

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.¹ 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

¹“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

1st place Graduate Paper

Sam Aly

1st place Undergraduate Paper

Cheri Miller

Honorable Mention

Rynn Hamilton

2nd place Undergraduate Paper

