2018 Oral History in the Liberal Arts Institute

A workshop supporting community-based learning with oral history & digital storytelling

July 5-7, 2018 on the campus of Kenyon College

For: OHLA-funded project Faculty, Undergraduates, Instructional Technologists, and Digital Librarians as well as faculty and students in GLCA-affiliated colleges planning or considering oral history projects.

What: A hands on training sharing tools and tactics for community-based teaching and learning with interviews, archives, and collaborative public-facing projects that make an impact

Where: hosted on the scenic campus of Kenyon College, with meals and dorm housing all included

Offered by: Oral History in the Liberal Arts (OHLA), an initiative of the Great Lakes Colleges Association (GLCA) with the support of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. OHLA curates 'high impact' undergraduate research frameworks, proven open source workflows, and best practices for community-based learning with oral history. We're focused on the nuances of doing and teaching methodological oral history in higher education!

Cost: Institute fee, housing, and meals are provided on Kenyon's campus for GLCA-affiliated participants. A limited number of openings are available for faculty, instructional techs, and digital librarians outside of GLCA for $300 (including registration, meals, and housing).

Participants should bring: Laptop and headphones. Optional materials can included project audio/video files, course syllabi, learning outcomes, planning and brainstorming documents associated with your

project. Pillow, extra linens, and towels are recommended even though the basics are provided for the student housing accommodations.

2018 OHLA Institute

Check-in: <u>Thursday, July 5, 12-3pm</u>

1pm-3:30pm: Afternoon check-in to your room at Kenyon College's Black Box Theatre (parking at Bexley Hall across the street), located at 302 Gaskin Ave, Gambier, OH 43022

Institute Kick-off: <u>Thursday, July 5, 4pm</u>

4-5pm: A Quick Introduction to the OHLA Method—Oral History & Digital Storytelling in Community-based Teaching & Learning

Join OHLA leadership Ric, Sheffield, Emily Yochim, and Brooke Bryan for an introduction to the variety of projects underway across GLCA and GLAA, with a quick overview of the open micro-grants, writing honoraria, and opportunities to engage in Global Liberal Arts Alliance partnerships with GLCA's partner colleges.

5:00-6:30pm Dinner & Overview of the Resource Hub— Peirce Hall
Gather in the Kenyon Inn for plated dinners around the dining conference tables. Once dinner is served, we'll shift to a partial working dinner to see an overview of the OHLA Resource hub (ohla.info)

8:45pm: Optional— social hour at the Kenyon Inn bar & terrace

<u>Friday, July 6, 9am</u>

8-9am Breakfast— Peirce Dining Hall

9- 10:30am Planning an Effective Public Oral History Project—Howard L. Sacks
Howard L. Sacks is NEH Distinguished Teaching Professor emeritus of sociology at Kenyon College, where he also served as Senior Advisor to the President and Provost. As Director of the Rural Life Center, Dr. Sacks coordinated educational, scholarly, and public projects to ensure the vitality of local rural life. Dr. Sacks has served on panels of the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities,

and he regularly consults with organizations and communities nationwide on rural development and culture. He is the recipient of over forty grants and fellowships for scholarly research and public programs, for which he has received numerous state and national awards.

You've identified an interesting idea for a public oral history project. How do you translate that idea into an effective (and fundable) project? What motivates you to initiate this effort? Who are your audiences, and what are their interests? What kind of project will best address your priorities? Who should be involved in conceptualizing and implementing the project? Carefully examining these questions at the start will enable you to carry out a successful endeavor that will be attractive to sponsors and well received by the public.

10:30-10:45am: Break

10:45-12:00pm: OHLA Project Round Table

In rapid-fire succession in just four slides each, OHLA participants describe their disciplinary training, their project goals and curricular ties, the biggest challenge and greatest delight they encountered in doing the work, and why they chose the public-facing platform they chose (and if they would do it again!)

> Podcasting Project: Emily Yochim, Allegheny College, *Meadville Youth Media Project*
>
> Bilingual OHMS: Noriko Sugimori, Kalamazoo College, *War Memories*
>
> Podcast readings: Ernest Cole, Hope College, *Sierra Leone Amputee Project*
>
> Video OHMS project with community partner: Bruce Mills, Kalamazoo College, *Engaging the Wisdom OHP*
>
> OHMS audio & interviewing in the classroom: Ian McMillen, Oberlin College*: Roma Stories*

12:30pm: Lunch in the Peirce Dining Hall

1-2:30pm: Digital Oral History— Innovations, Complications, Art Brooke Bryan
Brooke Bryan received the 2016 post-secondary teaching award from the Oral History Association for her work as instructor of cooperative education at Antioch College, where she stewards student fieldwork projects that employ oral history and tools from the digital humanities. This session is a fundamental introduction to doing oral history

in the digital age, including an overview of ethics, pending IRB requirements, and best practices— emphasizing how the increased access afforded by curated, public-facing digital projects complicates informed consent— while showing how artists and multimedia installations are using narratives to tell stories.

2:30-2:45pm Break

2:45-4pm Workshop: Collaborative Digital Storytelling in the Undergraduate Classroom— Emily Yochim

A media ethnographer, Emily frequently employs oral history methodology in the classroom in order to engage students in the community and deepen their understanding of how media infuses everyday life. She is particularly interested in digital storytelling and using oral history to foster community engagement. Emily is Associate Professor, Communication Arts and Theatre at Allegheny College.

This workshop explores how to cultivate a deeply collaborative undergraduate classroom environment where students work together on digital storytelling projects. It will discuss upending student expectations of an individualistic learning experience, developing a syllabus that nurtures collaboration, and lesson planning for student-led partnerships. The course will also discuss strategies for teaching students to use podcasting and web technologies for highlighting community oral histories and ethnographies.

5-6pm Dinner: Peirce Dining Hall

<u>Saturday, July 7</u>

8-9am Breakfast: Peirce Dining Hall

9:15-10am: The Art of the Interview (Brooke)
The Abbreviated Life Story Model is a key OHLA framework, emphasizing how interviews can structure the time space of the interview while focusing on engaged listening and asking great follow-up questions.

10-10:15am Break

**10:15-12:00pm: After the Interview— Douglas Boyd
Workflows for Data Management, Indexing for Access, and
Partnering with an Archive**

*Doug Boyd Ph.D. serves as the Director of the Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History at
the University of Kentucky Libraries and is the current president of the Oral History
Association. Boyd manages the Oral History in the Digital Age collaborative initiative
publishing current best practices and models for collecting, curating and
disseminating oral histories. Boyd leads the team at the University of Kentucky that
envisioned, designed and implemented the open source and free OHMS system, which
synchronizes text with audio and video online. Recently, Boyd created the open source
digital transfer tool Exactly for safely transferring born-digital archival material to an
archive.*

Gain strategies for managing your interview files, indexing your
interviews for your own research or for building public facing projects,
and learn how to approach an archival partner. This critical session is a
deep introduction to breaking tool and themes you will use in the
following year to create your OHLA benchmarks in Wordpress, Omeka,
and OHMS, integrating digital storytelling tools.

12-1pm: Institute Wrap Up and Debrief! Peirce Hall
Please fill out our program evaluation forms to let us know what was
most useful to you during this institute, and what forms of direct
support you think your project will need next!

1-1:30pm Room Key Return at Registration/Check-in Site