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Balancing Act in the Archives: Increasing Access to the Great Plains Black History Museum Collection

Lori Schwartz

University of Nebraska at Omaha, lschwartz@unomaha.edu

Wendy Guerra

University of Nebraska at Omaha, wguerra.mn@gmail.com

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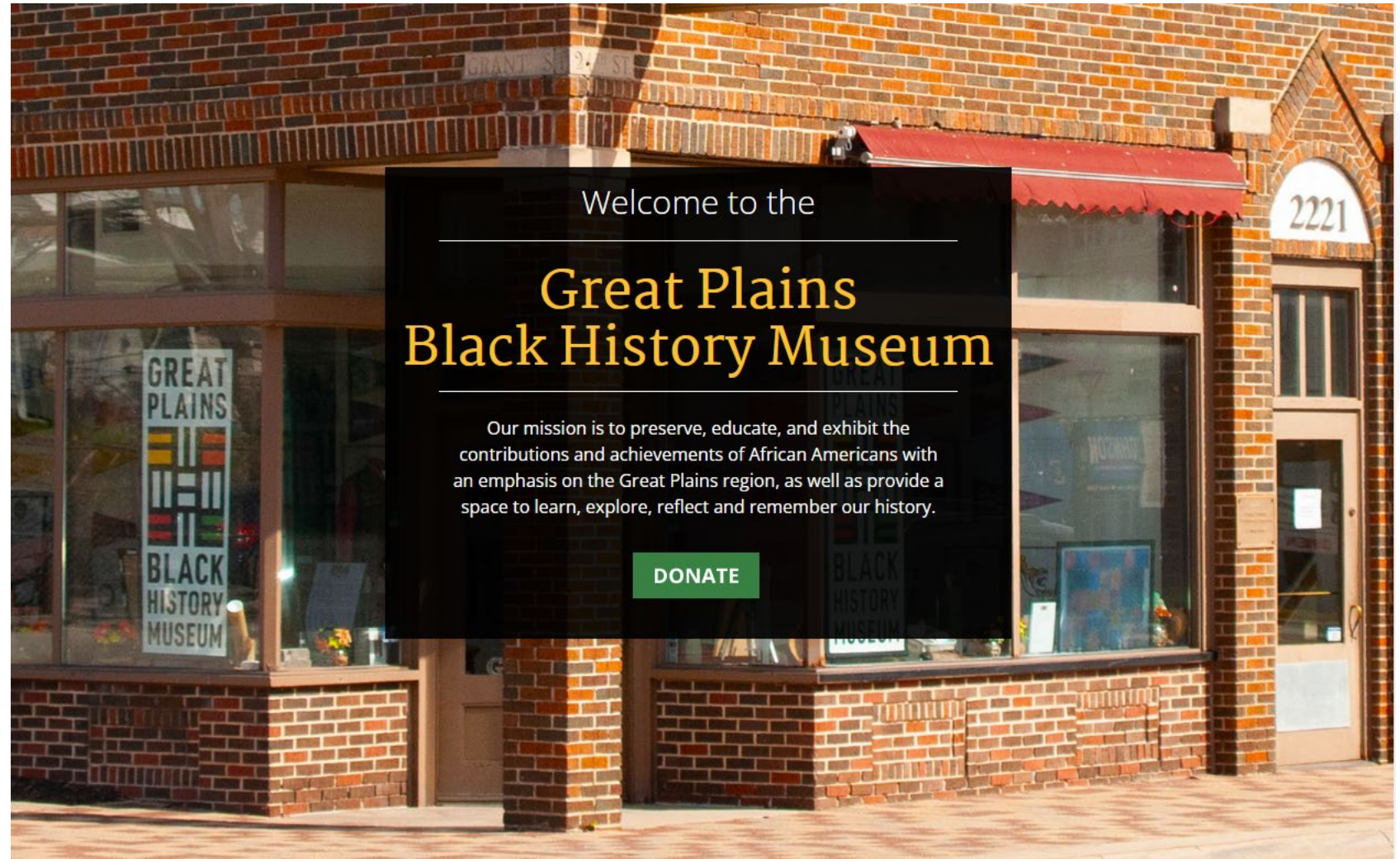
Balancing Act in the Archives: Increasing Access to the Great Plains Black History Museum Collection

NLA C&U and TSRT
May 19, 2023

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Omaha

History of Partnership

- Friendly neighborhood archivists
- Nothing into something!
- MOU defined project



Screenshot, front page, Great Plains Black History Museum website:
<https://gpblackhistorymuseum.org/>



Lessons from a Lit Review





Great Plains Black History Museum Collection

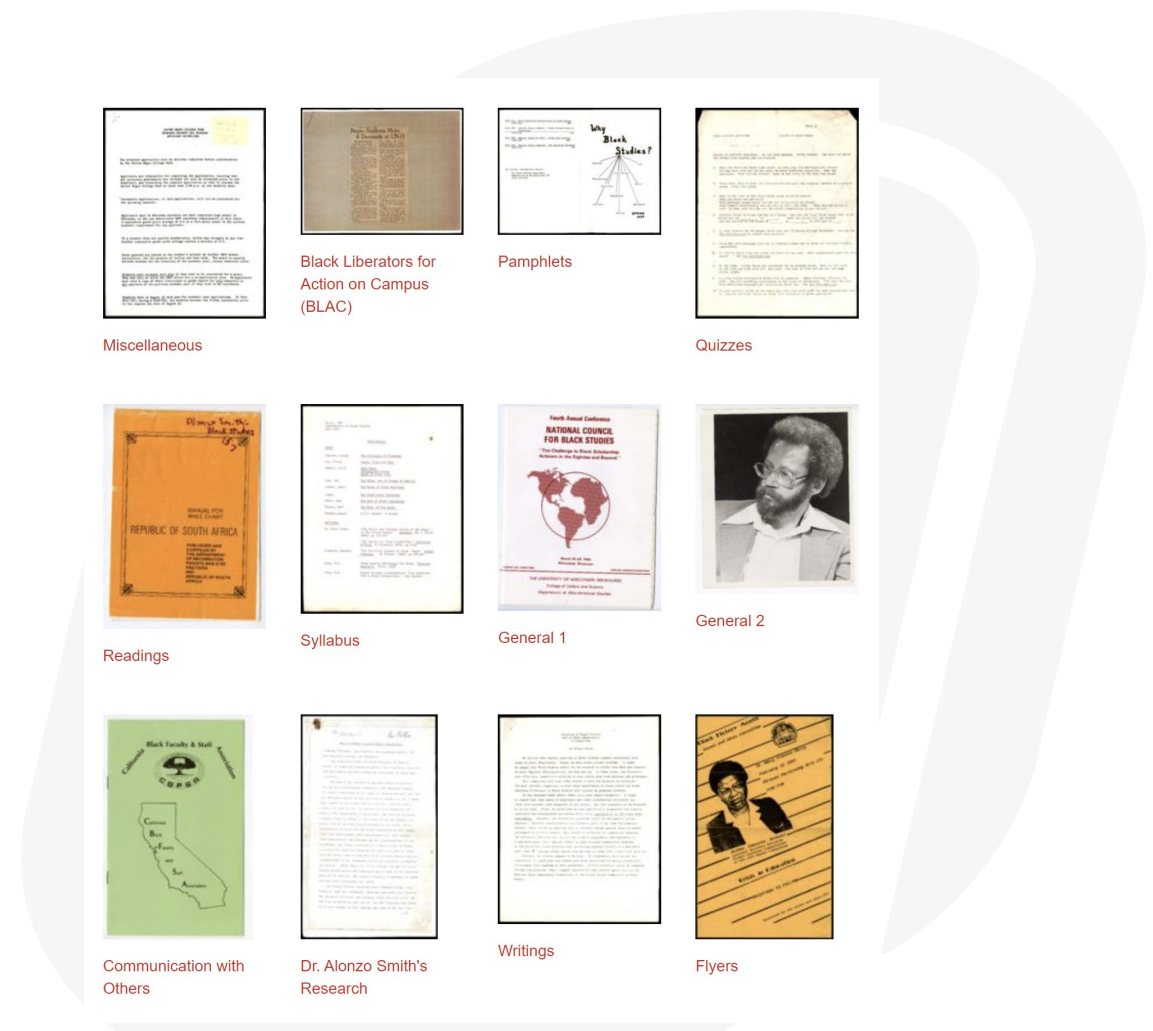
Archival material from the Great Plains Black History Museum (GPBHM) consists of over 200 document boxes of letters, photographs, clippings, artifacts, and other collection material. An archivist for the GPBHM inventoried the material and identified potential series for the collection, including Local Histories, Black Institutions, Family Papers, Rare Books, Musical Scores, Bertha Calloway's Research Collection, Photographs, Artifacts, and Unknown or Miscellaneous documents. Documented here is a small selection of material from the whole collection. This material relates to the Department of Black Studies at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Search this Collection

Search

Obstacles

- Establishing trust
- Funding
- Digital infrastructure
- Communication



Miscellaneous



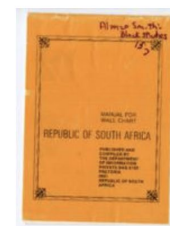
Black Liberators for Action on Campus (BLAC)



Pamphlets



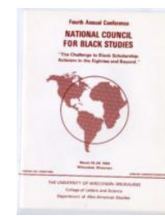
Quizzes



Readings



Syllabus



General 1



General 2



Communication with Others



Dr. Alonzo Smith's Research



Writings



Flyers

Two screenshots of Great Plains Black History Museum Collection items as displayed online via Islandora



Obstacles

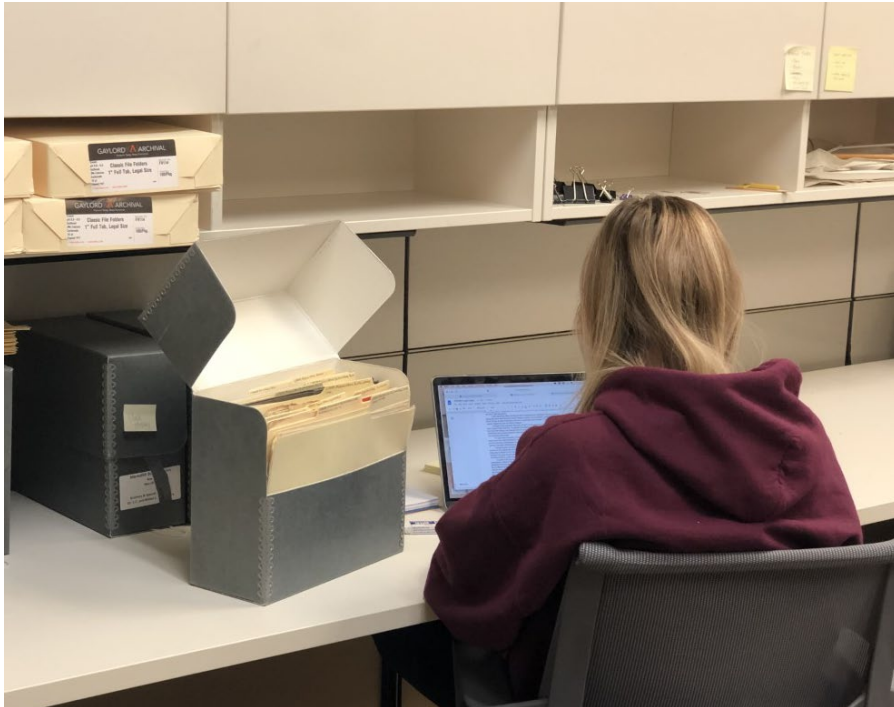


Photo of our student employee working on the GPBHM collection.

Great Plains Black History Museum Collection

Collection – Box: 1-16 Identifier: GPBHM

University of Nebraska at Omaha Archives & Special Collections | Great Plains Black History Museum Collection

Collection Overview Collection Organization Container Inventory

Scope and Contents

Archival material from the Great Plains Black History Museum (GPBHM) consists of over 200 document boxes of letters, photographs, clippings, artifacts, and other collection material. An archivist for the GPBHM inventoried the material and identified potential series for the collection, including Local Histories, Black Institutions, Family Papers, Rare Books, Musical Scores, Bertha Calloway's Research Collection, Photographs, Artifacts, and Unknown...

[See more >](#)

Dates

1906 - 1997

Conditions Governing Access

This material is temporarily in the custody of UNO Libraries Archives and Special Collections. Access to this material requires permission from staff of the Great Plains Black History Museum.

Biographical / Historical

The Great Plains Black History Museum officially opened in February 1976. In its early years, it received funding from the city of Omaha and private and corporate foundations. They operated on a shoe-string budget with founder Bertha Calloway often working without a salary. Calloway was always gathering artifacts, stories, and papers relating to Black History, and sought to share the rich history of African Americans with the Omaha community. As during...

Search Collection

From year To year

Search

Navigate the Collection

Great Plains Black History Museum Collection

- + Black History
- + Black Studies at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO)
- + Education (College)
- + Education (PreK-12)
- + Museum Administration
- + Military
- + Sports
- + Miscellaneous



Benefits and the Future



Photos of a UNO archivist and GPBHM executive director working with the collection in preparation for a collection move, and a closeup of one shelving unit.



Thank you!

Lori Schwartz: lschwartz@unomaha.edu

Wendy Guerra: wguerra@unomaha.edu

