

Draft LAMPHHS Meeting Schedule  
Date: June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
Location: Harriman Ballroom, UB's South Campus

- 8:30 AM-8:45 AM EST / 5:30 AM-5:45 AM PST** Registration
- 8:45 AM-9:30 AM EST / 5:45 AM-6:30 AM PST** Business Meeting & Breakfast
- 9:30 AM-10:30 AM EST / 6:30 AM-7:30 AM PST** Keynote

Elizabeth Garner Masarik (Assistant Professor, Department of History, SUNY-Brockport) and Sarah Handley-Cousins (Associate Teaching Professor, Department of History, University at Buffalo)

*"A Place to Be Made Whole: Spiritualism, Reinvention, and the Radical Roots of Alternative Medicine"*

Long before "wellness" became an industry, Americans were traveling to places like Lily Dale, New York to find what conventional medicine and mainstream religion couldn't give them. This keynote traces a history of alternative healing through the story of the world's largest Spiritualist community, a place where feminist radicals, utopian dreamers, skeptics, and seekers have converged since 1879. From Victorian Spiritualist healing circles to the temple that still operates today, from suffragist reformers to a Mohawk singer who reinvented himself on Lily Dale's grounds, this talk illuminates why the impulse toward alternative healing is not a modern trend but a persistent, politically charged strand of American life.

- 10:30 AM-10:45 AM EST / 7:30 AM-7:45 AM PST** Break
- 10:45 AM-12:00PM EST / 7:45 AM-9:00 AM PST** Session 1

**Psychics and Spiritual Healing**

Keith Mages, Robert L. Brown History of Medicine Collection, Abbott Library, University at Buffalo

*"Verily, Truth is Stranger than Fiction": Nurses as Mediums, Witnesses, and Apparitions in 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Psychical Research*

Rachel Ingold, Rubenstein Library, Duke University  
*Magic, Religion & Science: Parapsychology at Duke*

Nicole Topich and Nick Brenner, Oskar Diethelm Library, Weill Cornell Medicine  
*Psychics and Psychiatry*

- 12:00 PM-1:00 PM EST / 9:00 AM-10:00 AM PST** Lunch
- 1:00 PM-2:00 PM EST / 10:00 AM-11:00 AM PST** Session 2

## **Plants and Herbs in Healing**

Mollie Frazier, East Carolina University

*Rooted in the Records: Community-Based Healing Across Oral History, Practice, and Print in Laupus Library's History Collections* (virtual)

Teri Hedgpeth, Boston Children's Hospital

*French Lilac to Metformin: Historical Review of Pharmaceutical Applications of Alternative Medicines*

Christopher Ryland and James Thweatt, Vanderbilt University

*John the Conqueror, Moles' Feet, and Keeping the Blues Away: The William Groce Harrison Folk Medicine Collection at Vanderbilt University*

**2:00 PM-2:15 PM EST / 11:00 AM-11:15 AM PST** Break

**2:15 PM-3:15 PM EST / 11:15 AM-12:15 PM PST** Session 3

### **Marking the Boundaries of Medicine in Healing**

Steve Hussman, University of Arizona Libraries, Special Collections

*Curandismo: Documenting the Folk Medicine of Healing* (virtual)

Erin Chiparo and Sarah McElroy Mitchell, Indiana University

*'Do Not Give Us a Bitter Death': Examples of Apotropaic Print in the Lilly Library's Collection*

Heather Stecklein, Mayo Clinic, and Nathalie Wheaton, Rush University Medical Center

*From Trying Sincerely to Lying Severely: Early Forays into Uncertain Treatments*

**3:15 PM-3:30 PM EST / 12:15 PM-12:30 PM PST** Break

**3:30 PM-4:30 PM EST / 12:30 PM-1:30 PM PST** Session 4

### **Strategies for Archival Outreach**

Jason Byrd, University of Alabama at Birmingham

*Aligning Motivation and Mission: Revitalizing Legacy Donor Engagement in Health Sciences Historical Collections*

Angela He and Elisabeth Brander, Bernard Becker Medical Library, Washington University in St. Louis

*Reading the Cards: Outreach Through the Becker Rare Books Tarot Project*

**4:30 PM EST / 1:30 PM PST** End of Official Programming

**4:30 PM-6:00 PM EST** Reception and Tours, Robert L. Brown History of Medicine Collection, Abbott Library, and UB's South Campus.