

**ARLIS/NA + VRA 3rd Joint Conference 2016 | Seattle  
Poster Session**

**Working With What You Have: Revitalizing a Congressional Exhibit Space Utilizing Visual Materials** — Leah Rios, Assistant Archivist, Center for Creative Photography and Maurita Baldock, Assistant Librarian and Archivist, University of Arizona Special Collections

Case study of an archivist's and archival student's challenge of creating a visually engaging exhibit with a limited budget and inherently non-visual materials. Documenting our creative process from beginning to end by identifying the primary problems of the original exhibit, our proposal and solutions for the new exhibit, the execution and trials of our plan, and the finished exhibit. Before and after visual representations to illustrate our challenges and progress. The exhibit space that the archivists envisioned was one that would connect more with viewers. The previous exhibit was too difficult to view or understand and presented the subjects of the exhibit as unrelatable. Example of how the visual materials on display can work to highlight collections and advocate for the use of archival materials. Attendees will learn how an exhibit space may not always be ideal and how to creatively use materials to create a visually appealing exhibition with limited resources.