

# Community Partnerships

Reimagining Collaboration

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# Background

- We have participated in a number of community collaborations over the years
- It is time to re-evaluate our practices (and our wording) and engage our archive community to advance equitable collaboration
- Looking at four main principles are Equity, Access, Impact, Sustainability
- We hope this discussion today will be a jumping off point for continued conversation
- We hope to hear your input, as members of diverse archives of different sizes and types

What word comes to  
mind with you hear  
partnership?

What word comes to  
mind when you hear  
collaboration?

# What word comes to mind with you hear partnership?

listen

trust

resources

support

community building

unison

open communication

diversity

visibility

shared vision

EQUAL

# What word comes to mind when you hear collaboration?

negative

creating

working together

communication

innovation

power holders

transparency

new perspective

equal credit

meaningful engagement

community

# Community Archives Collaborations

EQUITY - When we rethink the community project for increased equity, we need to recognize historical imbalances in power structures and incorporate ways to mitigate this in every part of the process. This requires “radical collaboration” and open communication.

# Community Archives Collaborations

ACCESS -

How do you want people to access your archive materials?

There is no wrong answer, but everyone in the collaboration needs to be on the same page.

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access in all formats in digital  
and in person

online, digital versions

post-custodial digital.

digitally

in person, virtually,

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collaborative digital collections

acrsoo institutions

# Community Archives Collaborations

IMPACT -

Who determines what an impactful outcome of a collaboration is?

Who do we want to reach? What effect do we want to have?



# Community Archives Collaborations

## IMPACT -

Who determines what an impactful outcome of a collaboration is?

all stakeholders

community at large

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community needs

researchers

community/donors

clients

tell story, inform educate

students

communities who are left out

Who do we want to reach? What effect do we want to have?

# Community Archives Collaborations

SUSTAINABILITY -

Is the end result of the collaboration meant to be long lasting?

What do we want for sustainability in 1) physical archives 2) digital archives 3) digital/special projects?

# Community Archives Collaborations

## SUSTAINABILITY -

Is the end result of the collaboration meant to be long lasting?

long term accessibility

preservation

storage space

access

long term relationships

digital versions of physical  
exhibitions and installations

impactful

available for forever

internal advocacy

protection from  
natural disaster

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global outreach

What do we want for sustainability in 1) physical archives 2) digital archives 3) digital/special projects?

What are some of the barriers to each of these goals and how do we overcome them?

Do you feel empowered to express your needs and concerns during a collaboration? If not, how can we all work to overcome this?

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