

# SPOHP LIGHT

March 2021

## A Message from the Director

Dear Member of the SPOHP Family,

2021 has been a time of collaboration and community building even as the Proctor Program negotiates the challenges of doing oral history in the era of the Global Pandemic. In spite of the many obstacles facing all of us, the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program has created new partnerships with colleagues at UCLA's Latino Policy & Politics Initiative while strengthening our work with community based organizations like the Elaine Legacy Center in Phillips County, Arkansas and the Alachua County Remembrance Project in our hometown of Gainesville, Florida.

Placing our students in dialog with Holocaust survivors, immigrant rights organizers and frontline healthcare workers in the struggle against COVID 19 is made possible by the support of people like you. Your support makes it possible for SPOHP to purchase much-needed field recorders and equipment our students need to produce their interviews for public access.

We have come a long ways in our ability to connect younger and older individuals together to initiate conversations that encourage civic engagement, experiential learning active citizenship. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about SPOHP. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the Proctor Program and to oral history!

Sincerely Yours,

*Paul Ortiz*

Director and Professor of History



## Women's Activist Project

In celebration of Women's History Month, SPOHP is showcasing its Women's Activist Feminist collection (WAF). The collection contains diverse narratives on the women's struggles during the rise of feminism. Interviews with freedom fighters and Gainesville civil rights activists Judith Brown and Vivian Filer inspire a new generation to persevere in the fight for gender equality. Conferences and safe spaces such as the WomonWrites Southeast Lesbian Writers focused on the beginnings and evolution of the feminist movement.



“Dr. King’s speeches were inspiring to the world, but it was people like Judy and Patricia who worked on the local level, who were able to face the [hostility] on a daily basis. I hope you can imagine how that could be every day. It’s like being in a war. The kind [of] trauma, the post-traumatic stress and all that happens because of this continued confrontation with the system.” - John Due, Judith Brown, and Vivian Filer

## Interview Spotlight

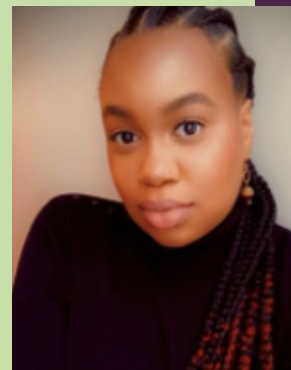
A panel of **Gainesville Women for Equal Rights** members - Vivian Filer, Jane Hiers, Cora Roberson, and Jean Chalmers - speak about the origins of the organization, challenges and successes. Founders included Beverly Jones, Joan Henry, Terry Ault, and Pat Creel. Click [here](#) to listen.

## The Women's March on Washington Archives Project

The Women's March on Washington Archives Project is hosted at UF, in collaboration with the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program (SPOHP), the Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies Research (CGSWSR), and the Smathers Libraries. SPOHP and CGSWSR conducted over 150 interviews at the Women's March and produced the **Voices from the March** play based on the interviews.

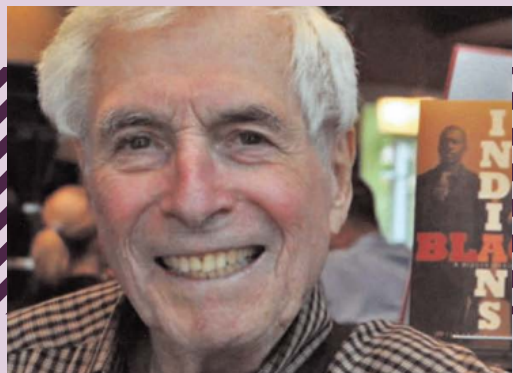
## Alumni Spotlight

**Dr. Randi Gill-Sadler** is a Cheryl A. Wall Postdoctoral Fellow in the English Department at Rutgers University - New Brunswick. She is currently working on a chapter of her book, tentatively titled *Diasporic Dissonance: Black Women's Writing, the Caribbean and U.S. Empire*. Dr. Gill-Sadler joined SPOHP in the Fall of 2014 as a Graduate Coordinator. For three years she worked with the Cone Park Library to host a program on the history of Emancipation Day celebrations in Florida for K-5 grade students. Click [here](#) to listen.



## Memorials and Memories

This month SPOHP commemorates the passing of Dr. William Katz. Please click on Dr. Katz's image to learn more about his life and work.



## Podcast Corner

For Women's History Month, we highlight three podcasts in SPOHP's collection. First is "[Vulnerable Populations: A Voice in Research. Dr. Linda Cottler.](#)" In her words, her work gives "vulnerable populations...a voice in research" and aids the development of the recovery industry. Next, "[Police and Protests.](#)" A podcast created for SPOHP's Spring 2015 Intern Class by Virginia Hamrick. activist and founder of grassroots organization Cope Pink, Meada Benjamin explores the effects of police brutality on community organizing. Topics include: organizing and protesting, police relations, and the importance of citizen movement.



## Past Events

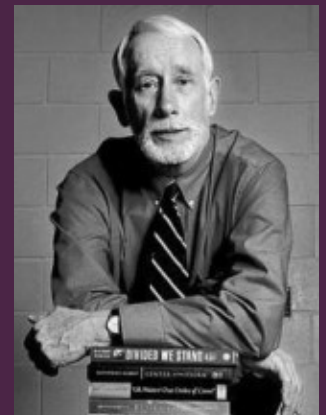


Finally, [Sallie Harrison](#) (pictured on the bottom left) describes the beginnings of the women's movement in Gainesville. Harrison describes the connections between the women's movement and the civil rights movement, and her work to establish a rape crisis and women's health center in Gainesville.

SPOHP attended two Equal Justice Initiative-sponsored soil collection ceremonies in February; one in Newberry, and the other in Gainesville. In Newberry, The rain did not deter community members as they paid respect to the Newberry 6, on February 5, 2021. In Gainesville, the community created a canvas honoring the lives of loved ones lost, and representing the ongoing healing process from the trauma caused by racial injustice. These events encouraged healing as attendees sang, prayed, and cried over the lives lost to racial violence a century ago.

# Save the Date

- **March 23: Volunteer Workshop**
  - Interested in getting involved with SPOHP? Learn about the techniques SPOHP uses to conduct and transcribe oral history interviews, and about SPOHP's unique collections at our introductory volunteer meeting on Zoom on March 23 at 6:00 pm. Click [here](#) to access our online meeting.
- **March 25-April 22: Milbauer History Symposium**
  - The 2021 Milbauer Symposium: "Reimagining the Black Past: The Futures of Black Power," will occur on Zoom with one presentation each Thursday at 7:00 PM (EST) from March 25-April 22nd. To register and form more information click [here](#).
- **March 29-August 19th: Early Registration Date - Internship Fall 2021: Truth and Reconciliation**
  - SPOHP is offering a 3-credit fall internship through the History Department that will apply oral histories toward Racial Truth and Reconciliation. Over the course of the fall 2021 semester, students will engage with and help give voice to stories of trauma, activism, and struggle in Black America, Latinx communities, and the Jewish diaspora. For more information, contact Adolfo Romero at [adolforomero@ufl.edu](mailto:adolforomero@ufl.edu) or Marcus Chatfield at [mchatfield@ufl.edu](mailto:mchatfield@ufl.edu)
- **April 5: Julian Pleasants Travel Award - Extended Deadline**
  - The Pleasants Award includes a \$2,000 dollar stipend and research guidance into SPOHP's oral history collections. Applicants are encouraged to conduct their research remotely during the Global Pandemic. Applicants should provide the following materials to Ms. Tamarra Jenkins at [tamarraj@ufl.edu](mailto:tamarraj@ufl.edu): (1) a brief letter of intent describing their oral history research; (2) a current CV or resume; (3) the time period in which they will use UF's collections.
- **April 15: CTE Workshop**
  - **The Interface Teaching Conference** provides faculty, staff, TAs, GAs, and postdocs with new strategies for great teaching and learning through interactive breakout sessions. This year's theme is Better Together: Unstoppable Student Teams. Its focus is creating diverse teams that collaborate on creative assignments energizes students and results in greater learning that incorporates multiple perspectives.



Dr. Julian Pleasants

For more information please visit: <https://oral.history.ufl.edu>

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