



# DR. ALEXANDRIA RUSSELL

Historian & Memorializer

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## EDUCATION

University of South Carolina, *Columbia, South Carolina* December 2018  
Ph.D. in *History*

College of Charleston, *Charleston, South Carolina* December 2009  
B.A. in *Political Science*  
B.S. in *Secondary Education*  
South Carolina Teacher Certification in Secondary Social Studies

## RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP

### BOOKS

- ❖ *Black Women Legacies: Public History Sites Seen & Unseen*  
University of Illinois Press (2024)

### ARTICLES

- ❖ “‘In Them She Built Monuments’: Celia Dial Saxon & American Memory”  
*Journal of African American History* (Summer 2021)

## FELLOWSHIPS

- ❖ **W.E.B. Du Bois Research Center, Non-Residential Fellow** June 2024—June 2025  
Hutchins Center, Harvard University
- ❖ **W.E.B. Du Bois Research Center, Hutchins Family Fellow** August 2023—May 2024  
Hutchins Center, Harvard University
- ❖ **Charles Warren Center American Democracy Fellow** July 2022—June 2023  
History Department, Harvard University
- ❖ **W.E.B. Du Bois Center Postdoctoral Fellow** Summer 2019  
University of Massachusetts-Amherst

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- ❖ **Executive Director** March 2025 — Present  
*Boston Women’s Heritage Trail*
- ❖ **Interim Vice President of Education & External Engagement** January 2024—Sept. 2024  
*Boston Symphony Orchestra*
- ❖ **Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Curator** March 2023—Dec. 2023  
*Boston Symphony Orchestra*

- ❖ **Research Fellow for digital humanities** July 2021—July 2023  
*Harvard and the Legacy of Slavery, Harvard Radcliffe Institute, Cambridge, MA*
- ❖ **Scarlet & Black Post-Doctoral Associate** July 2019—July 2021  
*Rutgers University Department of History, New Brunswick, NJ*

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- ❖ **Instructor, “THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY”** May 2020  
*Mellon Price Summer Institute, Rutgers University-Newark, NJ*
- ❖ **Instructor, “U.S. HISTORY SINCE 1865”** Fall 2017  
*University of South Carolina Department of History, Columbia, SC*
- ❖ **United States History Teacher Assistant** Fall 2014—Spring 2015  
*University of South Carolina Department of History, Columbia, SC*
- ❖ **Social Studies Teacher (Grades 7 & 8)** Fall 2011—June 2014  
*Sangaree Middle School, Berkeley County Public Schools, Ladson, SC*

### PUBLIC HISTORY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

- ❖ **Founder & Executive Director, *Black Women Legacies, Inc.*** August 2022—Present  
Columbia, SC
- ❖ **Education Consultant “Angela Davis—Seize the Time” Exhibition** Spring 2021  
*Zimmerli Art Museum, Rutgers University*
- ❖ **Historical Consultant, *City of Women Project*** Spring 2019  
*Historic Columbia, Columbia, SC*
- ❖ **Education Coordinator, *Columbia ’63 Public History Project,*** Summer 2015  
Columbia, SC
- ❖ **Education Committee Member, *SC African American History Calendar*** Fall 2013  
Columbia, SC
- ❖ **Teacher Ranger Teacher, *Charles Pinckney NPS Historic Site*** Summer 2013  
Mt. Pleasant, SC

### DIGITAL HUMANITIES EXPERIENCE

- ❖ **Project Development Director** Fall 2022—Present  
[\*Black Women Legacies Digital Mapping Program\*](#)
- ❖ **Project Manager & Lead Content Developer** May 2022—June 2023  
[\*The Garden Initiative for Black Women’s Religious Activism\*](#)

- ❖ **Project Development Director** July 2021—July 2023  
*Harvard & the Legacy of Slavery Tour Experience*  
(Webby nominated), and “*A Legacy of Leadership*”
- ❖ **Project Development Liaison** Fall 2021—Summer 2022  
*WeClaimSpace.org*  
Harvard & The Legacy of Slavery, and  
Museum of African American History (Boston)
- ❖ **Digitization Director** Spring 2019—Spring 2020  
*Alice Jennings Archibald Local History Room*  
Scarlet & Black Project, New Brunswick A.M.E. Church

## PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

### INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- ❖ Panelist, “**WOMEN, GENDER, & THE MOVEMENT,**” *“Where Do We Go From Here?”: Interpreting and Preserving the African American Civil Rights Movement Conference*, Center for Civil Rights History & Research, University of South Carolina (October 2024)
- ❖ Keynote Speaker, “**CELIA DIAL SAXON’S LOVE FOR CHILDREN: A CELEBRATION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA NORMAL SCHOOL,**” *Annual Witten Lecture*, University of South Carolina, College of Education (September 2024)
- ❖ Moderator, “**WITNESS TREES,**” *Roots Uprising Open Rehearsal*, Office for the Arts at Harvard Dance Program, Harvard University (April 2024)
- ❖ “**WHAT DOES THE NAMED MEMORIAL ‘ELIZABETH FREEMAN WAY’ TELL US ABOUT OURSELVES?**” *Multicultural BRIDGE*, Great Barrington Town Hall (October 2023)
- ❖ “**MAPPING BLACK WOMEN LEGACIES IN SOUTH CAROLINA,**” *Lower Richland Heritage & Genealogy Society* (August 2023)
- ❖ “**MAPPING BLACK WOMEN LEGACIES THROUGH THE DIGITAL HUMANITIES,**” *Norman B. Leventhal Map Center, Boston Public Library* (July 2023)
- ❖ “**FINDING CELIA DIAL SAXON: RECOVERING HISTORIES OF AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN,**” *Professor Jazma Sutton, Miami University* (March 2023)
- ❖ “**ENGAGING THE PUBLIC WITH COMPLEX HISTORIES: THE HARVARD & THE LEGACY OF SLAVERY TOUR EXPERIENCE,**” *Slave Legacy History Coalition* (December 2022)
- ❖ “**SLAVERY & PUBLIC HISTORY: PAINTING A DIGITAL LANDSCAPE OF ENSLAVEMENT,**” *Professor Tiya Miles, Slavery & Public History Seminar, Harvard University* (November 2022)
- ❖ Moderator, “**ISSUES IN BLACK ARCHIVAL WORK,**” *“Angela Davis—Seize the Time” Exhibition*, Zimmerli Art Museum, Rutgers University (October 2021)

- ❖ **“RECKONING WITH ERASURE: HIGHLIGHTING AFRICAN AMERICAN PUBLIC HISTORY IN MONUMENT DISCOURSE,”** *Public Humanities & the Democratic Commons Conference*, Hunter College, City University of New York (April 2021)
- ❖ Scarlet & Black Project, **“EXPLORING BLACK HISTORY IN NEW JERSEY: NEW DISCOVERIES & RESEARCH,”** *New Jersey Historical Commission* (February 2021)
- ❖ Scarlet & Black Project, **“ALICE JENNINGS ARCHIBALD MURAL UNVEILING,”** *coLAB Arts*, New Brunswick, NJ (January 2021)
- ❖ International Lecturer, **“COMMEMORATING FREEDOM: AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN’S PUBLIC HISTORY IN THE JIM CROW ERA,”** *Uncomfortable Oxford Public Lecture Series*, Oxford, UK (October 2020)
- ❖ **“AFRICAN AMERICANS IN EARLY NEW JERSEY,”** *Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Reserve Virtual Presentation Series* (June 2020)
- ❖ **“W.E.B. DU BOIS & THE PHILLIS WHEATLEY BRAND: MAPPING BLACK WOMEN’S MEMORIALIZATION IN THE EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY,”** *The W.E.B. Du Bois Center*, University of Massachusetts-Amherst (October 2019)
- ❖ **“FROM THEORY TO MONUMENTS: PAST, PRESENT, & FUTURE TRAJECTORIES OF AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN’S PUBLIC MEMORIALIZATION,”** *But What Does Wonder Do?: A Conference of Emergent Black Studies*, Stanford University (April 2019)
- ❖ **CHARLES K. HYDE VISITING PRACTITIONER,** *“The Museum in African America,”* University of Massachusetts-Amherst (March 2019)
- ❖ **“HINE SITES: BLACK WOMEN AND THE RE-CONSTRUCTION OF AMERICAN PUBLIC HISTORY,”** *“Hinesite: A Symposium on the Work of Darlene Clark Hine*, Northwestern University (May 2017)
- ❖ **“EXPLORING AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN’S MEMORIALIZATION IN COLUMBIA THROUGH THE MANN-SIMONS SITE,”** *South Carolina Federation of Museums Conference*, Historic Columbia Foundation (March 2017)
- ❖ **“CELIA DIAL SAXON: AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN’S GENDERED LABOR,”** *Critical Interactives Digital Humanities Seminar*, University of South Carolina (January 2017)

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- ❖ **“The Phillis Wheatley’s: Examining African American Women’s Networks of Sisterhood & Memorialization,”** *Furious Flower IV: Celebrating the Worlds of Black Poetry Conference*, James Madison University (September 2024)
- ❖ **“Highlighting the Historical & Commemorative Significance of the 1973 Phillis Wheatley Poetry Festival,”** *50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary PWPF Conference*, Jackson State University (November 2023)
- ❖ **“Resisting Erasure: Celebrating Black Women Legacies in the Digital Humanities,”** *Association for the Study of African American Life & History Conference* (September 2023)

- ❖ Panel Organizer & Panelist, **“State of the Field: Black Women’s Public History,”** *National Council of Public History Annual Conference* (April 2023)
- ❖ **“An Occasion of Great Distinction’: Celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Phillis Wheatley Poetry Festival,”** *Association of Black Women Historians Symposium* (December 2022)
- ❖ **“Fighting Erasure: Celebrating Black Cultural Landscapes in University Slavery Initiatives”** *American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting* (November 2022)
- ❖ **“Confronting Complex Legacies: Reckoning with the Landscape of Enslavement at Harvard,”** *Universities Studying Slavery Conference, University of Virginia* (October 2022)
- ❖ **“African American Women Memorials in the West in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century,”** *Western History Association Pre-Con Conference* (October 2021)
- ❖ **“And She Was Loved’: Memorials to African American Women in the United States,”** *National Council of Public History Annual Meeting* (March 2021)
- ❖ **“The Mary Clubs: Named Memorials of the National Association of Colored Women in the Early Twentieth Century,”** *10<sup>th</sup> Annual Lemon Project Spring Symposium at William & Mary* (March 2021)
- ❖ **“Historic Columbia at Deckle Edge: City of Women Project,”** *Deckle Edge South Carolina’s Literary Festival* (March 2019)
- ❖ **“Legacies of Triumph: African American Women’s Memorialization in Public History Sites,”** *American Historical Association 133<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting* (January 2019)
- ❖ **“Creating Their Own World: African American Women’s Public History,”** *Association of Black Women’s Historians Symposium, Our Foremother’s Keepers: The Art and Practice of Black Women’s History* (December 2018)
- ❖ **“The Phillis Wheatley Brand: African American Women’s Memorialization in the Early Twentieth Century,”** *Graduate Association for African American History Conference, The University of Memphis* (October 2018)
- ❖ **“Sites Seen & Unseen: The Memorialization of African American Women in National Park Service Historic Sites,”** *Association for the Study of African American Life & History Centennial Conference* (September 2015)

#### **GRANT & AWARDS**

- ❖ **South Carolina Preservation Service Award** June 2023  
SC Department of Archives & History,  
Preservation South Carolina, Office of the Governor
- ❖ **Smith Richardson Travel Grant** March 2017  
University of South Carolina History Department
- ❖ **Rose Library Research Fellowship** April 2017  
Emory University

- ❖ **Scholarship Award** June 2017  
Digital Humanities Summer Institute, *University of Victoria*
- ❖ **Honorable Mention** Spring 2015  
Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship

### ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- ❖ **Library Circulation Specialist** Spring 2018—Fall 2018  
*University of South Carolina Thomas Cooper Library, Columbia, SC*
- ❖ **USC History Department Graduate Research Assistant** August 2016—May 2017  
*Center for Civil Rights History & Research, Columbia, SC*
- ❖ **USC History Department Graduate Research Assistant** August 2015—May 2016  
*Richland County Conservation Commission, Columbia, SC*
- ❖ **Scheduler** April 2010—July 2011  
*Rep. James E. Clyburn, Assistant Democratic Leader, Washington, DC*
- ❖ **Staff Assistant** May 2009—April 2010  
*Office of Rep. James E. Clyburn, House Majority Whip, Washington, DC*
- ❖ **Reading Room Attendant & Tour Guide Intern** Fall 2005—Spring 2007  
*Avery Research Center at College of Charleston, Charleston, SC*

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- ❖ **Board Member** Summer 2024—Present  
*Project STEP (String Training Education Program), Boston, MA*
- ❖ **Appointed Committee Member** Spring 2024—Present  
*W.E.B. Du Bois Legacy Committee, Great Barrington, MA*
- ❖ **Senior Common Fellow** Spring 2022—Present  
*Winthrop House, Harvard University*
- ❖ **Mentor** Fall 2019—Present  
Undergraduate & Graduate Student Research Assistants
- ❖ **President & Co-Founder** May 2015—May 2017  
*African American Studies Graduate Society, University of South Carolina*
- ❖ **Jubilee: Festival of Black History & Culture Volunteer** Summer 2014—2016  
*Historic Columbia Foundation*
- ❖ **Traveling Trunk Elementary School Presenter** Fall 2014  
*Historic Columbia Foundation*

❖ **Conference & Special Program Volunteer**  
*Avery Research Center*

2012—2014

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

- ❖ American Historical Association
- ❖ American Association for State & Local History
- ❖ Association of Black Women Historians
- ❖ Association of African American Museums
- ❖ Association for the Study of African American Life & History
- ❖ Coordinating Council for Women in History
- ❖ National Council for Public History
- ❖ Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated
- ❖ Universities Studying Slavery
- ❖ Western History Association