

Black Bibliography Project--Summit 2
Workshop & Discussions

Friday, October 20

1. Black Bibliography & Its Traditions--A Workshop & Lecture

Historically speaking, what have been the practices of Black bibliography making? How do those earlier efforts relate to cataloguing practices in libraries and rare book and manuscript repositories? Do prior models of Black bibliography suggest metadata categories that are sensitive to the particular traditions of Black print culture? Do those examples change over time? If so, how?

In this session, we'll take advantage of the Beinecke's holdings to examine physical texts from varied periods and compare them to their catalog descriptions.

Following our group investigation and discussion, Elizabeth McHenry will share her current research on the theoretical implications of Black bibliography practices from the 19th and early 20th centuries. We anticipate Liz's talk will sharpen the questions and insights we'll glean from the hands-on workshop and provide context for to the discussions that will follow on Saturday.

Saturday, October 21

2. Black Bibliography in the Field: A Discussion

How do curators, cataloguers, and scholars navigate and use current standards for bibliographic data when it comes to Black print materials? Which data categories work, and which don't? Why? What new kinds of information would better describe Black print materials? Would those terms be period specific? Considering the contemporary era, how are Black-authored or themed blogs (to cite an obvious internet source) being described for cataloguing purposes?

Kathleen Bethel, Randall Burkett, John Ernest, Kinohi Nishikawa, and Mary Yearwood will offer provocations that spark this discussion.

3. Collection & Presentation of Bibliographic Data: A Discussion

How should we define and manage the task of collecting bibliographic data from extant holdings in libraries and rare book repositories? How to structure bibliographic information so as to make it useful both to expert and to amateur users? What kinds of search capacities will users want? How can we take advantage of the digital medium to make reliable bibliographic information easy to access and productive for a new generation of scholars?

Krystal Appiah, James Danky, and Maryemma Graham will offer provocations that spark this discussion.

4. Wrap Up & Next Steps: A Discussion

What central issues and themes emerged from the summit's discussions? What would be feasible next steps for the BBP to refine and advance its goals, in terms of intellectual/content; information technology needs; and institutional support and outreach?