

Transforming Museums | Presenter Biographies

Courtney Bartlett is the Youth Education Director at The Center for Wooden Boats, where she has developed an early literacy program, job training for at-risk teenagers, several history-based tours for elementary schools, a comprehensive internship program for young adults, boatbuilding classes in partnership with local middle schools, and summer classes. Courtney believes the common thread in these diverse programs is the concept that all participants be active in their own education and that we must help them find a personal connection to the subject. She is a program consultant for other history organizations and former education specialist.

Charlotte Ashley Beall, *Concept and Curriculum Developer*, and *Curator*, is a founding partner in *LA CAB*. Charlotte's seventeen years at The Children's Museum, Seattle as the Director of Exhibits and Education allowed her to conceptualize, develop and implement interactive hands-on exhibits, and educational programs. She has envisioned and implemented immersive environments and activities for thousands of people of all ages. She has developed a multitude of community partnerships with cultural, artistic, and social service organizations. Charlotte served on the Council for Children's Museums for three years and has consulted with a variety of museums. She has been a Map 1 reviewer, an IMLS grant reviewer for museums.

LA CAB is made up of two partners, *Larry Ackerley* and *Charlotte Ashley Beall*, who have extensive professional associations and decades of experience with exhibit development, design, procurement and fabrication

Tracy Buck is a 2007 graduate of the University of Washington's Museology graduate program and is currently the Assistant Collections Manager at the Museum of History and Industry in Seattle, Washington. She earned her BA in Anthropology at the University of Northern Iowa, and an MA in Asian Cultures and Languages at the University of Texas at Austin. Her research focuses on the role of museums in nation building in South Asia.

Rachel Byers is in her second year of graduate study in the Arts and Administration program at the University of Oregon. She grew up in Pittsburgh, Penn., and went to Ohio University, in Athens, Ohio, as an undergraduate where she found her love for museum work as a curatorial assistant at the Kennedy Museum of Art. Rachel is currently working as an exhibit intern at the University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History and as a digital archivist at the Lane County Historical Museum.

Ron Chew is the Community Scholar-in Residence and a Visiting Lecturer of the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Museology at the University of Washington. Ron joined the Museology program in January of 2008 after retiring from his nationally recognized tenure as Director of the Wing Luke Asian Museum in Seattle. During his tenure at the museum, Chew built a reputation for combining cutting-

edge programs and exhibits with a locally oriented emphasis on social justice. He has organized numerous exhibits that favor a people or story centered approach.

Chew has won numerous regional and national awards for his ability to meld cultural identity, civic participation and museum programs into a new tool in the fight for social justice including The Ford Foundation's 2004 Leadership for a Changing World award. The American Association of Museums recognized him as one of the 100 most influential museum innovators over the past 100 years.

Alison Church is the Children's Education Coordinator at the Nordic Heritage Museum in Seattle.

Drew Crooks graduated from the University of Washington's Museology Program in 1981. Since then he has worked at various Southern Puget Sound museums and as a history consultant. Over the years Drew has written numerous articles and three books on historical topics. He is currently serving as President of the South Sound Heritage Association, a regional museum consortium.

Molly Dalessandro is a Master's candidate in the Museology Graduate Program at the University of Washington. She is interested in museum education and community outreach, and has worked with education departments at the Seattle Art Museum, the Pacific Science Center and the Burke Museum.

Heather Gibbons is the Deputy Vice President for Enrichment and Outreach Education at the Pacific Science Center in Seattle.

Daniel Hoffman is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Washington.

Carin Jacobs is an educator with a background delivering quality teaching tools for nearly 18 years. After earning a BA in French Literature from UC Santa Cruz, she spent nine years in college textbook publishing, working with faculty on course content and pedagogy. She then earned her MA in Museum Studies from John F. Kennedy University with a focus on education and public programming. Since 2000, Carin has worked for a number of Bay Area museums, including SFMOMA and the Oakland Museum of California, managing interdisciplinary cultural programs for adult and college audiences. Carin is currently writing a text on how to use museums in college teaching, and delivers related workshops to college faculty on campuses nationwide. In fall 2008, Carin will teach a new course on museum literacy at Berkley's Graduate Theological Union, in the Center for Art, Religion and Education. Her main areas of interest are object-based learning, museum literacy, and the integration of museums in college teaching.

Ian Kanair, Esq. has a J.D. with a Certificate in Environmental and Natural Resources Law from University of Oregon, and is a member of the Washington State Bar. He earned an M.A. in Anthropology from the New School for Social Research, and is currently a matriculated graduate student in the Department of Geography at University of Washington. He currently works as Director of the

Environmental and Natural Resources Department of Snoqualmie Indian Tribe. He has previously published an article, "Lucid Dreams and Shamanism," in the *Association for Anthropological Study of Consciousness Quarterly*.

Keun Young Kim is a Ph.D candidate at the Anthropology Department and the Museum Studies Program, University of Michigan, USA and currently visiting the Peking University, China. She has received BA and MA degree in Anthropology from the Seoul National University, Korea and MA degree from the University of Michigan. Her main research area is museum anthropology, material culture and China.

Mary Jane Knecht is Manager of Adult Programs and Publications at the Frye Art Museum, Seattle's only free art museum. A graduate of the Evergreen State College with a focus on poetry and visual anthropology, Knecht worked for 15 years at Copper Canyon Press in a variety of positions including letterpress printer, managing editor, and associate director. As Marketing and Public Relations Associate with Seattle Arts & Lectures she collaborated on the development of Writers in the Schools, a reading and writing program in the Seattle Public Schools.

Randi Korn is Founding Director of Randi Korn & Associates, Inc. (RK&A), a company that conducts all kinds of evaluations in museums. Randi enjoys sharing her knowledge, experience, and enthusiasm for evaluation and intentional practice at conferences, in museum journals, and in lectures at The George Washington University, where she was an adjunct instructor in the Museum Education division for 18 years. She is committed to helping museums pursue intentional practice and evaluate the ways in which they are achieving their missions. Ultimately she strives to demonstrate, with evidence, the value of museums in people's lives and communities.

Laura Kuah, a graduate of Georgetown University's Art & Museum Studies Masters program, lives and works in the Washington DC area. She has spent over a year in Italy and the UK studying and interning. Laura also has a strong interest in contemporary art that creates a new conversation and seeks to think outside the box. Her future plans are to open an art gallery and curate her own exhibitions.

Margaret Laird is an Assistant Professor of Art History at the University of Washington. Her undergraduate teaching ranges from surveys of ancient Western art to more specialized courses on ancient architecture, painting and sculpture. She also regularly leads the department's Art History Seminar in Rome. She is particularly interested in the ways in which public art and architecture in ancient cities helped groups and individuals express their membership in various types of communities. To understand the factors that shaped what ancient public monuments looked like, where they were erected and what their inscriptions said, she is currently examining the public commissions made by groups of ex-slaves (Augustales) in the towns of the western Roman Empire from ca. 27 BCE to 250 CE.

Margaret also studies the visual representation of Roman rituals, particularly those of the imperial cult, and has begun a project investigating the development and promotion of archaeological tourism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Seth Margolis is the Director of Education Programs at The Museum of Flight. He received his Master of Arts in Museology from the University of Washington and has worked at museums in the United States and Canada. Seth has taught museum education in both the University of Washington's Certificate Program in Museum Studies and Graduate Program in Museology.

Eric M. Meyers is a doctoral candidate at The UW Information School, where he studies how children work together to solve information problems. He was a research associate at IBEC (Information Behavior in Everyday Contexts) during a Tween Study that was part of "Talking with You: Exploring Interpersonal Information-seeking," funded by the National Science Foundation. The study explores why people turn to other people for everyday information. Using an innovative methodology, the Tween Study examined the everyday information worlds of preteens or "tweens" (ages 9-13). He continues to explore the real and virtual information behavior of preteens.

Kris Morrissey is Director of the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Museology at the University of Washington. Prior to her appointment as Director in September of 2007, Kris Morrissey was the Curator of Interpretation at the Michigan State University Museum and Director of the MSU Museum Studies Program. She is the editor of the journal *Museums & Social Issues*, A Journal of Reflective Discourse published by Left Coast Press, Inc. She has over 20 years experience working in museums and has taught university courses on a range of subjects, including informal learning, interpretation, new technologies, research and evaluation.

Morrissey is interested in the ways museums engage, educate, listen to, and change individuals, families, communities and society. She is currently working on a national project to study ways knowledge is co-created online, the role of interaction in that creation, and the ways that shifting to a perspective of co-creating knowledge with the public affects an institution's practices and sense of identity.

Travis Nichols is a poet and writer living in Seattle. In 2007, he co-curated *Poets on Painters*, a traveling exhibition focused on the connections and correspondences between contemporary poetry and contemporary painting. The show, which featured poets John Olson, Sawako Nakayasu, and Dorothea Lasky (among others) and painters Dana Schutz, Amy Sillman, and Monique Prieto (among others), opened at the Ulrich Museum in Wichita, Kansas and closed at the Queens Library this past March, after traveling to Chicago and Indianapolis. In 2006, Travis served as one of the principal organizers of the Wave Books Poetry Bus Tour, a 50-city/50-day reading tour that featured over 400 poets and traveled from Seattle to New York and back again on a 40-foot biodiesel bus, performing at farms, museums, bars, coffee shops, campus auditoriums and community centers across the country.

Emily Phillips, originally trained as a painter, and then later as a set designer for theater and opera, currently lives and works in Berlin. She has two Master's degrees, and is writing a book about contemporary hybrid art practices of artists of immigrant backgrounds living in Western Europe.

Shin Yu Pai is the author of six books of poetry, including most recently *Works on Paper* (Convivio Bookworks) and *Sightings: Selected Works* (1913 Press). As an independent curator and producer of poetry events, she has worked with the Rubin Museum of Art, The Trammell Crow Collection of Asian Art, and The Women's Museum of Dallas, and is the former Programming Director for WordSpace, a Dallas-based literary nonprofit promoting poetry and innovative writing. She has taught creative writing at the Dallas Museum of Art, Southern Methodist University, and the University of Texas at Dallas. Shin Yu studies in the doctoral program sociocultural anthropology at the University of Washington and is a student in the UW Museology Program.

Suzanne Perin has a background in exhibit evaluation and exhibition development in science centers, and her current interests include how people learn in informal settings. She will graduate from the UW Museology program in June 2008.

Perry Price currently serves as Exhibitions Designer / Preparator at the Robert Hull Fleming Museum at the University of Vermont. He is a graduate of the Cooperstown Graduate Program in Museum Studies and the Johns Hopkins University. His research interests include museum exhibition, folk and outsider art, graffiti, and other non-traditional forms of artistic expression.

Celine Rabago is a Museum Consultant. She has been a Museum Educator for Children's Museums for several years including museums in Rhode Island, Minnesota and most recently as the Exhibit Program Manager at The Seattle Children's Museum. She has her undergraduate degrees in Art History and Communications and is currently in the Museum Studies Certificate Program at the University of Washington.

Judy Rand, founder of Seattle-based Rand and Associates, is a leader in the field of exhibit planning. Museums use her "Visitors' Bill of Rights" to help them think about visitors' needs.

In 12 years at the Monterey Bay Aquarium, Judy established the Exhibit Research and Development Department. At Chicago's Field Museum, she set up a new approach to communicating with visitors, establishing museum-wide standards and style.

Original, affectionate, thoughtful, inspiring, witty and well-crafted, her exhibits reach out to visitors, encouraging them to explore, engage, read, and remember.

Today, working with museums like the National Constitution Center, Brooklyn Children's Museum and Boston Museum of Science, she's helped create more than

80 exhibits, ranging from bats to belfries, microbes to dinosaurs, Jimi Hendrix to Jewish chicken farmers.

Kira Randolph is a second year Master of Arts in Museology student at the University of Washington. She graduated from the University of Melbourne in 2004 with a major in Art History and went on to work for a Australian Aboriginal art gallery for two years before beginning graduate school. In addition to writing her Masters Thesis this year, she also currently works for the Henry Art Gallery in the Communication Department where she is a hankblog contributor.

Katie Remine, is the School Programs Supervisor at the Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle.

Martina Riedler is a doctoral candidate and Fulbright Scholar in the School of Art & Design at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She worked as a museum educator at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York and at ZKM/ Center for Art and New Media Karlsruhe, Germany and was a lecturer at the cultural studies department at the Carl-von-Ossietzky University of Oldenburg, Germany. Her research examines questions on critical pedagogy in art museums and contemporary issues of museum studies. She is an editorial board member of the International Journal of Progressive Education and advisory board member of the International Journal of Education and the Arts.

Lauren Russell is the Portal to the Public Project Manager at Pacific Science Center. This NSF funded initiative is building a proven program model that connects research scientists and the public in face-to-face interactions that improve their understanding and appreciation of current science research. She has also led an IMLS funded grant project developing and institutionalizing front line interpretive training programs and supervised the overall science interpretation program. Lauren also writes Labnotes, a science non-fiction column for a local magazine and holds a bachelor of the arts in Biology from Carleton College.

Liz Ševčenko is founding Director of the International Coalition of Historic Site Museums of Conscience, a network of historic sites that foster public dialogue on pressing contemporary issues. She works with over 1300 initiatives in more than 90 countries to design programs and practices that reflect on past struggles and inspire citizens to become involved in addressing their contemporary legacies. Before launching the Coalition, she had over ten years of experience developing public history projects designed to catalyze civic dialogue in New York and around the country. Her project "Mapping Memories," in which visitors were invited to contribute their memories to a changing map of New York City and discuss conflicting claims to urban space, was produced at the Museum of the City of New York, the Lower East Side Tenement Museum, the Eldridge Street Project, and the Smithsonian Folklife Festival, as well as at community centers and street fairs. She has partnered with public artist Shimon Attie on projects in New York and Boston exploring the hidden histories of urban landscapes. As Vice President for Programs at the Lower East Side Tenement Museum, she developed exhibits and educational activities that connect the dramatic stories of the neighborhood's immigrants past

and present. She also developed national and community initiatives to inspire civic dialogue on cultural identity, labor relations, housing, welfare, immigration, and other issues these stories raise.

Ms. Sevchenko has a B.A. from Yale University and is completing her PhD in history at New York University. She has most recently published "The Making of Loisaída" in *Mambo Montage: The Latinization of New York City*.

Throughout his 25 year career, **Sam Shogren** has sought to expand the role of museums in their communities and acted as a leading change agent helping found three different professional organizations and mobilizing Maine's museum and art community to engage with Maine Governor Angus King in the mid 1990's in the reinvention of Maine's tourism industry's marketing and promotion; shifting the focus from "heads in beds" to "eyes on culture." One result of these efforts is the recognition of Maine by the Pew Charitable Trust as one of two national models for state funding support for arts and culture. Sam served on the first Maine Governor's Taskforce for Cultural Tourism; co-founded Maine Archives & Museums, MaineMuseums.Org and the National Conference of State Museum Associations.

A former Hagley Fellow with training in historical archaeology, ethnography, public policy & management, US history and museology Sam has spent his career working the intersections of these fields as a Board President, Museum Director, Curator, Educator, Exhibit Developer, Planner, Research Archaeologist and Consultant. He has historic preservation and museum management experience in Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, Delaware, Colorado, Washington and Oregon holding a variety of position for such museums as Colonial Williamsburg, Old Sturbridge Village, the Hagley Museum, Historic Annapolis, the Penobscot Marine Museum, the Working Waterfront Museum and the Aspen Colorado Historical Society.

Today Sam is a museum and nonprofit consultant in private practice based in Portland, Oregon.

Susan Spero received her Ph.D. in art education from the Ohio State University. A museum education consultant, Spero has 20 years experience developing educational programs including projects for the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; Copia: The American Center for Food, Wine & the Arts; The Bay Area Discovery Museum; and The San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park. She also served as Docent Coordinator for both the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA) and the Columbus Museum of Art.

Tim Stetter, Briana Nino, and Melissa Todd are educators at the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture in Seattle. Each manages a different program in the Burke Education office. Melissa manages the school program, Briana the "Burke in a Box" outreach program, and Tim the environmental education program.

Reed Stevens is an Associate Professor of the Learning Sciences in the College of Education at the University of Washington. He specializes in ethnographic research on learning and thinking, especially in out of school settings. He is co-Lead of the

NSF Learning in Informal and Formal Environments (LIFE) Science of Learning Center. He is the creator of VideoTraces, a video-based annotation medium for learning and teaching, a tool that was inspired by a study of visitor learning and experience at San Francisco's Exploratorium.

Tara Sweeney is currently enrolled in the University of Oregon's Arts & Administration graduate program, concentrating in museum studies, and anticipates a June 2008 graduation date. Before she began her studies in Oregon, Tara enjoyed working as a museum educator at the Mark Twain House and Museum in Hartford, Connecticut, and at an American craft gallery in Asheville, North Carolina. With a BA in History from the University of North Carolina-Asheville and a variety of museum internship experiences, she looks forward to rejoining the museum profession.

James Tweedie is an Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature and a member of the Cinema Studies faculty at the University of Washington. He was previously a post-doctoral fellow at the Yale Center for International and Area Studies, where he coordinated the Crossing Borders Initiative, an interdisciplinary program designed to facilitate the study of globalization in the humanities and social sciences. He has published essays in *Cinema Journal*, *Screen*, *SubStance*, and *Twentieth Century Literature*, and is currently completing a book on European cinema in the 1980s. He is also working on a comparative study of cinematic new waves from the late 1950s to the 1990s. At UW he teaches introductory courses on film analysis and theory, as well as upper-level and graduate courses on globalization and film, post-WWII film history, and modernist cinema. He received an A.B. with honors from Stanford University and a Ph.D. from the University of Iowa.

Andrea Weatherhead is principal of WEATHERHEAD Experience Design Group, Inc., which specializes in designing interactive exhibitions that integrate visitor-centered design, educational content, and sophisticated technology. Andrea Weatherhead led the creation of the popular "Sound Lab," the interactive gallery in Seattle's Experience Music Project. During her colorful career Weatherhead has also served as a multimedia producer at Microsoft Corporation, an independent recording and live sound engineer, producer, sound designer, and adjunct professor. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree with High Honors and Distinction in English literature from Stanford University and a Masters of Science degree in audio engineering, acoustics, and production from American University.

WEATHERHEAD has earned a reputation for extremely innovative products as the recipient of multiple MUSE awards from the American Association of Museums in recognition of the highest standards of excellence in the use of media and technology for interpretation and education in art, history and culture.

Erin Weible is the Digital Interactive Galleries (DIG) Project Manager for the Henry Art Gallery in Seattle, Washington. Erin has eight years experience working with technology pioneers Microsoft and RealNetworks in web design and database management. She recently attained an M.A. in Museum Studies from the University of Washington and spent 16 months working on a media-rich online visitor

experience at the Seattle Art Museum. With her experience working in digital technology and in museum settings, Erin is uniquely positioned to speak about the challenges and benefits encountered while implementing a new data management system at the Henry Art Gallery.

Sasha Su-Ling Welland is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Women Studies at the University of Washington. Her current research project, *Experimental Beijing: Contemporary Art Worlds in China's Capital*, examines the social role of visual art and competing ideas of aesthetic, cultural, and market value in reform-era China, with a particular focus on how gender shapes Chinese contemporary art worlds. This research reflects her larger concerns with how various forms of cultural expression—visual and narrative—shape social categories; and how these cultural forms are deeply enmeshed in social, political, and economic relations and struggles. She is author of *A Thousand Miles of Dreams: The Journeys of Two Chinese Sisters* and has published articles in *Journal of Visual Culture*, *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, and *Yishu: Journal of Contemporary Chinese Art*.

Douglas Worts has been a museologist for the past 25 years. Until the autumn of 2007, Doug was an interpretive planner and audience researcher at the Art Gallery of Ontario, in Toronto. Since then, he has embarked on a path of further exploring his interests in culture and sustainability. Currently, Doug is a partner in a new consulting enterprise, with Glenn Sutter, called Worldviews Consulting.

Over the past two and a half decades, Doug has published and spoken widely, in Canada and internationally, on topics of museum audience, creativity, education and the relationship of culture to sustainability. In the past decade, Doug's special research and publishing focus has been on understanding and promoting the notion of 'a culture of sustainability'. This interest crystallized when he was invited to join LEAD International (Leadership for Environment and Development) - a cross-disciplinary, global network, funded by the Rockefeller Foundation and created to explore and promote the goal of sustainability. He is a founding member of the Canadian Working Group on Museums and Sustainable Communities and a recipient of a Senior Research Fellowship from the Canadian Museums Association. For five years, during the 1990s, Doug taught a graduate course in museum education at the University of Toronto. A founding member of the Visitor Studies Association (VSA), Doug also has been a consultant to many museums and museum organizations, including the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, the Getty Museum in California and the American Association of Museums. He is currently co-chair of the Alberta Museum Association's Museum Excellence Program (MEP). Doug's goal is to bring his unique perspective on culture's relationship to sustainability into practical applications that foster meaningful societal change.