

Kabria Baumgartner

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RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Early United States history; history of education; African American history; women's, gender, and sexuality studies; public history; and community-engaged history.

EMPLOYMENT

Northeastern University

Academic Appointments

Dean's Associate Professor of History & Africana Studies, June 2021-present

Administrative Appointments

Director of Public History, December 2023-April 2024

Associate Director of Public History, July 2021-November 2023

University of New Hampshire

Academic Appointments

Associate Professor of American Studies & English, August 2020-June 2021

Assistant Professor of American Studies, July 2017-July 2020

Administrative Appointments

Faculty Fellow for Equity and Inclusion, August 2020-June 2021

College of Wooster

Assistant Professor of History, August 2011-June 2017

EDUCATION

- 2011 Ph.D. in African American Studies, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Graduate Certificate in Feminist Studies
- 2006 Graduate Certificate in British Studies, Humboldt University Berlin
- 2005 M.A. in African American Studies, *summa cum laude*, University of California, Los Angeles
- 2003 B.A. in English, *cum laude*, with College & Departmental Honors, University of California, Los Angeles

RECENT SCHOLARSHIP

On the Cusp: Black Youth and Civil Rights in Boston (under contract with the University of North Carolina Press, expected August 2026)

In Pursuit of Knowledge: Black Women and Educational Activism in Antebellum America (New York University Press, 2019).

2020 Mary Kelley Prize from the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic

2020 Outstanding Book Award from the History of Education Society

2021 American Educational Research Association Division F New Scholar's Book Award

2021 Outstanding Book Award from the American Educational Research Association

Reviewed in the *American Historical Review*, *Journal of American History*, *History of Education Quarterly*, *New England Quarterly*, *Journal of the Early Republic*, *Reviews in American History*, *Journal of the Civil War Era*, *Journal of American History*, *Pennsylvania History*, *Connecticut History Review*

Book Series

Co-Editor, Black New England Series, University of Massachusetts Press, 2021-present

Articles & Book Chapters (Peer-Reviewed)

- 2025 “Teaching the Reconstruction Amendments,” with Hunter Moskowitz in *Understanding and Teaching Jim Crow America*, ed. Bethany Jay, et. al. (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2025), forthcoming.
- 2024 “Even More Is Required: Tackling the Problem of Low Teacher Pay,” *History of Education Quarterly* vol. 64, no. 3 (Summer 2024), forthcoming.
- 2022 “Full and Impartial Justice”: Robert Morris and the Equal School Rights Movement in Massachusetts,” *New England Quarterly* vol. 95, no. 2 (June 2022): 155-191.
https://doi.org/10.1162/tnq_a_00940
- 2021 “Gender Politics and the Manual Labor College Initiative at National Colored Conventions in Antebellum America,” in *The Colored Conventions Movement: Black Organizing in the Nineteenth Century*, ed. P. Gabrielle Foreman, et. al. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2021), 230-245.
- Teaching Guide – <https://coloredconventions.org/women-higher-education/teach/>
- 2021 “Let this Seminar Be a Starting Point: Digital Storytelling and the African American Experience,” in *Teaching American Studies: The State of the Classroom as State of the Field*, ed. Elizabeth DuClos-Orsello, Joseph Entin, et. al. (Lawrence: University of Kansas Press, 2021), 172-186.
- 2020 “Searching for Sarah: Black Girlhood, Education, and the Archive,” *History of Education Quarterly* vol. 60, no. 1 (February 2020): 73-85. <https://doi.org/10.1017/heq.2019.49>
- 2019 “Love and Justice: African American Women, Education, and Protest in Antebellum New England,” *Journal of Social History* vol. 52, no. 3 (2019): 652-676.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/jsh/shy019>

Public History & Museum Work

Researcher and Exhibit Author, **‘P is for Pompey,’ Salem Stories**, Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA, June 2024-present. <https://www.pem.org/blog/object-spotlight-a-family-story-behind-black-election-day-and-a-portrait-at-pem>

Founding Member, Author, and Curator, Historic Interpretive Signs Project, **Newburyport Black History Initiative**, Newburyport, MA, 2022-present, <https://www.cityofnewburyport.com/planning-development/newburyport-black-history-initiative>

Awarded the **2024 Leadership in History Award of Excellence** from the American Association of State and Local History

Co-Curator and Co-Writer, **“Let None Be Excluded: The Origins of Equal School Rights in Salem,”** with Dan Lipcan, Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA, April 2022-2024,
<https://www.pem.org/exhibitions/let-none-be-excluded-the-origins-of-equal-school-rights-in-salem>

Reviewed in *The Public Historian*, <https://doi.org/10.1525/tph.2024.46.3.104>

Reviewed in *Library Exhibitions Review*, <https://exhibitions.arlisna.hcommons.org/library-exhibitions-review-2024/let-none-be-excluded/>

Public Writing

- 2024 “Five Things to Know About Black Parents’ Activism,” in Jennifer C. Berkshire and Jack Schneider, *The Education Wars: A Citizen’s Guide and Defense Manual* (The New Press, July 2024), 82-3.
- 2024 “A Place to Come Together,” *Newburyport Magazine*, Fall 2024
- 2022 *African Americans in Essex County, Massachusetts: An Annotated Guide* (co-authored with Dr. Liz DuClos-Orsello)
https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/upload/African_Americans_EssexCo_FINAL.pdf
- 2021 “Black Women Have Shaped Politics in Boston for Centuries,” *Washington Post* (Made By History section), February 10, 2021.
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2021/02/10/black-women-have-shaped-politics-boston-centuries/>
- 2020 “Robert Morris Was a Black Bostonian Who Fought for Freedom. Why Don’t We Have a Statue of Him?” *Cognoscenti* (WBUR’s Online Opinion Page), July 9, 2020.
<https://www.wbur.org/cognoscenti/2020/07/09/black-bostonians-george-floyd-statue-emancipation-memorial-robert-morris-kabria-baumgartner>

Documentaries

Featured Historian, *A Boston (R)Evolution*. Directed by Daphne Mac and Jamie Gordon, Fugitive Films, August 2024. <https://www.pbs.org/video/city-of-contradictions-0mnr1m/>

Historian, *The Revolution Begins: 18th Century – Unfinished Business Pt I*. Revolutionary Spaces. 2023.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AP2SzHYIzaY>

Historian, *Who is Created Equal: 19th Century – Unfinished Business Pt II*. Revolutionary Spaces. 2023.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M3oDbYwTnoE>

Featured Historian and Consultant, *Legacy of Courage: Black Changemakers in Massachusetts Past, Present, Future*. Justice George Lewis Ruffin Society, Northern Light Productions. 2022.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cCSGgxpHl-w>

RECENT FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

- 2024 **New England Humanities Consortium**
Expanding Colonial Histories and Collective Remembrances in New England: The Search for the Home of ‘Black King Pompey,’ \$5,000 (PI with Dr. Meghan Howey)

- 2023-26 **Andrew Mellon Foundation Implementation Grant**
Reckonings: A Local History Platform for the Citizen-Archivist, \$1,500,000 (PI with Angel David Nieves, Uta Poiger, and Dan Cohen)
- 2022-23 **National Endowment for the Humanities Long-Term Fellowship**, American Antiquarian Society, \$20,000
- 2021-23 **Spencer Foundation Small Grant**
Robert Morris: An Advocate for Educational Justice in Nineteenth Century Boston (Archival Research Project), \$49,921
- 2020 **National Endowment for the Humanities Long-Term Fellowship**, Massachusetts Historical Society, \$20,000