

What should a museum be?

by Leon Natker, Executive Director

What should our museum be?
As the staff and I have been renovating our Central Avenue location and preparing to re-open, these questions have been constantly on my mind.

In a recent Zoom meeting with other American Alliance of Museums (AAM) executive directors, Lonnie G. Bunch III, Secretary of the Smithsonian, said he believed the future of museums was as institutions that promoted cultural diversity and uniqueness. This puts our museum in the forefront of the journey all museums are currently on.

We always have been a museum that celebrates cultural diversity.

We do it by telling the stories which highlight when societies choose to “other” minority populations. These are painful pieces of human history but they provide us with the platform to educate people on how to be an upstander and build a better society for the future.

With that in mind I wanted to give you a preview of what you will see in the new museum. It goes without saying that we will have a large part of the new

exhibit space devoted to the Holocaust. In the new exhibit we are going to highlight the root causes starting with the pseudo sciences of the 19th century

which lead to the promulgation of eugenics. Although founded in England and the USA, it was the Nazi regime which followed eugenics to its horrific conclusion.

We will have a new exhibit of survivors’ testimonies which will also feature a link to the Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies at Yale University. NMHM is now the New Mexico access point for that

collection which is open to anyone wishing to do research. However, access can only be provided on-site at our museum.

Immigration also will be a central aspect of our new exhibits. The first story featured will be the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882.

The other big new exhibits will be on Colonization: Racism and Resilience, a study of the history of the subjugation of the Native populations of New Mexico

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Leon Natker MA, RPA
Executive Director

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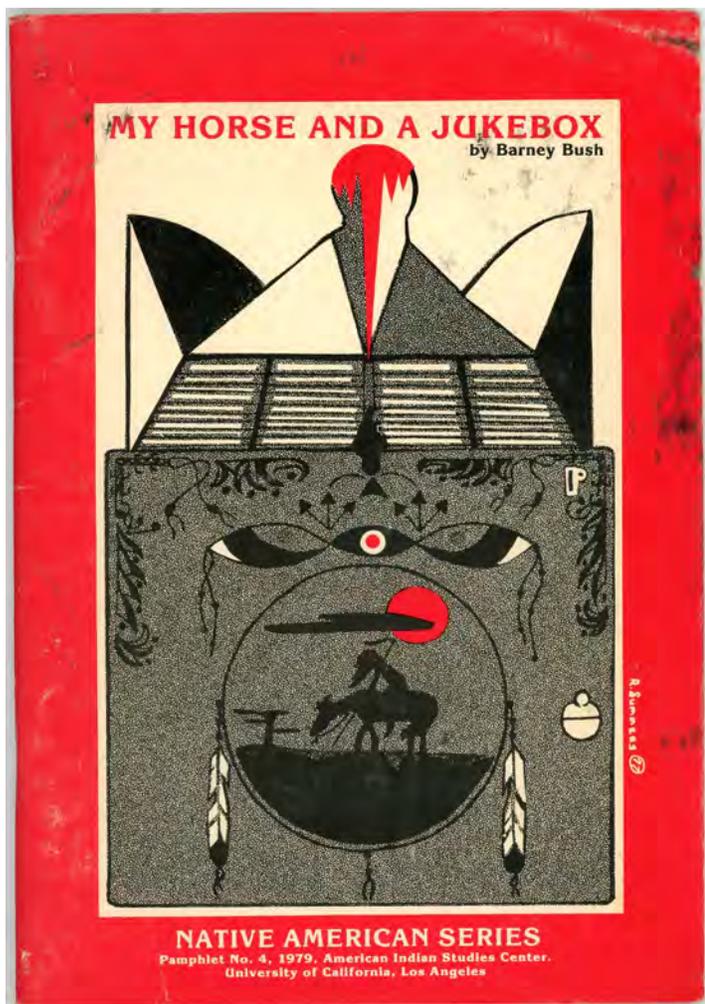
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You are invited:
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Native American pamphlet series features poets and artists



by Camelia Caton-Garcia
Collections Manager

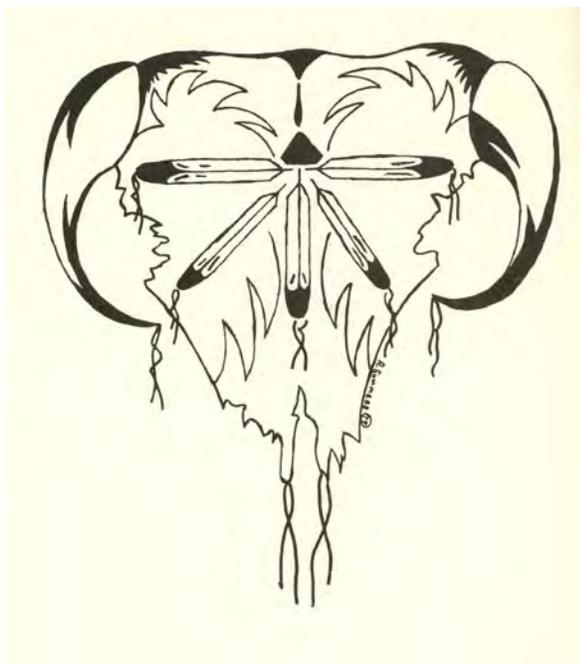
My Horse and a Jukebox, part of a series of pamphlets published by the American Indian Studies Center of UCLA in 1979, features poetry by Shawnee/Cayuga indigenous poet and activist Barney Bush and artwork by Menominee artist Richard Summers. Bush has since published collections of poetry that include *By Due Process* (2004) and *Petroglyphs* (1982). He also helped establish the Institute of the Southern Plains, a Cheyenne Indian school located in Oklahoma, and helped many universities develop Native American studies programs. He taught at the Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and served as chair of the Council of the Vinyard Indian Settlement in Herod, Illinois, which is involved in buying back homeland along the Ohio River among other projects.

This 44-page pamphlet showcases Bush's early work around themes of nature, family and Native Heritage accompanied by beautiful black and white art by Summers.

The Silvan Library & Study Center and the archive at the New Mexico Holocaust Museum are working hand in hand to create a more organized and accessible collection for our patrons. Our library and archive are truly unique and we look forward to sharing our diverse collection at our museum reopening later this year.

Are you interested in our collection or have something to share about this material? Please get in touch:

collections@nmholocaustmuseum.org



Eliminating hate and intolerance one mind at a time

Complicated conversion keeps volunteers busy at a distance

by Sheri Karmiol, PhD Librarian

Although our museum is currently closed because of COVID-19, there has been much behind-the-scenes work continuing in the library.

Since early March, the Silvian Library has been in disarray as we switch from a Dewey catalogue system to the Library of Congress (LC) system. This conversion has proved to be

much more complicated than initially expected. Converting the library cataloguing system is not just a matter of placing new labels on the spines of 5,000 books and films, which in itself has already taken four months.

Once we started this conversion, we discovered that about a third of the books in the library either lack an

LC number or the LC number had been entered into the wrong field in the database. Until these LC corrections can be completed, new LC spine labels for about a third of the books cannot be printed. While much of the needed data entry work has been completed, more work remains

In order to maintain social

distancing, we have limited the number of people working in the library during this sheltering in place period.

Although social distancing has slowed our progress, we have moved a great many books from shelves to tables and back to shelves again. I am also working from home on the days I am not in the library by logging into the librarian computer, where I am able to correct LC number errors. Working from home has made much of the data entry work easier and faster. Even with all the extra volunteer hours, it will be many months before the work in the library is completed.

In addition to the LC conversion, we have created a *Library Donation Guidelines* document which appears on our website. Your donation of books and films will be welcome once the museum reopens. For the present time, the library is closed, as is the museum. It will probably take several more months before the work in the library is completed and visitors to the library welcomed once again.



What a museum should be

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starting with the Spanish entrada.

Also, we will unveil the second part of our “Slavery in America” series. This exhibit will deal with the aftermath of the Civil War from reconstruction to the Civil Rights movement.

Our plan is to open on August 16th. We will have strict social distancing measures in place. The wearing of face coverings will be mandatory. The staff and our volunteers have been working all summer to make this ready for all of you to see. I hope that you will make plans to visit us so that you can tell your friends and neighbors about the new exhibits and what a bright future our museum has.

The Herald

-published four times a year
by staff and volunteers-

Mother of three boys

Angry black woman responds to George Floyd's murder

by Tamika Wright

I have been trying to find the words to express my feelings towards the murder of George Floyd. I've been trying to come up with words that don't make me appear as

an "angry black woman," "irrational," "pulling the race card," "victim" and anything else under the sun that black men and women are regarded as. But F**K THAT! I LITERALLY MEAN F**K THAT!

I am sick and tired of seeing this shit. I am sick and tired of being sick and tired! I do not, I DO NOT GIVE A DAMN WHAT THIS MAN DID PRIOR TO BEING DETAINED! I DO NOT CARE ABOUT HIS PAST! I DO NOT CARE IF HE WAS A DRUG DEALER! I DO NOT CARE IF HE WAS IN AND OUT OF JAIL!

Is there ever justification?

I don't know any of that to be fact. I'm just saying these are the things that get dredged up when a black man or woman is murdered by police as if it justifies the murder.

Your job, your duty is to protect and serve, not to be judge, jury, and executioner. Once you have a suspect detained and it is clear that said suspect is no longer a threat, there is no longer a reason to apply force! What in God's

name would cause a man to treat another human being so inhumane?

And to do it without a care in the world? No regard to human life? No regard to the fact that you are being

filmed? I, for the life of me just don't get it!

I am raising three black boys and am trying to teach them that law enforcement is for you and not against you, but when for the little bit of time they have been on this earth, they have watched several black men and women die at the hands of police and it is justified because once upon a time so-and-so used to do X, Y, Z, I am left teaching them how to not say anything, keep your hands where they can see them, no sudden moves, don't reach for your ID or try to have it ready before they make contact, don't reach for your phone or anything that can be mistaken for a weapon, do your best to save your life because you are automatically a target, and even then, EVEN WHEN YOU'VE COMPLIED, you still might not make it home to me. I HAVE TO TEACH ETIQUETTE IN A DIFFERENT WAY BECAUSE YOU ARE NOT TREATED THE SAME BECAUSE OF YOUR SKIN! And hear me people! ETIQUETTE in a DIFFERENT WAY!

Just obey the law, be respectful?

It's not as simple as just obeying the law and being respectful. YOU STILL MIGHT NOT MAKE IT HOME TO ME. All I wanna do is live in peace like my white counterparts, but I can't because, "you don't look like you belong here;" "let me see your ID to

"I AM an angry black woman!"

SAY THEIR NAMES

George Floyd, Emmitt Till, Trayvon Martin, Margaret Laverne Mitchell, Ezell Ford, Tamir Rice, Yvette Smith, Jamar Clark, Rekia Boyd, Shereese Francis, Ramarley Graham, Ahmaud Arbery, Sean Bell, Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Alton Sterling, Latanya Haggerty, Amadou Dialbo, Manuel Loggins, Ronald Madison, Kendra James, Breonna Taylor, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Medgar Evers, Charles Eddie Moore, James Earl Chaney, Louis Allen, Johnnie Mae Chappelle, Virgil Lamar Ware, Cynthia Wesley, Addie Mae Collins, Wille Edwards Jr., Rev. George Lee, Lamar Smith, Benjamin Brown, Herbert Lee, Mack Charles Parker, John Earl Reese, Carole Robertson, Cpl. Roman Ducksworth Jr., Henry Hezakah Dee, Lt. Col. Lemuel Penn, Wharlest Jackson, Jimmie Lee Jackson, Ben Chester White, Oneal Moore, Samuel Leamon Young Jr., Willie Brewster, George Floyd, Emmitt Till, Trayvon Martin, Margaret Laverne Mitchell, Ezell Ford, Tamir Rice, Yvette Smith, Jamar Clark, Rekia Boyd, Shereese Francis, Ramarley Graham, Ahmaud Arbery, Sean Bell, Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Alton Sterling, Latanya Haggerty, Amadou Dialbo, Manuel Loggins, Ronald Madison, Kendra James, Breonna Taylor, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Medgar Evers, Charles Eddie Moore, James Earl Chaney, Louis Allen, Johnnie Mae Chappelle, Virgil Lamar Ware, Cynthia Wesley, Addie Mae Collins, Wille Edwards Jr., Rev. George Lee, Lamar Smith, Benjamin Brown, Herbert Lee, Mack Charles Parker, John Earl Reese, Carole Robertson, Cpl. Roman Ducksworth Jr., Henry Hezakah Dee, Lt.

(see Angry and black, page 5)

Angry and black mother responds

(continued from page 5)

prove you live here;” “I’m calling the police because you’re bbq’ing” ...because there are many activities that unfortunately this world feels black folk shouldn't be doing!

Black on black crime

I am tired of hearing about black on black crime when police kill black people. Black on black crime is prevalent and out of control. The difference is, when a black person kills another black person a few things happen. If black suspect is still on scene, they are arrested immediately and taken to jail. If black suspect is caught later, they are arrested and taken to jail. If you were with black suspect when the murder was committed, both are arrested and taken to jail. These officers are put on paid leave pending investigation. And if, IF arrested, they are usually acquitted no matter the amount of evidence because God forbid officers are held to the same standard as everyday citizens, even though they are everyday citizens!

The law is the law and no matter who you are, if you break it, you should be held accountable! I am tired of hearing about how many good cops there are. If you can watch your fellow officer murder a human being and not do anything, YOU ARE NOT A GOOD COP! If you rationalize this situation with anything I stated above, YOU ARE NOT A GOOD COP! If you disagree with what happened, but refuse to speak up, YOU ARE NOT A GOOD COP! If you are more angry about the rioters than the loss of life, YOU ARE NOT A GOOD COP!

BLACK PEOPLE NEED THE GOOD COPS TO BE MAD *WITH* US! WE NEED WHITE PEOPLE TO BE MAD *WITH* US. WE NEED TO COMBAT RACISM TOGETHER! I WILL NO LONGER BE ANGRY AT PROTESTORS AND RIOTERS! THEY ARE SICK AND TIRED OF BEING SICK AND TIRED AND NOT GETTING JUSTICE FOR THE INJUSTICE TOWARDS BLACK PEOPLE!

I AM AN ANGRY BLACK WOMAN!



NMHM and Gellert Center for Education presents: Holocaust studies in New Mexico

In New Mexico, we continue to be the go-to place for Holocaust and social justice studies.

Teachers from every corner of the state have participated for the past six years in a five-day seminar led by educators and former board members with funding from The Olga Lengyel Institute for Holocaust Studies and Human Rights (TOLIH). Participants learn methods for teaching the Holocaust and making connections to other acts of intolerance and injustice. The first year, the seminar was held in our museum. Since then, it has sought and found larger space, but our connection is still strong. In the future, our museum will create and sponsor similar teacher workshops for two days at a time.

In addition, we have reached many hundreds of students with unique arts integration programs.

Our signature *Behind the Lens-Student Portrayals of a Troubled World* enables high school students to research, write, and create empathetic videos, many about troubled teens in other cultures.

The education program has grown by leaps and bounds since then. Our elementary program builds empathy and lays the groundwork for students to become upstanders. These include

Stepping Stone and *The Upstander Quilt*.

A major component of our mission is educating children about bullying, prejudice, and hate. Empowering students to be upstanders is a critical part and the core of *Stand Up! Be Counted!*

First tested in three Albuquerque middle schools, *Stand Up! Be Counted!* is designed to improve academic skills, increase social-emotional intelligence, and develop resilience, creativity, and problem-solving skills necessary for students to see a path forward for

Never Again Education Act

Bipartisan law funds programming

A new federal law, Never Again Education Act, signed on May 28, will fund Holocaust awareness programming for middle and high schools. The new law provides \$10 million over five years for the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) to expand its training and programming for teachers across the country. The USHMM will develop and disseminate materials designed to foster understanding of the Holocaust and educate students on the urgency of opposing hate, bigotry, and genocide against any group.

themselves. Using the Holocaust as the foundation, a team of museum educators and artists worked with 195 students to apply the terms victim, perpetrator, bystander, and upstander to historical and personally relevant events. By exposing students to patterns in history and teaching them to recognize how they are subjugated to those patterns, we help them take control of their lives. This all is centered around Elie Wiesel's sentiment that there may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to be against it.

Resulting art projects ran the gamut from filming a public service announcement to a graphic novel excerpt. The mediums selected were differentiated by grade level. Teachers and administrators have high praise for *Stand Up! Be Counted!* and are looking forward to a return to the classroom.

Bringing student groups into the museum is one way to further the educational objectives established in the classroom. Another is to provide this hands-on learning so students can apply information immediately. We do both (when not restricted by COVID-19).

We shall continue.

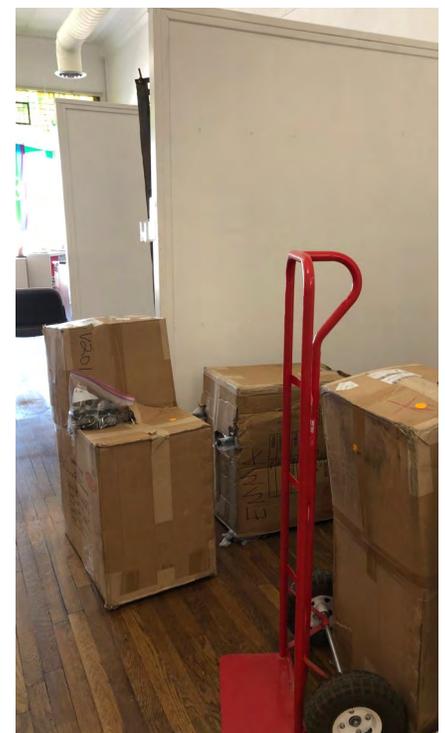
Stand Up! Be Counted!



By: Rebecca

“Deconstruction” photos

(refer to Executive Director's report, page 1, for related information)



Become a member

Museum programs encourage upstanders

Our museum is a 501(c)3 non-profit educational organization. We are steadfast in our commitment to build communities of upstanders, folks who will speak out when they see injustice. The majority of our operating funds come from private donors. Please become one and help us continue our important work: you can use the form below and mail it to New Mexico Holocaust Museum, PO Box 1762, Albuquerque NM 87103-1762 or become a member via our website: www.nmholocaustmuseum.org

As a member, you will be eligible for special benefits including free admission, access to resource materials in the Silvan Library & Study Center, a one-year subscription to our newsletter, *The Herald*, and invitations to premiere events.

Yearly membership levels include Student (\$18), Individual (\$50), and Family (\$75). These will receive the above-mentioned benefits. Additional levels and benefits are:

Patron (\$100), above plus 10 percent discount in the museum shop

Benefactor (\$250), above plus admission to special ticketed programs

Rescuer (\$500), above plus a meet-and-greet with our staff and board of directors

Upstander (\$1,000) all above plus a one-on-one tour with our executive director

Sponsor (\$2,500) all above plus naming privileges on a new exhibit

We appreciate your continued support.

REMEMBRANCES

Do you know someone who is celebrating a special life event such as a birthday, anniversary, wedding, birth, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, graduation, or moving to a new house? A donation to the museum honoring that person/s is a nice way to show your thoughtfulness.

Upon receiving your donation, we will send them a personal note acknowledging their life event, and mentioning you as the donor.

Please include with your donation the honoree/s name/s, why they are being honored, and where to send the note.

NEW MEXICO HOLOCAUST MUSEUM AND GELLERT CENTER FOR EDUCATION

616 CENTRAL AVENUE SW, ALBUQUERQUE NM 87102

Mail: PO Box 1762
Albuquerque NM 87103-1762
Phone: 505.247.0606

\$2,500, sponsor \$1,000, upstander \$500, rescuer \$250, benefactor

\$100, patron \$75, family \$50, individual \$18, student

Payment method: Check enclosed (payable to NMHM) Credit card

Credit card number

Expiration date

Security code

Name _____ Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Today's date _____

email _____ Phone _____