

## INSIDE

### Music Copyright Report

The National Recording Preservation Board has published a report addressing copyright legislation affecting sound recording preservation and access.

**PAGE 3**



### New Tech Position Announced

Nicole Saylor has been named chief of the Digital Innovation Lab, a new position within the Office of the Chief Information Officer that will explore creative ways to share Library treasures.

**PAGE 3**

### Federal Libraries Honored

The Federal Library and Information Network has announced the winners of its national awards for federal librarianship.

**PAGE 5**



### Q&A: Bailey Ann Cahall

The senior Federal Research Division editor ensures that the division's products are clear and concise and that researchers' work shines.

**PAGE 6**



Art by Lindsay Mound

To accompany "Stories from the Pandemic" podcasts, artist Lindsay Mound graphically represented health-care workers and patients affected by COVID-19.

## Library Acquires COVID-19 Audio Diaries

The collection documents the experiences of health-care workers across the country.

BY MARÍA PEÑA

Until the COVID-19 global pandemic hit last year, most Americans worried mainly about paying bills and providing for their families, not about existential threats hidden away in a deadly virus. Although we're settling into a new normal, the pandemic changed everyone's lives and tragically ended those of all too many – over 595,000 people have died in the U.S. alone.

For American health-care workers, it had a uniquely dramatic effect: It transformed the way they view their mission as healers. "Stories from a Pandemic," a collection of

700 audio files newly donated to the Library by the Nocturnists, a San Francisco-based independent medical storytelling community and podcast, documents this transformation. It includes testimonials from more than 200 frontline health professionals.

Lakshmi Krishnan, a Georgetown University Hospital doctor and medical historian, is among them.

She recounts in one recording how she, like thousands of other health-care providers, had to change the way she treated her patients, as she could no longer

**PANDEMIC STORIES, CONTINUED ON 7**

# NOTICES

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## DONATED TIME

The following employees have satisfied eligibility requirements to receive leave donations from other staff members. Contact Lisa Davis at [lidav@loc.gov](mailto:lidav@loc.gov).

Lynette Brown

Stephanie Jefferson

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## COVID-19 AND ETHICAL DILEMMAS

**June 23**

**11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

[Online](#)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has declared racism a major public health issue as a result of the handling of COVID-19: Its impacts have been notably unequal across race, education levels and socioeconomic status. The Library's Health Services and Science, Technology and Business divisions are hosting two expert speakers to provide insights about the ethical dilemmas surrounding the pandemic: Jonathan Moreno of the University of Pennsylvania's Perelman School of Medicine and Harald Schmidt of the University of Pennsylvania. [Register here.](#)

Submit questions for the panelists in advance using [Ask-A-Librarian](#), indicating that they are for the June 23 webinar.

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## OPEN HOUSE: INNOVATOR IN RESIDENCE

**June 30**

**2 p.m.**

[Online](#)

If you could talk to history, what would you say? Join 2021 Innovator in Residence Courtney McClellan to explore how Speculative Annotation, McClellan's new web application and public art project, can help students, teachers and history enthusiasts of all ages engage with the Library through drawing and mark-making.

Developed in collaboration with Library curators and classrooms around the country, Speculative Annotation presents a unique collection of historical items from the Library's free-to-use materials in a dynamic interface.

When it's time, join the event on [Zoom](#) using passcode 483181. Questions? Contact Jaime Mears at [jame@loc.gov](mailto:jame@loc.gov).

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## LCPA GRANTS AVAILABLE

The Library of Congress Professional Association is accepting applications for grants from its Continuing Education Fund for 2021-22. The deadline to apply is July 16. All full LCPA members currently on staff who have worked at the Library for at least six months are eligible to apply.

Applications are available on the LCPA website ([www.loc.gov/staff/lcpa](http://www.loc.gov/staff/lcpa)). Questions? Contact one of the Continuing Education Fund trustees: Anne M. Peele ([apeelee@crs.loc.gov](mailto:apeelee@crs.loc.gov) or 202-707-8046) or Julie Biggs ([jubi@loc.gov](mailto:jubi@loc.gov) or 202-707-3971).

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## OIG WOULD LIKE TO KNOW

Report suspected illegal activities, waste, fraud, abuse and mismanagement in Library of Congress administration and operations to the Office of the Inspector General (OIG). A link to all Library regulations is available on the staff intranet at <http://staff.loc.gov/sites/rules-and-regulations/>.

To make a report, contact OIG via the online form at [www.loc.gov/about/office-of-the-inspector-general/contact-us/](http://www.loc.gov/about/office-of-the-inspector-general/contact-us/) or report anonymously by mail to 101 Independence Ave., S.E., LM 630, Washington, D.C., 20540-1060.

# GAZETTE

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

[loc.gov/staff/gazette](http://loc.gov/staff/gazette)

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### MISSION OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Library's central mission is to engage, inspire and inform Congress and the American people with a universal and enduring source of knowledge and creativity.

### ABOUT THE GAZETTE

An official publication of the Library of Congress, The Gazette encourages Library managers and staff to submit articles and photographs of general interest. Submissions will be edited to convey the most necessary information.

Back issues of The Gazette in print are available in the Communications Office, LM 143. Electronic archived issues and a color PDF file of the current issue are available online at [loc.gov/staff/gazette](http://loc.gov/staff/gazette).

### GAZETTE WELCOMES LETTERS FROM STAFF

Staff members are invited to use the Gazette for lively and thoughtful debate relevant to Library issues. Letters must be signed by the author, whose place of work and telephone extension should be included so we can verify authorship. If a letter calls for management response, an explanation of a policy or actions or clarification of fact, we will ask for management response.—Ed.

### Library of Congress Gazette

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### GAZETTE DEADLINES

The deadline for editorial copy for the July 2 Gazette is Wednesday, June 23.

Email editorial copy and letters to the editor to [mhartsell@loc.gov](mailto:mhartsell@loc.gov) and [wmal@loc.gov](mailto:wmal@loc.gov).

To promote events through the Library's online calendar ([www.loc.gov/loc/events](http://www.loc.gov/loc/events)) and the Gazette Calendar, email event and contact information to [calendar@loc.gov](mailto:calendar@loc.gov) by 9 a.m. Monday of the week of publication.

Boxed announcements should be submitted electronically (text files) by 9 a.m. Monday the week of publication to [mhartsell@loc.gov](mailto:mhartsell@loc.gov) and [wmal@loc.gov](mailto:wmal@loc.gov).

# Report Examines Major Update to Copyright Law

Recent copyright legislation impacts sound recording preservation and access.

The Library's National Recording Preservation Board (NRPB) published a report this month detailing updates to American copyright law governing music licensing and sound recordings. The changes have implications for libraries and archives across the country.

Drafted by copyright scholar and former music librarian Eric Harberson, the report, "[The Orrin Hatch – Bob Goodlatte Music Modernization Act: A Guide for Sound Recordings Collectors](#)," is the latest in a series of nearly a dozen studies published by the NRPB.

[The Orrin G. Hatch – Bob Goodlatte Music Modernization Act](#), passed by Congress in 2018, includes some of the most significant legislative reforms to copyright law enacted in 20 years. Among its many provisions, the legislation fundamentally reshapes music licensing and the legal status of sound recordings made before 1972, bringing these recordings under federal copyright law for the first time.

The law has three sections: the Musical Works Modernization Act, the Classics Protection and Access Act and the Allocation for Music Producers Act. Links and related materials are available on the [Copyright Office's website](#).

The new NRPB report explains each section of the law as it applies to curators of recordings and provides a thorough summary of the legislation and its implementation. It will also serve to guide holders of recordings in their efforts to preserve them and make them accessible through digital streaming.

The publication discusses key features of the law and includes

useful tools to apply when using it. Key features include:

- Under the law, recordings made before 1972 are brought under federal protection for the first time. Most significantly, the law creates rolling terms of protection that enable many historical recordings to begin to enter the public domain starting in 2022. The report provides criteria to help determine if a recording is in the public domain.
- The law establishes new rights and responsibilities for libraries, archives, museums and individuals who hold collections. Among them, it created a public domain for sound recordings; it established new rights and procedures for institutions to obtain licenses to stream holdings; and it revised processes to license music performed on recordings.

• Publication or streaming of recordings most often requires two different licenses – one for use of the recording itself and one to license rights to the musical or other works performed. The law establishes new requirements and processes for each category in order to stream audio through an interactive service – one where content is selected by the user as opposed to preset content.

- An objective of the law is to provide uniform procedures to license recordings for streaming. The requirements to obtain licenses to stream audio recordings vary greatly based on the ages and types of recordings. The new guide includes an extensive analysis of these licensing requirements and procedures as they relate to different categories of recordings.

Useful tools and resources for libraries and archives provided in the report include:

- Guidance to help owners of sound recordings who are or may be offering digital streaming services of their collections.
- Decision trees on educational performances and noncommercial uses to help guide efforts to legally

use the recordings for educational purposes and make them accessible through streaming under the new legislation.

- A case study on distribution of institutional sound recordings.
- An extensive glossary of terms and acronyms, a bibliography and web resources on the law.
- Explanation of how the law impacts sections of copyright law applicable to libraries and archives: sections 107, 108, 301 and 1401.
- A legislative history of the law. ■

## DIGITAL INNOVATION LAB GETS FIRST CHIEF



Digital Strategy Directorate

Nicole Saylor, formerly of the American Folklife Center, has been named chief of the Digital Innovation Lab, a new position within the Digital Strategy Directorate of the Office of the Chief Information Officer. She will lead the lab in exploring new technologies and creative ways to share the Library's treasures. [Read more.](#)

## HCD SERVICES PORTAL

During this period of remote work, the Human Capital Directorate (HCD) services portal (<https://bit.ly/31fqIKw>) is there to help. Ask questions of HCD professionals; submit documents related to benefits, retirement and payroll matters; and track requests.

# OBITUARY

## Miriam Pace

Miriam McClain Pace, 90, of Burlington, North Carolina, passed away on April 17, 2020, at Authora Care Collective Hospice Home in Burlington. She retired from what is now the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS) in 1995.

A native of Selma, Alabama, Pace was the daughter of the late Robert Norris Pace and Miriam Reynolds McClain Pace. She received her Bachelor of Arts from Huntington College and her Master's in Education from Auburn University.

Before arriving at NLS, Pace was the regional librarian at the Alabama Public Library Service's Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped from 1976 until 1981. Under her direction, the regional library was moved from Talladega to Montgomery. She prepared a proposal that resulted in a federal government grant of \$1.2 million to build and equip a barrier-free regional library. It was one of the first of its kind and still stands as the model for a barrier-free library.

In 1980, Pace narrated three National Endowment for the Arts books at the regional library's volunteer recording studio, adding audio titles to supplement NLS' collections. She also won a John Cotton Dana Award from the American Library Association for developing her agency's statewide summer reading program. And she was named Woman of the Year by the Alabama division of the American Association of University Women.

Pace joined NLS in 1981 as assistant chief of the Network Division. In this position, she helped to develop and expand the NLS network consultant program. She was detailed as assistant chief of the Materials Development Division for several years. Upon her return to the Network Division, she assumed the position of chief. She coordinated a number of NLS national conferences from the 1980s through 1994. She also rep-

resented NLS at the International Federation of Library Associations.

In 1996, Pace received the Francis Joseph Campbell citation and medal at the American Library Association's annual conference in New York City. In retirement, she lived in North Carolina and volunteered at the May Memorial Library in Burlington, Elon University Library and the Textile Heritage Museum in Glencoe. She was a member of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Comforter.

Pace was one of the first network

librarians to join NLS. She brought a unique perspective to the program and cultivated it by hiring other network librarians for positions in the Network Division. Her leadership enabled NLS to develop a closer working relationship with its network of cooperating libraries to meet its goal "That All May Read."

"I remember her as a considerate and thoughtful person, who always had a twinkle in her eye and a kind word to everyone she encountered," recalled George Thuronyi of the Copyright Office, who began his Library career in NLS. ■

## EXPIRED LIBRARY ID BADGES TO BE CONFISCATED

The U.S. Capitol Police have determined that after June 30, officers will confiscate expired Library identification badges. Electronic access with card readers will also end on that date.

Staff who return on-site after June 30 will be granted one-time access to have their badges renewed. Staff working on-site in the Capitol Hill complex can renew their badges at the Badging Office, LM G-11, on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Expired badges can also be renewed at the Cabin Branch badging station on Mondays until June 28 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Those requiring 117th congressional ID badges must pick up their badges at the Madison Badging Office. An approved [Form 1826](#) is required for ID badge renewal.

## FASHION IN THE NEWS



Serial and Government Publications Division

Women's fashion has a long and colorful history and, in the 20th century, newspapers captured it all, writes Heather Thomas on the [Headlines and Heroes blog](#). She offers a glimpse of fashion history through newspapers, starting with 1900 to 1920. Upcoming posts will extend the coverage to 1960.

# Awards Recognize Federal Library Trailblazers

The Federal Library and Information Network (FEDLINK) has announced the winners of its national awards for federal librarianship. They recognize innovative ways that federal libraries, librarians and library technicians fulfill the information demands of the government and the American public.

Federal libraries and staff throughout the U.S. and abroad competed for the awards. The fiscal 2020 winners are:

## Joint Base Lewis-McChord Library System

Located in Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, the system was recognized in the large library information center category for its commitment to providing high-quality programs and services to the entire base community of military service members, their families, civilian employees and others. The system ensured service members had the materials they needed to access necessary educational programming while also providing opportunities for families. From a focus on early literacy for children to online training for adults, the library system provided services to 200,000 patrons who borrowed over 109,000 items. Despite limitations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the library system offered 439 programs, including bilingual story hours, prerecorded story times, interactive online programming and summer reading programs.

## Barr Memorial Library at Fort Knox

The Barr Memorial Library in Fort Knox, Kentucky, was recognized in the small library/information center category for quickly adapting existing services to the virtual world. The library developed and implemented a contactless carry-out service, a model adopted by several other Army libraries. Its outreach efforts increased adult reading program participation by more than 50 percent, and the library's 356 programs – ranging

from author events to story hours for preschool children to craft programs for all ages – attracted nearly 20,000 in-person and virtual participants. The library also developed and led other Army libraries in creating and supporting Fantober, a comic-themed event at 20 different installations that reached 8,400 participants with 155 unique programs.

## Mariana Long, U.S. Department of Justice

Mariana Long of the Justice Department in Washington, D.C., was recognized as 2020 federal librarian of the year for her outstanding service at department libraries. She and her staff of 12 provided research support to four of the department's seven litigating divisions and handled nearly 40 percent of the library's 36,651 research and reference queries. She also taught docket research to more than 100 attorneys and support staff and coordinated a continuing legal education series assisting more than 300 attorneys. In addition, she provided orientations to more than 100 attorneys and staff from across the department. As co-chair of the library's marketing committee, Long anticipated the needs of customers and promoted services, resources and collections. In addition, she took the lead in improving training for staff on expert witness vetting and, with her staff, vetted more

than 300 experts in fiscal 2020.

## Sharon D. Pemberton, Cyber Research Center

Sharon Pemberton of the Cyber Research Center at the Cyber Center of Excellence in Fort Gordon, Georgia, was selected as the 2020 federal library technician of the year for her dedication to the library's mission and community. Amid the pandemic, the Cyber Research Center migrated to a new library services platform. Pemberton navigated this change between two cataloging systems, cataloging more than 100 books in each system, set migration priorities and offered ideas for improvements. Dedicated to supporting the research, customer service and cataloging needs of the center, she implemented a new concierge system for book lending and created interactive forms and spreadsheets to track the library's budget, expenditures and yearly metrics. Determined to offer excellent support for the research projects and assignments of military education students, Pemberton was essential to executing the training and education missions of the center.

**FEDLINK** is an organization of federal agencies, including the Library of Congress, that work together to achieve optimum use of the resources and facilities of federal libraries and information centers. ■

## NEW WOMEN'S FORUM

The Library of Congress Professional Association has launched a new [Women's Forum for Growth and Networking](#) to support women's careers and foster a sense of community. Planning meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of every month at 2 p.m. Click [here](#) to join the next meeting, and click [here](#) to join the forum's listserv. Events are open to all. Questions? Contact Jocelyn Shapiro at [jshapiro@loc.gov](mailto:jshapiro@loc.gov) or Stacey Devine at [sdev@loc.gov](mailto:sdev@loc.gov).

Your Employee Personal Page (EPP) is at  
[www.nfc.usda.gov/epps/](http://www.nfc.usda.gov/epps/)



Christopher Tischer

## Bailey Ann Cahall

*Bailey Ann Cahall is the senior editor in the Federal Research Division.*

### **Tell us a little about your background.**

I was born in Urbana, Illinois – my parents were both getting advanced degrees at the University of Illinois – but we moved to Pittsburgh when I was 5. Meaning, I very much consider myself a Steel City girl. I got my bachelor's degree (magna cum laude) in history from West Virginia University in 2007, so I'm also a Mountaineer. My master's degree in international relations is from Syracuse University, but I don't think of myself as an Orange, though it is my favorite color!

After completing two internships at the National Defense University as part of my master's program, I worked as a senior consultant for Booz Allen Hamilton and then as a senior program associate at New America.

Though editing is something I've

always been interested in, it wasn't until my consulting work that I started to do it professionally. I supported the production team at the Office of Intelligence and Analysis at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and the in-depth, milewide exposure to a variety of topics that editing gave me had me hooked.

### **What brought you to the Library, and what do you do?**

Though I liked my job at New America, the program I worked for was run like a newsroom, and I wanted to be somewhere with a better work-life balance.

I saw the opening in the Federal Research Division (FRD) listed on USAJobs and for once felt like I actually had answers for all KSAs. I applied that night and, if I'm remembering correctly, was interviewed and hired in just about six months. That was a little over six years ago and I have no plans to go anywhere!

As FRD's senior editor, I'm responsible for creating internal documents, like templates and style guides, as well as reviewing just about all of the products before they are delivered to our clients. I check for everything – grammar, style, syntax, format and so on. I also coordinate a growing team of contract editors who help with projects that require more specific expertise or that I may not have time to review.

FRD depends on external funding and operates much like a small business in providing executive agencies, the D.C. government and authorized federal contractors with customized research. So, I do my best to make sure the products we send out are as clear and concise as possible and that the researchers' work really shines.

### **What are some of your standout projects?**

There are two projects from the past six years that immediately come to mind. The first is a [50-year organizational history](#) we put together for the National Institute of Justice (NIJ); I was the

project lead. As the final booklet required the work of an outside graphic designer, putting it together was itself a unique learning experience. But more than anything, the fun of the project was learning about how many different advancements NIJ has been behind. For example, the tests people took over the last year to see if they had the coronavirus or not: NIJ began funding the development of that technology back in 1986.

The second project, a summary of survey results for the U.S. Department of Education, is more standard as far as FRD's products go, but the sheer number of figures and tables in the 2020 report make it the one to beat. All told, there were 252 figures and 105 tables. And yes, I reviewed every single one.

### **What do you enjoy doing outside work?**

I come from a family of puzzlers, so one of my main activities over the past year has been working through our collection. I've tried to take things up a notch in 2021, though, and have focused solely on monochromatic puzzles thus far. I've completed all three Ravensburger "Krypt" puzzles (gold, silver and black) and a clear acrylic puzzle I found online. I'm currently working on an all-red puzzle that is proving to be more challenging than the others since it doesn't have any oddly shaped pieces to work with.

### **What is something your co-workers may not know about you?**

Growing up, I was a soprano for the Chapel Choir at Christ United Methodist Church in Bethel Park. At the time, it was one of the largest youth choirs on the East Coast. While I can no longer hit some of those high notes, singing is still a favorite pastime. ■

## PANDEMIC STORIES, CONTINUED FROM 1

shake their hands or hug them to console them.

Jenny Shadt, a medical student in a Philadelphia hospital, similarly recalls the heartache and loneliness COVID-19 patients felt while housed in isolation in windowless rooms sealed off with tarps. Due to restrictions that were put in place, oftentimes families said goodbye to loved ones from blue screens on their smartphones or computer monitors wheeled into rooms.

The pandemic has shown “how dependent we all are on each other and that we need other people more than we thought. ... [W]hen we take each other way, we go a little crazy,” Shadt said.

The first-of-its-kind collection allows the Library to play a role in preserving and providing access to compelling first-person perspectives such as these from health-care workers across the country.

“When this collection was offered to us, I was immediately struck by the rich diversity of experiences and perspectives it offers,” Elizabeth Peterson, director of the American Folklife Center (AFC), said. “These are poignant stories from health-care workers navigating the emergent pandemic as professionals but also as people – individuals with their own fears, concerns, hopes and skills – who realized that taking time to speak their thoughts into a microphone was worth it.” The AFC will house the collection.

For Emily Silverman, a practicing internist and founder of the Nocturnists, there’s no better home than the Library for a collection that “captures the raw emotions of numerous health-care workers in the first few months of the COVID-19 pandemic and will serve as a historical document for future generations.”

Humans make sense of their world through stories, and as such, the collection provides an unfettered behind-the-scenes view to urban and rural hospitals and clinics in the early weeks of the pandemic,

when the initial wave of cases overwhelmed emergency rooms, intensive care units and morgues. The shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) for medical staff and ventilators for severely ill patients worsened the chaos in facilities already understaffed and overburdened.

Many contributors withheld their full names and other identifiers to provide a candid assessment of their working conditions, personal risks and all-consuming frustrations while tending to the sick and dying.

Arghavan Salles, an Iranian American bariatric surgeon in Stanford, California, volunteered at an intensive care unit in a New York City hospital, where she often felt she was on an emotional “roller coaster ride,” at times fearing that her ill-fitting PPE would not protect her from the virus.

“The first couple of nights I was here were worse than I thought they would be in terms of how the patients were doing,” she said. “I was very disappointed, I guess, really more upset about a couple of patients struggling to stay alive.”

Calvin Lambert, a first-year maternal-fetal medicine fellow in the Bronx, reflects on the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on African Americans and other communities of color and their general distrust of medical authorities.

He remembers a pregnant African American patient who became “irate, scared and tearful” as she refused to get nose-swabbed to test for the coronavirus for fear of catching it.

“It’s up to us to be understanding, to understand where they’re coming from and to try to demystify and to rebuild that trust through [patient] education and empowering,” Lambert said in a recording.

Shadt recalls one woman sobbing with relief as she tested negative for COVID and was transferred from a windowless room to one with windows. In another part of the hospital, Shadt said, nurses

would play snippets of the theme “Rocky” to announce that day’s discharges.

As the mystery surrounding COVID-19 evolved and researchers developed vaccines at warp speed, the collection takes us on a turbulent journey paved with stories of despair, anger, fear, introspection and hope for a brighter future as vaccination efforts got underway.

Suddenly, getting jabbed with a needle brought on tears of joy, and it became a far better choice than risking a certain death in what the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has called the country’s worst public health crisis in a century – more Americans have died after contracting COVID-19 than in both world wars and the Vietnam War combined.

Krishan said that she has started touching patients again: “A reassuring pat during a difficult conversation, a handshake, all that becomes even more important now that our facial expressions are hidden behind masks and face shields.”

She predicts that life will eventually go back to something that resembles pre-COVID, although she cautions, “If we don’t take heed, we could be in this situation again sooner rather than later.”

Silverman founded the Nocturnists in 2016 to support the well-being of medical professionals through the healing power of storytelling. The Nocturnist gift includes pandemic-related material from its “Black Voices in Healthcare” series, which was selected as a podcast honoree in the 2021 Webby Awards. The group also plans to donate recordings collected for a follow-up series, “Stories from a Pandemic: Part Two,” launched on the Nocturnists podcast on June 8.

The gift supplements new collections the Library acquired within the last year to document the pandemic through photographs, posters, public health data and artists’ responses to the health crisis. ■