XVIII Recovering the US Hispanic Literary Heritage Conference/Association for Documentary Editing 2026, a joint conference

Record Keepers of Nation: Diverse Foundational Figures and Documents of the US

[The Recovering the US Hispanic Literary Heritage Program](#) (Recovery) and the [Association for Documentary Editing](#) (ADE) invite proposals for a joint conference to be held October 8-10, 2026 in Houston, Texas. This first-ever collaboration between Recovery and ADE will bring together scholars, archivists, editors, students and community practitioners to explore how figures and documents—canonical, forgotten, official and grassroots—have shaped the histories, literatures and identities of the United States.

The conference theme, **Record Keepers of Nation: Diverse Foundational Figures and Documents of the US**, highlights the intersection, conflicts and compromises of people, papers, voices, archives and biographies of first nations, natives, settlers, immigrants and exiles that have forged collective memory and national narratives. The conference will emphasize recovery, preservation and dissemination of the historical records of various communities that expand and unsettle our understanding of the nation's foundation.

Recovering the US Hispanic Literary Heritage is an international program to locate, preserve and make available Hispanic culture of the United States in its written form since colonial times until 1980. The Association for Documentary Editing promotes the publication of a broad range of materials of historical value in print and digital formats and supports cooperation and exchange of ideas among a diverse community of editors.

Suggested themes

Foundational Texts and Archives

- Recovery and critical analysis of foundational US documents
- Petitions, letters, legal texts and manifestos as historical and cultural sources
- Printing, journalism, literature and oral traditions in shaping community histories
- US independence and its impact on Latin American independence movements
- The United States as a site of exile, organizing and activism for Latin American independence movements

- Collections and archives: accessioning, curation and critical archival studies
- Methodologies in documentary editing, preservation and digital archiving
- Digital humanities approaches to foundational texts and archival recovery

People and Movements

- Studies of activists, writers and intellectuals who shaped the US
- Analytical studies of recovered authors, voices and texts
- The role of women's writings in shaping intellectual and cultural histories
- Gender, sexualities and queer approaches to the archive
- Folklore, testimonios, oral histories and multilingual voices in the US record

Theories, Silences and Interventions

- Archival silences, erasures and the politics of preservation
- Critical, historical and theoretical frameworks for recovered texts
- The intersections of biography, memory and national identity
- Historiography, language, translation, bilingualism and linguistics
- Religious thought, practice and their archival traces
- Material culture as a site of memory and recovery

Pedagogy and Practice

- Curriculum development: integrating recovered texts into K–12 and higher education
- Library and information science approaches to preservation and accessibility
- Social, cultural and political implications of archival recovery

Submission Guidelines

- **Proposal Types:** Individual papers (10-15 minutes) and posters. [No panel submission, please]. Individuals may only present one paper or poster. Undergraduate participation is welcome through poster presentations.

- **Abstracts:** 250 words maximum. Please include a paper/poster title, participant(s) name(s), institutional affiliation(s), 3-5 keywords and a brief bio (100 words).

- **Languages:** Proposals may be submitted in English or Spanish. Presentations may be delivered in either language.

- **Deadline:** ~~December 1, 2025~~ January 12, 2026 (deadline extended)

- **Submission Portal:** https://bit.ly/recoveryade26

Submit your proposal at https://bit.ly/recoveryade26 by ~~Dec. 1, 2025~~ January 12, 2026.

Workshops will be organized by ADE and eLabs.