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Digital Library of Georgia (September 2022)

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The Digital Library of Georgia Awards Six Subgrants to State Cultural Heritage Institutions

Six institutions are recipients of the tenth set of the Digital Library of Georgia (DLG)'s service. The program increases the diversity of contributors to the DLG and its content. Four of the six awardees are new partners to the DLG.

The recipients and their projects include:

- **Augusta Jewish Museum** (Augusta, GA.): Digitization, description, hosting, and preservation of the 200-year history of Jewish life in the Greater Augusta, Georgia, region. This content reflects cultural, political, and social situations impacting Jews living in Georgia. The Augusta Jewish Museum and its programming chronicle the life, history, and contributions of the Jewish community in the Central Savannah River Area. The museum also educates about the Holocaust and Israel, the homeland, and the Holyland. Their website is: <https://www.augustajewishmuseum.org/>.
- **Evans County African American Archive Museum** (Claxton, GA): Digitization, description, hosting, and preservation of African American funeral programs, primarily from Evans County in Georgia, dating from the early 1960s to the present. The mission of the Evans County African American Archive Museum is to provide means for all citizens of Evans County to obtain an excellent quality of life through programs and services. The archive was the recipient of a 2021 Georgia Historical Records Advisory Council Award for History Advocacy. Their Facebook group is: <https://www.facebook.com/Evans-County-Community-Center-343942125941003/>
- **Habersham County Historical Society** (Cornelia, GA): Digitization, description, hosting, and preservation of the archives of the independently owned Standard Telephone Company. Headquartered in Cornelia, it provided telephone service to rural northeast Georgians. The Habersham County Historical Society was formed on February 22, 1973, by a group of twelve citizens from Clarkesville, Cornelia, and Demorest, who met at Piedmont College and were interested in starting a historical society. Since then, they have published a book on their 200-year history and are planning their fiftieth anniversary celebration in 2023. You can find them online at: <https://habershamhistoricalsociety.org/>.
- **Smyrna Public Library** (Smyrna, GA): Digitization and hosting of the 1953 Smyrna "Better Home Town" Scrapbook. In the 1950s, Georgia Power sponsored the Better Home Town Contest to boost economic development. Communities' scrapbooks highlighted what towns considered to be their best attributes. Smyrna Public Library is the oldest city-operated library in the state of Georgia. It is fully funded by and serves the city's residents. The library is celebrating the 150th anniversary of its incorporation in 2022. Go to: <https://www.smyrnaga.gov/your-government/departments/smyrna-public-library>.
- **Sugar Hill Historic Preservation Society** (Sugar Hill, GA): Digitization and description of the Sugar Hill City Council

Records Collection of city council minutes, ordinances, resolutions, communications, economic studies, and other information from the city's incorporation in 1939 through June 1992. The Sugar Hill Historic Preservation Society meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 PM. All meetings are held in the History Museum Room at Sugar Hill City Hall. You can find out more at:

<https://cityofsugarhill.com/government/boards-commissions/historic-preservation-society/>.

- **Walter J. Brown Media Archives and Peabody Awards Collection** (Athens, GA): Enhanced (time-stamped) access to interviews with W. W. Law and other Savannah, Georgia, civil rights workers. These interviews were conducted by the late oral historian Cliff Kuhn and were shot just before Mr. Law's death. They are the most comprehensive accounts he

provided of his life and career as a civil rights activist. The Walter J. Brown Media Archives & Peabody Awards Collection is home to more than 90,000 titles and 5 million feet of newsfilm. It is the third largest broadcasting archive in the country, behind only the Library of Congress and UCLA. The Archives comprise moving image and sound collections that focus on American television and radio broadcasting and Georgia's music, folklore, and history. There are more than 50,000 television programs and more than 39,500 radio programs in the Archives, in addition to audio folk music field tapes and home movies from rural Georgia. Its mission is to preserve, protect, and provide access to the moving image and sound materials that reflect the collective memory of broadcasting and the history of the state of Georgia and its people. Learn more at libs.uga.edu/media/index.html.

Family Papers Documenting the Lives of Enslaved People in Liberty County, Dating Back to the 1700s, Are Now Discoverable Online

In partnership with the Midway Museum, the Digital Library of Georgia has just made the Julia R. King Collection available online at dlg.usg.edu/collection/midm_jkic.

King (1863–1952) was a descendant of the Roswell King (1765–1844) family of Georgia plantation owners and managers who owned land, property, and enslaved people across Georgia dating back to the 1700s.

The collection includes essential documents related to slavery, including estate appraisals and inventories that include the first names of enslaved African Americans. It will be of particular interest to those doing family research on people enslaved in Liberty County, Georgia.

Stacy Ashmore Cole, the creator of [TheyHadNames.net: African Americans in Early Liberty County Records](https://theyhadnames.net), secretary of the Midway Museum Board of Governors, and president of the [Coastal Georgia Genealogical Society](https://coastalgeorgia.org), describes the importance of these records:

The Midway Museum's Julia R. King Collection contains essential references to enslaved people unavailable elsewhere. These documents will interest them and others who have not yet discovered their ancestry. The study of these enslaver families, including the Kings, is critical to Liberty County African American genealogical and historical research. They had a long tradition of keeping enslaved people within their families through inheritance, lending, and gifting, including down the white female lines. Because of this, the only way to trace a particular enslaved person is often through probate and enslaving family documents. The small



Title : Julia King Collection - Man with Hands. Image courtesy of the Midway Museum.

size of the collection and its relative geographical remoteness have made it difficult for academic researchers to prioritize. The Midway Museum is also in an area vulnerable to hurricanes. Digitization ensures that we preserve these materials and make them easily accessible for future generations.

About the Midway Museum

Since its founding, the Midway Museum has

been supported by the descendants of the Midway Church members, who have provided 18th- and 19th-century family heirlooms, documents, books, genealogical lineages, and heirloom furnishings, paintings, and artifacts. Many Midway Church descendants still live in Liberty County and coastal Georgia, serve on the Board of Governors, and visit during the Midway Church's annual Homecoming. Visit themidwaymuseum.org/

Fifty Years of Materials from Lectures Delivered by Speakers Honored at the University of Georgia School of Law are now Available Online

The University of Georgia (UGA) Alexander Campbell King Law Library Archive and Special Collections and the Digital Library of Georgia have made 50 years of UGA School of Law speaker and lecture materials available freely online. The presenters are well-known national and state political figures, leading legal leaders

and current and former School of Law students and professors.

The collection features photographs of U.S. and Georgia political and legal figures during the latter part of the 20th century. Former President Jimmy Carter; U.S. Supreme Court Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas; and U.S. Secretaries of State Henry Kissinger and Dean Rusk are among the prominent national figures. Important legal leaders include Lawrence Lessig, Brooksley

Born, and Sarah Weddington; Georgia politicians include former governors Carl Sanders, Roy Barnes and Zell Miller; U.S. senators Max Cleland and Sam Nunn; among others.

Christian Lopez, who is the head of Oral History and Media and the Oral History Program at the Richard B. Russell Library, outlines the significance to those researching Georgia's legal and political history:

This free and searchable body of images from Georgia's oldest law school will aid those studying economics, immigration, education, desegregation, race, gender, and more. The photographs document the School of Law's historical impact on the state during the period from the 1950s to the early 2000s.

The King Law Library's Metadata Services and Special Collections Librarian Rachel Evans

welcomes questions about the project and can be reached at rsevans@uga.edu.

About the University of Georgia Alexander Campbell King Law Library Archives & Special Collections

The mission of the Archives and Special Collections at the University of Georgia Alexander Campbell King Law Library is to collect, preserve, and share the history of the University of Georgia School of Law, including all members of its community—students, graduates, faculty, and staff—and their contributions to the state and society. Visit law.uga.edu/library to search the library's catalog and other resources; explore the School of Law's institutional repository collections at digitalcommons.law.uga.edu; or browse highlights from the library's physical and digital collections via the digital exhibit site at digitalcommons.law.uga.edu/exhibit.

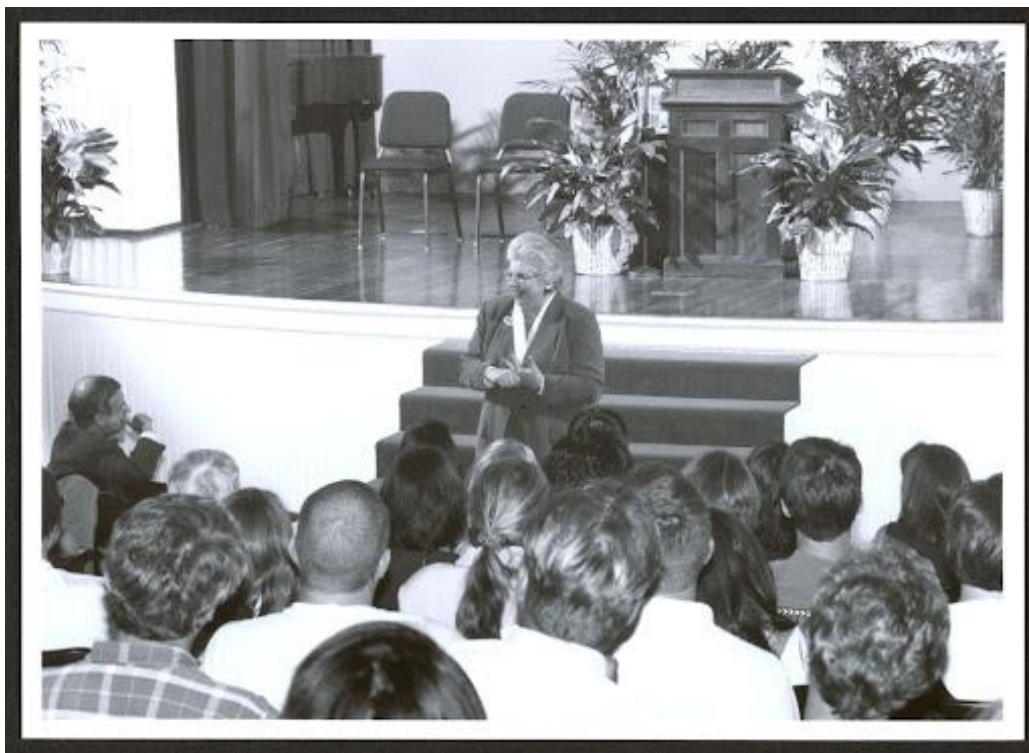


Image courtesy of the University of Georgia Alexander Campbell King Law Library Archives & Special Collections

Mandy L. Mastrovita is a digital projects librarian and archivist with the University of Georgia Libraries