

FOOTNOTES^I

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PROJECT RUNWAY

Threads Through Time – The 10th Annual Historical Project Runway Show

Eager contestants, judges, and viewers gathered for the 10th edition of Historical Project Runway on March 13th. Reiko Hillyer, the History Department Chair, welcomed the audience and shared the story behind how this event became a memorable Lewis & Clark tradition. The Historical Project Runway event was inspired by her 40th birthday party, where she invited guests to design outfits based on notable events occurring in 1969, Hillyer's birth year. The theme was "Art Crimes," featuring inspiration from a variety of historical events and actors such as famous heists, protests, and dissidents. The eight subjects included the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum Heist, the art of Cuban dissident Luis Otero Alcantara, the Amber Room, AI art, the Greek Caryatids, the Just Stop Oil protests, the works of formerly incarcerated artist Jesse Krimes, and the stolen Chinese zodiac heads.

Eight teams competed this year—a record for the history books! Once the timer was set, contestants began frantically scrambling for materials, all hand-picked and carefully curated from the Goodwill bins in Sellwood. Equipped with scissors, a sewing kit, tape, a sketchbook, and fabric glue, the teams designed and crafted eye-catching outfits. The goal, however, was not to dress literally. Guided by Lewis & Clark's own Andy Bernstein, taking the role of Tim Gunn, teams were encouraged to design "historically-inspired, but fashion forward. Teams looked to incorporate creative interpretations and communicate ideas of their topic within their pieces, while also producing innovative, aesthetically pleasing outfits.

This year's judges, History professor Mo Healy, English and History Administrative Coordinator Amy Baskin, and Head of Watzek Library Special Collections Hannah Crummé, struggled to decide upon the most creative pieces.

The top three teams included "The Jackson Three" with the theme AI, "Peter the Great's Toy Soldiers" with The Amber Room, and "The Skrunklies" with The Works of Luis Otero Alcantara. Prizes included Buffalo Exchange gift cards and some thrifted finds at Goodwill.



A group of student participants

The Historical Project Runway event allows students to think about history outside of the traditional academic context by expressing historical themes and ideas through creative experimentation and fashion. With a little teamwork, creativity, and some fabric glue, contestants' outfits perfectly encapsulated the nature and ideas of each event. Which historical outfit is your favorite?

This year's show will definitely go down in history!

KELLY LYTLE HERNÁNDEZ INSPIRES AT 60TH ANNIVERSARY THROCKMORTON LECTURE

Kelly Lytle Hernández, lives and works in Los Angeles, and understands that her city is home to the largest jail system on earth. In studying the history of human caging, she began working on a new theory of mass incarceration. Hernández captured lecture-lovers with her outline of the historiography of mass incarceration in the United States. Initially, she says, incarceration was conceived of as an effort to “round up ‘bad’ people” to preserve social order—an analysis based on class struggle, which she credited to Marx. Later ideas have seen it differently, incarceration could be seen as “slavery by another name,” according to Hernández, as a means of upholding racial capitalism, or as a means of forcibly acquiring land in acts of settler colonialism. Hernández contributes her own analysis to the field: mass incarceration as mass elimination. Hernández argues that Black, Brown, indigenous, and poor populations are getting systematically eliminated from the nation's cities to uphold racial hierarchy, and at a monumental cost. was time for Hernández to leave the archives; her hypothesis required the backing of data analytics. Drawing inspiration from projects such as Greenhaven Study Group in New York and Million Dollar Blocks in Chicago, she helped create the public history project Million Dollar Hoods (MDH).

Using data collected from LA County public records, they found that Black people, particularly Black mothers, paid \$10 million in bail annually in LA.



Kelly Lytle Hernández

Their neighborhoods are the “million dollar hoods.” The project also importantly created a framework open to the public that allows anyone with a purpose or interest to .

The last piece of the story that Hernández shared was how her team, with the help of the ACLU, sued the LAPD for access to records and won. The LAPD was forced to hand over 178 boxes of files set to be destroyed by the department. Hernández and others digitized the more than 45,000 files and categorized them into five museum-like collections entitled: “Police = Violence,” “Surveillance and Counterinsurgency,” “Follow the Money,” “Police State,” and “War on Us.” These documents, along with over 300 oral histories from the people of the city’s million dollar hoods, work together to create a people’s archive of this age of mass incarceration that counters the state narratives that see no problem with the proliferation of imprisonment in the USA. In Hernández’s words, she and her colleagues do this work to “study, rebel, grieve, and hope” together. More than the others, that last word stuck with me.

Professor Kelly Lytle Hernández holds The Thomas E. Lifka Endowed Chair in History at UCLA. One of the nation’s leading experts on race, immigration, and mass incarceration, she is the author of the award-winning books Migra! A History of the U.S. Border Patrol (University of California Press, 2010), City of Inmates: Conquest, Rebellion, and the Rise of Human Caging in Los Angeles (University of North Carolina Press, 2017), and Bad Mexicans: Race, Empire, and Revolution in the Borderlands (Norton, 2022). She also leads the Million Dollar Hoods research initiative, which maps fiscal and human cost of mass incarceration in Los Angeles. For her historical and contemporary work, Professor Lytle Hernández was named a 2019 MacArthur “Genius” Fellow. She is also an elected member of the Society of American Historians, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the Pulitzer Prizes Board.

KEEPING UP WITH ALUMNI

Mia Wolpert '19

Alumni from Lewis & Clark's history departments can be a tricky bunch to catch up with. After all, they're often too busy scrambling around the halls of museums, debating in court rooms, rummaging through archives, or finishing up their graduate degrees around the world. However, I managed to snag the opportunity to talk with Mila Wolpert who graduated from both the History and French departments in May of 2019. In the fall of that year, she attended Cambridge University, earning her Master's degree in Heritage through the Department of Archaeology over the course of one year. Wolpert attributes her desire to pursue a degree in Heritage (as opposed to historic preservation or other such fields) because of an internship at the Cultural Heritage Office at the US Embassy in Paris that she held during her senior year at Lewis & Clark.

After graduating with her Master's degree, Wolpert bounded into the world of professional historians. She began her first job out of college at the Althorp Estate, the same estate that belongs to the late Princess Diana's family. Here she worked as a curator and archivist of the 500 year old collection of what she calls "fine and decorative art."

From there, Wolpert returned home to Santa Monica, California. Perhaps establishing oneself as a capable curator immediately after achieving a master's abroad does make one a tad homesick. In any case, while in Santa Monica, Wolpert worked for a time at a 19th-century painting gallery. In March of 2022, the news broke that Wolpert had received a coveted Fulbright Research Award that would take her to France. Wolpert was affiliated with the National Institute of Art History for France over the duration of her research.

Additionally, the award allowed her to reconnect with the Cultural Heritage Office at the US Embassy in Paris who sponsored her over the course of her research. Wolpert researched the Rothschild period of the US Ambassador's residence. The Rothschilds were a prominent banking family who had possession of the US Ambassador's residence in Paris between 1878 and 1948. Wolpert was tasked with undertaking an in depth historical investigation of a set of black and white photos from this era. She examined the paintings and the furniture within the pictures to identify the names of the pieces and who made or painted them. If there are any historians who fancy themselves detectives of the past, Wolpert might be your kin.

Currently, Wolpert is working as a freelance writer. Her official title is a Regular Contributor to Cabana magazine. Cabana, is a bi-annual publication based out of Milan, Italy. The magazine itself covers everything from She regularly contributes to Cabana magazine, a biannual interiors and decorative arts publication which covers topics such as "art and culture" and "rooms and gardens." However, Wolpert focuses in a section titled "One Hour at the Museum" in which she and other contributing historians, archivists, and/or curators describe what they are drawn to and how they analyze exhibits and events at museums and galleries around the world. Wolpert describes how her eye as a trained historian as well as an experienced curator helps give her the context and voice to create these event and exhibit guides.

I was left impressed and stunned by the breadth of Wolpert's career in the five years since she has graduated. She certainly moves with grace and clarity through the realm that she calls the "art historical" world.

DR. GORDON KELLY WINS THE DAVID SAVAGE AWARD

This year, Lewis & Clark granted associate professor and chair of the classics department Gordon Kelly the David Savage Award. This award is granted annually to a tenured faculty member who is recognized for their successes in advancing the "general academic and intellectual welfare of [the] community of teacher-scholars" (Faculty & Student Awards). The award was inaugurated in honor of the long career of David William Savage (1937-2008), professor emeritus of British and South Asian history at Lewis & Clark. He began working at Lewis & Clark in 1973 as the Associate Dean of Faculty before joining the history department in 1984. Savage's helpful and constructive presence on the faculty was so widely recognized that it led to the award's creation in 2007 (Obituary).

Among those who take regular classics courses, Professor Kelly is a known and beloved personality, well regarded for his encyclopedic knowledge of history, language, and Godzilla facts. With this award, it would seem too that his peers, the other members of Lewis & Clark's faculty, recognize his admirable character and twenty years of hard work. When asked, Kelly said that the award was "especially an honor because it came from [his] peers." He said that, compared to his experience teaching at six other colleges before, Lewis & Clark has the best teaching faculty around. He is very proud of the level of excellence that the entire faculty operates at and is elated to work among them, calling the experience of being recognized by his fellow academics as "humbling."

When asked what academic accomplishments he believed contributed most to him winning the award, Kelly said that it must have been his work as the chair of the department. Having started out as the pet project of professor of Christian studies Robert Kugler and professor emeritus of humanities Nicholas Smith, the classics department formed initially as an interdisciplinary minor just before Kelly's 2004 arrival to the college. From that hardfought and humble beginning, the many professors who have worked with the classics program have helped to build it a full and competitive department. With Kelly as the chair, the department has grown significantly since its start twenty years ago, now offering more classes and its own major. Kelly enjoys the interdisciplinary aspects of the classics department, allowing many different professors to participate in what he recognizes as an academic field that is "trending downward" on the national scale. Despite this national trend, thanks to the work of Kelly and the many other professors who teach classics courses, the Lewis & Clark classics department has actually come to outcompete other college departments of comparable and larger sizes.

In his two decade tenure as Lewis & Clark's principal classics professor, professor Kelly has been consistently praised and recognized for his great work. This award joins Kelly's 2016 Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Classics at the College Level from the Society for Classical Studies. The David Savage Award is presented as a small clock with a plaque on it, which Professor Kelly especially likes because of its "nice Art Deco style."

LIFE AFTER COLLEGE: THE ARCHIVIST

I am willing to bet good money that every history major has experienced someone asking which specific profession we plan to achieve with a humanities degree. Then follows the accusation that our value as students is worthless in the practical world—bonus points if they immediately assume you'll settle as a high school teacher (no offense to them, it is a very viable career!). This particular interaction usually ends with what I like to call "the humanities lead-paint stare." I know these details because I had that exact conversation with a TSA agent on my way home from Spring Break. But despite the scorn from family, friends, and strangers alike, we stick with it.

The beauty of being a history major is its indirect nature. You might not know where to start, but there are more positions than you think that desire our skill set; our ability to read, research, write, communicate our ideas, and above all, the willingness to hear out different positions in history. As you interact with the world, you will speak and write with an informed conscience. There are countless jobs that a history degree is helpful for, you just have to be creative. To name a few ideas off the top of my head: Nonprofits, policy research institutions, law firms, libraries, and archives are all places where historians can exercise their expertise.

For the last two months, I have been agonizing over my resume, collecting references, and writing cover letters for internships. When the *Footnote* editors announced they needed writers I was more than happy to sign up. I interviewed the head of Special Collections & College Archivist Dr. Hanna Crummé along with Associate Archivist Crystal Willer. Footnotes tasked me with covering the archival expansion at Lewis & Clark, so I formed some interview questions around that. But they asserted that "the archives are always expanding," rendering half of my inquiries useless. I had to pivot.

Naturally, my mind was already in a place to investigate professions. I was curious about how one would become an archivist. As we began to discuss the functions of an archivist, Crummé told me, "The Archives are continuously expanding and developing as new materials are brought in." Archives play a crucial role in preserving delicate materials for future use, and the context which materials are collected is endless. The job of an archivist is to refine the collection as a useful tool for students and add nuance to narrative. Sound familiar, history majors? In addition to management, there is also the scientific aspect of preserving or restoring documents.

The preservation of human history is no easy task. While building collections, archivists might struggle with motivation digging through repetitive documents. Archivists require the stamina to analyze old documents in a controlled environment. And vitally, the archivists must render their contents relatable to the collection. But archivists have the freedom to follow their passions, Willer remarked that being an archivist "is intellectually challenging, you are able to shape your collection by your interests." There are governmental archives, business archives, museums, religious archives, and even circus archives! Crummé referenced her peer at the OHSU Medical Historical Collections and Archives, "she used to wear a ring with a tooth on it before she started working at OHSU. [The job] made total sense for her."

When I asked for advice about life after college, they firmly agreed that you should go into a field that genuinely interests you. They also noted that it is important to enjoy your time and life, but to avoid debt like the plague. While completing your undergrad and then getting your Masters is technically the fastest way to become a professional, "there are many tangential positions," said Crummé, "try out various jobs. It helps to decide what you want to do."

From my conversation with the ladies who run the Archives, I hope the reader gathers a sense of how the study of history prepares us for the professional world. Maybe even invoke some future archivists. Historical Materials and Reading Colloquium are difficult for a reason, they ground our skills as professionals. Yes, a degree in history is an unknowing and scrutinizing path. But we stick with it

L&C HISTORY PILOTS PUBLIC HISTORY LAB: COMMUNITY-ENGAGED HISTORY

In the spring 2024 semester, the Lewis & Clark History Department offered a new class to students: HIST 308: Public History Lab. Taught by Professor Elliot Young, the class allows students to take the research skills they have learned through their time at the college and apply it to real-world issues. The history department hopes to continue to offer the class in the future, with it being taught by multiple different professors, all with differing focus projects. In the inaugural class, Professor Young had his students work on research projects for the Stanford Migration and Asylum lab that work to inform judges in asylum cases. The class was split into two distinct sections. The first half of the semester was used to study public history, with a sampling of readings, thoughtful discussions, and research presentations on different public history projects, including Throckmorton guest speaker Kelly Lytle Hernández's "Million Dollar Hoods" project.

The second part of the class was dedicated to students writing their country reports, with groups being split up based on both countries of study and focus topic. The countries available to study were Cuba, Mexico, El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala and topics included Disability, LGBTQ+, and family structure. Students worked collaboratively on finding resources, statistics, and peer reviews of papers. The ability to write a paper that can actually make a difference in the world is incredibly rewarding, and it felt that this class as a group was incredibly invested in their projects because of the impact they can have.

On the fourth floor of Miller, a question was posed to history faculty and students, "What can you do with a history degree?" I believe that this class serves as a direct answer to that question. It shows how those who have been studying history, both majors and non-majors, can take the skills they learn about how to research, write, and analyze, and apply them to real-world issues. It demonstrates to its students what they can do in the world after they graduate, and that they can make a difference via history. All in all, Public History Lab presents a wonderful opportunity for students to see how history can affect their community and how they can use the skills they've learned in other classes to help create change in the world.

One great thing I experienced in this class was the interdisciplinary makeup of the students. I felt that even though this was technically a history course, the input from students with different backgrounds greatly enhanced the experience, both when learning about public history and when writing our reports. While the class was small, the diverse makeup of students—from many disciplines and backgrounds—made it very impactful, and many different inputs enhanced the experience for all involved.

FACULTY BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

What is the Lewis & Clark History Department reading?

After leaving Lewis & Clark, history alumni miss many things. They look back fondly at engaging conversations with professors, taking in their wisdom, and having thought-provoking discussions. Many alumni say that they wish they could still get book recommendations from our professors and that their professors introduced many of the most impactful books they have read. So, for this year's publication of Footnotes, the editing team wanted to put together a list of recommendations from some of our professors and staff. We hope you enjoy!

Amy Baskin

The Cost of Free Land: Jews, Lakota, and an American Inheritance by Rebecca Clarren

Rebecca Clarren is an award-winning local author. In "The Cost of Free Land," she investigates the entangled history of her Jewish ancestors' land in South Dakota and the Lakota, who were forced off that land by the United States government. She asks the question, "What does it mean to survive oppression only to perpetuate and benefit from the oppression of others?" Timely in light of just about everything that is going on in the world today.

Elliott Young

Welcome the Wretched by Cesar Cuauhtemoc Garcia Hernandez

This book explores the criminalization of immigrants and asks us to respect their ordinariness. In a world that stigmatizes criminality, this book forces us to question what that label actually means.

Andrew Bernstein

Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West by William Cronin

This is the greatest environmental history ever written.

Mo Healy

The Hundred Years' War on Palestine by Rashid Khalidi

This book gave me important new perspectives. Khalidi is a powerhouse historian. He also has family ties to leading Palestinian figures of the 20th century. The book has an engaged feel-- he looks at six pivotal moments in the Palestine/Israel struggle and weaves his family memories into the narrative. Super interesting book!

Ben Westervelt

On Tyranny: Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century by Timothy Snyder

It's a short read, but filled with the experience of a career studying authoritarianism/totalitarianism. The book gives the reader a historical vocabulary for understanding the present ("history doesn't repeat, but it does instruct"), around the world and here in the US. It's scary, but also hopeful and includes concrete suggestions for how to respond and resist (e.g., pick a favorite institution--the post office or your library--and make it your business to protect it).

Susan Glosser

Wolf Hall by Hilary Mantel (and the two books that follow)

This is historical fiction at its best. Mantel spent as much time in the archives and read the documents as thoroughly as any scholar in order to re-create the court of Henry VIII and reimagine his right-hand man Thomas Cromwell. Cromwell has always been portrayed as cunning and ruthless in the service of his own self-interest. Mantel sees a different sort of man. Her depiction of the court and everyone in it is so vivid I felt I was at Cromwell's elbow. I'm going to try to sneak another one by the editors here. You absolutely must also read *All the Light You Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr. It is set in World War II, but is unlike any wartime novel you've ever read.

DEPARTMENTAL HONORS

Anthi Sklavenitis

Radio Freed Alcatraz: Indigenous Self-Determination,
Total Liberation, & Prison Abolition.

Peter Smith

"Say Hello to My Little Friend": U.S. Media Presentation of
Mariel Cuban Refugees.