

STEPHANIE BIRCH

African American Studies Librarian, George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida
(352) 273 – 2656 | stephanie.birch@ufl.edu | www.stephaniebirch.com | @StephLBirch



+ EDUCATION

2016 Master of Library Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
2016 Master of Arts, African Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
2012 Master of Arts, History, University of Illinois Springfield
2010 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Art History, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

+ CURRENT APPOINTMENT

George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida | August 2016-present
Affiliate Faculty, Center for Gender, Women's, and Sexualities Studies Research, 2019-present
Library Liaison, Samuel Proctor Oral History Program, 2018-present
Assistant Librarian, African American Studies, 2016-present

+ PRACTICA

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | Spring 2016
Africana / Middle East and North African Collections, University Libraries
Center for African Studies Graduate Internship

Illinois State Museum | 2011-12
African Ethnographic Collection Graduate Internship

Illinois Department of Transportation | 2010-12
Policy Research Center Library Graduate Internship

+ PAST APPOINTMENTS

Figure One Gallery, School of Art + Design, University of Illinois | 2014-16
Interim Director, 2015-16
Gallery Assistant, 2014-15

Department of African American Studies, University of Illinois | 2013-15
Graduate Research Assistant

Historic Preservation Commission, Illinois Supreme Court | 2010-12
Historical Researcher

+ TEACHING & INSTRUCTION

Library Instruction, University of Florida | 2016-present
African American Studies and interdisciplinary courses
ENC 1101: Expository and Argumentative Writing
ENC 1102: Argument and Persuasion

College of Engineering, University of Illinois | Spring 2014
Learning In Community (LINC) Project Manager & Instructor

Graduate School of Library & Information Science, University of Illinois | Spring 2013 & 2014
Community Technology Center Instructor

+ GRANT AWARDS FUNDED

[Film on a Boat: Digitizing Historical Newspapers of the Caribbean](#) | 2019-21
Funded by CLIR Digital Hidden Special Collections and Archives
Award Amount: \$434,124
Role: Investigator

[Intersections: Research-into-Teaching: Mass Incarceration](#) | 2018-20
Funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation & UF Center for Humanities and the Public Sphere
Award Amount: \$30,000
Role: Co-Principal Investigator

[Oral History of Women in Science in UF College of Liberal Arts and Sciences](#) | 2019-20
Funded by George A. Smathers Libraries Strategic Opportunities Grant Program
Award Amount \$4,757
Role: Consultant

[Digital Collaborations on Black History in Florida Project](#) | 2019-20
Funded by UF Center for Humanities and the Public Sphere's Rothman Endowment
Award Amount: \$765
Role: Principal Investigator

[Domain of One's Own: Building Infrastructure for Digital Scholarship](#) | 2019-20
Funded by George A. Smathers Libraries Emerging Technologies Grant Program
Award Amount: \$7,500
Role: Investigator

[Decolonizing Representations: Past, Present, and Future](#) | 2019-20
Funded by UF Office of the Provost and Creative Catalyst Program
Award Amount: \$4,660
Role: Investigator

[Digital Publishing on Black Life and History Collaborative Meeting](#) | 2019-20
Funded by George A. Smathers Libraries Strategic Opportunities Grant Program
Award Amount: \$4,940
Role: Principal Investigator

[Enhancing the Legacy Digital Collections of the SPOHP for Improved User Access](#) | 2019-20
Funded by George A. Smathers Libraries Strategic Opportunities Grant Program
Award Amount: \$4,954
Role: Co-Principal Investigator

[Bibliographic & Digital Internship on Black Education in Florida](#) | 2018

Funded by George A. Smathers Libraries Graduate Internship Program
Award Amount: \$7,500
Role: Principal Investigator

[Special Programs Internship in the Humanities & Social Sciences](#) | 2017
Funded by George A. Smathers Libraries Graduate Internship Program
Award Amount: \$2,400
Role: Investigator

+ LIBRARY RESEARCH GUIDES

- [African American Studies](#)
- [Digital Collaborations Workshop](#)
- [Mass Incarceration](#)
- [Oral History @ UF](#)
- [Teaching African & African American Experiences](#)

+ PRESENTATIONS

Invited

Birch, S. (2020) [African American Library Collections: Then and Now](#). *African American Studies 50th Anniversary Symposium*, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL.

Birch, S., Morini, R., and Ortiz, P. (2019) The Long Freedom Struggle in Florida: Oral Histories, Archives, & Teaching the Movement. *National Education and Empowerment Coalition, Inc.*, Tallahassee, FL.

Turcotte, F., Birch, S., Russell, J. (2019) African American Library Resources. *Association of Black Alumni Reunion*, Gainesville, FL.

Houchen, D., Walker, D., and Birch, S. (2019) [Towards Justice: University-Community Collaborations & Black Public History](#). *Digital Collaborations Workshop on Black History in Florida*, Gainesville, FL.

Birch, S. (2019) [Teaching African and African American Experiences with Open Resources](#). *Teaching African American History Conference*, Gainesville, FL.

Birch, S., Taylor, L., and Russell, J. (2019) [Unveiling of the Joel Buchanan Archive of African American Oral History](#). *From Segregation to Black Lives Matter Symposium*, Gainesville, FL.

Birch, S. and Esteban, T. (2018) [Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in the UF Libraries](#). *Smathers Libraries*, Gainesville, FL.

Reakes, P., Birch, S., Putnam, S., & Edwards, M. (2018) The George A. Smathers Libraries. *University of Florida New Faculty Orientation*, Gainesville, FL.

Birch, S. and Lutomia, A.N. (2016) Con(Texts): Re-examining the Social Life of Kanga Cloth. 13th Annual African Student Organization Forum. University of Illinois.

Birch, S. and Lutomia, A.N. (2016) The Secret Life of Swahili Textiles. *Summer Institute for the Muslim World*, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL.

Birch, S. (2014) Fairies and Fiends: Locating the Magical, Racial Other in Grimms' Fairy Tales. *Women's Resources Center*, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL.

Birch, S. and Mbhekiseni, M. (2013) Community Technology Centers (CTC) and the Barbershop Community. Graduate Research Symposium. Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois.

Refereed:

Birch, S. (2020) Building Collaborative Partnerships for Black DH Projects. *Florida Digital Humanities Conference*, Flagler College, March 27, 2020. Cancelled due to COVID-19.

Birch, S. (2019) [Fixer-Uppers: Restructuring an Inefficient Digital Collection](#). *Digital Library Federation Forum*, Tampa, FL.

Houchen, D., Birch, S., Walker, D., and Ponds, V. (2019) The Stories We Tell: Critical Approaches to Black Public History. *Florida Historical Society Annual Meeting*, Cape Canaveral, FL.

Campbell, L and Birch, S. (2018) [Meeting Student\(s\) Goals: Practicing Learner-Centered Library Instruction](#). *Florida Association of College & Research Libraries (FACRL) Conference*, Ft. Meyers, FL.

Hines, A, Birch, S., and Ewing, S. (2018) [Getting to Know Us! Creating a Librarian Profile Video Series](#). *Florida Library Association Conference*, Orlando, FL.

Birch, S., Dombrowski, D., and Royster, M. (2017) Brainstorming Approaches against Tech's Racial Biases. *ThatCamp Gainesville*, Gainesville, FL.

Birch, S. (2016) New Vantages: Tracing the Spiritual and Cultural Intersections of Vodou, Vodun, and Voodoo. *13th Annual African Student Organization Forum*. University of Illinois.

Birch, S. (2015) About Face: Africa and a Global Fashion Revolution. *12th Annual African Student Organization Forum*. University of Illinois.

+ PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

Birch, S. Stapleton, S., and Vargas-Betancourt, M. (2020) Outreach from Academic Libraries Supports Local School District's Diversity Initiative. Accepted to *CRL News*, forthcoming.

Stapleton, S., Royster, M., Bharti, N., Birch, S., Bossart, J., Butts, S., Cataldo, T., Gonzalez, S., Minson, V., Putnam, S., & Yip, C., (2019). [Girls Tech Camp](#). *Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship*, (92).

Birch, S. and Lutomia, A.N. (2017) Con(Texts): [Re-examining the Social Life of Kanga Cloth](#). *Africa e Mediterraneo*, (85), pg. 39-45.

Exhibition Catalogs

Barber, R. [Painting is Dead?!](#) Ed. Stephanie Birch. University of Illinois, 2015.

Birch, S. [FolkFusion: Functional African Art at the Illinois State Museum](#). University of Illinois Springfield, 2012.

Other Publications

Birch, S. (2020) [Digital Collaborations Workshop on Black History in Florida: Final Report](#). University of Florida, George A. Smathers Libraries.

Birch, S., Gordon, J., Moradi, B., Adejumo, V. (2018). [African American Studies Steering Committee Final Report and Recommendations](#). University of Florida, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.

Birch, S. [Crimes of Fashion: Intellectual Property and Indigenous Dress](#). *Global Notes*. International & Area Studies Library, University of Illinois, April 2016.

Kimba, S. *Oral History of Samuel Kimba: Experiences of the Liberian Civil War*. Ed. Stephanie Birch. University of Illinois Springfield Archives, 2012.

+ EXHIBITIONS

Birch, S. and Ronan, J. *Student Activism at the University of Florida: Black Thursday*. Library West. University of Florida, forthcoming 2020.

Houchen, D., Walker, D., Turcotte, F., and Birch, S. *Lincoln High School: A Metaphor for Excellence*. A. Quinn Jones Museum & Cultural Center, Gainesville, Florida, December 2018 – present.

Houchen, D., Walker, D., Turcotte, F., and Birch, S. [Black Educators: Florida's Secret Social Justice Advocates, 1920-1960](#). Smathers Library Gallery, University of Florida, October-December 2018.

Alter, S., Birch, S., Huet, H. [Race, Representation, and Resistance in Children's Literature, 1800-2015](#). Smathers Library Gallery, University of Florida, August-October 2018.

Barber, R. and Birch, S. *With Eyes Wide Open*. Figure One Gallery, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, October-December 2015.

Barber, R. and Birch, S. *Painting is Dead?!* Figure One Gallery, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, February-March 2015.

Birch, S. *Up for Grabs: Slavery on Trial in Illinois*. Illinois Supreme Court Historic Preservation Commission, Springfield, Illinois. January 2013.

Birch, S. *FolkFusion: Functional African Art at the Illinois State Museum*. University of Illinois Springfield, Springfield, Illinois. May 2012.

+ WORKSHOPS

Decolonizing Representations: Past, Present, Future, Parts I & II

October 25, 2019 and February 7, 2020

University of Florida

Role: Co-organizer and facilitator

Digital Collaborations Workshop on Black History in Florida

July 24 & 25, 2019

University of Florida

Role: Lead organizer and facilitator

UF Libraries, Underrepresentation and Digital Literacy

July 10, 2019

21st Century Summer Camp, Westwood Middle School

Role: Planning and facilitation team; activity leader

Research Self-Care

February 20, 2019

Library West, University of Florida

Role: Co-organizer and facilitator

Building a Survey in LibWizard

December 16, 2018

George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida

Role: Co-organizer and presenter

Introduction to LibWizard

November 24, 2018

George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida

Role: Co-organizer and presenter

+ SERVICE

Professional Service:

Gainesville Cultural Affairs Board (appointed by Gainesville City Commission)

Member: November 2019-November 2022

Real Rosewood Foundation, Inc.

Executive Board Chair and Deputy Director: January 2020-January 2021

Council on Library and Information Resources / Digital Library Federation

Member, DLF Forum 2020 Program Committee: February 2020-present

Member, DLF Forum 2020 Scholarship Committee: February 2020-present

Member, Digitizing Hidden Collections Symposium Program Committee: February 2020-present

Association of Research Libraries Fellowship Program

Mentor, September 2019-present

Alachua County African American History Task Force

Educational Resources Committee Chair: 2018-present

Florida Association of College and Research Libraries (FACRL) Program Committee

Member: May 2019-October 2019

ACRL African American Library Interest Group, African American Funnel Project Committee
Member: August 2018-August 2019

School Board of Alachua County Conference Planning Committee
Member: January 2018-May 2019

University Service:

University of Florida Faculty Senate
Senator (elected): August 2018-August 2021

African American Studies 50th Anniversary Celebration Committee
Outreach Subcommittee Member: October 2019-present

African American Studies Program Advisory Committee
Member: August 2017-present

Digital Humanities Working Group
Member: September 2016-present

United Faculty of Florida (UFF)
Vice President (elected): May 2018-April 2019
Communications and Membership Co-Chair: May 2017-April 2019
Senator (elected): May 2017-April 2019

Symposium Planning Committee, Samuel Proctor Oral History Program
Member: October 2018-March 2019

Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee
Member: October 2016-February 2019

African American Studies Program Task Force
Chair, August 2017-May 2018

THATCamp Gainesville Planning Committee
Member: January 2017-April 2018

Mentor Program, Multicultural and Diversity Affairs
Mentor: August 2017-January 2018

Exhibition Advisory Committee, Harn Museum of Art
Jacob Lawrence Exhibition (on view February-August 2018)
Member: April 2017

Exhibition Advisory Committee, AHR 3836: Exhibitions
Florida Tourism: Sunshine and Shadows Exhibition (on view at the George A. Smathers Library Gallery, October – December 2017). Course Instructors: Briley Rasmussen & Lourdes Santamaria-Wheeler
Member: April 2017

Library Service:

Digital Library of the Caribbean Team

Member: October 2016-present

UF Libraries Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee

Co-Chair, August 2018-May 2019

Member, August 2017-May 2018

Elias 'Bo Didley' McDaniel Collection Acquisitions Committee

Member: August 2017-April 2019

Search Committee, Chair of Cataloging and Discovery Services

Member: May 2018-October 2018

Girls Tech Camp Planning Committee

Member: March 2017-June 2018

Homecoming Float Committee

Member: August 2017-October 2017

Search Committee, Library West Outreach and Instruction Librarian

Member: March 2017-September 2017

Department Service:

Library West DEI Team

Member: February 2020-present

Library West Creative Team

Member: August 2016-February 2020

ClimateQual Task Force

Focus Group Facilitator: August-September 2019

+ HONORS & AWARDS

George A. Smathers Libraries Outreach Award, Library West Creative Team, 2018

George A. Smathers Libraries Outreach Award, Girls Tech Camp, 2017

Foreign Language & Area Studies Fellowship, Department of Education, 2015-2016