



## Memo

To: ASALH Executive Council  
From: Kari Roane, Director, Journals Acquisitions  
[kroane@uchicago.edu](mailto:kroane@uchicago.edu)  
Date: August 19, 2020  
Re: UCP Financial Update for JAAH

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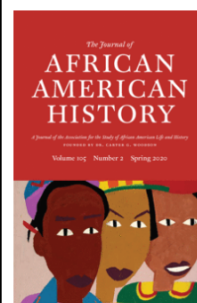
Below you will find information about subscriptions, revenue, and payment schedules for *The Journal of African American History*.

### COVID-19: Customer Service and Scholarly Community Engagement

Our efforts have focused on ensuring that subscribers retain uninterrupted access, particularly as students and faculty migrated to remote learning environments. Here are some of the steps we've taken:

- Widespread messaging about these benefits and updates on our web site: <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/coronavirus>
- Extended online access for late-renewing customers (enhanced gracing).
- Complimentary online access for print subscribers.
- Relaxed abuse monitoring triggers to account for expanded use.
- Encouraging institutions to register new & proxy IP addresses for access.
- Holding print copies for institutions that cannot receive them.
- Free access to articles and book reviews about coronavirus on our website, JSTOR, and Ebsco.
- Active in JSTOR's COVID-19 response to extend Register & Read limits and extend access to our content in their archives to participating institutions.
- Virtual exhibits to promote the journal to scholars and librarians in lieu of cancelled in-person conferences. For example, JAAH is promoted at the virtual exhibit for the American Sociological Association <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/asa>

The disruptions associated with the COVID-19 epidemic will affect late renewals this year, but we think not too radically since most of them are already in the works. Next year, 2021, might show greater effects. If



**The Journal of African American History**  
A journal of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History

- **Read a sample article:** Simon D. Elin Fisher, "Challenging Dissemblance in Pauli Murray Historiography, Sketching a History of the Trans New Negro"
- **Read a sample issue**

Individual subscriptions to *The Journal of African American History* are concurrent with membership in ASALH. [Join now.](#)

there is a general shrinking of economic activity, as seems all but certain, we will probably see decreases for 2021. However, predictions are often wrong: it is also possible electronic distribution will *increase* in the next couple of years. We will stay attentive and flexible, and time will tell.

### **Institutional Subscriptions**

For volume 105 (2020), the journal currently has 662 institutional subscribers. This is up from 532 in 2017 when subscriptions were managed by ASALH and the JSTOR Current Scholarship Program. We expect to process additional 2020 subscriptions during the next five months, to exceed the 692 reported for volume 104 (2019).

- Renewals have been delayed due to COVID-19. We believe this to be more an issue of library personnel and systems being disrupted than changes to 2020 budgets.

### **Journal Revenue**

ASALH is paid a 50% royalty (or a guaranteed minimum, whichever is greater) on all journal revenue, with the bulk coming from institutional subscriptions and a much lesser amount coming from non-subscription sources. The guarantee increases each year<sup>1</sup>

As of now, ASALH is on track to exceed the calendar year 2020 guaranteed minimum royalty payment of \$106,740. If all of the 2020 issues publish in 2020, as they should according to the production schedule<sup>2</sup>, it would be reasonable to believe that ASALH could once again receive \$120,000 or more for the calendar year, rather than the minimum. (The total received by ASALH for calendar year 2018 was \$124,413 and in 2019 the total received was \$126,747)

### *Schedule of Payments for 2020 Royalty*

- March 2020 – 1/4 of 2020 guarantee.
- June 2020 – 1/4 of 2020 guarantee.
- September 2020 – 1/4 of 2020 guarantee.
- December 2020 – 1/4 of 2020 guarantee.
- January 2021 – reconciliation for 2020: the amount above the already received \$106,740.

These payments are made via wire transfer.

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<sup>1</sup> The 2018 guarantee was \$100,000; the 2019 guarantee was \$103,350.

<sup>2</sup> UCP uses accrual accounting for subscription revenue. For example, that when a customer sends in \$200 for their 2019 JAAH subscription, that subscription money is put into an accrual or holding ledger. Then, when each quarterly issue publishes, ¼ of that payment (\$50) is “earned” and moves from the holding ledger to the JAAH ledger.