

Sequoyah National Research Center Newsletter

Spring 2016

SNRC awarded Digitization Grant

The Sequoyah National Research Center is pleased to announce that the Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council has awarded a grant of \$24,000 to the Center for the digitization of the Jeanie Greene Collection of 1263 Beta and U-matic tapes.

The Jeanie Greene Collection, acquired in 2014, is an audiovisual record of contemporary Alaska Native life. In 1990, Jeanie Greene established the radical television show *Heartbeat Alaska* as a forum for Alaska Native people to share the stories that impacted their lives on a daily basis. Besides the show *Heartbeat Alaska*, the collection also contains recordings of her other television shows: *Northern Lives*, *This Generation*, and *We Win*, a faith-based show. The videos provide a window into important topics such as whaling, subsistence fishing, environment, culture, language, and more.

The digitization of the Beta and U-matic tapes is necessary to preserve the information from these obsolete formats and will also allow broader access to the videos for both Alaska Natives and other interested researchers.

The digitization for the grant will be completed by Preservation Technologies in Cranberry, Pennsylvania. We hope to begin the digitization process in August.



Summer Interns Selected

We are pleased to announce that our summer interns have been selected; Donald Komkoff III, Jacey Lamar, and Traci Young will join us on June 1 to begin their internships. Donald Komkoff III is Alutiiq and attends the University of Arkansas Cossatot in DeQueen, where he is a senior enrolled in the Business Management program. Jacey Lamar (Wichita) is a senior in the Indigenous and American Studies program at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas. Traci Young (Cherokee) is a graduate student in the School of Library and Information Studies at The University of Oklahoma in Norman.

Adam Matthew seeks Tribal Newspapers for Project

As reported in our Fall 2015 newsletter, SNRC has partnered with the digitization company Adam Matthew to begin digitization of the vast newspaper holdings at the Center. To date, we have secured the digitization rights to five tribal newspapers with several more agreements pending approval by tribal councils.

We are actively contacting tribal newspaper publishers across the United States to join in this project to help preserve and provide broader access to these important windows into tribal communities. The completed database will be offered through subscription by Adam Matthew and will be available at no cost to tribal colleges and universities. Newspapers will receive copies of the digital files in exchange for the release of digitization rights.

Since 1983, the Center has worked to obtain the most comprehensive collection of tribal publications; digitization is just the next step in preserving the originals by preventing wear and tear on the physical copies and providing better access to the collection without traveling to Little Rock.

If you or your tribal newspaper would like to learn more about this opportunity, please contact Erin Fehr at ehfehr@ualr.edu or via phone (501)596-8336.



Service-learning Projects benefit Students and Center

This Spring semester, four students from Dr. Laura Barrio-Vilar's Honors seminar on Literature and Social Justice in the English Department at UALR spent time in the Center completing a service-learning course, an experience-based assignment aimed at reinforcing what students learn in the classroom with hands-on activities.

The students were required to work a minimum of ten hours in the Center creating an annotated bibliography that will serve as a topical research guide. Blaise Hale, Treyvon Herron, Jasmine Winter, and William White created annotated bibliographies covering subjects of current interest to Native American peoples. The guides include resources found in the Center's tribal periodical collection on land use and ecology, suicide, missing and murdered indigenous women in Canada, and tribal education. These guides will be available in the online library catalog in the next month. They will provide a starting point for researchers interested in these topics.

Our mission is to acquire and preserve the writings and ideas of Native North Americans by collecting the written word, art and other forms of expression by Native Americans and creating a research atmosphere that invites indigenous peoples to make the Sequoyah National Research Center the archival home for their creative work.

Garrard Ardeneum Collection Update

The *Garrard Ardeneum Collection Project*

Blog is online! The blog highlights many of the interesting materials found in the collection. Included thus far in the blog is a post about Allece Garrard's rock-n-roll playing third cousin, Jesse Ed Davis III, and a post that tells the story of Alene Webb Puterbaugh and her mother getting caught in Europe during the outbreak of World War I and the harrowing manner in which they were separated and reunited. Currently, I am highlighting J.G. Puterbaugh, the President of McAlester Fuel Company, in a multi-part series of posts. The



first post about J.G. Puterbaugh follows his life up until the time of his coming to McAlester, Oklahoma, to assume management of the Consolidated McAlester Coal Company, later to become McAlester Fuel Company. Subsequent posts in the series will focus on Puterbaugh's role in federal legislation that separated the mineral rights from the top land rights in the Choctaw and Chickasaw segregated coal lands, his later life as a prominent Oklahoma businessman, and personal remembrances from family and friends.

I invite everyone to fire up their computers or personal digital devices and come check out the blog! The *Garrard Ardeneum Collection Project Blog* can be accessed at <https://garrardardeneumcollection.wordpress.com/>.

~Zack Whitaker, Project Archivist

Staff Activities

Archivist Erin Fehr will be presenting at the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association's Annual Conference on May 21 in Honolulu, Hawaii. Her presentation "Muted Melodies: Native Musicians of the Early Twentieth Century" will focus on research into Native American students, who attended boarding schools in the late 19th- and early 20th-centuries and developed their boarding school music education into amateur, semi-professional and professional musical careers, marching across parade grounds, singing before international dignitaries and on world-class stages.

In June, Erin Fehr has been invited by the Steering Committee to join the planning phase of the Digital Atlas of Native American Intellectual Traditions (DANAIT) at Amherst College, Amherst, Massachusetts. DANAIT is an IMLS-funded planning project to create a space for conversation and collaboration, with the goal of developing a framework for sharing, exploring, and visualizing library and archival collections of Native-authored materials intended for a public audience. For more information on this exciting project, visit <http://danait.wordpress.amherst.edu/>.

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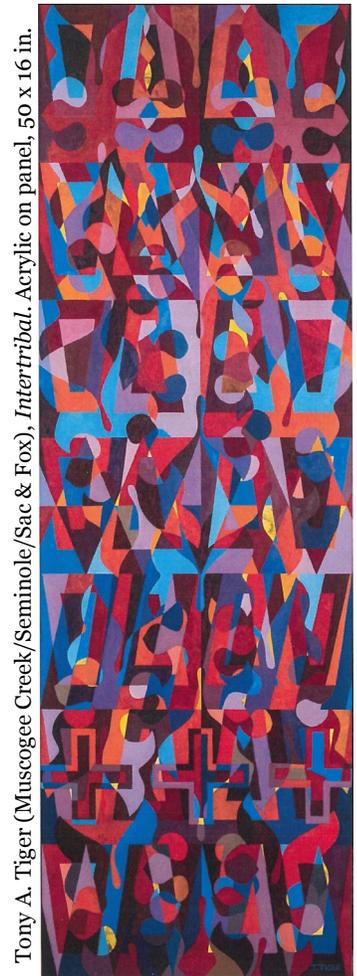
Return From Exile extended

The Dr. J. W. Wiggins Native American Art Collection and the Sequoyah National Research Center have extended *Return from Exile: Contemporary Southeastern Indian Art* at the Dr. J.W. Wiggins Gallery.

The exhibit is co-curated by Bobby Martin, Tony Tiger, and Dr. Jace Weaver. Martin and Tiger are highly respected artists, educators, and curators in Oklahoma. Dr. Weaver is the Director of the Native Studies Program at the University of Georgia and is a well-known Indian scholar originally from Oklahoma, now living in Athens, GA.

The curators describe *Return From Exile* as “the first major survey of well-known contemporary Southeastern Indian artists to show in the Southeast. *Return From Exile* presents an exhibition of compelling and challenging art by a stellar collection of contemporary Southeastern native artists, based around the theme of return and resilience.”

The exhibit will be available through June 16, 2016. The Dr. J.W. Wiggins Native American Art Gallery is located at the Sequoyah National Research Center, University Plaza, Suite 500 on the University of Arkansas at Little Rock campus.



Tony A. Tiger (Muscogee Creek/Seminole/Sac & Fox), *Intertribal*. Acrylic on panel, 50 x 16 in.

This newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Sequoyah National Research Center at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, edited by Erin Fehr.

Hours of Operation:
Monday—Friday
8:00am—5:00pm

Contact us:
(501)569-8336 or
ehfehr@ualr.edu



SEQUOYAH NATIONAL
RESEARCH CENTER

COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES

2801 S. University Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72204-1099

