

P. Gabrielle Foreman

“Discovering Delaware’s Delegates: Brandywine Valley and the Colored Convention Movement,” a Public Symposium

The Colored Conventions project gratefully acknowledges the Center for the Study of Diversity’s 2014 grant in the amount of \$1,212 for a symposium, ultimately entitled “Colored Conventions in the 19th Century and the Digital Age,” which was held in April of 2015 at both the University of Delaware and the Delaware Historical Society. The symposium, which we believe is the first ever to take such conventions as its focus, drew many more participants than we expected both as panelists and as audience members. Indeed, the registration was so robust that we had to change the room at the last moment.

Our dissemination goals were to host a symposium that would lead to publishing an anthology. The symposium abstracts, the presenter bios and the video excerpts are all available here: <http://coloredconventions.org/symposium-participants>. You can read the twitter feed at: https://storify.com/CCP_org/col?utm_source=embed_header. Finally, a recent blog about the Colored Convention Project that emerges from one of those essays was recently published here: <http://www.blackprintculture.com/bpu-blog/black-conventions-activist-networks-and-the-recorder>. The essays for the anthology are due on September 15th, 2015 and are coming in presently. We will be working on a group of intellectually rigorous online exhibits that will accompany the collection of essays in spring, 2016 in a graduate class on the conventions and during the summer if we can secure funding to support student research.

In short, the symposium was very successful—in no small part because of the support of the internal and external funders who made it possible. We are delighted to be counted among the awardees of the Diversity Research Grant Program.

Sincerely,

P. Gabrielle Foreman
Faculty Advisor, the Colored Convention Project