Award for Advocacy

Dr. Paul S. Sutter and Dr. Paul M. Pressley

Dr. Paul S. Sutter (Series editor, Weyerhaeuser Environmental Books, Professor of History, University of Colorado, Boulder) & Dr. Paul M. Pressly (Director Emeritus, Ossabaw Island Education Alliance), earned an Award for Advocacy for the book *Coastal Nature, Coastal Culture: Environmental Histories of the Georgia Coast*. They challenge readers to embrace big ideas about, and to broaden their understanding of, the complicated interactions between place and people over millennial expanses of time, and to incorporate more deeply informed perspectives into addressing the interactions of environments and societies in the 21st Century.

Pictured: *Moonlight and High Tide, Wilmington Island, near Savannah, Ga.* Historic Postcard Collection, hpc1410, Virtual Vault, Georgia Archives
Award for Local History Advocacy

Dr. Robert K. Bachelor, Tom Kohler and Susan Earl

Dr. Robert K. Batchelor, Tom Kohler and Susan Earl (Savannah) have worked together on a grass-roots effort to document Savannah’s hand-painted signs. Earl, Michelle Stewart and others took the core collection of about 750 photographs of signs under the direction of Kohler, Coordinator for the Chatham Savannah Citizen Advocacy, Inc. The collection went online in the “EagleSpace” database of Georgia Southern University's Statesboro campus, accompanied by an exhibit, reception, and book signing in the campus library, on May 1, 2009, as a component of the statewide GALILEO Knowledge Repository, with funding support from Georgia Southern and a grant from the Georgia Humanities Council proposed by Dr. Batchelor. The archive was named in honor of Waddie Welcome (1914-2001), a resident with severe physical disabilities, who had been returned to his “Beloved Community,” an African-American neighborhood in Savannah, in the latter years of his life.

Pictured L-R: Tom Kohler, Susan Earl, Dr. Robert K. “Bob” Batchelor; GHRAC Vice Chair Sheryl B. Vogt
Award for Local History Advocacy

Kennesaw State University Public History Program

The City of Adairsville and the Kennesaw State University Public History Program unveiled a new exhibition, “A Quintessential, Southern Small Town: A History of Adairsville” in September 2017, in the Adairsville Depot. The product of a two-year collaboration, the exhibit tells the history of Adairsville from the early nineteenth century to the present day.

The Adairsville Depot, located in the center of Adairsville's public square, has served as the welcome center and repository for artifacts related to the city's history since 2001. In 2015, the Downtown Development Authority and the Sans Souci Women's Club created the Depot Committee in an effort to make improvements to the museum. The Committee partnered with Dr. Jennifer Dickey, who conducted preliminary research and developed an exhibition plan for the museum. Students from the KSU Public History Program conducted oral history interviews and researched and curated the exhibition.

Pictured L-R: Accepting on behalf of Kennesaw State University Public History Program, Dr. Jennifer Dickey, Coordinator; GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Award for Local History Advocacy

Alice Reeves

For the past 11 years, Alice Reeves (Fayetteville) has served as president of the Fayette County Historical Society. Reeves’ greatest accomplishment has been advocating for the community on behalf of the Society. Whether consulting with the Georgia Dept. of Transportation or environmental professionals, her ability to make the connection between a public project and related historical documentation has proven invaluable. For example, a particular road alignment project would have disturbed two family cemeteries were it not for the Alice Reeves’ consultation, which led to construction of a round-a-bout at that location, avoiding the two cemeteries.

Reeves also worked with the County regarding one of its most beloved landmarks, Starr’s Mill, she successfully worked with the County to open Starr’s Mill once a month with a Fayette County Historical Society docent sharing the history of this area with visitors. She also turned the discarded slate roof tiles of the courthouse into a fundraiser for the Historical Society.

Pictured L-R: Alice Reeves; GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Award for Local History Advocacy

Katherine Fisher & Marian Liou

Marian Liou, from the non-profit organization We Love BuHi, and Katherine Fisher, Georgia State University archivist, “collaborated on “In Whose Hearts is a Highway: The Buford Highway Oral History Project”. This oral history project fosters a strong and inclusive sense of Buford Highway’s community heritage and identities to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the past with a desire to generate a shared vision for the future. These first-person accounts from immigrants and refugees, and their descendants who arrived or were raised in and around the Buford Highway Corridor from 1950 to the present give a glimpse into the evolution, culture, and traditions along the Corridor. This partnership is unique in that it leverages the resources of both organizations to collaborate on a project that documents an important cultural district within the city of Atlanta.

Pictured L-R: Katherine Fisher, Marian Liou; GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Award for Excellence in Archival Program Development by a Local Government Repository

Tina Monaco

Tina Monaco (Augusta) secured a digitization grant to make a little used collection of 26 interviews in the Augusta Chinese American Oral History Project housed at the Augusta-Richmond County Public Library’s Georgia Heritage Room available online through the Digital Library of Georgia and the Digital Public Library of America. The purpose of the project was to create an archive of stories and personal family histories of a select group of individuals, mostly elders within the Augusta Chinese-American community to preserve for future generations, particularly for the younger members of the community.

Pictured L-R: Tina Monaco; GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Award for Excellence in Archival Program Development by a Local Historical Repository

Congregation Mickve Israel

Congregation Mickve Israel displayed an exhibit from Ireland, *Representations of Jews in Irish Literature*, in March 2018, coinciding with Savannah’s St. Patrick’s Day celebrations, which was co-sponsored by Atlanta’s Irish Consulate General and Georgia Southern University’s Center for Irish Research and Teaching.

Previously displayed in the U.S. only at Columbia and Georgetown Universities, this exhibit included 11 panels outlining how Jews were portrayed in Irish literature. Georgia Southern’s Irish Studies Center created two exclusive supplemental panels that connected the Savannah Irish and Jewish communities historically. Programming further enhanced the display topics. Until this project began, few in Savannah’s Jewish or Irish communities knew about these historic connections.

Pictured L-R: Accepting on behalf of Congregation Mickve Israel, Teresa Victor, Herbert Victor; GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Award for Excellence in Archival Program Development by a State Agency

Council of Superior Court Clerks of Georgia and The Georgia Superior Court Clerks’ Cooperative Authority

The Council of Superior Court Clerks of Georgia and the Georgia Superior Court Clerks Cooperative Authority have worked for over a decade to develop procedures that have resulted in the archiving of hundreds of millions of documents through their combined efforts. The Council undertook a disaster preparedness project in 2008 to educate clerks of court about the importance of comprehensive disaster planning. This was accomplished through both general education and by instituting a program that rewarded clerks who submitted disaster plans to the Council with free data archiving services provided by the Authority. Since 2008 that online archival product, MyVault, has expanded to include all 159 clerks of superior court and the materials covered have expanded to every facet of the clerk’s office. Over 108 TB of data is protected in the Vault, and over 757 million files are stored and available for recovery if needed.

Pictured L-R: Accepting on behalf of Council of Superior Court Clerks of Georgia, Jonathan Clark; accepting on behalf of Georgia Superior Court Clerks’ Cooperative, Tara Johnson; GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Award for Excellence in Documenting Georgia’s History

Dr. Virginia Causey

Dr. Virginia Causey (Professor Emeritus, Columbus State University) in her book *Red Clay, White Water, and Blues: A History of Columbus, Georgia,* traces the life of Columbus from its founding and early boom years; the Civil War and its aftermath; from its conflicts as an emerging modern city in the first half of the twentieth century, to racial tension and economic decline in the mid- to late 1900s; and rebirth and revival in the twenty-first century.

This first comprehensive history focuses on three defining characteristics of the city’s history: the role that geography has played in its evolution, specifically its location on the Chattahoochee River along the Fall Line, making it an ideal place to establish water-powered textile mills; the fact that the control of city’s affairs rested in the hands of a particular business elite; and the endemic presence of violence that left a “bloody trail” throughout local history.

Pictured L-R: Dr. Virginia Causey; GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Award for Excellence in Documenting Georgia’s History

Dr. Jamie H. Cockfield

Dr. Jamie H. Cockfield (Mercer University) in his book, *A Giant from Georgia: The Life of U.S. Senator Walter F. George*, has produced the first biography of Senator George, an individual so politically powerful, well-known, and respected during the middle third of the 20th Century that he was often referred to simply as “George from Georgia.” The senator left specific orders that all of his personal papers were to be burned upon his death, his explanation being that “he just didn't want people to know what other people had asked him to do for them.” Thus, to know him, Dr. Cockfield conducted personal interviews after his death with almost 30 surviving individuals who had known Senator George personally and mined numerous oral histories and primary sources from over two dozen archival repositories.

Pictured L-R: Dr. Jamie H. Cockfield; GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Award for Excellence in Documenting Georgia’s History

Sarah J. Boykin and Susan M. Hunter

Sarah Boykin and Susan Hunter (Atlanta) in their book *Southern Homes and Plan Books: The Architectural Legacy of Leila Ross Wilburn*, showcase the architectural legacy and design philosophy of Wilburn, a legacy that included hundreds of houses in a variety of popular house styles built using the nine mail-order plan books she published during the first six decades of the twentieth century.

Wilburn opened her own firm in Atlanta in 1909 and practiced until her death in 1967. She influenced the development of some of the Atlanta area’s beloved historical neighborhoods, most notably Druid Hills, Morningside, Virginia-Highland, and Candler Park. Boykin and Hunter provide a survey of the southern homes built from Wilburn’s plan books, examining her architectural legacy and her achievements as a plan book architect.

Pictured L-R: Susan M. Hunter; Vice Chair, GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Award for Excellence in Research Using the Holdings of an Archives

Dr. Earl J. Hess

Dr Earl J. Hess (Lincoln Memorial University, Tennessee) in his book, *Fighting for Atlanta: Tactics, Terrain, and Trenches in the Civil War* offers a compelling look at one of the war's most decisive campaigns and how fortifications became a defining factor in the Atlanta campaign’s battles. These engagements took place on topography ranging from Appalachian foothills to the clay fields of Georgia's piedmont. The Atlanta campaign represents one of the best examples of a prolonged Union invasion deep into southern territory, and, as Hess reveals, it marked another important transition in the conduct of war from open field battles to fighting from improvised field fortifications.

Pictured: *Rebel Works in Front of Atlanta, GA*, Large Print Collection, lpc402d, Georgia Archives
Dr. Michelle Purdy (Washington University, St. Louis) *Transforming the Elite: Black Students and the Desegregation of Private Schools* (UNC Press, 2018), focuses on the experiences of the first black students to desegregate Atlanta's well-known Westminster Schools, and national efforts to diversify private schools. Dr. Purdy combines social history with policy analysis in a dynamic narrative that re-creates this overlooked history. Through oral histories and rich archival research, this book showcases educational changes for black southerners during the civil rights movement including the political tensions confronted, struggles faced, and school cultures transformed during private school desegregation.

Pictured: Atlanta-Private Schools, File II Subjects, Georgia Division of Archives and History, RG 4-2-46, Georgia Archives
Award for Excellence in Research Using the Holdings of an Archives to

Dr. Ansley L. Quiros

Dr. Ansley L. Quiros (University of North Alabama) in her book, *God with Us: Lived Theology and the Freedom Struggle in Americus, Georgia, 1942–1976* examines the theological struggle over racial justice through the story of one southern town—Americus, Georgia—where ordinary Americans sought and confronted racial change in the twentieth century. Documenting the passion and virulence of these contestations, this book offers insight into how midcentury battles over theology and race affected the rise of the Religious Right and indeed continue to resonate deeply in American life.

Pictured L-R: Dr. Ansley L. Quiros; GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Award for Excellence in Research Using the Holdings of an Archives

John D. Duncan and Sandra L. Underwood

John Duncan and Sandra Underwood (Savannah), after four decades of research, travel, and collaboration have given us the first comprehensive biography of British architect William Jay, “The Showy Town of Savannah”; The Story of the Architect William Jay. The architect of: the Richardson-Owens-Thomas House, the Telfair House, and the Scarbrough House, Jay arrived in Savannah in December 1817, at the age of 26 – impatient, ambitious, and precocious – and in the less than five years Jay built both private residences and public buildings, which evidenced the “showy” style of refined, detailed quality and tasteful opulence that established elegance and charm as Savannah's lasting sense of place.

Pictured: Owens-Thomas House, 1816. Historic Postcard Collection, hpc0667, Virtual Vault, Georgia Archives
Award for Excellence in the Educational Use of Historical Records

Dr. Jill Anderson and Kevin Fleming

Dr. Jill Anderson and Kevin Fleming have created a workshop series aimed at Georgia State University faculty and instructors that encourages instructors to find innovative and creative ways to use primary sources within their classes. From a single workshop several semesters ago, they have developed a multi-workshop series to help instructors see both the value of and ways to incorporate primary source materials into their classes. With attendees at these workshops drawing from a wide range of departments across the University, including: Anthropology, African-American Studies, Business, Communication, Education, English, History and World Languages & Cultures, Anderson and Fleming are reaching and collaborating with non-typical departments.

Pictured L-R: Dr. Jill Anderson, Kevin Fleming; GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Award for Excellence in the Educational Use of Historical Records

Dr. Todd M. Michney

Dr. Todd N. Michney (Georgia Institute of Technology), assistant professor of history in the School of History and Sociology at Georgia Tech, directs the Ivan Allen Digital Archives (IADA), a joint project of the Georgia Institute of Technology and the Atlanta History Center. Drawing on the open-source Omeka platform, the IADA uses visual and digital tools that enable researchers and archivists to explore the collection in new ways. The project has digitized over 30,000 pages from the archives, representing close to one-half of the total collection.

Pictured L-R: Dr. Todd M. Michney; GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Award for Excellence in the Educational Use of Historical Records

James Friedrich

James Friedrich, a Public History student at Kennesaw State University, created a traveling exhibit about World War I geared toward a 5th grade audience. Friedrich’s initial research focused on changing technologies during World War I with an emphasis on chemical warfare, tank warfare, naval vessels, and aviation.

The goal of the class was to produce a traveling exhibit that would help 5th grade teachers in Georgia introduce World War I and its legacies to their students. After feedback from a preliminary focus group with seasoned teachers and history professionals, the exhibit pivoted from broad themes toward individual perspectives. Accordingly, the exhibit required a technology panel focused on an individual’s experience. Friedrich researched the life of Frank O’Driscoll Hunter, a World War I “flying ace” from Georgia. He made excellent use of resources found in the Georgia Historical Society including photographs, artifacts, and personal letters sent by Hunter to his father during the war. Friedrich demonstrated excellent research skills to find relevant primary sources and to interpret them for a target audience.

Pictured L-R: James Friedrich; GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Award for Excellence in Student Research Using Historical Records, Undergraduate Level

Tyler Holman

In his essay “‘Drunken, Desperate Men:’ The Klans of Gwinnett County, 1868-1872,” University of North Georgia student Tyler Holman used a variety of primary sources to solve a mystery of why six white-robed men burned the Gwinnett courthouse in September 1871. He worked through primary sources to reveal complex racial and class dynamics playing out in this upcountry Georgia county in the years immediately following the end of the Civil War. This deeply-researched and well-written case study makes an important contribution to the history of Reconstruction in the South, particularly in Georgia.
Award for Excellence in Student Research Using Historical Records, Grades 9-12

Thomas Bordeaux

In “The Ebenezer Creek Incident: ‘A Scene Disgraceful to American History,’” Thomas Bordeaux (Herschel V. Jenkins High School) has created an original work of Civil War historical scholarship regarding the impact of Sherman’s March to the Sea on the newly freed slaves in Georgia. The paper focuses on a horrifying prequel to Sherman’s issuance of Field Order 15, an order that redistributed 400,000 acres of confiscated land along the Southern coasts for settlement of freedmen and their families.

In a little known incident occurring just a month before at Ebenezer Creek near Savannah, the Union Army deliberately removed a bridge and abandoned the waves of newly freed slaves following the army to their fate at the hands of the approaching Confederates. At least 600 newly freed men, women, and children died in their attempt to escape the Confederate army by crossing the freezing, swollen creek.

Bordeaux’s paper was awarded first place in the National History Day in Georgia contest for 2019.

Pictured L-R: Kaye Minchew, past president Friends of Georgia Archives and History; Thomas Bordeaux; GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Award for Excellence in Student Research Using Historical Records, Grades 9-12

Eleanor McCoy

Eleanor McCoy (Columbus High School) created *Consequences of the Color Blue*, a ten-minute documentary, National History Day 2019. In keeping with this year’s theme of “Triumph and Tragedy in History,” the documentary focuses on the positive and negative impacts of indigo production in South Carolina in the 1700s and how this crop helped the colony become a dominant force in the Atlantic Trade economy prior to the American Revolution.

The story follows Eliza Lucas Pinckney, the daughter of a wealthy South Carolina planter who was one of the first Americans to successfully cultivate indigo for sale as a dye to Great Britain. From a varied list of primary and secondary sources, McCoy found that indigo was a triumph for the planter class in America and helped foster its independence and growth, but that it was only made possible by the tragedy of slavery and Native American dissolution that has ramifications lasting to this day. The documentary took first place in the 2019 Senior Individual Documentary category at the state and national levels.

Pictured L-R: Kaye Minchew, past president Friends of Georgia Archives and History; Eleanor McCoy; GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Award for Excellence in Student Research Using Historical Records, Grades 9-12

William Mason and Lawson Stewart

William Mason and Lawson Stewart (Impact Academy) presented their website, “Power to the People: The Triumph of the REA Amid the Tragedy of the Great Depression,” for National History Day 2019. The website focuses on the triumph of the Rural Electrification Administration during the Great Depression. This digital format allowed them to showcase the wide array of primary source materials they accumulated over the course of their research.

Pictured L-R: Kaye Minchew, past president Friends of Georgia Archives and History, Lawson Stewart; William Mason; GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Award for Excellence in Student Research Using Historical Records, Grades 6-8

Clary Dunaway and Izzy Spiegelman

Clary Dunaway and Izzy Spiegelman (Midtown International School) look at the gruesome events of the 1942 Cocoanut Grove Nightclub Fire in Boston Massachusetts, which took the lives of 492 people. For their National History Day Georgia exhibit, “Rise from the Ashes: The Cocoanut Grove Nightclub Fire and its Impact.” The project does not focus on the tragedy of the fire alone, but instead looks at the long-term impact it had on the United States, strengthening US fire codes, and resulting in medical advancements in burn care treatment and penicillin usage.

Pictured L-R: Kaye Minchew, past president Friends of Georgia Archives and History; Clary Dunaway; Izzy Spiegelman; Vice Chair, GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Lifetime Achievement Award

Honorable Jimmy Carter

When Gov. Jimmy Carter took office in 1971, State Archivist Carroll Hart found an advocate for the new records management program signed into law two years earlier. Carter was familiar with the Archives as a researcher; more importantly, he also understood the principles behind the records management program: the application of modern, efficient methods to preserve important records but also the destruction of those that don’t merit long-term preservation. He also saw the appeal in ensuring efficiency in government and making sure that taxpayers got the best value for their tax dollars. In a February 1971 letter to agency heads, Governor Carter expressed the need for each agency to appoint a records management officer (RMO).

The Georgia Records Act was passed in the 1972 legislative session. The State Records Committee began approving retention schedules, and many schedules from the earliest years were personally signed by Governor Carter. Retention schedules mandated that records of permanent value should come to the Archives and others be destroyed after their useful life. By late 1972 the State Records Center opened in the Archives basement to house agency records with non-permanent retention. The records management program went from a vision to a fully functioning program in eighteen months. Had it not been for Governor Carter’s enthusiastic support, such accomplishments would not have come about as rapidly or not at all.

Pictured L-R: Accepting on behalf of Mr. Carter is Meredith Evans, Director of the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum; GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Steven Engerrand

Dr. Steven Engerrand was hired in 1984 as an Archivist in the Government Records section of the Georgia Archives. During his thirty-four year career with the Georgia Archives, he worked or supervised in nearly every area of the Archives, retiring as Deputy State Archivist in 2018. During the 1980s and 1990s, Dr. Engerrand also served on numerous committees of national and regional professional organizations, including Georgia Archives project director and national publicity director for the Research Libraries Group’s Government Records project and co-director for the Georgia Archives and Manuscript Automated Access Project (GAMMA). Collections assessment led in 2006 to a National Film Preservation Foundation grant, where Dr. Engerrand wrote the proposal and managed the project. He was also responsible for securing the donation and initial processing of the architectural records (1917–1990) of Robert & Co., one of the largest architectural and engineering firms in the Southeast.

With the steep reduction in staff after 2010, he helped in Reference by monitoring patron use of original records. Here, he discovered a second rewarding career in archival reference and as “Historical Research Advisor.” He also applied his geography training by serving as the Georgia Geographic Names Authority for the United States Board on Geographic Names. The Georgia Archives and the State of Georgia are grateful for Steve Engerrand’s dedication and contributions to the mission of the Georgia Archives and to the dissemination of Georgia’s history.

Pictured L-R: Dr. Steven Engerrand; Vice Chair, GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Lifetime Achievement Award

Joel Walker

Joel Walker (Atlanta) made a valuable contribution to metro Atlanta historical and genealogical circles as Education Specialist for the National Archives at Atlanta. Walker brought his enthusiasm for history education to Georgia by coordinating the South Atlanta Metro Regional National History Day contest, a program similar to ones he ran in other states before coming to Georgia. The annual event is eagerly anticipated by students and teachers in Henry, DeKalb, Clayton, Rockdale, and Fayette Counties each year. The students he mentored have become state winners, national finalists and national champions. He provided enriching opportunities and events for students, genealogists, researchers and anyone who asked for his help.

Walker had a long association with National History Day throughout his career. Before joining the Atlanta archives in 2009, Walker worked for the South Carolina Archives and History Center, where he was National History Day Coordinator from 2000-2009, and before that at the Kansas State Historical Society, where he coordinated NHD from 1997-2000. He also served on the Executive Board of State Coordinators of National History Day from 2001 to 2009. His work enabled students from different schools and backgrounds to broaden their knowledge and passion for history.

Pictured L-R: Joel Walker; GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt
Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Jamil Zainaldin

Dr Jamil Zainaldin served from 1997 to 2017 as the executive director and president of Georgia Humanities, our state’s nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. During his time as president, Zainaldin positioned Georgia Humanities to be a cultural leader in the state, and he has been a pioneer nationally in developing innovative humanities programs. Among them are the New Georgia Encyclopedia, launched in 2004 as the first state encyclopedia developed exclusively online. He oversaw Georgia’s implementation of National History Day, engaging our state’s middle and high school students in researching and interpreting history. Dr. Zainaldin partnered nationally to conceive and launch the “Museums on Main” traveling exhibits program, which broadens access to humanities for smaller and rural communities. He led the Governor’s Awards in the Humanities, now the Governor’s Awards in the Arts and Humanities, which recognizes Georgians’ outstanding cultural contributions.

Dr. Zainaldin is a talented writer and speaker, who has shared with Georgians lesser-known stories from our state’s history and makes clear their relevance today. He is a longtime juror for the Georgia Writers Hall of Fame and recently retired from GHRAC after being appointed by successive governors. Jamil Zainaldon has done much to create a culture in which the humanities can thrive. In the process, he has touched the lives of Georgians across the state “sharing the stories that move us and make us.”

Pictured L-R: Dr. Jamil Zainaldin; GHRAC Vice Chair, Sheryl B. Vogt