



SPOHP LIGHT

NEWSLETTER



About Us

Our Mission

SPOHP is an award-winning, social-justice research center engaged in experiential learning initiatives all over the world. Our team of student researchers, interns, volunteers, and staff are dedicated to gathering, preserving, and promoting living histories of individuals from all walks of life.

SPOHP is committed to using critical historical inquiry and digital humanities production to encourage civic engagement and dialogue between the past, present and the future.

Our Work

SPOHP supports diverse projects such as those listed below. We also encourage students to pursue their own projects if interested. Visit https://oral.history.ufl.edu/projects/ to learn more about our work.







Project Updates

The Joel Buchanan Archive of African American History (JBA Collection)

The JBA Team is currently working on creating a complete research index that will include over 1,000 interviews from the African American History Collection. This source will be used for future collaborations and aid in curriculum development for K-12 schools and university classrooms.

Mississippi Freedom Project (MFP)

SPOHP is excited to announce its 13th yearly trip to the Mississippi Delta as part of the Mississippi Freedom Project. From July 25 to August 1, students will document oral histories with elders regarding the civil rights movement, including notable figures in the areas. Students will travel to multiple states such as Mississippi, Arkansa, and Alabama to document the history and legacy of community organizing. If you are interested in participating on this one week trip, please email adolfhoromero@ufl.edu.

Requirements for the trip are below:

Attend one informational meeting over the summer (virtual or in person). Study scholarly works about the Civil Rights Movement in the Mississippi Delta (materials will be provided).

Conduct fieldwork for one week throughout the Mississippi Delta.

Write a reflection essay about the trip.

Ottoman Greeks of the United States (OGUS)

OGUS researchers had the honor of interviewing Mrs. Mary Makredes and Mr. Paul Douglas this past month. We are indebted to Mrs. Phyllis Afentoulis for facilitation of her mother's and uncle's interviews.



Florida Naturalist Project (FNP)

The Florida Naturalist Project team has documented the impacts of Florida's increasingly degrading waterways. Through oral history, we will continue to collect testimonies from fishermen, policymakers, species specialists, and everyday people. This project will explain how a variety of overlaying factors contribute to the destruction of these waterways and the cost that they have on individuals' economic, environmental, and political livelihoods. During the university spring break, staff conducted fieldwork in the Keys and the Everglades.

Community Collaborations

Putnam County

On March 5, 2022, a team composed of Marcus, Laura, and Sebastiano conducted a series of invaluable oral history interviews in Palatka, Florida. The interviews pertained to the period of educational desegregation in the county. Interviewees shared stories about attending local schools during this period, whether on the role of teacher or student. The wealth of knowledge shared in decades of lived experience will certainly be instrumental in preserving and safekeeping local history in North-Central Florida.

Gainesville Sun Research

In collaboration with the Gainesville Sun, SPOHP researchers are sifting through the newspaper's historical archives in order to document its portrayals of racial injustice throughout the years. Additionally, our team will be heading to the Smathers archives in March (and in the future) to comb through microfilm of nineteenth-century news entries. If you are interested in joining the project, please email Lauratamayo@ufl.edu.

Interview Highlight



In honor of Women's History Month, SPOHP would like to share the voices of women who have fought for liberation and equality. On our social media, you can find posts from throughout March focused on various women and their work. For this interview highlight, we chose to feature Ms. Judith Brown, a leading figure of the Southern Civil Rights struggle and an internationally recognized pioneer of the worldwide feminist movement. On November 5th, 2011, the Gainesville Women's Liberation League hosted a 20-year commemoration of Ms. Brown at the Pride Community Center of North Central Florida. During this event, which SPOHP was lucky enough to attend and record, Ms. Brown's life was celebrated and her incredible work in promoting racial justice and gender equality was recognized. May we honor her legacy by continuing to fight for liberation! For the full video of this event, please visit https://youtu.be/engIG-2uJWw or scan the QR code below.





Announcements

African American History at UF: New Book Alert!

SPOHP invites all to read the recent publication African American Studies: 50 Years at the University of Florida, a ground-breaking book co-edited by Dr. Paul Ortiz and Dr. Jacob U'Mofe Gordon which documents the history of the African American Studies Program at UF. This remarkable book will be promoted at the Sunshine State Book Festival from April 9-10, and is available as an ebook for free online at https://ufl.pb.unizin.org/africanamericanstudies/.







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Looking Ahead: LPPI Webinar

The teams at SPOHP and the UCLA Latino Policy and Politics Initiative have planned a webinar for April 19 at 2pm EST titled Looking Ahead. This webinar will focus on the importance of Latinos both in and outside of Florida politics. Speakers include Senate Candidate Carlos Barberena, Santra Denis, and others.

Be sure to keep an eye out for this incredible event!

RSVP: https://bit.ly/3t7PzzK

THANK YOU!

Donate!

The Samuel Proctor Oral History
Program relies on the guidance and
support of our growing network of
sustainers. If you are an alumni or you
have a story that you want to share,
please let us know! Whatever the case,
thank you for being a member of the
SPOHP community. We look forward to
continuing to provide you with exciting
updates about our students' research!

Connect with us on social media to stay up-to-date with our work and upcoming events!



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