



# NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Anne Hartman  
312.606.0722 or [ahartman@archivists.org](mailto:ahartman@archivists.org)

## **The Samuel Proctor Oral History Program Receives Diversity Award from the Society of American Archivists**

CHICAGO—The Samuel Proctor Oral History Program (SPOHP) at the University of Florida is a 2015 recipient of the Diversity Award given by the Society of American Archivists (SAA). The award will be presented at a ceremony during the SAA Annual Meeting in Cleveland, August 16–22. The award recognizes an individual, group, or institution for outstanding contributions in advancing diversity within the archives profession, SAA, or the archival record.

SPOHP teaches students, independent scholars, and community organizations how to bring history to life through oral history interviews. SPOHP teaches the craft and intellectual traditions of oral history through university seminars and community-based workshops. Since its founding in 1967, SPOHP has conducted more than seven thousand interviews and transcribed more than 150,000 pages of material from the interviews. Its current roster of projects, including the Alachua County African American History Project, the Mississippi Freedom Project, the Veterans History Project, the Native American History Project, and the Latina/o Diaspora in the Americas Project, represent the breadth of the program's impact on diversifying the archival record.

One supporter wrote that SPOHP's "relentless pursuit of community knowledge, local voices, and academic transformation has created a monumental program that has impacted the lives of countless people in Florida and across the nation."

SPOHP joins the Evanston, Illinois, nonprofit Shorefront as the 2015 recipients of the Diversity Award.

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*Founded in 1936, the Society of American Archivists is North America's oldest and largest national archives professional association. SAA's mission is to serve the educational and informational needs of more than 6,000 individual and institutional members and to provide leadership to ensure the identification, preservation, and use of records of historical value. For more information, visit [www.archivists.org](http://www.archivists.org).*

17 NORTH STATE STREET, SUITE 1425 | CHICAGO, IL 60602-4061 USA

TEL 312.606.0722 | TOLL-FREE 866.SAA.7858 | FAX 312.606.0728 | WEB [www.archivists.org](http://www.archivists.org)