

NOMINATIONS—CLASS OF 2026 ASALH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Nominating Committee of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) presents the roster of candidates for the Executive Council, class of 2026. The Executive Council and the Executive Officers set the policy direction for ASALH and are responsible for carrying out the mission of the organization and ensuring its fiscal soundness. Executive Council members serve three-year terms.

CORPORATE MEMBERS

From this group, you may select two (2) candidates. Three names are listed.

Nominee for Corporate Member #1



ANTHONY CADE II

Residence: Maryland
Email Address: americanhistorianllc@gmail.com
Current Employer: United States Air Force

Professional Background: I am a retired United States Marine and Military Historian with the federal government. I research and write on the African American experience during the American Civil War, and I work to bring more People of Color into academia and history in my spare time.

Major Accomplishments: Excellent Student Paper Award, 19th Century Press Symposium. Shirley H. and Robert L. Richards Award, Elizabeth Heckman Fellowship, inducted into the Edward Boutchet Society, finished my dissertation within four years, and I served honorably in the Marine Corps.

Previous Service to ASALH: Presented papers and chaired panels for ASALH.

What I Hope to Accomplish as an Executive Council Member of ASALH: I hope to use my leadership skills to further ASALH's mission to research and disseminate African American history. I think my position with the federal government allows me to connect and negotiate with people from various backgrounds, and I plan to use my background and leadership ability to buoy ASALH into the future.

Nominee for Corporate Member #2



DONNA GRAY-BANKS

Residence: Palm Coast, FL

Email Address: freshbookfestivals@gmail.com

Current Employer: Midtown Community Development Corporation, Inc.

Professional Background: CEO Midtown Community Development Corporation, Inc. (MCDC) www.midtowncdc.org. CEO F.R.E.S.H. Book Festivals (F.R.E.S.H.) www.freshbookfestivals.net. 30-Year Notary Public. Author. Former Community Resource Coordinator for the City of DeLand and the City of New Smyrna Beach

Major Accomplishments: Built one of the largest melanated Book Festivals in the State of Florida. Assisted in establishing a Black History Banner Program in the City of Daytona Beach Assisted in the development of the first affordable housing development in New Smyrna Beach in 50 years. Currently working with MCDC board to build 200-unit senior housing development

Previous Service to ASALH:

What I Hope to Accomplish as an Executive Council Member of ASALH: Because of the known reading scores for children across the country, I want to be an advocate for celebrating literacy in its many forms. To spread the current program MCDC initiated - "Reading Rangers" across the country. This program puts Reading Rangers in each school to assist teachers with reading comprehension and development. And, to be laser-focused during the summer months on reading comprehension. To obtain as many books that have been banned and place them into Churches and assist with developing mini-libraries.

Nominee for Corporate Member #3



ERICA MCKNIGHT

Residence: Washington, DC

Email Address: elmcknight@gmail.com

Current Employer: The David & Lucile Packard Foundation

Professional Background: I am an experienced nonprofit attorney having served as legal counsel to a private foundation, presidential foundation, professional membership association, and multiple higher education institutions. Currently, I serve as Associate General Counsel for The David & Lucile Packard Foundation, an \$8 billion private foundation based in the Bay Area of California. In my current role, I advise the organization on compliance with IRS regulations impacting 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, grantmaking compliance, employment issues, and other transactional matters. Previously, I served as the first African-American attorney for the Obama Foundation. I also worked as a civil rights enforcement attorney with the Office for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Education. I am passionate about social justice and have spent my career both as an attorney and program manager in the nonprofit sector.

In addition to my professional work as an attorney, I also currently serve as a member of the Board of Directors for Partnerships for Trauma Recovery, a nonprofit organization that provides holistic care and mental health services to survivors of international human rights abuses. In this work, I serve on the Board's Governance Committee where we advise the Executive Director on key strategic matters for the organization, review organizational budgets, and provide guidance on other matters as needed. I also currently serve as a member of the PTR Board's subcommittee leading the search process for a new Executive Director as the current leader plans her transition.

On a personal note, I am a fourth generation Washingtonian and proud graduate of Spelman College. I was raised with a deep respect and appreciation for the contributions our elders and ancestors made both locally in Washington, D.C. and across this country. I would bring the values developed from my personal background and the experiences, skills, and knowledge of nonprofit legal and governance issues gained from my professional experiences to support ASALH's important mission.

Major Accomplishments: First African-American attorney to serve as counsel for the Obama Foundation following President Obama's historic presidency. As a law student, received the NAACP Legal Defense Fund (LDF) Earl Warren Civil Rights Training Scholarship. As a graduate student studying public policy, co-founded the Black Policy Conference at Harvard Kennedy School.

Previous Service to ASALH: I recently joined ASALH in February this year.

What I Hope to Accomplish as an Executive Council Member of ASALH: I am excited to bring my knowledge of nonprofit law, strategic planning, governance, and the philanthropic sector to support ASALH's growth in the coming years. I hope to bring my skills, experience, network, and deep interest in Black history to serve on ASALH's Executive Council where I hope to contribute to the organization's strategic growth during a pivotal time where Black history and civil rights are under increasing attack.

STUDENT MEMBERS

From this group, you may select one (1) candidate. One name is listed.

Nominee for Student Member #1



EOLA LEWIS DANCE

Residence: Newport News, VA

Email Address: eolal.dance@gmail.com

Current Employer: Black Lunch Table and Howard University Doctoral Student

Professional Background: Currently a doctoral student, my professional training includes ethnohistory with more than 20 years of experience emphasizing research, documentation, interpretation, education, supervision, preservation, collections management, conservation, and mentoring. Expert knowledge of American history and development of programs and exhibits relevant to communities today, especially underrepresented communities to include Native Americans, African Americans, Black women, LGBTQ, and global communities with shared interests. Solid foundation in researching and communicating topics significance to African American women with emphasis on the African Diaspora, Colonial Era, Women's History, the African American experience, the American Civil War, the Underground Railroad, the Great Depression, and Civil Rights movements. Expert skills utilized in partnerships, community engagement, ethnographic inquiry, interpretation, youth engagement, and planning: vision, strategic, and succession. Demonstrated leadership ability and capable representative for private and public forums addressing sensitive issues including legislative affairs and media relations.

Major Accomplishments: I currently serve as the executive director of a non-profit in the arts and social justice, I am a doctoral candidate in history at Howard University studying Public History, the African Diaspora and US history. My academic pursuits and career have focus on

American Slavery, African origins, and descendant engagement. This work led to the opportunity to visit Luanda, Angola and foster partnerships in the arts, engineering, and cultural tourism. My commitment to training future stewards of historic sites and collections resulted in recognition from the Greening Youth Foundation as a 2021 Trail Blazer recipient. Additionally, I have served as the president of the Howard University History Student Government Association.

Previous Service to ASALH: Since 2008 I have been a member of ASALH nationally and/or locally, my engagement has centered around research and interpretation and training the next generation of museum professionals. During the centennial year (2015) I became a life member of ASALH and have off and on been a member of the Hampton Roads Chapter.

What I Hope to Accomplish as an Executive Council Member of ASALH: As an executive board member I look forward to the opportunity to share my knowledge, skills, and abilities related to research, archives, descendant engagement, strategic thinking/planning, and professional development. I am especially interested in preparing young professionals for careers, I am committed to engaging associated groups in the documentation and authoring of history, and I am especially interested in strategic action as the country approaches the America 250th. I would like to support ASALH in leading the country in articulating the experiences and relevance of Black experiences and contributions to the making of America.

GENERAL MEMBERS

From this group, you may select up to seven (7) candidates. Twelve names are listed.

Nominee for General Member Nominee #1



KAREN COOK BELL

Residence: Bowie, MD
Email Address: karencookbell@gmail.com
Current Employer: Bowie State University

Professional Background: I have 25 years' experience in higher education and public history as a professor, administrator, and archivist at the National Archives. My areas of specialization include slavery, the Civil War and Reconstruction, and women's history. I am currently Chairperson of the Department of History and Government at Bowie State University in Bowie, Maryland, and a member of Iota Gamma Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Major Accomplishments: I am Professor of History and the University System of Maryland Wilson H. Elkins Endowed Professor. I am Founding Director of the Du Bois Center for the Study of the Black Experience at Bowie State University. My scholarship has appeared in the *Journal of African American History*; *Journal of Women's History*; *Georgia Historical Quarterly*; *Passport*; *U.S. West-Africa: Interaction and Relations* (2008); *Before Obama: A Reappraisal of Black Reconstruction Era Politicians* (2012); *Converging Identities: Blackness in the Contemporary Diaspora* (2013); and *Slavery and Freedom in Savannah* (2014). I have published *Claiming Freedom: Race, Kinship, and Land in Nineteenth Century Georgia* (University of South Carolina Press, 2018), which won the Georgia Board of Regents Excellence in Research Award. My current book, *Running from Bondage: Enslaved Women and Their Remarkable Fight for Freedom in Revolutionary America*, is published with Cambridge University Press and was a finalist for the Pauli Murray Book Prize for Best Book in African American Intellectual History; Honorable Mention for the Letitia Woods Brown Book Prize; and winner of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society International Book Award. I am editor of *Southern Black Women's Struggle for Freedom during the Civil War and Reconstruction* which is under contract with Cambridge University Press and Co-editor of the Broadview Edition of *Twelve Years a Slave*. My writings have also appeared in the *Washington Post* and *Ms. Magazine*. I am a contributor for *Black Perspectives*, the blog of the African American Intellectual History Society and a former AAUW Dissertation Fellow.

Previous Service to ASALH: I am a member of the ASALH Prince George's County, Maryland Truth Branch. I was elected to the Executive Council in 2013. I have volunteered to chair sessions at ASALH, organize panels, and presented at ASALH over the past twenty years.

What I Hope to Accomplish as an Executive Council Member of ASALH: As a member of the Executive Council Class of 2026, I will work diligently with the ASALH leadership to promote the study of Black History at all education levels in fulfillment of the mission that Dr. Carter G. Woodson established for ASALH. As was the case in Dr. Woodson's lifetime, the battlefield for teaching Black History is once again in the K-12 classrooms across the nation. I will work to enhance innovative programming such as ASALH TV and ASALH Podcasts and contribute to the development of educational resources.

Nominee for General Member Nominee #2



CONSTANCE L. DIGGS

Residence: Bronx, NY

Email Address: constancediggs@gmail.com

Current Employer: Alliance Theological Seminary at Alliance University

Professional Background: Dedicated and enthusiastic professional with over 30 years experience as a writer, educator, and nonprofit manager. Culture historian with a focus in Africana Studies and Religion. Consistently receiving outstanding feedback for communications workshops and college level American Civics, African American History, Black Church History and Spiritual Formation courses. Proven expertise in establishing systems and resources for nonprofit organizations, and accreditation management and compliance for university and seminary educational institutions. Skilled academic advisor to graduate and undergraduate students building trust with students from a variety of backgrounds, including first generation college students. Possess strong written and verbal communication skills and ability to collaborate on projects.

Major Accomplishments:

Previous Service to ASALH: Formerly VP Manhattan Branch, Current member of Public Commentary Committee.

What I Hope to Accomplish as an Executive Council Member of ASALH: Continue to serve as a resource in building the ASALH Brand and support the strengthen and increase corporate and academic alliances with a focus on developing the K-12 market.

Nominee for General Member Nominee #3



JACOB S. DORMAN

Residence: Reno, NV
Email Address: jdorman@unr.edu
Current Employer: The University of Nevada, Reno

Professional Background: AB summa cum laude Stanford University 1996, History, (specializing in African and African American History). PhD UCLA 2004, US (African American) history, advisor: Brenda Stevenson. Assistant and Associate Professor, History and American Studies, The University of Kansas 2007-2017. Associate Professor, History, The University of Nevada, Reno, 2018-present.

Major Accomplishments: Author of 11 journal articles and two scholarly books, winner of five book awards including the AHA/ASALH Wesley Logan Prize. Recent publication in current

issue of the Journal of African American History. *The Princess and the Prophet: The Secret History of Magic, Race, and Moorish Muslims in America* (Boston: Beacon Press, March 3, 2020). Winner, Illinois Historical Society Book Award. “a prodigious feat of detective work and archival magic. A spectacular book in so many ways.” —Robin D. G. Kelley, UCLA. *Chosen People: The Rise of American Black Israelite Religions* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2013) Winner of the Wesley-Logan Prize for African diaspora history from the American Historical Association; the Albert J. Raboteau Prize in Africana religions, and the Byron Caldwell Smith Book Award. An American Library Association Choice Outstanding Academic Title for 2013. "A masterful (even paradigm-shifting) book on Black Judaism, a genuine tour de force...an engaging and thoughtful read." --John L. Jackson, Jr., Penn

Previous Service to ASALH: I have served on the Program committee for two years.

What I Hope to Accomplish as an Executive Council Member of ASALH: I would like to do more to advertise ASALH to scholars and recruit them to give papers and chair panels by actively identifying scholars and making a concerted effort to bring them into the fold. I would also like to reach out to scholars who go to AAIHS but not to ASALH. I would also like to help organize and recruit new branches, especially in the West where there are not as many. Finally, I would like to help plan an ASALH meeting on the West Coast, perhaps in the Bay Area or LA, places with Black communities and long and important African American histories. That also would be a way to get more geographic diversity into the organization.

Nominee for General Member Nominee #4



NATANYA DUNCAN

Residence: Flushing, New York
Email Address: garveyite@hotmail.com
Current Employer: Queens College

Professional Background: Natanya Duncan is the Director of Africana Studies at Queens College City University of New York and an Associate Professor of History. A historian of the African Diaspora, her research and teaching focuses on global freedom movements of the 20th and 21st Century. Duncan’s research interest includes constructions of identity and nation building amongst women of color; migrations; color and class in Diasporic communities; and the engagements of intellectuals throughout the African Diaspora. Her forthcoming University of Illinois Press book, *An Efficient Womanhood: Women and the Making of the Universal Negro Improvement Association*, focuses on the distinct activist strategies in-acted by women in the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA), which Duncan calls an efficient

womanhood. Following the ways women in the UNIA scripted their own understanding of Pan Africanism, Black Nationalism and constructions of Diasporic Blackness, the work traces the blending of nationalist and gendered concerns amongst known and lesser known Garveyite women.

Major Accomplishments: Duncan’s publications include works that explore the leadership models of UNIA women and include “Now in Charge of the American Field”: Maymie De Mena and Charting the UNIA’s New Course” in *Journal of Liberty Hall* (Vol. 3 2017); "Henrietta Vinton Davis: The Lady of the Race" in *Journal of New York History* (Fall 2014 Vol 95 No. 4); “Laura Kofey and the Reverse Atlantic Experience” in *The American South and the Atlantic World* (University of Florida Press, 2013). Most recently she co-edited a special volume of *Caribbean Women and Gender Studies Journal*, “Gender and Anti-colonialism in the Interwar Caribbean” published December 2018.

Previous Service to ASALH: Natanya Duncan has served on the Executive Council of ASALH for over a decade. She led the team to pivot and manage ASALH's 2020 virtual conference. She has served on the ASALH Governance Committee and ASALH Nominations Committee. She was part of the team to create the Dr. Felix Armfield Series for Emerging Scholars at the ASALH Annual Conference. This series of sessions increased ASALH's outreach to young scholars by connecting them with senior scholars for advice and support.

What I Hope to Accomplish as an Executive Council Member of ASALH: As an Executive Council Member, Duncan will work to build programming to support emerging scholars and build the ASALH brand. She will also dedicate herself to ensuring ASALH is on sound financial footing.

Nominee for General Member Nominee #5



LESLIE K. ETIENNE

Residence: Indianapolis, Indiana

Email Address: lketienn@iu.edu

Current Employer: Indiana University-Purdue, Indianapolis (IUPUI) School of Liberal Arts

Professional Background: Assistant Professor of Africana Studies, Director of Africana Studies Program, Founding Executive Director of the Center for Africana Studies and Culture at IUPUI, Adjunct Assistant Professor of American Studies IUPUI, IUPUI School of Education/Center for Africana Studies and Culture Children Defense Fund Freedom School Site.

Major Accomplishments: Charles R. Bantz Chancellor's Community Fellowship Award 2021, Advocate of the Dream 2021 & 2023 IUPUI Black Student Union, Indianapolis Urban League

African American Quality of Life Grantee, Digital Gardener Faculty Fellow Indiana University Digital Gardener Initiative Indiana University Mosaic Active Learning Initiative Fellow, IUPUI Arts and Humanities Institute Fellow State of Indiana Cultural Competency and Ethnic Studies in Education Committee.

Previous Service to ASALH: Vice President of Membership Joseph Taylor Branch (Indianapolis) 2019-2023, Charter Member of Joseph Taylor Branch, Indianapolis ASALH Convention Local Events Committee Member 2017, Presenter and Panel Chair ASALH Conventions 2017, 2018, 2022.

What I Hope to Accomplish as an Executive Council Member of ASALH: Dr. Etienne will assist with ways to increase collegiate and community participation in ASALH. His energy and multiple levels of expertise will be an asset to ASALH.

Nominee for General Member Nominee #6



AISHA JOHNSON

Residence: Smyrna, GA
Email Address: aishajohnsonphd@gmail.com
Current Employer: Georgia Institute of Technology

Professional Background: Dr. Aisha Johnson (she/her), Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Outreach at Georgia Institute of Technology Library is a revelator of Southern library history. Formerly an Assistant Professor/MLS Program Director for the School of Library and Information Sciences at North Carolina Central University, she is committed to archival research, the production of minority librarians and archivists for cultural preservation, and redefining the scholar. Johnson stands on a soapbox for unveiling the history of underrepresented communities. She has focused much of her research on the development of literacy in the African American community and philanthropic efforts to develop public libraries in the South. Her advocacy for librarianship and archives is not only conveyed in her research, but also her professional career. She is well-versed in archival research, instruction, program administration, assessment, and evaluation as well as curriculum development to produce practical professionals. With such a dedication to the field, Dr. Johnson encourages redefining the scholar by introducing primary source research with emphasis on synthesis and encouraging scholar practitioners.

Major Accomplishments: I have earned four degrees including a Master's in Library and Information Sciences (Florida State) and a Master's in Business Administration (Clark Atlanta) as well as a PhD in Information Studies (Florida State). An experienced scholar and professional, I have made advocacy and outreach for the underserved my platform for social justice in libraries and education. Historical scholarship is the foundation. As a result of the impact, I was dubbed the 2020 Distinguished Alumni of Florida State University's College of Communication and Information, School of Information. In 2021, the Association for the Study of African American Life and History recognized her work and impact with the Freedom Scholar Award.

Previous Service to ASALH: While I have presented at ASALH and have had the absolute honor of recognition, I have not been able to serve the organization in an official capacity.

What I Hope to Accomplish as an Executive Council Member of ASALH: Assist in budget management, community building, educational program planning, and conducting outreach activities.

Nominee for General Member Nominee #7



CHARLES D. JOHNSON

Residence: Durham, NC
Email Address: cjohns63@nccu.edu
Current Employer: North Carolina Central University

Professional Background: Assistant Professor and Director of the Public History Program at North Carolina Central University.

Major Accomplishments: Recent - "Formation of African Diaspora Studies: Joseph E. Harris and the Howard Model," Keynote Address, Conference on African American and African Diasporic Cultures and Experiences Conference (CACE), University of North Carolina Greensboro, February 2023. Elected by my professional peers to the National Board of Directors, National Council of Public Historians (NCPH), 2023-2026. Book, *More Than Just a Game: Football Rivalry Between NCAT and NCCU* (August 2023 - Arcadia), coauthored with Arwin Smallwood. Lead Historian, "American Voices Against Apartheid", an international exhibition being installed in the Apartheid Museum in Johannesburg, SA, in April 2023, and in the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, and the Reginald Lewis Museum in Baltimore in Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 respectively. PI for \$148,000 for American Council of Learned Societies

(ACLS) Digital Extension Grant, "Expanding the Digital Library on American Slavery Through Local Community-Engaged Digital Humanities Research," 2022-2024.

Previous Service to ASALH: I was the Chair of the Digital Humanities and Public History Committee for the Annual Meeting and Conference in the Fall of 2022. In that capacity, I led the development of our workshops and sessions. For several years, I have promoted student participation by organizing panels for graduate and undergraduate students at ASALH including my own.

What I Hope to Accomplish as an Executive Council Member of ASALH: Increase graduate and undergraduate student participation in ASALH, especially our annual meeting and conference. Increase professional membership and participation in the work of ASALH. Promote the Digital Humanities and Public History, especially in the African Diaspora.

Nominee for General Member Nominee #8



LIONEL KIMBLE

Residence: Chicago, IL

Email Address: lkimble@csu.edu

Current Employer: Chicago State University and The Chicago Urban League

Professional Background: Associate Professor of History and Africana Studies. Vice President and Executive Director of the Research and Policy Center of the Chicago Urban League.

Major Accomplishments: Publication Record - "'The only to get what's coming to us': African American Coalition Building and Veterans' Rights in Post-World War II Chicago," *Journal of Illinois History* (Spring, 2009). *A New Deal for Bronzeville: Housing, Employment, and Civil Rights in Chicago, 1935-1955* (Southern Illinois University Press, 2015). 'I Too Serve America: African American Women War Workers in Chicago, 1940-1945,' *Journal of Illinois State Historical Society* (Winter 2000/2001). Professional Service - Lead Historian for the Illinois Freedom Project funded by the National Park Service Advisory Council for the Franklin Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum Exhibit on the Roosevelt's and Race. Vice-president in the Black Chicago History Forum. Advisory Board of the A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porters Museum. Faculty Advisory Council of the Black Metropolis Research Consortium Labor and Working Class History Association (LAWCHA), Executive Board (2009-2012).

Previous Service to ASALH: Executive Council (2012-2015, 2017); Vice President for Programs (2017-2020); Academic Program Committee member (2010-present); Academic

Program Committee co-chair/vice-chair (2014, 2015, 2016, 2012, 2021, 2022, 2023); National Centennial Celebration Steering Committee; Chicago Centennial Celebration co-chair; Membership Committee; Nominating Committee; National Historic Sites Committee.

What I Hope to Accomplish as an Executive Council Member of ASALH: I joined the Association as a graduate student in 1998. One of the things that piqued my interest and motivated me to join was my discovery of a copy of the Journal of African History in the university library. At that stage in my career, the Journal exposed me to a dynamic community of African American scholars, that I really did not see in Iowa, provided me with the inspiration to complete my own research and helped me to become an active participant in the field. In retrospect, I believe my experience may not be all that different from other ASALH members. For the past several years, I have had the great opportunity to participate in a number of discussions regarding the direction of ASALH and how the organization has and will change to meet the changing economic and programmatic landscape. One way to do this is to make our annual meeting a venue where existing and emerging black studies groups to convene their meetings and encourage their members to participate in ASALH. We were successful when we did this in Indianapolis, we have been successful when we did this with the Association of Black Women Historians, and I am confident we can do the same with other groups. Over the years we have noticed a trend that young scholars have increasingly expressed that there is no space for them in the Association. It's critical that we make concerted efforts to provide the space, resources, and opportunities to build their careers, find mentors, and learn the organization well enough so that one day they can take leadership roles. Our conversations and understanding of voices of young scholars have to change. as a result, the way by which we put on our programs must reflect these new scholarly trends. The economic and racial realities that confront ASALH present a number of challenges. One way to address is to return to the "big tent" rhetoric of our centennial and build stronger connections to organization with similar missions. Looking back, I think that we largely accomplished this. Our previous conventions have been some of the largest in recent history. But, as new organizations are founded and look to convene their own conferences and universities are increasingly cutting back on travel funding for our members in academic institutions, instead of a big tent we may find ourselves in a stiff competition for attendees. If elected to the Executive Council, I would like to continue to reach out to these new academic groups and continue to strengthen our existing relationships. During my service to ASALH, I worked hard to help make sure ASALH can continue to be a place where dynamic intellectual discussions are occurring. My work with ASALH TV, the Social Justice Consortium, and PBS Books have all helped ASALH create a space in a new intellectual space. If elected, I will work to make sure that we continue grow and remain the premier Black History organization.

Nominee for General Member Nominee #9



GREGORY MIXON

Residence: Charlotte, NC
Email Address: gmixon@uncc.edu
Current Employer: University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Professional Background: Professor of History specializing in African American History 1400-1930, United States History, Southern History, Comparative History--African Diaspora.

Major Accomplishments: I have been an ASALH member since the 1970s. I have also published two books focused on African American and Southern History: 1. *The Atlanta Riot: Race, Class, and Violence in a New South City* (2005 University Press of Florida) 2. *Show Thyself a Man: Georgia State Troops, Colored, 1865-1905* (2016 University Press of Florida). I have also served on the Academic Program Committee and currently serve on Executive Council.

Previous Service to ASALH: Member since 1978. Presented academic papers on ASALH conference panels, served as commentator for conference panels, served as moderator, planned ASALH conference panels. Served on Academic Program Committee 2006-2007, 2007-2008 2008-2009, 2012-2013, 2018-2022; Film Festival Committee 2022, Awards Committee 2022, currently serving on Executive Council on Academic Program Committee and Awards Committee. Charter member and first president of the Romare Bearden Branch

What I Hope to Accomplish as an Executive Council Member of ASALH: I'd like to expand membership and institutional presence of ASALH. Increase graduate and undergraduate student participation in ASALH, especially our annual meeting and conference. Increase professional membership and participation in the work of ASALH.

Nominee for General Member Nominee #10



GLADYS GARY VAUGHN

Residence: Cabin John, MD

Email Address: mychinadoll@comcast.net

Current Employer: United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Washington, DC

Professional Background: Public Service at USDA: Chief, Training and Cultural Transformation programs for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Director, Office of Outreach, and National Program Leader for Human Sciences Research; co-author of five national award-winning critical issues curricular; author or co-author of grants generating more than \$12 million for programs designed to improve well-being of children, families and communities; Associate Professor, Family and Consumer Sciences, North Carolina Central University.

Major Accomplishments: Creating a leadership institute for women of African descent aged 21-45 to encourage them to aspire to leadership positions in their communities, civic, social and professional organizations and faith congregations; helping to found a national organization to recover and record the contributions of black women in family and consumer sciences; serving as National President of The Links, Inc.; and service to the International Board of Directors of Habitat for Humanity, The Black Women's Agenda, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Co-author of two books that help close critical gaps in the history of accomplishments of Black women and Black women's organizations.

Previous Service to ASALH: Member, Executive Council; Creator of Black History Month Festival; Chair of the Development Committee; Co-Chair and member, Black History Month Luncheon Leadership Team; Contributor, Centennial Campaign; Assisted with implementation and marketing of the ASALH Legacy Award.

What I Hope to Accomplish as an Executive Council Member of ASALH: Continue critical work examining ASALH's fund development structure in building a sustainable fund development program and office that addresses current and long-term operational and programming needs; engage members in building ASALH's capacity to reach new audiences; enhance ASALH's operations, governance and communications to build better/sustaining bridges to the public; help foster accurate understanding about the contributions of peoples of African descent in building the United States and the world; and create and secure funding for a

long-term academic program that produces the next generation of scholars trained to research, record and disseminate the history of peoples of African descent.

Nominee for General Member Nominee #11



DAVID MATHEW WALTON

Residence: Cullowhee, NC
Email Address: dwalton@wcu.edu
Current Employer: Western Carolina University

Professional Background: August 2020 - Present: Director of Global Black Studies and Assistant Professor of History, Western Carolina University. August 2017 - August 2020: Assistant Professor – Department of History, University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

Major Accomplishments: Created a Black Studies minor at UNC- Pembroke and Western Carolina University. 2019 National Council for Black Studies Ida B. Wells and Cheikh Anta Diop Award for “Outstanding Leadership and Promotion of Africana Studies”. 2016-2017 King Chavez Parks Future Faculty Fellowship - \$35,000.00. 2015-2016 TIAA-CREF Ruth Simms Hamilton Graduate Merit Fellowship for Diaspora Studies – \$34,000.00. 2015 Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. William L. Crump History Award for the essay “Freedom Yes, Apartheid No: Kappa Alpha Psi and the Anti-apartheid Lobby”. 2014 MSU History Department - Irene Steindler Endowment in History Award.

Previous Service to ASALH: Life Member. Charter member of the Romare Bearden Branch. Former Atlanta Branch member. Chaired many panels and presented research on many panels for over a decade of ASALH conferences. January 2021 – Present: Executive Council Member. Former Publications Committee Co-Chair. Former Awards Committee Member. Current Nominating Committee Chair.

What I Hope to Accomplish as an Executive Council Member of ASALH: Continue to develop quality programming for ASALH-TV. Continue to ensure fair and transparent ASALH elections. Recruit and support more undergraduate and graduate student participation and membership. Garner more involvement and support from NPHC organizations.

Nominee for General Member Nominee #12



AUGUSTUS C. WOOD

Residence: Champaign, Illinois

Email Address: woodiii2@illinois.edu

Current Employer: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Professional Background: Postdoctoral Associate, 2020-2022, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Assistant Professor, School of Labor and Employment Relations, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Major Accomplishments: Guest Editor, Special Issue of *Labor Studies Journal*, "More Expendable Than Essential: Black Workers' Rights and Racial Class Struggles Under the COVID Crisis," December 2022.-First edition of *Labor Studies Journal* to focus solely on Black workers. Author, "Toward a Theory of Super-Exploitation: The Subproletariat, Harold "Hal" Baron, and the Crisis of the Political Economy of Black Labor," *Labor Studies Journal*, December 2022. Author, "Class Warfare in Black Atlanta: African American Grassroots Struggles, Power, and Repression Under Gentrification, 1966-2022," Forthcoming Book with UNC Press.

Previous Service to ASALH: 2015-2016 Academic Program Committee Member.

Papers Presented/Panels Organized -

Augustus Wood, "Politically Oriented, Liberation Minded: Black Student Power and Social Movement Organizing at the University of Illinois." Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Indianapolis, October 2018.

Augustus Wood, "History and Culture of Black Atlanta," The Association for the Study of African-American Life and History, Cincinnati, Ohio, September 2017.

Augustus Wood, "Black Space as Commodity: The Political Economy of Race, Class, and Space in Atlanta, 1970-2010," Association for the Study of African-American Life and History, Indianapolis, Indiana, October 2018.

Augustus Wood, "The Logic of Black Labor Social Movements: Black Power and Labor in Atlanta, 1970-1973," Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Cincinnati, Ohio, September 2017.

Augustus Wood, "The Stakes of Community in Black Urban History: Revisiting Sundiata Keita Cha-Jua's America's First Black Town: Brooklyn, Illinois, 1830-1915," Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Cincinnati, Ohio, September 2017.

What I Hope to Accomplish as an Executive Council Member of ASALH: My goal is to help ASALH grow in membership and participation by Black scholars. I hope to work with other council members to create a 2-3 year plan of organizing scholars as well as others into an active role in ASALH. I am eager to learn more about the different systems and processes in the ASALH Executive Council so as to build a consistent plan for strengthening the organization over time. MY specialty is strategy.
