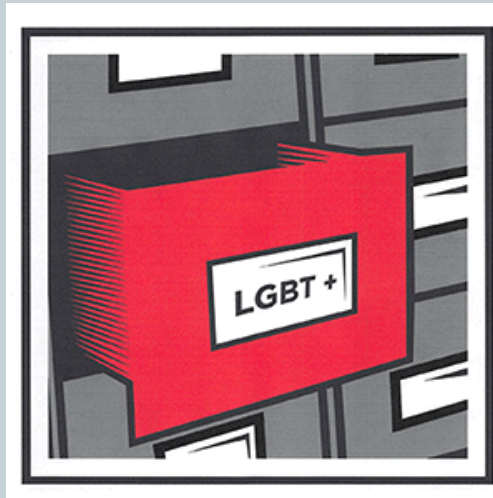


# Out of the Closet and Into the Archives: The LGBT+ Archives Project of Louisiana



**SAMANTHA BRUNER**  
**LOUISIANA RESEARCH COLLECTION**  
**@DAPPERARCHIVIST**



# Overview



- What is the LGBT+ Archives Project?
- Documentation strategy
- Outreach and activities
- Goals for the future

# The LGBT+ Archives Project



- **Mission:**

*“To promote and encourage the protection and preservation of materials that chronicle the culture and history of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgender Community of Louisiana.”*

# The LGBT+ Archives Project



## ● Activities:

- Educate the community on the importance of ensuring that LGBT+ historical materials are archived and made available for future generations to access, research, & study
- Promote the proper maintenance and preservation of historical LGBT+ materials
- Provide an information directory of archival resources where LGBT+ historical materials may be deposited or accessed for research and study
- Index, publish, and maintain a current list of locations of archived historical LGBT+ materials
- Develop financial resources to assist in the preservation and availability of certain LGBT+ collections

# The LGBT+ Archives Project

A decorative graphic consisting of a white circle with a teal outline, positioned centrally below the title and above a horizontal dashed line.

- What we DON'T do:
  - Accept donations of archival materials
  - Decide for the donor which repository should take their materials

# Documentation Strategy



*“A **documentation strategy** is a plan formulated to assure the documentation of an ongoing issue, activity, or geographic area. . . The documentation strategy is carried out through the mutual efforts of many institutions and individuals influencing both the creation of the records and the archival retention of a portion of them.”*

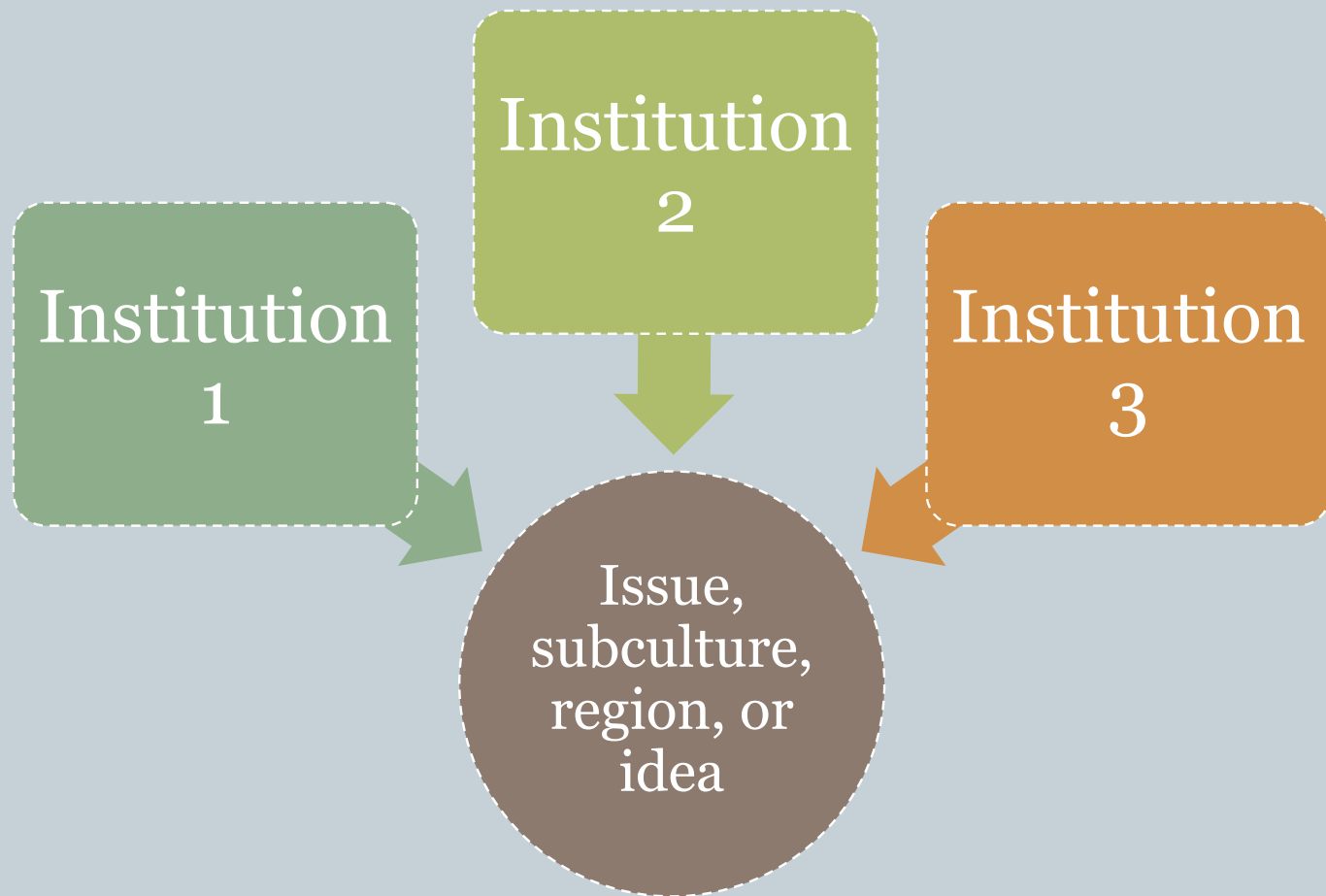
*-Helen Willa Samuels*

# Documentation Strategy



- Four activities:
  - Choosing and defining the topic to be documented
  - Selecting the advisors and establishing the site for the strategy
  - Structuring the inquiry, examining the form and substance of existing documentation
  - Selecting and placing the documentation

# Documentation Strategies: The Ideal





# Documentation Strategies: The Reality

A decorative graphic consisting of a white circle with a dark teal outline, positioned centrally below the title and above a horizontal dashed line.

- Institutions have limited resources
  - Staffing
  - Funding
- They are often in competition for those resources
  - Grants and endowments

# The LGBT+ Archives Project's Strategy



- Not affiliated with any one institution
- Includes representatives from the LGBT+ Community as well as archivists and museum curators from several repositories
- 501(c)3 Non-profit status

# Choosing the Topic



# Selecting Advisors



# Community Partnerships



- Ambush Magazine
- Southern Decadence
- The Winston Gray Memorial Foundation for the Performing Arts
- Cafe Lafitte's In Exile
- Grand Pre's Bar
- Krewe of Armeinius



# Structuring the Inquiry



Current Archives, Libraries, & Repositories with LGBT+ Holdings

New Orleans Area

**Amistad Research Center**

Tilton Hall, Tulane University  
6823 St. Charles Ave. New Orleans, LA 70118  
504-862-3222  
<http://www.amistadresearchcenter.org/index.php>  
[Guide to Amistad's LGBT holdings](#)  
[Guide to Amistad's womens' holdings](#)

**Earl K. Long Library**

University of New Orleans  
New Orleans, LA 70148  
504-280-6549  
<http://library.uno.edu/>

**Historic New Orleans Collection**

Williams Research Center  
410 Chartres Street  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130  
504-598-7171  
<http://www.hnoc.org/collections/research-center.html>

**Louisiana Research Collection**

Louisiana Research Collection (LaRC)  
Jones Hall (6801 Freret St) Room 202, Tulane University  
New Orleans, LA 70118  
504-865-5685  
<http://larc.tulane.edu/>

Join Our Mailing List

Name

First  Last

Email

LGBT+ Archives Project on Facebook



# Structuring the Inquiry



LGBT Bibliography | LGBT x

www.lgbtarchivesla.org/print-materials/

Apps Most Visited Color Scheme Design... Digital Archiving Re...

## LGBT+ Archives Project of Louisiana

Home About Current Archives LGBT Bibliography Blog Contact Facebook

### LGBT Bibliography

The following is a listing of periodicals, books, and other print publications concerning the LGBT+ community of Louisiana. Annotation follows many entries, along with notes indicating where some of the more rare publications can be found. As a rule, the dissertations and theses are easiest to access through the institutions where they were produced, or through ProQuest, a database available in most major libraries.

This listing is under construction - check back regularly for updates.

Please report any typos or omissions to [info@lgbtarchivesla.org](mailto:info@lgbtarchivesla.org).

#### PERIODICALS

*Ambush Magazine*. Available [online](#) and at the Louisiana Research Collection, Tulane University.

*Big Easy Times*. Began publication in 1988; Historic New Orleans Collection and Louisiana State University have copies

*Disstaff*. Feminist / lesbian themed. Back issues available at Newcomb College Archives

*Headlines*. "New Orleans' foremost entertainment and information guide" - presumably an LGBT publication Tulane University has a few issues

*Impact: New Orleans Gay News*. The New Orleans Public Library (main branch) has back copies.

*New Orleans Gay and Lesbian Yellow Pages*. Began publication in 1999; University of Louisville (KY) and Central Connecticut State University have copies

*Sunflower*. Newsletter of the short-lived Gay Liberation Front of New Orleans. Available at the main branch of the New Orleans Public Library.

*The Pink Pages of Greater New Orleans* Began publication in 1995; New Orleans Public Library has copies- "the gay and lesbian business and entertainment directory"

Join Our Mailing List

Name

First  Last

Email

LGBT+ Archives Project on Facebook

3:32 PM 5/19/2015

# Community Outreach



- Fundraisers
- Happy Hours
- Information tables
- Potlucks
- Website and Social Media
- General Membership Meetings
- Informal outreach



# Community Outreach

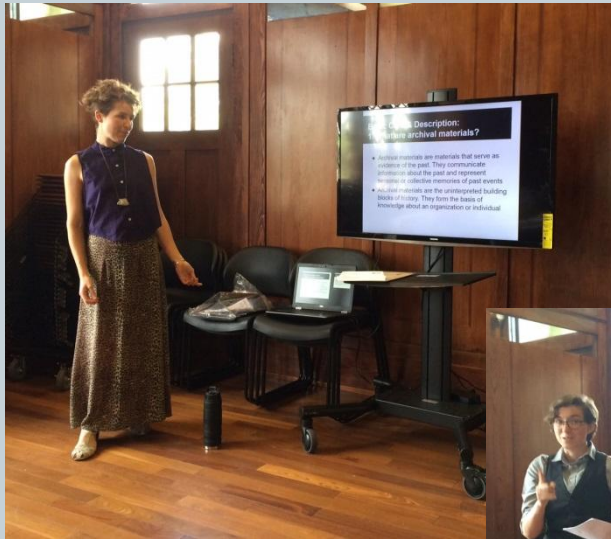
- Gay Easter Parade, April 5
- New Orleans Pride Parade, June 20th



# Community Outreach



## ● Personal Archiving Workshop



# Winter Gala Fundraiser



- November 2015
- Highlight Three Archival Collections:
  - Stuart Butler Papers
  - Allan Robinson Papers
  - Father Bill Richardson Papers
- Raise money to help with processing costs
- Have an archivist officially accept each collection

# Thank you!



Samantha Bruner  
[sbruner@tulane.edu](mailto:sbruner@tulane.edu)  
@DapperArchivist