Taking Small Steps Toward Inclusion and Anti-Racism

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ArchivesSpace is...

- An archives information management software application:
  - Supports many functions in archives and special collections
  - Created by archivists and supported by diverse repositories
  - Fills a need with few proprietary vendor solutions.
ArchivesSpace is also...

• A community:
  – Working together to create an application that reflects our values
  – Supporting each other in carrying out our individual missions for the collective good

• An opportunity:
  – To bring people from different sizes and types of institutions together to solve common problems and address wider challenges.
Anti-racism and inclusion community discussions

- Conducted in the immediacy of the events of Spring/Summer 2020
- Returned to in reflection
- Wide-ranging set of ideas: [https://archivesspace.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/ADC/pages/1737490437/Anti-racism+and+Inclusion+Initiatives+Progress](https://archivesspace.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/ADC/pages/1737490437/Anti-racism+and+Inclusion+Initiatives+Progress)
Finding a path in some simple truths

Engaged application users = engaged community members

Actively identify users we want in our community

Connect them with resources to use the application

Provide resources to support them getting involved
Our first five Partners

- Detroit Sound Conservancy
- Spelman College
- Xavier University of Louisiana
- Black Cultural Archives
- Weeksville Heritage Center
Next steps

• First full Partners meeting in December
• Strengthening Board commitment
  - Lens for setting priorities and allocating resources
• Picking the next set of initiatives to tackle
• Checking in regularly and keeping us honest
Thank you!

- To learn more about ArchivesSpace, visit http://archivesspace.org
- Or contact us at ArchivesSpaceHome@lyrasis.org