PROTEST and PRESERVATION
1:00 - 2:30, Saturday, June 24
McCormick Place Convention Center

Panelists will explore the preservation of knowledge generated through social activism, including textual and non-textual knowledge, providing examples and explaining theoretical issues related to each. A variety of perspectives will be represented, including that of a political philosopher who has written about the preservation of non-textual knowledge, a librarian who has worked on a social activism collection, and a filmmaker who has documented the social activism of LGBT communities.

Richard Gilman-Opalsky is an Associate Professor of Political Philosophy at the University of Illinois at Springfield. He received his Ph.D. from The New School for Social Research in New York City. He has previously authored three books: Unbounded Publics (2008), Spectacular Capitalism (2011), and Precarious Communism (2014). In his latest book, Specters of Revolt (2016), he argues that the world is haunted by revolt, by the possibility of events that interrupt and disrupt the world, that throw its reality and justice into question.

Robert L. Camina is an award winning director, writer, and producer from San Antonio, Texas. A graduate of the University of Texas at San Antonio and the New York Film Academy, Camina’s first full length film, Raid of the Rainbow Lounge, about a controversial police raid on a Fort Worth gay bar, opened in 2012 at over 30 film festivals. His latest film, Upstairs Inferno, is about the 1973 arson at the UpStairs Lounge, a gay bar in New Orleans in which 32 people were murdered. In 2015 he received the PACE Paragon Award as “a paragon of People Acting for Change and Equality through his documentary filmmaking.”

Sonia Yaco is an Assistant Professor and Director of Social Justice Projects and Research at the University Library, University of Illinois at Chicago. She is the founder and Senior Advisor of the Desegregation of Virginia Education (DOVE) project, a history preservation initiative and Senior Advisor to the Kids in Birmingham 1963 Project. She is a regular contributor to scholarly journals on topics of social activism among historians and archivists. She is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Library and Information Studies.