

Tracey Johnson

Phone: 703-473-1243 | Email: traceydjohnson1@gmail.com

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of History & African American Studies (tenure-track), The University of Georgia

August 2022- Present

Associate Academic Director, The Willson Center, The University of Georgia

September 2024- Present

Scarlet & Black Postdoctoral Associate, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

September 2021- May 2022.

EDUCATION

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

Ph.D. in History (2021)

Dissertation: “Carving Out a Space for Themselves: Black Artists in New York City, 1929- 1989.”
October 2021.

Committee: Donna Murch (chair), Davarian Baldwin, Susan E. Cahan, James Delbourgo, Nicole R. Fleetwood, Kali N. Gross

The College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, VA

B.A. in History (2014)

PUBLICATIONS

Book Project

“Black Arts Democracy: How Black Arts Education Advanced Black New York, 1929-1993,” advanced contract with UNC Press.

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

“Value, Access, and the Role of Black Art Collectors During the Financialization of the Visual Arts in New York City, 1975-1993,” *The Journal of African American History*, Spring 2024.

Book Chapters

“Fight Racism, End Apartheid: The Divestment Movement at Rutgers University and the Limits of interracial organizing, 1977-1985,” in *Scarlet and Black: Slavery and Dispossession in Rutgers’s History, vol. III*, ed. Marisa J. Fuentes and Deborah Gray White (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2021).

“All the World’s A Classroom: The First Black Students at Rutgers College and New Brunswick Theological Seminary Encounter Racial Ideology, Missionary Impulses, and the Intellectual Life of the University,” in *Scarlet and Black: Slavery and Dispossession in Rutgers’s History, vol. II*, ed. Marisa J. Fuentes and Deborah Gray White (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2020).

“The Rutgers Race Man: Early Black Students at Rutgers College,” in *Scarlet and Black: Slavery and Dispossession in Rutgers’s History, vol. II*, ed. Marisa J. Fuentes and Deborah Gray White (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2020).

“From the Classroom to the American Colonization Society, Making Race at Rutgers,” in *Scarlet and Black: Slavery and Dispossession in Rutgers’s History*, ed. Marisa J. Fuentes and Deborah Gray White (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2016).

Book Reviews

- Review of *Vengeance Feminism: The Power of Black Women's Fury in Lawless Times*, by Kali Nicole Gross, *Global Black Thought* 2 no. 1 (2026).
- Review of *Confronting Jim Crow: Race, Memory, and the University of Georgia in the Twentieth Century*, by Robert Cohen, *Historical Studies in Education* 37 no. 2 (2026).
- Review of *Art for People's Sake: Chicago's Black Arts Movement*, by Rebecca Zorach, *Black Perspectives*, April 16, 2020.

Other Publications

“[How Journalists Ella Baker and Marvel Jackson Cooke Exposed Domestic Work's 'Slave Market,'](#)” Women at the Center Blog, Center for Women's History, New-York Historical Society, September 1, 2021

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

- Special Collections Library Teaching Fellowship, The University of Georgia, May 2025.
- Recipient, Knowledge Frontiers: International Interdisciplinary Research Project, The British Academy, March 2024- March 2026.
- Faculty Fellow, Willson Center Research Fellowship, The Willson Center for Humanities and Arts, 2023-2024.
- Andrew W. Mellon Fellow, Center for Women's History, New-York Historical Society, August 2020-August 2021.
- Mellon Graduate Fellow, Zimmerli Art Museum, *Angela Davis: Seize the Time* exhibit, March 2020-October 2020.
- Fellow, New York Public Library Short Term Fellowship, August 2019.
- Neal Ira Rosenthal History Travel Award, Summer 2019.
- Recipient, Stuart A. Rose Library Fellowship, Emory University.
- Fellow, Zimmerli Art Museum Public History Fellowship, Spring 2019.
- Fellow, Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis Seminar on Black Bodies, Co-Chaired by Profs. Marisa J. Fuentes and Kali Nicole Gross, Rutgers University, 2018-2019.
- Teaching Assistant and Graduate Assistant Professional Development Fund Award, Rutgers Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Summer 2017, Summer 2018
- Fellowship, Columbia University's Institute for Research in African-American Studies Summer Teachers and Scholars Institute, Summer 2016.
- Special Study Award, Rutgers Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Summer 2016.
- Excellence Fellowship, Rutgers Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, 2015-2016.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Instructor, African American History Graduate Colloquium, University of Georgia, History Department, Athens, Georgia, Fall 2024
- Instructor, Introduction to African American Studies, University of Georgia, the Institute for African American Studies, Athens, Georgia, Fall 2023
- Instructor, Black Skin, White Walls: African Americans and the Museum, University of Georgia, History Department, the Institute for African American Studies, Athens, Georgia, Spring 2023
- Instructor, African American Women's History, University of Georgia, History Department, the Institute for Women's Studies, the Institute for African American Studies, Athens, Georgia, Spring 2023, Spring 2025.
- Instructor, Art & Activism in the United States, University of Georgia, History Department, Athens, Georgia, Fall 2022, Fall 2023.
- Instructor, Seminar on W.E.B. Du Bois, W.E.B. Du Bois Scholars Institute, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, Summer 2019.
- Teaching Assistant, Scarlet and Black Seminar, Rutgers University, History Department, New Brunswick, New Jersey, January 2018- May 2018.

Teaching Assistant, From Plantation to Whitehouse, Rutgers University, History Department, New Brunswick, New Jersey, August 2017- December 2017.

Teaching Assistant, Race, Nation, Gender, Rutgers University, History Department and Women's and Gender Studies Department, New Brunswick, New Jersey, August 2017-December 2017.

Teaching Assistant, War, Peace, and the Military, Rutgers University, History Department, New Brunswick, New Jersey, January 2017- May 2017.

Teaching Assistant, The American Dream, Rutgers University, History Department and American Studies Department, New Brunswick, New Jersey, August 2016- December 2016.

CONFRENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

“Art, Activism, and Place: Revisiting Black Cultural Production in New York City,” Association for the Study of African American Life and History Conference, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 2024.

“Black Belonging in 20th Century New York City: Culture, Art, and Claiming Space,” Urban History Association Conference, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 2023.

“Rutgers Experience in Studying Slavery and the Development of the Scarlet & Black Project,” In the Wake of Slavery and Dispossession: Emory, Racism, and the Journey towards Restorative Justice Symposium, Atlanta, Georgia, 2021.

“Staking Claims and Claiming Space: The Power and Politics of Black Urban Placemaking,” Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora Conference, Williamsburg, Virginia, 2019.

“New Jersey Stories: New Perspectives on American Paintings in the Zimmerli Art Museum,” Department of History/ Public History Program and the Zimmerli Art Museum, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, 2019.

“After Attica: Democratization of Art in New York City’s Prisons,” Organization of American Historians Conference, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 2019.

“‘To Make Beauty in Harlem’: Black Arts Education and Institution Building in New York City, 1965-1985,” chapter workshopped at Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis, Seminar on Black Bodies, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, 2019.

“Opposition to Exclusion in New York City: African Americans and Artistic Community Building 1965-1986,” African American Intellectual History Society Conference, Nashville, Tennessee, 2016.

“Navigating Colonized Spaces: African Americans and the American Art Museum 1968-1993,” Association for the Study of African American Life and History Conference, Richmond, Virginia, 2016.

INVITED TALKS

2025 “Artist or Oddity?: The Double Bind of Black Artists,” Art History Faculty Lecture, University of Georgia, Department of Art History, March 18.

2025 “How Did a Prison Rebellion Lead to a Nationwide Prison Arts Program?,” Lunchtime Time Machine Public Lecture Series, University of Georgia, Department of History, February 18.

2021 “Building a Black Arts Demos: Augusta Savage & Black Arts Education,” Uncomfortable Oxford Public Lecture Series, Oxford, UK, October 26.

2021 “Rutgers Experience in Studying Slavery and the Development of the Scarlet and Black Project,” In the Wake of Slavery and Dispossession: Emory, Racism, and the journey Towards Restorative Justice symposium, Atlanta, Georgia, September 30.

2021 “Art & Archives of the Scarlet & Black Project,” Scarlet & Black Project Symposium, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, April.

2021 “Black Artists, Black Activists in 20th Century New York,” The New-York Historical Society, New York, New York, April.

2020 “Cold War Civil Rights and Civil Rights in the North,” The Cooper Union, Global History of the Modern World course, New York, New York, November.

2020 “From the Archive to the Museum: Bridging a History Ph.D. With Public History,” Rutgers

Center for Cultural Analysis, Public Humanities Working Group, New Brunswick, New Jersey, October.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Georgia- Special Collections Library Fellowship, May 2025.

University of Georgia- University of Liverpool Faculty Summit, Liverpool, England, November 2024.

Manuscript Workshop, “Black Arts Democracy: How Black Arts Education Advanced Black New York, 1929-1993,” University of Georgia Department of History, Participants: Margo Crawford, James Smethurst, Daniel Widener, April 2024.

Graduate Fellow Researcher and Curator, “Art for Change: The Artist & Homeless Collaborative,” New-York Historical Society, New York City, New York, December 1, 2021-April 2, 2022.

Cohort Member, Early Career Workshop, New-York Historical Society’s Center for Women’s History, New York City, New York, 2020-2021.

Scarlet & Black Post-Doctoral Associate, The Institute for the Study of Global Racial Justice, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, September 2021- Present

Graduate Assistant for Dr. Deborah Gray White, July 2017-June 2018.

Interviewer, for the New Brunswick Free Public Library’s Black History Month program
“Telling Our Stories: Collecting and Preserving for Truth and Social Justice.”

Researcher, Research Committee for Slavery and the Disenfranchised at Rutgers, 2/16-Present

Research Assistant, for Dr. Kim Butler’s project on the black arts throughout the diaspora in the latter half of the twentieth century, July 2016- August 2016,

ACADEMIC SERVICE AND OUTREACH

Co-organizer, Gender & History Workshop, University of Georgia, 2023-present.

Committee member, Social Events Committee, History Department, University of Georgia, 2023-present

Juror, The 4 Minutes, 33 Seconds Contest, University of Georgia, November 2023.

Guest speaker, Oconee County Democratic Committee, Watkinsville, Georgia, August 2023.

Chair, Black Atlantic Dissertation Writing Group, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, 2018- May 2021.

Member, Committee on Minority Student Affairs, History Graduate Student Association, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, 2015-2021.

Susman Planning Committee, Susman Conference, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, 2016-2017.