan)

<https://www.benzonialibrary.org/>

<https://www.benzonialibrary.org/remembering-benzie.html>

My name is Amanda McLaren, and I'm the director of the Benzonia Public Library. We are located in beautiful Benzie County, which is the smallest county in Michigan. It's also a resort town, so in the summers, the population really explodes. The community is a mix of everything. A lot of retirees here in the area, young families, though we don't see a lot of in between. The county itself has just under 18,000 people. We have a lot of agriculture in the area and a rich history of artists.

The Remembering Benzie project focused on capturing community voices by creating a teen internship program to record oral histories. Library staff and partners worked with high school interns to collect, edit, archive, and share high quality interviews of the community's older population, veterans, and others with a unique or interesting perspective of Benzie County and surrounding areas. The project fostered intergenerational conversation and connection between the community's teen interns and older residents.