This About Our Leaders provides a short biography of our leaders for our LYRASIS Leaders Forum in Phoenix on April 4, 2019. The Leaders Forums are face-to-face meetings across the US, Canada and soon the globe, to gather leaders to discuss, explore and workshop ideas, problems and potential solutions. Our theme this year is Local to Global.

Experts from the LYRASIS team and from the community will discuss new concepts, trends and ideas surrounding innovation. Forum participants are members of the LYRASIS Leaders Circle, the general LYRASIS membership and invitation only community drivers within the archive, library and museum profession. By reading each short biography below, you’ll get to know our leaders engaging in our LYRASIS Leaders Forum, Local to Global. Thank you for attending.

About Our Leaders

Susan Barrett is an archivist and owner of Barrett Archival Consulting, LLC. She is a board member for the Association of Moving Image Archivists and a member of the Digital Library Federation (DLF) Cultural Assessment Working Group. Susan developed the Digital Moving Image Archives (DMIA) guide to provide basic information about preserving digital audiovisual productions for filmmakers. The DMIA is used in the curriculum at the L. Jeffrey Selznick School of Film Preservation at George Eastman House, and is a Library of Congress National Film Board resource.

Matthew Bloom is the Open Educational Resources (OER) Coordinator for the Maricopa County Community College District. He has been advocating for OER since 2012.

James Burns is the Executive Director at the Arizona Historical Society where he leads the state’s oldest cultural institution, including a portfolio of 12 sites across Arizona. James has 27 years of progressively responsible managerial and leadership roles in arts administration, museums, and higher education. He is also the Principal & Creative Director at Cypress & Sage Advising which provides a of services to not-for-profits, museums, collectors, and artists, including leadership and management advising, planning of all types, organizing, collections management, research, writing, and curatorial services.
Rebekah Cummings is the Research Data Management Librarian at the J. Willard Marriott Library where she provides data services to the research community at the University of Utah, including data management, analysis, visualization, and data archiving. Prior to this position, Rebekah worked as the Assistant Director of the Mountain West Digital Library (MWDL), one of the inaugural service hubs for the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA). My role at MWDL was to develop the partnership program, improve onboarding procedures for new partners, and strengthen existing relationships with current partners.

Emma DiPasquale is the Fulcrum Community Manager at University of Michigan. Fulcrum, is a digital publishing platform by Michigan Publishing at the University of Michigan Library. Before coming to Michigan Publishing, Emma earned her master's degree in literary and cultural studies from West Virginia University and a bachelor's degree in creative writing from John Carroll University. She has experience in society management and digital publishing as well as writing instruction and editing. Emma is a Leaders Circle Member.

Ryan Erfurth is the Digital History and Maps Librarian at the State of Arizona Research Library. His projects include the Arizona Memory Project, which is a statewide platform for digital history collections, the Special Maps Collection, which includes thousands of historical maps of Arizona, and Story Maps, which digitize these maps and present them in an online narrative format.

Brandy Helewa is the Discovery Librarian at the State of Arizona Research Library at State of Arizona Research Library. After 23 years in the veterinary field, Brandy changed directions, obtaining a bachelor's degree in Multidisciplinary Studies with a focus on Library Science from the University of Nebraska, Omaha in May of 2018. She is currently enrolled in the iSchool at San Jose State University and should graduate with an MLIS in 2020. She is primarily interested in digitization processes and projects, metadata, discovery and accessibility of digital collections, and information retrieval systems.

Mantra Henderson is the Director at Mississippi Valley State University where she has held several positions over the years. She earned her Doctor of Education from Delta State University and holds a M.L.I.S from The University of Southern Mississippi. Mantra is a LYRASIS Leaders Circle Member.
Holly Henley is the State Librarian and Director of Library Services at the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records, a division of the Arizona Secretary of State. Holly Henley currently oversees four branches: the Arizona Talking Book Library, E-Rate Administration, Library Development, and the State of Arizona Research Library. Prior to her current position, Holly was the Deputy Director of Library Services, Director of Library Development, and Youth Services Consultant at the State Library. A native of Virginia, Holly received her B.A. from Westhampton College at the University of Richmond and her M.L.S. from the University of Maryland in College Park. Before joining the State Library in 2004, Holly held positions as a Children’s Librarian and a Bookmobile Manager in public library systems, as a Teacher-Librarian overseeing a large school Library/Media Center, and as an elementary school Assistant Principal.

Alexandra Humphreys is the Associate Liaison Librarian Humanities Division Engagement and Learning Services at the Tempe campus at Arizona State Library. She has a collection of her scholarly work in ASU’s digital repository with a focus on education. Alexandra is a Leaders Circle Member.

Janice Klein is the Executive Director of the Museum Association of Arizona. She over 25 years of museum experience, including ten as Registrar of the Department of Anthropology at The Field Museum, Chicago and eight as the Executive Director of the Mitchell Museum of the American Indian (Evanston IL). She has organized and more than 50 professional workshops and conference sessions on issues ranging from the computerization of collections to public relations for small museums. She served as Chair of both the AAM’s Registrars Committee and AAM’s Small Museum Administrators Committee, as well as on the Association for State and Local History’s Small Museums Committee and the Task Force on Graduated Standards, that developed the StEPs Program. She is also a member of the Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) Steering Committee.

Rachel Leket-Mor is the Open Stack Collections Curator at ASU Library. Her librarianship work experience of 15 years at ASU includes liaison and subject librarian roles. Rachel is also the editor of the LIS scholarly journal, Judaica Librarianship. Rachel is a Leaders Circle Member.
Anali Perry is the Scholarly Communication Librarian at ASU Library. In this role, she provides leadership in providing outreach and education to the ASU community regarding scholarly publishing and copyright, with particular emphasis on fair use, open access to scholarly information, and open education. She also assists with scholarly identity management, including scholarly impact metrics. Anali has 23 years of experience in libraries. Her previous positions include working in Interlibrary Loan as a Library Specialist and as an acquisitions librarian. She is currently a presenter for the Association for College and Research Libraries Scholarly Communication Roadshow and serves on the steering committee for the Coalition of Open Access Policy Institutions. Anali is a Leaders Circle Member.

Dennis Pressler is the Deputy State Archivist at Arizona Library Archives and Public Records.

Rob Spindler is University Archivist at the Arizona State University Library. He was also administrator of Archives & Special Collections and curator for the Arizona Collection from 1996-2017. Rob is a Distinguished Fellow of the Society of American Archivists and he served as a past chair of several SAA component groups including the Congressional Papers Roundtable, Description Section, Electronic Publications Working Group and Nominating committees. Spindler was founding project coordinator for Arizona Archives Online, an online index to archival descriptions from archives throughout Arizona and he serves as chair of the Arizona State Historical Records Advisory Board. Rob was also founding conference co-chair for ECURE: Preservation and Access for Digital College and University Resources, an interdisciplinary conference sponsored by ASU from 1999-2006. He has served on the program/arrangements committee for the Arizona Archives Summit since 2009. Rob serves on the LYRASIS Board of Directors and is a member of the Leaders Circle.

LYRASIS Staff in attendance

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Thank you for attending!