

Sylvea Hollis, PhD
<http://www.sylveahollis.com>

EDUCATION

History, Ph.D., University of Iowa **Iowa City, IA**

08/2008-05/2018

Dissertation Title: Race, Capitalism, and Social Welfare after the Civil War, 1864-1911: The CKOP and the COC

- Processed the papers of the Colored Knights of Pythias for the Birmingham Public Library. This served as my initial archive for the dissertation.

Gender, Women's, & Sexuality Studies Graduate Certificate, University of Iowa **Iowa City, IA**

08/2011- 05/2012

History Museum Studies, MA State University of New York (Oneonta) **Cooperstown, NY**

08/2004-05/2006

Thesis: "More than a Passing Notice: Tracing the Lives of African American Workers in Cooperstown, New York, 1860—1900"

History, B.S.—cum laude University of Montevallo **Birmingham, AL**

08/1999-05/2003

Undergraduate Thesis: "A Choice: Desegregation and the Magnet School Program in Birmingham City Schools, 1971-1981"

MUSEUM AND PUBLIC HUMANITIES WORK

National Council of Public History (NCPH) **Indianapolis, IN**

Plenary Convener

November 2022 – May 2023

- Create, lead and oversee the pre-conference three-part programming regarding the theme, "[Rhetoric of Freedom.](#)" The programming foregrounded new scholarship and practices for museums and historic sites to consider in their work of commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution. The first program was online before the conference began; the second was NCPH's opening plenary; the third, was an intimate workshop for interpreters, cultural resource managers, museum practitioners, and descendant communities.
- Identify public historians (museum practitioners and historians with publicly facing work)
- Created programming for panel to engage in robust conversations about how ideas about race, gender, sexuality, ability, class, and region shaped the lived experiences of enslaved people.
- Forthcoming: Published article for the National Council of Public History's journal, *The Public Historian*, that summarizes the themes, findings, and interventions of the plenary.

National Park Foundation **Philadelphia, PA**

National Park Service, Region I

NPS Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Gender and Sexuality

September 2018 – July 2020

- Creating scholarship based in gender and sexuality history for historic sites, visitors, and NPS staff. Research resulted in a series of podcasts, public programming, internal programming, and articles published on NPS website—nearly all of which had a particular focus on African American history and/or an intersectional approach.
- Cultivating conversations within the agency and developing training opportunities in historical research. Highlight of the postdoc included developing an internship program with students at Morgan State University and spearheading a research project to support cultural and interpretive teams in interpreting the commemoration of 1619.

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- Site-visits and developing recommendation reports for parks, heritage areas, and their community partners. Highlights include developing collaborative programming with the Belmont Paul House, during the centennial of the Nineteenth Amendment and with Stonewall National Monument during the fiftieth anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising for LGBT+. Worked as a team member on Washington Office (Headquarters) Divisions of Cultural Resources and Park History Program. Highlights include creating programming to support the NPS Park History Program at the Association for the Study of African American Life and History.

Center for the Future of Museums (CFM), American Alliance of Museums (AAM)

Arlington, VA

Project Coordinator

July 2015 – May 2016

- Managing and Write Content for CFM Blog,
- Lead a National Museum Education Competition, which resulted in the hiring of a “Future of Education” Fellow for CFM
- Conduct Image Research for *TrendsWatch* publication

Center for the Future of Museums, American Alliance of Museums (AAM)

Washington, DC

Special Projects Assistant

October 2014 – June 2015

- Curated and led the installation of a museum exhibition that demonstrated the multiple potential uses for Google Glass
- Researcher, writer, and project assistant for museum partnerships and topics related to technology in museums, education, and access.

National Museum of American History

Washington, DC

Goldman Sachs Fellow

June 2013 – September 2013

- Researcher and writer for NMAH’s first Business History exhibition and topics related economic history and entrepreneurship

Amaze Design, Inc.

Boston, MA [Project based in Birmingham, AL]

Exhibition Research Consultant for BCRI Exhibition Expansion

January 2008 – July 2008

- Curated and led the installation of the “Office of the Mayor,” exhibition [about the election of Dr. Richard Arrington, the first black mayor of Birmingham]. This exhibit is a part of BCRI’s permanent exhibition.
- Image Research for exhibition project that expanded the chronological interpretation of the civil rights movement in Birmingham from 1968 through 2007
- Independent researcher and prepared materials for museum leadership
- Identified and developed partnerships with key individuals object acquisition for exhibition:
 - Highlights include the acquisition of Dr. Richard Arrington’s collection (Birmingham’s first Black Mayor); objects from Douglas Jones (prosecuting attorney of two- conspirators of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church Bombing); and, a baton from Birmingham’s Fire Department Chief, which is believed to be a part of the May 1963 Demonstrations.

Birmingham Civil Rights Institute

Birmingham, AL

Outreach Coordinator

August 2006 – July 2008

- Oversaw BCRI’s Outreach programming, which resulted in record breaking number of audiences for on and off-site. We received recognition from Alabama Tourism Department for dynamic work in the state.
- Created education materials in support of exhibitions and programming in support of visitors (K-12; colleges; and special guests). A highlight includes, successfully applying for a grant with the Alabama

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Humanities Foundation to create and support programming for a one-man show called, “On My Journey Now,” by Mr. Rickey Powell. Mr. Powell was a civil rights foot soldier and a musician who created a musical to teach K-12 students about African American History. We carried the show all over the larger Birmingham-metro area (including before at least 8 different school systems).

- Assisted the Education and Institutional Programs Team with development of content, research, and installation support for exhibitions, programs, and professional institutes. Highlights include curating programming for the US State Department’s International Visitor Services Program in Birmingham. Committee Communications Lead for A Single Struggle?: A Conference on Civil and Human Rights
- Forged a relationship with constituents based on their active participation as visitors, members, program participants, and donors. Highlights include creating a Speaker’s Bureau based on robust network of volunteers, activists, and local leaders.

St. Eustatius Historical Foundation

St. Eustatius, Lesser Netherland Antilles, Dutch Caribbean

CGP Inaugural Alumni Intern

Summer 2006

- Developed Programming for Private and Public Schools on Island.
- Worked with the board to craft a strategic plan for their education, curatorial, fundraising, and collection, care and management programs.
- Served on marketing team for July Day Festival—the island’s emancipation memorial event and carnival.

Cooperstown Graduate Program, Special Projects

Cooperstown, NY

Graduate Student/Museum Project Consultant

2004-2006

While in graduate school, I worked on several team projects throughout the state of New York. The list includes a brief overview of work completed:

- Fenimore Museum of Art Cooperstown, NY
 - Conducted research for exhibition and publication entitled, “Through the Eyes of Others: African American Identity in American Art,” a catalogue and exhibition curated by Gretchen Sorin
- Columbia County School District Curriculum Project Columbia County, New York
 - Project Lead on a curriculum project based in local African American history. The curriculum was adopted by the school district and was used in conjunction with an exhibition entitled, “Been Laborin’ Here All These Long Years and Fruits of Our Labor.”
- Frederick Douglass Museum Feasibility Study with Strong Museum Rochester, NY
 - Feasibility Study for the Strong Museum to determine if their exhibition on Frederick Douglass could become a permanent exhibition for a museum dedicated to Douglass in Rochester. The team ultimately decided that while the exhibition was important and deserving of a home, neither the arts, cultural, municipal, nor corporate communities of Rochester were situated at the time to develop the project. If the project would do well, the local community could benefit from expanding their networks.
- Cooperstown Fire Department Cooperstown, NY
 - Co-curator, Designer, Co-writer and Object Conservator for an Exhibition dedicated to the history of Cooperstown’s Volunteer Fire Department
- Stickley Furniture Museum Manlius, NY
 - Feasibility Study for the Stickley Furniture Company to determine the viability of a corporate museum. The museum was established in 2006.
- Cooperstown Graduate Alumni Association Cooperstown, NY
 - Fundraising/Development Plan 3-5 year Plan

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Washington, DC

National Museum of American History

James Webb Intern

Summer 2005

- Assisted with research in the department of Home and Community Life on topics concerning African American History and Culture
- Reviewed and provided comments on script for 381 Days exhibit, a SITES project about the Montgomery Bus Boycott
- Research in support of history of African American museums project

**Birmingham Civil Rights Institute
Education and Exhibition Assistant**

Birmingham, AL

August 2003 – July 2004

- Co-lead and co-curated an exhibition in honor of the 40th Anniversary of the Birmingham Civil Rights Movement (Children's March, Sixteenth Street Baptist Church Bombing, and Project C)
- Program Planner for Brown @ 50: A Three-Day Conference on Brown V. Board
- Reached record breaking number of audiences for on and off-site and received recognition from Alabama Tourism Department for dynamic work in the field
- Forged a relationship with constituents based on their active participation as visitors, members, program participants, and donors

ACADEMIC TEACHING

**Montgomery College
Department of History**

Rockville, MD

Associate Professor of African and African American History

August 2023-

- Teaches courses in African History, African American History, US History, US Civil Rights, and preparing for Public History/ Museum Studies [for Spring 2024)
- Developed multi-campus programming (Rockville, Takoma Park, and Germantown) for Black History Month
- President's Committee on Equity and Inclusion (2021-2025)
 - Subcommittee on Multicultural Teaching and Learning Experience
 - Successfully conducted research to support Multicultural Inclusive Space Collegewide director
 - Successfully explored the possibility of offering theory-rich courses in alternate languages for areas with high DFW's, for example, math, science, humanities, and behavioral social sciences. Identified courses through available college data sources.
- Cherry Blossom Humanities Conference Committee Member
 - Serve on a committee of scholars who select conference papers across humanities disciplines
 - Help prepare students for the academic conference—including training in public speaking, slides, and guidelines for academic conferencing.

**Montgomery College
Department of History**

Rockville, MD

Assistant Professor of African and African American History

August 2020-2023

- Teaches courses in African History, African American History, US History, and US Civil Rights
- Developed Programming for Black History Month and Juneteenth
- President's Committee on Equity and Inclusion (2021-2025)
- Cherry Blossom Humanities Conference Committee Member
 - Serve on a committee of scholars who select conference papers across humanities disciplines

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- Help prepare students for the academic conference—including training in public speaking, slides, and guidelines for academic conferencing.

George Washington University
Department of American Studies
Adjunct Professor

Washington, DC

August 2019 – May 2020

- Based in Department of American Studies, and teaches courses cross-listed in History, Gender and Sexuality Studies, and American Studies
- Manages Blackboard Platform
- Develops assessment materials and led TA-s

University of Iowa
Department of History
Researcher

Iowa City, IA

January-May 2015; January 2011-May 2011; August 2010-December 2010

- A researcher on project at National Archives (DC) on African American nurses during the Civil War and two undergraduate colloquiums in History.

University of Iowa
Department of History
Humanities Story Corps [now History Corps]

Iowa City, IA

August 2010 – December 2012

- Led and managed an online listening program about the value of the humanities in everyday life. I served as co-host, editor, and web manager.

University of Iowa
Department of History
Grader

Iowa City, IA

August 2014 – December 2014; August 2011-May 2012; January 2009-May 2009

- Grader for the following courses: American History Survey; History of Slavery; Pre-Colonial Africa; History of Latino/a Immigration in the US; Medieval History

University of Iowa
Department of History
Writing Center

Iowa City, IA

January 2009-May 2009; August 2012– December 2013

- Writing tutor for history students

University of Iowa
Department of Gender, Women's, & Sexuality Studies
Teaching Assistant

Iowa City, IA

August 2012-2014

- Grader, Discussion Section Leader, and Classroom Assistant for Introduction to GWSS

University of Iowa
Department of History
Graduate Instructor

August 2010-December 2010; August 2011 – December 2011

- Designer, instructor, and grader for my own course in African American History

University of Iowa
Department of History
Teaching Assistant

August 2009 – May 2010

- Grader, Discussion Section Leader, and Classroom Assistant for American History Survey I and II

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

“The Rhetoric of Freedom: Remembering Slavery during the Semiquincentennial of the American Revolution,” (*The Public Historian*, forthcoming in February 2024)

“I like to say I’m from Birmingham’: John Rhoden’s Memory(s) of Home,” in *Determined to Be: Sculptures of John Rhoden*, edited by Brittany Webb (*University of Washington Press*, forthcoming in February 2024)

Second Author with Tondra Loder-Jackson, “Fantasizing Education for Liberation in Jim Crow Birmingham: Angela Davis’s Formative Years and Intertwined Legacy with Pioneer Educator and Prison Abolitionist Carrie A. Tuggle,” in *#BlackEducatorsMatter: The Experiences of Black Teachers in an Anti-Black World*, edited by Dr. Darrius Stanley (*Harvard Education Press*, forthcoming February 2024)

Third Editor with Horace Huntley and John McKerley, *Foot Soldiers for Democracy: The Men, Women, and Children of the Birmingham Civil Rights Movement* (under review for *University of Illinois Press*)

[“The African American History Survey as an Intellectual Product.”](#) *Black Perspectives: African American Intellectual History Society* (December 20, 2022)

“The Black Man Has Disappeared from Our Country: African American Workers in Cooperstown, New York, 1860—1900,” *New York History* 88:1 (Winter 2007), pp. 13-31.

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of D’Weston Haywood’s *Let Us Make Men: The Twentieth-Century Black Press and a Manly Vision for Racial Advancement*. *HISTORY: Reviews of New Books*, Volume 47: Issue 4 (June 2019), 78-80.

Review of Gross, Kali N., *Colored Amazons: Crime, Violence, and Black Women in the City of Brotherly Love, 1880-1910*. H-Women, H-Net Reviews. June, 2009. URL: <http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=22981>

ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES

Biographical Sketch on Carrie A. Griggs Tuggle for “Black Women Suffragists Collection,” in *Women and Social Movements in the US, 1600-2000 Database at Alexander Street* (March 2019)

PUBLIC HISTORY WORK [Collaborative Projects]

[Carrie Tuggle Guide: An Early Overview of Birmingham’s History, Women in Parks Grant, National Park Foundation and National Park Service](#)

“Their Stories: Remembering Stories of Suffrage Beyond the 19th,” A Podcast Series with the National Park Service [project is final stage of editing].

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“The VOTE for what?”—Centennial Digital Conversation on the 19th Amendment, Women’s Rights National Historical Park [August 2020]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HOujPelPe8&t=8s>

“The Declaration of Sentiments,”—Article, Women’s Rights National Historical Park [August 2019]

<https://www.nps.gov/articles/declaration-of-sentiments.htm>

Stonewall National Monument Foundation Document, National Park Service, Department of Interior [May 2019]

https://www.nps.gov/ston/learn/historyculture/upload/STON_Foundation-Document.pdf

ACADEMIC/PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

Panelists, “How’d she die?: Building a Collective Memory Project for Birmingham,” in Fall Business History Conference Plenary, Sponsored by Association of Black Women Historians, September 29, 2023.

Chair and Convener, [“Rhetoric of Freedom: A Conversation About the Conditions of Life in the American Revolution”](#) –Part Three: Practitioner Workshop. National Council of Public History (April 14, 2023)-Atlanta, GA

Chair and Convener, [“Rhetoric of Freedom: A Conversation About the Conditions of Life in the American Revolution”](#) –Part Two: Opening Plenary. National Council of Public History (April 13, 2023)-Atlanta, GA

Chair and Convener, [“Rhetoric of Freedom: A Conversation About the Conditions of Black Life in the American Revolution”](#) –Part One: Pre-Program. National Council of Public History (March 6, 2023)-On-line

Co-presenter, “Bridging the Opportunity Gap: What MC Profs Do,” Professional Development Week (January 19, 2023), On-line

Panelists, [“Interdisciplinary Merits of Primary Source Labs in Humanities,”](#) Montgomery College Humanities Conference (October 27, 2022)

Panelist, “Centering Gender and Sexuality in NPS Parks,” [a LGBTQ+ topic] at Organization for American Historians Conference, Washington, DC (Cancelled, due to COVID April of 2020)

Panelist, “Remembering Stonewall: A Roundtable,” [a LGBTQ+ topic] at American Historical Association Conference, New York, New York (January 2020)

Panelist, “Gender and Reconstruction,” A Mellon Fellow Workshop with National Park Service Interpreters and Superintendents at the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, October 2019, Charleston, SC

Panelist, “New Research in Gender Equity in Museums and Historic Sites,” Association of State and Local History, Philadelphia, PA (August 2019)

Panel Chair, "Reclamation & Resistance: The Making of Grassroots QTPOC Histories," [a LGBTQ+ topic] Queer History Conference, Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans History, on campus of San Francisco State University, June 15-18, 2019

“...extending its benefits to all races, without distinction of color’: The Colored Knights of Pythias and the Fight for Social Equality, 1869-1884,” Eighth Annual Conference on Power and Struggle, University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa (October 8, 2016)

“What Are You Worth?: Race and the Multiple Meanings of Risk in Alabama during the Depression Era,” Gender, Women and Sexualities Studies Panel, Jakobsen Conference, University of Iowa (April 6, 2012)

“Mrs. Carrie A. Tuggle’s Institute: a Critical Essay on Race and Child Welfare in the New South,” at May Brodbeck

Symposium on Women and Gender at the University of Iowa (May 9, 2010)

“Too Few to Count: African American Workers in Cooperstown, New York, 1860—1900,” presented at *Race, Memory, Reclamation*, University of East Anglia, Norwich, England. (September 7-9, 2007)

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Presenter, “When will AI find us?: Black Archives and Humanity,” Humanities Days at Montgomery College, October 25, 2023.

Panelist, “More than a Passing Notice: Revisiting Research on African American Life in Cooperstown, New York,” [Dyckman Discussions Panel Series: Slavery in New York](#) (May 6, 2023)

Post-Show Talk, “Storehouse,” [Perisphere Theatre](#) (March 19, 2023)

Panelist, in [“When the Stars Align: Celestial Navigation and the Underground Railroad,”](#) A Black History Month Program at Josiah Henson Park (February 25, 2023)

Led Black History Program Planning for Office of Student Life, History Department, and across three campuses with Dr. Sylvea Hollis and Dr. John Riedl , Black Resistance, (February 23, 2023)

Panelist, in Twentieth Anniversary MLK Day Programming for Birmingham Public Library called, [“Civil Rights Now: Birmingham Movements of Community Resistance”](#) (January 14, 2023)

Speaker, at [Twenty-second Anniversary of Triumph of the Human Spirit Monument](#), on October 23rd (2022) in New York, New York

[Juneteenth Lecture](#), “The History of Juneteenth: Transcending Politics and Teaching African American History,” Montgomery College (Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus), June 14, 2022.

[Post-Show Talk and Community Dialogue](#) with Dr. Sylvea Hollis, Perisphere Theatre (Silver Spring, MD) The Blue Door, March 6, 2022

Led Black History Program Planning for History Department on Rockville Campus, for Dr. Sylvea Hollis and Dr. John Riedl , What's in a Name?: History of Black History Month and a History of Themes, February 24, 2022

History Break-Out Session with Dr. Sylvea Hollis and Prof. Karl Smith, Critical Race Theory Forum: Reframing the Narrative By Office of Equity and Inclusion In partnership with the Office of County Executive, Montgomery County and The Universities at Shady Grove, October 28, 2021

“Becoming A Civically Engaged Historian: A Journey,” Invited Virtual Speaker at University of Texas, El Paso, November 2, 2020

“Historically Speaking: History PhDs Tell Stories of Working Outside the Academy,” A Program of the Obermann Center for Advanced Studies—at Iowa City Public Library, February 24, 2020

“Pre[serving] Our National Heritage,” on panel entitled “From Stonewall to Pulse: A Discussion on the Future of LGBTQ+ Historic Sites” and NYC World Pride's Human Rights Conference on June 24, 2019

“Obtain the Ballot and Look Alive: Black Women Suffragists and Memories of the 19th Amendment,” NPS-wide Webinar, May 16, 2019

“Colored Knights and Community Building in the Reconstructed South: A Dissertation Project” in African American Graduate History Course at Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD, February 21, 2019

“Black Club Women and the 19th Amendment,” at Harford Community College, Bel Air, MD on February 14, 2019

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“A Coffee Conversation about Building Bridges between the Academy and Publicly Engaged Work,” Obermann Center for Advanced Studies, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA (November 7, 2017)

Co-Presenter, “Diversity & Inclusion Discussion about Staff Retention,” CFM Booth, AAM Annual Meeting in Washington, DC (May 27, 2016)

Moderator, “Future of Learning” panel discussion at the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh, NC (January 30, 2016; rescheduled from January 23, 2016 due to snow)

Host & Project Manager, “Museum of the Future” Pop-up Exhibition for the Center for the Future of Museums at AAM Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA (April 27-29, 2015)

Co-Presenter, “Examining How Ideas about Gender and Sexuality Shape Our Public Discourse,” At University of Northern Iowa, (April 15, 2013)

“Podcasts, Radio, and Recording in the Classroom” a roundtable on “Rewiring the Classroom: Teaching Teachers about Technology,” hosted on the campus of the University of Iowa. (February 23, 2013) <https://rewiringtheclassroom.wordpress.com/>

“African American Perspective(s) of the Civil War,” a roundtable on “The Rupture of the Civil War,” hosted by WorldCanvass, International Programs, University of Iowa (January 25, 2013) <https://itunes.apple.com/itunes-u/worldcanvass/id433243182>

“State of the Union: Iowa Caucus Forum,” Program Organizer and Chair, Iowa City Public Library (November 16, 2011)

“My Space/Your Space: Navigating the Digital Divide,” 2nd Annual Teen Summit, Hosted by Iowa City-Cedar Rapids Alumni of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. on the campus of the University of Iowa (September 18, 2010)

PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTES

Digital Storytelling Series, Spring [2022](#) and Spring [2023](#)

Remote: The Connected Faculty Summit [Virtual] , Arizona State University, June 8-9, 2021

Summer Mellon Digital Humanities Bridges Institute
Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA
June 15-19, 2015

Graduate Institute on Engagement, Obermann Center for Advanced Studies
University of Iowa , Iowa City, IA
January 14-18, 2013

THATCamp Iowa City: The Humanities and Technology Camp,
University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
March 30-April 1, 2012

Museum Leaders: The Next Generation Fellow, Getty Leadership Institute
J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, CA
November 6-10, 2006

ACADEMIC HONORS

Gardarev Residency, Summer 2023; Deans Fellowship, Graduate College, 2016-17; Laurence Lafore Dissertation Fellowship, Department of History 2015-2016; Anderson-Ledger Graduate Fellowship, Department of History, 2014-15; Louis C. Pelzer Graduate College Fellowship, University of Iowa, 2013-14; Goldman Sachs Junior Fellow, National Museum of American History, Summer 2013; Friends of the Alabama Archives Research Fellowship, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama, 2012-2013; Adah

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Johnson/Otilia Maria Fernandez Scholarship, Gender, Women's & Sexuality Studies Department, University of Iowa, 2012-2013; Oxford Journals Dissertation Colloquium, Business History Conference, The Ohio State University, March 20-23, 2013; Obermann Graduate Fellow, Obermann Center for Advanced Studies, University of Iowa, 2012-2013; Marie Nesbitt Promise Prize Scholarship, Change Create Transform Foundation, New York, NY 2012-2013; Elizabeth Bennett Ink Research Fellowship, History Department, University of Iowa 2012-2013; and Emory University Short Term Research Fellowship Atlanta, Georgia, August 1-5, 2011.

MEMBERSHIPS

Charles A. Brown Chapter Secretary of Association for the Study of African American Life and History
Lifetime Member of Association of Black Women Historians
African American Intellectual History Society