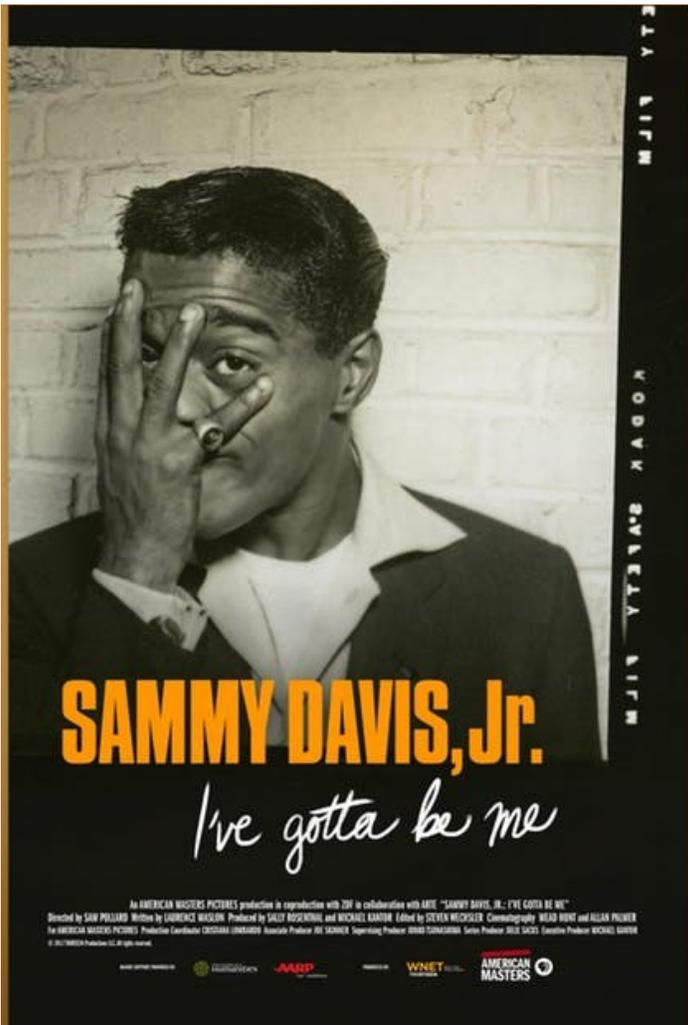




## Annual Film Series with Greater KC Black History Study Group, American Jazz Museum, and Bruce R. Watkins Center

On **Monday, October 14 at 6:00 p.m.**, the National Archives will kick-off the 2019-2020 film series with the Greater Kansas City Black History Study Group, American Jazz Museum, and Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Center, with a screening of ***Sammy Davis, Jr.: I've Gotta Be Me***. This program will take place at the Gem Theater, 1615 East 18th Street, Kansas City, MO. [Reservations](#) are requested for this **free program**.



*Sammy Davis, Jr.: I've Gotta Be Me* is the first major film documentary to examine the performer's vast career and his journey for identity through the shifting tides of civil rights and racial progress during 20th-century America. Sammy Davis, Jr., had the kind of career that was indisputably legendary, vast in scope and scale. And yet, his life was complex, complicated and contradictory. Davis strove to achieve the American Dream in a time of racial prejudice and shifting political territory. He was a veteran of increasingly outdated show business traditions and worked tirelessly to stay relevant, even as he frequently found himself bracketed by the bigotry of white America and the distaste of black America. Davis was the most public black figure to embrace Judaism, thereby yoking his identity to that of another persecuted minority. In Duke Ellington's words, he was "beyond category." Featuring exclusive interviews with Billy

Crystal, Norman Lear, Jerry Lewis, Whoopi Goldberg and Kim Novak, with never-before-seen photographs from Davis' vast personal collection and rare footage from his performances in television, film and concert, this film explores the life and art of a uniquely-gifted entertainer whose trajectory paralleled the major flashpoints of American society, from the Depression through the 1980s.

*Sammy Davis, Jr.: I've Gotta Be Me* had its world premiere at the 2017 Toronto International Film Festival, was shown at numerous film festivals including DOC NYC and garnered multiple awards, including the Jury Prize and Audience Award for Best Documentary Feature at the Pan African Film & Arts Festival, the Audience Award at the Nashville Film Festival 2018 and Best Documentary Feature at the Louisiana International Film Festival.

### October 2019

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#### Upcoming Events

Unless noted, all events are held at the National Archives 400 W. Pershing Road Kansas City, MO 64108

- **Oct. 14** - FACILITY CLOSED FOR COLUMBUS DAY HOLIDAY
- **Oct. 14** - 6:00 P.M. FILM SCREENING: *SAMMY DAVIS, JR.: I'VE GOTTA BE ME*\*
- **Oct. 22** - 6:30 P.M. AUTHOR LECTURE: *THE BACKWASH OF WAR WITH CYNTHIA WACHTELL*\*
- **Oct. 30** - 1:30 P.M. AFTERNOON LECTURE: *VERY SECRET, VERY COOL, BUT NOT ALIENS WITH DR. BRENT GEARY*\*

\*DENOTES ACTIVITY IS OFFSITE.

## *The Backwash of War: Ellen N. La Motte and Her Explosive Lost Classic* with Author Cynthia Wachtell at the National World War I Museum and Memorial

On **Tuesday, October 22 at 6:30 p.m.**, the National Archives in partnership with the National World War I Museum and Memorial, will host **Cynthia Wachtell** who will present a lecture titled ***The Backwash of War: Ellen N. La Motte and Her Explosive Lost Classic***. This program will take place in the J.C. Nichols Auditorium at the National World War I Museum and Memorial, 2 Memorial Drive, Kansas City, MO. [Reservations](#) are requested for this **free program**.

Boldly capturing World War I's devastation, writer and suffragist Ellen N. La Motte penned her controversial book, *The Backwash of War*, about her experiences as a nurse on the Western Front. Modeling a new and influential style of war writing, her biting prose was immediately banned in England and France upon its publication in 1916, and

## **THE BACKWASH OF WAR**



later censored in America. Join professor Cynthia Wachtell for a discussion on the contentious text and incredible story of its author based upon Wachtell's book *The Backwash of War: An Extraordinary American Nurse in World War I*. Book sales will be available before and after lecture with an author signing. *This program is presented in partnership with the National World War I Museum and Memorial and the University of MO-Kansas City Women's Center.*

## *Very Secret, Very Cool, but Not Aliens: The U-2, the A-12, and Area 51* with Dr. Brent Geary at Park University

On **Wednesday, October 30 at 1:30 p.m.**, the National Archives in partnership with Park University, will host **Dr. Brent Geary** who will present an afternoon lecture titled ***Very Secret, Very Cool, but Not Aliens: The U-2, the A-12 and Area 51***. This **free program** will take place at Park University, 8700 NW River Park Drive, Parkville, MO.

For decades, the aerial surveillance programs of the CIA were shrouded in mystery by both design and necessity. Unfortunately, their secrecy and spectacular technological achievements combined to add fuel to conspiracy theories related to extraterrestrials at a time when popular culture experienced a surge in interest in the topic. Dr. Brenty Geary, historian for the Central Intelligence Agency and Center for Central Intelligence, will explore the development of the U-2 and A-12, the faster forerunner of the more famous SR-71 Blackbird, the CIA's purchase and use of the test site known as Area 51 in their development, and their contributions to the history of American aviation, intelligence, foreign policy, and inadvertently popular culture. *This program is presented in partnership with Park University and the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College.*



Left: The Lockheed U-2 aircraft nicknamed "Dragon Lady" is a single-jet engine, high altitude spy plane. Image courtesy of Brent Geary.

# Seventh Annual Virtual Genealogy Fair

On **Wednesday, October 23**, the National Archives will host the seventh annual virtual Genealogy Fair via webcast. Watch the entire day of videos on [YouTube](#). Handouts for each presentation will be available just prior to the event, so stay tuned.

Viewers can watch sessions at your convenience as these presentations offer family history research tools on Federal records for all skill levels. No reservations are needed. Welcome remarks from the Archivist of the United States, David Ferriero, will begin at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time.

The National Archives and Records Administration holds the permanently valuable records of the Federal government. These include records of interest to genealogists, such as pension files, ship passenger lists, census and military personal records. A schedule of the events can be found [online](#).

This year's topics include an overview of the National Archives Catalog; records related to Preserving Personal Collections, Immigration Records, World War I Naval and Marine Records, Bureau of Indian Affairs School Records, and Homestead Act/Land Records.

All session times are offered via Eastern Daylight Time.

The banner for the 2019 Virtual Genealogy Fair features a central illustration of a tree with green leaves and red apples. Several circular icons containing stylized human figures in various colors (red, purple, blue, green) are placed on the tree's branches. At the base of the tree is a large red apple with the letters 'ME' on it. The background is a light blue gradient. Text on the banner includes the National Archives logo, the event title '2019 VIRTUAL GENEALOGY FAIR', the date and time 'WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23 • 10 A.M.-4 P.M. EASTERN', and promotional messages: 'ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME', 'ATTEND FREE OF CHARGE AND NO REGISTRATION', 'YouTube WATCH LIVE', and '#GENFAIR2019'. At the bottom, it provides a link for 'SCHEDULE AND HANDOUTS' and identifies the 'NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION'.

## Free Professional Development Opportunities for Educators

### ***Finding Hispanic-Latinx Primary Sources at the National Archives*** **Thursday, October 10 at 7:00 p.m. - Eastern Daylight Time**

Primary sources related to Hispanic-Latinx culture at the National Archives are numerous, yet can be challenging to discover. In this new webinar, participants will learn how to navigate the National Archives' online resources; where to find the National Archives' Hispanic-Latinx primary resources; and some of the best search terms for discovering these primary sources. [Registration](#) is required.

### ***An Introduction to Docs Teach*** **Wednesday, October 16 at 7:00 p.m. - Eastern Daylight Time**

Join us for an introduction to [DocsTeach.org](#), the online tool for teaching with documents from the National Archives. Discover how to find primary sources for teaching history and civics topics. Explore the 12 different document-based activity tools and learn how, with a free DocsTeach.org account, you can create your own activities or modify existing activities to share with your students. This webinar is suitable for all educators. [Registration](#) is required.

### ***Native Communities and the Vote: Teaching about American Indian Voting Rights through Documents*** **Wednesday, November 6 at 7:00 p.m. - Eastern Daylight Time**

Join us and learn how to incorporate primary sources related to American Indian voting rights into your lesson plans. We will share activities and resources from the National Archives, and explore how to include discussions of evolving rights over time as relating to Native Communities and the right to participate in federal elections. [Registration](#) is required.

# Hidden Treasures from the Stack

## A National Economic Boycott Campaign

Originally known as the “Alice Paul Amendment” the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) was introduced in each session of Congress from 1923 until it passed in 1972. Paul was a suffrage advocate and a key figure in passing the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment granting women the right to vote. ERA had three parts:

- 1 – equal rights under the law shall not be denied by Congress or any State on account of sex;
- 2 – Congress shall have the power to enforce, via legislation, the provisions of this article; and
- 3 – the amendment shall take effect two years after ratification.

Upon Congressional approval, the ERA was sent to each state for ratification. Congress put a 17-year deadline in place on the process; most Constitutional amendments do not have ratification deadlines. Initially there was strong support as 22 states immediately ratified it, followed by eight states in 1973, three states in 1974, and one state in 1975. Slowly state opposition to ERA had begun to develop – Missouri was no exception.

Filed in U.S. District Court in 1978 by John Ashcroft, then Attorney General of Missouri, *State of Missouri v. National Organization for Women, Inc.*, (NOW) is a case that highlights the economic challenges felt by Missouri during the time period. Ashcroft produced a 10-page complaint against NOW and ERAmerica that alleged conspiracy along with violations of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act (outlawing monopoly business practices) and the Clayton Act (prohibition of anti-competitive mergers, pricing, and unethical corporate behavior). ERAmerica was a nationwide coalition of civic, labor, religious, and women’s organizations that organized in the mid-1970s to promote not just ratification of ERA, but also helped with strategizing an Economic Boycott Campaign of states that failed to ratify the amendment.

The strategy behind the boycott was clearly defined with specific goals as noted on the Guidelines for Action document that was distributed to NOW chapters. Missouri was one of several states hit with cancelled conventions and faced economic challenges as its two major cities, Kansas City and St. Louis, were popular large convention sites at the time, (Kansas City hosted the Republican National Convention in 1976) both ranking in the top 20 by number of conventions hosted and overall conference attendance. An extensive list of organizations that signed onto the Boycott included groups such as: American Association of University Women; American Civil Liberties Union; American Federation of Government Employees; American Jewish Committee; American Library Association; Communication Workers of America; Latin American Studies Association; League of Women Voters; National Council for Social Studies; National Education Association; Parents Without Partners; Soroptomist International; United Auto Workers; and the Young Women’s Christian Association.

In some instances, the hotel industry was willing to help ensure passage of ERA as they realized the revenue that was being lost would continue to harm their companies, such as the case of the Chase Park Plaza Hotel in St. Louis. According to exhibit documents in the case, estimated revenues lost in major cities included: \$12 million in Atlanta; \$21 million in Chicago; \$6 million in Miami; and \$13 million in New Orleans (with inflation these amounts total to \$203 million in 2019 dollars). Some cities and states, including Portland, OR and Minnesota, banned city and state employees from traveling on work time to states that had not ratified ERA.



Above: A button distributed in support of the Economic Boycott Campaign. RG 21, Records of the U.S. District Courts; U.S. District Court for the Central (Jefferson City) Division of the District of Missouri.; Civil Case Files, 1938 - 1991; Case No. 78-4053CV, *State of Missouri v. National Organization for Women, Inc.*; NAID 583800.

(Continued on page 8.)

NOW ECONOMIC BOYCOTT CAMPAIGN

Guidelines for Action

GOAL:

- To add more organizations to the list of boycott supporters.
- Assure media attention to campaign as often as possible.
- Keep the campaign figures in front of the state legislators and convention bureaus, and affiliates, in unratified states.

STRATEGY:

- Take a chapter inventory of organization affiliations.
- Prepare a city resolution to be presented by a friendly council-person.
- Alert media for action.
- Order multiple brochures and buttons for your campaign.
- Take a city or town inventory to identify organizations to which a large number of women belong.
- Key in on the following areas if at all possible:
  - Insurance
  - Health
  - Financial
  - Legal

In other words, doctors, lawyers, bankers, and insurance agents. They represent the largest number of high-income conventions.

- Alert all nurses in your area to be in touch with the American Nurses Association. The international congress is meeting 40,000 strong in Kansas City. Wilma Scott Heide is personally spearheading the effort to get the nurses to cancel the site of their convention.
- Inform as many people as you possibly can about the boycott. Use all available means. If you have a headquarters or central office of an organization in your area, contact your state coordinator so that she can link up several chapters to multiply the pressure.
- Remember -- most of the resolutions so far passed have been spearheaded by just a few women. Individuals can make this happen.

THIS PROJECT IS CRITICAL TO THE ERA RATIFICATION STRATEGY. ORGANIZE A BOYCOTT CAMPAIGN PROJECT IN YOUR CHAPTER TODAY.

Pl's Ex No 4-AAUW  
for identification  
5/19/76

# *the Chase-Park Plaza Hotel*

May 13, 1976

RECEIVED

MAY 19 1976

GENERAL DIRECTOR'S  
OFFICE

Dr. Marjorie Bell Chambers  
American Association of University Women  
2401 Virginia Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20037

Dear Dr. Chambers:

Enclosed please find a copy of the letter that we had written to you on April 1 with respect to the AAUW convention scheduled for June 19-23, 1977 at the Chase Park Plaza, which had been cancelled because of the failure of the Missouri State Legislature to adopt the Equal Rights Amendment during the past session of the legislature.

We believe that we can be of assistance in the passage of ERA through the St. Louis and Missouri Hotel and Motel Association and in event you are receptive to our cooperative effort in passage of the foregoing amendment by the Missouri Legislature, we would appreciate your advising us if favorable reconsideration would be given to rebooking the AAUW convention on any of the dates specified in our letter of April 1.

Sincerely yours,

*L. E. Schoenbrunn*  
L. E. Schoenbrunn  
Corporate Vice President

LES/kc  
TH/7254

copy  
made part of  
Lena's (unlearned)  
6/1/76  
sc

DEFENDANT'S  
EXHIBIT  
NO. 31

212 N. Kingshighway Blvd., St. Louis, Missouri 63108  
314 381-2500 EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Phyllis Schlafly  
Fairmount  
Alton, Illinois  
62002

Ashcroft  
**RECEIVED**

MAR 31 1978

March 28, 1978

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

Honorable John Ashcroft  
Attorney General  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Dear John:

Enclosed is a very new law review article that I think you should read in connection with your lawsuit against NOW re the boycott.

With all best wishes, and thanks for your leadership in this matter.

Faithfully,

Left: Personal note written in 1978 by STOP ERA advocate, Phyllis Schlafly to Missouri Attorney General John Ashcroft, in support of his work with the lawsuit against NOW.

Below: Brochure for soliciting support through donations of the Economic Boycott Campaign. The brochure was most likely (intentionally) printed in green to evoke the color of money.

RG 21, Records of the U.S. District Courts; U.S. District Court for the Central (Jefferson City) Division of the District of Missouri.; Civil Case Files, 1938 - 1991; Case No. 78-4053CV, *State of Missouri v. National Organization for Women, Inc.*; NAID 583800.

Women's ERA group launches boycott of non-ratifying states  
Conventions taken elsewhere  
States shunning ERA suffer No ERA — no conference  
American Home Economics Association To Limit Annual Meets To ERA States  
NOW BRINGS ECONOMIC PRESSURE  
NOW Flexes Muscles  
ERA issue costly to cities  
Boycott costing states that shun ERA ratification

### Put your money where the ERA is . . .

Each day more organizations across the country are joining the Economic Boycott Campaign sponsored by the National Organization for Women. Why? Because they believe an overwhelming majority of women and men in this country are committed to human rights and equality and therefore support the Equal Rights Amendment—a legal extension of our American tradition of fair play and justice that will include women in the U.S. Constitution.

They believe the legal, moral and symbolic impact of the ERA can provide the needed push to change persistent patterns of discrimination facing women today. So, to help ratify the amendment, they are putting the strength of their money behind it by carefully placing their conventions in ERA-ratified states.

The NOW Economic Boycott Campaign asks all groups, organizations, and associations to refrain, until the ERA is ratified, from holding conventions in any of the 15 unratified states. Thirty-eight states must approve the ERA to make it the 27th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Thirty-five have already done so leaving three more needed to ratify by March 1979.

The NOW Boycott is working. Chicago reports convention revenue losses of \$15 million—Atlanta,

\$6 million—Miami, \$4.5 million. And its impact is just beginning.

Your organization can become part of this national commitment to human rights.

How? By developing a resolution such as the sample shown here and by presenting it to your group's policy-making body for passage. This not only puts economic pressure where it belongs—in the unratified states—but it allows you to publicly support those states which have ratified the ERA.

Act immediately. The ERA needs your help NOW.

#### ★ Say NO to these states . . .

- |           |                |
|-----------|----------------|
| Alabama   | Mississippi    |
| Arizona   | Missouri       |
| Arkansas  | Nevada         |
| Florida   | North Carolina |
| Georgia   | Oklahoma       |
| Illinois  | South Carolina |
| Louisiana | Utah           |
|           | Virginia       |

#### A Sample Resolution . . .

WHEREAS, inclusion in the Constitution of these United States is the basic, unalienable right of every citizen;

WHEREAS, women have been excluded from the Constitution since its inception;

WHEREAS, (Name of Organization) views as intolerable this exclusion of over one half of the population of this country;

WHEREAS, the EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT, writing women into the Constitution, must be ratified by three-fourths of the states (38) prior to its incorporation;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that all future conventions, meetings, and conferences of (Name of Organization) will be held only in those states that have ratified the EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT.

Yes, I want information about the NOW Economic Boycott Campaign . . .

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION(S) \_\_\_\_\_

Complaint Exhibit 1

Women's ERA group launches boycott of non-ratifying states  
Conventions taken elsewhere  
States shunning ERA suffer No ERA — no conference  
American Home Economics Association To Limit Annual Meets To ERA States  
NOW BRINGS ECONOMIC PRESSURE  
NOW Flexes Muscles  
ERA issue costly to cities  
Boycott costing states that shun ERA ratification

(Continued from page 4.)

Organized opposition to ERA was quite effective as a STOP ERA Campaign was launched and led by St. Louis native Phyllis Schlafly along with groups like the National Council of Catholic Women. Even the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) opposed ERA until the early 1970s. The anti-ERA campaign successfully paralyzed passage of the amendment in the late 1970s.

In 1979, U.S. District Court Judge Elmo Hunter found in favor of the defense which was appealed by the Missouri Attorney General's office in the 8<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals. The Appeals court upheld the lower court's findings and dismissed the case in March 1980. Ashcroft then sought an opportunity before the U.S. Supreme Court by asking for a review; his request was denied.

At the same time as the Missouri case, Ashcroft and his team met with other states from the Economic Boycott list to encourage them to file similar lawsuits. Louisiana was asked to file a suit, however the state declined. In a refusal letter written by Louisiana Attorney General William Guste, Jr., he noted "the ERA boycott is not to fix prices or a monopoly in commerce...it is a political attempt to influence government and is shielded by the Free Speech guarantees of the First Amendment." Nevada filed on March 3, 1978, as *State of Nevada vs National Organization of Women, Inc.*, case #78-0028 in U.S. District Court in Las Vegas. The Nevada case progressed around the same time as the Missouri activity, however by 1981 the defense filed a motion to dismiss given the outcome of the Missouri situation.

Ironically 39-years later, on March 22, 2017, Nevada ratified the ERA, followed a year later by Illinois on May 30, 2018. The Archivist of the United States (currently David Ferriero) reviews all amendments as derived from 1 U.S. Code 106b...*Whenever official notice is received at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) that any amendment proposed to the Constitution of the United States has been adopted, according to the provisions of the Constitution, the Archivist of the United States shall forthwith cause the amendment to be published, with his certificate, specifying the States by which the same may have been adopted, and that the same has become valid, to all intents and purposes, as a part of the Constitution of the United States.* Once the National Archives receives at least 38 state ratifications of a proposed Constitutional Amendment, NARA publishes the amendment along with a certification of the ratifications and it becomes part of the Constitution without further action by Congress. After the process in 1 U.S.C. 106b is complete the amendment becomes part of the Constitution and cannot be rescinded; another Constitutional Amendment would be needed to abolish the new amendment.

By the late 1970s, five states, including Idaho, Kentucky, Nebraska, Tennessee, and South Dakota, revoked their ERA ratifications; it remains to be determined whether a state can legally revoke ratification of a Constitutional Amendment. Opponents of ERA argue that the imposed time limit to ratify has run out; supporters argue that a past-precedent exists with the 27<sup>th</sup> Amendment (known as the Madison Amendment) which became part of the Constitution in 1992 and was introduced in 1789. Historically, states have ratified amendments after deadlines and Congress has not rejected the ratifications. To date, only one more state is needed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment.

The National Archives at Kansas City is home to thousands of U.S. District Court cases along with Court of Appeals records. For more information about court records visit the National Archives [Catalog](#).



GENERAL INFORMATION: The National Archives is open Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed on weekends and Federal holidays. Hours are subject to change due to special programs and weather.

The National Archives is located at 400 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, Missouri, 64108. The National Archives at Kansas City is home to historical records dating from the 1820s to the 1990s created or received by Federal agencies in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. For more information, call 816-268-8000, email [kansascity.educate@nara.gov](mailto:kansascity.educate@nara.gov) or visit [www.archives.gov/kansas-city](http://www.archives.gov/kansas-city). Tweet us @KCArchives or #KCArchives. Find and follow us on Instagram at: [kansascity.archives](https://www.instagram.com/kansascity.archives). Find us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity](https://www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity).