

Uncovering CUNY TV's Audiovisual Heritage

Report for 2021 October

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Project Dashboard: <https://github.com/cunytv/uncoveringcunytv>

Note: This report may reference previous reports, all of which can be accessed by following this link (<https://github.com/cunytv/UncoveringCUNYTV/tree/main/MonthlyReports>) or by contacting library@tv.cuny.edu with an access request.

Overall Progress

- 60 tapes digitized (60 assets)
- 784 tapes transferred total since October 2020 (712 Assets).
- 131 assets written to LTO for long-term storage
- Hard drives were purchased through the Uncovering CUNY budget for distributing files to John Jay College and Hunter College.
- A book proposal on the Uncovering CUNY project was proposed for The Archivability of Television and Related Media was accepted.
- Finalized workflow for uploading and auto-captioning to Internet Archive. The assets preserved in the UncoveringCUNY project can be found via the "Uncovering CUNY's Audiovisual Heritage" subject tag: <https://bit.ly/3FB9zhw>
- The collections: Centro and City Club with Criminal Justice Up Close in preparation for transfer to CUNY-TV.
- Two U-Matic decks remain inoperable but there has been some progress. Flip now has a copy of the service manual and has at least repaired the power issues in the lower panel. The decks now report an Error 90.

Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College Collections

- 32 tapes were transferred from the CentroPR collection; however, the metadata from the inventory still has not been imported into Filemaker.
- A small number of Centro tapes are recorded in LP mode; we will need to find a consumer deck to play them back.
- Centro provided us with language for a takedown notice, a captioning disclaimer, and copyright info for their Archive.Org page: <https://archive.org/details/@centropr>. Seven episodes fully captioned by Aida will be posted soon. The remainder will be captioned through Maestro, a transcription application that auto-captions in Spanish.

Baruch College Collections

- 5 additional episodes were uploaded to YouTube with 35 awaiting upload to Archive.Org.

Bronx Community College Collections

- No updates at this time. Collection managers will be contacted later in the Fall regarding the next steps.

Cinema Then/Cinema Now

- 36 episodes uploaded to Archive.Org
- 2 episodes uploaded to Youtube

City Club

- 27 tapes transferred in September. Two are being prepared for upload to YouTube.
- 2 episodes were uploaded to a new YouTube playlist on the cunytv75 channel.

John Jay College Collections

- We met with Ellen in early October. Some notes from that meeting:
 - Ellen will compile the tapes for retrieval by us around November 1st.
 - John Jay College would like to receive the entire preservation package.
 - Based on an estimation of 180 tapes (at 30 minutes each), the collection will need about 5.4 TB of space.
- A 6TB hard drive was purchased for delivering preservation master files to John Jay (they can keep the hard drive).

Medgar Evers College Collection

- Some progress has been made on adding a new option to the ingest program where works recorded as dual-channel mono are downmixed as stereo (in derivatives only).
- We were saddened to hear that the library was damaged during Hurricane Ida in August and the state of the audiovisual materials is unknown at this time. Medgar Evers staff are not allowed into the building and work remotely.

*Numbers may fluctuate slightly from month to month as some assets are deemed not eligible for digitization, and others either cannot be digitized for conservation reasons or need to be re-digitized after failing quality control.