University of Nebraska - Lincoln
DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Building Diversity in the University and the Community----Fifth Annual National Conference (2000)

People of Color in Predominantly White Institutions

10-27-2000

"FINDING COMMUNITY AND CROSSING BOUNDARIES: THE HISTORY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN PEOPLE IN SOUTHEASTERN NEBRASKA AS SEEN THROUGH THE CAMERA'S EYE"

Jon McWilliams
Informational Services, State Farm Insurance, Lincoln, Nebraska

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/pocpwi5

Part of the Race, Ethnicity and post-Colonial Studies Commons

McWilliams, Jon, ""FINDING COMMUNITY AND CROSSING BOUNDARIES: THE HISTORY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN PEOPLE IN SOUTHEASTERN NEBRASKA AS SEEN THROUGH THE CAMERA'S EYE"" (2000). *Building Diversity in the University and the Community----Fifth Annual National Conference (2000)*. Paper 53.
http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/pocpwi5/53

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the People of Color in Predominantly White Institutions at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in Building Diversity in the University and the Community----Fifth Annual National Conference (2000) by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

"FINDING COMMUNITY AND CROSSING BOUNDARIES: THE HISTORY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN PEOPLE IN SOUTHEASTERN NEBRASKA AS SEEN THROUGH THE CAMERA'S EYE"

JON McWILLIAMS
Informational Services, State Farm Insurance, Lincoln, Nebraska

This illustrated session describes and discusses the McWilliams Family History Project, a multi-faceted effort led by members of the McWilliams family, in collaboration with the Nebraska State Historical Society, and the Lincoln-Lancaster Planning Department. The goal of the project is to research and share an untold story of the Lincoln community in the early 1900's. The foundations of the project are the photographs of Earl McWilliams (1892-1960), a member of a seven-generation African American Lincoln family. Among the intended projects of the Family History Project are historical exhibits, documentary television programs, scholarly publications, and other educational materials. Several generations of family members are working together, in collaboration with curators, historians, producers and publishers from many institutions, to bring the various projects to realization. This session will be offered both days of the conference to provide the opportunity for all participants to attend.

Presenter:

Jon D. McWilliams of Lincoln, Nebraska is a fifth generation member of the family of John Jefferson and Sarah McWilliams, both of whom were born in slavery. He attended public schools in Lincoln and graduated from Lincoln High School in 1986. He has attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and will graduate from Bellevue University in 2002. He was an athlete in high school and college and has volunteered in community sports. As an active member of the McWilliams Family History Project, he has made presentations to the Historic Preservation Board of the Nebraska State Historical Society (1999) and to the Building Family Strengths Symposium at UNL (2000). Since 1989 he has worked in information services for State Farm Insurance Company in Lincoln.