



EMORY
LIBRARIES &
INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY

NAVIGATING THE E- IN PERSONAL PAPERS: The Lucille Clifton Email

Archiving Email Symposium
Library of Congress, June 2, 2015

Dorothy Waugh
Digital Archives Project Archivist
MARBL, Emory University

Practical Approaches to Accessioning and Processing Email

What are the main challenges of email archiving that make it different from other types of digital data? What are the roles of the donor, archivist, and technologist in acquiring and accessioning email records in archival collections? Archivists in the federal, state and cultural heritage communities face these and other questions when acquiring collections containing email. In this “boots on the ground” topic track, archivists will present lessons learned, including real life challenges and successes stories, to help participants understand how policies and decision-making practices were applied to accessioning and processing email archives.

Practical Approaches to Accessioning and Processing Email

What are the main challenges

“archivists will present lessons learned...”

(I certainly will)

“including real life challenges...”

(without a shadow of a doubt)

“and success stories.”

(well, you can't win them all)

Lucille Clifton papers, circa 1936-2010

BLACK SUPER
America made us heroines
not wives,
we learned the tricks
to keep the race together
but had to leave our son
to find themselves
and now they damn
what they cannot forgive.
Even ol massam son
lives in a dream
remembering the lie
we made his love.
America made us heroines
not wives,
We hid our Iadyness
to save our lives



roughly 2,500 email and attachments currently
imperfectly available to our researchers

CHALLENGE 1

Dodgy email clients

(I'm talking about you, AOL)

Challenge 1: DODGY EMAIL CLIENTS

Folder: cliftona1112

Subject: [Aid4Mail Trial tag #3] RE: The Collected Poems of Lucille Clifton
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 2010 09:48:57
From: conners@boaeditions.org
To: klyoung@emory.edu
Cc: cliftona1112@aol.com
MDS: d1e38388146485bef4af03efd773238

Return-Path:
Received: from mtain-de02.r1000.mx.aol.com (mtain-de02.r1000.mx.aol.com [172.29.64.202]) by air-me07.mail.aol.com (v129.4) with ESMTTP id MAILINME073-8bba4cbef34821a; Wed, 20 Oct 2010 09:48:56 -0400
Received: from mail-pv0-f176.google.com (mail-pv0-f176.google.com [74.125.83.176]) by mtain-de02.r1000.mx.aol.com (Internet Inbound) with ESMTTP id 56C8838000084 for ; Wed, 20 Oct 2010 09:48:56 -0400 (EDT)
Received: by mail-pv0-f176.google.com with SMTP id 12so285156pvd.7 for ; Wed, 20 Oct 2010 06:48:56 -0700 (PDT)
Received: by 10.142.211.20 with SMTP id j20mr5793756wfg.408.1287582535621; Wed, 20 Oct 2010 06:48:55 -0700 (PDT)
Received: from boaws2 (70-101-65-195.ds11-field.roc.ny.frontiernet.net [70.101.65.195]) by mx.google.com with ESMTTPS id p30sm71680vcf2.2010.10.20.06.48.53 (version=SSLV3 cipher=RC4-MD5); Wed, 20 Oct 2010 06:48:54 -0700 (PDT)
>From: "Peter Connors"
To: "Young, Kevin"
Cc:
References:
Subject: RE: The Collected Poems of Lucille Clifton
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 2010 09:48:53 -0400
Message-ID:
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
boundary="====_NextPart_000_0264_01CB703C.0258E500"
X-Mailer: Microsoft Office Outlook 11
Thread-Index: ActvAGUVJKQ+X+sDST+jik4g8vqPkgBVM6aAAGO68A=
In-Reply-To:
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V6.00.2900.5994
x-aol-global-disposition: G
x-aol-id: 3039ac1d40ca4cbef3486de9
X-AOL-IP: 74.125.83.176
X-AOL-SPF: domain : boaeditions.org SPF : none

Re: The Collected Poems of Lucille Clifton

Dear Kevin,

Thank you for your enthusiasm –it perfectly fits our building excitement for the project.

re: Timeline. We're planning for a fall 2012 pub date. That gives us a full year to quietly assemble the book. Then another six months to prepare the final typeset, the cover, pre-promotion, etc. I am planning on cutting one book from our usual fall publication list to focus additional resources on printing and promoting this major collection.

re: your editorial role.
I encourage as much of this kind of feedback from you as possible. I envision an ongoing dialogue with you, Michael, Lexi and all the Clifton sisters. Your comments are right on. I want this to be as comprehensive as possible –but with none of the scholarly apparatus that you

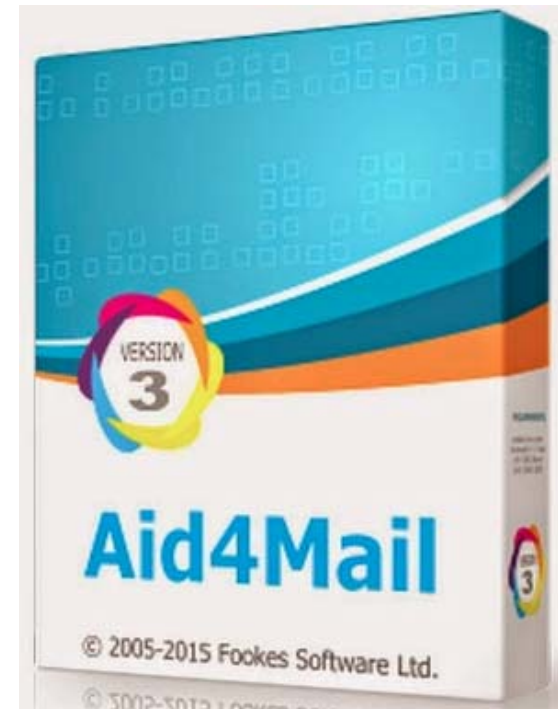
Page #1

Challenge 1: DODGY EMAIL CLIENTS

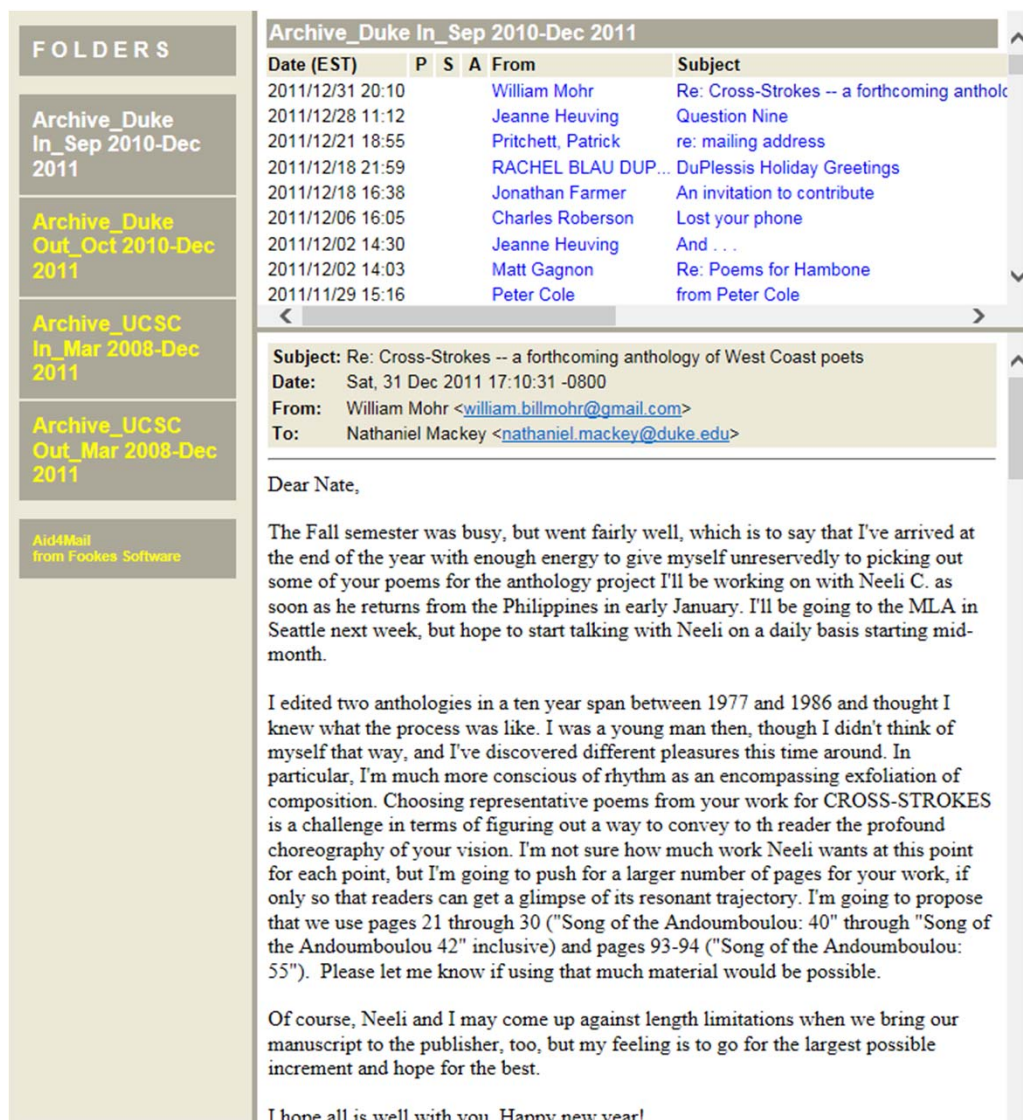


<http://www.weirdkid.com/products/emailchemy/>

<http://www.aid4mail.com>



Challenge 2: EXPORTING EMAIL FROM A LIVE ACCOUNT



The screenshot shows an email client interface. On the left is a sidebar with a 'FOLDERS' section containing several folders: 'Archive_Duke In_Sep 2010-Dec 2011', 'Archive_Duke Out_Oct 2010-Dec 2011', 'Archive_UCSC In_Mar 2008-Dec 2011', 'Archive_UCSC Out_Mar 2008-Dec 2011', and 'Aid4Mail from Fookes Software'. The main area displays a list of emails under the folder 'Archive_Duke In_Sep 2010-Dec 2011'. The selected email is from William Mohr, dated 2011/12/31 20:10, with the subject 'Re: Cross-Strokes -- a forthcoming anthol...'. The email body text is as follows:

Subject: Re: Cross-Strokes -- a forthcoming anthology of West Coast poets
Date: Sat, 31 Dec 2011 17:10:31 -0800
From: William Mohr <william.billmohr@gmail.com>
To: Nathaniel Mackey <nathaniel.mackey@duke.edu>

Dear Nate,

The Fall semester was busy, but went fairly well, which is to say that I've arrived at the end of the year with enough energy to give myself unreservedly to picking out some of your poems for the anthology project I'll be working on with Neeli C. as soon as he returns from the Philippines in early January. I'll be going to the MLA in Seattle next week, but hope to start talking with Neeli on a daily basis starting mid-month.

I edited two anthologies in a ten year span between 1977 and 1986 and thought I knew what the process was like. I was a young man then, though I didn't think of myself that way, and I've discovered different pleasures this time around. In particular, I'm much more conscious of rhythm as an encompassing exfoliation of composition. Choosing representative poems from your work for CROSS-STROKES is a challenge in terms of figuring out a way to convey to th reader the profound choreography of your vision. I'm not sure how much work Neeli wants at this point for each point, but I'm going to push for a larger number of pages for your work, if only so that readers can get a glimpse of its resonant trajectory. I'm going to propose that we use pages 21 through 30 ("Song of the Andoumboulou: 40" through "Song of the Andoumboulou 42" inclusive) and pages 93-94 ("Song of the Andoumboulou: 55"). Please let me know if using that much material would be possible.

Of course, Neeli and I may come up against length limitations when we bring our manuscript to the publisher, too, but my feeling is to go for the largest possible increment and hope for the best.

I hope all is well with you. Happy new year!

Aid4Mail's MHT Web Archives file format

Challenge 1: DODGY EMAIL CLIENTS

Folder: Incoming-Saved Mail

Subject: Re: Fwd: Finalized Itinerary for Lucille Clifton
Date: Sat, 05 Apr 2008 09:02:12 -0400
From: "Susan Thornton Hobby" <susanthobby@yahoo.com>
To: <cliftona1112@aol.com>
Message-ID: <51245.81485.qm@web52801.mail.re2.yahoo.com>
MD5: 65142a78db5c002862841ce6c1f56c32

Hi Lucille,

I got everything, and will be happy to drop it by today! I'll give a call before I do ... Everyone here is still asleep, so I need to check some schedules before I head out ...

Susan

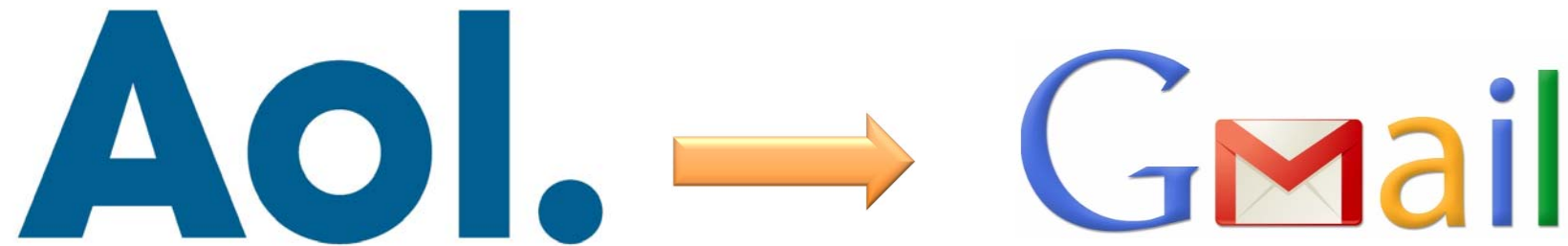
CHALLENGE 2

Exporting email from a live account

Challenge 2: **EXPORTING EMAIL FROM A LIVE ACCOUNT**

LESSON LEARNED:
Don't do this again.

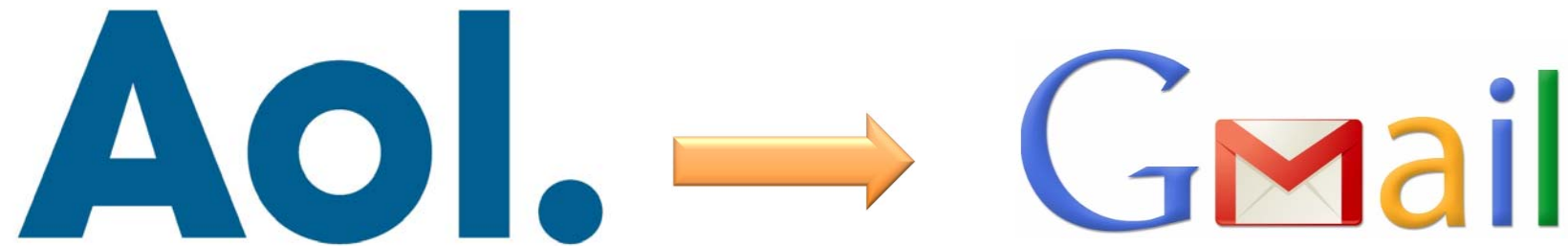
Challenge 2: EXPORTING EMAIL FROM A LIVE ACCOUNT



THE GOOD:

- Preserved the original formatting of the email
- Provided access to emails in something like the original context
- Preserved most attachments

Challenge 2: EXPORTING EMAIL FROM A LIVE ACCOUNT



THE BAD:

- Not a preservation solution
- A step sideways, rather than forward

TO RECAP...

Local AOL PFC file



Migrated to MBOX,
using Emailchemy



Migrated to PDF,
using Aid4Mail

Active AOL account



Exported to MARBL
Gmail account



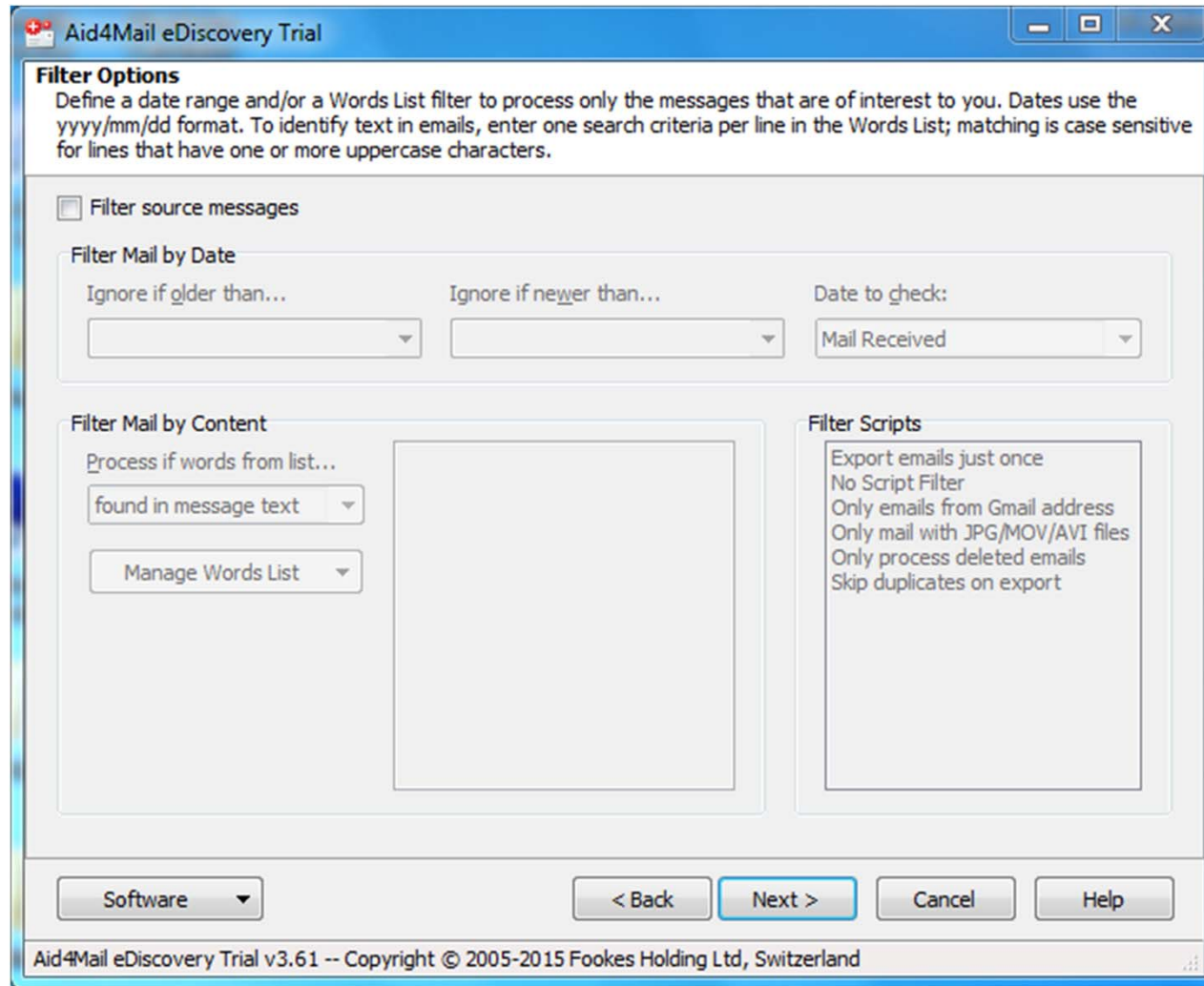
Migrated to PDF,
using Aid4Mail

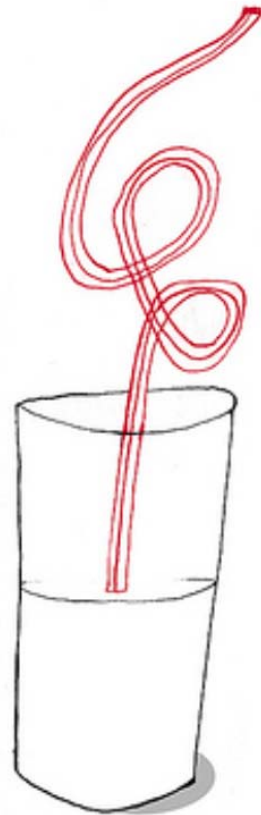
CHALLENGE 3

Sharing

(Email accounts. And, on a more personal level, Swedish Fish.)

Challenge 3: SHARING AN EMAIL ACCOUNT





BECAUSE
THE GLASS
REALLY IS
HALF-FULL

CHALLENGE 4

How best do we deliver email to our researchers?

CHALLENGE 4A



































Attachments





































(you know you're on to a winner when your challenges have sub-challenges)

CHALLENGE 4B

Dates




































Challenge 4B: DATES

 [Fwd- Referred by Ed Hirsch].pdf	10/6/2011 11:22 PM
 6-word memoirs.pdf	10/6/2011 11:25 PM
 25th Annual Scholarship, Awards and Re...	10/6/2011 11:22 PM
 75th Birthday Celebration - Vincent Hardi...	10/6/2011 11:23 PM
 2006 Council Grove Conference deadline....	10/6/2011 11:23 PM
 2007 Cider Press Review Book Award - Wi...	10/6/2011 11:24 PM
 a few comments.pdf	10/6/2011 11:21 PM
 a letter to the editor about an incident in ...	10/6/2011 11:25 PM
 a poem.pdf	10/6/2011 11:25 PM
 Academy of American Poets Recording.p...	10/6/2011 11:23 PM
 Acupuncture ...from Linda Joy Burke.pdf	10/6/2011 11:22 PM
 Address for Tree just in case you need it...	10/6/2011 11:25 PM
 Airline options to Hanover, NH.pdf	10/6/2011 11:20 PM
 AirTran Airways Confirmation for LUCILL...	10/6/2011 11:25 PM
 AirTran Airways Confirmation for LUCILL...	10/6/2011 11:27 PM
 An apology.pdf	10/6/2011 11:26 PM
 An aspiring writer from Coker College.pdf	10/6/2011 11:22 PM
 another new poem, hope you like it.pdf	10/6/2011 11:21 PM
 Archive materials.pdf	10/6/2011 11:20 PM
 basket o' goodies.pdf	10/6/2011 11:25 PM
 Bennett Hart Horvath has arrived -.pdf	10/6/2011 11:22 PM
 Biographies of Nominees.pdf	10/6/2011 11:21 PM
 Birthday List - DRAFT.pdf	10/6/2011 11:22 PM
 Board Update.pdf	10/6/2011 11:26 PM
 books and photo and other questions.pdf	10/6/2011 11:20 PM
 books.pdf	10/6/2011 11:27 PM
 Callaloo Invitation.pdf	10/6/2011 11:22 PM
 Canon and Chorus- Black Poets in Prose....	10/6/2011 11:24 PM
 Chicago.pdf	10/6/2011 11:24 PM
 Children's book on Palestine.pdf	10/6/2011 11:22 PM
 Clifton itinerary.pdf	10/6/2011 11:21 PM
 Clifton travel.pdf	10/6/2011 11:20 PM
 Clifton travel[1].pdf	10/6/2011 11:20 PM
 Cochran Firm.pdf	10/6/2011 11:25 PM

Name	Date Modified ▲	Size
 Fw- Lucille(2).pdf	Jan 12, 2005, 3:26 PM	187 KB
 invitation.pdf	Feb 13, 2005, 3:36 PM	192 KB
 FW- invitation to read.pdf	Feb 23, 2005, 10:55 AM	370 KB
 Poetry Master Class at Bryn Mawr College.pdf	Feb 25, 2005, 1:05 PM	191 KB
 To the Academy Chancellor.pdf	Feb 25, 2005, 5:59 PM	191 KB
 Visit to Alaska.pdf	Feb 28, 2005, 3:20 PM	192 KB
 Airline options to Hanover, NH.pdf	Mar 4, 2005, 2:04 PM	191 KB
 Clifton travel[1].pdf	Mar 4, 2005, 2:12 PM	191 KB
 Clifton travel.pdf	Mar 4, 2005, 2:20 PM	191 KB
▶  My Mom's Opening Art Reception	Mar 16, 2005, 2:48 PM	--
 Duke University.pdf	Mar 18, 2005, 4:47 PM	189 KB
 Archive materials.pdf	Mar 18, 2005, 4:48 PM	191 KB
 Duke University[1].pdf	Apr 8, 2005, 4:57 PM	194 KB
 Connections.pdf	Apr 8, 2005, 9:20 PM	246 KB
 Re- (no subject)(2).pdf	Apr 9, 2005, 6:59 PM	194 KB
 Re- (no subject)2.pdf	Apr 9, 2005, 8:59 PM	245 KB
 Poem-(2).pdf	Apr 23, 2005, 10:01 AM	187 KB
 Poem-.pdf	Apr 23, 2005, 1:01 PM	187 KB
 Lane Community College.pdf	May 2, 2005, 7:28 PM	239 KB
 Lane Community College[1].pdf	May 7, 2005, 12:00 PM	244 KB
 congratulations.pdf	May 8, 2005, 12:09 PM	184 KB
 SMCM.pdf	May 9, 2005, 12:38 PM	187 KB
▶  Lucille Clifton[1]	May 10, 2005, 4:14 PM	--
▶  Lucille Clifton[2]	May 10, 2005, 4:29 PM	--
▶  Lucille Clifton	May 10, 2005, 4:42 PM	--
 Re- Lucille Clifton(2).pdf	May 11, 2005, 5:02 PM	189 KB
 Tragic news.pdf	May 18, 2005, 3:19 PM	188 KB
 books.pdf	May 20, 2005, 4:49 PM	190 KB
 summertime, summertime, sum-sum-summertime.pdf	May 25, 2005, 12:17 PM	246 KB
 Re- Re- The biography.pdf	May 31, 2005, 1:09 PM	188 KB
 The Wallace Stevens Award.pdf	Jun 6, 2005, 3:42 PM	197 KB
▶  Georgetown invitation	Jun 13, 2005, 9:55 PM	--
 Photo and Bio.pdf	Jun 16, 2005, 2:44 PM	270 KB
 I'm a grandma!.pdf	Jun 19, 2005, 7:04 AM	183 KB
▶  Fw Yes	Jun 20, 2005, 12:51 PM	--
 books and photo and other questions.pdf	Jun 25, 2005, 12:17 PM	244 KB

CHALLENGE 4C

Microsoft Windows

Name	Date modified	Type	Size
 Clifton itinerary	3/3/2006 11:30 AM	File folder	
 FW R. Hardings essay on the Spirituals in ...	3/22/2006 8:51 PM	File folder	
 Re just to say hello... ·	3/26/2006 11:24 AM	File folder	
 [Fwd can you ask Lucille ·]	3/30/2006 10:00 AM	File folder	
 [Fwd Referred by Ed Hirsch]	5/11/2006 4:02 PM	File folder	
 Hello Ms. Clifton,	5/12/2006 5:25 AM	File folder	
 Fw stanley kunitz last recorded words	5/24/2006 11:21 PM	File folder	
 Fwd [Panhala] Sweet Darkness -- David ...	7/12/2006 12:51 PM	File folder	
 FW [dc-cluster] Fwd [Dcpaw] Split This R...	11/17/2006 12:00 ...	File folder	
 Fwd Lucille Clifton(2)	12/19/2006 7:07 AM	File folder	
 Pushcart Celebration Mar. 8th mailings	2/7/2007 3:15 PM	File folder	
 New Menu	3/8/2007 9:01 AM	File folder	
 Confidential Invitation from MacArthur F...	5/30/2007 5:34 PM	File folder	
 Squaw Valley Poems	8/4/2007 7:42 PM	File folder	
 FW Memorial for Liam Rector	8/25/2007 7:56 AM	File folder	
 from Honi Jeffers	10/17/2007 5:48 PM	File folder	
 new poem[1]	10/21/2007 11:51 ...	File folder	
 new poem	10/31/2007 11:32 ...	File folder	
 new old poem	11/4/2007 11:21 AM	File folder	
 Fwd contract for Carla	11/21/2007 6:36 AM	File folder	
 Letter & W-9 Forms(2)	11/28/2007 3:02 PM	File folder	
 mlk breakfast ad and potential guest writ...	12/10/2007 5:32 PM	File folder	
 Split This Rock schedule and travel plans(...	2/11/2008 5:10 PM	File folder	
 Board Update(1)	3/12/2008 4:11 PM	File folder	
 Fw contract for poem · mulberry fields...	3/18/2008 6:23 PM	File folder	
 Fw- Lucille(2)	1/12/2005 3:26 PM	Adobe Acrobat D...	183 KB
 invitation	2/13/2005 3:36 PM	Adobe Acrobat D...	188 KB
 FW- invitation to read	2/23/2005 10:55 AM	Adobe Acrobat D...	362 KB
 Poetry Master Class at Bryn Mawr College	2/25/2005 1:05 PM	Adobe Acrobat D...	187 KB
 To the Academy Chancellor	2/25/2005 5:59 PM	Adobe Acrobat D...	187 KB
 Visit to Alaska	2/28/2005 3:20 PM	Adobe Acrobat D...	188 KB
 Airline options to Hanover, NH	3/4/2005 2:04 PM	Adobe Acrobat D...	187 KB
 Clifton travel[1]	3/4/2005 2:12 PM	Adobe Acrobat D...	187 KB
 Clifton travel	3/4/2005 2:20 PM	Adobe Acrobat D...	187 KB
 Duke University	3/18/2005 4:47 PM	Adobe Acrobat D...	185 KB

CHALLENGE 5

Description

TO CONCLUDE...

(because a sixth challenge is where I draw
the line)



Thank you!

dorothy.waugh@emory.edu