



# Archives Unite!

Making local history sources on underrepresented people more discoverable



[1981]

GAYS OF DULUTH SUPERIOR

From our recent initial "ad hoc" meetings, it is obvious that there is a much wider variety of backgrounds and talents in this gay community than most of us had imagined — from capitalist to socialist, from fundamentalist to atheist, from leather to chiffon, and everything in between. One of the goals of GDS must be to nurture an environment of communication which will enable us all to benefit from this diversity, rather than let it be a stumbling block to future growth.

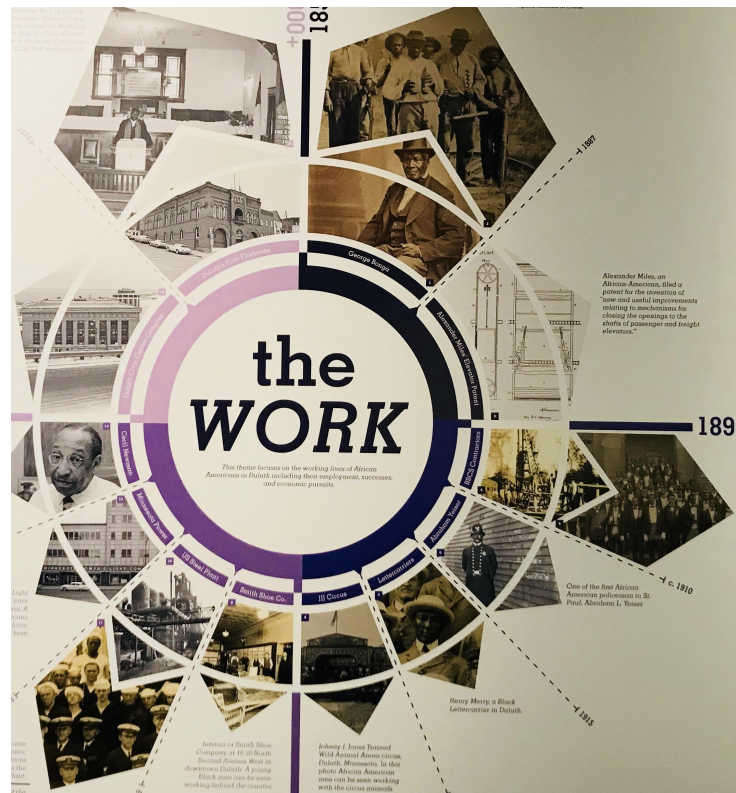
While there have been as many different ideas expressed at meetings as there have been participants, there is one first and

(Continued on Page 2)

## Back to School

Welcome back, area college students ... and welcome to GDS. If you believe Kinsey (and many think he was far too conservative) there are approximately 1,000 gay and lesbian students enrolled in the three area institutions of higher learning. UMD is the only campus that presently maintains an active gay organization - The Gay And Lesbian Alliance. GALA is a social and support group for post secondary students, faculty and staff at UMD, St. Scholastica, UWS and DAVTI. GALA meets every other Thursday at 7:30 p.m. on the UMD campus. You can call 726-7169 at UMD for more information. GALA has scheduled social activities for October and November. We salute GALA in their continued efforts, and we cordially invite all to participate in GDS meetings and activities as well. We look forward to the benefits our coordinated efforts can bring about.

P.O BOX 6044, DULUTH, MINNESOTA 55806



Snapshot of exhibit panel from “The Life, The Work, The Fight: Black  
Duluth in History” February 2018. Design by Blackbird Revolt.

<https://blackbirdrevolt.com/blackduluthinhistory/>

From the [Robert J. Jansen papers, 1949-2001](#), UMD Archives and Special Collections

# Primary Source Sets

Primary source collections exploring topics in history, literature, and culture developed by educators — complete with teaching guides for class use.

✕ Clear filters

Subject

African Americans



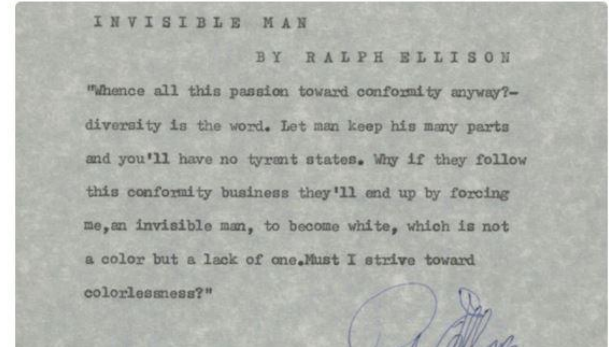
Time Period

All Time Periods



Sort by

Recently Added



<https://dp.la/primary-source-sets/the-great-migration>

# Identifying & Dismantling White Supremacy in Archives

**An Incomplete List of White Privileges in Archives  
and Action Items for Dismantling Them\***

Content produced in Michelle Caswell's *Archives,  
Records, and Memory* class, Fall 2016, UCLA  
Poster design by Gracen Brilmyer

\*All of the following call for  
nuance, context, and an awareness  
that oppression is structural.

[http://www.gracenbrilmyer.com/dismantling\\_whiteSupremacy\\_archives3.pdf](http://www.gracenbrilmyer.com/dismantling_whiteSupremacy_archives3.pdf)



<http://duluthlibrary.org/>



## Duluth Public Library Local Collections

- Primarily published books
- Extensive clippings files
- Locally produced newsletters, pamphlets, and other ephemera
- Slide collection, including this one of the 1929 Duluth Public Library Wildcats, an all-woman staff hockey team.





Virginia Hyvarinen, Duluth Public Librarian from 1966-1988 “collapsing” after a big library presentation in 1980.

# Minnesota Discovery Center Iron Range Research Center

*Documenting Iron Rangers' Mettle since 1980(ish)!*

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## Who We Were: Division of State Agency (IRRRB)

- 1977: Iron Range Interpretative Center (i.e., museum)
- 1980: Iron Range Research Center
- 1985: Ironworld USA



## Who We Are: Nonprofit Corporation

- 2005: Nonprofit board formed
- 2007: 10-year management agreement w/ IRRRB
- 2009: Renamed **Minnesota Discovery Center**
- 2017: Management agreement extended to 2027

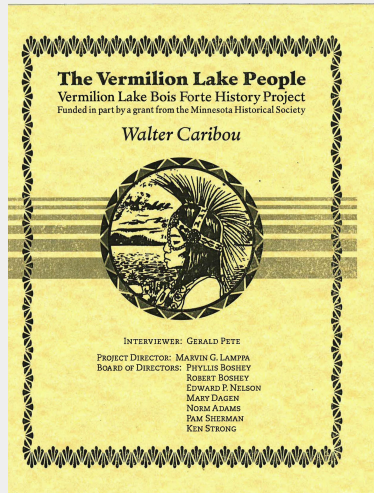


**Discover:** transitive verb  
“To make known or visible”

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## Nature of Collection's Presence in Archives

- **Intentional / Proactive:** "... publications depicting the history of Minnesota make little or no mention of the people of Vermilion Lake."
- **Incidental:** Hibbing-Chisholm Women's Club records (1923-1982)
- **Ancillary:** Tower-Soudan historical photographic collection (1883-1967)





[css.edu/Archives](http://css.edu/Archives)



## Materials in the Archives Include:

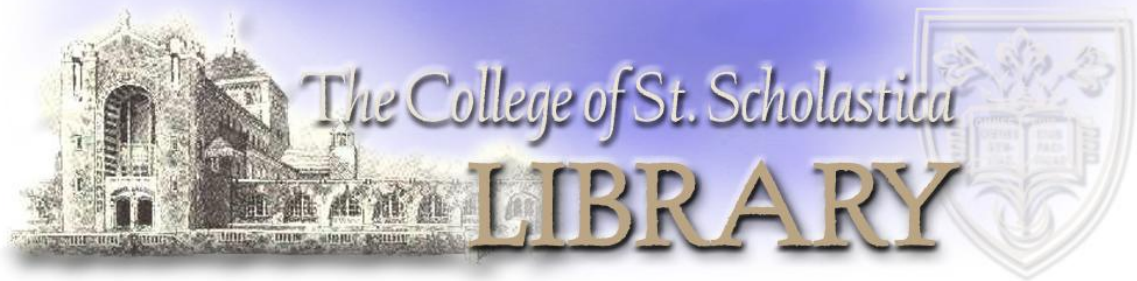
- Historical documents and realia
- Student publications such as newspapers, yearbooks, and literary books
- College publications such as catalogs and magazines
- College, departmental, and committee documents
- Over 150,000 images including photographs, slides, and negatives
- Over 300 digitized audio and visual recordings

## Materials Available Online:

- College publications (1903 to present)
- Photographs (1909 to present)



1971



## Options to Make Materials Available Online:

1. Minnesota Reflections (<https://reflections.mndigital.org/>)

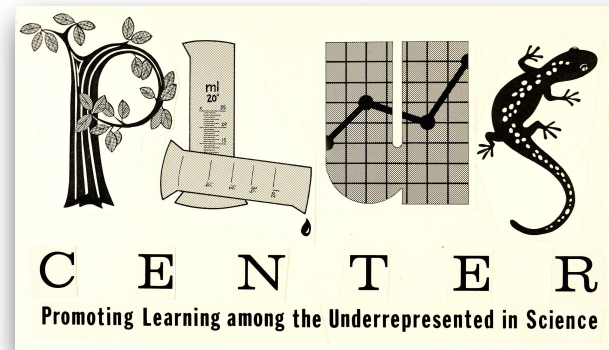
Offered by the Minnesota Digital Library, a service of Minitex;  
free digitization; need to apply to be accepted.

2. Arcasearch (<http://arcasearch.com/>)

Company based out of Cold Spring, MN; digitizes documents;  
hosts files; creates an online database.

3. Islandora (<https://www.mnpals.org/services/islandora/>)

Product of PALS; uses an open source digital asset management system;  
hosts photo, document and audio/visual files; creates an online database.



1991

# Medweganoonind Library & Archives:

## The Tribal Archives for Red Lake Nation



### Materials in the Archives Include:

- Oral Histories
- Ojibwemowin Language Resources
- Photo albums, scrapbooks, yearbooks donated by tribal members
- Pow-Wow Photos & Music
- Red Lake Basketball History
- Tribal Council Minutes & Resolutions (1960s-present)
- VHS tapes of community events (1970s-early 2000s)
- Sacred Objects (not available for public viewing)



# The Challenge is TRUST

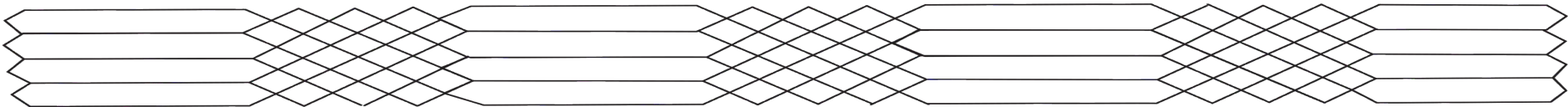
- Historical Exploitation of Native communities for purposes of non-Native research
- Very little is available online of the collection
- Rich collection, but it is still mostly unknown to even the community

## **STEP 1: Build Trust**

(slow process over the past 3 years)

## **STEP 2: Show the community what the archives can be**

>>>> TECH 2100: Digital Storytelling & Preservation





# TECH 2100: Digital Storytelling & Preservation

- Began Spring 2018
- 7 Students from Red Lake Nation College
- Service Learning in the Tribal Archives
- They shared their work in the community with Facebook posts, conversations, and even interviews
- Instead of being told what the archives can be, they were shown by students, our future generation of leaders and knowledge keepers



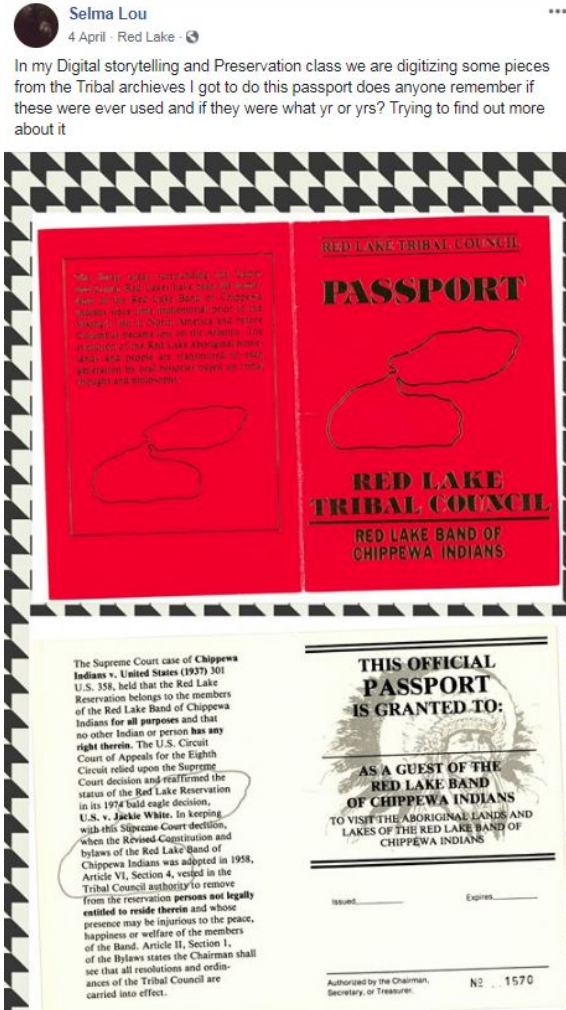
**Laura Crowe Fairbanks** is with Tori Kingbird and 7 others.

20 April · 🌐

## CALLING OUT ALL PAST PONEMAH ROYALTY

I am doing a research and presentation for my digital storytelling class. I would like to know what year you represented Obaashiing. Please leave a detailed message as to why you ran, year of title holder and submit a photo of yourself during your reign (if you have one). Mii Gwetch for your help!

The response  
from the  
community was  
AMAZING!



# Inclusive Local History

- Collaborative project among archivists, local history librarians, and the community in the Twin Ports and Northern Minnesota
- Very early stages
- Participating Institutions
  - The College of St. Scholastica
  - Duluth Public Library
  - Iron Range Research Center
  - Red Lake Nation College
  - University of Minnesota Duluth
  - University of Wisconsin-Superior
  - Your institution???



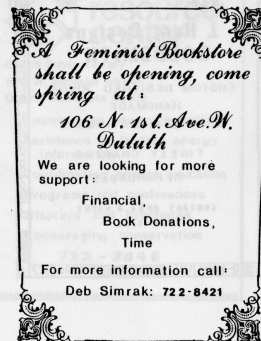
Image from <http://hafuboti.com>

# Step 1: Make our existing collections more discoverable to librarians and the public

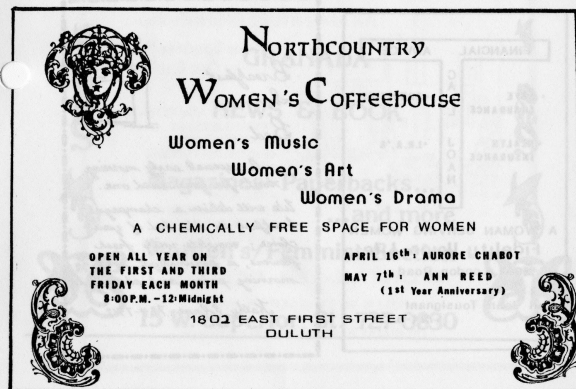
- Individual actions at our own institutions
- Collaboration to gather information about collections into a centralized guide
  - <http://libguides.d.umn.edu/inclusivelocalhistory>



listen to  
**WISE WOMEN  
RADIO**  
Sundays - music  
and public affairs  
from 6 to 9 pm  
  
Tuesdays -  
public affairs  
at 1:30 pm  
  
KUMD - fm 103



*A Feminist Bookstore  
shall be opening, come  
spring at:*  
*106 N. 1st Ave. W.  
Duluth*  
We are looking for more  
support:  
Financial,  
Book Donations,  
Time  
For more information call:  
Deb Simrak: 722-8421

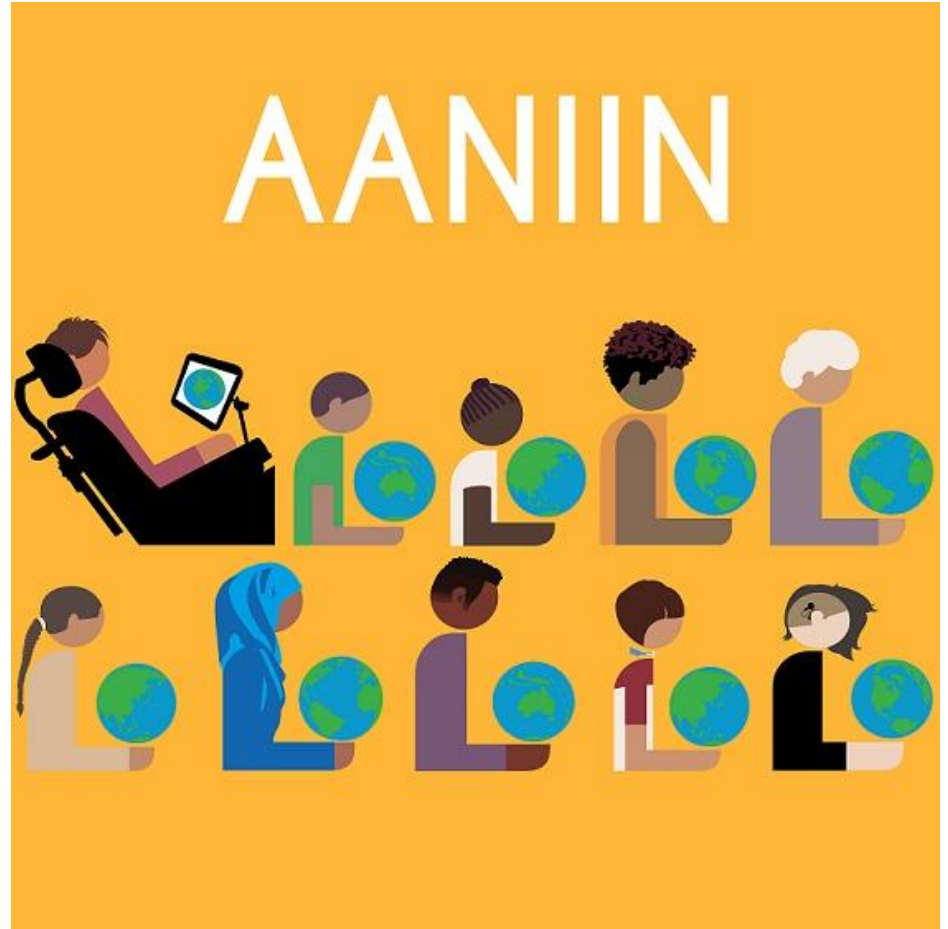


**NORTHCOUNTRY  
WOMEN'S COFFEEHOUSE**  
Women's Music  
Women's Art  
Women's Drama  
A CHEMICALLY FREE SPACE FOR WOMEN  
OPEN ALL YEAR ON  
THE FIRST AND THIRD  
FRIDAY EACH MONTH  
8:00 P.M. - 12:Midnight  
APRIL 16<sup>th</sup>: AUREORE CHABOT  
MAY 7<sup>th</sup>: ANN REED  
(1st Year Anniversary)  
1802 EAST FIRST STREET  
DULUTH



## Step 2: Help each other to better collect and preserve these resources

- We have not yet started doing this
- Collaboration with more institutions
- Collaboration with community partners
- Collaboration with you???



# Questions?

<http://libguides.d.umn.edu/inclusivelocalhistory>

College of St. Scholastica ([css.edu/archives](http://css.edu/archives))

Heidi Johnson: [hjohnso2@css.edu](mailto:hjohnso2@css.edu), 218-723-6140

Duluth Public Library (<http://www.duluthlibrary.org/>)

Julie Kapke: [jkapke@duluthmn.gov](mailto:jkapke@duluthmn.gov), 218-730-4209

Iron Range Research Center (<http://www.mndiscoverycenter.com/research-center/>)

Christopher Welter: [archivist@mndiscoverycenter.com](mailto:archivist@mndiscoverycenter.com), 218-254-1229

Red Lake Nation College, Medweganoonind Library & Archives (<https://www.rlnc.education/library>)

Cassy Leepore: [cassy.leepore@rlnc.education](mailto:cassy.leepore@rlnc.education), 218-679-1007

University of Minnesota Duluth (<https://lib.d.umn.edu/research-collections/archives>)

Aimee Brown, Shana Aue: [libarchives@d.umn.edu](mailto:libarchives@d.umn.edu), 218-726-8526