



# NATIONAL ARCHIVES

NATIONAL HISTORICAL  
PUBLICATIONS  
& RECORDS COMMISSION

The attached document contains the grant narrative of a previously funded grant application. It is not intended to serve as a model, but to give you a sense of how a successful application may be crafted. Be aware that minor changes may have been made to the plan of work and other portions of the proposed project in response to comments made during the review process. Every successful application is different, and each applicant is urged to prepare a proposal that reflects its unique project and aspirations.

Prospective applicants should consult the NHPRC's application guidelines at <https://www.archives.gov/nhprc/apply> for instructions.

**Applicants are also strongly encouraged to consult with the NHPRC staff member listed in the grant announcement well before a grant deadline.** Prospective applicants are also strongly encouraged to submit a draft application by the deadline listed in the grant announcement.

*The Commission especially welcomes applications from collaborative teams producing online editions of historical records that center the voices and perspectives of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color.*

Project Title: *The Papers of Julian Bond*

Institution: The Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia

Project Director: Deborah E. McDowell

Grant Program: Publishing Historical Records in Documentary Editions

[Please note: In FY 2023, this program was renamed the Publishing Historical Records in Collaborative Digital Editions program.]

**Publishing Historical Records in Documentary Editions  
NHPRC Grant Application  
The Papers of Julian Bond**

**Project Narrative**

**Overview**

The Papers of Julian Bond is an innovative digital edition project that seeks not only to make the life's work of Civil Rights icon Julian Bond (1940 – 2015) freely available to the public but also to render accessible the editorial process to community historians, crowdsourced transcriptionists, and student apprentices. Julian Bond established himself as a key figure in the American Civil Rights movement by the time he was only 21, through his college organizing efforts and participation in the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). His influence continued as he served as a Georgia representative, was voted the first black Democratic candidate for Vice President, became a respected professor, the Chairman of the NAACP, the President of the Southern Poverty Law Center, and the founder of numerous political organizations. His was a trusted voice in American democracy throughout his lifetime, which spanned seven decades and significant historical moments in the U.S.: the Civil Rights era, school desegregation, the Vietnam War, the movement for Gay Rights, and the environmental movement. The Papers of Julian Bond project plans to catalog, scan, transcribe, annotate, and publish Bond's collection in just under twenty years, while implementing a [crowdsourced transcription process](#) that has created [over 8000 pages to-date](#), including work from an annual Charlottesville transcription event in its second year. The project also establishes editorial apprenticeships to teach students digital skills and model alternate-academic career options. Focusing primarily and initially on the papers Bond bequeathed to the University of Virginia before his death in 2015, the project is working in collaboration with the University of

Virginia Special Collections library, where Bond's papers were deposited in 2005 and then purchased in 2007. The collection comprises 11 series, 1641 folders, and 47,000 items, including two restricted series and one series entirely of audiovisual materials. A full document search is expected to begin in year three, the results of which will supplement the University of Virginia collection.

The work of the project will focus on creating user access to searchable transcriptions and manuscript images as early as possible, starting with a preliminary publication of Bond's speeches in single-verified and unannotated, freely available digital transcriptions along with archival quality scans. The work will proceed with this same type of preliminary publication of subsequent content sets focused on his audiovisual materials (including recorded speeches and interviews), correspondence, academic and political papers, and family collections, to the eventual publication of a complete, free digital edition, supplemented with editorial contextualization. Because initial transcriptions will be significantly crowdsourced, editorial attention can follow behind the single-verified, unannotated documents. The second verification process will replace first transcripts with a version including oral proofreading, headnotes, editorial annotation, and linked data. Finally, the digital edition will be complemented by a three-volume thematically organized print series called "The Essential Julian Bond." Across the collection and per NHPRC guidelines, any materials Bond produced between 2011 and 2015 will be held from publication, on a rolling basis, until the required ten years have elapsed since his death.

Still in its infancy, the Papers of Julian Bond project officially launched in 2018 with an annual innovative, community-based crowdsourced Transcribe-a-Thon, hosted on August 15 in 2018 and 2019 and involving members from various sites in Charlottesville, on the anniversary

of Bond's death. The project gained immediate national attention and press coverage following this successful and now yearly event, which takes place at the same time as Charlottesville marks the anniversary of the deadly white supremacist violence of August 12, 2017. The Transcribe-a-Thon is perceived to be a positive source of community engagement in civil rights, one embodying Bond's primary values of education, grassroots organizing, and community action. Adding the disproportionate minority impact of the novel coronavirus pandemic and the most recent round of police brutality protests, upcoming transcribe-a-thons will again provide much-needed positive civic engagement around racial justice, albeit mostly likely administered as completely virtual work for the near future. Bond's civic and social justice values guide the work of the Papers of Julian Bond project as we seek to preserve and make accessible the intellectual legacy of this important figure in American history while at the same time using community and student participation as democratizing principles.

The project is spearheaded by Dr. Deborah McDowell, Director of the Carter G. Woodson Institute for African-American and African Studies, in partnership with the University of Virginia's Center for Digital Editing, headed by Jennifer Stertzer. Rounding out the editorial team is Dr. Laura Baker, also working with the Woodson Institute and bringing to the project expertise in documentary editing, digital publishing, and African American personal narrative.

In the year-long grant period, the Papers Project seeks to launch the Papers of Julian Bond digital edition with the preliminary images and transcriptions of Series 1: Articles and Speeches. This launch will include document scans with single-verified transcriptions of the roughly 400 series-items using crowdsourced transcriptions as a foundation. The first launch will offer early user access to Bond's articles and speeches even while the second version, the oral proofread, editorially annotated transcriptions, are being created in the [Julian Bond Digital](#)

[Edition Drupal platform](#) for launch in later stages of the project plan. We will also begin early document selection and thematic structuring for the first volume print collection. A full document search of external repositories is planned in year 3 and print edition publication is planned in year 6. The search is expected to find the most significant holdings at the Auburn Avenue Research Library in Atlanta, Georgia in addition to smaller collections at the University of Virginia, and return content items in the few hundreds as compared to the nearly 50,000 at the heart of the project.

A grant from the NHPRC would be used in a cost-sharing capacity to help fund a full-time managing editor position, to hire student apprentices on a part-time basis, and to support management, cataloging, transcription, and digital publishing costs.

## **Historical Overview**

Julian Bond was a leader in American Civil Rights from his college years as a key contributor to the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). He served in the Georgia legislature, led the NAACP and the Southern Poverty Law Center, taught at American University, Harvard University, and the University of Virginia, and retained a significant voice in American politics and culture for five decades. Bond's papers reflect legislative, activist/organizer, and personal perspectives on the Civil Rights movement, the Vietnam War, the Nixon and Reagan administrations, voting rights, equal education, race and class, fair housing, healthcare access, LGBTQ+ rights, and the environmental movement.

Bond's participation in social justice movements is reflected in the extensive scope of the documents he bequeathed to the University of Virginia. Julian Bond's archival collection contains 11 series, divided by form and topic. The series included in the project are: Speeches and Articles (362 folders), Correspondence (241 folders), Organizations (287 folders),

Invitations (107 folders), Academic Papers (135 folders), Political Papers (204 folders), Family and Personal Papers (170 folders), and Audiovisual Materials (97 items). Of the 47,000 pages in the collection, all series have basic finding aids except more recently acquired items. None of this collection--and no substantial content--is yet available in digital or print edition. The Paper of Julian Bond will bring Bond's work to the public for the first time in any curated manner.

Bond's collection covers his extensive life's work. Born in Nashville in 1940 to a college president and a librarian, Bond became a public figure as early as his entry to Morehouse college in 1957. By 1960, he had already served as a founding member of the Committee on Appeal for Human Rights and was a writer for the *Atlanta Inquirer*. Inspired by the Greensboro sit-ins, Bond helped organize over 200 students to protest segregation in Atlanta restaurants, was invited to SNCC's founding conference, and was asked to serve as SNCC's Communications Director. Serving for five years, Bond helped surface accurate reporting of racial brutality in the South and significantly altered the way the media covered race in America. Bond's papers reflect the extensive organizing and networking strategies necessary to achieve these lasting accomplishments.

Bond's 21-year tenure as a Georgia legislator began in 1965 when he was three times unseated to the state House of Representatives. After Bond's third winning election, the U.S. Supreme Court reversed the decision of Georgia politicians who refused Bond his seat due to his criticism of the Vietnam War. Bond's papers represent this important legislative history spanning voter rights, election districting, healthcare, affirmative action, abortion, local and national Democratic strategy, and even a considered Presidential campaign.

Finally, Bond served as a leader, speaker, and professor until his death at age 75. Bond led the NAACP, the Southern Poverty Law Center, and the Southern Elections Fund, as well as

taught Civil Rights courses at various universities. His collection offers insight into political strategies, local organizing, and educational approaches to highly significant social movements in the twentieth century. His work offers blueprints for racial justice and equity in employment, education, healthcare, and political elections, not to mention LGBTQ+ rights, environmental justice, global poverty awareness, America's role in a global community, and alternatives to militarized economic policy.

During this grant period, the first set of Bond's speeches will be transcribed and digitally published in preliminary single-verification form, making accessible a sweeping history of race, social movements, and political activism in the second half of the twentieth century. The grant period will also produce an initial editorially selected inventory for the first print volume. Beginning in the late 1960s, Bond's speeches include contemporaneous accounts of the Civil Rights era, perspectives on the emerging war in Vietnam, and strategies for voter registration, community organization, and student protest. Continuing into the 1970s and 1980s, his speeches touch on urban poverty, race and the media, Democratic national politics, healthcare, diversity, and the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. Speeches from the 1990s tackle affirmative action, fair housing, flags and symbols, organized labor, and the Million Man March. The final years of Bond's speeches focus on the crisis in black education, the role of law in racial activism, abortion rights, and the legacy of the Civil Rights movement. While this series will remain relevant for the foreseeable future, its contents are particularly pertinent to the current political climate with its resurgence of social justice movements like the removal of Confederate symbols, police reform and abolition, student and community protest, and grassroots organizing.

## **Project Methods**

The Papers of Julian Bond project seeks to collect, edit, and publish the comprehensive body of Bond's documents, focusing primarily on the University of Virginia holdings.

Publication permissions to the collection have been granted to Dr. McDowell from Bond's wife Pam Horowitz. Copyright permissions for any documents pertaining to living persons will be sought as encountered, and where necessary, metadata catalog items will serve as placeholders for restricted content. The University of Virginia collection has a fairly representative finding aid, but it lacks comprehensive cataloging, metadata, manuscript images, transcriptions, and annotated and accessible publication. This project will focus first on cataloguing, scanning, and making accessible all documents in the collection, including capturing foundational metadata and high-quality images of every document. Transcriptions will be created in phases, first published with image and single-verified transcription (without editorial additions) and later with image and a second verification and editorial annotations. These publications will represent original versions as accurately as possible while also prioritizing timely digital access and ease in the user experience.

The process begins with Series 1, moves on to Series 11 (the audiovisual materials), and then proceeds through Series 2 through 9. Series 7 and Series 10 have restricted permissions because their contents include former staff materials, employment information like resumes and recommendations, and student evaluations, grades, and exams. We start with larger content sets that are expected to take two to three years each for cataloguing, transcription, and publication: Series 1: Articles and Speeches from 2021 – 2023, Series 11: Audiovisual Materials from 2023 – 2024, Series 2: Correspondence from 2025 – 2028, and Series 3: Organizations from 2028 – 2030. The remaining series content sets are significantly smaller in scope and are expected to be



processed with approximately one series published per 18 months until the end of the project, from 2031 – 2038. Additional document collection, including a document search in external repositories, is expected to begin in year three, after the digital edition is established and the first series digitally launched.

Document Collection and Cataloging: In coordination with Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library at the University of Virginia where the Julian Bond papers are housed, McDowell and Baker at the Carter Woodson Institute and Stertzner at the Center for Digital Editing have been building [a digital repository](#) since 2018 based on the Julian Bond papers finding aid. Undergraduate students at both the Woodson Institute and the Center for Digital Editing have started capturing metadata and digital images for Series 1: Articles and Speeches, which contains 362 folders of one-to-multiple versions of mostly typeset speeches. Each document entry includes a high-resolution scan and controlled-vocabulary metadata fields. The initial cataloguing step captures all versions of a document in both scanned images and transcription, and authoritative versions will be designated later in the editorial stages of the publication process. Editorial review and quality control over metadata creation and scanning output is performed by Baker. Undergraduate student coordination and administration is further managed on a part-time basis, shared between Woodson Institute project manager James Perla and Center for Digital Editing staff.

The scanning process occurs in partnership with the Special Collections Digital Production Group, sharing equipment resources and scanning output. Scans are created with Phase One P65+ Digital Camera Systems, and saved as both TIFF and JPEG files. The images undergo two phases of quality control check, first by the undergraduate students and next by the managing editor, before they are marked complete. Images are saved to the library's archival

server. A static, publicly accessible link is created based on the server's address and the image's filename, and the URL is captured in the Julian Bond metadata database document record. The project is thereby creating archival quality digital images of the manuscripts with which the transcribers and editors—and ultimately digital edition end users—will be working.

The partnership between the project and Special Collections has proved innovative, repeatable, and mutually beneficial. The high-quality scanning process offers longevity to editorial research and publication while also providing significant professional training to student interns. In return for the equipment, archival expertise, and facilities, Special Collections receives fully vetted TIFF images for linking to their catalog and finding aid publications.

The publication lifecycle is based on a digital document catalog. All document metadata is entered directly into a Drupal database repository hosted on the Center for Digital Editing's development server and based on the data model developed by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Papers Project's Online King Records Access (OKRA). Document-level metadata fields captured include title, author, recipient, date, document length, repository data (including collection, series, box, and folder), and static image URL. Each document receives an auto-generated and unique Document ID that connects images, metadata, and transcriptions throughout the entire publication lifecycle.

Document Transcription, Single Verification: Once scans and metadata are complete, the document images enter the transcription process through transfer to [The Papers of Julian Bond project's workspace on From The Page](#), an online crowdsourcing software platform.

Crowdsourcing is expected to create 75% of initial transcriptions, with the other 25% being completed by student interns. Transcription review and, later, oral proofreading, will be completed by the managing editor and student interns.

Since August 2018 the project has used the crowdsourcing platform, From The Page, to produce transcriptions of the scanned documents. Over 370 community volunteers and University of Virginia students have transcribed a total of 697 items comprising 10,230 pages. These transcriptions are created in multiple versions since they are considered a first pass, and will be compared as part of the verification process. They are linked to the database record through each unique Document ID, and will receive editorial text enhancement at a later workflow stage.

During initial document collection, all versions of a document are being catalogued and transcribed. From The Page editorial conventions are few and simple, aimed to support the varying digital abilities of online volunteers. Enhanced editorial conventions will be added by the managing editor in the second verification stage. Initial transcriptions retain original spelling, capitalization, italics, underlining, line breaks, and paragraph breaks. Square brackets are used to indicate illegible text, deletions are excluded, and insertions are added as superscripts.

Document Selection, Editorial Conventions, and Transcription, Second Verification:  
Once the initial transcription is complete, the document is imported into the Julian Bond Digital Edition Drupal platform in TEI XML tagging for editorial oral proofreading and pre-publication review. During this phase, the managing editor extends transcriptions to include industry-standard editorial practices and to create an HTML format compatible with publication to the Digital Edition. This further markup is geared both for standardized presentation and for increased user searchability based on keywords. The managing editor will also review document versions at this stage, determining duplicates, variations, and authoritative source text designations as necessary. For the digital edition, all versions of a document will be published

and linked. For print publications, source texts will be published with reference to additional versions.

The Papers of Julian Bond uses editorial conventions that represent transcriptions literally, except where a literal rendition is unwieldy for the user. Wherever possible, textual elements are transcribed as they appear in Bond's original documents. Variations in this approach occur when a literal policy will distract from readability, such as in cases of formatting.

Datelines accompany all manuscript transcriptions, at the top right of the document, no matter their location in the original manuscript. If dates are in question, date ranges and best approximations are supplied within square brackets. Signatures are included at the bottom right of a transcription, no matter their location in the original manuscript. Postscripts are supplied at the bottom of a transcription, flush left, no matter their location in the original manuscript.

Original spelling, capitalization, and punctuation are transcribed as they appear in the manuscript, including any potential errors and representation of underline and italics. Where doubt or confusion exists, editorial notations will provide context. For example, misspellings of proper names will be accompanied by a link to a canonical name and person ID, where possible. Underlines used for speech revision and not emphasis are not included.

Manuscript notations such as inline insertions, marginal insertions, and deletions are indicated in transcriptions with various methods. Inline insertions are included at what is determined to be their intended location and appear as superscripts. If meaningful, a square bracket may accompany inline insertions indicating the location of the original notation, such as: [on verso of page 1]. Deletions are indicated with strikethrough formatting. Large blocks of content that are deleted, as in the case of a templated speech that is changed for a particular audience, may be marked and explained with an editorial note rather than an extended block of

strikethrough text. Significant changes in style, such as a typeset speech with an insertion of handwritten content, will be inserted as close to Bond's intentions as editors can determine, and explained in a textual notation.

Julian Bond's collection includes numerous speeches, many of which include speech-related formatting such as all capitals. In such cases, the editors have rendered documents in regular casing for readability. The associated manuscript image is available where such formatting is useful for research, and editorial notation offers context when formatting changes may influence meaning. Where all caps are used for emphasis, they are retained.

When distinct, indentations and paragraph breaks are retained as they appear. Spacing is normalized for readability unless a meaningful distinction can be determined. Editorial notes indicate any significant variations where not reproduced. Page numbers, when present, are regularized to the top right of the transcription, no matter where they occur on the manuscript. Where Bond lists a page number repeatedly as part of a numbering convention, the number has been reduced to one instance. For example, "5555555555" is reduced to "5." Other manuscript conventions are included as they appear. For example, transcriptions reflect Bond's tendency to indicate the end of a speech with the journalistic convention of "-30-". Partial readings and editorial conjecture are supplied in square brackets. [*illegible*] is supplied where no information is available. Headnotes and textual notations explain context for meaningful omissions.

As a general principle, all versions of a document are included in the Digital Edition when available. Metadata and editorial headnotes provide context for types of versions when known, such as draft and copy. Manuscripts that share content with other manuscripts are connected via related document links, and described in headnotes where context is helpful. For instance, Bond often uses a topical speech "base" and then alters and customizes it for delivery

to a particular audience. Editorial headnotes and metadata seek to connect and categorize these types of speech versions, for ease of research comparison. Bond also often drafts a speech by hand-marking a copied version of a previous speech. In such a case, editors create a transcription that reflects Bond's assumed intended outcome, with textual notes to clarify decisions. For instance, Bond might underline sections of a "base" speech that he intends to use in a new speech; in such a case, the underlined sections are rendered without emphasis and formatting decisions are described in editorial notes.

## **Publishing Methods**

The Papers of Julian Bond has a general [project website](#), in addition to two digital transcription presences. The project site is hosted by the Carter Woodson Institute and captures project status, announcements, and public relations campaigns. The crowdsourced transcription site is hosted by [From The Page](#), where digital images are loaded regularly allowing for continuous data entry and review. While the transcription site is a working space, it is also a publication environment in its own right, with more than 340 contributors regularly interacting for over two years with the hosted content. Features such as background information on Julian Bond, thumbnails of document images and summary titles, and auto-generated transcription statistics work together to maintain interest and enthusiasm. Contributors not only transcribe documents on From The Page, but they also cultivate knowledge of the larger project and interact with the growing collection of transcriptions available on the site. The project considers the volunteer transcribers to be novice historians, and creates a digital environment conducive to their personal enrichment and education.

Document and metadata management and project site development take place at the second transcription presence, the [Digital Edition of the Papers of Julian Bond](#) (the [document](#)

[catalog](#) is active while the rest of the site is in prototype). This Drupal platform, hosted on the Center for Digital Editing's development server, is a highly configurable, open-source content management system and publication platform. The platform has been adapted to this project's content and workflow management, accessibility, and publication goals. In this system, the editorial staff can (1) catalog and create metadata for documents; (2) manage workflow steps and assignments; (3) store and share research materials and annotations, and; (4) publish a calendar of documents, transcriptions, and contextual materials.

Further, Drupal allows all editorial contributors, regardless of location, to easily and simultaneously access, edit, and manage this information. Building the project website on Drupal also provides dynamic and robust options for publishing and displaying documents, related content, associated terms from taxonomy lists, and images, as well as the ability to publish individual documents or groups of documents immediately. As a result, site users are able to browse, search, sort, and explore the documents in a variety of ways.

Series 1 will be published on the Drupal platform and made accessible first as the single-verified, unannotated transcription and manuscript images. The managing editor will then begin annotating the series at the same time as Series 2 begins initial cataloging in the database and single-verified transcription in From the Page. Annotated documents with second verification will replace the single-verified transcriptions on the Drupal platform in the same staged approach, allowing seamless access to all Bond documents regardless of editorial status.

## **Preservation Standards**

Digital edition: The Center for Digital Editing hosts and maintains the Project's digital edition on its development server. The website was developed using Drupal, a highly configurable, open-source content management system and publication platform.

All data published to the site are routinely backed up in enterprise storage, which is maintained by the University of Virginia's Information Technology Services. This enterprise storage is high-performance storage with disaster recovery capacity.

Crowdsourcing site: The Project uses From The Page, an online crowdsourcing platform, which provides a publicly-accessible transcription interface, document image hosting, and data exporting abilities. From The Page is hosted and maintained by Brumfield Labs.

## **Plan of Work**

### *1-2 Year Grant Period Milestones:*

Series 1: Articles and Speeches: 362 folders to be transcribed and digitally published in single-verified form in years 1 – 3. Transcriptions with second verification and annotations will replace single-verified transcriptions in years 4 – 6.

- Editor-in-Chief duties:
  - Direct project funding and milestones.
  - Provide strategic oversight and editorial contribution for publication launches.
  - Establish and maintain executive-level partnerships and collaborations.
- Managing editor duties:
  - Grant writing and reporting.
  - Initiate, implement, and maintain publication calendar.
  - Own document catalog, establishing metadata collection standards and processes.
  - Complete document selection for all digital and print editions.
  - Provide scholarly narrative and annotations for published collections.
  - Proofread transcriptions at all project stages, from first transcription through all digital and print publications.
  - Review document images and database records for quality assurance and overall document catalog coherence.
  - Supervise crowdsourced transcription site, answer volunteer requests, and maintain transcription workflow.
  - Direct digital workflow, transcription verification, and import of content into Julian Bond Digital Edition platform.
  - Maintain communication and collaboration with all project stakeholders.
- Center for Digital Editing staff duties:
  - Provide export support for transcriptions from From the Page crowdsourced transcription website to Drupal database and publishing platform.
  - Provide transcription import procedures for Julian Bond Digital Edition platform.



- Maintain Julian Bond database and publishing platforms, including releasing new features as appropriate.
- Implement image-export and metadata-sharing with Special Collections.
- Project Manager duties:
  - Recruit and retain student interns.
  - Supervise student and staff training protocols.
  - Coordinate student hours and training, in collaboration with managing editor.
  - Event planning and administration.
  - Support managing editor to maintain collaboration with all project stakeholders.
- Student Intern duties:
  - Scan documents and collect metadata.
  - Participate in transcription cataloguing, verification, and proofreading.

*Future Project Milestones:*

*Note: Folder counts are followed by an estimated number of total items.*

- Document search: Launch external repository discovery for additional Julian Bond papers content in year 3.
- Series 11: Audiovisual Materials: 97 items will be catalogued and digitally published in years 3 – 4.
- Series 2: Correspondence: 241 folders (est. 250 to 500 items) to be transcribed and digitally published in single-verified form in years 5 – 6. Transcriptions with second verification and annotations will replace single-verified transcriptions in years 6 – 8.
- The Essential Julian Bond, Volume 1: Print publication in year 6.
- Series 3: Organizations: 287 folders (est. 300 to 600 items) to be transcribed and digitally published in single-verified form in years 6 – 8. Transcriptions with second verification and annotations will replace single-verified transcriptions in years 8 – 10.
- The Essential Julian Bond, Volume 2: Print publication in year 8.
- Series 4: Invitations: 107 folders (est. 120 to 200 items) to be transcribed and digitally published in single-verified form in year 10. Transcriptions with second verification and annotations will replace single-verified transcriptions in year 11.
- Series 5: Academic Papers: 135 folders (est. 150 to 260 items) to be transcribed and digitally published in single-verified form in year 11. Transcriptions with second verification and annotations will replace single-verified transcriptions in year 12.
- The Essential Julian Bond, Volume 3: Print publication in year 12.
- Series 6: Political Papers: 204 folders (est. 210 to 400 items) to be transcribed and digitally published in single-verified form in years 12 – 14. Transcriptions with second verification and annotations will replace single-verified transcriptions in year 15.
- Series 8: Family and Personal Papers: 170 folders (est. 180 to 300 items) to be transcribed and digitally published in single-verified form in year 16. Transcriptions with

second verification and annotations will replace single-verified transcriptions in years 17 – 18.

## **Impact of Project**

The Julian Bond Papers project was launched to national attention in August 2018 and has continued to engage community members and students in its mission. On August 15, in both 2018 and 2019, we hosted Charlottesville-wide community transcription events, dubbed #TranscribeBond, which connected with both the anniversary of Julian Bond’s passing and the anniversary of Charlottesville’s 2017 white supremacist riots. The now-annual Transcribe-a-Thon takes place at five locations throughout the city, including sites at the University of Virginia, the Jefferson School for African American Heritage, and a popular local coffee shop, and offers a restorative and educational opportunity for the community to engage with Civil Rights history. In Bond’s tradition of grassroots organizing, the transcription event continues to draw several local partners including the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library, the University of Virginia Center for Digital Editing, the UVA Scholars Lab, and Virginia Humanities. Each year, between 1000 and 1500 pages are transcribed by more than five dozen people in one day. The event garners local and national press, including [Daily Progress](#), [Richmond Times Dispatch](#), [CBS](#) and [NBC](#) coverage as well as [radio](#) and [podcast coverage](#) and articles in [U.S. News and World Report](#) and [The Journal of Blacks in Higher Education](#). [The New Orleans Jazz Museum also described the event](#) as an “inspiration” for their own crowdsourced projects. The National Archives even featured the Papers of Julian Bond in the [NHPRC and Next-Generation Historical Documentary Editions video series](#) that highlights “a new generation of well-conceived edition projects.” These successes will be captured and highlighted on an ongoing basis at [the Julian Bond project website](#).

U.S. News and World Report writes of the Bond transcription event, “Up until now, the materials have been difficult to access... The project will utilize ‘crowdsourced transcription,’ allowing anyone in the community to pull up documents and transcribe them into the system. This helps make the task of transcribing thousands of documents less daunting.” The Journal of Blacks in Higher Education writes, “Julian Bond, the civil rights icon who taught at the University of Virginia for two decades, died in 2015. Now the university has mounted an effort to make his collection of papers, speeches, and other documents available to the world through a crowdsourced transcription effort, which will be the first step in the creation of an online digital archive.”

The crowdsourcing transcription event has become [the single largest input on the From The Page platform](#), and has maintained 340 participants and transcribed nearly 10,000 pages since the inaugural event. Supplementing the community volunteers, the Papers of Julian Bond has engaged one University course in the transcription process and expects to attract more. Transcribing documents of a Civil Rights leader is a prime opportunity to enhance and complicate students’ general assumptions about the history of social movements, particularly in the aftermath of SNCC. Students in a Social Movements class have transcribed 80 documents since the initial semester, totaling 1,426 pages. With the success of this course, the project plans a general call for participation to professors across the University of Virginia with connections to the work of social movements.

Additionally, the project also provides compensated summer and semester internships to students who participate in the broader University undergraduate research network. Students enter into editorial apprenticeships, receiving training in digital imaging, metadata tracking, document cataloging, and transcription principles. These skills not only provide valuable and

immediately marketable technical abilities, but they also offer insight into alternate-academic career options in digital publishing, archival research, library science, and digital humanities.

The volume of the Bond collections further allows us to make use of programs and research initiatives across the University, including the recently inaugurated Democracy Initiative, led by the University College and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, creating ample opportunities for education, community participation, and publicity.

### **Qualifications of Staff**

This grant will help fund sustainable staff positions for the project, including the support of a full-time managing editor role through cost-sharing with the University of Virginia. The following are stakeholders and key participants in the project.

Deborah McDowell, Ph.D., Editor-in-Chief: Director, Carter G. Woodson Institute for African-American and African Studies and Alice Griffin Professor of English at the University of Virginia. 15% capacity: Key responsibilities include development and strategic oversight.

Jennifer Stertzler, Digital Platform Provider and Project Consultant: Director, Center for Digital Editing, University of Virginia. 5% capacity: Key responsibilities include platform preservation and alignment between technical features and editorial policies.

Laura Baker, Ph.D., Managing Editor, Carter G. Woodson Institute for African-American and African Studies, University of Virginia: Editor and digital publishing professional, African American literature scholar, and former co-manager of the Founders Online Early Access project under the direction of Susan Perdue. 100% capacity: Key responsibilities include publication timeline ownership, editorial conventions and workflow, and grant origination and reporting.

James Perla, Project Manager and Special Assistant, Carter G. Woodson Institute for African-American and African Studies, University of Virginia. 20% capacity: Key responsibilities include event administration and student supervision.

## **Performance Objectives**

1. Catalog Series 1: Speeches and Articles:
  - a. Collect metadata on an item level for 250 folders (Boxes 6 – 12).
  - b. Train student interns in cataloging process.
  - c. Enter metadata into Drupal document database catalog for 75% of folders (boxes 1 – 9).
2. Create archival-quality images for Series 1: Speeches and Articles:
  - a. Train student interns in image creation process.
  - b. Use Special Collections equipment to capture JPEG and TIFF images for items contained in 250 folders.
  - c. Save images with document catalog metadata for 100% of folders.
  - d. Archive files to virtual drive / file sharing with Special Collections.
3. Transcribe Series 1: Speeches and Articles:
  - a. Process existing crowdsourced transcriptions for boxes 1 – 5 (approx. 10,000 pages).
  - b. Export transcriptions into Drupal catalog database.
  - c. Review and verify transcriptions for 50% of documents.
4. Publish digital version of Series 1: Speeches and Articles in single-verified transcription.
  - a. Complete one proofreading review of transcriptions.
  - b. Launch content set in form of single-verified transcriptions connected to metadata and manuscript images for 25% of collection (boxes 1 – 3).
5. Begin document selection for Essential Julian Bond, Volume 1.
  - a. Select 25 key speeches spanning 362 folders.