



# Smithsonian

*Anacostia Community Museum*

## We the People: The Citizens of NYCHA in Photos + Words Project Records

ACMA.06-103

Anacostia Community Museum Archives  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Anacostia Community Museum Archives
<b>Title:</b>	We the People: The Citizens of NYCHA in Photos + Words Project Records
<b>Date:</b>	2009-2011
<b>Identifier:</b>	ACMA.06-103
<b>Creator:</b>	Washington, Rico, Music Journalist Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)
<b>Extent:</b>	4 Linear feet (2 boxes; 4 linear ft., 3.58 GB)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	An exhibition exploring the varied stigmas and stereotypes applied to New York City's Housing Authority sites and the residents (past and present) who live in them. Journalist Rico Washington and photographer Shino Yanagawa collaborated on this exhibit which offers an in-depth look at how New York City public housing has impacted society-at-large by producing some of the world's most influential and dynamic artists, entrepreneurs, athletes, musicians, politicians, and thinkers. It was exhibited at the World Festival of Black Arts and Culture in Dakar, Senegal, 2010, at the Gordon Parks Gallery at the College of New Rochelle (NY), 2013, and the Brooklyn Historical Society from 2014-2015.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Donated by Rico Washington and Shino Yanagawa in 2017.

### Processing Information

The processing of this collection and creation of the finding aid are ongoing. The initial collection record was created by Jennifer Morris in 2018. Item-level processing and machine readable finding aid completed by Isaiah Washington in October 2019.

### Preferred Citation

We the People Project Records, Anacostia Community Museum Archives, Smithsonian Institution, gift of Rico Washington and Shino Yanagawa.

### Restrictions

Use of the materials requires an appointment. Please contact the archivist to make an appointment: [ACMarchives@si.edu](mailto:ACMarchives@si.edu).

## Conditions Governing Use

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## Biographical / Historical

Washington, D.C. native Rico Washington holds a BA from Fordham University's African & African-American Studies program. As a journalist who has interviewed celebrities such as Erykah Badu, his work has appeared in New York Moves, Upscale, Wax Poetics, Ebony.com, and Okayplayer.com. He has also served as music editor for Brooklynbased Free Magazine and staff writer/columnist at XLR8R magazine. Rico is also a teaching artist with the non-profit arts organization Arts Connection. He lives and works in New York City.

Shino Yanagawa holds a BA in Economics from Japan's Hoesi University, A Tokyo native she has been a professional photographer for more than a decade. Yanagawa has photographed an array of musicians including Q-Tip. In addition to being a regular contributor to Japanese newspapers Nikkei and Sankei, her works have also appeared in publications such as GQ-Japan, Harper's Bazaar-Japan, and Blue Note-Japan. She lives and works in New York City.

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## Scope and Contents

An exhibition exploring the varied stigmas and stereotypes applied to New York City's Housing Authority sites and the residents (past and present) who live in them. Journalist Rico Washington and photographer Shino Yanagawa collaborated on this exhibit which offers an in-depth look at how New York City public housing has impacted society-at-large by producing some of the world's most influential and dynamic artists, entrepreneurs, athletes, musicians, politicians, and thinkers. It was exhibited at the World Festival of Black Arts and Culture in Dakar, Senegal, 2010, at the Gordon Parks Gallery at the College of New Rochelle (NY), 2013, and the Brooklyn Historical Society from 2014-2015.

Materials date from 2009-2011 and include photographic prints, over fifty audio interviews, digital images, a digital video commercial for the exhibition, a photocopy of a letter from Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court Honorable Sonia Sotomayor to the curators pertaining to the exhibition. Brochures, postcards, and copies of newspaper articles and journals featuring the exhibition are also present.

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

### Subjects:

- Exhibitions
- Gentrification
- Public housing

### Types of Materials:

- Digital audio formats
- Digital images
- Interviews -- 21st century
- Oral histories (document genres)
- Photographs -- Color photoprints -- 21st century

Names:

New York City Housing Authority

Places:

Bronx Park (New York)  
Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Harlem (New York, N.Y.)  
Queens (New York, N.Y.)  
Staten Island (New York, N.Y.)

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## Container Listing

### Series I: Interviews, 2009-2011

Language: English.  
 Scope and Contents: Includes interviews conducted by Rico Washington with former and current residents of public housing in New York City. The series consist of audio digital files and transcripts which are arranged alphabetically by interviewee.  
 Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
 Harlem (New York, N.Y.)  
 Bronx (New York, N.Y.)  
 Queens (New York, N.Y.)  
 Staten Island (New York, N.Y.)

acma\_06-103-AliciaTaylor: Interview with Alicia Taylor, 2010 August 15

Language: English.

Notes: Alicia Taylor is a teacher who lives in Marcus Garvey village, a New York City housing project. She speaks on how to improve the lives of the youth by implementing after school programs, which had been successful, before time and budget constraints ended them. Taylor also explains that giving seniors activities or building safer parks could also improve the community.

Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)

Topic: Schools -- New York

Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
 Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-Anahad: Interview with Anahad O'Connor, 2010 March 27

Language: English.

Notes: Anahad O'Connor is a Harlem resident who spoke about his experience going from the projects to being a Yale educated New York Times employee. O'Connor elaborates on the negatives and positives of life in the projects, along with how people from wealth perceive the projects. He also speaks about how he pulled himself out of the projects through after school programs and education.

Place: Harlem (New York, N.Y.)

Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
 Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-BrianDekaPaupaw : Interview with Brian Deka Paupaw, 2010 February 20

Language: English.

Notes: Brian "Deka" Paupaw from the Brooklyn neighborhood Bedford-Stuyvesant recalls how he became a skateboarder and his goals for New York City youth. He has a non-profit organization dedicated to getting New York City youth out of their neighborhoods into nature, which can help them in a myriad of ways.

Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)

Topic: Snowboarding  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-Buckshot: Interview with Buckshot, 2010 February 12  
Language: English.  
Notes: Brooklyn Rapper, Buckshot reflects on his childhood with a tough father raising him in public housing. He speaks on his own entrepreneurial endeavours, the mentality of those in the projects and outside pressures put onto people in these areas. He also explains how people living in projects have an outside influence on everyone else.

Topic: Rap (Music)  
Entrepreneurship  
Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-ChrisPitt: Interview with Chris Pitt, undated  
Language: English.  
Notes: Chris Pitt is a Brownsville resident who speaks on the troubles plaguing his community. He speaks on what individual actions have made Brownsville a bad place to live but also offers solutions to the problems and how the community can be improved.

Place: Brownsville (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Gentrification  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-DarneDWhiteSr: Interview with Daren D. White, Sr, 2010 March 13  
Language: English.  
Notes: Daren D. White Brownsville resident who is involved with the Boys To Men organization which is dedicated to finding young men jobs, trade schools, GED programs and even studios for rappers. He speaks on the importance of schools and how the neighborhood does not have despite having a building suitable for a school.

Place: Brownsville (New York, N.Y.)  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century  
Topic: Education

Interview with Darien Sills-Evans, 2010 March 4  
Language: English.  
Notes: Darien Sills-Evans is an actor and writer. He talks about growing up in housing projects located in Clinton Hill, a Brooklyn neighborhood. Evans discusses discovering rap music and hardships growing up in the projects. He talks about his career in the entertainment industry.

Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)

Topic: Rap (Music)  
Acting  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-EphraimBenton: Interview with Ephraim Benton, 2010 March 28

Language: English.  
Notes: Ephraim Benton is an actor who grew up in Thompkins Houses in Brooklyn, New York City. He recalls his time in the neighborhood, both the good and bad experiences and how it could have possibly been better with help from community activities. He talks about acting and how his artwork got him noticed. Benton explains his intentions to help out the community that he came from with various programs he has helped establish.

Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Acting  
Charity  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-FelipeLuciano: Interview with Felipe Luciano, 2010 April 4

Language: English.  
Notes: Felipe Luciano talks about his life growing up in diverse housing projects in Manhattan. Luciano also speaks about how to live with diversity. He talks about joining the *Young Lords* gang, and the poetry group *Last Poets* explaining how these groups impacted his life.

Place: Manhattan (New York)  
Topic: Gangs  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-GailPaupawBrown: Interview with Gail Paupaw Brown, 2010 February 28

Language: English.  
Notes: Gail Paupaw Brown is a resident of Brooklyn, New York. She discusses her upbringing in the city. Brown talks about the communities relationship with the police. As well as the benefits of having an art organizations that she could send her son to, which helped him become a successful artist later in life.

Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Art -- New York  
Police -- New York  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-GeorgeLorenzama: Interview with George Lorenzama, undated

Language: English.



Notes: George Lorenzana is a rapper who goes by the name "Yung Punch" who lives in Thompkins Houses in Brooklyn. He argues that Housing Projects can be positive areas full of opportunities.

Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Rap (Music)  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-Godborn: Interview with Godborn, undated

Language: English.

Notes: God Born is a Brooklyn native and college student looking to improve his community. He talks about how someone like Sonia Sotomayor could go from the housing projects to the Supreme court. He talks about the pitfalls of the ghetto, both the residents aiming to be bad influences and police officers harassing innocent civilians. God Born further explains the good parts of live in the ghetto.

Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)

Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-Jameel&Jaleel: Interview with Jameel & Jaleel, undated

Language: English.

Notes: Jameel and Jaleel are 9 year old twin brothers from New York City. They talk about sports and their favorite atheletes. Also they talk about their families and the differences between Virginia and New York City.

Place: New York (State) -- New York City

Topic: Basketball

Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-JamelShabazz: Interview with Jamel Shabazz, 2010 July 5

Language: English.

Notes: Jamel Shabazz is an artist who mostly works in photography from Brooklyn, New York. Shabazz talks about growing up in the Red Hook projects and how that shaped him as an individual. He goes into why he uses photography and what he aims to achieve with his artwork.

Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)

Topic: Art -- New York

Photography

Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-Jayro: Interview with Jayro, 2010 July 11

Language: English.

Notes: Jayro explain what life was like growing up in Queensbridge, a housing project in Brooklyn, New York. He explains the differences between Brazalian Favelas and New York City housing. Jayro further explains how he discovered his love for graffiti and why he does graffiti .

Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-JessieHilliard: Interview with Jessie Hilliard, 2010 August 18  
Language: English.  
Notes: Jesse Hillard is a resident of the Marcus Garvey homes in Brooklyn, New York. She has lived there for over thirty years and witnessed all the changes it has undergone in that time. She talks about what is wrong with the community and what she thinks can fix it. Hillard also talks the failures of the New York City Housing Association and how they are failing tenants.  
Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Landlord and tenant  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-JohnMangin: Interview with John Mangin, 2010 February 27  
Language: English.  
Notes: John Mangin works for The Center For Urban Pedagogy. Mangin was not raised in New York City and perceived housing projects as bad places until he moved to New York City. He learned that projects can be a positive but the federal government is not properly funding the New York City Housing Authority which could bode poorly for residents.  
Place: Manhattan (New York)  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-JohnnieMorton: Interview with Johnnie Monroe, 2010 April 6  
Language: English.  
Notes: Johnnie Monroe is an author and resident of Queensbridge; a Brooklyn, New York City neighborhood. He talks about the lack of programs from the community center due to lack of city involvement. He discusses his own work as an author and time spent with the Rap group, Mobb Deep.  
Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: writing  
Rap (Music)  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-LaitriceEdwards: Interview with Laitrice Edwards, 2010 March 3  
Language: English.  
Notes: Latrice Edwards is a former resident of the Glemmore housing projects in the Bronsville neighborhood of Brooklyn, New York. She talks about life in the projects and hardships she faced in life. Edwards talks about she managed to become succesful by working as an EMT and eventually with the fire department.  
Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Fire departments

Public housing  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-LeonSimmons: Interview with Leon Simmons, 2010 April 6  
Language: English.  
Notes: Leon Simmons is a resident of the Atlantic Terminal houses in Brooklyn, New York. Simmons discusses how he became apart of the Five Percenters and how the group is perceived by those outside of it. He also explains why he opened up a center to teach children martial arts and what they gain from learning martial arts.  
Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-LeroyBush: Interview with Leroy Bush, 2010 August 15  
Language: English.  
Notes: Leroy Bush is a resident of Red Hook housing in Brooklyn, New York. He owns a barbershop, which prompts him to talk about the difficulties and positives that come with owning a small business. Bush explains the effects of gentrification that he has seen as well as the diversification of his neighborhood, which he sees as a positive.  
Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Gentrification  
Small business  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-LisaEdwards: Interview with Lisa Edwards, 2010 February 2  
Language: English.  
Notes: Lisa Edwards lives in the Glenmore housing projects in Brooklyn, New York. She explains why her housing projects has devoled into being much worse off than when she first moved in. Also she offers solutions to the problems plaguing Glenmore housing. Edwards delves into the ways the police deal with African-Americans in Brooklyn. Edwards also details how she was able to lose 100 of pounds and become more physically fit.  
Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Police -- New York  
Physical fitness  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-MajoraCarter: Interview with Majora Carter, 2009 December 18  
Language: English.  
Notes: Majora Carter is from the South Bronx who advocates for environmental justice for low income residents. Carter talks how she helps people in low income homes fight against Environmental deteriments such as garbage dumps being

placed in their communities. She also explains how she got into advocacy and ways for people to get out of housing projects.

Place: Bronx (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Environmental justice  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-MarcellousLewter: Interview with Marcellous Lewter, undated  
Language: English.  
Notes: Marcellous Lewter is an actor from the Thompkins houses in Brooklyn, New York. He talks about the negative pitfalls of his communities and the ways to use positivity to avoid falling into those traps. Lewter explains how the neighborhood has gotten nicer over the years and the effects of gentrification.

Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Acting  
Gentrification  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-MarkMedina: Interview with Mark Medina, 2009 October 26  
Language: English.  
Notes: Mark Medina is from the Brownsville neighborhood in Brooklyn, New York. Medina expounds on the way police harass people. He speaks on the ways people from the ghetto are stereotyped and ways he combats those preconcieved notions.

Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Police -- New York  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-MarkeithLewter: Interview with Markeith Lewter, undated  
Language: English.  
Notes: Markeith Lewter is from the Thompkins Projects located in Brooklyn, New York. He talks about the problems the police bring to the neighborhood. Lewter also explains why family is an important element to surviving and prospering in the projects.

Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Police -- New York  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-MarshallLewter: Interview with Marshall Lewter, undated  
Language: English.  
Notes: Marshall Lewter is a director from the Thompkins houses in Brooklyn, New York. He talks about negative portrayals of black people in movies and ways he would combat against that. He also discusses why the youth are joining gangs and how the community can help fix that.

Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Filmmakers  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)

## Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-MiltonBolton: Interview with Milton Bolton, 2010 March 3  
 Language: English.  
 Notes: Milton Bolton is helping redevelop the Prospect Plaza housing projects in Brooklyn, New York. He talks about the difficulties of the project and why it has taken longer than expected to complete. Bolton delves into what the new neighborhood will look like and what steps are being taken to build up Prospect Plaza.  
 Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
 Topic: Housing developments  
 Public housing  
 Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
 Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-MistyDaiyan: Interview with Misty Daiyan, undated  
 Notes: Misty Daiyan is a former resident of the Queensbridge housing project located in Queens, New York. Daiyan talks about all the diversity in Queensbridge as well what it was like for Southeast Asian members of the community. She describes how she helps her community through her accountant work with New York Cities local government.  
 Place: Queens (New York, N.Y.)  
 Topic: Asian Americans  
 Ethnic diversity  
 Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
 Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-NadiyahHorne: Interview with Nadiyah Horne, 2010 July 20  
 Language: English.  
 Notes: Nadiyah Horne lives in a New York City Housing project with her daughter. She explains why she moved to New York City from New Jersey. Horne describes the difficulty that comes with being deaf and raising a deaf daughter.  
 Place: New York (State) -- New York City  
 United States of America -- New Jersey  
 Topic: Deafness  
 Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
 Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-NelsonGeorge: Interview with Nelson George, undated  
 Language: English.  
 Notes: Nelson George is an author from Brooklyn, New York. George devles into the history of housing projects and how the racial demographics have changed over time. He also talks about the effects drugs had on the community. How politicians have failed to fight against poverty and finally the effects of gentrification has had on Brooklyn.  
 Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
 Topic: Gentrification  
 Poverty

Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-OluDara: Interview with Olu Dara, 2010 May 10

Language: English.

Notes: Olu Dara is a former resident of Queensbridge; a Queens, New York neighborhood. Dara is a Jazz musician and father to acclaimed rapper, Nas. Dara describes how he was able to travel the world because of his ability to play Jazz. Dara also talks about how talented people in housing projects are and how they need a chance to showcase their abilities

Place: Queens (New York, N.Y.)

Topic: Jazz musicians

Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-QueenMother: Interview with Queen Mother, 2010 July 8

Language: English.

Notes: Queen Mother is the community mayor for Harlem and an advocate. Queen mother advocated for better treatment of residents both on a local and global scale. She explains about the importance of including the youth in fights that will affect them going forward. Queen mother describes her role in crafting a better future for those in Harlem.

Place: Harlem (New York, N.Y.)

Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-RachelBayron: Interview with Rachel Bayron, 2010 March 11

Language: English.

Notes: Rachel Bayron is from Throggs Neck a community in Bronx, New York. She talks about why she is helping to build a new park and the positive effects she is trying to have in her community. She highlights the differences between the Throggs Neck she lived in as a kid and the one she lives in as an adult.

Place: Bronx (New York, N.Y.)

Topic: Parks -- New York (N.Y.)

Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-RonArtest: Interview with Ron Artest, 2010 July 10

Language: English.

Notes: Ron Artest; an NBA player from the Queens neighborhood, Queensbridge talks about his life in the projects. He explain about who motivated him to play basketball and the benefits of life in the projects, as well as his own history in the Queensbridge. Artest discusses why he puts on a basketball tournament for the youth and gives advice to kids.

Place: Queens (New York, N.Y.)

Topic: Men's Basketball

Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)

## Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-RubenQuiles: Interview with Ruben Quiles, 2010 March 11  
 Language: English.  
 Notes: Ruben Quiles is a resident of the Gun Hill Houses in Bronx, New York. Quiles works at the local boys and girls club working towards providing kids with the tools to better themselves in the future. He talks about the problems the youth face and how the boys and girls club strives to alleviate those problems.

Place: Bronx (New York, N.Y.)  
 Topic: Youth organizations  
 Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
 Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-Ruby&James: Interview with Ruby & James, 2009 October 26  
 Language: English.  
 Notes: Ruby And James are residents of the neighborhood Brownsville in Brooklyn, New York. They talk about the problems with police harrasement and the degradation of the neighborhood. They speak about the lack of community due to removal of benches which contributes to a lack of socialization between neighbors.

Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
 Topic: Police -- New York  
 Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
 Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-SandraHernandez: Interview with Sandra Hernandez, 2010, April 4  
 Language: English.  
 Notes: Sandra Hernandez is a resident of the James Weldon Johnson housing project in Harlem, New York. She talks about the benefits diversity brings to a neighborhood and how demographics have shifted since she was a child. Hernandez explains the effects gentrification has had on Harlem.

Place: Harlem (New York, N.Y.)  
 Topic: Ethnic diversity  
 Gentrification  
 Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
 Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-SeanCovant: Interview with Sean Covant, 2010 July 7  
 Language: English.  
 Notes: Sean Covant lives in the South Bronx, New York City and talks about living in the area. Covant explains how people manage to survive harsh economic recessions and the consequences of economic downturns. He explains the failure of New York City schools and how that impacts its students. Covant also talks about the importance of libraries and the impact it has on a neighborhood.

Place: Bronx (New York, N.Y.)  
 Topic: Schools -- New York  
 Libraries -- New York

Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-SharonJones: Interview with Sharon Jones, 2011 January 21  
Language: English.  
Notes: Sharon Jones is a singer from Brownsville a neighborhood in Brooklyn, New York. She talks about the neighborhood, the good and bad aspects of living in Brownsville. Jones discusses her band, Dap-Kings as well as her music. Jones gives advice on how people in the projects can avoid the pitfalls that come with life in the projects.  
Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Music -- African-American  
Music -- New York  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-Sheila: Interview with Sheila Lewandowski, Undated  
Language: English.  
Notes: Sheila Lewandowski is the executive director of the Chocolate Factory, an organization that helps people in the performance arts. Lewandowski grew up in an Staten Islands housing project. She discusses her life in the projects, the positive aspects and the negative experiences. She explains how the architecture of the projects affects the residents.  
Place: Staten Island (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Architecture -- New York (N.Y.)  
Public housing  
Performance artists -- New York (State) -- New York  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-SherriHarden: Interview with Sherri Harden, 2010 March 13  
Language: English.  
Notes: Sherri Harden is an organizer in Red Hook; a Brooklyn, New York neighborhood. She talks about the problems the residents face and how she has worked to alleviate them. Harden discusses problems with housing and how HUD is failing to help tenants. She explains the problems with closing public schools to open private or charter schools instead. She even goes into the difficulties people face with health insurance.  
Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Public housing  
Schools -- New York  
Health insurance  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-Steele: Interview with Steele, 2010 March 4  
Language: English.  
Notes: Rapper Steele from the Brownsville neighborhood in Brooklyn, New York talks about his life in the city. He discusses rap



music and his love for it. Steele explains the effects of the Brooklyn Nets stadium on the rest of Brooklyn. He delves into the importance of staving off gentrification to protect those already in the neighborhood.

Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Gentrification  
Rap (Music)  
Sports Stadiums  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-SusieMushattJones: Interview with Susie Mushatt Jones, 2010 July 22

Language: English.  
Notes: Susie Mushatt Jones is an 110 year old resident of the Vandalia housing project in Brooklyn, New York. She is the oldest resident of all the New York City developments. She extolls the lessons she has learned throughout her life advocating for the joys of travel and enjoying others. Jones talks about her time in the tenant organization and all the reasons she enjoyed it.

Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Public housing  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-Tek: Interview with Tek, 2010 March 4

Language: English.  
Notes: Rapper Tek from the Brooklyn, New York neighborhood, Bedford Stuyvesant recounts his time growing up in the area. He talks about how he met Steele, who is his partner in the rap duo Smif-N-Wessun. Tek compares living at his house and life in the housing projects.

Place: Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Rap (Music)  
Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-TerryWilliams : Interview with Terry Williams, undated

Language: English.  
Notes: Terry Williams is a New York City based author who has had his stories adapted into documetaries. Williams discusses his time in SNCC (Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee), involvement in the Civil Rights Movement and why that pushed him to move from Mississippi to New York City. He explains the purpose of his books and why he writes them in the style that he does. Williams also delves into the effects of gentrification and the hardships minority youths face.

Place: Harlem (New York, N.Y.)  
Topic: Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (U.S.)  
Civil rights movements  
Gentrification  
Occupation: Authors -- United States

Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-tonyMedina: Interview with Tony Medina, undated

Language: English.

Notes: Tony Medina is an author/poet who grew up in the Throggs Neck neighborhood in the Bronx, New York. Medina describes the difference between the predominantly minority housing projects he lived in and the white neighborhoods that bordered them. Medina explains how his upbringing helped inspire his writing.

Place: Bronx (New York, N.Y.)

Topic: American poetry -- African American authors  
Public housing

Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-TorreyMaldonado: Interview with Torrey Maldonado, undated

Language: English.

Notes: Torrey Maldonado is an author who lives in the neighborhood East Village in Manhattan, New York. He and the interviewer talk about the effects of gentrification in the East Village, Red Hook down in Brooklyn and even in Washington DC. Maldonado delves into the books he writes, who he writes them for and what he hopes to achieve through writing.

Place: East Village (New York, N.Y.)  
Brooklyn (New York, N.Y.)  
Washington (D.C.)

Topic: Gentrification  
Authors -- New York

Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

acma\_06-103-YvonneSheilds: Interview with Yvonne Shields, 2009 December 7

Language: English.

Notes: Yvonne Shields is a chef at Broadway Community, Inc in Manhattan but is a resident of the Highbridge Gardens housing projects in the Bronx, New York. Shields discusses her problems with life in the housing projects and how she believes it could improve. She also talks about what she enjoys about being a chef for a community kitchen.

Place: Bronx (New York, N.Y.)  
Manhattan (New York)

Topic: Chefs -- New York  
Public housing

Genre/Form: Oral histories (document genres)  
Interviews -- 21st century

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## Series II: Photographs, 2010-2011

Scope and Contents: Includes photographic prints and digital images of past and current residents of public housing in New York City, including filmmaker and cultural critic Nelson George and Hip-Hop artist/actor Yasiin Bey, formerly known as Mos Def. The biographical descriptions are part of the exhibition script written by Rico Washington.

[Afrika Bambaataa, 2011](#)

1 Photographic print (Kodak Professional Endura Supra Print; 20 x 30 inches)

Creator: Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)

Notes: Afrika Bambaataa is widely recognized as a seminal figure in Hip-Hop culture. Afrika Bambaataa was the former leader of one of New York City's most notorious street gangs - the Black Spades. After a trip to Africa as a teen, he began the transformation of the gang into a community advocacy organization called Zulu Nation. The organization has been influential in the spread of hip-hop culture internationally and has chapters all over the world. As a recording artist his 1982 song "Planet Rock" is credited as a progenitor to the musical genre of electro. Over the course of his illustrious career, he has collaborated with artists such as James Brown and was recently appointed to a three-year term as visiting scholar at the prestigious Cornell Universtiy.

Topic: Portraits -- Musicians

[Brownsville Sunset, 2009](#)

1 Photographic print (Kodak Professional Endura Supra Print; 20 x 30 Inches )

Creator: Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)

Topic: Cityscape photography  
UNITED STATES--NEW YORK CITY

[Dennis Watlington, 2010](#)

1 Photographic print (Kodak Professional Endura Supra Print; 20 x 30 Inches )

Creator: Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)

Notes: Dennis Watlington was born in 1952 in Harlem, Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA. He is a writer and producer.

Topic: African American men

[Dr. Queen Mother Delois Blakely, 2010](#)

1 Photographic print (Kodak Professional Endura Supra Print; 20 x 30 Inches )

Creator: Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)

Notes: In the true spirit of her predecessor the late Queen Mother Audley Moore, Queen Mother Dr. Blakely has been a staunch advocate for positive change and equality and has served as Harlem's honorary Community Mayor for the past 15 years. A former Roman Catholic nun, Fulbright Scholar, and Ph.D, she has dedicated her life to the cause of sustainable and economic development for underserved populations of the African diaspora.

Topic: Portraits -- African American women

**Ephraim Benton, 2010**

1 Photographic print (Kodak Professional Endura Supra Print; 20 x 30 Inches )

Creator: Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)

Notes: As an actor, Ephraim has been featured in such television series as Law & Order, The Sopranos, and Chappelle's Show. He is also the founder of Chillin' On Da Corner & Beyond Cultural Series, a series of outdoor film screenings, health fairs, and other community resource events held in his native Bedford-Stuyvesant.

Topic: Portraits -- African American men  
UNITED STATES--NEW YORK CITY

**Felipe Luciano, 2010**

1 Photographic print (Kodak Professional Endura Supra Print; 20 x 30 Inches )

Creator: Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)

Notes: Felipe Luciano is a legend in his own right. In 1967, he co-founded the fervent and dynamic community activist group The Young Lords. He was also a member of the Last Poets, a seminal sociopolitical poetry performance group which was a fixture of the Black Arts Movement. He is also a two-time Emmy Award-winning news reporter and currently hosts a weekly talk show on WBAI radio.

**Jaleel & Jameel Faussett, 2010**

1 Photographic print (Kodak Professional Endura Supra Print; 20 x 30 Inches)

Creator: Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)

Notes: 9-year-old identical twin brothers Jameel and Jaleel Faussett are 3rd graders with a passion for sports, especially basketball. As of late, they have forayed into modeling. Their most recent modeling job was an ad campaign for Daffy's department store chain.

**Jamel Shabazz, 2010**

1 Photographic print (Kodak Professional Endura Supra Print; 20 x 30 Inches )

Creator: Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)

Notes: For the past 30 years, Jamel Shabazz has been documenting the world and his collective community with captivating still images. His imitable style, evidenced in his critically acclaimed books Back In The Days and A Time Before Crack, has influenced a new generation of photographers. He maintains active domestic and international exhibition schedules and is currently working on a new book entitled The 90s. He is also actively involved in community arts education, lending his talents to initiatives such as Rush Arts Philanthropic Foundation and Plays For A Living.

**Leon Simmons, 2009**

1 Photographic print (Kodak Professional Endura Supra Print; 20 x 30 Inches )

Creator: Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)

Notes: A 4th degree black belt, Leon Simmons initiated his passion for martial arts instruction at the age of 16. He owns and operates

the Kuntaw Martial Arts School in the Flatbush neighborhood of Brooklyn.

#### Mark Medina, 2010

1 Photographic print (Kodak Professional Endura Supra Print; 20 x 30 Inches )

Creator: Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)

Notes: Dr. Tony Medina has devoted his life to the written word through his stunning catalog of poetry and vast collection of published books. Over the years, he has authored 12 books for adults and children. His most recent book, *I And I, Bob Marley*, is a children's illustrated biography on the reggae legend himself. Dr. Medina has also taught at several colleges and universities over the past decade and is currently an associate professor of creative writing at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

#### Nadiyah & Ameenah Horne, 2010

1 Photographic print (Kodak Professional Endura Supra Print; 20 x 30 inches )

Creator: Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)

Notes: In 2010, Nadiyah Horne and her 5-year-old daughter Ameenah were prominently featured in *The Lottery*, a documentary film chronicling the journey of four New York City families and their quest to place their children in a coveted spot at a charter school. Though Nadiyah is fully hearing impaired, she is able to effectively communicate with her daughter using sign language.

#### Nelson George, 2010

1 Photographic print (Kodak Professional Endura Supra Print; 20 x 30 Inches )

Creator: Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)

Notes: Nelson George is one of the preeminent documentarians and critical thinkers of black culture. His journalism has appeared in publications such as *Vibe* and *Rolling Stone*, and he has produced television programming for such networks as VH1 and BET. He wrote and directed *Life Support*, a 2007 award-winning HBO feature film starring Queen Latifah. He also produced the 2010 film *Good Hair*. Nelson is currently a travel ambassador for American Airlines' new web-based travel advisor, *Black Atlas*.

#### Olu Dara, 2010

1 Photographic print (Kodak Professional Endura Supra Print; 20 x 30 Inches )

Creator: Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)

Notes: For years, Olu Dara was an ever-present figure on the avant-garde New York loft jazz scene of the 1970s. Proficient on the cornet horn and the guitar, he has played along side jazz luminaries such as Doug Carn, Art Blakey, and Henry Threadgill. He has released two solo albums on Atlantic Records and still maintains an active performance schedule. He is the father of Hip-Hop icon Nas.

#### Sharon Jones, 2010

1 Photographic print (Kodak Professional Endura Supra Print; 20 x 30 Inches )

Creator: Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)

**Notes:** A native of Augusta, Georgia, Sharon Jones arrived in New York City at the age of three. She has since gone on to great success as a singer with her soul revival group Sharon Jones & The Dap Kings. In 2010, the group's 4th critically-acclaimed album I Learned The Hard Way reached #15 on the Billboard chart. The group has performed on stages across the globe and has been featured on television shows such as Jimmy Kimmel Live. In 2007, Sharon starred in the motion picture The Great Debaters featuring Denzel Washington and Forest Whitake

#### Susie Mushatt-Jones, 2010

1 Photographic print (Kodak Professional Endura Supra Print; 20 x 30 inches )

**Creator:** Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)

**Notes:** In 1999, Mrs. Susie Mushatt Jones reached a new milestone in her life by becoming a centenarian. Now 111-years-old, the Alabama native owns the distinction of being the oldest living resident of NYCHA's collective housing sites. Over the past decade, she has received numerous proclamations from local and state politicians as well as President Barack Obama and his wife Michelle.

#### Yasiin "Mos Def" Bey, 2010

1 Photographic print (Kodak Professional Endura Supra Print; 20 x 30 Inches )

**Creator:** Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)

**Notes:** Formerly known as Mos Def, Yasiin Bey has both expanded and defied the parameters of hip-hop culture. As a cutting edge artist, his solo albums have received critical acclaim from various media outlets such as Rolling Stone, The Source, and The Washington Post. His 2009 album The Ecstatic received a Grammy nomination in the category of Best Rap Album. As an actor, Yasiin Bey has starred in films such as the Spike Lee-directed Bamboozled and Lee Daniels' Academy Award winning Monster's Ball. In 2002, he starred in the Pulitzer Prize winning Broadway play Topdog/ Underdog with Emmy winning actor Jeffrey Wright.

#### Yvonne Sheilds, 2010

1 Photographic print (Kodak Professional Endura Supra Print; 20 x 30 Inches )

**Creator:** Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)

**Notes:** For the past 3 years, Yvonne Sheilds has been a sous-chef at Broadway Community, Inc., a community kitchen generously housed in a space at Broadway Presbyterian Church in Manhattan. She was also an active member of the NYC-based grassroots organization, Community Voices Heard.

#### Brian Paupaw, 2010

1 Photographic print (Kodak Professional Endura Supra Print; 20 x 30 Inches )

**Creator:** Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)

**Notes:** A graduate of New York City's prestigious Parsons The New School For Design, Brian has lent his remarkable design talents to various media outlets over the years such as MTV, BET, and Spike TV. He is the founder of Hoods To Woods Foundation, a non-profit organization aimed at helping inner city youth

experience outdoor sports - namely snowboarding and rock climbing through a season of hands-on lessons. During the 2009 season, Brian was also a snowboarder with the Humanity Snowboards team.

Dr. Tony Medina, 2010

1 Photographic print (Kodak Professional Endura Supra Print; 20 x 30 Inches )

Creator: Yanagawa, Shino (Photographer)

Notes: Dr. Tony Medina has devoted his life to the written word through his stunning catalog of poetry and vast collection of published books. Over the years, he has authored 12 books for adults and children. His most recent book, *I And I, Bob Marley*, is a children's illustrated biography on the reggae legend himself. Dr. Medina has also taught at several colleges and universities over the past decade and is currently an associate professor of creative writing at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

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