An act of Congress on March 3, 1865 created the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands (the Freedmen’s Bureau). The records produced by the bureau are the richest source of information on the African American experience post-Civil War and Reconstruction eras. Most documents have been digitized, yet few have been transcribed. Help contribute to our nation’s understanding of this critical period by participating in these events.

Michelle Smith Collaboratory for Visual Culture, Parren J. Mitchell Art-Sociology Building, Room 4213

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2016 | 4 – 5:30 PM**

**Documenting the Road from Slavery to Freedom: Introducing the Freedmen’s Bureau Records**

Laura Coyle, Head of Cataloguing and Digitization at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History & Culture (NMAAHC) and Leslie S. Rowland, Associate Professor of History and Director of the Freedmen and Southern Society Project at the University of Maryland will discuss the importance of the Freedmen’s Bureau Records. Participants will also learn about the ongoing project to transcribe the bureau’s papers from Meghan Ferriter, Project Coordinator at the Smithsonian Institution Transcription Center.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2016 | 10 AM – 2:30 PM**

**Freedmen’s Bureau Papers Transcribe-a-thon**

Join us online or in-person as we work to transcribe documents from the Freedmen’s Bureau Records. First we’ll learn about transcription conventions, and then we’ll start transcribing. In-person participants should bring a laptop.

**REGISTER NOW**
go.umd.edu/transcribeathon

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