



Duke Human Rights Center

AT THE FRANKLIN HUMANITIES INSTITUTE

News and Opportunities

Environmental Justice in Lowndes County, AL

By Katherine Pringle, MA in Economics

This year the Duke Human Rights Center@FHI's five-year partnership with the Alabama Center for Rural Enterprise (ACRE) became a Bass Connections project. The team is comprised of 18 undergraduate and graduate students from various disciplines working to produce useful projects for ACRE, while developing a variety of skills and learning about environmental justice and community-focused research.



In August, new team members traveled to Lowndes County to learn from ACRE's executive director Ms. Catherine Coleman Flowers, meet community members, hear about how septic tank failures have impacted their families, and see what resulted from sewage back-up in and outside of people's homes.

Read the rest of this article [here](#).

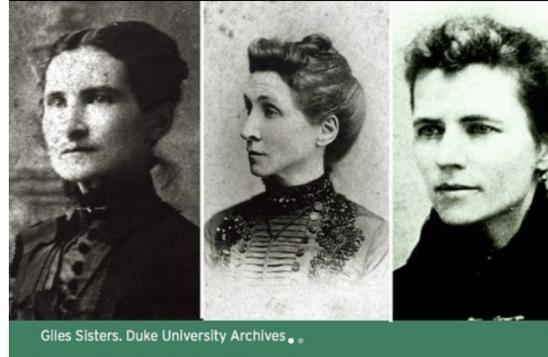
Highlight from #hiddenstories Instagram Campaign: The Giles Sisters

Do you know how the Giles dorm got its name? The building honors sisters Mary Persia and Theresa Giles, the first women awarded degrees by Trinity College in 1978. This was 52 years before the Women's College was founded! They were never able to enroll despite paying tuition, but they were granted degrees by the Board of Trustees. According to Mary, the sisters were "very ambitious and thought we could do anything anyone else could."



Look for our posts from [@duke.human.rights.center](#) showcasing the work of the [Activating History Through](#)

[Justice Report](#) to learn more about Duke's hidden stories. Our Instagram will be highlighting the stories behind memorials on Duke's campus to create a more informed campus community. Future posts will highlight stories beyond the report, researched by Student Advisory Board members and work-study students.



Marcello Di Cintio, "Pay No Heed to the Rockets: Life in Contemporary Palestine"

On Wednesday, October 31st, award-winning author Marcello Di Cintio spoke about his exploration of the Palestinian experience through first-hand reporting about what art and literature mean to modern Palestinians. Open Letter has called Di Cintio's *Pay No Heed to the Rockets* a "stunning, important new book" that allows readers to glimpse "the Palestine of living daily reality." Watch Di Cintio's full presentation [here](#).



Meet Human Rights Certificate Student Isabella Arbelaez

This interview was conducted over email with **Isabella Arbelaez**, a senior undergraduate student enrolled in the Human Rights Certificate Program, majoring in Global Literature and Cultural Theory, by Miranda Gershoni.



Why did you decide to pursue the human rights certificate?

I have had a passion for working with migrant populations, specifically with youth. As the daughter of a Colombian immigrant, the opportunities I was provided during my childhood were made possible through the work of my abuelos, my grandparents, and their decision to come to the United States.

But I recognize that these opportunities are not available to all students. Rather, migrant and refugee youth in our country are systematically put at a disadvantage because of the institutional barriers set before them – those of prejudice, racism, classism and discrimination.

Read the full interview with Isabella [here](#).

Student Opportunities



Humanity in Action's year-long fellowship brings together college-age students and recent graduates to learn about histories of minority discrimination and resistance in Amsterdam, Atlanta, Berlin, Copenhagen, Sarajevo, and Warsaw. After the four-week on-site educational programs,

Fellows return to their home countries to develop and implement Action Projects to address social justice issues in their own communities. The goal of these programs is to

foster cross-cultural understanding and an appreciation of different perspectives and approaches for assessing past and contemporary social justice issues. **Applications are due Sunday, January 6, 2019** at 11:59pm PST and more information about the fellowship can be found [here](#). If you have any questions about the fellowship, please feel free to email Kimmie Garner, Assistant Director of Service-Learning, who participated in the program in 2011 at kimberly.garner@duke.edu.

Apply for a Human Rights Summer Research Grant! Currently enrolled Duke undergraduate and graduate students are invited to apply for summer research funding from the Duke Human Rights Center@FHI. The goals of the grant are to strengthen global research opportunities for students interested in developing, implementing and working in human rights. Special consideration is given to students whose research contributes to a senior thesis or project, or towards the research component for the Capstone for the Human Rights Certificate. Grants are available of up to \$2,000. **Applications are due March 1, 2019.** Learn more [here](#).

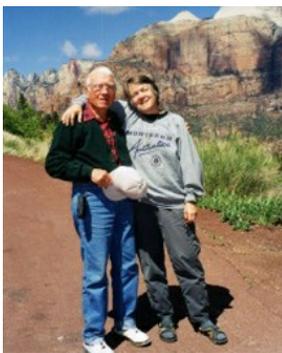


HUMAN RIGHTS RESEARCH GRANT

Apply for summer research funding on a topic concerning human rights!

Applications due
March 1, 2019
[Click here to find out more!](#)

The banner features a world map in the background and a circular inset image showing a group of people, possibly at a protest or community gathering.



Koonz Human Rights Prize. Duke undergraduates are invited to enter essays or alternative projects regarding global human rights issues in our annual Oliver W. Koonz Human Rights Prize competition. **The Duke Human Rights Center awards one \$500 prize in each category of best essay and best alternative project on a human rights theme.** Essays must be no longer than 25 double-spaced pages. They may take the form of analytic or critical essays, empirical research papers, term papers or personal essays on any human rights issue. Projects can be photo or video-based, theater pieces or scripts or web pages. Submissions do not have to be created in the context of a course, but must be done during the time the student is enrolled at Duke. Please send submissions to Emily.Stewart@duke.edu by April 1, 2019. Awards will be announced in May 2019. Learn more [here](#).

From the Rubenstein Library Human Rights Archive

Researching Migrant Exclusion in the Human Rights Archives

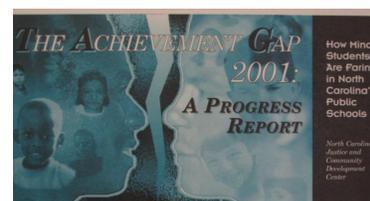
by *Llana Barber, Associate Professor of American Studies at the College at Old Westbury (State University of New York), a recipient of a 2018 Marshall T. Meyer Research Travel Grant*



The Universal Declaration of Human Rights asserts that all people have the right to emigrate – to leave their country. There is, however, no corollary right to immigrate – to enter another sovereign nation – inscribed in international law. I wondered what it means that people have the right to leave their country of origin, but all other countries have the right to deny them entry? Does that effectively just give people the right to die at sea, as thousands of migrants do each year, or in treacherous desert borderlands? Read the full post [here](#).

Educational Opportunity and Legal Strategy: Exploring the ACLU of North Carolina Records

by *Esther Cyna, doctoral student in History and Education at Teachers College, Columbia University, a recipient of a 2018 Marshall T. Meyer Research Travel Grant.*



How did advocates for equal educational opportunities for children in North Carolina shift their legal strategies when desegregation battles became

increasingly difficult to wage in the mid-1970s? It is with this research question in mind that I explored the American Civil Liberties Union of North Carolina (NCCLU) records, which are part of the Human Rights Archive at the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library. I spent a week exploring this rich collection to get a better understanding of civil rights attorneys' thinking. Read the full post [here](#).

New collections now open for research

[Darrin Zammit Lupi photojournalism archive](#): documenting migration flows across the Mediterranean.

[Ecumenical Program on Central America and the Caribbean \(EPICA\) records](#): documenting human rights, government and democracy, and labor conditions in the Caribbean, and largely date from the 1970s and 1980s.

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OPPORTUNITIES, AND NEWS?

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The Duke Human Rights Center wishes you all a happy and peaceful winter break!

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The Duke Human Rights Center @ the Franklin Humanities Institute brings together an interdisciplinary group of scholars, staff and students to promote new understandings about global human rights issues.