

## Uncovering CUNY TV's Audiovisual Heritage

Report for 2021 May

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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](mailto:library@tv.cuny.edu) with an access request.

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### Overall Progress

- Sixty four tapes were digitized in the month of May, mostly from the Hunter College collections.
- A request to modify the grant timeline, extending it to August 2021 without any additional funds, was made to CLIR and approved.
- Tested new packaging workflows for MiniDV tape using DVRescue gui and command line functions.
- Workflows for uploading metadata into the CUNY TV website where videos are not available was established in collaboration with the CUNY TV web team.
- Kelly Haydon and Catriona Schlosser applied for and received DPOE-N funding to attend a 10 week Python class over the summer. Learning Python will allow both staff members of the CUNY TV library to better develop and maintain micro mediaservices related to the Uncovering CUNY project.
- As CUNY TV prepares to move staff back into the building full time, engineers have been stretched thin preparing the space. We have two U

### Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College Collections

- Digitization for the Politics con Sabor collection is complete. We are developing new workflows for packaging DV but should be able to deliver the digital files with the other materials at the end of the summer.
- Eight boxes from the HoMoVISIONES collection were retrieved from Hunter by car and moved to the CUNY TV offices for digitization. An item level inventory on the VHS and Umatic tapes was performed, duplicates were identified and removed - 8 tapes were digitized before the month's end. There are a number (100+) Mini-DV tapes, raw footage of HoMoVISIONES material, that we may do if time allows.
- It appears the HoMoVISIONES episodes were recorded on DV and then mastered to VHS which causes recorded-in clipping to occur at the point of digitization. This is unresolvable. Most tapes suffer from generation loss, light dropout, and audio phase issues.

### **Baruch College Collections**

- No updates at this time. Another small batch of videos are scheduled to go online in June.
- We have not heard back from collection managers on file delivery and will attempt contact again later in the summer.

### **Bronx Community College Collections**

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

### **Cinema Then/Cinema Now**

- Work has begun on adding descriptions for all of the episodes online, regardless if a video is available. All descriptions follow a basic format, here is an example: <https://tv.cuny.edu/show/cinemathencinemanow/PR2010390>.
- CUNY TV's filemaker database was also updated with the new description.
- Next steps: Upload remaining captioned file, reach out to subject librarians, continue outreach on social media, digitize the few remaining "problem" tapes.

### **City Club**

- Only a hand full of tapes have been inventoried in the archive's Filemaker database. The boxes were initially moved directly from the City Club offices to Iron Mountain.
- Space in the CUNY TV storage room will need to be made before we can recall the boxes off site and perform inventory.

### **John Jay College Collections**

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

### **Medgar Evers College Collection**

- Most of the 10 tapes in the collection received an attempt transfer but half the tapes have severe soft-binder syndrome and require more conservation treatment (baking) to complete. We are also attempting to partner with the preservation staff at NYPL on cleaning the tapes.
- Access copies of the digitized material is being delivered to MEC via dropbox. The Shirley Chisholm tape was digitized in its entirety and promoted on Instagram, already receiving interest from the Shirley Chisholm Institute.

