



BARNARD DHC

ANNUAL REPORT


2020-2021



OPENING NOTES

With all of our public programming and course support having moved to virtual spaces during this past year, the DHC encountered new obstacles and new opportunities; we also witnessed an in many ways broader scope of impact. Virtual events opened up our programming markedly, attracting audiences from the four corners of the globe and enabling us to make the most of resources that had become far scarcer during the pandemic. This sharper digital turn within our already digitally focused context inspired us to develop modes of presentation that would sustain a public experiencing "zoom fatigue" and other, more burdensome digital challenges, notably, questions of access for our multilingual and hearing impaired audiences, and the heightened vulnerability faced by our presenters and audiences during online events that touched on the sensitive subjects we most wanted to grapple with this year. As a team, we rose to these challenges organically – through trial and error – and were encouraged by the generosity of spirit and the enthusiasm our programming garnered across the Barnard and Columbia community and well beyond.

Similarly, in adjusting to the increased need for pedagogical support, we found ourselves pushed to think creatively about how to respond to the demands of the virtual classroom in ways that were thoughtful, inclusive, and otherwise ethical, while ensuring that the resources of our staff not be entirely depleted. Addressing the needs of our faculty and students made plain to us the central role the DHC had on campus during this fraught year and would continue to have going forward.






OUR VALUES

We value **INCLUSIVITY**, which means that in our spaces, communities, and conversations we center people who have been historically and are presently excluded.

We value **SUSTAINABILITY**, which means committing to understand, work with, and inform our community about how our personal and institutional choices do harm to the environment and therefore to the most vulnerable communities; we do so in partnership with existing entities on campus committed to these same goals.

We value **EXPLORATION**, which means doing work based on and offering support for a generosity of ideas and perspectives, failing forward, and in a spirit of fearlessness and curiosity.

We value **COLLABORATION**, which means building non-exploitative relationships that sustain and reflect our communities.



WHO WE ARE



Kaiama L. Glover



Alicia Peaker



Ana Lam



Miranda Jones-Davidis



Taylor Faires



Elizabeth Burton



Gabriela Arredondo



Kealani Finegan

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PAST YEAR

Undesign the Redline @ Barnard is an interactive exhibition that combines history, art, and storytelling with community outreach and collaboration, in order to reckon with systemic racism through an exploration of the legacy of redlining in Barnard and Columbia's neighborhood.



On October 14, 2020, the DHC hosted the first event of our **Queer Asylum** series. 'This is Who I AM' - LGBTQI+ Experiences of the UK Asylum Process was held over zoom and centered first-hand accounts of the particular challenges faced by LGBTQI+ individuals seeking sanctuary and basic human rights in the UK.



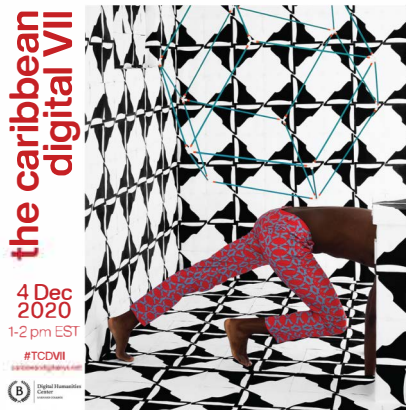
Nos Cambio La Vida / Our Lives Transformed is a digital edition of personal life stories of Dominicans of Hatian descent fighting for inclusion and citizenship rights.

Organized in conjunction with Professor Elizabeth Hutchinson's course American Monument Cultures, **Monumental Action: Public Art and Public History in 2020**, the Monumental Action series centered presentations by artists, scholars, and art-world professionals of color engaged in rethinking public monuments, especially monuments related to slavery, colonization, and other forms of societal violence.

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The Caribbean Digital The three projects—a Directory of Caribbean Digital Scholarship, a Collective Annotation of Aimé Césaire’s *Notebook of a Return to My Native Land*, and a

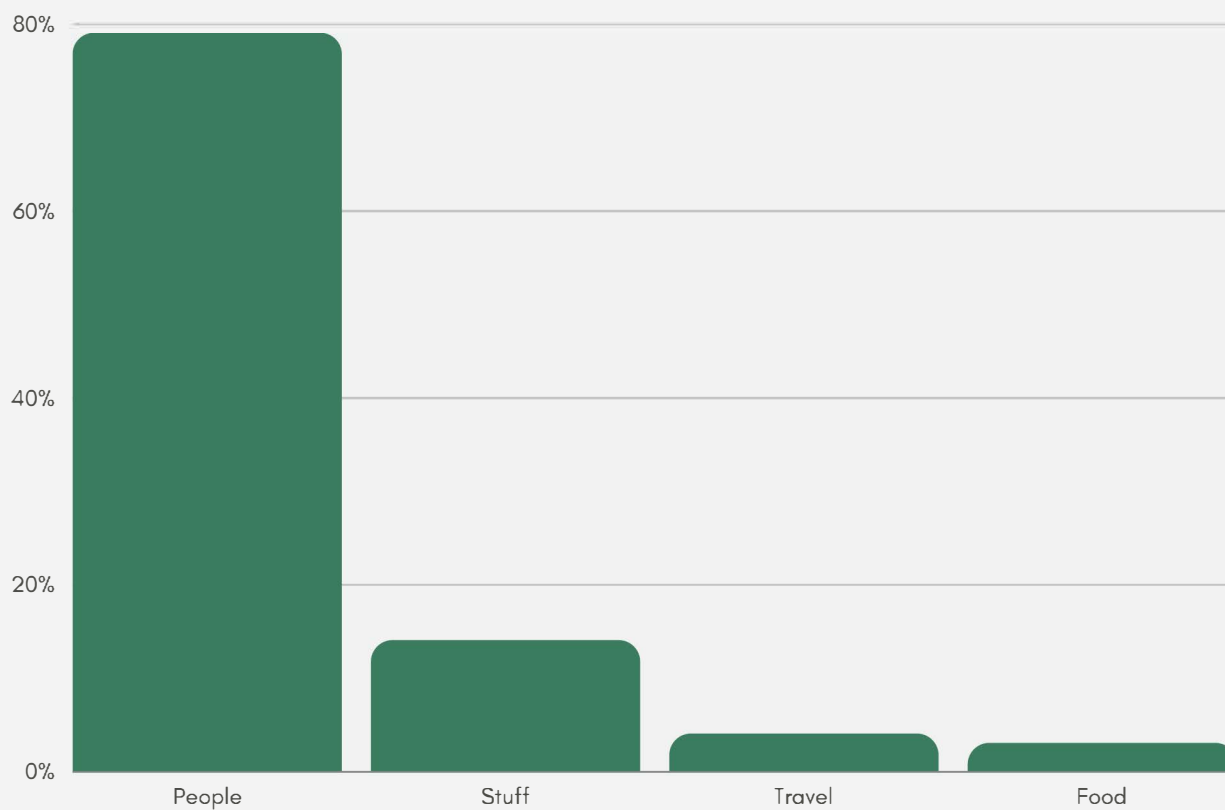
Keyword Collection for Caribbean Studies—were designed to embrace the digital as critical praxis, negotiating the challenges and opportunities presented by the media technologies that ever more intensely reconfigure the social, historical, and geo-political contours of the Caribbean and its diasporas.



The WRITING HOME | American Voices from the Caribbean podcast is an outgrowth of the popular Critical Caribbean Feminisms events, which since 2015 have brought together established and emerging writers from the Caribbean and its diasporas. WRITING HOME is an ode to America very literally writ large.

This year, we developed a brand new **DHC circulating collection** of over 200 books, zines, and videos that will be available in the DHC. We believe literature, film, and other media are integral to developing the capacities for imagination, empathy, and critique needed to co-create liberatory models for digital humanities.





2020 SPENDING BY PERCENTAGE

PEOPLE OVER STUFF

The Barnard Digital Humanities Center values prioritizing people over stuff. This is represented in the 2020 fiscal year and is something that we work hard to accomplish every year.