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April 2026



Reminder: Sign up for the Danowski reading with Danez Smith this Saturday

If you haven't registered for the poetry reading with Pulitzer Prize in Poetry finalist Danez Smith this Saturday, Apr. 18, at 2 p.m., it's not too late! The reading will be held at Auburn Avenue Research Library, 101 Auburn Ave. NE in downtown Atlanta. Smith is the award-winning author of four celebrated books of poetry, including "Don't Call Us Dead," "Homie," and most recently, "Bluff." Books will be for sale, and a signing will follow the reading.

The event is open to the public at no charge. Early arrival is recommended; parking and seating are limited. Doors open at 1:30 p.m.

Photo credit: David Hong

Register now



Conserving the past, finding their future

We're launching a series on how working in the Emory Libraries, Michael C. Carlos Museum, and the Emory Center for Digital Scholarship helps prepare students for their careers or post-graduate studies – and in some cases, helps them choose a career path. [Read our first article](#) in the series, on former and current students who gained vital skills working in the conservation labs in the Woodruff Library and the Carlos Museum.

Photo: Saul Chavira, who graduated in 2025 with BA in art history, worked as a student in Emory Libraries' Conservation Lab and is now a collections care technician at Vizcaya Museum and Gardens in Miami, FL.



Southern Spaces launches 'Trouble the Land' series

Southern Spaces, a peer-reviewed, open access online journal published by the Emory Center for Digital Scholarship, has launched "[Trouble the Land: A Personal History of the Civil Rights Movement in Five Southern Cities](#)."

This multimedia series uses firsthand voices to explore aspects of the civil rights movement in Atlanta, Ga., Montgomery, Ala. Columbia, S.C., Jackson, Miss., and Little Rock, Ark. The series is a media-enhanced adaptation of the 1997 Peabody Award-winning audio documentary "Will the Circle Be Unbroken?", produced by the Southern Regional Council and distributed by Public Radio International. (Listen to an online selection of these original oral histories [here](#).)

Three of the five installments of the Atlanta section recently debuted:

[Trouble the Land: Prelude to the Atlanta Movement](#)

[Trouble the Land: Atlanta Student Movement](#)

[Trouble the Land: Crow and Molasses](#)

Watch for the next two installments, which are slated to come out in late spring and early summer.



Rose curator N'Kosi Oates tapped for expertise on Black culture and history

N'Kosi Oates, curator of African American collections at the Rose Library, has become a sought-out expert in Black life and history in the US. Recently, he's been quoted and interviewed in newspapers and local and national news programs. Here are just a few of them:

[Emory preserves legendary photographer's collection of Black life in Atlanta](#), CBS News, Feb.13, 2026 (online feature story and embedded video segment, including an interview with Oates)

[Black History collection at Emory University](#), Fox5 Atlanta, Feb. 13, 2026 (video segment featuring a quote from Oates)

[How Black History Month Was Created](#), NBC News, Feb. 2, 2026 (video segment featuring an interview with Oates)

[Grant helps Emory preserve Jim Alexander's photo archive of Black Atlanta](#) (subscription), UATL/Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Oct. 2, 2025 (online feature story on Atlanta-based photographer Jim Alexander's collection in the Rose Library, with a photo of Oates and Alexander and a quote from Oates)

Oates, who earned a PhD in African American Studies from Brown University, also secured a three-year, \$280,000 grant from the Getty Foundation for Black Visual Arts Archives last summer for the Rose Library to process the [Jim Alexander photography collection](#) and to create an oral history of interviews with Alexander. Oates is the principal on the grant project and is conducting the interviews. Read more in this [article](#).



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