



BLACK METROPOLIS
BMRC
RESEARCH CONSORTIUM

NEWS

[Internship Program](#) | [Executive Director's Letter](#) | [Fellowship Program](#)

Board of Directors

Leroy E. Kennedy, Chairperson

Vice President, Office of Community Affairs, Illinois Institute of Technology

Erik Gellman, Vice Chairperson

Associate Professor of History, Roosevelt University

Susan Boone, Treasurer

Director of Administration & Operations for the Office of the President & the Office of the Provost, University of Chicago

Aaisha Haykal, Secretary

University Archivist, Chicago State University

Steven Adams, Life Sciences Librarian & Psychology Liaison, Northwestern University

Janet Harper, Librarian, Center for Black Music Research, Columbia College Chicago

Valerie Ann Harris, Special Collections Librarian, Richard J. Daley Library, University of Illinois

Glenn Humphreys, Librarian, Special Collections, Harold Washington Library Center, Chicago Public Library

Morris (Dino) Robinson, Jr., Founder, Shorefront Legacy Center

Julie Wroblewski, Archivist, Archives & Manuscripts, Chicago History Museum

Faculty Advisor

Jacqueline Stewart

Professor, Department of Cinema and Media Studies and the College, University of Chicago

BMRC Staff

Camille Ann Brewer, Executive Director

Anita Mechler, Program Manager / Archivist



Photo courtesy of Chicago State University Archives, Provident Hospital Collection

The Spring 2016 Archie Motley Internship Program Collection

The spring 2016 Archie Motley Archival Interns will process the records of Provident Hospital housed at Chicago State University. Founded in 1891, on 29th and Dearborn Streets in Chicago, the Provident Hospital was created to provide services to African Americans who were denied treatment at other Chicago area hospitals. It also provided post graduate training for African American doctors and nurses.



BMRC Member Institutions

Bronzeville Historical Society,
Chicago

Columbia College, Center for
Black Music Research

Chicago History Museum,
Research Center

Chicago Public Library, Harold
Washington Library Center and
Vivian G. Harsh Research
Collection

Chicago State University,
Archives & Special Collections

Dominican University, Rebecca
Crown Library, Archives &
Special Collection

Illinois Institute of Technology,
Archives and Paul V. Galvin
Library

Loyola University of Chicago
Archives

Newberry Library

Northwestern University,
Charles Deering McCormick
Library of Special Collections
and Melville J. Herskovits
Library of African Studies

Roosevelt University Archives

Shorefront Legacy Center

University of Chicago, Special
Collections Research Center

University of Illinois, Library of
Health Sciences, Chicago
Special Collections &
University Archives, Richard J.
Daley Library, Special
Collections & University
Archives

Some individuals involved in creating the institution were Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, Emma Reynolds, Reverend Louis Reynolds, and Reverend Jenkins Jones.

The collection at Chicago State University Archives and Special Collections consists of photographs, correspondence, birth registers, student records, financial and administrative records, and newspaper clippings. The approximate date range of the collection is 1910-1980s, with the bulk being from 1940-1986. Additionally, there are records from The Provident Foundation administration.

The collection includes 750 photos of events and activities that took place at the hospital and in which nurses partook; photos of the hospital and the nursing school; and fundraisers for the hospital, which feature the Harlem Globetrotters, Duke Ellington, and Harold Washington. This collection crosses many disciplines and audiences. Two archival interns, trained by the staff of the Black Metropolis Research Consortium in collaboration with the Chicago State University Archivist and BMRC Board Member Aisha Haykal, will be working exclusively on this collection.

About the Spring 2016 Archie Motley Archival Interns



Alexandra McGee is currently in the process of completing a Bachelors of Art in History and a minor in Art History at DePaul University. Previously, she has worked as a Digital Archive Intern at the Button Museum, a Library and Archive Intern at the National Hellenic Museum, and an Archival Intern at the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews. Through these experiences, she discovered that she wanted to pursue a degree and subsequent career in the archival profession. We are looking forward to the enthusiasm and skills that Ms. McGee will bring to this internship program.



Kellee Warren has a Masters degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. Previously, she has worked as the Archives and Records Intern for the Chicago Community Trust and as a Senior Library Specialist for the IDEA Commons at the University of Illinois at Chicago's Richard J. Daley Library. She is interested in teaching the importance of primary documents and documentation on underrepresented groups. We are excited to have Ms. Warren as an intern and look forward to her insights on the collection.

Executive Director's Letter

2016 marks the 10th anniversary of the founding of the BMRC. Over the last 2 months, BMRC archivist, Anita Mechler, has been combing through BMRC organization records to create a 10-year timeline of past BMRC accomplishments and growth. Board and staff members, volunteers, and other Chicago-based stakeholders, and others across the country over the years have contributed to and sustained this consortium moving its mission onward and upward. Starting in the fall of this year, the BMRC staff and board will begin a strategic planning process for the organization looking to 2020.

The BMRC begins the new year with the initiation of the Archie Motley Archival Internship Program. The mission of the Archie Motley Archival Internship Program is to develop and create meaningful and education internship opportunities for college-level students of color in the field of cultural heritage management. We are pleased to announce Kellee Warren and Alexandra McGee as the Spring 2016 Archie Motley Archival Interns. Over the course of the next three months, Kellee and Alex will process the records of Provident Hospital.

For the Summer of 2016, the BMRC's Archie Motley Archival Internship Program will partner with the University of Chicago's Odyssey Scholarship Program. The Odyssey Scholarship program provides enhanced academic, social, and career support to students from lower-income families or who are the first in their families to attend college. Through this partnership, the BMRC will place two full-time summer interns with one of our member institutions to learn archival processing.

The BMRC welcomes 2016 with new organizational branding and a new interactive website. In the coming weeks, a searchable database of BMRC surveyed and processed collections will be available for use on the BMRC website. New collection information will be added to the database as Archie Motley Archival interns process member collections.

I am happy to share that the Newberry Library has re-joined the BMRC. The Newberry Library staff, libraries and archivists have been tremendously supportive of the BMRC Summer Short-term Fellows' research. The library's holdings are a great resource for scholars and researchers of African American history and culture, and we look forward to collaborating with the Newberry for future projects and programming.

The staff and board of the BMRC we are organizing two fun(d)raisers this year to generate interest in BMRC projects and the resources to support the programs. The events will focus on music and food related to the African diaspora. Please stay tuned to upcoming events on the BMRC's website calendar and social media outlets.

Staying true to its organizational mission, the BMRC will continue to develop programs, events, and educational opportunities to achieve its goal of making archival materials that document Chicago-focused African American and African culture, history, and politics accessible to all.

Thank you for your support,

Camille Ann Brewer

2016 Summer Short-Term Fellowship Program

At the time of the release of this newsletter, the jurying process for the 2016 Summer Short-term Fellowship Program is well under way. Generously funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Summer Short-term Fellowship Program has engaged international scholars, artists, writers, and public historians to better formulate new historical narratives of Chicago's past.

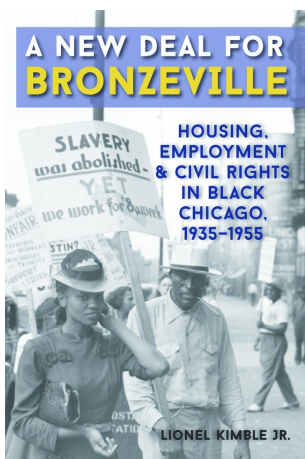
In 2015, the BMRC introduced a new cohort model in which scholars, researchers, and artists were selected based on their work in broad, yet defined, subject areas. This subject-area cohort model enables BMRC staff and member institutions to concentrate their support efforts in focused subject areas. The subject areas selected for 2016 are: Politics; Medical Arts and Public Health.

Please stay tuned to the announcement of the 2016 Fellows and upcoming events with the Fellowship Program on the BMRC's website calendar and social media outlets.

NEWS & KUDOS

Congratulations to Sherry Williams, founder and director of the Bronzeville / Black Chicagoan Historical Society for being saluted and featured by the **Millennium Reserve organization** for her work highlighting the importance of preserving African-American history in Chicago, her involvement in the migratory bird sanctuary nearby, and work on local Underground Railroad Tours. <http://www.millenniumreserve.org/Priorities/bronzeville-historical-society/>

Congratulations to 2015 BMRC Fellow Anita Mixon, who was selected as an **Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities (IPRH) Fellow for 2016-2017**. The theme for the year is "Publics" and we will participate in year-long activities and Fellow Seminars. As a research fellow, which carries a stipend and tuition waiver, her primary focus will be her dissertation project. Ms. Mixon thanks the BMRC and its generous financial support, for firming up her dissertation project! Additionally, she is also the recipient of the **Lynn M. Martin Award for Distinguished Women Teachers**. Named for the founder, the Lynn M. Martin Award is designated to promote exceptional achievement in undergraduate teaching by women. Two awards (one for Teaching Assistants and one for Faculty members) are made annually by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. As a recipient, Ms. Mixon has been nominated for the campus-wide competition for Excellence in Teaching. Nice work, Anita!



Chicago State University professor and BMRC supporter Dr. Lionel Kimble has published a new book, *A Conversation: A New Deal for Bronzeville*, and he discusses the impact of the New Deal on Black Chicago at a program at the Chicago State University Library Auditorium on **Tuesday, March 8** at 11AM. He will be joined by Dr. Darlene Clark-Hine (Professor, Northwestern University) and Dr. Christopher Reed (Professor Emeritus, Roosevelt University).

University of Chicago, Special Collections and Research Center

The staff of the BMRC is initiating a retention schedule of its organizational records with the University of Chicago, Special Collections and Research Center. The scope of the first deposit of the BMRC records, spanning from 2003-2012, with the bulk between 2006-2010, includes documents of the organization's founding and early programs and projects.