The writings of nineteenth-century children reveal lively imaginations and inquisitive minds, as young writers chronicled their daily lives, wrote stories and poetry, expressed their beliefs and values, and commented on serious issues of the day. Thanks to a National Endowment for the Humanities grant, AAS is working to make available for everyone hundreds of texts authored by American children that are in its collection.

In the 1800s, children were printing amateur books on tabletop presses and selling them via national networks of teenage publishers and distributors. They were creating manuscript periodicals issued monthly or weekly that contained articles on race and politics, while also featuring poetry and artwork by their peers. And they were keeping diaries about everyday life in their neighborhoods and schools.

(continued on page 2)

Right: Alan Mendieta-Rivadeneyra, acquisitions assistant, and Ashley Cataldo, curator of manuscripts, select items to be included in the project.

A rich diversity of beliefs coexisted in North America before 1900, as shown by religious materials in the AAS collections. The beliefs included Islam, Judaism, Mormonism, Catholicism, Protestantism, metaphysical religions, African-inspired religions, South Asian religions, and civil religion, as well as religious hybridity and forms of Christianity practiced in Hawaiian, Caribbean, and Indigenous nations and groups.

This year’s AAS summer seminar gives scholars an exciting opportunity to discover how religious and spiritual beliefs were expressed and promulgated through a variety of physical objects. In studying these materials—images, objects, monuments, buildings, books, spaces, performances, and sounds—participants will explore what these material objects tell us about religions in early America and how they shaped life in this part of the world.

*Material Religion: Objects, Images, Books* will be held from June 25 through June 30. We look forward to welcoming this year’s summer seminar participants to AAS.

*From left:* Illuminated manuscript scroll on vellum, eighteenth century; Reverend Richard Allen: Bishop of the First African Methodist Episcopal Church. Lithographed by Peter Duval, ca. 1835; First page of Genesis from *Manusse Wunnewtypanatatamyw Up–Biblum*, ca. 1685.
From the President’s Desk

The strategic planning process that occupied the staff, Council, and more than two hundred members and friends last year culminated in a plan that sets out priorities for the Society’s next five years. A summary is available on the website at americanantiquarian.org/about.

One of the most critical conversations during this process was about how we understand our mission. Stewarding and growing the collections is at the heart of all we do. Just as important is making those collections available to new generations of scholars and students, as well as reaching a broad range of people through programs that inspire curiosity about America’s and Americans’ histories.

From that productive conversation emerged this revised mission statement:

*The American Antiquarian Society cultivates a deeper understanding of the American past, grounded in its ever-growing collection of printed and manuscript sources. The Society fosters a broad community of inquiry through inclusive programs and generous support for scholarship.*

This restatement signals our commitment to build and expand our community, including our elected members and all those with whom we engage—whether they are in our own neighborhood or across the country. We aim to serve ever more diverse constituencies, and to do so by listening and responding to those who have not traditionally participated or felt welcome here, as well as to those who have long considered AAS their home. Because the world is constantly changing, the Society’s mission will always be a work in progress. We look forward to carrying out this work in partnership with all of you.

Warmly,

[Signature]

(Historic Children’s Voices . . . continued from page 1)

In 1866, twelve boys and girls wrote short stories, jokes, and poetry for a small periodical, called “The Monthly,” likely from New York State. About three inches square, the handwritten booklet also included illustrations and advertisements the children created. In 1882, seventeen-year-old James Niblack wrote about the complex world of flirtation and courtship—providing instructions on “how to kiss deliciously”—in his book, *The Young Folks’ Hand Book of Flirtations*, published in Rockport, Indiana. And “The Flower,” a handwritten periodical from Smithfield, Rhode Island, contains an undated article, “Morals of the Westward South,” that discusses the spread of slavery with such commentary as “And what is the reason of the bad state of Morals in the South? Slavery for one!”

These are just a few examples of the hundreds of young nineteenth-century writers whose works will be cataloged and digitized to enlighten and inspire future generations. Begun in September 2022, the project, *Historic Children’s Voices, 1799–1899*, is currently in the research and digitization stage. Nearly twelve thousand pages are slated to be completed by spring of 2024.

*Left:* Truman Henry Safford (1836–1901), later an eminent astronomer, was a childhood mathematical prodigy. His 1846 *Youth’s Almanac* is part of the *Historic Children’s Voices* project.
We asked Adrian Chastain Weimer, professor of history at Providence College, AAS member (elected October 2022, see page 11), Kate B. and Hall J. Peterson fellow (2010–11) and National Endowment for the Humanities fellow (2017–18) to share with Almanac readers how her research at the Society helped to shape her book, *A Constitutional Culture: New England and the Struggle Against Arbitrary Rule in the Restoration Empire* (2023).

**How did you initially become interested in your topic?**
I came across manuscript letters of Elizabeth Hooton, a Quaker woman who toured the English colonies in the early 1660s. In New England, she set herself up as an unofficial spy for the royal commissioners sent by Charles II. Through her letters, I realized there were all kinds of fascinating things about the early Restoration period—from the role of religious minorities to intricate constitutional debates—that needed fresh exploration.

**How did your fellowship experience influence your work?**
It is hard to express how significant the time at AAS was for this project and for me. Ashley Cataldo found sources I had no idea existed. Elizabeth Pope demystified book bindings. Tom Knoles convinced me I could read shorthand. Nan Wolverton set up seminars and generally made the place feel like home. Our fellows cohort and other visiting researchers asked tough questions, sharpening my arguments. And our senior fellow, Peter Onuf, challenged me to address even bigger and more significant issues relevant to Anglo-American history as a whole.

**Can you reflect on one collection item that was crucial to your research?**
There are many! The papers of Thomas Shepard Jr. were a goldmine. The son of a celebrity father, he has received little attention. But he was keenly attuned to the meaning of citizenship and the stakes of constitutional issues. His volume of fast day sermons helped me realize that fast days—when entire colonies took off work and gathered for communal prayer—were the times when most ordinary colonists would have learned about political issues, considered them in biblical and ethical context, and resolved on their own contributions to the public good.

**How might your work resonate for today’s readers?**
Seventeenth-century New England had major problems. The extent of their political activism, however, strikes me as remarkable. When Charles II’s royal commissioners pressured inhabitants (including Shawomets and Pawtuxets) to redesign local institutions to align with crown priorities, an astonishing number of men and women got involved in town petition campaigns, committee work, and fund-raising. From drafting political treatises to sheltering regicides to gathering English news, a high percentage of the population mobilized to defy crown demands. They cultivated and prized the ability to recognize signs of absolutism and articulate the basis for constitutional liberties.

**What are you currently working on?**
I’m working on a history of Deer Island, the site in Boston harbor where Christian Native Americans were sequestered during King Philip/Metacom’s War (1675–76). This episode is often mentioned but no one has yet researched its extensive backstory and aftershocks, in broad context reaching from London to New York and deep into Nipmuc and Haudenosaunee country. The project intertwines legal and cultural history to trace wartime pressures on the colonial court system, debates about who could be a true Christian or a true English subject, and petitions and critical interventions by Native advocates on and off the island.
New acquisitions reveal the diversity and range of the collections


Two hundred and fifty years ago, Phillis Wheatley Peters (ca. 1753–1784) became the first African American woman to publish a book, when her *Poems on Various Subjects* was printed in London in 1773. The author was only about twenty years old and still enslaved by the Wheatley family of Boston. AAS members Randall Burkett and Nancy Burkett (former AAS librarian) recently gave the Society what is now its third copy of *Poems on Various Subjects*, because of the important publishing story it tells. This well-used volume shows hand stitching to reattach the bottom half of the title page and the author’s signature directly under the copyright statement. The copy also has rearranged introductory pages. The copyright page with Wheatley’s signature sits directly opposite a reproduced letter sent to the publisher by more than a dozen respected white New England “gentlemen” attesting to the fact that Wheatley was who she said she was, her poems were genuine, and she was “qualified to write them.”

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*Elizabeth Watts Pope, curator of books

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A scandalous scene in the Elysian Fields, a New Jersey park popular among New Yorkers, is depicted in this lithograph, the sixth known issued by Anthony Imbert under the series title, *Life in New York*. A couple cavorting behind a large umbrella is hidden from viewers of the print but is observed by a passing hunter and his dog. The print came to AAS with New York legal documents from February 1834 accusing one James Bailey of displaying in his shop window “a certain lewd, wicked, scandalous, and obscene print or paper intitled [sic] ’View in the Elisyan [sic] Fields Hoboken’ representing a Man and a Woman in an obscene, impudent, and indecent posture, to the great scandal of the citizens of this state . . . ” AAS now holds four of the six lithographs in Imbert’s series. The very day the print arrived in Worcester, a resident scholar used it for research on rule breaking in and policing of urban parks.

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*Lauren B. Hewes, vice president for collections and Andrew W. Mellon Curator of Graphic Arts*
Betsy P. Bennett (attr.), *Our Family.*

This unusual family register, with hand-drawn borders and flourishes, is a combination of manuscript, hairwork, and photography. It depicts thirteen members of the Robinson family from Oswego County in New York State. Though drawn in 1867, the register was added to up until 1880. Two children of Almira and Jonathan Robinson—Henry, 1858-1865, and Flora, 1851-1862—are represented by hairwork pieces rather than albumen portrait photographs. The calligraphic work is signed and dated by B. P. Bennett, and research has led to a possible attribution to Betsy P. Bennett (b. 1849) as the artist. She also lived in Oswego County and is listed as a writing teacher in the 1880 United States Census.

—Christine Graham Morris, associate curator of graphic arts and registrar

Collection of 133 American bookplates, 1762–ca. 1850.
Gift of Lew Jaffe.

A major donation of 133 early bookplates from member and collector Lew Jaffe is an important addition to AAS’s collection—and an intimate reminder of the readers and libraries circulating books in the colonies and our young nation. Ranging in date from 1762 to about 1820, the plates primarily come from readers and libraries located along the East Coast of the United States, as well as the West Indies and Caribbean. The gift includes 29 plates that are listed in Charles Dexter Allen’s *American Bookplates* (1894) and which AAS lacked, four plates for women readers such as Ann Franklin, institutional plates for small libraries in Eagle Village (Onondaga County, N.Y.) and on Nantucket.

—Lauren B. Hewes
Collaboration gives Fresno State students research experience

This spring, students at California State University, Fresno, gained valuable research experience through collaboration between AAS and Society member and past fellow Melanie Hernandez (elected October 2022, see page 10), associate professor and chair of English at Fresno. The pilot initiative introduced students in her class, “U.S. Mexican Racial Formation,” to the AAS collections and how to use these primary sources in their research. The students learned about children’s literature, graphic arts, and books that related to their class theme. The virtual class provided individualized attention from AAS staff, customized workshops with collections materials, a behind-the-scenes video of the library, catalog search tutorial videos, and an introduction to special collections.

This collaboration began in the summer of 2022 as an initiative for the American Council of Learned Societies’ Intention Foundry, whose goal is to address issues of inequity within academia by leveraging the clout of institutions and professional organizations. As a Hispanic-Serving Institution, approximately 66 percent of Fresno State’s students are the first in their families to go to college and 59 percent are Pell Grant-eligible. This collaboration provided Hernandez’s students with a learning experience they may not have otherwise had and advanced the AAS strategic goal to expand the reach of the collections to institutions and people who have not traditionally been served.

News of members and fellows

P. Gabrielle Foreman (elected April 2018; Mellon Distinguished Scholar in Residence, 2022) was named a 2022 MacArthur Fellow for her work catalyzing inquiry into historic nineteenth-century collective Black organizing efforts through initiatives such as the Colored Conventions Project.

Geraldine Brooks (elected April 2015) won the 2023 Anisfield-Wolf Book Award for her novel, Horse (2022).

The Organization of American Historians awarded the 2023 Roy Rosenzweig Distinguished Service Award to Lonnie Bunch (elected October 2001) and the 2023 James A. Rawley Prize for the best book dealing with the history of race relations in the United States to Michael Witgen (elected October 2022) for Seeing Red: Indigenous Land, American Expansion, and the Political Economy of Plunder in North America (2022). Witgen’s book was also a finalist for the 2023 Pulitzer Prize in History.

Guggenheim Fellowships for 2023 were awarded to Gretchen H. Gerzina (elected October 2019) in intellectual and cultural history, and Lisa Bielawa (Hearst Foundations Fellow, 2019) in music composition.

Robert A. Gross (elected October 1982) received the Massachusetts Historical Society’s 2022 Peter J. Gomes Memorial Book Prize for The Transcendentalists and Their World (2021).

Kelly Lytle Hernández (elected October 2021) was awarded the 2023 Bancroft Prize in American History and Diplomacy for Bad Mexicans: Race, Empire, and Revolution in the Borderlands (2022).

Recent books by members and fellows

Pictured are selected recent books by AAS members and past fellows. For other recent publications, see americanantiquarian.org/recent-scholarship. You can also view recorded book talks and public programs featuring members and past fellows with recently published books at americanantiquarian.org/previous-programs.

**Tara Bynum** (National Endowment for the Humanities, 2016–17; elected April 2022), *Reading Pleasures: Everyday Black Living in Early America* (University of Illinois Press, 2023)


**Kerri Greenidge** (elected April 2021), *The Grimkes: The Legacy of Slavery in an American Family* (Liveright, 2022)


**Patrick Griffin** (elected April 2021), *The Age of Atlantic Revolution: The Fall and Rise of a Connected World* (Yale University Press, 2023)

**David Waldstreicher** (Kate B. and Hall J. Peterson, 1992–93; elected October 2005), *The Odyssey of Phillis Wheatley: A Poet’s Journeys Through American Slavery and Independence* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2023)

**Jacqueline Jones** (Fred Harris Daniels, 1974–75; elected October 2008), *No Right to an Honest Living: The Struggles of Boston’s Black Workers in the Civil War Era* (Basic Books, 2023)


News of members and fellows (continued)

The Bibliographical Society of America’s St. Louis Mercantile Library Prize was awarded to **Elizabeth McHenry** (elected April 2003) and **Kelly Wisecup** (elected October 2022; Kate B. and Hall J. Peterson Fellow, 2014–15) for *To Make Negro Literature: Writing, Literary Practice, and African American Authorship* (2021) and *Assembled for Use: Indigenous Compilation and the Archives of Early Native American Literatures* (2021), respectively.

The American Historical Association (AHA) awarded Tiya Miles (elected October 2011) the 2022 Joan Kelly Memorial Prize in women’s history and/or feminist theory for *All That She Carried: The Journey of Ashley’s Sack, a Black Family Keepsake* (2021). For *American Mirror: The United States and Brazil in the Age of Emancipation* (2021), **Roberto Saba** (Hench Fellow, 2017–18) received the AHA 2022 Albert J. Beveridge Award for the best book in English on the history of the United States, Latin America, or Canada from 1492 to the present.

New councilors bring wide-ranging expertise

The following members were elected to the AAS governing board on October 20, 2022.

Deborah Hall (elected October 2021) is chief executive officer of YWCA Central MA, with over thirty years of experience working with survivors of domestic violence and addressing the intersection of race, gender, and community violence. A social justice advocate and an art lover, she has served in leadership positions for several programs throughout Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Missouri addressing issues of homelessness, violence, and substance abuse. Hall also currently serves on the boards of Worcester Eastside Community Development Corporation, Worcester Business Improvement District, Worcester Education Collaborative, Jane Doe Inc., and MassHumanities. A frequent speaker on gendered violence and violence in the lives of Black women, Hall is the founder of Worcester Black History Project.

Sheryl Jaeger (elected April 2017) is an appraiser and partner in Eclectibles, a Connecticut company specializing in fine and unusual ephemera. This includes childhood ephemera and books, visual culture, social history and women’s history, advertising in America, historical memorabilia, paper with a secret, and the study of childhood. Prior to her career in the book world, Jaeger was a management consultant in operational effectiveness, with prior careers as a corporate executive for Aetna Health Care and in health care. Currently, Jaeger is president of the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America. As a member of the Appraisers Association of America, she provides appraisal services with a focus on large collections.

Derrick R. Spires (elected November 2020) is associate professor of literatures in English and affiliate faculty in American studies, visual studies, and media studies at Cornell University. He specializes in early African American and American print culture, citizenship studies, and African American intellectual history. His first book, The Practice of Citizenship: Black Politics and Print Culture in the Early United States (2019), won the Modern Language Association Prize for First Book and the St. Louis Mercantile Library Prize. Spires edits the book series, Black Print and Organizing in the Long Nineteenth Century, with P. Gabrielle Foreman and Shirley Moody-Turner at the University of Pennsylvania Press. His work has been supported by fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Ford Foundation, the Social Science Research Council, the Mellon/Mays Initiatives, AAS (Kate B. and Hall J. Peterson, 2008–9), and other learned societies.

Julian Davis Wade (elected October 2018) is the president of Davis Publications Inc., a publisher of textbooks and ancillary materials for K–12 art education in Worcester. His great-grandfather, father, and uncle were proprietors of the Davis Press and printed the Society’s proceedings and newsletters for much of the twentieth century. Today, Wade is leading the transformation of Worcester’s historic Printers Building (1922) into a vital downtown hub for arts organizations and innovative start-ups.
New Members

Twenty-eight individuals elected at the October 2022 annual meeting have accepted membership in the American Antiquarian Society.

Kevin C. Butterfield
Washington, D.C.
Kevin Butterfield was appointed in 2022 as director of the John W. Kluge Center at the Library of Congress; he was most recently executive director of the Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington at Mount Vernon. A specialist in the founding era, he wrote *The Making of Tocqueville’s America: Law and Association in the Early United States* (2015). Butterfield was a Peterson Fellow at AAS in 2017–18.

James T. Campbell
Stanford, California
James Campbell, the Edgar E. Robinson Professor in United States History at Stanford University, studies African American history and the history of the black Atlantic. He is the author of *Middle Passages: African American Journeys to Africa, 1787–2005* (2006), recipient of the Mark Lynton History Prize (Columbia School of Journalism and Nieman Foundation, Harvard University), a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in History; and editor of *Slavery and the University: Histories and Legacies* (2019, with Leslie M. Harris and Alfred L. Brophy).

Marlene L. Daut
New Haven, Connecticut

Lindsay E. DiCuirci
Silver Spring, Maryland

Carolyn E. Eastman
Richmond, Virginia
Carolyn Eastman, professor of history at Virginia Commonwealth University, is the author of *A Nation of Speechifiers: Making an American Public after the Revolution* (2009), which received the James Broussard Best First Book Prize from the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, and *The Strange Genius of Mr. O: The United States’ First Forgotten Celebrity* (2021), winner of SHEAR’s James Bradford Biography Prize. She has held three fellowships at AAS.

Juliet Feibel
Worcester, Massachusetts
Juliet Feibel has worked across nonprofit management, membership organizations, the arts, and higher education. As director of ArtsWorcester since 2011, she has grown the organization significantly and secured it a permanent space in downtown Worcester. Feibel previously served as associate director of Imagining America, a national arts and humanities project; she has also worked for nongovernmental organizations in Vietnam and Thailand.

Ellen Gruber Garvey
New York, New York

Sarah Barringer Gordon
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Daniel Greene
Chicago, Illinois

Stephen G. Hall
Columbus, Ohio
Stephen Hall is publisher and editor-in-chief of Historianspeaks.com, a web platform making Black history accessible to the public. Formerly history program coordinator at Alcorn State University in Lorman, Mississippi, Hall has taught for nearly twenty years. He is the author of *A Faithful Account of the Race: African American Historical Writing in Nineteenth-Century America* (2009).
Elizabeth Haven Hawley  
Gainesville, Florida

E. Haven Hawley is chair of the Special and Area Studies Collections Department at the George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida. A historian of technology and science, she specializes in nondestructive characterization of print artifacts, historical printing practices, and technological access in society, as well as the application of these skills to the administration and management of international heritage research collections. Hawley has served as president of the American Printing History Association.

Melanie A. Hernandez  
Fresno, California

Melanie Hernandez is associate professor and chair of the English Department at California State University, Fresno, where she teaches courses in U.S. literature and cultural production. She specializes in nineteenth-century U.S. literature, with an emphasis on comparative African American and Chicanx studies. At AAS, Hernandez held a Drawn to Art AAS Fellowship in 2012–13 and a Jay and Deborah Last Fellowship in 2019–20. Previously, Hernandez worked in broadcasting, including for programs on the Oxygen Network, NBC, and ABC.

Petrina Jackson  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Petrina Jackson is the Lia Gelin Poorvu Executive Director of the Schlesinger Library at the Harvard-Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University. She has held leadership positions at the Special Collections Research Center at Syracuse University; the Special Collections and University Archives at Iowa State University; the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library of the University of Virginia, where she also served on the President’s Commission on Slavery and the University; and the Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections at Cornell University.

Gavin P. Jones  
Upton, Massachusetts

Gavin Jones is a radiation oncology resident at Tufts Medical Center with a wide range of primary clinical and research interests. His family has a long history in New England, and Jones studied history as an undergraduate at Lafayette College, where he conducted research under the guidance of AAS member Christopher Phillips (elected April 2016).

Alexandra Kennedy  
Northampton, Massachusetts

Alexandra Kennedy has served as executive director of the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art since 2008. During her prior career with Disney Publishing Worldwide, Kennedy ultimately held the position of vice president and editorial director of U.S. Consumer Magazines. She received the Disney Publishing Worldwide Leadership Award (2004) and the Exceptional Women in Publishing Award from Women in Periodical Publishing (2009).

Donald E. Lassere  
Chicago, Illinois

Donald Lassere joined the Chicago History Museum as the Edgar D. and Deborah R. Jannotta President and CEO in 2021. Previously, he was president and CEO of the Muhammad Ali Center in Louisville, Kentucky, where his accomplishments included launching the Muhammad Ali Global Humanitarian Awards, and he was senior vice president of programs at Scholarship America. Before working in nonprofits, Lassere spent more than twenty years in the corporate sector.

Susan W. Liebegott  
New York, New York

Since 1985, Susan Liebegott has run Enchanted Books, a purveyor of visual book art, particularly children’s picture books. Her firm has been a major source of the Society’s acquisitions of late nineteenth-century children’s picture books, especially those illustrated by women artists. She is a member of the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America.

Charmaine A. Nelson  
Amherst, Massachusetts

Charmaine Nelson joined the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, in 2022 as provost professor of art history. Previously, she taught at McGill University and at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design University, where she was founding director of the Institute for the Study of Canadian Slavery. She brought this research hub to UMass as the Slavery North Initiative, expanding its focus to the northern United States. Her seven books include The Color of Stone: Sculpting the Black Female Subject in Nineteenth-Century America (2007) and Slavery, Geography, and Empire in Nineteenth-Century Marine Landscapes of Montreal and Jamaica (2016).

Beppy Landrum Owen  
Winter Springs, Florida

Attorney Beppy Owen has significant experience in mergers and acquisitions negotiations, investment opportunity analysis, debt and private equity financing, real estate acquisitions and leasing, and intellectual property. Her collecting interests include fine printing, especially private press printing, and its history. She is secretary of the board of directors of Rare Book School.

Todd Pattison  
Somerville, Massachusetts

Center for more than twenty five years and was Collections Conservator at Harvard College Library. He is an active member of the New England chapter of the Guild of Book Workers and a fellow in the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC).

Kirk Savage
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Brenda E. Stevenson
Los Angeles, California
Brenda Stevenson holds the inaugural Hillary Rodham Clinton Chair in Women’s History at St. John’s College, Oxford University, and the Nickoll Family Endowed Chair in the Department of History at the University of California, Los Angeles. She wrote *Life in Black and White: Family and Community in the Slave South* (1996), which received the Gustavus Myers Prize for the study of human rights in North America, and *The Contested Murder of Latasha Harlins: Justice, Gender, and the Origins of the L.A. Riots* (2015), winner of the James A. Rawley Prize of the Organization of American Historians and the Ida B. Wells Award for Bravery in Journalism from Women’s eNews.

Elizabeth K. Svendsen
Chehalis, Washington
Elizabeth Svendsen has sold books professionally for seventeen years. After starting as an online seller, she established a brick and mortar used bookstore, Blue Jacket Books in Xenia, Ohio, in 2006. Five years later, she sold that business to devote more time to the antiquarian and collectible side of the book trade, founding Walkabout Books in 2011.

Nikki M. Taylor
Washington, D.C.
Nikki Taylor, professor and chair of the Department of History at Howard University, specializes in nineteenth-century African American history. Her books include *America’s First Black Socialist: The Radical Life of Peter H. Clark* (2013) and *Driven Toward Madness: The Fugitive Slave Margaret Garner and Tragedy on the Ohio* (2016). While teaching previously at the University of Cincinnati, she was resident historian at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. Her writing has appeared in *Vogue*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and *Elle*, among other periodicals.

Kathryn A. Walkiewicz
San Diego, California
Kathryn Walkiewicz (Cherokee Nation) is assistant professor of English at the University of California, San Diego, where they study and teach nineteenth-century American literature and culture. An NEH fellow at AAS in 2021–22, they are the author of *Reading Territory: Indigenous and Black Freedom, Removal, and the Nineteenth-Century State* (2023) and coeditor of *The People Who Stayed: Southeastern Indian Writing after Removal* (2010, with Geary Hobson and Janet McAdams).

Adrian C. Weimer
Providence, Rhode Island

Heather Andrea Williams
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Michael Witmore
Washington, D.C.
Michael Witmore has been director of the Folger Shakespeare Library since 2011. Pioneering the use of computers to analyze William Shakespeare’s texts, Witmore launched and directed the Working Group for Digital Inquiry as professor of English at the University of Wisconsin–Madison and organized the Pittsburgh Consortium for Medieval and Renaissance Studies. His five books include *Landslides of the Passing Strange: Reflections from Shakespeare*, with Rosamond Purcell (2010), and *Pretty Creatures: Children and Fiction in the English Renaissance* (2007).
Thirty individuals elected at the April 2023 Semiannual Meeting have accepted membership in the American Antiquarian Society.

Anna Arabindan-Kesson
Princeton, New Jersey
Anna Arabindan-Kesson is associate professor of African American and Black diasporic art in the Department of African American Studies and Department of Art and Archaeology at Princeton University. She is the author of *Black Bodies, White Gold: Art, Cotton, and Commerce in the Atlantic World* (2021). She is the director of Art Hx, a digital humanities project.

Mia L. Bagneris
New Orleans, Louisiana
Mia Bagneris is associate professor of African diaspora art and studies of race in western art and director of the Africana studies program at Tulane University. Concentrating primarily on eighteenth- and nineteenth-century British and American art and visual culture, much of Bagneris’s scholarship explores the representation of race in the Anglo-American world. She is the author of *Colouring the Caribbean: Race and the Art of Agostino Brunias* (2018).

Cheryl Beredo
New York, New York
Cheryl Beredo is associate director of collections and research services at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture at the New York Public Library. She has served on numerous boards and advisory groups, including those of the American Labor Studies Center, Triangle Fire Coalition, Society of American Archivists, and Rare Book School. Her book, *Import of the Archive: U.S. Colonial Rule of the Philippines and the Making of American Archival History* (2013), includes theoretical work directly relevant to AAS.

Lois Brown
Tempe, Arizona

G. Scott Clemons
New York, New York
Scott Clemons is partner and chief investment strategist for private banking at Brown Brothers Harriman. He is a frequent contributor to print and broadcast media, including the *Wall Street Journal, Barron’s*, CNBC, and Bloomberg TV. His collecting interests focus on the works of the Aldine Press, founded by Aldus Manutius in Venice in 1494. Clemons has served as treasurer and president of the Grolier Club and as director of the *Journal of the History of Ideas*. He now serves as board chair of Rare Book School.

Raúl Coronado
Berkeley, California
Raúl Coronado is associate professor of ethnic studies at the University of California, Berkeley, with teaching and research interests in Latina/o literary and intellectual history. He is the author of the award-winning *A World Not to Come: A History of Latino Writing and Print Culture* (2013), which focuses on the transnational development of a print and literary culture in Texas. He has served as president of the Latina/o Studies Association and was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2021.

John Ernest
Newark, Delaware
The Judge Hugh Morris Professor of English at the University of Delaware, John Ernest has written or edited twelve books on African American literature and print culture, including the *Oxford Handbook of the African American Slave Narrative* (2014). With AAS member Joycelyn K. Moody (elected October 2009) he edits the series Regenerations: African American Literature and Culture, devoted to reprinting good editions of undervalued works by early African American writers.

Brigitte N. Fielder
Madison, Wisconsin
Associate professor of comparative literature at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, Brigitte Fielder is the author of *Relative Races: Genealogies of Interracial Kinship in Nineteenth-Century America* (2020). She has written for *Avidly*, the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, and the *New York Times Book Review*. Fielder is a co-convenor of the AAS-sponsored project, *Just Teach One: Early African American Print*, and was a Jay and Deborah Last Artist Fellow in 2011–12.

Steven B. Finer
Greenfield, Massachusetts
Steven Finer has owned Steven Finer Rare Books since 1977. He is a leading rare book dealer and scout in the tradition of the late Ken Leach, a longtime AAS member and bookman.

Adrien C. Finlay
Acton, Massachusetts
Adrien Finlay is executive director of Music Worcester, a 160-year-old arts organization. Before coming to Worcester in 2012, he pursued studies in the arts and nonprofit management and managed a regional symphony in Alexandria, Virginia, for more than five years.

Paula J. Giddings
Northampton, Massachusetts
Paula Giddings is the Elizabeth A. Woodson 1922 Professor Emerita of Africana studies at Smith College. Her most recent book, *Ida: A Sword among Lions* (2008), won the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize for Biography and was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. Previously, she was on the faculty at Spelman College, where she was recognized as a United Negro College Fund Distinguished Scholar.

James E. Goldsberry
Ashland, Massachusetts
James Goldsberry retired as a vice president of Western Digital Corporation. A Worcester native, Goldsberry recently returned to central Massachusetts and has become involved in the local nonprofit community, including serving as a trustee for the local nonprofit community, including serving as a trustee.
of Mechanics Hall, where his great-great-grandfather William Brown was the first Black member in the 1860s. Goldsberry is the son of AAS members John and Dorista Goldsberry, descendants of the Brown family, an African American family with connections to the Nipmuc people, who have been prominent members of Worcester society since the nineteenth century.

Yvonne Goldsberry
Walpole, New Hampshire
President of Endowment for Health in Concord, New Hampshire, Yvonne Goldsberry is the daughter of AAS members John and Dorista Goldsberry, descendants of the Brown family, an African American family with connections to the Nipmuc people, who have been prominent members of Worcester society since the nineteenth century. Since 2019, Goldsberry has been actively involved with AAS staff, along with community members, in developing programming related to the family’s papers, which have been donated to the Society over the years.

Harvey J. Graff
Columbus, Ohio
Harvey Graff is professor emeritus of English and history and inaugural Ohio Eminent Scholar in literacy studies at Ohio State University. Graff developed and led the LiteracyStudies@OSU initiative, a university-wide interdisciplinary program, until 2016. An eminent social historian of literacy and reading in the nineteenth-century United States, he has been a fellow of the Newberry Library and was an NEH Fellow in 1988–89 at AAS.

Emily Guthrie
Wilmington, Delaware
Emily Guthrie has been librarian at the Library Company of Philadelphia since 2021. She began her career at the Winterthur Museum, Garden, and Library, where in 2017 she was promoted to library director. She also served as an affiliated assistant professor in the Winterthur Program in American Material Culture, where she taught the history of the book, eighteenth- through early twentieth-century design sources, and British design history.

Erin McGuirl
Brooklyn, New York
Erin McGuirl is executive director of the Bibliographical Society of America, the oldest scholarly society in North America dedicated to the study of books and manuscripts as physical objects. She also freelances as a researcher for filmmakers. A librarian by training, she has worked in libraries and with private collections of rare materials in New York City and elsewhere since 2008.

T. Michael Parrish
Waco, Texas
Michael Parrish is the Linden G. Bowers Professor of American History at Baylor University. A former president of the Society of Civil War Historians, he is the author of Brothers in Gray: The Civil War Letters of the Pierson Family (1997) and most recently a coauthor of Doris Miller, Pearl Harbor, and the Birth of the Civil Rights Movement (2017). Early in his career, Parrish was involved in the rare book trade, as manager of the Jenkins Company in Austin, Texas.

Sandra Phoenix
McDonough, Georgia
Sandra Phoenix is executive director of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Library Alliance, where she provides leadership in strategic and financial planning and organizational management. Before assuming this role, she was executive services librarian at Lyris, a nonprofit membership organization committed to the success of libraries and cultural heritage organizations.

Gail T. Randall
Worcester, Massachusetts
A trustee of the George I. Alden Trust, Gail Randall has served in a variety of nonprofit staff and volunteer roles in Worcester, primarily with cultural, philanthropic, and educational organizations. She established the Nonprofit Support Center at Greater Worcester Community Foundation, led a three-state funder collaborative that resulted in an Executive Transitions Program for southern New England, and co-led the development of a revitalized Leadership Worcester program.

Joseph Rezek
Brookline, Massachusetts
Joseph Rezek is associate professor of English and director of American and New England studies at Boston University. He specializes in early and nineteenth-century American literature, the history of the book, early Black Atlantic literature, transatlantic studies, Romanticism, and the history of race and racism. An NEH Fellow at AAS in 2019, Rezek serves as cochair of the American Literature and Culture Seminar at the Mahindra Center at Harvard University and is the associate editor of Studies in Romanticism.

Jonathan W. Senchyne
Madison, Wisconsin
Jonathan Senchyne is associate professor of book history and print culture in the Information School and director of the Center for the History of Print and Digital Culture at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. The author of The Intimacy of Paper in Early and Nineteenth-Century American Literature (2020), he was a Jay and Deborah Last Fellow at AAS in 2009–10 and an NEH Fellow in 2013–14.
Kenneth N. Shure
Rockport, Maine
Kenneth Shure has been a book dealer for many years, as well as the representative for Leonard Baskin’s Gehenna Press. He was the owner of the now-closed Goose River Exchange in Lincolnville, Maine, which was an antique shop specializing in paper Americana and photography, advertising, books, magazines, ephemera, postcards, comics, and posters.

Bruce N. Shyer
Oakland, California
Bruce Shyer is a retired attorney and trade card collector. He is closely associated with the Book Club of California as well as the Ephemera Society of America, serving on its board for many years, including as president. He collects material relating to bookselling, as well as labels, die-cuts, stickers, and trade cards. He has displayed items from his collections at the Book Club of California and the San Francisco Antiquarian Book Fair.

Joel B. Silver
Bloomington, Indiana
Director of the Lilly Library at Indiana University (IU), Joel Silver is also adjunct associate professor in the IU School of Library and Information Science and an adjunct faculty member in the Department of English; he also serves as a faculty member at Rare Book School. His research interests include the history of book collecting, history of the book, and history of the antiquarian book trade. Silver has a distinguished record as a lecturer and leader of rare-books-related workshops and has curated many exhibitions at the Lilly Library.

Keith Stokes
Newport, Rhode Island
Keith Stokes is vice president of the 1696 Heritage Group, which is dedicated to helping persons and institutions of color to increase their knowledge and access to the light of truth of their unique American heritage. He has been an advisor to the National Trust for Historic Preservation for Rhode Island and served on the boards of the Touro Synagogue Foundation and the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation. Stokes frequently appears on national historical programs, including C-SPAN, Fox News, and TED Talks.

Page Talbott
Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania
Page Talbott, director of museum outreach for the Lenfest Center for Cultural Partnerships at Drexel University, is a public historian, specializing in American material culture, as well as an experienced interpretive and exhibition planner. She is the principal of Talbott Exhibits & Planning, which provides specialized consulting services to museums, historic sites, and related organizations. She has lectured and taught extensively, and is the author and editor of books and articles on topics ranging from American fine and decorative arts to cultural history.

Kimberly M. Toney
Worcester, Massachusetts
Kimberly Toney is the inaugural coordinating curator for Native American and Indigenous collections at the John Carter Brown Library and Brown University Library. She supports the libraries in their focus on Native American and Indigenous collections of signal importance as well as programming, including outreach and engagement with Native American and Indigenous communities. Toney, a member of the Hassanamisco Band of Nipmuc, was previously head of readers’ services and director of Indigenous initiatives at AAS.

Henry B. Voigt
Wilmington, Delaware
Henry Voigt is retired chief executive officer for DuPont Teijin Films. Ten years before he retired in 2006, he began collecting menus, initially on eBay. Since his retirement he has been an active member of the Ephemera Society of America, and other collectors’ organizations. Voigt shares his collection widely through his blog The American Menu. His exhibit, A Century of Dining Out: The American Story in Menus, 1841–1941, is on display in the main hall of the Grolier Club in spring 2023.

Crystal L. Webster
Vancouver, British Columbia
Crystal Webster is assistant professor of history at the University of British Columbia. Her book, Beyond the Boundaries of Childhood: African American Children in the Antebellum North (2021), foregrounds African American children’s lives as fundamental to the North’s prolonged transition from slavery to freedom. Her writing has appeared in the Washington Post, the New York Times, and Black Perspectives. Webster received the 2022 Maria Stewart Award for best article in African American intellectual history.

Ilyon Woo
Cambridge, Massachusetts
Ilyon Woo is an independent scholar and writer. She is the author of The Great Divorce: A Nineteenth-Century Mother’s Extraordinary Fight against Her Husband, the Shakers, and Her Times (2010) and Master Slave Husband Wife: An Epic Journey from Slavery to Freedom (2023), based on research for which she received a Whiting Creative Nonfiction Writing Grant. Her writing has appeared in the Boston Globe and the Wall Street Journal. Woo was a Kate B. and Hall J. Peterson Fellow in 2004–05.
**Staff News**

On March 15, Laura Wasowicz, curator of children’s literature, delivered a paper, called “The Transatlantic Transformation of Poor Molly Goosey into La Gansa Amorosa” at Chicago’s Caxton Club.

AAS has welcomed five new staff members since October: Julieane Frost, marketing and publications specialist; John Garcia, director of scholarly programs and partnerships (see profile below); Lauren Haveles, program operations assistant; Alan Mendieta-Rivadeneyra, acquisitions assistant; and Anthony Schiavone, maintenance assistant.

The Society recently bid farewell to four colleagues: Gretta Cox-Gorton departed after one year as library assistant. Bill Harrity, senior maintenance assistant, departed after nine years. Amy Jordan moved on after three years as a cataloger. Michaela Koller departed after one year as program operations assistant.

Bethany Jarret was appointed associate librarian on November 28. In this new role as a member of the senior leadership team, she manages and oversees the Society’s acquisition, cataloging, and systems departments, working collaboratively to set priorities, integrate departmental activities, and support the maintenance and sustainability of AAS’s integrated library system.

Jarret joined AAS in 2015 and served in acquisitions, reference, and cataloging before becoming head of acquisitions in 2018. Before coming to the Society, she was a reference librarian at both Fordham University and Clark University. She holds a B.A. in anthropology and classical civilizations from Fordham University, an M.L.I.S. from the University of Rhode Island, and an M.S. in nonprofit management from Worcester State University.

John Garcia joined AAS on April 3 as director of scholarly programs and partnerships. In this role he oversees the Program in the History of the Book in American Culture and the Center for Historic American Visual Culture, and builds and sustains relationships with scholars, organizations, and institutions across fields and disciplines.

Previously, Garcia was director at Donald Heald Rare Books, Prints & Maps, and before that assistant professor of English at Florida State University and at California State University, Northridge. He earned his B.A. and M.A. from California State University, San Bernardino, and his Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley. While in graduate school, he taught college courses at San Quentin State Prison.

Garcia serves as president of the Andrew W. Mellon Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography at Rare Book School. A Ford Foundation Fellow at AAS in 2015–16 and NEH Fellow in 2019–20, he was elected to AAS membership in April 2022.

*Left to right: AAS member Kimberly Toney, Ashley Wonder, Xaulanda Thorpe, and Rev. Dr. Catherine Reed participate in the program, Black Women Poets Respond to the Brown Family Archive, on November 17, 2022.*
Summer and early fall program highlights

**Tuesday, June 6, 7:00 P.M.** City on a Hill: Urban Idealism in America from the Puritans to the Present, featuring Alex Krieger, professor emeritus in practice of urban design at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design, and Edward Augustus, former Worcester city manager.

**Wednesday, July 19, 7:00 P.M.** Lecture featuring Richard Yarborough, professor of English and African American literature and faculty research associate with the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles.


**Tuesday, July 25, 7:00 P.M.** Emily Dickinson’s Music Book and the Musical Life of an American Poet, featuring George Boziwick, musician and cofounder of the Red Skies Music Ensemble, and Kit Young, pianist and composer.

**Tuesday, August 1, 7:00 P.M.** Assembled for Use: Indigenous Compilation and the Archives of Early Native American Literatures, featuring Kelly Wisecup, associate professor of English at Northwestern University, and Lisa Brooks, Henry S. Poler ’59 Presidential Teaching Professor of English and American Studies at Amherst College.

**Thursday, September 14, 7:00 P.M.** Texas Lithographs: A Century of History in Images, featuring Ron Tyler, director emeritus of the Amon Carter Museum of American Art.

*The Jane Ramsay Pomeroy Lecture is an occasional talk on printing and printmaking, supported by a gift from Robert W. Pomeroy III in memory of his late wife.*

**Thursday, October 19, 7:00 P.M.** Sojourner Truth Was a New Yorker, and She Didn’t Say That, featuring Nell Painter, Edwards Professor of American History, Emerita, Princeton University.

*The Robert C. Baron Lecture allows a distinguished AAS member who has written a seminal work of history to reflect on the book’s impact on scholarship and society in the years since its appearance.*

To learn more about and register for these and other upcoming AAS programs, please visit our website at americanantiquarian.org/programs-events.