

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019 - 2020



**ON THE COVER (top to bottom):** Rally honoring local suffragist Ella Findeisen and the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote (Eagle Tribune, August 12, 2020); Tent City (field hospital) at Emery Hill, Influenza Pandemic 1918, Lawrence, MA; guest speakers during our summer virtual program for Lawrence middle school students (The Rising Loaves); summer middle school student presenting her work; historic preservation of the Essex Company complex in progress (contractor Buddy Latham pictured)

**FRONT AND BACK COVER BACKGROUND IMAGE:** Lawrence Dam Site 1846, Lawrence History Center Essex Company Photograph Collection. The year 2020 marks the 175th Anniversary of the incorporation of the Essex Company in 1845. On September 19, 1845, the very first stone was laid by the Essex Company in the construction of the Great Stone Dam. The Dam was completed exactly three years later to the day.

**BELOW:** Lamb using PPE during the COVID-19 pandemic, Christopher Coughlin, Jurg and Linda Siegenthaler (credit to ECCF), Thomas Walsh, Cindy Parnagian and Kathy Flynn, Florentina Gutierrez, Halina Grabski

# OUR VOLUNTEER family

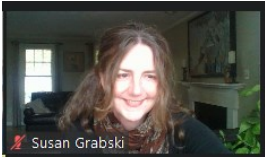
*The Lawrence History Center gratefully acknowledges the members of our extended family without whose time, talent, and energy we would not be able to care for and preserve our collections, assist researchers, review symposium proposals, publish books, host events, or engage our community as effectively as we do. We are also grateful for our terrific volunteer board of directors (listed opposite) for their energy, knowledge, and vision—without which we would not be able to carry out our mission to collect, preserve, share, and animate the history and heritage of Lawrence, Massachusetts and its people.*

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# AN UNUSUAL MOMENT IN HISTORY

by Susan Grabski, Executive Director



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- [@lawrencehistory](https://www.facebook.com/lawrencehistory)
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The year 2020 has brought challenges to our organization and community with the COVID-19 pandemic unforeseen last fall when we set plans in motion for the year. Lawrence, in particular, has been disproportionately impacted with higher infection rates and deaths, as well as a greater number of residents employed on the front lines in the healthcare field. Adhering to the recommendations of local officials, LHC shut down operations in mid-March. Despite restrictions, LHC was able to safely and creatively continue to deliver quality content, programming and research assistance, to continue accepting donations to our collection, and to carry out the continued historic preservation of our home in the Essex Company Offices and Yard—a site listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Prior to the mid-March shut down, LHC welcomed over 1,550 visitors through its doors and at events and programs. Throughout the year, our volunteers logged 3,023 service hours; and our research team fielded 271 requests on a rich variety of subjects, locally and from a dozen different countries.

Despite our closing to the public and staff working remotely, we knew that we needed to continue to connect with our community—a now ‘captive’ audience. To accomplish this, we began pushing digital collection content out daily via our social media pages. The content included photos, videos, scholarly research, oral and video histories, short non-narrated tours of our main building, curriculum material to support teachers with remote learning, and more.

As a result, we saw an immediate increase in our level of engagement with people. Our Facebook followers grew 34% from 3,545 to 4,735 and our Instagram followers grew 99% from 430 to 854. Posts reached

as many as 51,500 and engaged 17,100 on average a month. This increased interaction helps us to enrich the broader telling of Lawrence history through stories told in the post comments and the coming together of our diverse community as we move through a global pandemic and subsequent racial unrest that followed the death of George Floyd (please see pages 4-7).

While closed, we were able to conduct critical restoration and painting work on exterior sheds, windows, and doors. We are also (at long last!) replacing the elevator in our main building (please see page 8).

Our placed-based summer program—*The Rising Loaves*—lost its ‘place’, but we created a new virtual space in which we all came together to share our lives and serve 28 students and youth writing leaders (please see page 10).

The 2020 Eartha Dengler History Award Ceremony to honor Armand Hyatt has been postponed to a date and format to be determined in early 2021.

We have plans in motion for a virtual academic

symposium on May 1, 2021—A multi disciplinary look at the history of Public Safety in Lawrence: *What has worked? What hasn’t? How does Lawrence compare to other similar cities in the region and nation?* (please see page 12).

At our virtual Annual Meeting, Mark Cutler was installed as our new President, Glennys Sanchez moved into the Vice President role, and two new board members—Michael W. Morris, Jr., Esq. and Jineyda Tapia—were elected. The membership voted to change the Bylaws to increase the size of the board to ensure its diversity and community representation while maintaining long term expertise, historical perspective, and institutional knowledge.

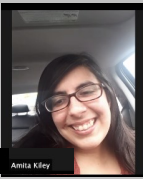
We hope this Annual Report inspires you to *engage with us* in the future. I invite you to read further and to consider supporting our efforts during this very difficult time by making a tax-deductible donation.

***We hope to see you very soon at 6 Essex Street!***

## contents

Research & Collections .....	4
Digital & Teacher Resources .....	7
Historic Preservation & Accessibility   6 Essex Street .....	8
Lawrence Student Writers Workshop: The Rising Loaves .....	10
2020 Eartha Dengler History Award Ceremony .....	12
Public Safety Symposium .....	12
Scrapbook: Students. Visitors. Events. Partnerships .....	13
Our Supporters .....	14
Financial Overview / Ways to Give .....	15

# RESEARCH & COLLECTIONS



by **Amita Kiley**  
*Collections Manager and  
Research Coordinator*

In 2019, I ended my collection's report with the question, "where will our mission take us in 2020?" Little did I know that, despite the Covid-19 pandemic and global shutdown, the mission of the Lawrence History Center (LHC) would still be able to take us around the world.

Since 1978, dedicated staff and volunteers have preserved and made available material pertaining to the city's history. As technology grew and evolved, so did our reach. We've gone from reaching several hundred people through paper newsletters, to reaching tens of thousands through our website and social media platforms. Not only have we reached more people, but we've engaged with them, too. By filling in leaves on family trees, sharing memories about growing up in Lawrence, and providing meaningful research experiences to those seeking to understand their own history.

The material used by our researchers comes from our vast and rich archive, an archive made up of items donated by people who recognize the importance of preserving Lawrence's history and trust in us to properly preserve items and care for them just as much as they did.

*The people reached, the items donated, and the research done, makes LHC an extraordinary place—more than just an archive or a history center, but a place where a passion for history meets a passion for sharing it with others.*

At LHC we weave together a tapestry of preservation, pride, and a desire to share Lawrence's history with the world. Please read on to learn more about how our mission prospered in a year filled with unexpected events and challenges.

On a daily basis, LHC fields research requests from local residents and beyond. Some inquiries are as straightforward as looking up a name in a city directory. Others are a bit more challenging and entail consulting multiple sources in the archive. Some are downright mysteries and we need to venture beyond the walls of LHC for help. This year we received more international research requests than ever before. Some were easily answered in-house, and for others we asked the community for help:

- A researcher in Melbourne, Australia e-mailed us with questions about the Jewish Community in Lawrence.
- A genealogist in the United Kingdom sought information on a Greek ancestor who lived in Lawrence in the early 1900s.
- A researcher in Lithuania sought information on his Lawrence ancestors.
- A producer in Italy, an editor in Portugal, and graduate students in Germany and Baghdad, Iraq, all requested access to our *Strike of 1912 Collection*.
- A researcher in Wroclaw, Poland messaged us on Facebook requesting pictures of the front pages of newspapers from our *September 11, 2001 Newspaper Collection*.

We were able to assist these researchers just by using our in-house archives. We had 2 other international requests that required us to seek the help of our online community:

- An amateur photographer from Borås, Sweden reached out to us for help with an interesting hobby of his. He orders old stock of undeveloped, exposed camera film rolls from eBay, develops it, and then researches the history behind the newly uncovered images.

His hobby led him to LHC after he developed a roll of film labeled "Lawrence, MA". All he knew about the film type was that it was discontinued in 1974, the film was a medium format Kodacolor-x, and the Volvo was a 1971 or 1972 model. We



posted the images on our Facebook page and the post was shared widely. After only a few days, a local woman recognized her relatives in the photo! Our photographer was thrilled and we were delighted that we were able to help.

- A researcher in Pachino, Sicily reached out to us about a faded, Lawrence-related, marble plaque, attached to the exterior wall of a local church in Pachino. According to the researcher, the plaque is signed by the Pachinese citizens of "Lawrence, Mass." - United States" and the words are written in Italian, although it is an archaic celebratory Italian language that is no longer used today. At the end of the text there is written, "i pachinesi di Lawrence Mass. Stati Uniti d'America posero", which means that the plaque was made and allocated in that place by citizens of Pachino who lived in



Lawrence. While we did not fully solve the mystery of the plaque (above), we received dozens of leads and stories from people whose families immigrated from Pachino to Lawrence long ago.

When the shutdown began in mid-March, we quickly pivoted to providing content on social media to our community. We began to publish images from our photograph collection on regular intervals throughout the day. To our delight, members of our online community began offering details that we didn't have about the images, such as who was pictured and where and when the image was taken. Some even recognized pictures of their own family



members, ones they didn't know we had! Earlier in the year, during Black History Month in February, we focused on sharing our African American archives, particularly the Allston Family Collection. Some members of the family visited us and were able to see the archives in person, including original photographs featuring their ancestors (below left). How incredible that these fragile, and faded, images can offer such a powerful connection to today.

Other parts of the archive are just as powerful. For example, in the *Lawrence History Center Oral History Collection* there are over 700 digitally mastered interviews, some with eye witness accounts going as far back as the Strike of 1912. This year we were contacted by a young student who, while doing research for a National History Day project on the Strike of 1912, discovered that we have an interview with her great, great grandmother, who was interviewed about the Strike! Her father said:

*"It was amazing to watch my daughter listen to the voice of her great, great grandmother talk about the strike, something that — up until today — was a story in a book. What a gift to bear her actual voice. Thank you!"*

Connecting with students is one of our favorite aspects of life at LHC. At the end of last year, Lawrence High School history teacher Bianca Anonas and 60 of her students visited us and conducted research on the Great Depression and WWII and how those events affected Lawrence. Coincidentally, they visited on Tuesday, October 29, the anniversary of the 1929 crash! I also took the archives on the road and visited them in their classroom several times.

We also welcomed scholars from a few other local schools:

- Central Catholic High School Social Studies teacher Matt Joyal and 40 students came to LHC to learn about our mission and explore topics of research.
- Phillips Academy teacher and LHC Board President Mark Cutler brought his *Spanish 502: The Making of a Latino City* class here to explore archives that illustrate how Lawrence became an immigrant city.
- Students from the Adelante Program explored the archives, focusing on our artifact collection and trying to figure

out if such items were used by Lawrencians of long ago.

- Merrimack College Professor Ellen Fitzpatrick and her students visited LHC to learn about economic and political development in Lawrence since its inception. Head Researcher, Kathy Flynn provided a stellar and comprehensive lecture about this broad and intricate topic.

The story of our city is a global story, one which captures interest from every corner of the world. In fy2020, we fielded 271 different research requests. In order to answer these research inquiries, we continuously process and catalog new collections so they can be readily available for our researchers. We also received nearly 100 new donations to our collection! Donations of all sizes came in, everything from a single photograph, to boxes and boxes of rare Lawrence books, artifacts, and textiles. One donation received even allowed us to hear the voices of Lawrencians over 100 years ago.

We received a collection of recordings from the *La Patrie Disc Francais* record label,



established in Lawrence, MA, c. 1919. The label produced records for the French-speaking market until c. 1925. The founder of the label was Joseph D. Noel, a musical instrument dealer of Lawrence. Patent protection for recording and pressing technology for the major record labels (notably Victor Talking Machine Company and Columbia) ended in 1915. This caused a flourishing of small, independent labels, some of them producing records for ethnic audiences. The records, donated by Ned Connors and Michael Hébert, were acquired at flea markets, used record stores and online

auctions between roughly 1995 and 2015. This collection offers significant potential for research and community outreach.

Lifelong LHC supporter Jonas Stundzia made several meaningful donations to our archives this year. Jonas' reputation is that of a steward of Lawrence history, so over the years people gave him their precious family items for safe keeping until he could pass them along to us. This year, Jonas donated a number of those items as well as many of his own personal Lawrence-related treasures. Some of these items included a small tin water cup that belonged to a young Lithuanian mill worker, Juze Shaukimiene, and was used to drink water the while on break, rare books dating as far back as the late 1700s, fabric created in the Lawrence mills and by the hands of Lithuanian immigrants, and even deeply personal family material such as a rosary carried over from Lithuania on the long journey to America.

At the end of 2018, Jonas donated a mask that also belonged to Juze during the Flu Pandemic of 1918. The mask, made from fabric manufactured at the Lawrence Duck Mill, is a somber reminder of our past and perhaps a comforting reminder of just how much we have in common with our ancestors. What they overcame, so too, shall we.



Jonas' beloved mother Matilda Stundza passed away on May 25, 2020 (the two pictured here at the 2013 Eartha Dengler History Award Ceremony at which Jonas was honored). Matilda was also a lifelong supporter of and donor to the archives

Another item with a significant family provenance that was donated this year is a side snare drum used by a member of the 6th Regiment Infantry during the Civil War. According to the donor, "The drum belonged to my paternal grandfather, who was born in Lawrence as was most of his extended family. During the Civil War some of these relatives participated. One was in the band, and played this drum in the 6th Regiment infantry. In Baltimore, the 6th got involved in the skirmish often referred to as the place "where the civil war began". His drum was damaged and lost. Later on, he

rediscovered it mostly repaired and actually brought it home when he was relieved from duty. The drum became both an emotional and proud item within the family. Somehow it was bequeathed to my grandfather by his uncle. Thus the drum left Lawrence and ended up in Manchester. Soon after I was married in the 1960s my grandfather turned it over to me—his only grandson.

{Recently} My wife suggested I write you because the drum's history is really in Lawrence..." We are honored to be the home for this drum; a unique piece of our country's, and our city's history.

Dean and Syhia Eastman generously donated many rare items to us this year, including original reports about the fall of the Pemberton Mill in 1860, various reports on Hiram Mills' water experiments, and an Essex Company catalogue of lots of land for sale from the 1840s. They donated additional material from various mills, Lawrence businesses that are long gone, and even personal items that will be added to the Eastman Family Collection.

Lawrence's unique history makes it a wonderful subject to write about. In fact, this year we helped several authors with research for their books. We enjoyed being a part of a wonderful transatlantic research project with the Cercle Généalogique de la Vallée de la Lys et du Ferrain (genealogical association), led by Michel Vancraynest and Bernard Quivron in Halluin, France, involving a particular enclave of Franco – Belgian immigrants who came to Lawrence. Kathy Flynn's thorough and in-depth research on the topic greatly impressed the association. They said that out of all the places they've reached out to in the US on the topic, Lawrence by far offered the most generous and informative response! One of the results of this partnership is a wonderful book written about the life and journey of Franco-Belgian Edmond P. Maes, who was born in France in 1893 and immigrated to Lawrence at age 13. He fought in WWI and was wounded. He died on July 23, 1918 near Chante Merle, France.

Kathy's research expertise was vital in John Francis Patrick Murphy's *Our Immigrants' Son*, a book celebrating the author's Lawrence-based genealogy, and in *A People's Guide to Greater Boston* (including a section on Lawrence) by Eleni Macrakis, Suren Moodliar, and Joe Nevins. Author Tim Murphy used research from our archives in his book *Correspondents* and author Matt Rothera used our images in his book *My Voyage with Ozgie: The Secret Diary of My Grandfather Aboard the USS Missouri During World War II*. LHC images were also used in the Forest Society's movie, *The Merrimack: River at Risk*. In August, Eagle Tribune reporter Terry Date, consulted with

Kathy regarding Ella Findeisen and other local women's suffragists, as we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the passing of the 19th Amendment, which secured women the right to vote. The information held in our archives was instrumental in the recognition and celebration of this important anniversary. Our activities documenting Covid-19 were recognized by the *New England Archivists* in their July 2020 newsletter.

Our archives not only support research on the past, but on current events as well. This year we partnered with North Andover High School History Department Coordinator (and former LHC intern) Brian Sheehy, Beth Beringer at Essex Heritage, and colleagues from North Andover Historical Society and Andover Center for History and Culture on a project helping teachers integrate local sites/sources into curriculum development. The impetus for this project came from inquiries from past students of Brian's, who were interested in finding ways to re-vamp the U.S. history curriculum to incorporate more local sources/stories that reveal structural racism in our area. Brian is particularly interested in the more recent history of the Lawrence area, for which we have a wealth of information.

We wouldn't be able to offer such care for our collection and field such a variety of questions if it weren't for our dedicated interns, work study students, and volunteers. This year, we hosted interns from UMass Lowell, Simmons University, University of New Hampshire, Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School, and Valley Collaborative of Billerica. We continued our progress on processing and rehousing our *American Woolen Company Collection*, added to the *Noonan Family Collection*, and created a finding aid for the *Lawrence History Center Scrapbook Collection*. We were able to accomplish some large scale projects this year as well.

This year, we faced difficult challenges with the Covid-19 pandemic. It changed life as we know it and forced us to rethink how we carry out our mission. What do we do when we are here, and our archive is...there? We do what people in Lawrence typically do when times are tough...we rise to the occasion and thrive! We connected with our community like never before virtually, we arranged for dozens of non-contact donations to the collection, and we figured out creative ways to deliver history to Lawrence and beyond. Our city was hit hard by the pandemic, but we will heal, and LHC will continue to document the process every step of the way so that future generations will look back with pride on what a resilient city Lawrence was, and will be.

# DIGITAL & TEACHER RESOURCES

[www.lawrencehistory.org/resources](http://www.lawrencehistory.org/resources)

The Lawrence History Center continues to digitize its collections to share through our website, social media outlets, OCLC WorldCat, Internet Archive, Digital Commonwealth, and the DPLA—Digital Public Library of America. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, we gained an even greater appreciation for the efforts we have made to make our collections accessible online—to engage our community and to provide a myriad of resources for teachers (critical for remote learning) and researchers.

LHC saw this moment in time as an opportunity to capture the stories of our community members and leaders in *real time*. In early April 2020, we transitioned our traditional oral history program to virtual by launching the bilingual project, "Remote Oral History: Physically Distanced. Socially Connected."

LHC, along with Board President Mark Cutler and his Spanish language students at Phillips Academy, captured stories of our community coming together in times of crisis on video via Zoom. Seven full-length interviews were conducted with people in city government, heads of human service organizations (addressing homeless, substance abuse, mental illness), teachers, community gardeners, and members of the LHC board and community. We thank Vilma Martínez-Domínguez, Dery García, Carina Pappalardo, Betsy Williams, LHC Board Secretary Sara Morin Barth, Tom Coppinger, and Bianca Anonas for sharing their stories with us (pictured on right). More information may be found at <http://www.lawrencehistory.org/collections/remotearlhistory>.

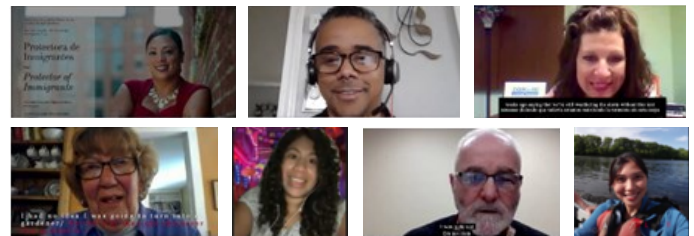
**Remote Oral History Interviews may be viewed at:**

<https://nosotroslpuebrolawrence.org/category/video/>

Shortly after, we launched the bilingual Lawrence Community Diary. We were inspired by the diaries of a young woman, Helen Annie Benker, written in 1918 and 1920 during the flu pandemic held in the LHC collection. We invited our community to make a diary entry (or daily entries!) about their experience living in Lawrence during the 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic at <http://www.lawrencehistory.org/collections/remotearlhistory/diary>. To date, we have received dozens of entries and that number continues to grow as local teachers incorporate the diary project into their classroom assignments. Entries have ranged from expressions of boredom with the Netflix offerings after being home for so long by high school students to more heartbreaking entries, like the one on the right, from a young person who lost his father in Dominican Republic, but was unable to travel to be there with him prior to his passing.

To ensure equality of access, we also added a bilingual google voice number at <http://www.lawrencehistory.org/collections/remotearlhistory/voice> for those not wanting to submit their thoughts in writing and/or to be video-taped.

The project garnered attention from the Essex National Heritage Area, the Essex County Community Foundation, the Phillips Library of the Peabody Essex Museum, the Massachusetts History Alliance, and New England Archivists. Most recently, we learned that Ellan Spero, a Professor at MIT who established Station1 in Lawrence (<https://www.station1.org/>) and with whom we've worked on building curriculum, shared the project with the Leonard da Vinci National Science and Technology Museum in Milan, Italy as an example of how to engage new audiences!



[Click drop-down menu to select preferred language.]

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Fecha 🇪🇸 Spanish (Latin America) ▾

📅

Date

Querido Diario:

En estos días difíciles durante esta pandemia, mis experiencias no han sido las mejores que murió mi padre allí en la República Dominicana. No pude ir ni despedirme porque los vuelos están suspendidos debido a esta situación, pero aun así trato de compartir con mis otros familiares. También lo amo, pregúntele a todas las personas que si no es necesario salir de la casa, no se vayan, porque así evitaremos reunirnos con otras personas y, de ser así, esta pandemia no se extenderá más, por eso se ocupa de ustedes como así como las otras personas que nos rodean.

Translation: "On these difficult days during this pandemic, my experiences have not been the best [since] my father died there in the Dominican Republic. I could not go [there] or say goodbye because the flights [were] suspended due to this situation, but I still try to [keep in touch] with my other relatives. I love [them] too, [and I beg] everyone that, if it is not necessary to leave the house, [to] not leave, because this way we will avoid meeting other people and, if so, this pandemic will not spread anymore. That's [how] it [takes over] you as well as the other people around us.

~ Marlin, 17 years old



# HISTORIC *preservation* & ACCESSIBILITY

6 ESSEX STREET



Since 1992, the Lawrence History Center has invested several hundred thousand dollars into the historic preservation, stabilization, and accessibility of our home in the former Essex Company Offices and Yard at 6 Essex Street in Lawrence – a site listed on the National Register of Historic Places built in 1883 that includes a main office building, carpenter shop, blacksmith shop, stable, and warehouse.

While closed to the public due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, LHC was able to complete one critical project, as well as move another one significantly forward:

### Painting/Repair/Preservation of Exterior Sheds and Main Building Doors and Windows

With the skill of Sylvan Property Management (Buddy Latham) and funding, in part through the city of Lawrence CDBG program and the Local Lift Façade Improvement Program, we were able to complete much needed exterior preservation and painting work. The work included three exterior sheds, as well as all exterior doors and window frames on the main building. We also improved the Essex Street façade by replacing the faded vertical banner at the corner of Union and Essex Streets, repairing broken letters on the Essex Company sign, and by putting up a new 22ct gold #6 in the transom window of the front door.

### Elevator Project

Thanks to the crew at Halley Elevator—despite pandemic related delays—***the new elevator equipment installation is nearing completion!*** This project was made possible through of funding from the MCC Cultural Facilities Grant (\$55,000) and match dollars awarded by the William Wood Foundation (\$15,000), the Margaret Collins Charitable Fund (\$7,000), Essex Heritage (\$2,000), Enel Green Power (\$10,000), CDBG (\$10,000), individual donors Gerald Williamson (\$1,000) and Phyllis Tyler (\$100), and the Clifford S. Wrigley bequest (\$9,900). State inspection will be scheduled by the end of November.

Additional upgrades completed to meet new MA safety regulations include: fire detection system upgrade, electrical system upgrade, mason work to seal doorways to meet fire rating requirement (using brick original to the Essex Company site, 1883), and a dedicated phone line in elevator cab.

### Projects on the short-term horizon include:

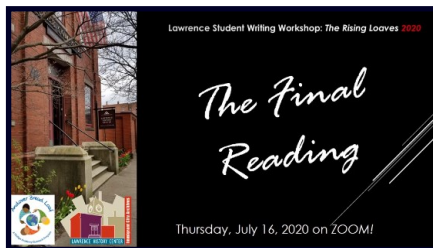
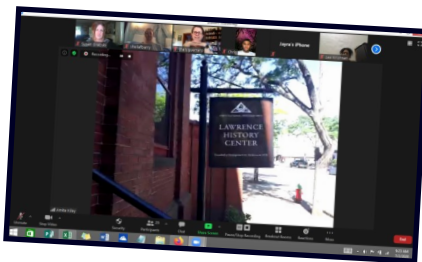
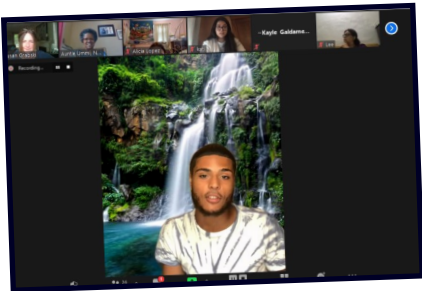
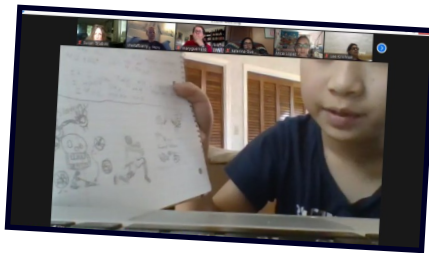
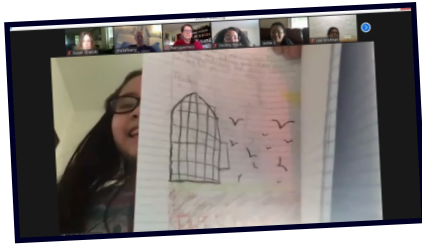
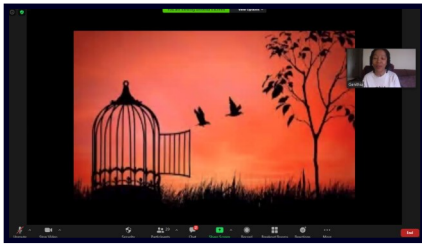
- Conversion of our two bathrooms into handicap accessible spaces.
- Installation of a new HVAC system in our main building to better preserve our collections and replace current systems that include an inefficient central one-zone boiler, window AC units, and no ventilation.
- Replacement of roofs on the three sheds in the courtyard.





Historic preservation of our home in the former Essex Company Offices and Yard is an investment in one of Lawrence's strongest cultural and historic institutions in the downtown corridor. The care and upkeep of our facilities contributes strongly to the impression given to people both inside and outside the city, as well as to the cultural economy throughout the city.





# andover breadloaf at THE LAWRENCE HISTORY CENTER RISING LOAVES

While we lost the 'place' in our place-based summer program, we created a new virtual space in which we all came together to share our lives.

The theme this year was "Telling Our Stories: Past, Present and Future". Students wrote personal stories and learned about the stories of people who have come before through oral histories, like Daniel Murphy, Jr. (Interviewed on September 29, 1993, including memories of the 1918 Influenza Pandemic), held in the Lawrence History Center collections.

Over the three weeks our writers and leaders shared their stories through poetry, art, games, and historical research. The Anthology they are creating

will give the reader a glimpse of the incredible work our writers have done!

There were many people who helped us with our work. Amita Kiley introduced us to the historical archives in a virtual tour. Our guest poets—A Scribe Called Quess?, Anthony Morales and Ummi Modeste inspired us with their poetry from different cities across the United States. Educators Genithia Hogges, Lou Bernieri and Richard Gorham, along with Ceci Lewis in Arizona, ran writing workshops. Lee Krishnan ran our first writing workshop from Mumbai India. Christine Jee from the Addison Gallery led us in a

discussion about what we can learn from an image.

On the final day of the program, students and writing leaders read their poetry and shared their artwork and experiences (link to video below).

A Facebook photo album with screen shots of Zoom presentations may be found at <https://tinyurl.com/yyp49jty>.

Lastly, our thanks to program co-directors Mary Guerrero, Sheila Barry, and Lee Krishnan, and to our writing leaders Destiny Medina, Christian Pimentel, Noelia Mason, Katerina Guerrero, Jackie Shieremberg, Bryce Shufro, and Francina Tshimbalanga for sharing their talents with our students!

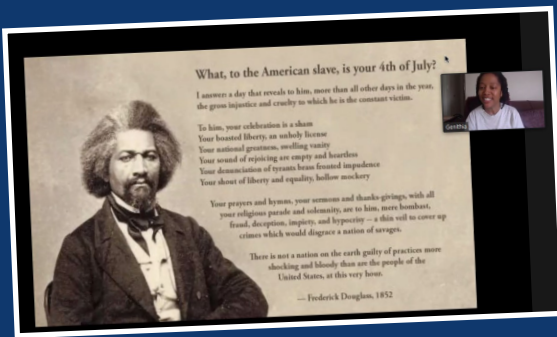
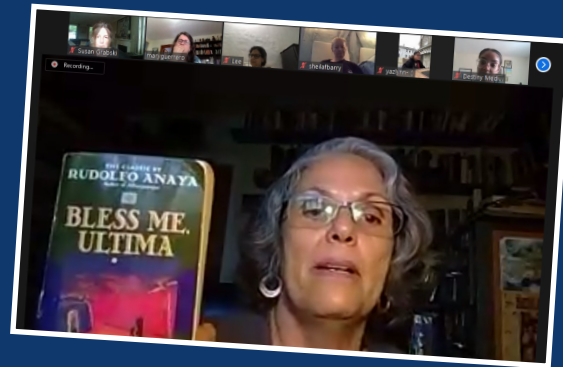
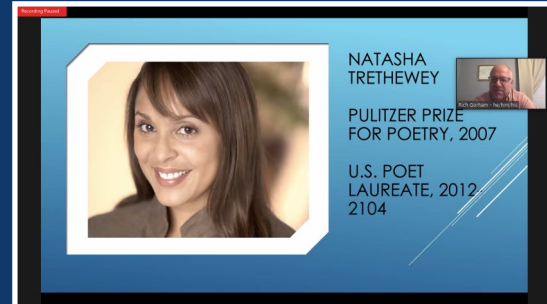
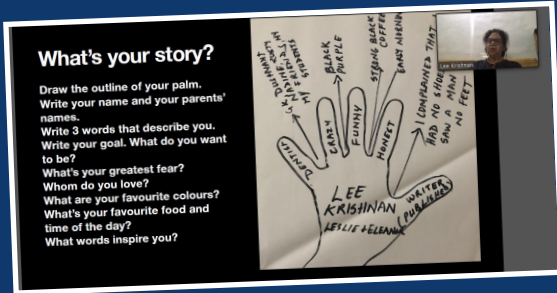
At the time of our March closing due to COVID-19, the summer program was scheduled for 5 days/week for three weeks, 9:00 AM—2:00 PM, June 29 – July 17, 2020. We soon made the decision to move the program to Zoom and limited the schedule to 4 days/week, 9:00-11:00 AM, June 29 – July 16, 2020.

While we were disappointed that we had to move our place-based program to the virtual world, reduce program hours, and were not able to interact in person with students at LHC in the Essex Company complex and around primary source documents held in our archival collections, we were delighted to have been able to convene 21 students, 7 writing leaders, to host guest speakers from across the country and world via Zoom (see images on right), and to engage youth around Lawrence history and current issues in a way that resonates in their lives during the pandemic.

We are grateful to the funders who stuck with us as we sought alternative methods of reaching students during the extended closure. **Until next summer!**

For a video of the Final Reading held on the last day of the program, please visit <http://www.lawrencehistory.org/education/summer/2020>.

"Lawrence Student Writing Workshop: The Rising Loaves" is hosted (virtually in 2020) by the Lawrence History Center, developed in collaboration with Andover Bread Loaf, and funded in part by the Catherine McCarthy Trust, the Essex County Community Foundation Greater Lawrence Summer Fund, W. Dean and Sy Eastman, the Pringle Foundation, the Stearns and Russell Trusts, Rogers Family Foundation, and Andover Bread Loaf.



L to R: Guest speakers Lee Krishnan, Rich Gorham, Ummi Modeste, Ceci Lewis, Genithia Hogges, Anthony Morales, A Scribe Called Quess?, Christine Jee

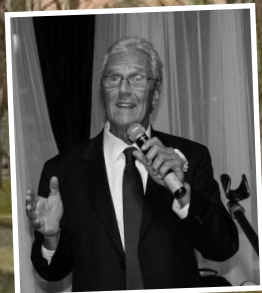
# 2020 EARTHA DENGLER HISTORY AWARD CEREMONY

*in honor of*

## ARMAND M. HYATT

# POSTPONED!

Date TBD in early 2021



### 2020 Eartha Dengler History Award Ceremony & COVID-19

The Lawrence History Center, along with our honoree Armand Hyatt, postponed the 2020 Eartha Dengler History Award Ceremony twice before deciding to postpone it to a date to be determined in early 2021. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our host committee, current sponsors and ticket holders for sticking with us. *We will honor this wonderful man, no matter what it takes, when it is safe to do so.*

Updates will be posted at <http://www.lawrencehistory.org/dengler/2020>.

A multi disciplinary look at the history of

# PUBLIC SAFETY IN LAWRENCE

*What has worked? What hasn't? How does Lawrence  
compare to other similar cities in the region and nation?*

A LAWRENCE HISTORY CENTER COMMUNITY SYMPOSIUM

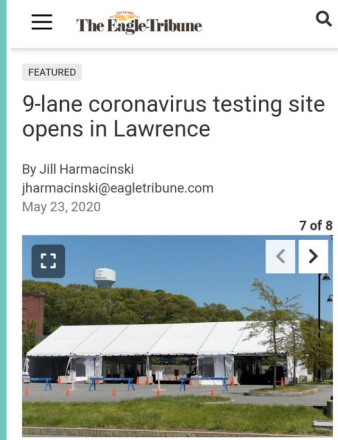
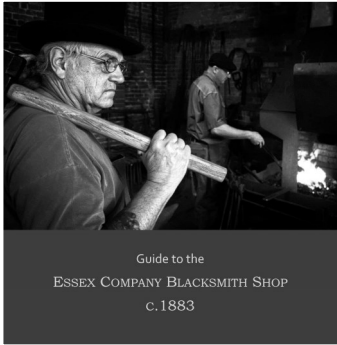
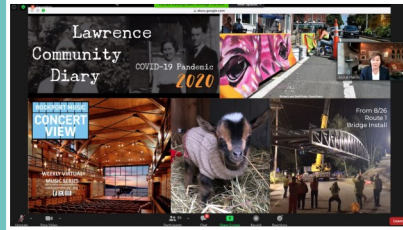
The CFP and more information may be found at:

[www.lawrencehistory.org/educatuon/symposium/2021](http://www.lawrencehistory.org/educatuon/symposium/2021)

On October 21, 2020, LHC announced the Call for Participation (CFP) for its 5th academic symposium since 2012—the subject of which will be Public Safety. The day-long virtual effort will take a multi disciplinary look back at the history of Lawrence's response to crisis – be it to natural and man-made disasters, labor strikes, protests, racial discrimination, economic upheaval, living and working conditions – and where that fits in the broader telling of history in the United States. The event will be held virtually on

**Saturday, May 1, 2021.**

# Scrapbook



**Columns (Top to Bottom, L to R):** One of three costumes tied to cities in Dominican Republic to be donated by Stelvyn Mirabal, the curator of the recent Carnival exhibit at Lawrence Heritage State Park (LHSP); Guide to the Essex Company Blacksmith Shop now online; new virtual *Walk to the Great Stone Dam* by Jim Beauchesne at the LHSP; LHC board member/UMass Lowell professor Robert Farrant presenting, *The World Comes to Massachusetts: One Hundred Years of Immigration History in Haverhill, Lawrence & Lowell* in December 2019; Essex Heritage Executive Director Annie Harris highlighting our Lawrence Community Diary project, among many other initiatives area organizations launched or adapted during the COVID-19 pandemic, at their annual fall meeting; film historian Omar Mouallem's lecture on Frank Lackteen, a Lebanese-American from Lawrence who had a five-decade career in the movies; LHC director Susan Grabski meeting with fellow Friends of the LHSP board members on Zoom; LHC supporter Linda Siegenthaler honored at the 2020 YWCA Tribute to Women; Zoom screenshot of LHC Volunteer Kathy Flynn, LHC Collection Manager Amita Kiley, MIT's Eilan Spero (insert), LHC Director Susan Grabski meeting about upcoming partnerships; rally honoring local suffragist Ella Findelsen and the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment (Eagle Tribune, August 12, 2020); popular Facebook post of Lawrence High School Prom - Carmen Falcon, 18, and her escort William Calixto, 1980; 9-lane coronavirus testing site opens in Lawrence (Eagle Tribune, May 23, 2020); promo for ECCF Creative County Initiative's Merrimack Valley Memories and Cultural Mapping Project (for which Susan Grabski is on the planning committee); Lawrence student reading a bound volume of a 1930s Lawrence newspaper; artist Kate Delaney donating her original work for the Bread and Roses Heritage Festival poster, "100 Years of Women Changing the Current"; *Triple Deckers: A New England Love Story*, a talk and screening by documentary filmmaker Marc Levitt; Tent City (field hospital) at Emery Hill, Influenza Pandemic 1918, Lawrence, MA; the book *Our Immigrants' Son*, by John Murphy, edited in part by LHC volunteer Kathy Flynn, was recently released; the book, *A People's Guide to Greater Boston*, by Joseph Nevins, Suren Moodliar, and Eleni Macrakis came out earlier this summer. Lawrence is prominently featured in the book and authors conducted a great deal of research at LHC

# Our SUPPORTERS

May 1, 2019 - April 30, 2020

We thank our generous supporters for sharing our vision and for supporting our efforts through membership, outright gifts, planned giving, memorial contributions, employer matching gifts, annual appeal donations, grant funding, and event sponsorship.



## \$25,000 and Above

Abbot and Dorothy H. Stevens Foundation  
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Higgins, Patricia Amy  
Honohan, Robert  
Jani, Arun  
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Keating, Gary Thomas  
(December 30, 1949 - December 22, 2019)  
Kelley, Joan E

Kennedy, Mary Claire  
Kennedy, Monika  
Kfoury, Robert T., Esquire  
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Sapuppo, Helen  
Shaheen, Fred P.  
Sharp, Marcia and Larry  
Smith, Harold & Marian Bamford  
Station1  
Stewart, Joseph  
Stundzia, Jonas  
Sutton, Jim and Vicky  
Tafaro, Melanie  
Taylor, J. Kenneth & Sandra  
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Theberge, Paul & Barbara  
Tibbetts, David A.  
Troia, Anthony  
Turner, Pauline  
Tyler, Phyllis C.  
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Wetmore, Richard  
Wolf, Gary  
Wright, Richard  
Yameen, Donna  
Yameen, Kenneth

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Christensen, Donna  
Conley, Ann Minzner  
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Parker, Ellen  
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Ranahan, Judith A. \*  
Rossi, William R.  
Ryley, Alison  
Salisbury, Charles  
San Antonio, Donna  
Sandler, Brian  
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Sullivan, Kathleen Q.  
Sullivan, Lyndsay  
Tidwell, Drew  
Venegas, Claudia  
Witham, David

## In-Kind Support

Community InRoads  
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Lawrence Public Library  
Lawrence Heritage State Park  
Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School  
Sagacity Productions  
Ismael Sanabria  
Valley Collaborative

° Stock Donation

\* Gift made in memory of Gary Thomas Keating

\*\* Gift made in memory of Chester Sidell

\*\*\* Gift made in honor of Wendy Morin

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

May 1, 2019 - April 30, 2020

Immigrant City Archives, Inc., dba Lawrence History Center, is a private, not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Our approved annual operating budget for fy2020 was \$207,000 with an additional \$195,000+/- in capital expenses for historic preservation and maintenance of our facilities. Our Revenues and Other Support as of 4/30/2020 were \$251,160 (Contributed Support: \$225,573; Earned and Other Revenue: \$25,587), including \$53,541 with donor restrictions (in-kind donations: \$41,408;

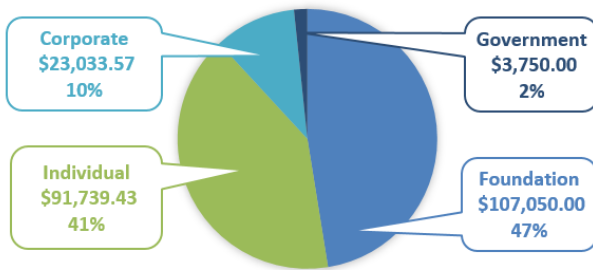
historic preservation/maintenance of facilities/special projects: \$12,133). Total expenses were \$269,765.

Note: LHC received funding in the amount of \$23,100 pursuant to the Payroll Protection Program (PPP) under the CARES Act on April 20, 2020. The funds are classified in the balance sheet as a conditional contribution. LHC intends to use the entire amount for qualifying expenses, at which time the loan is expected to be forgiven and recognized as a contribution in the statement

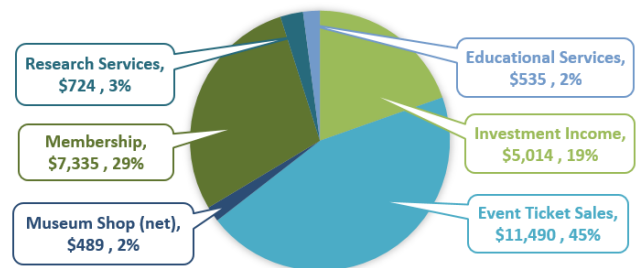
of activities next year.

Reviewed Financial Statements for the Years Ending April 30, 2020 and 2019 were prepared by Kenneth J. Plumb, Jr., C.P.A., Plumb and Pierce. It was his conclusion that, based on the review, he is not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## CONTRIBUTED SUPPORT (\$225,573)



## EARNED AND OTHER REVENUE (\$25,587)



## INVESTMENTS (as of April 30, 2020)

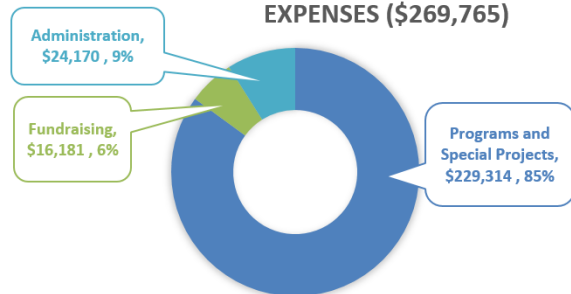
### Fair Value Measurements

Mutual Funds:	\$67,296
Exchange traded equities:	\$18,459
Exchange traded fixed income products:	\$40,721
<b>Total Investments:</b>	<b>\$126,566</b>

### Certificate of Deposit

A \$25,000 CD bearing an interest rate of 1.8% with 9 month maturity date (5/8/2020) had earned \$327 in interest income.

## EXPENSES (\$269,765)



Please consider supporting the Immigrant City Archives, Inc., dba Lawrence History Center by contributing in one or more of the following ways:

- Outright Gifts by Check, Credit Card (via Paypal), or Cash
- Outright Gift through Paypal Giving Fund (preferred as there are no fees)
- Recurring Monthly Payments by Credit Card
- Employer Matching Gifts
- Honor and Memorial Gifts
- Create Your Own Facebook Fundraiser
- Stock Donation
- Planned Gifts/Bequests
- Event Sponsorship
- Membership
- AmazonSmile Purchases
- In-Kind Gifts

For more information, please visit [www.lawrencehistory.org/support](http://www.lawrencehistory.org/support) or contact Susan Grabski at [director@lawrencehistory.org](mailto:director@lawrencehistory.org) or 978-686-9230

All gifts and contributions are tax deductible as permitted by law.

# Ways TO GIVE



The Essex Company seal painted in gold lettering on the vault door in their former cashier's office

The year 2020 marks the 175th anniversary of the incorporation of the Essex Company in 1845.

On September 19, 1845, the very first stone was laid by the Essex Company in the construction of the Great Stone Dam. The Dam was completed exactly three years later to the day.

Founded in 1978 as the Immigrant City Archives, the mission of the **Lawrence History Center** is to collect, preserve, share, and animate the history and heritage of Lawrence and its people.

Since 1992, the former Essex Company Offices and Yard at 6 Essex Street in Lawrence – a site built in 1883 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places.—has been our home.



Photo credit (on right and front cover):  
*Lawrence Dam Site, 1846*  
Lawrence History Center Essex Company Photograph Collection