

2017

## Phi Alpha Theta Conference Report

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# PHI ALPHA THETA ARKANSAS REGIONAL CONFERENCE

On March 25, 2017, Harding University hosted the Phi Alpha Theta Arkansas Regional Conference. Phi Alpha Theta is a national honor society for undergraduate and graduate students as well as professors of history. Established on March 17, 1921, at the University of Arkansas by Professor Nels Cleven, Phi Alpha Theta now has over 400,000 members with another 9,000 students being inducted each year.<sup>1</sup> With 970 different chapters nationwide, Harding University's Eta Phi chapter was pleased to receive the opportunity to host this year's regional conference.

The Phi Alpha Theta conference provides students and professors alike the platform to present their scholarly works. This year, several Harding University members presented their historical research and field experiences along with students and professors from the University of Arkansas Monticello, Arkansas State University, Arkansas Tech University, and the University of Central Arkansas. Harding University's Eta Phi chapter would like to specially thank Dr. Warren Casey, Dr. Laquita Saunders, Mark Christ, the Arkansas State Archives, Kara Ellis, Angela Gibbs, and Harding University's faculty for their participation in the conference.

Report by Mary Goode  
Photos by Hannah Clifton

## HARDING UNIVERSITY PRESENTERS



**Sam Aly**  
*The Primo de Rivera Dictatorship & the  
Foundations of Authoritarianism in Spain  
(1923-30)*



**Curt Baker**  
*The Lighthouse of Pharos: A Narrative*

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<sup>1</sup>"About," *Phi Alpha Theta National History Honor Society*, 2017, <http://phialphatheta.org/about>.



**Hannah Clifton**

*New Orleans Spiritualism & Afro-Creole Activism*



**Stryder Matthews**

*The Dialectic of Ralph Waldo Emerson's Essays*

## GUEST PRESENTERS

Rynn Hamilton, University of Arkansas Monticello  
*Rhapsody in Time: Lessons from Gershwin & the Jazz Age*

Edward Harthorn, Arkansas State University  
*Dispensations & Machinations: Comparative Perceptions of 1670s India*

Cheri L. Miller, University of Arkansas Monticello  
*3ASI: A Mound's Tale*

Hampton N. Roy, Arkansas Tech University  
*The Moon & Stars: Muslim Efforts to Save Jews during the Shoah*

Katelyn Trammell, University of Central Arkansas  
*Air, Sea, & Land: Environmental Factors & Their Effects on the Omaha & Utah Beach Landings*

William Walker, Arkansas State University  
*War Tunnel Heritage: The Secret Subterranean Passage Beneath Bonifacio Global City in Metro Manila*

# SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS



**Arkansas State Archives**  
**Traveling Exhibit**  
*The Great War: Arkansas in World War I*



**Mark Christ**  
*Commemorating World War I in Arkansas*



**Panel on Public History**  
Kara Ellis, Archivist at William J. Clinton Presidential Library

Angela Gibbs, Curator at Jacksonport County Courthouse Museum

Hannah Wood, Special Collections Librarian at Brackett Library

## **Award Winners:** (left to right)

William Walker

1<sup>st</sup> place Graduate Paper

Sam Aly

1<sup>st</sup> place Undergraduate Paper

Cheri Miller

Honorable Mention

Rynn Hamilton

2<sup>nd</sup> place Undergraduate Paper

