Record Nr. UNINA9910367626003321 Autore Brennan Sheila Titolo Stamping American memory: collectors, citizens, and the post // Sheila A. Brennan Pubbl/distr/stampa Ann Arbor, Michigan: ,: University of Michigan Press, , [2018] ©2018 **ISBN** 0-472-90084-6 0-472-12394-7 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (1 online resource.) Collana Digital humanities Disciplina 769.56973 Stamp collecting - United States - History Soggetti Postage stamps - United States - History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Building philatelic communities -- Learning to read stamps -- Federal Nota di contenuto participation in philately -- Shaping national identity with commemoratives in the 1920s and 1930s -- Representing unity and equality in New Deal stamps -- American commemorative stamps issued, 1892-1940. In the age of digital communications, it can be difficult to imagine a Sommario/riassunto time when the meaning and imagery of stamps was politically volatile. While millions of Americans collected stamps from the 1880s to the 1940s, Stamping American Memory is the first scholarly examination of stamp collecting culture and how stamps enabled citizens to engage their federal government in conversations about national life in earlytwentieth-century America. By examining the civic conversations that emerged around stamp subjects and imagery, this work brings to light the role that these under- examined historical artifacts have played in carrying political messages. Sheila A. Brennan crafts a fresh synthesis that explores how the US postal service shaped Americans' concepts of

national belonging, citizenship, and race through its commemorative stamp program. Designed to be saved as souvenirs, commemoratives

circulated widely and stood as miniature memorials to carefully selected snapshots from the American past that also served the political needs of small interest groups. Stamping American Memory brings together the histories of the US postal service and the federal government, collecting, and philately through the lenses of material culture and memory to make a significant contribution to our understanding of this period in American history