Lawrence History Center gratefully acknowledges our volunteers 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.

Dexter Arnold  
Jim Beauchesne  
Jaden Belizaire  
Joseph G. Bella  
Robert Berthel  
Matt Bigham  
Marie Boyd  
Betsy Brien  
Monica Bruni  
Central Catholic High School Students  
Kirstin Clarke  
Bianca DeSimone  
Yanilo Duran  
Sam Facella  
Kathleen S. Flynn  
Marilyn Freeman  
Halina Grabski  
Ula Grabski  
Mary Jo Griffin  
Sibelle Grisé  
Florentina Gutierrez  
Billy Heath  
Joan Kelley  
Marc Laplante  
Lawrence Heritage State Park Staff  
Lawrence International High School Students  
Natasha Ledoux  
Kathi Levine  
Christine Lewis  
Sabrina Lewis  
Robert Lussier  
Eugene McCarthy  
Sarah McDermott  
Christopher Medeiros  
David Meehan  
Leonardo Mirabal  
Stelvyn Mirabal  
Yadira Betances Muldoon  
Zachary Najarian-Najafi  
Richard Padova  
Mary Pannos  
Steven Perlmutter  
Grace Piazza  
Matt Russell  
Rodolfo Sanchez  
Louise Sandberg  
Marcia Sharp  
Jurg Siegenthaler  
Linda Siegenthaler  
Ellie Sims  
Anvi Stevens  
Jonas Stundzia  
Tom Walsh  
Rick Wetmore  
Richard Wright  
Pamela Yameen

On February 1, 2022 Helen Sapuppo (left) passed away at the age of 89 in her home in Andover, MA surrounded by family. Helen was involved with the Immigrant City Archives/LHC since the 1980s and volunteered until health issues prevented her in 2013. She was one of the most generous, caring, kind, and dedicated people one could ever meet. She used to recruit and manage our volunteers, host the annual volunteer banquet, and participate in every event LHC held. Helen was responsible for the growth and management of two of our most valued and beloved collections—the photograph collection and the newspaper clippings/obituaries collection. Whether she was finding the seemingly unfindable answer for a researcher or moving a heavy shelf (all by herself) to make more room for collections, there was nothing that Helen couldn’t do. She went out of her way for people, even strangers, and always looked at the bright side of everything. She will be deeply missed.

Please take a moment to read more about Helen at https://tinyurl.com/2p96tupy.
After emerging on the other side of a global pandemic, the Lawrence History Center remains strong, optimistic, and eager to tackle what lies ahead! To that end, in January, the LHC Board of Directors launched a new 3-year Strategic Plan. The Plan maps out a new course with goals in the areas of outreach and education, archival collections, and the preservation and expanded use of our facilities that will guide our efforts through 2024.

The year 2022 marked 30 years since LHC took ownership of the Essex Company Offices & Yard, a site listed on the National Register of Historic Places. We continue to invest significant resources in its historic preservation and accessibility. Both of these aspects were beautifully melded in a recent bathroom renovation project: When ADA Compliance and Historic Preservation Meet (p. 9).

LHC remained engaged with Lawrencians, and those interested in Lawrence history from around the world, through ongoing archival collection and research activities, increased capacity and the provision of digital content, and virtual and in-person programming. On-site visitation to 6 Essex Street returned nearly to pre-pandemic levels, our dedicated volunteers logged 2,313 service hours (valued at $76,631) and our research team fielded 175+/- requests received in-person, by email, through social media, and by mail on a rich variety of subjects (p. 4).

Our social media presence has become somewhat of a phenomenon marked by a significant increase in interaction with our daily posts. For example, our Facebook followers grew from 3,545 in March 2020 to 9,135 in October 2022 and our Instagram followers grew from 430 to 1,215! In turn, we have greatly increased our ‘Reach’ and ‘Engagement’ with an ever-growing audience (p. 16).

Investments in LHC activities have not gone unnoticed. LHC was awarded the 2022 Mass History Commendation by Mass Humanities at the Mass History Conference in June 2022 for which we are grateful, humbled, and proud!

We are most grateful for the continued commitment of our supporters—individuals, foundations, corporate, government—who have truly seen us through a very challenging time in our shared history (p. 18).

Looking ahead, we are excited about what 2023 will bring and hope that this Annual Report inspires you to engage with us in the future. I invite you to read further and to consider investing in our efforts by making a tax-deductible donation.

We hope to see you soon at 6 Essex Street!
This year marked 30 years since LHC moved from our former home at the Lawrence Public Library (South Lawrence Branch) and into the Essex Company Offices & Yard at 6 Essex Street. Since then, our archive has grown by leaps and bounds, with some collections doubling and even tripling in size!

With this growth, the need to make better use of the storage space we have available in the closed stacks and in the warehouse is an ongoing concern, as is aging boxes and packaging material that collections are stored in. Thanks to a dedicated team of Central Catholic High School students and LHC volunteers, we achieved collection goals that were at one time unimaginable:

- Over April vacation a dozen students from Central Catholic High School in Lawrence carried out a massive organization project in our warehouse, carpenter shop, stable, and main building. Students organized nearly a thousand linear feet of city documents, organizational records, individual records, newspapers, objects, furniture, and more. They also moved shelving and exhibits. This work paves the way for new donations to be more easily incorporated and for us to easily access collection items for researchers.

- The YWCA Collection, the collection that prompted Eartha Dengler to found our organization in 1978, was due to be re-boxed and re-examined to make sure that everything within the collection was properly filed. LHC volunteer Rick Wetmore (pictured on p. 5, top left) proved to be just the person for the job! First, Rick cross referenced all of the contents with the inventory, and made corrections as needed. From there, we determined that the archival quality boxes it had been stored in were showing their age and were no longer suitable to house the collection and so we ordered 70 brand new boxes to re-house the collection in. We donated the original boxes to Brian Sheehy (LHC board member, teacher, and head of the North Andover High School History Learning Lab) for use in the history lab, as they are perfect to store books and other research materials in for his students.

What an incredible year of growth and progress for the Lawrence History Center!

We made tremendous strides in terms of collection re-organization and housing according to archival best practice standards. We welcomed and incorporated donations to the collection from nearly 100 different donors. We answered research questions from our community as well as people all over the world. And we engaged with new audiences through partnerships and participation in local and national history and archive-related conferences. Please read on to learn about how the work we’ve done this year has furthered our mission to collect, preserve, share, and animate the history and heritage of Lawrence and its people.

www.lawrencehistory.org/research  www.lawrencehistory.org/collections
Along these same lines of replacing older archival storage boxes and ensuring that collections are properly filed, we got to work on our collection of oversized photos (photos that are between 9” x 11” and 16” x 20”). We received several hundred oversized photos this year which had to be incorporated into the existing collection. LHC volunteers Marilyn Freeman and Gene McCarthy processed the new photos by copying and labeling them; Mary Pannos replaced older boxes with new ones and re-filed misfiled photos ... and we all watched as the collection grew from 8 boxes to 16!

The activity of re-organization and making collections easily available to researchers came into play once more as we sought the recipient for the 2nd Annual W. Dean and Sy Eastman Student Research Fellowship at Lawrence History Center. The fellowship is awarded to a high school or college student to conduct research (either a suggested project or one proposed by the fellow) that will be of mutual benefit to LHC and the fellow. This year the Fellowship was awarded to Sibelle Grisé for their incredible work on re-organizing, researching, and re-housing our collections on the Hispanic and Latino history in Lawrence (sample items from the collection below). The collections consist of material relating to Semana Hispana, community, businesses, education, immigration, culture, and more. Prior to Sibelle’s efforts, the materials were only roughly sorted and online inventories were lacking cohesion and detail. While other areas of the collection were more finely organized, they lacked the detailed descriptions that are vital to researchers seeking specific information.

Sibelle began by surveying the entire collection and figuring out the best way to organize it so that it would be more usable for researchers. Some of this work included figuring out where certain documents came from, their date, and why they are in our collection. These efforts brought the collection from several large boxes of “general” information, to eight separate boxes according to specific categories, each with detailed inventory listings. This part of the project laid the groundwork for labeling and identifying photos within the collection. Often times, Sibelle was able to identify subjects of photos based on supporting information from the newly organized subject boxes. Sibelle’s successful completion of this Fellowship put us in a great position to support the selection of content—photos, documents, oral histories—for use in an exhibit on post-WWII Latino history in Lawrence which will open in 2023 at the Lawrence Heritage State Park Visitors Center (with funding awarded to the Friends of the Lawrence Heritage State Park through the Mass Humanities’ Expanding Massachusetts Stories grant program).

Our dedicated team of volunteers continued to work on processing and preserving new donations and collections:

- Betsy Brien and Marie Boyd sorted and organized the Essex County Jail Records Collection
- Kathi Levine processed and began the digitization of the Diaries of William Madison Wood
- Grace Piazza catalogued photographs from the Italian Collection
- Matt Bigham and Monica Bruni created inventories of our newspaper clippings collection and obituaries
- Tom Walsh identified military medals and ribbons, created inventories of our subject boxes, and organized newly donated collections.
- Kathy Flynn answered research requests, oversaw volunteers working on jail records, and helped manage intern and student projects

In addition to our wonderful volunteers, we welcomed several interns and directed study students:

- Bianca De Simone, Ellie Sims, Sabrina Lewis, and William Heath from Middlesex Community College. Bianca worked on the Essex County Jail Records Collection, Ellie photographed objects and entered them into the database, Sabrina transcribed the oral history interview of Louise Sciuto, and William transcribed the oral history interview of Carina Pappalardo.

- For his directed study, UMass Lowell student Zachary Najarian-Najafi created an excellent website about the Strike of 1931, populating it with archives from our collection including the Essex County Jail Records, oral histories, and photographs which...
Zach went on to work for us during the summer and processed and completed finding aids for the following collections:

- O.E. Steinert Co. Inc., 1898-1985 Collection
- Traveler’s Club of Greater Lawrence, Inc., 1897-2006 Collection
- H.K. Webster and Blue Seal Feeds, 1875-1993 Collection
- Bolton-Emerson, Inc., 1905-1988 Collection

In addition to these collections, our volunteers have processed and produced finding aids for several other collections:

- Flor Gutierrez - Lawrence Garden Club Collection
- Sibelle Grisé (left) - La Patrie Records Collection
- Mary Pannos - American Textile History Museum Collection

This is a record number of finding aids for us to create in one year! Having these available makes these collections much more accessible to researchers.

Another area of research that was desperately needed was a comprehensive history of the Jewish community in Lawrence. UMass Lowell directed study student Natasha Ledoux devoted her time to organizing, cataloging, and developing an overall understanding of our Jewish Collection, including identifying rare books, and ultimately writing a paper titled, *A Vanishing Community: Diaspora of the Jewish Shtetl in Lawrence, Mass., 1919-2019*.

To better facilitate Natasha’s project, we were delighted to introduce her to our long-time LHC friends, supporters, and volunteers Jurg and Linda Siegenthaler. Jurg and Linda have long contributed to the preservation of Lawrence history, and are especially active in the celebration of Jewish history, life, and culture in the city. Jurg, Linda, and Natasha (bottom left) spent several hours meeting and discussing aspects of this topic, with Linda sharing her expertise and scholarship. They also took Natasha on a private tour of the beautiful, 102-year old active Congregation Ansha Sholum, located on 411 Hampshire Street in Lawrence, followed by a drive around the city to see the sites where the Jewish community once lived and thrived.

Conducting research and preserving and sharing history occurs beyond the walls of LHC thanks to some terrific community partners:

- In order to thoroughly research an inquiry that came from a researcher named Michel, in France, LHC head researcher Kathy Flynn reached out to Nancy C. Barthelemy, Provincial Archivist at the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur East West Archives in Ipswich, MA. Michel was seeking information on his relative, a Sister Constance, who had arrived in Lawrence in 1857. Using our archives, as well as an in-depth biography that Nancy shared, Kathy found the following information: Five sisters of Notre Dame arrived in Lawrence on August 20, 1857 at the request of Fr. O’Donnell, the first pastor of St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Lawrence. Fr. O’Donnell wanted to begin a school for the young children of the parish, to be staffed by sisters of the Notre Dame Congregation. Sister Constance was the Superior of this group. Michel said this about our findings, “(the document) brought me a very good look on my ancestor’s way of life. You brought me a treasure.” See photo on bottom right.
- We’ve provided ongoing research support for Terry Date of the *Eagle Tribune* for his series on the Canals in Lawrence by sharing books, photographs, and even a pick axe used to create the North Canal in the 1840s! along with LHC executive director Susan Grabski and many other community members, spoke at a Lawrence City Council meeting to voice support for the preservation of the Canals in response to an amendment filed by the current owners of the Great Stone Dam (Essex Company/Central Rivers Power) to remove the North and South Canals from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) project boundary (which was ultimately dismissed by FERC in July 2023).
- We worked with Joe Nevins, one of the authors of the 2020 book, *A People’s Guide to Greater Boston*, on a corresponding map highlighting locations written about in the Lawrence section of the book. The 24” x 36” map (above) was designed by Neil Horsky and illustrated by Kate Delaney, and funded with financial support from Mass Humanities, the Norman B. Leventhal Map & Education Center at the Boston Public Library, and the Merrimack Valley Central Labor Council.
- This year we were able to digitize parts of our Portuguese Section C of St. Mary’s Cemetery, where Sister Constance and forty three members of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur are buried (*A Sacred Space*, by Kathleen S. Flynn).
his bathing suit at the Abe Bashara Boat House in Lawrence shown bottom left) with his daughter Jamie Bernstein thanks to dear LHC friend Tom Bernardin. Tom attended the New York City event, Wonderful Town Cabaret, which featured Jamie and told us that she hosted and sang and couldn’t have been more charming after which he held up the photo and said, “Excuse me, do you know who this gentleman is?” She replied, “OMG! Where did you get this? Look at him sucking in his stomach! Is that me beside him?” We were delighted that our collection brought a smile to Jamie’s face as evidenced in the photo on bottom left with Tom.

Nearly 1,000 photographs were donated this year, in addition to several hundred city of Lawrence ledgers, books, textiles, objects, and documents. The material varies, but one aspect remains the same – the donors knew the importance of preserving Lawrence’s history. Some of the newly donated material includes:

- Two antique voting machines previously used by the city of Lawrence Elections Division donated by the City of Lawrence (upper left).
- Hats and a muff worn by Margaret Pellegrino (1918-1984) of Lawrence, donated by her daughter June Arcidiacono. Many of the hats (upper right) were made and/or sold in Lawrence and worn by the donor at special occasions in her life during the 1940s, 50s, and 60s in Lawrence.
- A desk which belonged to Charles Storrow (bottom), the civil engineer who was a leading figure in the creation of the Essex Company and the city of Lawrence. He was also first mayor of Lawrence. The desk was donated by Leo Flynn and was made in the 1700s by a cabinet maker out of Cuban mahogany which is now extinct.
- A banner attached to a dowel from Saint Anne’s Ladies Society, and a cope (liturgical vestment), both made in France 150 years ago and used in processions at St. Anne’s Church, and an original stained glass window from the Immaculate Conception Church in Lawrence, MA, donated by Michael Theriault (above right).
- Assorted material from Lawrence clubs, organizations, businesses, churches, and celebrations; highlights include a Silver spoon (the only one known to exist) from an original 1899 tableware set that belonged to the Lawrence High School faculty, and a piece of lead lined glass rescued by the donor from the last
removing original window (1860s) of the Pemberton Mill before the windows were all replaced in the 1980s; donated by Jonas Stundzia.

- A complete set of Rosenthal china owned by the O’Sullivan Family of Lawrence; donated by Tom and Gertrude (O’Sullivan) Walsh.
- Scrapbooks, photo albums, guest books, and school books that belonged to the Hamblett Family of Lawrence and an extraordinary collection of postcards from a trip that Mary E. Bean of Lawrence took to the Mediterranean and Europe in 1905; donated by Ernest Thomas Greene.
- Trunk (with key) which belonged to Lawrencian Edith Webster Mank. Edith and her sister Helen were prominent women involved in many different organizations including the Lawrence Women’s Club and the Massachusetts Sunday School Association; donated by Britni Shine (top left).

This year we were able to share our mission with a wide audience through participation in local and national conferences:

- In November, I presented with Essex Heritage’s Beth Beringer and LHC board member Brian Sheehy at the New England Museum Association’s 2022 Conference Micro/Macro: Solving Museum Issues at Every Scale. Our session, titled Teaching Hidden Histories, explored the role that museums and archives play in helping young people understand and address inequities in our society. As an archive, we can provide local resources that illuminate larger themes that teachers and students want to explore. The Teaching Hidden Histories program combines local sources and scholars’ expertise in the history of traditionally marginalized communities to help educators start these discussions.

- In April, I presented at the 2022 Organization of American Historians (OAH) Conference on American History titled Indigenous/American Past & Futures held in Boston. Colleagues from Salem State University, the National Park Service, and I discussed a project that uncovered, recovered, and produced a report on the histories of African Americans in Essex County in a panel titled, The Ripple Effect: The Positive Outcomes of an OAH/NPS Project on African American History North of Boston. The panel was endorsed by the Society for History in the Federal Government (SHFG).

- LHC’s African American Collection is featured in the new publication African Americans in Essex County, Massachusetts: An Annotated Guide (bottom left) which was funded by the National Park Service and administered by the Organization of American Historians. Its intent is to introduce scholars, teachers, and public historians to the resources available in the Essex National Heritage Area for telling the stories of African-American residents of the county, enslaved and free, for the last 300 years.

- Kathy Flynn and I presented to the 2022 Station1 Frontiers Fellowship education, research, and internship program on socially-directed science and technology, with a presentation on Lawrence history and archives entitled Archival Research.

- I was the guest speaker at the Lawrence Heritage State Park’s Brown Bag Lunches series with a presentation titled History on the Road, during which I shared material from our collection as well as information about LHC’s mission and activities.

In addition to presenting at conferences, I also attended many online workshops geared toward preservation, archives and local history offered by Northeast Document Conservation Center, Massachusetts History Alliance—Conversations on the Commons, and Essex Heritage. I attended a series of presentations made by Lawrence High School Students on work they did on the history of the different monuments in Lawrence.

We also welcomed many student visits here to LHC including groups from Northern Essex Community College, Lawrence CommunityWorks-Movement City, Elevated Thought, Phillips Academy, and Merrimack College.

We welcomed in-person visitors and researchers from as far away as Qingdao, China (left middle) and online researchers from Austria, the Netherlands, France, Sicily, and the United Kingdom, in addition to people from the Merrimack Valley and all over the United States.

The progress that LHC has made this year is built on the passion and dedication of those that came before us. Since 1978, Eartha and early volunteers sought out and collected pieces of Lawrence history, even rescuing material housed in damp and dirty basements or vacant buildings. They preserved and meticulously catalogued this material in the days before computers, creating a card-file cataloging system that we still use on a daily basis. Our vast archive and ability to conduct such in-depth research is a direct result of the work of our long time volunteers, including the late Helen Sapuppo (more about Helen inside the front cover).

LHC is lucky to have such a strong foundation of generous, and dedicated supporters. It is thanks to all of you that I have so many good things to highlight this year. Stay tuned for a terrific 2023 as we continue to carry out our mission!
The Lawrence History Center continues to digitize its collections to share through our website, social media outlets, Vimeo, YouTube, OCLC WorldCat, Internet Archive, Digital Commonwealth, and the DPLA—Digital Public Library of America. When the pandemic hit in 2020, we gained an even greater appreciation for the efforts we have made to make our collections accessible online. It has allowed us to engage our community and to provide a myriad of resources for teachers (critical for remote learning) and researchers. Our efforts were also strengthened by a digital capacity grant from Mass Humanities.

www.lawrencehistory.org/resources
The historic preservation and accessibility 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.

Since 1992—thirty years ago—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 1882-3 that includes a main office building, carpenter shop, blacksmith shop, stable, and warehouse. This year, LHC addressed its bathroom facilities:

Bathroom Renovation Project: When ADA Compliance and Historic Preservation Meet

The Lawrence History Center has just completed an extensive renovation of the bathrooms in its main building at 6 Essex Street, Lawrence. Here’s what we did:

ADA Compliance: Converted our existing men’s and women’s bathrooms (each with two stalls) into two handicap accessible, single stall bathrooms. This aspect of the project involved widening of both entry doorways, the removal of existing stall partitions, the removal of old and installation of new wall mounted sinks, mirrors, single-hand operated paper towel dispensers, toilet paper holders, wall mounted soap dispensers, handrails/grab bars, new toilets, new flooring, lighting fixtures and other cosmetic and functional improvements.

Historic Preservation: Brought the spaces back to their original look by uncovering the field stone and brick walls and restoring the windows. This aspect of the project included the removal of framing, drywall, and dated floor-to-ceiling tile to expose the natural red brick around windows and lower field stone exterior walls. Paint from brick and stone was removed and surfaces re-pointed. Windows were restored and painted and a film was applied to let in natural light, but ensure privacy.

Safety: Brought current plumbing, electrical, and fire detection service up to code. This aspect of the project involved rerouting plumbing vent pipes and replacing PVC with cast iron, moving and properly venting an adjacent water heater, installing fire detection strobes in each bathroom and rerouting wiring leading to an exterior building, moving outlets and light switches, and installing new wall mounted heaters.

The improvements outlined above have made the main building completely ADA compliant and allow us to fully serve those with mobility challenges. The project builds on prior investments by funders who supported the installation of a new elevator (state certified in January 2021).

More ‘Before’ and ‘After’ photos are available at https://www.lawrencehistory.org/facilities/bathrooms

In Progress

LHC has been awarded an Essex Heritage Partnership Grant ($2,000) and a Historic Preservation Matching Grant ($2,250) from Preservation Massachusetts, in partnership with The 1772 Foundation, for the historic preservation of the exterior bulkhead and sole entrance to the basement of the Essex Company Warehouse. Work will be completed by the end of 2022.

Looking Ahead to 2023/2024

LHC is delighted to have been awarded $105,000 (of the needed $270,000) by the Mass Cultural Council Cultural Facilities Fund, in partnership with MassDevelopment, to address HVAC in our main office/archival storage building and install heating/cooling and a fire detection systems in two outer building collection storage areas. The quest for match funding is underway. The project will increase our total climate controlled archival storage space from around 2,000 square feet in the main building to nearly 10,000 square feet across three buildings—truly bringing LHC to the next level.
On Thursday, June 16, 2022, over 160 people gathered at the former Cardinal Shoe building for the 2022 Eartha Dengler History Award Ceremony to honor Yadira Betances Muldoon. Included among the guests were Yadira’s beloved teachers Bill Campagnone and Leonor Sanchez.

The Lawrence History Center extends its gratitude to our honoree Yadira. It was a pleasure to gather the Lawrence community to honor and express gratitude and love for her. Speakers brought to life her personal story—the importance of her gift, the scope of her accomplishments, and the tremendous, yet quiet impact she has had on Lawrence and the Merrimack Valley.

Yadira Betances Muldoon is a lover of history, family, religion, and education … and a writer with a love for Lawrence.

Born in Neiba, Dominican Republic, after her mother’s passing, Yadira was raised by two aunts and an uncle and arrived in Lawrence as a middle schooler. A teacher at the Oliver School reminded her that she was “somebody special.” At Lawrence High School the writing teacher saw her talent and urged her to use it to write stories about what was important to her.

And so Yadira wrote.

A first-in-the-family college graduate, in 32 years as the only Spanish-speaking reporter for The Eagle-Tribune, Yadira covered the small stories and the big ones—the 1984 riots, the accidental drowning of four boys in the Merrimack*, the kidnapping and killing of Sgt. Alex Jimenez in Iraq, the rise to stardom of dancer Belen Indhira Pereyra.

In her writer’s focus on Lawrence and its people, Yadira has made local news educational, and helped countless readers see their own voices, truths, and lived experience reflected in the news—a gift that embodies the early vision of Eartha Dengler and enriches the archival record for generations to come.

* Yadira was one of the staff awarded the 2003 Pulitzer Prize for Journalism for this story.

The evening program included music by The Wobblies, a welcome from LHC executive director Susan Grabski, dinner was blessed by deacon Cristino Ynfante of Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish in Lawrence, and the following speakers paid tribute to Yadira: Francisco Ureña; Melissa Fili, managing editor at MethuenLife Magazine; Sara Morin Barth, family friend and secretary of the LHC board of directors; a video tribute from Yadira’s son Gabriel Martinez; Mark Cutler, president of the LHC board of directors, who introduced a highlights version of Yadira’s video oral history. The Award was presented by Claudia Dengler, daughter of LHC founder Eartha Dengler, and Amita Kiley, LHC collections manager.

Our sincere gratitude to Yadira and her family, our event sponsors, speakers, our volunteers, and special thanks to all those who helped to make the evening possible: The Nufiez Family / Syramad Properties Inc. (hosts), Asociación Carnavalesca de Massachusetts, Whimper Barahona, Esperanza Academy, Patrick Guerrero (sound/projection), Andy Kelley (videography), Lussier Photo, MethuenLife Magazine, El Mundo Newspaper, The Party Connection, Lawrence International High School Students, LaPlume & Sons Printing, Rosé Classic Bouquet (table centerpiece pictured opposite), Rumbo News, Marcia Sharp, The Wobblies (Erik Froburg, Nathan Hendrie, Armand Hyatt, Jeff Shea, Gary Sidell, Bill Traynor).

For a list of sponsors and event photos, please visit: https://www.lawrencehistory.org/dengler/2022/photos
The Lawrence History Center began giving the Eartha Dengler History Award back in 1998 to spotlight the efforts of and accomplishments of outstanding leaders whose talents bring development, opportunity and who have enriched Lawrence in tangible ways.

For more about previous recipients, please visit https://www.lawrencehistory.org/dengler
The Story of Our Lives

Rising Leaves Anthology 2022

Top Row: Students and writing leaders on the front cover of the Sunday Eagle-Tribune in July, part of a series of stories about the history and future of the Lawrence canals by writer Terry Date; writing leader Francine Tshimbalanga posing with an illustration of herself (by artist Kate Delaney) done in 2015 when she was a student in the program; Francine with student Abby.

Second through Fourth Rows: Miscellaneous images of Rising Leaves students and writing leaders during the program, and with their families at the open house on the final day.
FROM THE PROGRAM CO-DIRECTORS
By Jackie Schieremberg and jayvie song

What a summer it has been for The Rising Loaves! We were so happy to be back doing in-person programming at the Lawrence History Center. Throughout our three weeks together (July 11, 2022 - July 29, 2022), we rejoiced in writing, creating, and sharing with each other with help of our guest artists and writers from around the city and the country.

This summer we explored our personal identities, our relationships to family and friends, and our city through the theme: “The Story of Our Lives”. Our kids were encouraged to create their own kind of story to add to the metaphorical mural that is Lawrence history. This theme carried into our first ever art gallery at El Taller Bookstore and Cafe. For this project, our students took portraits of themselves or favorite objects and overlaid handwritten poetry over the images.

Over the three weeks, we wrote, created tons of visual art, danced, made jokes, and quickly became a tight-knit Rising Loaves family.

Week one started off the summer with a long-time friend of the program, Anthony Morales, who reminded us of the importance of our existence. We learned about the history of downtown Lawrence, decorated tote bags with local artist Leida Mane, and expressed our energy with Harlym 125 through a Soul Train-style dance line, and of course, our writing.

Week two was full of storytelling. Starting with Anthony Febo and visualizing our favorite memories in different art mediums with local artist, T. Melon. We explored the canals in Lawrence with Mary Guerrero and Lee Krishnan and learned about their history and current state of neglect. Christine Jee guided us through an “I am from” prompt by exploring the various galleries at the Addison Gallery. We ended the week with ABL artist, Nicole “Nikky” Garcia at the Makerspace at Phoenix Academy where we made billboards advertising the stories of our lives.

Week three was a week full of preparation for our final reading and gallery opening. While directors were occupied with installing the gallery, students started off their week with Boston poet Crystal Valentine who helped us create our own superhero origin stories. Anthony Ry taught us how to create a composition of images using words that were important to us. We ended our final workshops with longtime ABL family, Yankelina and Nurilys, who brought us back to our writing roots with music and favorite ABL writing prompts.

A special thanks to the Lawrence History Center, the Addison Gallery, and the Makerspace at Phoenix Academy, who provided the spaces for us to create and explore the stories of our lives. As second-generation directors, we know we owe the brilliance of this program to our writing leaders Gabrielle Anderson, Francine Tshimbamanga, and Christian Pimentel. We are also ever-grateful for the guidance Mary and Lee provided us as we navigated our return to in-person programming.

We had a great summer and can’t wait to see everyone next year!

To view the Anthology, photos, and videos, please visit:

www.lawrencehistory.org/education/summer/2022
Above: On Tuesday, February 8, 2022, Kenneth Gloss, proprietor of the internationally known Brattle Book Shop in Boston’s Downtown Crossing section, gave a virtual presentation via Zoom for LHC. Sixty people enjoyed Ken’s reflections, which were quite humorous as times, on the value of old and rare books. The session was recorded and is available at: https://www.lawrencehistory.org/events/ken-gloss-2-8-2022

Left: The #1 Facebook Post of the Year was of the Ayer Mill Clock during construction, 1909-1910. The Ayer Mill officially opened October 3, 1910. The post garnered 1,823 reactions, 190 comments, and 235 shares!

Bottom: Insights from Facebook about the LHC page for 28 days in October 2022. LHC reached over 120,000 without even one paid ad!

Left: Partnership work is ongoing via the Mass Humanities Expanding Massachusetts Stories grant awarded to the Friends of the Lawrence Heritage State Park to create an exhibit about post-WWII Latino immigration. The Phase I Project Team has carried out several virtual and in-person engagement sessions (Far left: a group of community members convenes at the LHSP Visitor Center; Center: Nelson Butten shares a family photo; Right: a group gathers at LHC to look at archival collections related to the topic). The Phase II Content Team, led by LHC board secretary Sara Morin Barth, will be making final decisions about content and tone. Lawrence-based Elevated Thought has been engaged to do the graphic design work. LaFlume & Sons in S. Lawrence will handle exhibit fabrication. The exhibit opening is planned for June 2023.

Above: A fabric mural featuring images and quotes from the 1912 Bread and Roses Strike by the late artist Melissa Shook, titled “Meditation on the 1912 Bread and Roses Strike” (Accession #2012.176). The mural will be displayed through December 2022 in the exhibit Melissa Shook: Inside and Out in the UMass Boston University Hall Gallery and the Walter Grossman Memorial Gallery. The exhibit was co-curated by senior lecturer II in art history Carol G. J. Scollans (pictured above with the textile) and gallery director Sam Toabe.

Students from Central Catholic High School organizing collections in the Essex Company Warehouse during April vacation week (through a Future Leaders grant from Essex Heritage)
Recent & Upcoming Publications
[available for purchase at www.lawrencehistory.org/onlinestore]

Where Are the Workers? Labor’s Stories at Museums and Historic Sites (University of Illinois Press)
PAPERBACK [£28.00]
Co-edited by Robert Forrant (UMass Lowell Professor of History and Lawrence History Center Board Member) and Mary Anne Trasciatti (Hofstra University), including Chapter 3: Lawrence, Massachusetts and the 1912 Bread and Roses Strike at Street Level: Interpretation Over Time by local authors Jim Beauchesne, Kathleen S. Flynn, and Susan Grabski.

Cracked Reflections
Author: Joanna Michal Hoyt
PAPERBACK [£18.95]
The literary historical novel Cracked Reflections is set in an imaginary Massachusetts mill town during the real textile strikes of 1912, known as the Bread and Roses labor movement. This tale is particularly relevant in a time of conflicting news stories, high political passions, and concern about immigration—but such times have recurred over and over in our history.

COVID Conversations
Voices from Lawrence & Lowell, Massachusetts (Loom Press)
PAPERBACK [£20.00]
Co-edited by Susan Grabski, Amita Kiley, and Susan Tripathy
Interviews with people in Lawrence and Lowell, Massachusetts who experienced the sickness and pandemic living restrictions of Covid-19 in 2020 and 2021, plus diary excerpts from residents who reported on their daily fears, hopes, and challenges.

A partnership project of Lawrence History Center and UMass Lowell, with contributions of Phillips Academy Andover.

Dedicated to all who lived through the Covid-19 pandemic and in memory of those we lost.

On September 24, 2022, LHC held its 44th Annual Meeting and celebrated 30 years in the Essex Company Offices & Yard. We also hosted two Essex Heritage Trails & Sails events — a book event, Where Are the Workers? Labor’s Stories at Museums and Historic Sites, and a blacksmithing demonstration.

Above right: “Where Are the Workers? Labor’s Stories at Museums and Historic Sites” co-editor Robert Forrant (back right) and authors (L to R) Susan Grabski, James Beauchesne, and Kathleen S. Flynn

Left: Blacksmith Richard Wright

LHC hosted Elevated Thought’s Arts Festival on Saturday, June 4, 2022. Congratulations to them on a well-planned and attended event.

Above (clockwise): Event promo; attendees enjoying the event; Elevated Thought board members Lorie Mendoza, Corina Cornejo, Nilly DeCosta (also a LHC board member); LHC collections manager Amita Kiley with her daughter Megan enjoying some shade from the sun under an umbrella.

Right: Graphic designer Ashley Rosario. Through a Future Leaders grant from Essex Heritage and as a student at UMass Lowell, Ashley designed the front and back cover for the new book Covid Conversations: Voices from Lawrence & Lowell, Massachusetts (on right). She was later hired by Loom Press to design its interior page layout, as well.

Available for pre-order in December 2022
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.

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James Beauchesne
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Nelson Butten
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Massachusetts Society of Genealogists

Merrimack Valley Central Labor Council
Network For Good

Above: Frank Acosta is pictured playing the Tambora (Dominican drums), as Rafael Mirabal watches in the background. Photo of parade in the 1980s donated by Stelvyn Mirabal

* Stock Donation  ** Includes gift made in memory of Amelia Stundza  ° Includes gift made in memory of Helen Sapuppo
### Statements of Financial Condition

**April 30, 2022 and 2021**

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<th>ASSETS</th>
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<td><strong>Current Assets:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</strong></td>
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<td>934,658</td>
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Celebrating 30 years in the Essex Company Offices & Yard

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, Massachusetts and its people.

Since 1992, the former Essex Company Offices and Yard at 6 Essex Street in Lawrence—a site built in 1882-3 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places—has been its home.