

WNC LGBTQ+ Oral History Project



LGBTQ+ ORAL HISTORY TRAINING WORKSHOP

Objectives

Learn how to conduct oral history interviews and why LGBTQ communities need oral history and archival preservation. Join our team of interviewers and researchers. Workshop participants will

- ☐ Attend a panel discussion with people representing various LGBTQ intersectionalities
- ☐ Learn and practice interviewing and listening skills
- ☐ Receive an oral history guidebook for contributing to the Western NC LGBTQ Archive Project
- ☐ Gain experience collecting "needs assessment data" to support LGBTQ communities
- ☐ Be paired with interested interview participants

Workshop Details

When: Saturday, August 24, 2019, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm

Where: UNC Asheville, Highsmith Union, French Broad Room (125)

Food: Breakfast snacks, coffee, and lunch provided

Parking: All parking is legal during the weekend on campus except the clearly marked restricted spaces (fire hydrants, handicap, thirty-minute spots).

Building Directions: Highsmith Union is about half way around the circle drive that runs through campus. Just as University Heights transitions (construction cones) to a single lane of one-way traffic, Highsmith Union will be on your right. Big glass doors and a covered bridge mark the entrance. Come in the front door and look for signage.

Registration

If you plan to join us at UNC Asheville on August 24 for the training workshop, make sure to register [here](https://www.blueridgepride.org/event/oral-history-training-seminar-wnc-lgbtq-oral-history-project/) ASAP (must first log into Blue Ridge pride using social media account or chosen login).

[Registration Link: <https://www.blueridgepride.org/event/oral-history-training-seminar-wnc-lgbtq-oral-history-project/>]

Workshop Agenda

9 am Breakfast snacks and introductions
What is oral history? Why do oral history? How to do oral history?
Listening stations and learning to use audio recording equipment
Panel discussion with LGBT+ community leaders

Noon Lunch
Interview best practices and critical listening skills
Practicing interview protocol
Defining community needs assessment and interview questions

3 pm Assigning interview leads and project responsibilities to workshop participants

WNC LGBTQ+ Oral History Project

Preparing for the Workshop

Read the chapter "[Learning to Listen](#)" from the *Oral History Reader* (nice examples of actual interviews and how interviewers unintentionally interrupt the memory process). You can download this from our [Oral History Home Page](#)

Review at your leisure one or more of these oral history online archives (see next page). Notice how the archives are organized and which LGBT+ issues are represented; experience / listen to some of the stories. We'll hear some of these during the workshop too.

Online Oral History Archives

- [Country Queers](#) – multimedia project documenting the diverse experiences of rural and small town LGBTQIA folks in the US
- [Ozarks Lesbian and Gay Archives Oral History Project](#)– 150 interviews with area residents
- [Princeton LGBTQIA Oral History Project](#) - Documenting LGBTQIA experiences at Princeton
- [University of Toronto's LGBTQ Oral History Digital Collaboratory](#)
- [Visual Arts and AIDS](#) - Artists discussing the influence of AIDS epidemic on the visual arts
- [Queer Appalachia Oral History Project](#)-18 interviews of LGBTQ people in Central Appalachia/Eastern Kentucky
- [ACT UP Oral History Project](#) – Video interviews of surviving members of AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power, New York
- [LGBTQ Religious Archives Network Oral Histories](#) – Collection indexed by faith, subject, geography
- [African American AIDS Activism Oral History Project](#) – Documenting the struggle against HIV and AIDS in black communities.
- [Lesbian Herstory Archives, Herstories Audiovisual Collection](#) – ~ 3,000 audio and 950 video.
- [Archives of Lesbian Oral Testimony](#) – inclusive of Two Spirit, queer, bisexual, and lesbian women, transmen, and others
- [Rainbow History](#) – Preserving history of LGBT community in metropolitan Washington DC.
- [New York City Trans Oral History Project](#) – documents transgender resistance and resilience in New York City.
- [OUTWORDS](#) – first project to travel America recording the stories of LGBTQ pioneers and elders

Thank you!

We look forward to working with you Saturday, August 24. Until then, email Amanda Wray (awray1@unca.edu) or Rachel Muir (RMuir@BlueRidgePride.org) with any questions.

Amanda Wray & Rachel Muir

About the Program & Program Leaders

The LGBTQ Oral History project is a collaboration of the Blue Ridge Pride Center and UNC Asheville, with generous support from the YMCA of Western NC.



Dr. Amanda Wray

Associate Professor UNC Asheville, Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies and English Department
Email: awray1@unca.edu



Dr. Rachel Muir

Director, Community Projects & Partnerships, Blue Ridge Pride Center, Inc.
Email: RMuir@BlueRidgePride.org

