

Auburn Avenue Research Library

On African American Culture and History

A Special Library of the Fulton Public Library System

New Frontiers: ArchivesSpace at the Auburn Avenue Research Library

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Background

- The Archives Division collects, preserves, and makes available for research purposes rare, unique, and primary materials that document the life experiences, history, and culture of people of African descent across the Diaspora, with a concentration in local Atlanta history.
- Staff of 3 FTE in Archives Division
- 1-5 volunteers pre-pandemic
- Approximately 325 collections
- 195 collection finding aids available online
- Archivists' Toolkit

Implementation

- Digital Library of Georgia staff mapped out all expectations and did all the work to migrate
- AARL provided logo colors and language
- Very streamlined and lots of documentation
- Perfect for institutions without dedicated support

Workflow

- Many finding aids were created in Word documents
- Project to input all legacy finding aids directly into ArchivesSpace and clean up data
- Learning curve especially for staff that used Archivists' Toolkit
- Volunteers

Patron Feedback

- Patrons have had difficulty adjusting to ArchivesSpace
- FCLS also created a new website in 2020
- Ideas for future- create how to videos, screenshots for navigation
- Instruction sessions have really focused on finding box and folder information and keyword searching