Carter Presidential Library Update

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From Our Director
These are challenging and stressful times that we are living through. Although there is much that can drive us apart (physically and socially), I am reminded of President Carter’s suggestion that “like music and art, love of nature is a common language that can transcend political or social boundaries.” President Carter’s love of the outdoors is evident in his life and manifest in his political career, in legislation he fostered and signed. His commitment to the arts and poetry, perhaps less well known, links back to his love of nature. While painting came after he left office, he began woodworking as a child, whittling to pass the time productively. His writing, whether political or personal, demonstrates his fierce commitment to the value of communication. At the Carter Library we want to foster communication -- remotely while we need to, in person whenever we can -- and create space for ongoing conversations.

This summer, with so many vacations and camps canceled, we are inviting you to join us in a peace initiative started in the early years of the Carter Center through its Atlanta Project. That initiative, International Paint Pals, asks children and adults to take up President Carter’s call to wage peace by imagining through drawing or painting or words your vision of peace. While our exhibition in honor of the 25th anniversary of International Paint Pals is on hold, we encourage you to join us in creating an online collaborative exhibition: 20/20 Visions of Peace.
Join Us for 4th of July with the National Archives

This will be our first-ever virtual July 4th celebration with a traditional Declaration of Independence reading ceremony and educational programming for the entire family! Make this part of your 4th of July Celebration

Exhibit from Home
We've turned our *International Paint Pals* exhibit into an online collaborative project and we want you to participate. [HERE'S HOW](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ik=27817c517b&view=pt&search=all&permthid=thread-f%3A1670562733380968399&simpl=msg-f%3A1670562733380968399)

**Working from Home**

Even though our staff is still working from home, we continue to respond to research questions, create educational materials, and provide content for social media.

Brittany is working on a special project with the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS.) OGIS;...is a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) resource for the public and the government...a place where anyone can ask for FOIA assistance-[archives.gov/ogis](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ik=27817c517b&view=pt&search=all&permthid=thread-f%3A1670562733380968399&simpl=msg-f%3A1670562733380968399) When not working with OGIS, Brittany responds
to requests from researchers, helps make the Library’s collections more discoverable through improved description, and works to promote our resources through social media.

Josh has been focused on creating new digital resources for remote learning that can be accessed on our website. With fall term already in mind, he is developing distance learning sessions about the Carter administration and collaborating with colleagues at other presidential libraries to produce a broad range of curricula. In his free time, Josh has been getting back into a regular routine of playing the piano. Departing from the classical, romantic and baroque repertoire of his childhood, Josh is learning the music of his favorite "contemporary" artists. He’s already mastered The Beatles’ “Rocky Raccoon”, Pink Floyd’s “The Great Gig in the Sky”, and Queen’s “Good Old Fashioned Lover Boy”.

Sara is busy answering reference questions and enhancing collection information to make it easier for you to find. Sometimes a little helper stops by to learn new things too.
Daria has been connecting with our researchers and Carter fans through the Library’s popular Twitter account. Like most of the team, she has been working to improve access to our collections. We often get asked for photographs of specific people who worked or interacted with President Carter; unfortunately people aren’t always identified in the catalog or contact sheets. Daria and Sara have been working to remedy this by comparing dated photographs with President Carter’s daily diary.

Tony normally is organizing our author and film screening events. Now he's connecting with our audience through Facebook and Mail Chimp and setting up future author and film events.

"I miss seeing everyone at our events and I'm sorry we had to cancel or postpone so many wonderful programs," Tony says."But we have more in store in the future and are working on ways to hold them safely."

Author Series
Keep informed of ideas and issues BEFORE the make the headlines by signing up for our mailing list via email to carter.events@nara.gov.

The Jimmy Carter Library Author Series provided a personal account of the impact of the Aunt Jemima brand from Michele Norris, whose grandmother was paid to dress up as the character and demonstrate making pancakes.

Historian John Hope Franklin talked about his father going to Tulsa, Oklahoma to represent people arrested in the massacre in Tulsa's Black Wall Street.

Marcel Acosta, the executive director of the National Capital Planning Commission discussed Confederate Memorials.

Nobel Prize winner Peter Doherty explained how to prepare for Pandemics long before Covid-19 shut down the country.

The Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum is part of the National Archives and Records Administration and is dedicated to providing research information and educational materials about the life, career and presidency of Jimmy Carter.
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