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### From the Director

Dear Friends,  
 The work of history never ends. There is always something more to study, to learn, and to teach. That’s why I’m thrilled at our growth. More undergraduate and graduate students than ever before work with and at the CPH, and I’m particularly excited to announce an expansion of our vaunted post-doctoral program. Over the past two years we’ve added a fellowship dedicated to the digital humanities, and I’m particularly pleased to announce this fall the inauguration of the H. Ross Perot Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Presidential Studies. Dr. Camille Davis, who earned her PhD from SMU’s Clements Department of History earlier this year, brings new depth to our program through her expertise in the early Republic period of our nation’s history, AND as a specialist in art and visual media. Her arrival gives us six post-doctoral fellows on staff—see inside to see more on the whole cadre of brilliant young scholars. The work of history never ends, and so too our chances to learn together. I’m looking forward to discussing the cultural and political wars of the 1990s, Euromissiles in the 1980s, the latest scholarship on the ever-critical Reconstruction Era, and if our own era offers a new Reconstruction Era of its own. I look forward to learning with you all year!



**Jeffrey A. Engel**

CPH exists to research and advance understanding of the history of the American presidency. The Article II Society is a giving society for loyal supporters who contribute \$2,500 or more each academic year to CPH, helping ensure the work and this organization can continue.

## From The Program Director

Sincere thanks to our Article II Society supporters whose generosity makes it possible for CPH to produce its public programming and contribute to important conversations about the past and its import for the present! You also enable our students and postdoctoral fellows to seek knowledge that is crucial for future scholarship. This academic year we continue with exclusive programming for you: intimate conversations over coffee with our fellows about their cutting-edge publications, special luncheons with well-known authors about their books, and art museum tours (back by popular demand!) that illuminate history through masterpieces. Please let me know if you wish to engage with our guest speakers in smaller settings. If you miss any public event, know we are launching a podcast that will feature conversations with the speakers that you can livestream at your leisure. I look forward to seeing you throughout the year!



LaiYee Leong  
Fellow and Article II Society Program Director

# Speaker Events

All events take place on the SMU campus (Dallas Hall, McCord Auditorium) unless otherwise indicated.

## September 2022

**September 15, 2022 @ 6pm:**

### Tejano Politics

Max Krochmal, *University of New Orleans*

Jack Herrera, *Texas Monthly*



**September 21, 2022 @ 6pm: Unsettled Land: From Revolution to Republic, the Struggle for Texas**

Sam Haynes, *University of Texas at Arlington*



## October 2022

**October 13, 2022 @ 6 pm: Partisans: The Conservative Revolutionaries Who Remade American Politics in the 1990s**

Nicole Hemmer, *Vanderbilt University*

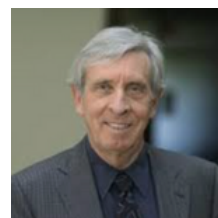


## November 2022

**November 17, 2022 @ 6pm: The Presidents and Politics of Reconstruction**

Joan Waugh, *UCLA*

Gary W. Gallagher, *University of Virginia*



## December 2022

**December 1, 2022 @ 7pm: Ideology in U.S. Foreign Relations: New Histories**

ZOOM ONLINE

Christopher McKnight Nichols, *The Ohio State University*



You can find video recordings and additional resources for each event at <https://blog.smu.edu/cph/upcoming-events/>

# EXCLUSIVE EVENTS

You are invited! Please look out for notifications about each special event.

## Luncheon with Jeremy Suri

October 26, 12:00 pm

*Civil War by Other Means:  
America's Long and Unfinished  
Fight for Democracy*



## Tour of the Dallas Museum of Art

December 8, 11:00 am-1:00pm

*Art and American Democracy*  
1717 N Harwood St, Dallas, TX



Veterans of 1776 Returning Home from the War" (DMA Online Collection)

## High Table with Historians

September 29,  
10:00 am

*Republicans and Regulars:  
Anti-Army Politics in the  
Civil War Era* with

Postdoctoral fellow Dr. Cecily Zander



Sketch by British artist Alfred Waud of a Freedmen's Bureau officer, which appeared as a woodcut in the July 25, 1868 issue of Harper's Weekly.

# People *at the Center*



**Camille Davis** is the inaugural H. Ross Perot Sr. Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Presidential History. Her role within CPH is multi-faceted. Camille is working on an oral history project that studies the life and career of Ross Perot Sr.. More broadly, her work assesses concepts of American leadership and American identity during the nation's founding and early republic through the lens of visual and intellectual history. Camille's book project is called *Visual Prestige: The Role of Portraiture in Shaping the Nascent Identity of American Leadership*.

**Augusta Dell'Omo** received her Ph.D. in History from the University of Texas at Austin in 2022. She specializes in U.S. foreign policy and race in international relations from the late Cold War to the present. Augusta's dissertation "Saving Apartheid: Transatlantic Whiteness in the U.S.-South African Relationship, 1980-1994," analyzes the construction of a transnational network of white supremacist political, religious, and terroristic organizations seeking to stabilize white rule in South Africa while working against Congressional and Presidential sanctions policies from 1980 to 1994.



**Ashlyn Hand** received her Ph.D. from the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin in 2021 where she was a graduate fellow at the Clements Center for National Security. Her current project, entitled *Prioritizing Faith: International Religious Freedom and U.S. Policy Choices (1993-2017)* compares the varied approaches to promoting freedom of conscience abroad during the Clinton, Bush, and Obama administrations. *Prioritizing Faith* shows how evolving bureaucratic dynamics, agenda-setting processes, and strategic shifts at the presidential level interact and change U.S. policy.

## Presidential *Fun Facts*

1. Harry Truman was a haberdasher before he was the 33rd president.
2. James Garfield was the first left handed president, back in 1881.
3. Gerald Ford modeled on the cover of *Cosmopolitan Magazine*.
4. Abraham Lincoln is the only president to have also been a licensed bartender.

# People *at the Center*

**Carolyn Levy** joins CPH having completed a dual-title PhD in History and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Penn State University. Her work explores the world of 19th century reform, especially the U.S. women's prison system. She is strongly committed to public history, as evidenced in [Rosine 2.0](#), an art & archival project that explores both history and present-day community-driven reform. Her book project is *Benevolent Surveillance: Prison Matrons and the Development of Women's Prison Reform in the United States*.



**Jonathan Ng** received his Ph.D. in U.S. history from Northwestern University and, previously, was the Jay T. Walker Postdoctoral Fellow in U.S. and Global History at the University of Tulsa. His book project, *The Unquenchable Fire: The Arms Trade and Reproduction of the U.S. Empire, 1960-1988*, illuminates the influence of military contractors on foreign policy, as well as the legacy of U.S. interventionism since the Vietnam War. One of the first multi-archival histories of the arms trade, his research demonstrates that foreign clients repeatedly saved firms from bankruptcy, underwrote weapons development, and became vital links in a global military-industrial complex.

## Interns

SMU students **Benjamin Feinstein**, **Trevor Gicheru**, and **Petros Rosenbaum** are working with Associate Director Brian Franklin to produce a website called "The Transition." The website will feature hundreds of declassified documents that tell the story of the transition of national security policy from the George W. Bush administration to the Barack Obama administration in 2008-2009.

**Benjamin Feinstein** worked under the direction of CPH postdoctoral fellow Paul Behringer in 2021-2022 as a student researcher and editor on the oral history project U.S.-Russian Relations under Bush and Putin. This project features two dozen interviews with American and Russian officials from during the George W. Bush administration. Benjamin, a History major and Russian Area Studies minor, will spend the 2022-23 academic year in Kazakhstan supported by [the prestigious Boren Scholarship](#), an award administered by the National Security Education program.

# IN THE NEWS

## Public Engagement

This summer **Brian Franklin** organized and moderated a panel at the annual meeting of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic (SHEAR) in New Orleans. The panel "Teaching History Amidst the History Wars: A Conversation with Secondary School History Teachers" was sponsored by the CPH, and featured by SHEAR and the National Council for History Education.

**LaiYee Leong** convened a community-wide dialogue that featured Stephanie Drenka, president of the Dallas Asian American Historical Society, to discuss integrating local and diverse resources into the university curriculum.

**Jonathan Ng** has written three articles this year featured in *Truthout*, a nonprofit news organization dedicated to providing independent reporting and commentary on a diverse range of social justice issues. Check out his commentary on the [Ukraine conflict](#), covert [U.S. operations in Africa](#), and the [youth market for arms](#).

## History Trivia

Congratulations to **Margi Evans**, the winner of our Spring 2022 Presidential Trivia game! For the answer key to our last edition's trivia questions, click [here](#).

Want to put your knowledge to the test? Think you're the top history buff in town? Play our CPH Presidential Trivia game! 10 questions about the most interesting and most challenging presidential history facts. The winner of the trivia and the answer key will be featured in our next edition in the Spring 2023 edition. Click the link [here](#) to play.

## New Publications

**Camille Davis** is a contributing author to *Mourning the Presidents*, jointly published by the University of Virginia Press, White House Historical Association, and CPH. Her chapter is called "The Death of Zachary Taylor: Mourning a Soldier, Losing a President."

**Jeffrey Engel** contributed an essay entitled "No More Mulligans: Donald Trump and International Alliances," in Julian Zelizer's collection *The Presidency of Donald J. Trump* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2022, 238-258).

**Ashlyn Hand's** review of *Finding Faith in Foreign Policy* by Gregorio Bettiza was published in the Winter 2022 issue of the *Journal of Church and State*. Additionally, Dr. Hand is currently working on a book project entitled *Prioritizing Faith*.

**Cecily Zander** will have an article appearing in the Winter 2022 issue of *Civil War Monitor*, on the "Gettysburg Addresses." Her contribution will look at the speeches of all the presidents who have spoken at Gettysburg.

Want to see more of the CPH?

Follow us on social media:

[www.facebook.com/CPHSMU/](http://www.facebook.com/CPHSMU/)  
[twitter.com/cphatsmu](https://twitter.com/cphatsmu)



and check our our webpage:

[smu.edu/cph](http://smu.edu/cph)

# Presidential

# Photography

Explore presidential history through the lens of a camera.



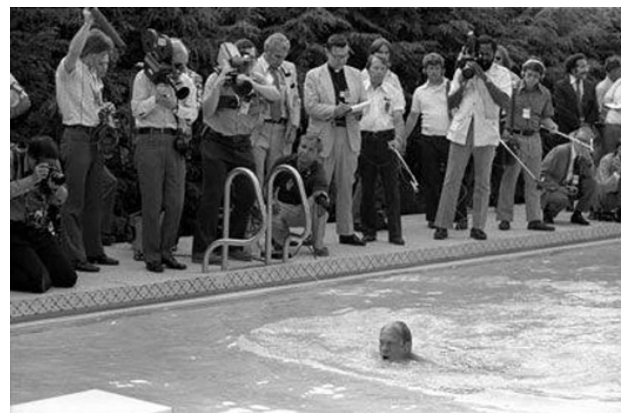
Five-year-old Jacob Philadelphia reaches to touch President Obama's head—to see if it feels like his own—thus earning its title, *Hair Like Mine*. (Pete Souza, 2009)



President Reagan and First Lady Nancy Reagan, while hosting Prime Minister Thatcher of the United Kingdom in the East Room, greet Dance Theatre of Harlem performers in 1981. (Ronald Reagan Presidential Library)



Theodore Roosevelt in sculling gear while an undergraduate at Harvard University, circa 1877. (Houghton Library)



President Ford built an outdoor pool on the White House grounds in 1975. While installing the pool, it was discovered that the gully was full of debris from the White House after the British burned it in 1814. Here the President takes a swim for reporters. (Gerald R. Ford Library)

# BEHIND THE SCENES

## *with Dr. Christine Buchanan*

**The devoted Article II Society supporter discusses how she has fostered her love for history and her connections with the CPH.**

### **What spurred your love of history, in general?**

I had a love of history from family vacations. Growing up, we visited Monticello. I remember I bought a book on Thomas Jefferson on Monticello and used it later on to help write a term paper in high school. Over a number of family summer vacations, we visited every historic site between St. Augustine, Florida, and the Plains of Abraham in Quebec City. We saw Yorktown, Jamestown, and every battlefield you can name all the way up the coast. Additionally, I'm a huge reader. I love to read history, good narratives, and nonfiction.



**Dr. Christine Buchanan**

### **What is one fun fact about presidential history that you like to share?**

Since I enjoy studying the Civil War era, I always like to say Ulysses S. Grant is not his real name, or his birth name, by any stretch of the imagination. His first name was Hiram, and Ulysses was his middle name. Once, he even wrote his wife and said, 'I have got to find some meaning for this S.' It was assigned to him when he applied to West Point, when the person that was supporting his application to West Point listed his name as Ulysses S. Grant. The theory is that the S stood for Simpson, which was his brother's middle name and his mother's family name. The catch was that U.S. Grant yielded more palatable initials than H.U.G., which he never liked.

### **What would you suggest to people who love history to best pursue that passion?**

Travel! Visit the small museums. The museums that are run by the locals have great collections. Because these museums are so sparsely travelled, you can spend an hour there talking about the history of the place because they truly know their stuff. Also, getting good book recommendations from people who are knowledgeable. That's why I love my association with the Center for Presidential History. I have had many friends over the years in the history department, who have recommended good books to me, like Ed Countryman. Getting involved with a local university that has programs for the public, in the field of your interest, is a great way to to get knowledgeable recommendations for reading material. That's how I, as a layperson, would approach history: is to get good book recommendations from people who know what they're talking about, and travel, travel, travel.



# Press *Play*: CPH Podcasts

## CPH Launches *Firsthand History*!

CPH is delighted to present "Cross Currents," the first season of our new podcast series "Firsthand History." Many of us remember the fraught relations between the US and Europe in the early years of the George W. Bush presidency. The Global War on Terror proved a stress test for transatlantic ties. But the impact on US alliances was not uniform. For some governments, it had repercussions not only for diplomacy but also for their own national security and domestic politics. The 2000s were a period that challenged the leaders of one Nordic country.

In this 4-episode series, CPH fellow **LaiYee Leong** explores the relationship--and tensions--that developed between the United States and its longtime NATO ally Norway after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Each episode weaves narrative with pieces of the oral histories LaiYee conducted with Norwegian and U.S. officials, including cabinet ministers, ambassadors, journalists, scholars, and more. Click [here](#) to explore Season 1.



## The Collective Memory Project

The **U.S.-Russian Relations under Bush and Putin** project is now featuring several exciting new interviews. Visit [the project website](#) to hear how senior officials remember that period.

**Condoleezza Rice**, Secretary of State (2005-2009)

**Alexander Vershbow**, U.S. Ambassador to Russia (2001-2005)

**Fiona Hill**, National Intelligence Officer for Russia and Eurasia (2006-2009)

## UPCOMING SEASON: *The Past, The Promise, The Presidency*

We hope you've caught up with the last three seasons of our podcast. We are thrilled to announce that a new season is in the works!

The latest installment of *The Past, the Promise, the Presidency* will feature extended interviews and discussions with historians who visit our campus for the CPH lecture series.

To explore our past seasons, please visit [our website](#) to discover the full library of our episodes, additional resources, and more.

# Postdoctoral Updates

We're proud to keep up with the important and exciting work that our former postdoctoral fellows are doing.

## Paul Behringer

Paul recently moved to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where he works as the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) Research Partner Fellow. In addition to teaching a class on U.S. military history, he conducts research and analysis in support of the DPAA's mission of recovering and identifying the remains of American personnel who died in U.S. conflicts from WWII to the present. Paul's book manuscript, tentatively titled *Intervention on Empire's Edge: The United States, Japan, and the Russian Civil War*, will be published by Oxford University Press.

## Gregory Brew

In the past year, Greg has published essays in *Phenomenal World*, *Foreign Policy*, *Foreign Affairs*, the *Washington Post*, *War on the Rocks*, and *Time Magazine*. He will visit SMU in the spring to discuss two new books on Iran and energy.

## Lindsay Chervinsky

Lindsay won the Library of Congress Kluge Fellowship, which is awarded for interdisciplinary research and projects with relevance to contemporary challenges. She also has a book on John Adams recently accepted by Oxford University Press.

## Sharron Conrad

Sharron's article, "More Upset Than Most: Measuring and Understanding African-American Responses to the Kennedy Assassination," will appear in *American Quarterly*.

## Elizabeth Ingleson

Lizzie, an Assistant Professor of International History at the London School of Economics, recently published "U.S.-China Relations in the Cold War: Bridging Two Eras" in *Routledge History of U.S. Foreign Relations* (2022).

As a volunteer for *Remembering Black Dallas Inc.*, **Sharron Conrad** successfully applied to the Texas Historical Commission for Jane Elkins, an enslaved person and the first woman to be hanged in Dallas Co. for killing her employer, to receive a historical marker in Martyrs Park.



# Postdoctoral Updates

## Evan McCormick

While continuing his work on the Obama Presidency Oral History project at Columbia University, this year Evan launched a radio show called *Music in Time* on WGXC 90.7 FM, a community radio station based in the Hudson River Valley. The show explores history through music. The pilot episode focused on Neil Young's *Hawks & Doves*, which was released days before the 1980 Carter/Reagan election. The show airs on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 10am EST, or you can stream it, download it, and subscribe to it as a podcast at [wavefarm.org](http://wavefarm.org).

## Kaete O'Connell

Kaete was hired as Conference Coordinator for the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, for which she organized and ran the annual meeting in New Orleans this past June. You can also read her essay in *The Berlin Airlift and the Making of the Cold War* (Texas A&M Press, 2022)

## Amanda Regan

Amanda, who's now Assistant Professor of History at Clemson University, works with PhD students in its new Digital History PhD program—the first of its kind in the country!

## Paul Renfro

Paul's writing has recently appeared in *Slate*, *Jacobin*, and *The Washington Post*. He has a book about the story of Ryan White and AIDs (University of North Carolina Press) in the works.

## Timothy Sayle

Tim recently received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor at the University of Toronto. In August 2022 he taught a University of Toronto summer abroad course at Oxford University on the history of intelligence, which included field trips to Bletchley Park and other historic intelligence sites.

## Amy Zanoni

Amy has started a new role as Executive Director of Elk River Arts & Lectures, a Montana non-profit that builds community through public humanities and arts programming. Her article "Remembering Welfare as We Knew It: Understanding Neoliberalism through Histories of Welfare" will appear in *Journal of Policy History*.

# Travel

## World War I Tour: June 1-10, 2023

Join **Jeffrey A. Engel** and Essential History Expeditions' **Brian DeToy** for a spectacular and engaging examination of Belgium and France in World War I. For students, alumni and friends, this intergenerational tour offers an in-depth exploration of America's role in The Great War in the cities and on the fields where history took place. Space on this once in a lifetime trip will fill quickly, so register now! Contact Ronna Spitz at [rspitz@smu.edu](mailto:rspitz@smu.edu) for more information.



## Czech and Germany in WWII and the Cold War: May 16-26, 2022

This past May, the CPH and Essential History Expeditions took a fully guided and immersive tour to explore the people and places of central Europe, from the September 1938 German occupation of Czechoslovakia, to the liberation battles in 1944-45; through the battle of Berlin in April-May 1945 that completed Europe's liberation from Nazi rule; and then on through the decades-long Cold War in the capitals and cities of two nations caught between the Great Powers. A number of SMU undergraduate and graduate students were able to go on the trip thanks to the generosity of our Article II Society supporters.



*"The trip was fantastic from start to finish. A highlight for me were the students. The group that I accompanied were enthusiastic, smart, and fun. They embraced opportunities to immerse themselves in the culture. and their presentations were not only informative but entertaining." -- Kaete O'Connell*

## Accolades

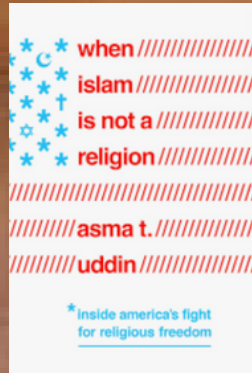
Congratulations are in order for **Augusta Dell'Omo**, who received Honorable Mention for the Bernath Scholarly Article Prize from the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations for "Infernal Handiwork: Trinity Broadcasting Network Aids Apartheid South Africa, 1980-1994." Her article explores the symbiotic relationship between right-wing evangelicals and the apartheid state in undercutting racial equality in South Africa.

**Cecily Zander** recently had her manuscript accepted by Louisiana State University Press. Her book *Republicans and Regulars: Anti-Army Politics in the Civil War Era* will be available in late 2023 or early 2024.

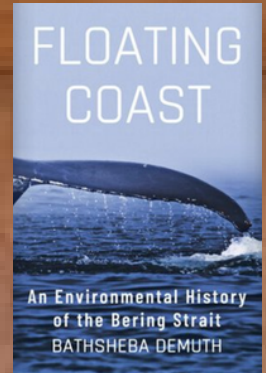
# THE BOOK NOOK

Looking for reading suggestions? CPH scholars share a few of their recent favorite reads.

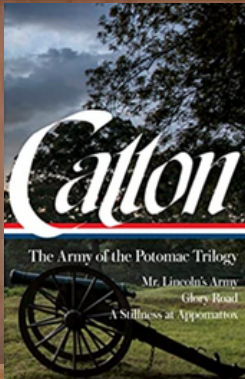
Uddin, Asma T. *When Islam Is Not a Religion: Inside America's Fight for Religious Freedom.* Pegasus Books, 2019.



Demuth, Bathsheba. *Floating Coast: An Environmental History of the Bering Strait.* W. W. Norton & Company, 2019.



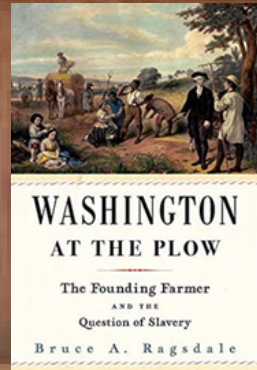
Catton, Bruce. *The Army of the Potomac Trilogy.* Library of America Press, 2022.



Rouse, Wendy L. *Public Faces, Secret Lives: A Queer History of the Women's Suffrage Movement.* NYU Press, 2022.



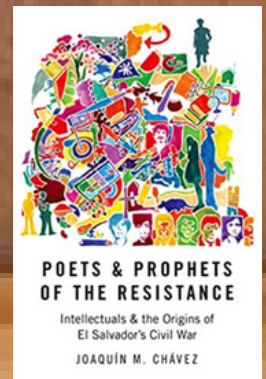
Ragsdale, Bruce. *Washington at the Plow: The Founding Farmer and the Question of Slavery.* Belknap Press, 2021.



Kim, Monica. *The Interrogation Rooms of the Korean War: The Untold History.* Princeton University Press, 2019.



Chávez, Joaquín. *Poets and Prophets of the Resistance: Intellectuals and the Origins of El Salvador's Civil War.* Oxford University Press, 2017.



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