Partnership on the Prairie
Kate Dietrick

Description: In 2012, the Jewish Historical Society of the Upper Midwest (JHSUM) made the decision to gift their entire archival collection, amassed over nearly thirty years, to the University of Minnesota. The creation of the Upper Midwest Jewish Archives (UMJA) marked a second act for the collection. Placed within a research university setting amongst other nationally recognized collections, UMJA is now more accessible and visible to academic scholars. But what about the community that built it? Archivist Kate Dietrick will talk about how UMJA partners with JHSUM in innovative but sometimes messy ways, and how embracing community archiving illustrates how archives can remain a vibrant part of a local community while residing within a large institution.

Kate Dietrick has been the Archivist of the Upper Midwest Jewish Archives at the University of Minnesota Libraries since 2013. Previously, she resided in New York where she worked as Project Archivist with the Whitney Museum of American Art and the Samuel H. Kress Foundation. She holds a master’s in library and information science from Pratt Institute with specialization in archives and museum libraries, and a BA in history and women’s studies from Saint Olaf College.