Awards and Scholarships

Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship for Students of Color

By David Satten-López

Since finding this passion in myself, I found myself pursuing paraprofessional roles in the field, trying to stay close to primary source materials. One was at a poetry archive, digitizing and preserving the recordings of poets reading their work. In another, I digitized and photographed 78 rpm (revolutions per minute) records. And, most recently, I built community relations and a web platform for Quaker manumission documents, supporting a more honest history of Quaker slaveholding and the lives of those they enslaved. Now, in the process of getting my master’s degree, I continue to find perspective and hope in primary source materials. The hope is that these resources will continue to move me, and that, one day, I might help others to be moved.

My goal is to support the use and access of primary source materials, especially for educators and historians. I hope to pursue this goal between and through the fields of archives and digital scholarship. I intend to foster access to noncirculating materials in a myriad of ways, mindful of the diversity of computing and bandwidth capacities among our users. I wholeheartedly believe in the ability of primary source materials to sharpen our collective analyses, which I believe to be a fundamental, though insufficient, step in achieving any equity and reparation. I am excited to take on this moment, and challenge, in the field, to craft meaningful scholarship in which ethic moves through an awareness of the structural inequities of power of the present and past.

I am grateful to have the support of MAC and to strive to do my work in a way that will make my teachers, my mentors, and my communities proud.