

Advocacy Committee supports level funding for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC)

The Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York, Inc. (ART) urges the Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee to support level funding for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). The following letter was sent to the Tom Udall, Chairman of the Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee:



Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York, Inc.
P.O. Box 151 New York, New York, 10274

The Honorable Tom Udall
Chairman of the Financial Services and
General Government Subcommittee of the
Senate Appropriations Committee
110 Hart Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C. 20510

Monday July 22, 2013

Dear Mr. Udall,

The Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York, Inc. urges the Subcommittee to support level funding for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). Founded in 1979, the Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization representing a diverse group of more than 650 archivists in the New York City area.

As members of the professional community of archivists, we are concerned that NHPRC will be unable to support its ongoing programs and mission with the current

funding request of \$3 million. The NHPRC has supported thousands of projects documenting democracy, through small grants to archives, universities, historical societies and non-profit organizations. These grants have facilitated nationwide coordination and communication among archivists, supported documentary editions of the papers of nationally significant individuals and institutions and have increased access to significant collections through digitization.

In recent years, NHPRC grants have allowed numerous New York City institutions to undertake and complete significant projects, including the establishment of an electronic records repository at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, the identification of significant historical collections pertaining to Sephardi and Mizrahi Jews in the northeastern United States, and the processing of and creation of finding aids for records of the renowned Paul Taylor Dance Foundation. These projects have successfully raised awareness about archival materials that were not otherwise accessible.

NHPRC grants are used by the Archivist of the United States to provide national leadership and encourage cooperation between state archivists on common issues. The grants leverage state, local and institutional funding by requiring 50% cost sharing – thus, NHPRC funding is central to most projects' funding structures. Therefore, the Advocacy Committee of the Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York, Inc. urges the Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government to support level funding for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

Sincerely,

Maggie Schreiner

Acting Chair, Advocacy Committee

Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York, Inc.