It is with pleasure that I welcome you to the School of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of South Carolina. We are delighted to host the fourth biennial Media & Civil Rights History Symposium and, for the first time, welcome civil rights history scholars from around the country to our new building.

The school is completing its second academic year in the inviting surroundings of our new home, just steps from the historic USC Horseshoe. From our rooftop garden to the industry state-of-art media laboratories and boutique auditorium, we are confident that you will find it an ideal setting for your symposium. We consider it a privilege to share with you our excellent facilities, world-class teachers and researchers and “South Carolina-style” Southern hospitality.

Our keynote speaker, Emmy-Award winning civil rights filmmaker Stanley Nelson, Jr., will not only participate in symposium-specific activities, but will also help us extend the symposium’s reach to the greater community with a public film screening and discussion on Friday, March 31 from 5-7 p.m. in the historic Booker T. Washington High School Auditorium. The high school was a center for the education and training of young African Americans in Columbia until public school desegregation and expansion of the University of South Carolina led to its closure in 1974. The school’s auditorium is recently renovated, used for numerous events throughout the year, and is a short walk from our building. You don't want to miss this event.

We are pleased to announce that R. Joseph Parrott of Yale University has won the Farrar Award in Media & Civil Rights History for research on transnational filmmaking’s influence on African American community empowerment. Previous Farrar Award winners were Mark J. Walmsley (2015, University of Leeds), Carol Stabile (2013, Oregon University), Will Hustwit (2012, University of Mississippi), and Gordon Mantler (2011, Duke University). The award is now presented biennially.

Thank you for making the time in your busy schedule to join us for this special gathering of media and civil rights history scholars. While you are with us, please take time to enjoy our innovative LEED Gold certified facility, the surrounding USC campus and the capital city of South Carolina.

I look forward to meeting you.

Andrea Tanner, Ph.D.
Professor and Director
School of Journalism and Mass Communications
University of South Carolina

On the cover: The Symposium logo was designed as an abstract version of the gamecock’s tail feathers and a speech bubble alluding to a symposium.
2017 Symposium Schedule

Thursday, March 30

4 p.m.–5 p.m. Registration 
Room 318

5 p.m.–7 p.m. Opening reception with Stanley Nelson Jr.  
Rooftop Garden/318
Light refreshments

Friday, March 31

8:30 a.m. Registration 
Room 316
Coffee and tea

9 a.m.–10:15 a.m.

Session A: Civil Rights Documentaries
Dean’s Conference Room
Treyv A. McDonald, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Documentary series, “Eyewitnesses to History: Riots and Protests from Harlem to Ferguson and Beyond”
Jason Lee Guthrie, University of Georgia, “Look Forward: A Digital Exhibition on Civil Rights and the Pulitzer Prize in Georgia”
Moderator: Kenneth Campbell, University of South Carolina

Session B: Birmingham and Memory
Room 318
Michael DiBari, Jr., Hampton University, “Charles Moore’s Birmingham Photographs: a Semiotic Study”
Robert J. Greene II, University of South Carolina, “Reconstruction And African American Memory, 1960-1980”
Moderator: Kathy Roberts Forde, University of Massachusetts Amherst

10:15 a.m.–10:30 a.m. Mid-morning break 
Room 316
Coffee and tea

10:30 a.m.–11:45 a.m.

Session A: Athletes, Civil Rights, and Visual Journalism 
Dean’s Conference Room
Bijan Bayne, independent scholar, “Muhammad Ali: Ringmaster of the Media”
Raymond McCaffrey, University of Arkansas, “Jackie Robinson, Crusading Journalist”
Moderator: Jo-Ann Morgan, Western Illinois University
The School of Journalism and Mass Communications presents the keynote speaker for the 2017 Media & Civil Rights History Symposium: America’s civil rights filmmaker, Stanley Nelson Jr.


Mr. Nelson’s chronicling of the African-American experience has earned him some of the highest awards that recognize artistic and intellectual contributions. In addition to being awarded a 2002 MacArthur Foundation genius grant, he received the National Humanities Medal in 2013 from President Barack Obama “for outstanding achievements in history, cultural studies, filmmaking, cultural commentary, and historic preservation.” Nelson has also been honored with a 2015 Peabody Award for his body of work and a 2016 Emmy for Lifetime Achievement. His documentary work has earned five Emmy Awards and two awards from the Sundance Film Festival.

Keynote
Stanley Nelson Jr.

Praise for Nelson’s work
‘By turning a camera on both the well-known and unknown narratives of African Americans, Mr. Nelson has exposed injustice and triumph while revealing new depths of our history.’
—2013 National Humanities Medal awarded by President Barack Obama

‘masterfully tells the tale’
—Henry Louis Gates Jr., Harvard University, on ‘The Black Press’

‘a superb piece of filmic journalism’
—Variety, on ‘Freedom Riders’

‘Elegantly condensing a miniseries’ worth of history into a feature’
—The Hollywood Reporter on ‘Tell Them We Are Rising’

Friday, March 31 1 p.m. SJMC Auditorium  |  7 p.m. Booker T. Washington Auditorium, 1400 Wheat St.
**2017 Symposium Schedule – Friday**

10:30 a.m.–11:45 a.m.

**Session B:** Local Studies in Civil Rights  
*Room 318*

- David Stephen Bennett, Michigan State University, “Visually Imagining Atlanta: Media’s Role in Building Atlanta’s Urban Identity between 1936 and 1940”
- Emily Martin, University of South Carolina, “Overcoming Narratives and Redefining Success: The 1963 Danville, Virginia Civil Rights Movement”
- Mary Potorti, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences University, “Framing Hunger: Food Aid, Voting Rights, and Movement Media in Mississippi”

**Moderator: Thomas Jackson, University of North Carolina at Greensboro**

**Noon**

Keynote luncheon & discussion with Stanley Nelson, Jr.  
*Carolina Room/Auditorium*

Stanley Nelson Jr.’s chronicling of the African-American experience through documentary filmmaking has earned him some of the highest awards that recognize artistic and intellectual contributions. In addition to being awarded a 2002 MacArthur Foundation genius grant, he received the National Humanities Medal in 2013 from President Barack Obama “for outstanding achievements in history, cultural studies, filmmaking, cultural commentary, and historic preservation.” Mr. Nelson has also been honored with a 2015 Peabody Award for his body of work and a 2016 Emmy for Lifetime Achievement Award. His work has earned five Emmy Awards and two awards from the Sundance Film Festival.

2:15 p.m.–3:30 p.m.

Plenary session  
*Auditorium*

Panel: “Hidden Sources, Unheard Voices: Mining the Elite Archives for Bottom Up History”

Historians tell stories to explain the past. They select evidence and construct narratives that help us understand change across time. But what happens to those stories when critical evidence is missing—when important voices go unheard? Since the rise of “history from below” more than four decades ago, historians have acknowledged the lacuna at the heart of archival research—the fact that elites are the ones most likely to leave a paper trail. For media and civil rights historians, the archives privilege a consistent set of historical actors—movement leaders and the politicians who aided or opposed them; editors, authors, and broadcasters who wrote and spoke about them; and the judges and lawyers who fought the legal battles that swirled around them. Rarely do we find archived papers from everyday folks—the members of the public who heard the speeches, read the newspapers, endured the impact of the judicial rulings. In this panel, four historians discuss their effort to locate some of those hidden sources and make them more fully present in their historical narratives.

**Panelists:**
- Thomas F. Jackson, University of North Carolina-Greensboro, “‘Dear Dr. King’: The Media, The Icon, and the Problem of the Audience”
- Gwyneth Mellinger, James Madison University, “Grass-Roots Segregationism: Documenting the Racial Ideology of White Folk”
- Aimee Edmondson, Ohio University, “Buried Treasures: Digging Up Details of Police Brutality in the Trial Transcripts, Depositions, Affidavits and Other Untouched Sources Hidden Away in Dusty, Out-The-Way Courthouses”
Moderator and panelist:
Sid Bedingfield, University of Minnesota, “Letters to the Editor: How Readers Responded to the Rise of a Radical Black Newspaper in the Heart of the Deep South in the 1940s”

3:45 p.m.–5 p.m.
Session A: Civil Rights Advocacy in Journalism       Dean’s Conference Room
Richard Thomas Cranford, University of Nebraska-Kearney, “Herald, Mirror, and Record: The Social Advocacy of African-American War Correspondents during World War II”
Jo-Ann Morgan, Western Illinois University, “Revolutionary Artist Emory Douglas and The Black Panther—Black Community News Service”
Nathan J. Saunders, University of South Carolina, “Your Schools: Holding the Movement Together”
Moderator: Aimee Edmondson, Ohio University

Session B: Racism and Diversity in Media       Room 318
Kathy Roberts Forde, Bryan Bowman, and Charles Giordano, University of Massachusetts Amherst, “Flagler’s Inferno or ‘Paradise Regained’?: The Role of the Press and White Supremacy in Building Florida”
Gwyneth Mellinger, James Madison University, “Introducing ‘A Minority View’: An Early Effort to Integrate Daily Op-ed Pages”
Reed Smith, Georgia Southern University, “1940s Radio’s Fight for Civil Rights”
Moderator: Kent Germany, University of South Carolina

5 p.m.–7 p.m. Dinner on your own
Please see symposium materials for list of restaurants.

7 p.m.–9 p.m.
Free public screening and discussion with documentary filmmaker Stanley Nelson Jr. in the historic Booker T. Washington High School Auditorium.
Stanley Nelson Jr. will discuss and show excerpts of three civil rights documentaries, including “Tell Them We are Rising,” the triple-Emmy winner “Freedom Riders,” and “Freedom Summer.” The event includes a question-and-answer session with the audience in the auditorium, which is part of the historic Columbia high school where generations of South Carolina civil rights activists were educated and inspired. Mr. Nelson will be joined for the on-stage discussion by legendary, civil rights photojournalist Cecil Williams of Orangeburg. Williams is the author of several photographic collections of the civil rights era in South Carolina. Mr. Williams provided historic photographs to the filmmaker for “Tell Them We Are Rising.”

Saturday, April 1
8:30 a.m.        Coffee and tea       Room 316

9 a.m.–10:15 a.m.
Session A: Civil Rights in the Digital Sphere       Dean’s Conference Room
**2017 Symposium Schedule – Saturday**

Sherri Marie Williams, Wake Forest University, “Media Blackout: How Racial Rhetoric and Tropes Affected News Coverage of Protests in Ferguson and Baltimore”
Jonathan Matthew Williams, Wake Forest University, “#TBackinBlack”
**Moderator: David Crockett, University of South Carolina**

**Session B: Authors Panel**

Sherri Marie Williams, Wake Forest University, “Media Blackout: How Racial Rhetoric and Tropes Affected News Coverage of Protests in Ferguson and Baltimore”
Jonathan Matthew Williams, Wake Forest University, “#TBackinBlack”
Moderator: David Crockett, University of South Carolina

**Session B: Authors Panel**

Sonja Williams, Howard University, “Word Warrior: Richard Durham, Radio, and Freedom”
Sid Bedingfield, University of Minnesota, “Newspaper Wars: Civil Rights and White Resistance in South Carolina, 1935-1965”

**Panelist and moderator:**

Gwyneth Mellinger, James Madison University, “Chasing Newsroom Diversity: From Jim Crow to Affirmative Action”

10:15–10:30 a.m. **Mid-morning break**

**Room 316**

Coffee and tea

10:30 a.m.–11:45 a.m. **Plenary session**

**Room 318**

Panel: A discussion with the South Carolina journalists who covered the horrific massacre in Charleston that stunned the nation, the shockwaves that followed, and the historical context in the state.

Panelists:
Herb Frazier, former reporter for the Post and Courier, co-author of “We are Charleston: Tragedy and Triumph at Mother Emanuel”
Raphael James, anchor, WCSC-TV, Charleston
Billie Jean Shaw, reporter, WIS-TV, Columbia
Eric Frazier, former reporter for the Post and Courier; former columnist, Charlotte Observer

**Moderator: Kenneth Campbell, University of South Carolina**

Noon

**Farrar Award in Media & Civil Rights History Luncheon**

McCutchen House

Menu: A Southern Barbecue with barbecued chicken and pulled barbecue pork, roasted vegetable bow tie salad, cornbread, fruit cobbler, and freshly brewed iced tea.

1:30 p.m.–2:30 p.m.

**Ronald T. and Gayla D. Farrar Award in Media & Civil Rights History Lecture**

**SJMC Auditorium**

Congratulations

R. Joseph Parrott

R. Joseph Parrott, a postdoctoral fellow at Yale University, wins the 2017 Farrar Award in Media & Civil Rights History for his article published in the July–September 2015 issue of Race & Class: “A Luta Continua: Radical Filmmaking, Pan-African Liberation and Communal Empowerment.”

Professor Parrott completed his doctorate at the University of Texas at Austin, having held graduate fellowships with International Security Studies at Yale University and the Miller Center of Public Affairs at the University of Virginia. His dissertation, “Struggle for Solidarity: The New Left, African Decolonization, and the End of the Cold War Consensus,” is a broad transnational history that considers Portuguese decolonization in Africa as a noteworthy component in transforming western engagement with the global south.

Parrott’s work cuts across intellectual, diplomatic, and socio-political history to illuminate how questions of race and empire drove the policy choices of U.S. leaders, African nationalists, and Portuguese officials, as well as the agenda of a wider western Left.

Farrar Award Lecture — Saturday, April 1, 1:30–2:30 p.m.  SJMC Auditorium
2017 Symposium Schedule – Saturday

Ronald T. and Gayla D. Farrar Award in Media & Civil Rights History Lecture

Professor Parrott wins the Farrar Award in Media & Civil Rights History for his 2015 article that examines how a radical film about anti-imperil resistance in Mozambique was interpreted and used in African American communities “to construct grassroots movements that would spread nationally in the 1970s and lay the groundwork for more familiar antiapartheid activism in the next decade.” This award recognizes the best journal article or chapter in an edited book on the historical relationship between media and civil rights published during the previous two years. The article was chosen from the largest field to date for the award.

3 p.m.–4:15 p.m.

Session A: Contemporary Issues in Digital Civil Rights  Dean’s Conference Room
Panel: “#SayHerName: Exploring Digital Activists’ Digital Media Use to Combat Violence Against Black Women”
Matt Williams, Wake Forest University
Panelist and moderator:
Sherri Williams, Wake Forest University

Session B: International Lens on Civil Rights  Room 318
Thomas C. Anderson, Jr., University of South Carolina, “How the Media Portrayed the Raised Fist as a Symbol of the Black Power Movement from 1966-69”
Denetra D. Walker, University of South Carolina, “Media Coverage of Deadly Police Shootings in South Carolina: The 1968 Orangeburg Massacre and the 2015 Walter Scott Shooting”
Won-ki Moon, University of South Carolina, “Media, the Megalia Affair, and Feminism of South Korea”
Noura Abdullah Al-Duaijani, University of South Carolina, “Choosing the Wrong Angle: News and Islamophobia”
Moderator: Todd Shaw, University of South Carolina

5 p.m.  Closing reception  Rooftop garden/318
Refreshments of salmon canapés, designer cupcakes, and more.
See America’s Civil Rights filmmaker in the city’s historic Booker T. Washington Auditorium

Free event
Friday
March 31
7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
1400 Wheat St.
Columbia, SC

Filmmaker Stanley Nelson Jr. will show excerpts of and discuss his documentaries— in a place where civil rights history was made.

An event of
In partnership with
Featuring

Legendary South Carolina Civil Rights photojournalist and author, Cecil Williams of Orangeburg. Mr. Williams’ photographs of student activism appear in Mr. Nelson’s newest documentary about HBCUs, ‘Tell Them We Are Rising.’

To view this image, please visit the source where it was originally published.