



NATIONAL COUNCIL ON PUBLIC HISTORY

Ballots were distributed by email to members on November 8. Please contact ncph@iupui.edu if you are a member and did not receive a ballot.

2022 Election – Candidate Statements

Information on current members of the NCPH Board of Directors is available at <https://ncph.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Board-Bios-1.pdf>

Vice-President/President-Elect

(Serves two years as vice-president, two years as president, and two years as past president on the Board of Directors.)

Denise Meringolo

University of Maryland, Baltimore County

It is an incredible honor to be nominated to serve as the vice-president/president-elect of the National Council on Public History, an organization that has been crucial to my evolution as a scholar-practitioner. I have been actively involved with NCPH for over fifteen years. During that time, I served on the Curriculum and Training Committee (2006-2011), as a member of the Program Committee for the 2013 Annual Meeting in Ottawa, Canada, on the Board of Directors (2013-2016), and as chair of the Local Arrangements Committee for the 2016 Annual Meeting in Baltimore. I am currently a member of the Governance Committee. I am also proud to have been an NCPH Book Award winner in 2013. Throughout my years of involvement with NCPH, I have seen first-hand the deep commitment that so many of us have for our organization and the professional community it represents. I have met my most influential mentors, most supportive colleagues, and many friends in NCPH. These relationships energize and inspire me.

My approach to public history has been shaped by my involvement in NCPH. I am currently an Associate Professor of History and the Director of Public History at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC). During the 2021-2022 academic year, I am also serving as Acting Director of the Drescher Center for the Humanities at UMBC. I teach courses in community-centered public history practice, material culture and museums, and digital public history. I train students to conduct history as a form of public service, and to see themselves as facilitators who engage in meaningful dialogue with self-identified communities in order to co-create new and meaningful understandings about the past.

I practice what I teach. My work emphasizes collaborative inquiry, dialogic interpretation, and accessibility. I created a working group at the 2014 NCPH Annual Meeting in Monterey, California, that brought together a group of scholars and practitioners interested in analyzing connections between public history and social justice, in the past and today. Together, we initiated a large collaborative study, *Radical Roots: Public History, and a Tradition of Social Justice Activism*; our findings will be published as an open access digital book by Amherst College Press this fall. In 2015, my students and I organized a crowdsourced collection project, *Preserve the Baltimore Uprising*, in response to protests against police

violence and the murder of Freddie Gray. The collection is a digital space where individuals and organizations can choose to preserve images, videos, and stories about the protests and about ongoing activism around issues of racial injustice. With support from the Whiting Foundation, I engaged local museum professionals, culture activists, high school students, teachers, and community groups to ensure both that the collection centered community perspectives and that it was visible, accessible, and put to use by local people.

I am not unique. My approach to public history has been shaped by my involvement in NCPH, and I am excited to see our organization moving toward a new era of independence, accountability, and accessibility. Despite the significant impacts of the pandemic, we continue to work towards financial independence to allow us more freedom to expand our capacity and reach. We have also begun to take necessary time for self-reflection and repair work; we are examining and identifying responses to serious issues in the field, including persistent gender discrimination and sexual harassment and insufficient diversity and equity. More recently, the COVID-19 pandemic pushed us to experiment with various modes of communication that hold promise for broadening the accessibility of our programs and meetings going forward. During the next five years, we have the opportunity to build on what we have learned. I am proud of the hard work we are doing to make sure our organization lives up to our highest aspirations regarding accessibility, equity, and inclusivity. I am committed to implementing material changes that can advance those goals, so every public historian feels engaged in, heard, and supported by our organization.

Secretary

(Please vote for **one (1)** candidate. The Secretary, an officer of the Board of Directors, is elected triennially.)

Edward Roach

National Park Service

I'm honored to have been asked to run for NCPH's newly separated secretary role. NCPH has been an important part of my professional development as a historian since I was in graduate school in the late 1990s. I've attended and participated in quite a few of the annual meetings and working groups over the years—I think the first I attended was the joint meeting with the OAH in Washington in 2002—and every spring I look forward to gaining fresh insights and new knowledge from colleagues from across the globe.

History—and more specifically, public history—has always been a part of my life. I grew up in historic places, principally Yorktown, Virginia, and Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, where my (now-retired) father worked for the National Park Service (NPS), and history was something that I always wanted to pursue professionally. A BA from Moravian College in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and an MA from Indiana University of Pennsylvania provided me with a good foundation for what I do now. I also conducted public history and archival work for Adams County, Pennsylvania, while working on my MA. After finishing it, I taught secondary English in Ukraine with the US Peace Corps and had the great luck of leveraging my Peace Corps service into obtaining a position as a historian with the National Park Service's old Servicewide Intake Program upon my return. I worked for a few years at Prince William Forest Park in northern Virginia, and I relocated to Dayton in 2003 to be the site historian for Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, a multi-site NPS unit that commemorates the lives and legacies of poet Paul Laurence Dunbar and airplane inventors Wilbur and Orville Wright, contemporaries who all called Dayton home.

At Dayton, I run the park's resources management program, which handles everything from environmental and historic preservation compliance for Dayton and nearby William Howard Taft and Charles Young sites to managing the park's library and curatorial programs and conducting in-depth research in support of the interpretive themes of the park and its many partners. Over the years I've written several National Register of Historic Places nominations for local resources, published a book on the Wrights' rather ill-fated attempt to commercialize their airplane in the United States, and contributed to multiple historic furnishing, historic structure, and cultural landscape studies, as well as assisted with several long-term planning efforts. Some days I'm a Gilded Age/Progressive Era historian; some days I'm answering visitor queries, sitting in planning meetings, or filing NHPA documentation. It's a varied life that I'm fortunate to have.

As your secretary, I look forward to being able to provide more constant attention to the board's record-keeping. While anyone who's seen my handwriting knows they don't want me taking minutes by hand, I'm a good typist and hope to continue the trend of keeping good minutes on board proceedings. I'd also like to work with the board and the Indianapolis staff to see if there are any ways we can improve the organization's long-term record-keeping to ensure that we continue to have the resources to understand the development of NCPH and its growth into the diverse organization that it is now.

Board of Directors

(You may vote for up to **three (3)** individuals. Board members serve three-year terms. The NCPH board defines and advances the organization's mission, protects its financial and human assets, ensures adequate resources to carry out the mission, supervises and supports the executive director, and promotes the interests, programs, and reputation of NCPH. Members of the board include the president, vice president, immediate past president, secretary, treasurer, and nine other elected members, with the executive director, digital media editor/*The Public Historian* co-editor, and the editor of *The Public Historian* serving as ex officio, non-voting members.)

Christopher Cantwell

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

I am deeply honored to be nominated to serve on the National Council on Public History's Board of Directors. As someone who has benefited from the work others have done in the organization, I am thrilled by this opportunity to give back to NCPH. As an Assistant Professor of Public and Digital History at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, I am deeply committed to the pedagogical responsibility we have to future public historians. Should I be fortunate enough to serve on NCPH's board, I will bring this same commitment by ensuring that our members can successfully navigate a rapidly changing professional landscape while maintaining the field's commitment to a progressive and inclusive view of the past.

This dedication was born in part out of my own professional trajectory. While completing my PhD in history at Cornell University, I worked variously as an archival page at the Wisconsin Historical Society, a local organizer with the New York Council for the Humanities, and as the assistant director of the Scholl Center for American History at the Newberry Library in Chicago where I specialized in the digital augmentation of the Library's physical programs. The breadth of this experience has afforded me a similarly expansive view of both the opportunities and challenges public historians face. In particular, it instilled in me a vision for the field that is digitally inclined, professionally diverse, and uncompromisingly just.

For example, from 2013 to 2017 I was on faculty at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, where I helped develop the history department's public history program. While there, I developed a fully funded internship program that not only provided all our students with stipends and tuition remissions, but also expanded public history's professional networks. Alongside traditional sites like museums and libraries,

our intern partners also included the Kansas City Chiefs, the City of Kansas City, H&R Block, and local nonprofits. These relationships afforded our students both invaluable professional experience and a chance to make an immediate impact in the field. One of the projects we developed, for example, recently made national news after the Governor of Missouri pulled it from display at the State Capitol. The exhibit, called *Making History: Kansas City and the Rise of Gay Rights*, is a traveling and virtual project that documents the early days of LGBTQ activism in Kansas City. It had been developed by students in my public history class in partnership with a local LGBTQ group, was fabricated and digitized by an intern with a federal heritage organization, and was shipped around the state by our library partner. While the Governor's censorship is unconscionable, the reaction to the exhibit—and the subsequent groundswell in interest it has received—underscores the importance of these overlapping relationships between a diverse network of partners, a project's digital footprint, and an inclusive vision for the past.

I intend to bring a similar vision to the Board of Directors, emphasizing digital innovation, professional flexibility, and social creativity. In particular, I hope to promote greater use of podcasting and audio storytelling within the field and an increased emphasis on the study of religion. At the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, we've developed relationships with our local NPR station as an outlet for both internships and the promotion of historical literacy. One of the projects has students produce audio profiles to places of worship throughout the city in an attempt to build both an awareness and an appreciation for Milwaukee's religious diversity. At a time when Christian nationalism is on the rise, such work is vital. Public historians have both an opportunity and a responsibility to advocate for a religiously diverse vision of both the past and present. The other professional association I am a member of, the American Academy of Religion (AAR), recently rewrote its mission to encourage the promotion of "the public understanding of religion." As a co-director of the AAR's Religion and Memory subcommittee, I look forward to building a relationship between the organizations.

I have been a member of NCPH for more than a decade, serving as a digital drop-in consultant and as a member of the Professional Development Committee. I am grateful for this opportunity to continue to develop my contributions to the field.

B. Erin Cole

Historian, Artist, and Independent Museum Professional

It is a great honor to be nominated to serve on the NCPH Board of Directors. Over my decade-long career as a public historian, I've always seen NCPH as a welcoming home for public history in all its forms; a place where academics, students, and practitioners of all types can come together and strengthen our field. I served on the Program Committee for the 2021 NCPH conference (originally scheduled for Salt Lake City and then moved online due to the COVID-19 pandemic), and I have also participated in NCPH working groups. If elected to the Board I would work to represent the interests of independent practitioners and encourage NCPH to be more ambitious in reaching these individuals. I plan to be a strong advocate for public historians working outside formal institutions, whether they're artists, writers, community organizers, or activists, who do important public-facing work rooted in history.

I am a public historian and museum professional who creates immersive, community-engaged and visitor-centered exhibits that connect the past with contemporary stories and issues. From 2015 to fall 2021, I worked as an Exhibit Developer at the Minnesota History Center in St. Paul. Before that, I was the assistant state historian at History Colorado. During my decade in the museum field, I've researched, written, developed, or managed exhibits on the Minneapolis music scene, the history of Minnesota's Asian Indian community, the Chicano movement in Colorado, the Ludlow Massacre, tourism in Rocky

Mountain National Park, and the environmental history of Colorado. I am now working for myself as an independent museum professional and historian.

I am also an artist who draws comics about history and my work as a public historian. Last year, I published "The Desert Keeps Receipts" in *Contingent Magazine*, a comic about visiting the Nevada Test Site on a tour bus full of historians. On my own site, I also published a comic about working as a historian outside the academy, titled "Am I Still A Historian?" In 2018, *Contingent* also published a comic I wrote and drew about making visitor-centered exhibits, titled "I Am A Historian I Make Exhibits." I am currently working on several longform comic projects related to history—one combines memoir with the history of mining and resource extraction in the American West, and the other looks at debates over housing, neighborhoods, and families in contemporary Denver, based on my dissertation research.

I earned my BA from Mesa State College (now Colorado Mesa University), and my MA and PhD in Western history from the University of New Mexico. I am a historian of the urban West, specializing in the intersection of race, sexuality, planning, and urban space in contemporary Western cities. I began working in museums as a contract exhibit researcher while I was ABD, and realized I loved the creativity and collaboration inherent in public-history work, so I chose to continue museum work rather than going on the academic job market—a decision I have never regretted.

Cheryl Dong

University of Northern Iowa

I am deeply honored and humbled to be nominated for the Board of Directors for the National Council on Public History. As a young, career professional, I bring a needed perspective on the changing career trajectories of young public history professionals and graduate students during a time of drastic change for the profession. My goal as a member of the Board of Directors is simple. I will speak up for the perspectives of junior members in our field and the particular challenges they are facing today navigating the job market, graduate school, and internships. I will strive to pay particular attention to the most vulnerable members of our field and to promote programming that addresses the perspectives of people of color and other marginalized communities.

I am currently serving on the NCPH Program Committee for the 2022 Montreal Conference. Before that, I received the New Professional Award in 2021 and participated in the Equitable Remote Internships working group at the 2021 conference. NCPH has been a source of inspiration and inclusion for me as a young scholar, and a safe space from where I can workshop ideas and participate freely without fear of judgment. Many of my most important networking experiences have originated from NCPH. As a member of the Board of Directors, I will push NCPH to make even greater changes towards inclusivity, promoting career opportunities, and networking.

I am currently an Assistant Professor in History and the Director of Public History at the University of Northern Iowa. In that position, I am responsible for directing all public history internships, advising, and recruitment for the public history undergraduate programs and graduate MA emphasis. My professional interests include African American history, with a specific emphasis on Black Power studies. I am currently working on a manuscript entitled, *Why Don't You Die for the People? Memory and Martyrdom in the Black Panther Party*, which uses the lens of memory and heritage studies to analyze how the Black Panthers memorialized those who had died or were imprisoned. I am also the first graduate from North Carolina State University's PhD program in public history. Personally, the experience of being part of that first cohort of graduate students in a new, untried program shaped how I envisioned the possibilities as well as the potential limitations of my degree. Without the fearless mentorship of the

public history faculty there, I would not have had the confidence or the skills to succeed in my current career. It is that tradition of mentorship and service that I would like to share.

Laura Miller

Independent Historical Consultant

I am honored and delighted to be nominated to join the NCPH Board of Directors. I have been a member of NCPH since 2008, when I attended my first conference in Louisville as a public history graduate student. Since then, the organization's invaluable professional resources and lively network of practitioners have shaped and guided my career path. From my time as a master's and PhD student at UMass Amherst, to my work as a historian at the Rockefeller Archive Center in Sleepy Hollow, New York, and my present work as a historical consultant based in Western Massachusetts, I have continued to learn from and be inspired by NCPH and its members.

As a historical consultant, I specialize in oral history, research, writing, and editing projects for public history organizations and other nonprofits. My research interests in environmental history, travel and tourism, and the history of the National Park Service have led me to several consulting projects for the NPS; most recently, I co-authored a Historic Resource Study of the War on Poverty-era Job Corps Conservation Center at Acadia National Park (forthcoming) and wrote an administrative history of Adams National Historical Park in Quincy, Massachusetts (2020). I also research and write about the history of American philanthropy and have worked on research projects for the Ford and Rockefeller Foundations that help them better understand their institutional histories and connect their forward-looking work with historical precedent. Being self-employed has reinforced for me how critical NCPH is in building a strong sense of community among public historians.

My appreciation for NCPH has only grown through my years of service to the organization. I served as a member and co-chair of the New Professional and Student Committee, a longtime member of the Digital Media Group (DMG) and affiliate editor of *History@Work*, and presently, a member of the Professional Development Committee. My time as chair of the DMG from 2017 to 2020, in particular, opened my eyes to the many ways that NCPH's staff and committee members work tirelessly to build a supportive and welcoming community for public historians. Our organization's ever-growing membership, digital and print publications, social media presence, and enthusiastic conference participation indicate that we are on the right path.

NCPH thrives, in part, because of its broad and inclusive community of practitioners who share a passion for engaging the public in the practice of history. It also thrives because its members are willing to evolve, engage with challenges in the field, and connect our work to contemporary issues. If elected to the Board of Directors, I would devote myself to continuing this important work.

Kristyn Scorsone (They/Them)

Rutgers University-Newark

I am honored and appreciative of the opportunity to stand for election to the NCPH Board of Directors. I first became familiar with NCPH through a mentor at my university who inspired me to pursue public history as a career and become a member of the organization. My affiliation with NCPH has given me invaluable insight into the field and a chance to build knowledge and skills thanks to their website, publications, resources, and annual meetings.

I am a PhD candidate in American Studies at Rutgers University-Newark. Throughout my time as a

doctoral student, as well as during my master's in history at Rutgers-Newark, I became involved in the Queer Newark Oral History Project (QNOHP). QNOHP is a community-directed and driven organization that documents and preserves the life stories of the LGBTQ+ community of Newark, which is a multi-racial post-industrial city with a rich queer and transgender history. As a member of the project, I have conducted dozens of oral histories, assisted in the curation of a historical exhibit under the advisement of a community advisory board made up of Newark LGBTQ community members, created and led historical walking tours, moderated and participated in panel events, trained others to do oral history, managed volunteers and social media outreach, and created, hosted, and produced a Queer Newark podcast. Outside of my work with the project, I have worked as an archival assistant at the Newark Public Library and as a graduate assistant with the Humanities Action Lab (HAL) facilitating the production of community-curated public humanities projects on urgent social issues such as mass incarceration and climate change.

I am also immensely proud to have published an essay in the May 2019 LGBTQ-themed issue of *The Public Historian* on Black queer women entrepreneurs in Newark and how their labor informs their activism as grassroots organizers who are engaged in queer institution-building and public history projects. I plan to build on this essay for my dissertation which will explore different sites of Black, queer, and transgender women's labor in Newark since the 1970s.

I also proudly serve on the NCPH board-led subcommittee on Gender Discrimination and Sexual Harassment as the leader of the resources team. Together, we created a document on "Gender Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Resources for Public History Practitioners, Consultants, Educators, and Students," which features resources organized by category as well as guidelines on how to identify a good resource and how to develop effective anti-harassment and antidiscrimination policies for your institution. NCPH added it to their website in October and our group is excited to see there are plans for it to be used in a new professional development course for MA students in IUPUI's public history program. As someone who has experienced workplace discrimination, it has been an honor to serve as an advocate for folks who experience harm.

What's more, through NCPH I have had the pleasure to meet folks who are warm and welcoming as well as dedicated to this work and committed to progress. As a queer and non-binary person, I felt especially proud to be a part of NCPH when I saw their recent unequivocal call for the reinstatement of the 2016 exhibit *Making History: Kansas City and the Rise of Gay Rights*, produced by students in the University of Missouri-Kansas City's public history program, which was removed after being targeted by homophobic lawmakers and staffers.

As a member of the board, I would be committed to ensuring that NPCH continues to work towards transformative change in terms of diversity and inclusion, which would include focusing on the culture of the field and uncovering ways in which we are able to facilitate pathways for those historically marginalized to truly advance and thrive as public history experts.

William Stoutamire
University of Nebraska at Kearney

It is an honor to be nominated for the NCPH Board of Directors. NCPH has been my professional home for more than a decade and the opportunity to contribute substantially to the continued growth and vibrancy of this organization is exciting. I am currently an Assistant Professor of History at the University of Nebraska at Kearney (UNK), where I coordinate both our undergraduate public history minor and MA concentration in public history, which can be completed fully online. I also have an extensive history of

service within NCPH and a commitment to thinking broadly, creatively, and intentionally about our future. I see the opportunity to join the NCPH Board of Directors as a chance to continue working to build an organization that embraces a bold vision for future growth, change, and financial stability, while also remaining responsive to the immediate needs of public historians.

For the past several years, I have dedicated much of my professional service to NCPH. I have served on the Long Range Planning (LRP) Committee since 2016, helping to develop the current Long Range Plan and then guide its implementation throughout the organization. As co-chair of the LRP Committee since 2018, I have worked closely with NCPH staff and committee chairs to track LRP progress, update the Board of Directors on issues related to the LRP, and ultimately ensure that the organization adheres as closely as possible to the lofty goals outlined in the original plan. I am now helping to lead the LRP Committee through the early phases of developing a new Long Range Plan, which will go into effect in 2023. If elected to the Board of Directors, I will bring this commitment to long-term thinking to the Board – as well as provide an important direct link between the Board and the LRP during a crucial period of transition in the strategic vision for our organization.

My contributions to NCPH also come through several years of service on the Development Committee, where I worked closely with NCPH staff and my Endowment Campaign co-chair, Priya Chhaya, on the 2020 Vision Campaign. This multi-year fundraising effort, which concluded this past spring, successfully grew the NCPH Endowment Fund to \$1 million. Our work has helped to provide NCPH with greater financial stability and support for many of the important programs that NCPH offers, such as conference scholarships for graduate students and new professionals, diversity and inclusion initiatives, and the popular mini-cons. This experience has afforded me familiarity with the financials of NCPH and, combined with my work on the LRP, has furthered my desire to see NCPH engage in intentional planning and preparation for future growth.

I am also deeply invested in seeing that while we plan for the future, we also ensure that NCPH remains responsive to the needs of public historians in the moment. As evidence of this, I volunteered to serve as a co-facilitator of the Teaching Public History Online working group in Summer 2020. This working group, formed in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, collaborated with two dozen faculty from across the country to develop strategies for transitioning both graduate and undergraduate public history courses into the online environment. I am particularly proud of this work as a model for how NCPH can be flexible and responsive in moments of crisis.

In short, I believe that my years of experience in service to NCPH have prepared me for election to the NCPH Board of Directors. If selected, I will bring to the Board a collaborative spirit, a deep knowledge of the organization, and a desire to vision with intention for a strong and progressive future.

Nominating Committee

(You may vote for up to **two (2)** individuals. Nominating Committee members serve three-year terms. The committee identifies, determines the eligibility of, and contacts persons to be considered for elected offices of NCPH. Each Summer/Fall, the committee compiles the slate of candidates for the annual election.)

Richard Anderson

Humanities Action Lab, Rutgers University-Newark

I am honored to be nominated to serve on the NCPH Nominating Committee. Since attending my first annual meeting (in Portland, Oregon) as a new MA student in 2012, NCPH has been integral to my professional development as a public historian. Moreover, my experiences serving on NCPH committees

in the past and present have enriched my understanding of the field and provided me with a dense network of colleagues and friends who have helped me refine my approach to public history and guided me as I navigated several early-career moves. In the past, I served on the NCPH New Professional and Student Committee, the Advocacy Committee of the Board, and (currently) the Digital Media Group. I have also been a member of the editorial team of *History@Work* since 2015 and now serve as co-copyeditor. My work on the blog has introduced me to scores of NCPH members working in varied institutional contexts and engaging a range of topics and themes. As a member of the Nominating Committee, I would be eager to widen the circle of the organization's committee membership, seeking out nominees that reflect this demographic, geographic, and occupational diversity. Each infusion of new committee members benefits NCPH but also benefits—in my experience—those who serve.

I currently work as the Public Programming and Exhibitions Manager and Mellon/ACLS Public Fellow at the Humanities Action Lab (HAL), based at Rutgers University-Newark. In that role, I oversee HAL's two main public humanities projects, *Climates of Inequality* and *States of Incarceration*, which involves collaborating with a national network of university and community partners. Through HAL I have developed relationships with public historians, community organizers, and humanities professionals across North America. I would be eager to draw on these relationships when identifying nominees for NCPH elective officers. Prior to joining HAL, I spent two years as a postdoctoral fellow at Pennsylvania State University's Humanities Institute, where I taught community-based public humanities courses and coordinated public outreach. I received a PhD in United States history from Princeton University and an MA through the UMass-Amherst public history program.

Evan Faulkenbury
SUNY Cortland

I am honored to be considered to serve on the NCPH's Nominating Committee. NCPH is the best history professional organization (but, reader, you already knew that!), and I would do everything I can to ensure NCPH remains well-positioned to continue moving our field forward with the strongest leadership possible.

Let me first describe my NCPH commitment to date. In 2017, I joined the Digital Media Group, and I remain in that committee today. I started by managing the NCPH's Facebook account along with contributing several articles to the blog *History@Work*. In 2019, I became an affiliate editor for *History@Work*, and the following year, moved into a role as lead editor. I remain a lead editor today, and I enjoy working with my fellow editors and authors. It's a privilege to lead NCPH in this way, helping shape the field by promoting diverse stories of what it means to do public history for our wide readership.

Since 2016, I have served as an Assistant Professor of History at SUNY Cortland (now an associate professor). I teach public history, oral history, and United States history. My main duty involves teaching public history, and since my department made this course a requirement for all our majors, I teach Introduction to Public History almost every semester. I believe we are unique as a department to *require* public history for undergrads, but I'm a firm believer in its necessity. As such, I have advocated for public history to be taught more widely in history departments within colleges and universities. I believe that a public history introduction is as necessary as historical methods for students. Even if students do not pursue public history as a career, taking a public history introduction exposes them to a diverse skillset that is useful to any history major who may pursue any number of vocations. Public history, to me, should not be specialized historical training, but fundamental to every history student.

This would be where I would put my energies for the Nominating Committee. I want to see public history grow in the curriculum within history departments across the United States and worldwide. I would continue to advocate for the practicality of public history education for college students, just as we see historical methods or research capstones as cornerstones of the history major. I have written about this in a recent article for the AHA's *Perspectives on History*, and I plan to continue pushing for public history courses to take on bigger roles within departments. As a member of the Nominating Committee, I would use my voice to champion public history education in higher education.

Thank you for considering my nomination.

Hilary Green

The University of Alabama

I am deeply honored to be nominated for the Nominating Committee of the National Council on Public History. While I am a newer member to the organization, I have had a more active role in the organization. I strongly believe a more diverse and inclusive organization will contribute to the growth of the organization.

Public history shaped my trajectory in the profession. Growing up in the 1980s, it was the absence of diverse African American voices in museums, historic plantation sites, Civil War battlefields and public spaces that convinced me of the necessity of being able to interpret diverse historical experiences for audiences who looked like me—an African American woman.

As such, I have earned a BA in History with minors in Africana Studies and Pre-Healing Arts at Franklin and Marshall College, an MA in History at Tufts University, and a PhD in History at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. This traditional educational pathway helped to cultivate my passion in public history and redress the perceived silences of my childhood.

Beginning in college, I worked on a local project that brought the African American experience of the Underground Railroad history to public audiences on a tour developed by my church, historical society, and chamber of commerce. This experience of engaging multiple publics extended to a PBS American Experience internship while an MA student and then post-PhD public history work with the Town of Cary, NC, Museum of the Albemarle, Sesquicentennial Civil War activities in northeastern North Carolina, museum exhibitions, and a campus history of race, slavery, and memory at the University of Alabama.

Essential to all of these projects has been identifying diverse individuals who would make the project and organization stronger. In this position, I hope to seek diverse candidates in terms of race, gender, and sexuality but also rank, institution, and public history experience. By creating a seat at the table, I want to uphold NCPH's continued commitment to diversity and inclusion in its leadership position.

Sarah Marsom

Heritage Resource Consultant

Since entering the cultural resource field more than a decade ago (BS Parks and Recreation Management from Northern Arizona University, 2010; MS Historic Preservation from Eastern Michigan University, 2013), I've had the pleasure of working across the country with a variety of nonprofits, corporations, and other entities to achieve their preservation goals.

My work as a heritage resource consultant strives to improve the preservation movement's accessibility by empowering the next generation of community advocates and increasing representation of lesser known histories. As a consultant, I specialize in education and outreach, in addition to strategic planning. This work has engendered a keen understanding of cultural resource work and historic preservation practices, which led me to being a primary contributor to the 3rd edition of *Historic Preservation: An Introduction to Its History, Practices, and Principles*.

In 2018, I was recognized by the National Trust for Historic Preservation as the recipient of the American Express Aspire Award during the 2018 National Preservation Awards and as an honoree of the inaugural 40 Under 40: People Saving Places list. The National Council on Public History recognized my project Crafting Herstory and Dismantle Preservation with an honorable mention for Excellence in Consulting as a part of the 2021 Public History Awards.

My work has been featured in Curbed, Traditional Building Magazine, and the National Park Service's LGBTQ America Theme Study, amongst other publications and podcasts.

Having previously served as a board member for Heritage Ohio, as a conference planning committee member for the National Trust for Historic Preservation, along with other volunteer positions, I've had the privilege of seeing multiple perspectives of what a healthy and successful nonprofit board can/should look like. It would be a pleasure to serve on the National Council on Public History's Nominating Committee and to identify prospective officers and board members who can not only assist in supporting the organization's mission but can be a part of pursuing meaningful organizational growth.