

# Oral Histories of Tompkins County

## *Archival Finding Aid*

*The History Center in Tompkins County*  
110 North Tioga St  
Ithaca NY 14850  
607-273-8284  
[www.thehistorycenter.net](http://www.thehistorycenter.net)  
[archives@thehistorycenter.net](mailto:archives@thehistorycenter.net)

### **2019 - HERSTORY: Generation to Generation Women's Oral History Project**

Young women from the Tompkins County community explored local women's history, and each interviewed an adult woman in the community about their lives and work. *A project of The History Center Youth Ambassadors.*

**Trigger warnings:** sexual assault, death, sexually explicit, child abuse, child sexual abuse, AIDS epidemic, drug use, drug addiction.

#### *Interviews with:*

##### **Ned Asta\* (83 minutes)**

Ned Asta discusses her relationship to art, travels across the United States, and participation in the women's and gay liberation movements during the 1960's, '70s, and '80s. She also reflects on her experience as a founding member of Lavender Hill, a LGBT commune located in Danby in the 1970's.

Trigger warnings: sexual assault, death, sexually explicit, AIDS epidemic, drug use.

- *Recorded 11/14/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC\_2019-11-14\_Asta-Ned*
- *Transcript File: TR\_OHTC\_2019-11-14\_Asta-Ned*

##### **Betsy Darlington\* (25 minutes)**

Betsy Darlington reflects on her work at Belle Sherman Elementary School since 1971 and with the Finger Lakes Land Trust, which she helped found in 1989. Darlington volunteered full-time for the Finger Lakes Land Trust for twenty years. She also discusses her favorite places in the area and the effects of urban development on Ithaca.

- *Recorded 11/5/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC\_2019-11-5\_Darlington-Betsy*
- *Transcript File: TR\_OHTC\_2019-11-5\_Darlington-Betsy*

##### **Cory Foster\* (35 minutes)**

Cory Foster discusses her work as a surgeon at Cayuga Medical Center. She reflects on her time as Chairperson of the Community-Based Endocrine Surgery Committee and its efforts to give community-based surgeons a voice within the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons.

- *Recorded 11/12/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC\_2019-11-12\_Foster-Cory*
- *Transcript File: TR\_OHTC\_2019-11-12\_Foster-Cory*

**Elaan Greenfield\* (49 minutes)**

Elaan Greenfield discusses her passion for jewelry and metalsmithing and how it led to her career as “a small business owner, a manager, a designer, a jeweler, a metalsmith, a teacher.” She also speaks about the challenges that come with being a business owner, particularly a female business owner with children.

- *Recorded 11/11/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC\_2019-11-11\_Greenfield-Elaan*
- *Transcript File: TR\_OHTC\_2019-11-11\_Greenfield-Elaan*

**Yen Ospina\* (34 minutes)**

Yen Ospina discusses her art, spirituality, and cultural identity. She reflects on how art has helped her express herself in times of stress and trauma and how her respect for women and the planet have inspired her to include these themes in her art.

Trigger warnings: child abuse, child sexual abuse

- *Recorded 11/14/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC\_2019-11-14\_Ospina-Yen*
- *Transcript File: TR\_OHTC\_2019-11-14\_Ospina-Yen*

**Liz Ryan Bogel\* (36 minutes)**

Liz Ryan Bogel discusses her family, both past and present, her experience in medical school, and her career. She touches on her training in family medicine, work in rural clinics in Upstate New York, and recent transition to REACH Medical, where she helps people affected by the opioid overdose crisis and advocates for health equity.

Trigger warnings: AIDS epidemic, drug addiction

- *Recorded 11/7/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC\_2019-11-7\_Bogel-Ryan-Liz*
- *Transcript File: TR\_OHTC\_2019-11-7\_Bogel-Ryan-Liz*

**Melissa Tuckey\* (68 minutes)**

Melissa Tuckey focuses on the intersection of her political activism and poetry and the time she spent in Washington, D.C., where she co-founded Split This Rock - which fosters and supports a national network of socially engaged poets. She also touches on her work since moving to Ithaca and serving as Tompkins County Poet Laureate since 2019.

- *Recorded 11/8/2019*
- *Audio File: OHTC\_2019-11-8\_Tuckey-Melissa*
- *Transcript File: TR\_OHTC-2019-11-8\_Tuckey-Melissa*

-----  
Generous support for processing these collections came from a two year grant from the Museum Association of New York and the Institute of Museum & Library Services between 2020-2022.



MUSEUM ASSOCIATION  
OF NEW YORK

