

October 2013

## Preservation team at Emory's libraries ready for emergencies



September was Emergency Preparedness Month - as every month should be - and the preservation team at Emory Library and Information Technology Services wants the campus community to know they are ready for nearly any disaster or emergency that threatens the university's books, collections and records.

When it began in 1986, the preservation office at Emory's Robert W. Woodruff Library was one of the first in a library in the Southeast. The preservation team is

composed of collections conservator Ann Frelsen and conservation technicians Julie Newton and Kirsten Wehner. They work frequently with rare materials from the Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL) and Pitts Theology Library, but they also work to keep the entire Emory Libraries collection safe, including materials at its storage library.

Preservation team members are specialists in mold, water damage, and pest management. The three regularly attend seminars and are trained in using respirators and protective gear for mold removal.

Having an in-house preservation team at Emory is an enormous benefit to the university, as well as to the community - the team belongs to a mutual-aid organization of local institutions that maintain archives. Emory's preservation team has come to the rescue in many emergencies - including a major mold outbreak, flooding in the Woodruff Library, and an infestation among university archival records.

[Read more about their experiences and their preparation for saving valuable materials](#)

[Online emergency guide for the Emory preservation office](#)

[Emory Report story about the 2008 Woodruff Library flood on three floors](#)

[Prepare your home and family for emergencies](#)

## MARBL secures grant to process African American women's papers

Collections of personal papers documenting African American women writers, musicians and artists held by Emory University's Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library (MARBL) will be processed and available for researchers, thanks to a \$126,976 grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

The grant will allow MARBL to hire a professional archivist who will work for two years to arrange and describe nine different collections, which will then be available for research. The collections include correspondence, writings and compositions, photographs, audiovisual and printed material, and other papers chronicling the lives and creative endeavors of African American women intellectuals in the 20th century.

The collections selected include the papers of novelist and playwright Pearl Cleage (pictured), artist/filmmaker/author Samella Lewis, African American entertainment historian and filmmaker Delilah Jackson, and artist and writer Mildred Thompson.

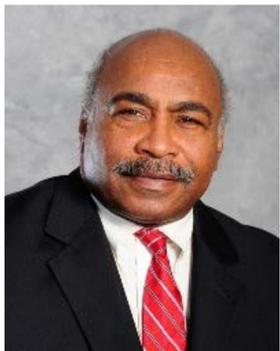
[Read more about the project](#)

[Writer Pearl Cleage places her archive at Emory](#)

[Papers of Ophelia DeVore, "black is beautiful" pioneer, come to Emory University](#)



## Race and Sports symposium videos now on YouTube



If you were unable to attend the September presentations for the new annual Race and Sports in American Culture Series (RASACS), the video recordings have been posted on Emory's YouTube channel.

The purpose of the series is to foster conversation and interdisciplinary work around race and sports in America, provide a space at Emory for new scholarship on the topic, and encourage research in tandem with the development of MARBL's African Americans in Sports Collection. The series is organized by Pellom McDaniels III, faculty curator of African-American Collections and Emory assistant professor of African American Studies, and Dana White, senior faculty curator and Emory professor emeritus of American Studies.

The theme for the series this year is professional football, with additional events planned around significant NFL dates in February (Super Bowl weekend) in conjunction with Goizueta Business School and April (ahead of the NFL draft in May).

[Read more about the series](#)

[YouTube: The Role of Sports for African Americans in a Changing Global Society, by William C. Rhoden, New York Times sports journalist](#)

[YouTube: How the 1970 Merger of the NFL and the AFL Changed America, panel discussion with former Kansas City Chiefs linebacker Willie Lanier \(pictured\) and sports author Michael MacCambridge](#)

**From readings to receptions, don't miss a single event.** Get updates sent to your phone or email, or add a reminder directly to your calendar. See [what's coming up](#) and choose an option that suits you.

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