

MARTHA HODES

Department of History ■ New York University ■ martha.hodes@nyu.edu ■ MarthaHodes.com

EDUCATION

Princeton University, PhD 1991, MA 1987

Harvard University, MA 1984

Bowdoin College, BA 1980

TEACHING APPOINTMENTS

New York University, Department of History

Full Professor, 2007-present

Associate Professor, 2000-07; Assistant Professor, 1994-2000

University of California-Santa Cruz, Department of History

Assistant Professor, 1991-94 (tenure track)

Special Appointments

Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers, New York Public Library

Interim Director, 2021-23

Princeton University, Department of History

Visiting Professor, Spring 2010

Fulbright Scholar, History Institute, Friedrich Schiller University-Jena, Germany

Senior Lecturer, Spring 2009

PUBLICATIONS

Books

My Hijacking: A Personal History of Forgetting and Remembering (HarperCollins, 2023), hardcover, ebook, audiobook

- ◆ Excerpted in the *New Yorker* online
- ◆ Featured in the *New York Times*: Jennifer Schuessler, “An Infamous Hijacking, Revisited Through a Child’s Eyes,” June 1, 2023 (online) and “The Vivid Memories of a Child Hostage,” June 3, 2023 (print); reprinted in History News Network, “Historians in the News: Martha Hodes Reconstructs Her Memory of a 1970 Hijacking”
- ◆ Featured in *Haaretz*: “Martha Hodes was 12 years old when her plane was hijacked. Some 50 years later, she tries to remember,” July 3, 2023 (print and online) and “Leaving Israel: A Hijacking Victim Tries to Remember,” July 19, 2023 (English-language edition online)
- ◆ Reviewed in *Sunday New York Times Book Review*
Editor’s Choice, *Sunday New York Times Book Review*
“9 New Books We Recommend This Week,” *New York Times*
- ◆ Reviewed in *Wall Street Journal*
- ◆ Reviewed in *New Republic* online
- ◆ Reviewed in *Harvard Magazine*
- ◆ Recommended on “Weekend Today,” NBC-TV, New York

Mourning Lincoln (Yale University Press, 2015), hardcover, ebook, audiobook; paperback, 2016

- ◆ Lincoln Prize, Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History
- ◆ Civil War and Reconstruction Book Award, Organization of American Historians
- ◆ National Book Award for nonfiction, longlist finalist (1 of 10)
- ◆ Best Books of 2015, *Wall Street Journal*

- ♦ Reviewed in Sunday *New York Times Book Review*, front page
Editor's Choice, Sunday *New York Times Book Review*
- ♦ Reviewed in *Washington Post*
- ♦ Reviewed in *Wall Street Journal Weekend*
- ♦ Best Civil War Books of 2015, *Civil War Monitor*

The Sea Captain's Wife: A True Story of Love, Race, and War in the Nineteenth Century (W. W. Norton, 2006); paperback, 2007; ebook, 2011

- ♦ French translation, *La Femme du Capitaine: Guerre, Amour et Race Dans L'Amérique du XIX Siècle* (Toulouse: Anacharsis, 2019)
- ♦ Lincoln Prize, Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, finalist (1 of 3)
- ♦ Reviewed in *Times Literary Supplement*
- ♦ Reviewed in *Entertainment Weekly*
- ♦ Best Books of 2006, *Library Journal*
- ♦ Selection, Book of the Month Club, Literary Guild, Quality Paperback Book Club

White Women, Black Men: Illicit Sex in the Nineteenth-Century South (Yale University Press, 1997), hardcover, ebook; paperback, 1999

- ♦ Allan Nevins Prize for Literary Distinction in the Writing of History, Society of American Historians
- ♦ Honorable Mention, Outstanding Book, Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Bigotry and Human Rights
- ♦ Reviewed in *New York Review of Books*
- ♦ Reviewed in *Washington Post*

Edited Book

Sex, Love, Race: Crossing Boundaries in North American History (New York University Press, 1999), hardcover, paperback

Articles, Essays, Book Chapters

"The Diary of a Twelve-Year-Old Hostage: Erasure and Survival in Family Memories, Stories, and Archives," in *Scholars and Their Kin: Historical Explorations, Literary Experiments*, ed. Stéphane Gerson (University of Chicago Press, 2025), 49-64, and French translation, Éditions de l'École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, forthcoming

"Lincoln Died for We," in *Abraham Lincoln: His Life in Print*, ed. Mazy Boroujerdi (New York: Grolier Club, 2024), 229-34

"Rethinking, Revising, Rewriting: An Appeal for Unfinished Scholarship," forum on Sharon Block's "Rewriting the Rape of Rachel: Historical Methods, Historical Justice," *William and Mary Quarterly* 80 (2023), 709-14

"Unimaginable Catastrophe: The Nation's First Presidential Assassination," in *Mourning the Presidents*, ed. Lindsay M. Chervinsky and Matthew Costello (University of Virginia Press, 2023), 98-126

“History Unclassified: As If I Wasn’t There: Writing from a Child’s Memory,” *American Historical Review* 127 (June 2022), 913-22

◆ “History in Focus,” *American Historical Review* podcast, in conversation with Kate Brown, 2022

◆ “Roundup Top Ten,” History News Network

“Two Catastrophes and Ten Parallels: Lincoln’s Assassination and Covid-19,” in *After Life: A Collective History of Loss and Redemption in Pandemic America*, ed. Rhae Lynn Barnes, Keri Leigh Merritt, and Yohuru Williams (Haymarket Books, 2022), 95-104

“Utter Confusion and Contradiction: Franz Boas and the Problem of Human Complexion,” in *Indigenous Visions: Rediscovering the World of Franz Boas*, ed. Ned Blackhawk and Isaiah Loredó Wilner (Yale University Press, 2018), 185-208

“Loss,” on John La Farge’s “April 1865, News of Death of Lincoln,” in *Why Draw?: 500 Years of Drawings and Watercolors at Bowdoin College*, ed. Joachim Homann (Prestel, 2017), 72-73

“Lincoln’s Black Mourners: Submerged Voices, Everyday Life, and the Question of Storytelling,” in roundtable on “The Question of Recovery: Slavery, Freedom, and the Archive,” *Social Text* 125 (December 2015), 68-76

“The Power of Indifference: Violence, Visibility, and Invisibility in the New York City Race Riot of 1900,” in *Violence and Visibility in Modern History*, ed. Jürgen Martschukat and Silvan Niedermeier (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013), 73-90

“Knowledge and Indifference in the New York City Race Riot of 1900: An Argument in Search of a Story,” *Rethinking History: The Journal of Theory and Practice* 15 (March 2011), 61-89

“Reflections on Being a Scholar and a Writer,” response to Aaron Sachs, “Letters to a Tenured Historian: Imagining History as Creative Nonfiction—or Maybe Even Poetry,” *Rethinking History: The Journal of Theory and Practice* 14 (March 2010), 47-53

“A Story With an Argument: Writing the Transnational Life of a Sea Captain’s Wife,” in *Transnational Lives: Biographies of Global Modernity, 1700-Present*, ed. Desley Deacon, Penny Russell, Angela Woollacott (Palgrave Macmillan, 2010), 15-26

“Grenzgänge: Hautfarbe, Geschlecht und die Macht der Kategorien im späten 19 Jahrhundert” (“Border Crossing: Complexion, Gender, and the Power of Categories in the Late Nineteenth Century”), in *Väter, Soldaten, Liebhaber: Männer und Männlichkeiten in der Geschichte Nordamerikas: Ein Reader (Fathers, Soldiers, Lovers: Men and Masculinity in American History: A Reader)*, ed. Jürgen Martschukat and Olaf Stieglitz (Bielefeld, Germany: Transcript, 2007), 123-37

“A House in Vermont, A Caribbean Beach: Beckoned By Landscapes Beyond the Archive,” *Common-Place: The Interactive Journal of Early American Life* 7 (July 2007)

“Four Episodes in Re-Creating a Life,” *Rethinking History: The Journal of Theory and Practice* 10 (June 2006), 277-90

“Fractions and Fictions in the United States Census of 1890,” in *Haunted by Empire: Geographies of Intimacy in North American History*, ed. Ann Laura Stoler (Duke University Press, 2006), 240-70

“The Mercurial Nature and Abiding Power of Race: A Transnational Family Story,” *American Historical Review* 108 (February 2003), 84-118

- ◆ Annual Article Award, Berkshire Conference on the History of Women

- ◆ Reprinted in *American Dreaming, Global Realities: Rethinking U. S. Immigration History*, ed. Donna R. Gabaccia and Vicki L. Ruiz (University of Illinois Press, 2006)

- ◆ Excerpted as “Eunice Connolly: A Transnational Family Story of Race and Womanhood,” in *Major Problems in American Women’s History*, ed. Ruth Alexander, Sharon Block, Mary Beth Norton (Cengage Learning, 2014)

“White Women, Black Men, and Adultery in the Antebellum South,” in *American Sexual Histories*, ed. Elizabeth Reis (Blackwell, 2001; second ed. 2012), 145-68

“The Sexualization of Reconstruction Politics: White Women and Black Men in the South after the Civil War,” *Journal of the History of Sexuality* 3 (January 1993), 402-17

- ◆ Reprinted in *American Sexual Politics: Sex, Gender, and Race since the Civil War*, ed. John C. Fout and Maura Shaw Tantillo (University of Chicago Press, 1993)

- ◆ Reprinted in *Sexual Borderlands: Constructing an American Sexual Past*, ed. Kathleen Kennedy and Sharon R. Ullman (Ohio State University Press, 2003)

“Wartime Dialogues on Illicit Sex: White Women and Black Men in the Civil War South,” in *Divided Houses: Gender and the Civil War*, ed. Catherine Clinton and Nina Silber (Oxford University Press, 1992), 230-42

- ◆ Excerpted as “A Brief Dialogue on Illicit Sex Between White Women and Black Men in the Slave South,” in *Major Problems in American Women’s History: Documents and Essays*, ed. Ruth M. Alexander and Mary Beth Norton (D. C. Heath, 1996)

on teaching

“Two Experiments By Young Scholars: Prefatory Note,” *Rethinking History: The Journal of Theory and Practice* 11 (June 2007), 201-02; preceding essays by students in my Experimental History undergraduate seminar at New York University

“Experimental History in the Classroom,” *Perspectives: The Newsmagazine of the American Historical Association* 45 (May 2007), 38-40

“Explorations in Teaching Inspiration,” *Journal of American History* 84 (March 1998), 1439-46

Scholarly Book Reviews (selected), Review Essays, and Featured Reviews

R. Isabela Morales, *Happy Dreams of Liberty: An American Family in Slavery and Freedom*, in *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 54 (Autumn 2023), 24-25

Matthew E. Stanley, *Grand Army of Labor: Workers, Veterans, and the Meaning of the Civil War*, in *American Historical Review* 128 (March 2023), 519-20

“Complexities of Complexion,” review of Sharon Block, *Colonial Complexions: Race and Bodies in Eighteenth-Century America*, in *Reviews in American History*, 47 (September 2019), 327-32

Erica Armstrong Dunbar, *Never Caught: The Washingtons' Relentless Pursuit of their Runaway Slave, Ona Judge*, in *New England Quarterly*, 92 (June 2019), 315-318

Tera W. Hunter, *Bound in Wedlock: Slave and Free Black Marriage in the Nineteenth Century*, in *Journal of American History* 105 (September 2018), 404-05

Gregory P. Downs and Kate Masur, eds., *The World the Civil War Made*, in *Journal of American History* 103 (December 2016), 769-70

Matthew Pratt Guterl, *Seeing Race in Modern America*, in *American Historical Review* 119 (December 2014), 1712-14

Jacqueline Jones, *A Dreadful Deceit: The Myth of Race from the Colonial Era to Obama's America*, in *Journal of American History* 101 (December 2014), 890-91

Rebecca J. Scott and Jean M. Hébrard, *Freedom Papers: An Atlantic Odyssey in the Age of Emancipation*, in *Journal of the Civil War Era* 3 (March 2013), 132-34

"Sally Hemings, Founding Mother," review of Clarence E. Walker, *Mongrel Nation: The America Begotten by Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings*, in *Reviews in American History* 38 (September 2010), 437-42

Mary P. Ryan, *Mysteries of Sex: Tracing Women and Men through American History*, in *American Historical Review* 113 (February 2008), 124-27

Gerda Lerner, *Fireweed: A Political Autobiography*, in *Journal of American History* 90 (June 2003), 201-02

"Racism and the Craft of History," review of Annette Gordon-Reed, *Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings: An American Controversy*, in *Reviews in American History* 26 (September 1998), 510-15

Additional scholarly book reviews

American Journal of Legal History

Business History Review

Civil War History

The Historian

International Journal of Maritime History

International Labor and Working-Class History

Journal of American Ethnic History

Journal of the Early Republic

Journal of Economic History

Journal of Southern History

Law and History Review

Rethinking History

Slavery and Abolition

Virginia Magazine of History and Biography

William and Mary Quarterly

FELLOWSHIPS

Long-term

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship, 2018-19
Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers
New York Public Library, residential fellowship, 2018-19
Institute for Advanced Study, School of Historical Studies, Princeton, NJ
residential fellowship, Fall 2018 (declined)
Center for the Humanities, New York University, Faculty Fellowship
residential fellowship, 2018-19 (declined)
Harvard University, Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History
residential fellowship, 2012-13
National Endowment for the Humanities-Massachusetts Historical Society
residential fellowship, 2012-13
Henry E. Huntington Library
residential fellowship, 2012-13 (declined)
Fulbright Scholar Program, History Institute, Friedrich Schiller University-Jena, Germany
Senior Lecturer, Spring 2009
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, New York Public Library
residential fellowship, Spring 1999
National Endowment for the Humanities, Fellowship for University Teachers, 1994-95
American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship, 1994-95
Carter G. Woodson Institute for African-American and African Studies
University of Virginia residential fellowship, 1991-92 (declined)
Whiting Foundation, Fellowship in the Humanities, 1989-90

Short-term

John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies, Free University of Berlin
Scholar-in-Residence, July 2016
Global Research Institute, NYU-Berlin, Visiting Faculty Fellow, June 2013
New York University Humanities Council Grant, Storytelling Across Disciplines
Workshop co-director, 2004-05
Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, New York Public Library, February 2003
Rockefeller Archive Center, January 2003
Huntington Library, Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship, 2003 (declined)
Library Company of Philadelphia, Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship, January 1999
New York University, Goddard Fellowship, Spring 1998
New York University, Research Challenge Fund, 1996
University of California, Regents' Junior Faculty Development Award, 1993-94
American Historical Association, Littleton-Griswold Research Grant, 1990
Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Summer Seminar Fellowship, 1990

HONORS

Fellow, New York Academy of History, elected 2024
Fellow, New York Institute for the Humanities, elected 2023
Honorary Fellow, Massachusetts Historical Society, elected 2015
Fellow, Society of American Historians, elected 2011
Golden Dozen Teaching Award, New York University, College of Arts and Science, 2007

PUBLIC MEDIA

writing

“Lincoln Had Faith in Democracy—But Feared For It,” (print), and “What Lincoln’s Thoughts on Democracy Can Teach Us During Troubled Times” (online), review of Allen C. Guelzo, *Our Ancient Faith: Lincoln, Democracy, and the American Experiment*, in *Washington Post*, February 21, 2024 and *Washington Post Book World*, Sunday, February 25, 2024

“Why Didn’t I Want My Beloved Father to Read My Memoir?: Martha Hodes on Diving Deep into the Trauma of Her Hijacking,” *Literary Hub*, LitHub.com, June 7, 2023

“Remembering My Hijacking,” *New Yorker* online, excerpt of *My Hijacking*, May 14, 2023

“House Divided,” review of Michael Burlingame, *An American Marriage: The Untold Story of Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd*, in *Wall Street Journal*, July 15, 2021

“Public Thinker: David Blight on Frederick Douglass, Abolition, and Memory,” interview with David Blight, Yale University, *Public Books*, publicbooks.org, November 26, 2018

“Why Some White Americans See Racial Equality as Oppression: White Victimhood’s Roots in the Civil War,” Made By History column, *Washington Post*, August 27, 2018

“What Lincoln Left Behind,” *New York Times* op-ed, April 14, 2015

“Five Best: Martha Hodes on Catastrophe and Mourning,” *Wall Street Journal*, March 7, 2015

“How Abraham Lincoln Said that Black Lives Matter,” *Los Angeles Times* op-ed, Sunday, March 1, 2015

“‘Sic Semper Tyrannis!’: John Wilkes Booth shot Abraham Lincoln at Ford’s Theatre on April 14, 2015. But who—or what—else shared the blame for the president’s death?” *Civil War Monitor* 5 (Spring 2015)

“Death of a President: Lincoln’s Assassination Stuns the Nation,” *Humanities* 36 (March/April 2015), 24-25

“A Nation United in Mourning Lincoln? Think Again,” interview, *Boston Globe*, Sunday, February 22, 2015

“‘They have killed our good president’: Remembering the Horror of the Lincoln Assassination,” *Salon.com*, February 16, 2015

Contributor, *The Lincoln Assassination at Ford’s Theatre: Now He Belongs to the Ages* (Washington, DC: National Park Service, 2015), book accompanying “Silent Witnesses” exhibition, Ford’s Theatre, Washington, DC), 41

“‘Where Were You When You Heard?’” in *The Day Kennedy Died: 50 Years Later LIFE Remembers the Man and the Moment* (New York: LIFE Books, 2013), 96-99

Invited commenter, *New York Times*, “Room for Debate,” in response to “One Family’s Roots, A Nation’s History,” on Michelle Obama’s ancestry, October 6, 2009

television, radio, podcasts, blog posts, book festivals

My Hijacking

- ◆NPR-Philadelphia, “The Connection”
- ◆NPR-Northeast Public Radio, “The Roundtable”
- ◆Book TV, C-SPAN2
- ◆“Booknotes+” C-SPAN, with Brian Lamb
- ◆“History in Focus,” *American Historical Review* podcast, in conversation with Kate Brown
- ◆“Martha Hodes Talks *My Hijacking* with HNN,” History News Network
- ◆“Why Now?” podcast, in conversation with Claire Potter
- ◆“Keen On” podcast, featured on LitHub.com
- ◆“Unsung History” podcast
- ◆“Writer’s Voice” podcast
- ◆“The Gist” podcast
- ◆“Eyewitness History” podcast
- ◆“Drafting the Past” podcast
- ◆Michael Young, “Living on a Jet Plane,” interview, *Diwan: Middle East Insights From Carnegie*, Malcolm H. Kerr Carnegie Middle East Center, online

Mourning Lincoln

- ◆PBS “Book View Now”
- ◆PBS News Hour, “How America Moved on in the Days After the Civil War”
- ◆Book Breaks, Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History
- ◆NPR-Washington, DC, “Diane Rehm Show”
- ◆NPR-Philadelphia, “Radio Times”
- ◆NPR-Virginia, “Backstory”
- ◆NPR-New Hampshire, “Word of Mouth”
- ◆NPR-Georgia, “On Second Thought”
- ◆NPR-Baltimore, “Midday”
- ◆NPR-Wisconsin, “Kathleen Dunn Show”
- ◆NPR-Illinois, “Illinois Edition”
- ◆NPR-El Paso, “Perspectives with Louie Saenz”
- ◆Civil War Talk Radio
- ◆Swedish Public Radio, Vetenskapsradion Historia
- ◆“The Business of Wisdom,” Paradise Radio Network
- ◆Sirius XM Radio, “POTUS: Politics of the United States”
- ◆“Forgetting Abraham Lincoln” guest blog post, *JSTOR Daily Magazine*
- ◆“Lincoln’s Assassination and the Making of History—Before Your Eyes,” guest blog post, Ford’s Theatre, Washington, DC
- ◆“Lincoln’s Funeral Was a Letdown,” guest blog post, Wonders and Marvels
- ◆Miami International Book Fair: An Evening With National Book Award Winners, Finalists, and Long-listed Authors
- ◆*Los Angeles Times* Festival of Books, University of Southern California
- ◆Fall for the Book Festival, George Mason University

Sea Captain's Wife

- ◆ BNN-TV, "The Literati Scene," Boston, MA
- ◆ NPR-North Carolina, "State of Things"
- ◆ NPR-New Hampshire, "Front Porch"
- ◆ NPR-Philadelphia, "Radio Times"
- ◆ NPR-Northeast Public Radio, "Book Show"
- ◆ University of Massachusetts Public Radio, "Sunrise Show"
- ◆ Public Affairs Programming, Jonesboro, AR, "Like It Is"
- ◆ "Joey Reynolds Show," New York, NY
- ◆ "Coastal Daybreak," Newport and Jacksonville, NC
- ◆ "Pages to People," Needham, MA
- ◆ "Cayman Crosstalk," Grand Cayman Island, British West Indies
- ◆ "Making History" podcast, University of California-Irvine
- ◆ Newburyport Literary Festival, Newburyport, MA
- ◆ Southern Festival of Books, Memphis

White Women, Black Men

- ◆ BBC-London, "Nightwaves"
- ◆ BBC-Australia, "Late Night Live"
- ◆ NPR-Washington, DC, "Derek McGinty Show"
- ◆ Public Affairs Programming, Jonesboro, AR, "Like It Is"
- ◆ "Tom Pope Show," Washington DC

INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS: International

"Hostage in the Desert: A Historian Investigates Personal Memory," Honora Rankine-Galloway Annual Lecture, Center for American Studies, University of Southern Denmark, 2023

"The Craft of History in the 21st Century: Reflections, Reckonings, Advice," Center for American Studies, University of Southern Denmark, 2023

"The Craft of History in the 21st Century: Reflections, Reckonings, Advice," Saxo Institute, Faculty of Humanities, University of Copenhagen, 2023

"L'histoire en famille" at "L'histoire à venir: usages du faux" ("Family History" at conference on "The Story to Come: Uses of the False"), Toulouse, France, 2020 (cancelled due to Covid-19)

"The Uncertainty and Risks of Racial Classification in the Nineteenth Century," conference on "Risk and Uncertainty in America," John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies, Free University of Berlin, Germany, 2016

"The Politics of Personal Responses to Lincoln's Assassination," John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies, Free University of Berlin, Germany, 2016

"Lincoln's Assassination and the Persistence of Everyday Life," conference on "Writing the History of Everyday Life," NYU-Berlin Global Research Institute, Berlin, Germany, 2013

“Violence, Visibility, and Invisibility in the New York City Race Riot of 1900,” conference on “Violence and Visibility: Historical, Cultural, and Political Perspectives,” Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany, 2010

“Knowledge and Indifference: The New York City Race Riot of 1900 in the Black Atlantic,” conference on “Transfers, Emancipation, and Formations of the Black Atlantic,” University of Erfurt, Germany, 2010

“Searching for Love in Sex Across the Color Line,” conference on “Love and Sexuality in Nineteenth-Century America,” Department of History, University of Vienna, Austria, 2009

“Racial Classification and Narratives of Skin Color in the Nineteenth-Century United States,” lecture series on “Colonialism and Beyond,” Department of Anglo-American History, University of Cologne, Germany, 2009

“Memory, Science, and Racial Classification in Nineteenth-Century America,” Institute for American Studies, University of Leipzig, Germany, 2009

“Fabricating Racial Knowledge in the United States After Emancipation,” lecture series on “1789-1989: Learning from Revolutions? Transfer of Knowledge in a Transregional Perspective,” University of Erfurt, Germany, 2009

“Gender, Sexuality, and Skin Color in the Nineteenth-Century United States,” Center for U.S. Studies, Martin Luther University and Leucorea Foundation, Halle-Wittenberg, Germany, 2009

“Race, Memory, and Storytelling Across Borders,” lecture series on “Borders and Intercultural Communication,” University of Münster, Germany, 2009

“The Impossible Quest for Precision: Narratives of Skin Color and Race in the Nineteenth-Century U.S.,” American Studies Seminar, University of Coimbra, Portugal, 2009

“On Race, Sex, and Love in the Archives,” North American History Colloquium, University of Erfurt, Germany, 2009

Keynote address: “The Sea Captain’s Wife: A Transnational Family Story,” conference on “Transnational Lives/Biography Across Boundaries,” Australian National University, Humanities Research Centre, Canberra, Australia, 2006

“Narratives of Skin Color and the Meanings of Complexion: Memory, Story, and History,” School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry, University of Sydney, Australia, 2006

Keynote address: “Color, Classification, and Manhood: An Exploration Across Borders,” German Association for American Studies, Historians’ Meeting, Tutzing, Germany, 2004

“Transnational Stories in U.S. History,” conference on “Internationalizing the Study of American History,” New York University and Organization of American Historians, Florence, Italy, 2000

“Narratives Local and Global,” conference on “Internationalizing the Study of American History,” New York University and Organization of American Historians, Florence, Italy, 1998

INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS: U.S.

Keynote address: “Lincoln’s Death in Myth and Memory, Fact and Fiction, A 160th Anniversary Conversation,” with Thomas Mallon, 30th Annual Lincoln Forum Symposium, Gettysburg, PA, November 2025 forthcoming

“Mourning Lincoln,” Rolland Center for Lincoln Research, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, IN (online), November 2025 forthcoming

“My Hijacking,” Yale Club of New York, October 2025 forthcoming

“On Researching and Writing *My Hijacking*, *Mourning Lincoln*, *The Sea Captain’s Wife*, and *White Women, Black Men*,” in conversation with Nathalie F. Anderson, Rotary Arts Conversations, Rotary Club of Swarthmore, Park Avenue Community Center, Swarthmore, PA, September 2025 forthcoming

“A Child Held Hostage: Revisiting a 1970 Hijacking,” The Quadrangle, Haverford, PA, 2025

Roundtable on “Biography/Autobiography/Memoir,” conference on “The Stories in Our Histories: Historians Confront Themselves,” Nicholas D. Chabraja Center for Historical Studies, Northwestern University, 2024

“My Hijacking,” 98th Annual Meeting featured speaker, World Affairs Council of Western Massachusetts, Springfield, 2024

“My Hijacking,” Women Writing Women’s Lives Seminar-Graduate Center of the City University of New York, end-of-year speaker, 2024

“Lincoln’s Assassination and the Future of the Nation,” master class, Academy for Teachers, New York, NY, 2024

“Mourning Lincoln,” Cum Laude Speaker, Brunswick School, Greenwich, CT, 2024

“A Child Held Hostage: Revisiting the 1970 Hijacking,” Swarthmore Discussion Group, Swarthmore College, 2024

“My Hijacking,” Westport Library, Westport, CT, 2024

“My Hijacking: A Personal History of Forgetting and Remembering,” New York Public Library Retirees Association (online) 2023

“My Hijacking: A Personal History of Forgetting and Remembering,” Center for Brooklyn History, Brooklyn Public Library (online), 2023

“My Hijacking: A Personal History of Forgetting and Remembering,” Swarthmore Public Library, Swarthmore, PA, 2023

“My Hijacking,” Conversations from the Cullman Center, Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers, New York Public Library, in conversation with Stacy Schiff, 2023

“My Hijacking: Writing Personal History,” New York Institute for the Humanities, New York Public Library, 2023

“Memory, History, Politics: A Hostage Revisits a 1970 Hijacking,” Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University (online), 2023

“Erasure and Survival: Crafting Family Stories We Can Live With,” Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers, New York Public Library, 2022

“Civil War Archives: A New Social and Cultural History,” Civil War Archives Institute, National Endowment for the Humanities Institute for Higher Education Faculty, Gettysburg College (online) 2022

“Singular Lives in Nineteenth-Century America,” guest seminar leader, Professor David Henkin, University of California-Berkeley (online) 2022

“Unimaginable Catastrophe: The Nation’s First Presidential Assassination,” conference on “Mourning the Presidents,” White House Historical Association, Center for Presidential History, Southern Methodist University and University of Virginia Press (online), 2021

“Mourning Lincoln: Discussions with a Lincoln Scholar,” Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania (online), Gettysburg, PA, 2021

“Mourning Lincoln,” Presidential Scholars lecture, New-York Historical Society, 2020

“Mental Health in Times of Crisis,” on Lincoln’s assassination and the Covid-19 pandemic, Cabinet Conversations: Conversations on Creativity, History and Leadership, Ford’s Theatre, Washington, DC (online), 2020

“Mourning Lincoln,” Book Breaks, Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (online), 2020

“Survival, Erasure, and the Crafting of Memory in Family Stories,” Mellon-Sawyer Seminar, “Defamiliarizing the Family: Genealogy and Kinship as Critical Method,” Center for the Study of Race and Democracy, Tufts University, Medford, MA, 2019

“Reconstruction and the Lost Cause: American Women and the Aftermath of the Civil War,” panelist, National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute for School Teachers, New-York Historical Society, 2017, 2019

“My Hijacking,” First Mondays: New Adventures in Nonfiction: Readings of Works in Progress, Performance Space, New York, NY, 2019

“Memories With Footnotes,” Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers, New York Public Library, 2019

Keynote address: “Mourning Lincoln,” History Scholar Award Program, Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, New York, NY, 2017, 2018, 2019

Keynote address: “Mourning Lincoln,” Annual Lincoln Presidential Banquet and acceptance of Lincoln Legacy Award, Lincoln Society, Peekskill, NY, 2019

“Mourning Lincoln,” Civil War Forum of Metropolitan New York, 2019

“The American Civil War,” Swarthmore College Lifelong Learning, Philadelphia, 2019

“Mourning Lincoln: The Assassination and the Meaning of the Civil War,” Humanities Lecture, Dartmouth College and Vermont Humanities Council, Norwich, VT, 2018

“American Characters: Biography and the Historian’s Craft,” guest seminar leader, Professor Robert Bonner, Dartmouth College, 2018

“Abraham Lincoln and the End of the Civil War,” 5th Annual Gilder Lehrman Historian Forum, Notre Dame School, New York, NY, 2018

“The History of Death in America,” guest seminar leader, Professor Mark Schantz, Birmingham Southern College (online), 2018

“Mourning Lincoln,” 54th Annual Throckmorton Lecture, Lewis and Clark College, Portland, OR, 2017

“Writing History from Memory,” Writing History Seminar, Columbia University, 2017

“Historiography and Historical Methods,” Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History MA seminar for K-12 teachers, online course, 2017

“Mourning Lincoln,” 12th Annual Gilder Lehrman Lecture, Chapin School, New York, NY, 2017

“History Storytelling,” guest seminar leader, Professor Jeffrey Wasserstrom, University of California-Irvine (online), 2017

“Mourning Lincoln: The Assassination and the Aftermath of the Civil War,” 55th Annual Robert Fortenbaugh Memorial Lecture, Civil War Institute, Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, PA, 2016

“Mourning Lincoln: The Assassination and the Aftermath of the Civil War,” W. Bruce Lincoln Endowed Lecture, Northern Illinois University, 2016

“Mourning Lincoln,” American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, 2016

“Mourning Lincoln: The Assassination and the Aftermath of the Civil War,” 6th Annual Senator Rush D. Holt Lecture, West Virginia University, 2016

“Mourning Lincoln,” Civil War Roundtable of New York City, 2016

“Mourning for Lincoln: Altered States, Transformed Nation,” Columbia Society of Fellows, Columbia University, 2016

“Why Lincoln Still Matters,” panel discussion, National Archives and Lincoln Group of Washington, DC, National Archives, 2016

“Mourning Lincoln,” Scarsdale Public Library, Scarsdale, NY, 2016

“Mourning Lincoln,” Robert E. Lee Civil War Roundtable, Woodbridge, NJ, 2016

Panel discussion, “Why Was Lincoln Murdered?” 20th Annual Lincoln Forum Symposium, Gettysburg, PA, 2015

“Mourning Lincoln,” Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University, 2015

“Mourning Lincoln: Rethinking the Aftermath of the Civil War,” Washington History Seminar, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Washington, DC, 2015

“Shock and Fury, Gloom and Glee: Personal Responses to Lincoln’s Assassination,” Center for State Policy and Leadership, University of Illinois-Springfield, 2015

“Mourning Lincoln: The Assassination and the Aftermath of the Civil War,” Gregory Distinguished Visiting Lecturer, University of Georgia-Athens, 2015

“Mourning Lincoln in New York,” Gotham Center for New York City History, Graduate Center, City University of New York, 2015

“Mourning Lincoln,” Word for Word Non-Fiction Series, Bryant Park Reading Room, New York, NY, sponsored by the New-York Historical Society, 2015

“Mourning Lincoln,” Sesquicentennial Sacred Trust Lecture, Gettysburg National Military Park, Gettysburg, PA, 2015

“How Our Nation Mourns Its Leaders,” panel discussion, Lincoln Tribute, Ford’s Theatre, Washington, DC, 2015

“Mourning Lincoln,” Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, 2015

“The American Civil War,” Swarthmore College Lifelong Learning, New York, 2015

“Mourning Lincoln: The Assassination and the Meaning of the Civil War,” Abraham Lincoln Institute Symposium, Ford’s Theatre, Washington DC, 2015

“Mourning Lincoln,” Brooklyn Historical Society, 2015

“Mourning Lincoln: A Conversation with Adam Goodheart,” C.V. Starr Center for the Study of the American Experience, Washington College, Chestertown, MD, 2015

“Lincoln’s Assassination and the Politics of Mourning in 1865,” New York Institute for the Humanities, 2015

“Adams, Hindemith, Whitman, and American Memory,” panel on tragedy and collective memory from Lincoln to 9/11, Mannes College and New York Choral Society, New School University, New York, NY, 2015

“Mourning Lincoln: Personal Responses to Lincoln’s Assassination and the Aftermath of the Civil War,” 11th Annual Aronson Memorial Lecture, St. Paul’s Church National Historic Site, Mt. Vernon, NY, 2015

“Gloom, Glee, Anger, Fear: Personal Responses to Lincoln’s Assassination,” Civil War Speaker Series, White Plains Historical Society, White Plains, NY, 2015

“Mourning Lincoln,” Hunter College High School Alumni Association, New York, NY, 2015

“Talking about Lincoln and Racial Justice,” Neighborhood School, 4th and 5th grade classes, New York, NY, 2015

“Mourning Lincoln,” Hackley School assembly, Tarrytown, NY, 2015

Landmarks of American History and Culture, National Endowment for the Humanities Teacher Workshop on *Mourning Lincoln*, Ford’s Theatre, Washington, DC, 2015

“A Conversation with Martha Hodes, about her book, *Mourning Lincoln*,” Historians Now, Gilder Lehrman Institute video, 2015

Union League Club Book Fair (*Mourning Lincoln*), 2015

“Mourning Lincoln,” Swarthmore Public Library, Swarthmore, PA, 2015

“Amazing Grace: How Writers Helped End Slavery,” roundtable, Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (online), 2014

“Teaching the Civil War in the Twenty-First Century,” History Teachers’ Summer Symposium, Poly Prep Country Day School and Saint Ann’s School, Brooklyn, 2014

History Book Club for Teachers, New York City Department of Education, 2014

“Catastrophic Events and Everyday Life: Personal Responses to Lincoln’s Assassination,” Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh, short-term residential fellow’s lecture, 2013

“The Challenges and Limits of Imagination in the Writing of History,” Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh, short-term residential fellow’s colloquium, 2013

“Mourning Lincoln: Voices, Silences, and Sentiment in the Archives,” Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh, short-term residential fellow’s History Department seminar, 2013

“Mourning Lincoln: Shock, Sorrow, Anger, and Glee in the Archives,” Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, 2013

“Lincoln’s Assassination Beyond the Headlines,” Alumni College on “The Afterlife of the American Civil War,” Bowdoin College, 2013

“American Families, 1600-1900,” guest seminar leader, Professor Laurel Ulrich, Harvard University, 2013

“Rage: Personal Responses to Lincoln’s Assassination and the Future of the Nation,” Nineteenth-Century Workshop, Department of History, Brown University, 2012

“Mourning Lincoln: Grief, Politics, and the End of the Civil War,” New York Military Affairs Symposium, 2012

“Mourning Abroad: Personal Responses to Lincoln’s Assassination Across the Atlantic and Beyond,” conference on “The Transnational Significance of the American Civil War,” German Historical Institute, Washington, DC, 2012

“Despair and Delight in 1865: Personal Responses to Lincoln’s Assassination,” Jan Cohn Annual Lecture and Visiting Scholar in American Studies, Trinity College, 2011

“Franz Boas and the Problem of Skin Color in the Era of Jim Crow,” conference on “Indigenous Visions: Rediscovering the World of Franz Boas,” Yale University, 2011

On-stage panel discussion following Broadway play, “Driving Miss Daisy,” New York, NY, 2011

“The New York City Race Riot of 1900 and the Problem of Deliberate Indifference,” New Directions in Scholarship on the Peoples of African Descent, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, 2011

“Mourning for Lincoln: Shock, Sorrow, and Everyday Life in 1865,” Gathering Place, Swarthmore, PA, 2011

“Memory, Storytelling, and Racial Classification,” conference on “Mixed Race in the Age of Obama,” Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture, University of Chicago, 2010

“The Historian’s Voice and the Challenge of Speculation,” seminar on “Conversations About Writing History,” Department of History, Princeton University, 2010

“Becoming a Historian,” Hunter College Elementary School, New York, NY, 2010

Silence and Abandonment: The New York City Race Riot of 1900,” series on “Can Academic Writing Be Creative?” American Studies Department, Cornell University, 2009

“Love, Race, and War: Writing the Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Woman in the Nineteenth Century,” Annual History Department Speaker, Colby College, 2008

“War, Race, and Romance in the Nineteenth-Century U.S. and British Caribbean,” Museum Education Center, U.S. Navy Museum, Washington, DC, 2008

“Civil War, Race, and Romance: The Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Women in New England, the Deep South, and the British Caribbean,” Peabody Institute Library, Danvers, MA, 2008

“The Sea Captain’s Wife: The Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Woman in the Nineteenth Century,” Phi Alpha Theta and Lambda Alpha Honor Society Speaker, Monmouth University, 2008

“The Sea Captain’s Wife: Race and Family in the Nineteenth Century,” lecture series on “Race and the Making of America,” Bush-Holley Historic Site, Historical Society of Greenwich, CT, 2008

“The Sea Captain’s Wife: A True Story of Love, Race, and War,” lecture series on African American history, Tryon Palace Historic Sites and Gardens, New Bern, NC, 2008

“Lincoln’s America: Teaching the Civil War with *The Sea Captain’s Wife*,” Civil War Institute-Gettysburg College and Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, 2008

“Strategies for Engaging Students in Historical Inquiry: *The Sea Captain’s Wife*,” New-York Historical Society and New York City Department of Education, 2008

“Race and Gender in Transnational Perspective,” summer seminar for teachers on “The Civil War in Global Context,” Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, 2004 - 2008

“Reconstruction,” Teaching American History, We the People Lecture, New-York Historical Society and New York City Department of Education, 2008

“The Historian’s Voice and the Challenge of Speculation,” Past Tense: Ways of Writing History Seminar, University of Southern California and Huntington Library, 2007

“Writing a True Story of Love, Race, and War in the Nineteenth Century,” lecture series on “Words Matter,” California Institute of Technology, 2007

“Complexion and Classification: Narratives of Skin Color in Historical Sources,” William Bennett Munro Memorial Seminar, California Institute of Technology, 2007

“The Sea Captain’s Wife: Researching and Writing a True Story of Love, Race, and War,” History Department Seminar, University of California-Irvine, 2007

“War, Families, and Generations in *The Sea Captain’s Wife*,” American Civil War Seminar, Gettysburg College, 2007

“The Sea Captain’s Wife: The Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Woman in the Nineteenth Century,” International Women’s Day, Women’s History Month, and Phi Alpha Theta Speaker, Rutgers University-Camden, 2007

“Love, Race, and War: Writing the Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Woman in the Nineteenth Century,” Bryn Mawr College, 2007

“Reconstruction,” Teaching American History, We the People Lecture, Museum of the City of New York and New York City Department of Education, 2007

“Teaching Slavery and the Civil War: African American Soldiers and Emancipation,” New York City Department of Education and Weeksville Heritage Center, 2007

Author Week, Old Mill Elementary School, 4th grade, Mill Valley, CA, 2007

“Land and Labor: Conflict, Compromise, Violence,” Teaching American History, American Social History Project, Graduate Center, City University of New York, 2006, 2007

“Writing *The Sea Captain’s Wife*,” Georgetown Day School, 5th grade, Washington, DC, 2007

Keynote address: “The Sea Captain’s Wife: A Transnational Family Story About Love, Race, and War in the Nineteenth Century,” conference on “Gender, Race, Ethnicity and Power in Maritime America,” Mystic Seaport Museum and Frank C. Munson Institute of American Maritime Studies, Mystic, CT, 2006

“The Sea Captain’s Wife: Reflections on Writing a True Story of Love, Race, and War in the Nineteenth Century,” American Conversations Seminar, Boston University, 2006

“Memory, Storytelling, and Racial Classification Across Borders,” Southern Intellectual History Circle, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University, 2006

“Writing a Transnational Family Story: Reflections on Love and Race Across Borders,” Center for Crossroads in the Study of the Americas, Five Colleges, Amherst, MA, 2006

“The Sea Captain’s Wife: Writing a Story with an Argument,” Telling Lives Seminar, Amherst College, 2006

“Archives of Biography,” Women Writing Women’s Lives Seminar, Graduate Center, City University of New York, 2006

“A Transnational Family in the Nineteenth Century and the Problem of Speculation,” History Workshop, University of Delaware, 2006

“The Sea Captain’s Wife: Writing a Transnational Life About Love, Race, and War in the Nineteenth Century,” Duke University, 2006

“Race, Family, and the Writing of History,” York College, City University of New York, 2006

“Fractions and Fictions in the United States Census of 1890,” Modern America Workshop, Princeton University, 2005

“Sex and Deception: Racial Classification in Nineteenth-Century America,” African American Intellectual Culture Series, Higgins School of Humanities, Clark University, 2005

“Teaching the Civil War,” New York City Department of Education, 2004

“Race and Memory Across Borders,” History Department Seminar, Johns Hopkins University, 2004

“Fractions and Fictions: Racial Categories and Reproductive Sex in the United States Census of 1890,” American Culture Lecture, College of William and Mary, 2003

“Race, Unreliability, and Imagination in the Writing of History,” Hunter College High School, New York, NY, 2003

“Racial Categories Across Borders: A Nineteenth-Century Family Story,” American Studies Seminar, Columbia University, 2002

“Remembering Color, Nation, and Race in a Transnational Family,” Amistad Research Center, New Orleans, 2002

“Racial Classification in New England and the British Caribbean,” Tulane University, 2002

“Fractions and Fictions: Racial Categories and Reproductive Sex in the United States Census of 1890,” conference on “The Politics of Comparison in North American History and (Post) Colonial Studies,” University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, 2002

“Geography, Gender, and Race in the Nineteenth-Century U.S. and British Caribbean,” Dean’s series on “Transnational Perspectives on Women and Gender,” Binghamton University, 2002

“Race, Time, and Space in the U.S. and British Caribbean,” Brandeis University, 2002

“Traversing Racial Boundaries and Identities in the Nineteenth-Century U.S. and British Caribbean,” Dean’s Lecture Series, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, 2001

“Color, Nation, Memory: Geographical and Temporal Transformations,” Faculty Symposium, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, 2001

“The Mercurial Nature of Race: A Transnational Family Story,” conference on “Rethinking Nineteenth-Century American History,” Stanford University, 2001

“Crossing Color Lines in New England and the Caribbean,” Bowdoin College, 2001

“Transforming Identities in the Nineteenth-Century Atlantic World,” Yale University, 2000

“Writing the Histories of Racial Categories,” New York Metropolitan American Studies Association, Graduate Center, City University of New York, 2000

“The Widow and the Mariner: A Story of Nation, Class, and Color in the Nineteenth Century,” Davidson College, 2000

“Transforming Identities in the Nineteenth-Century Atlantic World,” American University, 2000

“Searching and Researching: Writing Histories of Sex and Love Across Racial Boundaries in U.S. History,” Harvard Club of New York, 1999

“Voyagers Across Racial and International Boundaries,” Project on the Atlantic World, Emory University, 1999

“Sorting Colors in the Archives: Writing a History of Sex Between White Women and Black Men,” Phi Alpha Theta Speaker, University of Georgia-Athens, 1999

“White Women, Black Men: Writing a History of Illicit Sex in the Nineteenth-Century South,” University of the South, 1999

“White Women, Black Men: Writing a History of Illicit Sex in the Nineteenth-Century South,” University of Missouri-Kansas City, 1998

“White Women, Black Men: Writing a History of Illicit Sex in the Nineteenth-Century South,” Bryn Mawr College, 1998

“Teaching Race, Teaching Modern America: Pedagogy, Syllabi, and New Scholarship,” Modern America Workshop, Princeton University, 1998

“What is the Direction of African American Studies?” Princeton University, 1998

“Sex Across the Color Line: White Women and Black Men in the Nineteenth-Century American South,” Swarthmore College, 1996

“Writing a History of Sex Between White Women and Black Men in the Nineteenth-Century American South: Documents, Evidence, Queries,” Pennsylvania State University, 1995

“The History of Sex Between White Women and Black Men in the Nineteenth-Century American South,” University of Washington-Seattle, 1994

“Quiet Voices in the Archives: White Women and Black Men in the Slave South,” Research Project in Southern History, University of California-San Diego, 1994

“Imagination and the Non-Fiction Narrative,” Faculty Mentor Program, University of California-Santa Cruz, 1992

INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS: New York University

Scholars and Their Kin: Historical Explorations, Literary Experiments, book launch and panel discussion, Center for the Humanities, 2025

Scholars and Their Kin: Historical Explorations, Literary Experiments, panelist, Department of History, 2025

“The Art and Craft of Writing of History,” guest seminar leader, Professors Robin D’Avignon and Maria Montoya, Approaches to Historical Research and Writing I, Department of History, 2024

“Archives, Monuments, and Cultural Memory,” guest seminar leader, Professor Paula McDowell, Department of English, 2024

“My Hijacking: A Personal History of Forgetting and Remembering,” Biography Seminar, October 2023

Workshop in Creative Writing, guest seminar leader, Professor Jenny McPhee, Center for Publishing, School of Professional Studies, 2023

Interlocutor, Channing Joseph, author of work in progress, *House of Swann: Where Slaves Became Queers—And Changed the World*, Biography Seminar, 2023

Interlocutor, Mark Burford, author of work in progress, *And the World Whistled in His Ears: W. E. B. Du Bois and Music*, Biography Seminar, 2023

Interlocutor, Kate Clifford Larson, author of *Walk With Me: A Biography of Fannie Lou Hamer*, Biography Seminar, 2022

Interlocutor, Rachel L. Swarns, author of work in progress, *The 272: The Story of the Enslaved Families who Fueled the Growth of Georgetown University and the Catholic Church*, Biography Seminar, 2022

“Vivid Memories and the Quest for Archival Documentation,” Symposium, “Scholars and Their Kin,” Institute of French Studies, 2020

“Legacies of the Civil War: The Confederate Monument Controversy,” guest lecturer, History in the Headlines, Department of History, 2017, 2020

“The Victorians and the Moderns: How Does the Nineteenth Century Speak to the Twenty-First?” panelist, New York-Cambridge Training Collaboration in Modern British History, 2016

Interlocutor, Nell Irvin Painter, “Sojourner Truth: A Life, A Symbol,” Center for the Study of Transformative Lives,” New York University, 2016

“Beyond Grief and Gratitude: African American Voices and Lincoln’s Assassination,” conference on “Against Recovery: Slavery, Freedom, and the Archive,” 2012

“Love, Race, and War: Writing the Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Woman,” Scholars Lecture Series, College of Arts and Science, 2007

“Violence in the Archives: Writing Histories of Sex, Race, and Inhumanity,” Humanities Council Workshop on History of Trauma and Violence: Traumatic Effects, 2006

“The Mute and the Mutable: A Rough Draft, Never to Be Completed,” Humanities Council Workshop on Storytelling Across Disciplines, 2005

“Archives of Complexion: Race, Memory, and Storytelling Across Borders,” Faculty Forum, Department of History, 2005

“The Story of the Letters: A Voyage in the Archives and Beyond,” Women’s History Month Roundtable, Activism in the Archives, Tamiment Library, 2004

“If Nothing Happens: Skin Color, Memory, and the Problem of Family Stories,” Humanities Council Workshop on Storytelling in American History, 2004

“Constructions of Race in the Nineteenth-Century U.S. and British Caribbean: A Family Story,” Atlantic History Workshop, Department of History, 2002

“Searching for the Sea Captain’s Story: Narratives of Race and Color in the Nineteenth-Century Atlantic World,” Black Cultures and Testimonies Faculty Seminar, 2000

“Writing Historical Narratives in International Contexts,” Faculty Resource Network Summer Seminar, 1999

“Documenting Terror: Autobiography and Activism in the Life of Ida B. Wells,” Faculty Resource Network Summer Seminar, 1996

CONFERENCE PAPERS: International and U.S.

“Working from Home: Historians Writing about Themselves and their Ancestors,” American Historical Association roundtable, New York, 2025

“Writing Our Lives Into History,” Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Genders, and Sexualities, Johns Hopkins University, 2020 (cancelled due to Covid-19)

“Storytelling, Memory, Imagination: Narrative and the Writing of History,” Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Genders, and Sexualities,” Hofstra University, 2017 (panelist and chair)

“Emotion, Politics, and Lincoln’s Assassination,” roundtable, Society of Civil War Historians, Baltimore, 2014

“Writing an Unconventional Story of an Unconventional Life: An Inspiration,” conference on “Historian Beyond Limits: A Celebration of Linda Gordon,” University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2013

“Dashed Expectations in Love, Race, and Biography,” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, Philadelphia, 2008

“Alternative and Innovative Narrative Voices,” roundtable, American Studies Association, Philadelphia, 2007

“Race and U.S. History in Transnational Perspective,” roundtable, Organization of American Historians, Washington, DC, 2006

“Memories of Color, Nation, and Race in the U.S. and British Caribbean,” featured panel on History and Memory, Organization of American Historians, Boston, 2004

“Transforming Identities Across International Boundaries,” conference on “Interactions: Regional Studies, Global Processes, and Historical Analysis,” Library of Congress, Washington, DC, 2001

“Past and Present Narratives of Race and Color in the U.S. and British Caribbean,” American Historical Association, Boston, 2001

“Mutable Racial Identities in the Nineteenth-Century U.S. and British Caribbean,” conference on “Pairing Empires: Britain and America,” Johns Hopkins University, 2000

“Interpreting Gender Across Geographical Boundaries,” World History Association, University of Texas-Austin, 2000

“Place and Race in Black and White Migrations: New England, the Deep South, and the West Indies in the Nineteenth Century,” American Historical Association, Washington, DC, 1999

“Travelers Among Regions, Nations, and Racial Categories in the Nineteenth Century,” conference on “The Black Atlantic: Race, Nation, and Gender,” Center for Historical Analysis, Rutgers University, 1999

“Beyond Empire and Mission: Outsiders in the British West Indies,” British Association of American Studies, University of Glasgow, Scotland, 1999

“Crossing Race and Space in the Nineteenth Century: A White Woman in New England and the British Caribbean,” Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, University of Rochester, 1999

“Geography, Ideology, Silence: White New Englanders in the South,” conference on “Conflicts and Loyalties in the Civil War South,” University of Richmond, 1998

“Community, Region, World: Transforming Social History Across Borders,” conference on “Practicing Space, Time, and Place: The Next Social History,” University of Chicago, 1998

“The Sexualization of Politics: White Women and Black Men in the Post-Emancipation South,” American Historical Association, Atlanta, 1996

“White Women, Black Men, and the Sexualization of Politics,” Southern Historical Association, New Orleans, 1995

“White Mother, Black Son: Color and Racial Categories in the Slave South,” American Historical Association-Pacific Coast Branch, Maui, Hawaii, 1995

“The Rest is Fiction: Inquiries into Historical Imagination,” conference on “Narrating Histories,” California Institute of Technology, 1994

“Race, Marriage, and Slavery: The Wedding of Irish Nell and Negro Charles in the Colonial Chesapeake,” Bay Area Seminar on Early American History and Culture, Berkeley, 1994

“Romantic Love Across the Color Line: White Women and Black Men in Nineteenth-Century America,” conference on “New Viewpoints in Women’s History,” Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe College, 1994

“Adultery Across the Color Line: White Women and Black Men in the Antebellum South,” Organization of American Historians, Anaheim, CA, 1993

“Was This White Woman a Slave? The Marriage of Irish Nell and Negro Charles in the Colonial Chesapeake,” American Studies Association, Boston, 1993

“Sex Across the Color Line: White Women and Black Men in the Nineteenth-Century American South: A Methodological Introduction,” Cultural Studies Colloquium, University of California-Santa Cruz, 1993

“Ambiguities of Color: Race and Community Knowledge in the Slave South,” conference on “Nationalism, Sexualities, and the Politics of Identity,” University of California-Santa Cruz, 1992

“Reputation and Self-Presentation: Ambiguities of Color in the Antebellum South,” American Studies Association, Costa Mesa, CA, 1992

“The Case of Polly Lane and Slave Jim: A Sexual Alliance Across the Color Line in the Antebellum South,” Southern Conference on Women’s History, Duke and University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, 1991

“Illicit Sex Across the Color Line: White Women and Black Men in the Civil War South,” Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Douglass College-Rutgers University, 1991

“The Case of Irish Nell and Negro Charles: A Marriage Across the Color Line in the Colonial Chesapeake,” Southern American Studies Association, College of William and Mary, 1991

Interlocutor and Conference Panel Comment

Commenter, “The Lincoln Assassination and the Culture Industry,” Organization of American Historians, Philadelphia, April 2026 forthcoming

Interlocutor, Megan Marshall, author of *After Lives: On Biography and the Mysteries of the Human Heart*, Leon Levy Center for Biography, Graduate Center, City University of New York, December 2025 forthcoming

Interlocutor, Ruth Franklin, author of *The Many Lives of Anne Frank*, New York Institute for the Humanities, 2025

Interlocutor, Frank Cirillo, “The Past in the Present—Conversations With Historians: Abolitionists and the Downfall of Slavery,” New-York Historical Society, 2018

Commenter, “Experimenting with New Dramatic Histories,” American Historical Association, Washington DC, 2018

Interlocutor, Eric Foner, discussing *Gateway to Freedom: The Hidden History of the Underground Railroad*, Museum of the City of New York, 2015

Commenter and chair, “Massachusetts, Slavery, and Emancipation,” conference on “Massachusetts and the Civil War,” Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, 2013

Commenter, "Politics," conference on "The Spirit and the Flesh: Transregional Perspectives on Religion, Race, and Gender in History," University of Erfurt, Germany, 2009

Commenter, "Reconstructing the Body: Gender, Medicine, and the Challenges of Race in the Age of Emancipation," American Historical Association, Washington, DC, 2008

Commenter, "Transnational Histories of the American Civil War Era," American Historical Association, Philadelphia, 2006

Commenter, "A Map of Seven Words: Reflections on the Future of Empire and Intimacy," to lecture delivered by Ann Laura Stoler, Graduate Center, City University of New York, 2005

"Commenter, Linking Regional and Global Spaces: Rethinking the American South in the Age of Imperialism," American Historical Association, Chicago, 2003

Commenter, "Colonial Political Cultures," conference on "Recent Work in International History," Yale University, 2000

Commenter, "Racialized Desire," American Studies Association, Washington, DC, 1997

Commenter, "'Coloring' the New Sexual Order: Reassessing Sex and Race in the 1890s," Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, 1996

Commenter, "Class, Gender, and Jim Crow: New Perspectives on the Law of Segregation," Organization of American Historians, Washington, DC, 1995

Commenter, "White Women, the Rape Myth, and the Transformation of Power in the South, 1800-1930," Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Vassar College, 1993

Conference Panel Chair or Moderator

"Race and Nation: A Case Study of Taking Scholarship to the Public," American Historical Association, Washington DC, 2018

"Civil War and Reconstruction" panel, inaugural conference, Lapidus Center for the Study of Transatlantic Slavery, "Reckoning With Slavery: New Directions in the History, Memory, Legacy, and Popular Representations of Enslavement," Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture and History, New York Public Library, 2017

"The Promise and Pitfalls of Writing for Readers Beyond the Academy: A Roundtable," series on "Writing Beyond the Monograph," American Historical Association, New York, 2009

"Variations on a Theme: 'Miscegenation' in Comparative Perspective: A Roundtable," Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, Worcester, MA, 2007

"Women and Liberty," conference in honor of Professor James M. McPherson, Princeton University, 2005

"New York City History," New York is Book Country, 2004

“Female Loyalty and Disloyalty in Confederate Virginia,” Southern Intellectual History Circle, University of Richmond, 2002

“American Reformers in Africa, Native America, and Chinatown: Gender and Crosscultural Encounters,” Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, University of Connecticut-Storrs, 2002

“The Science of Sex,” conference on “Sexuality in Early America,” McNeil Center for Early American Studies and Omohundro Institute, University of Pennsylvania, 2001

“Epistemological Contests,” conference on “The Politics of Interdisciplinary Location: Teaching and Learning in the Intersections,” Columbia University, 1997

TEACHING

Graduate Courses

Literature of the Field: Nineteenth-Century United States
Race, Civil War, and Reconstruction
Transnational Constructions of Race
Reconstructing Lives
Approaches to Historical Research and Writing

Undergraduate Courses

Race, Civil War, and Reconstruction
Experiences of the American Civil War
Families in the Era of the American Civil War
Writing the Civil War
Race and Family Stories in U.S. History
Constructions of Race in U.S. History
Travel and Travelers in American History
History and Storytelling
Biography as History
Autobiography and History
Reading and Writing Experimental History
History Honors Thesis Seminar
Critical Moments in U.S. History
United States to 1865

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Board Membership

President, Society of American Historians, 2025-26

Vice President and President-Elect, Society of American Historians, 2024-25

Scholarly Advisory Board, Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, 2021-present

Editorial Board, *Rethinking History: The Journal of Theory and Practice*
peer-reviewed, published by Routledge, U.S. and U.K., 2009-present

Executive Board, Society of American Historians, 2016-19, 2019-22

Chair, Nominating Committee, Society of American Historians, 2016-18

Co-convener, Writing History Seminar, co-sponsored with Columbia University, Manhattan College, New School, and Rutgers University, 2015-19

Workshop Leader

Non-Fiction Writing Workshop, Institute for Teachers, Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers, New York Public Library (one-week), 2019

Scholar in Residence, History Scholar Award Program, Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, visits to archives, historic sites, and museums in New York City with 15 nationally selected college students (one week), 2014, 2015, 2016

“Writing the History of Everyday Life,” NYU-Berlin Global Research Institute, Berlin, Germany (co-leader), 2013

Consultant and Advisor

Lincoln Prize Advisory Council, Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and Gettysburg College, 2007-present

Academic Advisor, “Radio Diaries,” National Public Radio, 2009-present

Advisory Council, Ford’s Theatre National Historic Site and Ford’s Theatre Center for Education and Leadership, Washington, DC, 2014-present

Historical Consultant, Dances for a Variable Population, performances at Grant’s Tomb, General Grant National Memorial, Riverside Park; and Lincoln Statue, Prospect Park, New York, NY, 2017

Advisor, online exhibition and collection, “Remembering Lincoln,” Ford’s Theatre Center for Education and Leadership, Washington, DC, 2013-15

Consultant, “Free State of Jones,” Universal Pictures, director Gary Ross, released 2016 (John E. O’Connor Film Award, American Historical Association)

Consultant, “The Loving Story,” documentary feature film on 1967 U.S. Supreme Court case, *Loving v. Virginia*, released 2011 (Emmy Award, Peabody Award); panel discussions following screenings:

◆Hamptons Take 2 Documentary Film Festival, Sag Harbor, NY, 2013

◆Philanthropy New York Documentary Series, Paley Center for Media, New York, NY, 2012

Consultant and on-screen interview, “How the World Got Mixed Up,” BBC documentary on multiracial identity around the world, broadcast 2011

Script consultant, “History Detectives,” PBS-TV series, 2004-09

Lead consultant, “Shadows of the Lynching Tree,” documentary feature on legacies of lynching in U.S. history, released 2008

Award and Program Committees

Lincoln Prize, Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and Gettysburg College, 2024-25

Historical Fiction Book Prize, Society of American Historians, 2020-21

Lincoln Prize (jury chair), Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and Gettysburg College, 2016-17

Public Scholar Program, National Endowment for the Humanities, 2015

Francis Parkman Book Prize (jury chair), Society of American Historians, 2014-15

Frederick Douglass Book Prize (jury chair), Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition, Yale University, 2010-11

American Council of Learned Societies Fellowships, 2008, 2009

Merle Curti Book Prize, Organization of American Historians, 2007-08

National Endowment for the Humanities Collaborative Research Grants, 2001

Civil War and Reconstruction Book Prize, Organization of American Historians, 2000-01

Program Committee, Sexuality in Early America, McNeil Center for Early American Studies and Omohundro Institute, 1999-2001

Berkshire Conference Book Prize, Specialist Reader in Southern History, 1997, 1999

Willie Lee Rose Book Prize, Southern Association of Women Historians, 1999

Manuscript and Proposal Peer Review

journals: *American Historical Review*, *American Quarterly*, *Journal of American History*, *Journal of Southern History*, *Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association*, *Journal of the Civil War Era*, *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, *Law and History Review*, *Radical History Review*, *Rethinking History*, *William and Mary Quarterly*

publishers: Blackwell, Blue Sky Press, Bloomsbury, Cornell University Press, Harvard University Press, Houghton-Mifflin, Hyperion, Kent State University Press, Longman, New York University Press, Oxford University Press, Palgrave-Macmillan, Pearson, Princeton University Press, Routledge, Scholastic, University of Alabama Press, University of California Press, University of Chicago Press, University of Massachusetts Press, University of North Carolina Press, University of Pennsylvania Press, University of Virginia Press, University Press of Kansas, Yale University Press

University Service

Advisory Board, New York University Biography Seminar, 2020-present

Dean's Undergraduate Research Fund, Humanities Selection Committee, 2010-12, 2021

Panelist, "Writing Matters: How to Reach a Wider Readership," Center for the Humanities, 2019

Panelist, "Jumpstart Your Summer Writing," Center for the Humanities panel, 2018

Dean's Advisory Committee on Policy and Planning, 2017-18, 2020

Chair, Faculty Advisory Committee, Center for the Study of Transformative Lives, 2015-19
Faculty Advisory Board, New York University Press, 2015-2018
Committee on Graduate Curriculum and Financial Aid, 2016-18
Faculty Advisor, Dean's Undergraduate Research Fund, 2016
Research Consultant, Faculty Resource Network, Scholar-in-Residence Program, 2015
Golden Dozen and Outstanding Teaching Awards Committee, 2011-12
Graduate Curriculum Committee, 2007-10
Rudin Internship Scholarship Selection Committee, 2008
Undergraduate Faculty Mentor Program, 2004-05
Faculty Resource Network Mentor and Sponsor, 2001, 1997-98
Third-Year Review and Tenure Workshop for Junior Women, 2000-01
Women's Faculty Caucus Executive Board, 1999-2002
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, 1997-2000

Departmental Service (excluding search and promotion committees)

Summer Pre-Dissertation Workshop co-leader, 2024; 2025; 2026 forthcoming
Chair, PhD Admissions Committee, 2023-24, 2017-18, 2015-16, 2014-15
Moderator, Scholarship-in-Progress panel, PhD Prospective Students Day, 2018
Graduate Student Grant-Writing Workshop, Fall 2015
PhD Admissions Committee, U.S. representative, 2010-11, 2003-06, 2000-01, 1995-96
U.S. Field Area Coordinator, 2011-12
Fellowship and Awards Committee, 2011-12, 2003-06, 2000-01, 1995-96
Graduate Student Termination Appeal Committee, 2011
Graduate Student Job Market Workshop, 2010
"A Book: Getting Started," New Doctoral Student Orientation, 2010, 2009
Graduate Planning Committee, 2009
Director, Program in the History of Women and Gender, Spring 1996-97, 1999-2001, 2008
Committee on Joint Program in History and Education, 2007
Director of Graduate Studies, 2003-06
Director of Undergraduate Honors Program, 2005-06, 2000-01
Planning and Advisory Committee, 2003-06
Graduate Student TA Training Workshop, 2003-06, 1999-2000
Minority Recruitment and Retention Committee, 2004-05
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, 1994-95
Committee on Major Field in Diaspora Studies, 1995-2000

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Historical Association
Authors Guild
New York Academy of History (elected)
New York Institute for the Humanities (elected)
Organization of American Historians
PEN America
Society of American Historians (elected)
Society of Civil War Historians