

Centennial College CHSM: Making Culture Matter (Class of 2013)



Miriam Cunningham hails from St. Catharines and has been a history and information nerd since she could read. It was in the Niagara area that she began to work in history and culture. Her first job in history was at the age of sixteen as an interpreter at Fort George. Miriam received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from Brock University. Her placement is at the City of Toronto Archives. She would love to work in an archives or the collections of an ACH organization. Asking for her favourite museum is like asking a mother which child they like best.

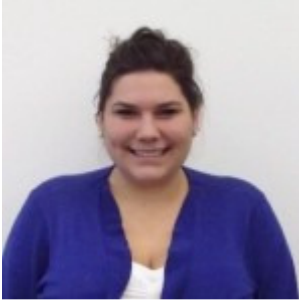


Jacqueline Dolensky grew up in the country outside of Lindsay, Ontario. She received her B.A in Archaeology and History from Wilfrid Laurier University and had the opportunity to participate in an Archaeology dig in Orillia, Ontario. Getting dirty isn't an issue for Jacqueline because her internship at Black Creek Pioneer Village requires her to help clean artifacts while she is also working with the registrar and supervising film crews. You can just call her the Jacq-of-all-trades. When Jacqueline was young, her parents took her to Casa Loma and it was then that she decided she wanted to work in a museum because people always get to learn and see old things you can't find in a store today.



Laura Ennis is a lover of history mysteries and the stories that surround them. She was born and raised in Brampton, Ontario. Laura received her Bachelor of Arts degree in History, minoring in English at the University of Guelph in 2010. Currently, she is doing her placement at The National Ballet of Canada as their Biography and Archives intern. She will be working towards processing and describing the National's biography series, with the eventual goal of creating a virtual museum of the material. Laura is interested in working in the ACH sector because of the ability of these organizations and institutions to tell great stories. Her favourite "exhibit" is the Hall of Mirrors at the Palace of Versailles for its stunning, and almost magical, features.

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Valerie Garrett currently resides in Burlington, Ontario. She received her Bachelor of Arts in History, with a minor in Classics from Brock University in 2012. Valerie is completing her field placement at the Hamilton Children's Museum, and is thoroughly enjoying her work in educational programming. She hopes to engage, encourage, and excite youth by allowing them to discover what the ACH sector has to offer. Her favourite heritage site is Casa Loma, located in Toronto, Ontario.



Bob Georgiou received his undergraduate degree in 2011 from York University in History and Political Science. Born in Toronto, he is a proud resident and student of his city and its largely unknown history. He currently serves as an intern at Heritage Toronto where he is able to explore his interest in local and public history while helping the organization's small yet dedicated staff achieve its great programming initiatives. Given the great trends and challenges facing the arts, culture, and heritage sector, Bob is excited to enter the field to make culture a relevant force for people.



Alyssa Harwood is a history enthusiast specifically in the 20th century. A love of social and cultural history has grown over time resulting in the appreciation of Heritage Sites. Alyssa received an Honours Bachelor of Arts in History from Trent University in Peterborough, Ontario. Situated in Ajax, Ontario, Alyssa now attends Centennial College in the Culture and Heritage Site Management program. She is doing her placement at Parkwood Estate and is enjoying every moment of it. Working in the collection management section of the National Historic Site has taught her a lot and she is excited to continue her knowledge at such an amazing site.

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Alexandra Illescas is originally from Lima, Peru. She received a BA in Communications from the University of Lima. At the moment she is doing an internship in the marketing department of the Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art (MOCCA) where she is developing skills with design tools and content development for press and media. Alex is interested in the arts, culture and research fields because of her interest in the different types of human expressions. One of Alex's favourite Canadian artist is Shary Boyle and one of her favourite sites is the Dinosaur Park at Alberta's badlands.



Riki-Lee Lamb is a history lover originally from Brantford, Ontario. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in History from Brock University in 2012. She is gaining valuable work experience for her Culture and Heritage Site Management Placement at Battlefield House Museum in Stoney Creek, Ontario. Riki-Lee is interested in the ACH sector because of the knowledge that she could share with the public in order to educate them about the different topics that the ACH sector has to offer. Riki-Lee's favourite favourite exhibit is the Battle of Stoney Creek Re-enactment that is held every year at Battlefield House Museum.



Sarah Lawrence is originally from Kingston, Ontario, and has a Bachelor of Arts in Archaeology from Trent University. She is doing her Culture and Heritage Site Management Placement at Gibson House Museum where she is learning the various aspects of site co-ordination and community engagement. Sarah is interested in the ACH sector where she can help share the importance of heritage with local and international communities. Her favourite museum is the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa.

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Natalie Lem is a history enthusiast from Toronto, Ontario. She graduated from York University in 2011 with a Honours Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and History. Natalie is currently doing her Culture and Heritage Site Management placement at Scarborough Historical Museum and is absolutely loving the variety of work she is engaging while at placement. Natalie has always been interested in the ACH sector due to wanting to share her passion for Canadian heritage and history. However, she also feels that it is important to preserve the different cultures and heritages the world has to offer and through working in the ACH sector this can be done. Natalie's favourite museum is the British Museum located in London, England.



Danielle Lencz is a theatre and history enthusiast with a love for the 1920s. She currently resides in Toronto, Ontario and received her Bachelor of Arts in History from Wilfrid Laurier University in 2009. Danielle is currently doing her field placement at Children's Peace Theatre where she is helping to create and market youth programming and consequently pursuing her passion for youth engagement in Arts, Culture and Heritage. Her favourite Historic Place is The Palace of Versailles in Versailles, France.



Kathryn Liedeman is an arts lover with slightly more artistic talent from Whitby, Ontario. She graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio and Art History from York University in 2011. Her current field placement is with the Membership and Philanthropy department at TIFF Bell Lightbox focusing on industry research and administration. Kathryn's interest in arts was fostered at a young age and led to a developing passion for all things creative. She hopes to one day experience Nuit Blanche festivals worldwide.

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Michael Liew holds a Bachelor of Arts in Canadian Studies and History from McGill University. A native of Thornhill, Ontario, he has had the travel bug since childhood. It has taken him to every province in Canada, to Europe and elsewhere. His current work placement at the City of Toronto Museums will explore the relationship between historic houses and public space. Today, he continues to be that man who stops to read historical plaques. His favourite museum (at the moment) is Hyde Park Barracks in Sydney, Australia.



Katie McMullen is an arts lover with little artistic talent from Cambridge, Ontario. She received her Bachelor of Arts in History from Brock University in 2012. Katie is currently doing her field placement at the ROM Governors with the Patrons Program pursuing her passion for fundraising. Her interests in the ACH sector lie in the belief that we should be working towards preserving and encouraging societies desire of continual learning. Currently, her favourite exhibit is Observance and Memorial: Photographs from S-21, Cambodia at the ROM.



Holly O'Rourke hails from the town of Millgrove, Ontario (go ahead, Google map it). She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Waterloo in 2012 where she double majored in Business and History. She is currently doing her field placement at Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum where she is focusing on youth engagement and recruitment. Her placement encompasses the very reason Holly decided to pursue cultural heritage studies, as a means to get youth involved and passionate about history. Holly's own passion for history began at a young age and will continue to grow as she enters the field.

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Cara Patterson is a bookworm and farmers market enthusiast from Burlington, Ontario. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in History from the University of Guelph in 2011. Now living in Toronto, Cara is currently doing her field placement at the Ontario Heritage Trust in their Public Education and Community Development department. Her desire to work in the not-for-profit sector stems from her belief that art, culture and heritage are at the heart of every community, and that they deserve to be encouraged, appreciated and protected. One of Cara's favourite exhibitions was Expedition: Arctic, which she saw at the Canadian Museum of Civilization in February 2012.



Morgan Preston graduated from Trent University in 2012 with a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature. She is doing her placement at the Textile Museum of Canada, where she is learning about Volunteer Management. A lifelong museum-goer and hoarder of obscure information, she strongly believes in the importance of museums, as well as other culture and heritage institutions, and their role in educating present and future generations. Currently, her favourite 'exhibit' at a museum are the Samuel European Galleries at the ROM.



Erica Roppolo's obsession with history and the arts has led to a range of experiences from historical interpretation to volunteer positions with various arts organizations. She moved from Peterborough, Ontario to pursue her passions at the University of Toronto, where she earned an Honours Bachelor of Arts in Art History, Classical Civilization, and Renaissance Studies. Erica is currently in a field placement position at the City of Toronto's Special Events department. She is thrilled to be working with the lead coordinator of Nuit Blanche as an Event Programming Assistant. Erica knew she would pursue a career in the ACH sector when she caught the history bug in Grade 3 and discovered the wonderful world of art history as a high school student. She is a huge fan of living history museums and historical re-enactments.

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Falesha Szauter is a history and art history enthusiast currently residing in Pickering, Ontario. In 2009 she received her Honours Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Toronto, having completed a Specialist Program in History. Falesha is currently doing her field placement at the ROM in the area of Visitor Experience. She hopes to one day share and inspire in others a passion for history and the arts by entering the ACH sector as a professional. Her favourite museum is the Louvre Museum in Paris, France.



Jason Voulgaris is a history nerd with a strong interest in urban studies from Toronto. He graduated from the University of Toronto in 2011 with a degree in History and Canadian Studies. He is currently doing his placement at Montgomery's Inn, where he is working to implement youth engagement strategies within the local community. Jason is drawn to the idea of museums as social and community hubs and is excited to have chance to put those ideas to work. The best thing he's seen in long while was the Evan Penny exhibition at the AGO.



Sonya Watson is a graduate of the Kinesiology program at York University. She enrolled in the Culture and Heritage Site Management Program because she is an indie writer and she wanted to learn more about culture. She has thus far learned about areas and buildings that are historically significant, grant funding as well as the social motivations behind museum visits. This program provided her with a wealth of knowledge and she looks forward to the symposium so she can meet industry leaders in the Cultural and Heritage sector. Her favourite museum is Black Creek Pioneer Village.

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Nicole Wetmore is originally from Voorhees, New Jersey, but currently resides in Toronto, Ontario. Her fascination with art history led her to pursue an Honours Bachelor of Arts in Classical Civilizations and Art History at the University of Toronto, which she completed in 2010. Her placement this semester is at Heritage Toronto, where she is working on a number of programming initiatives. A love of historic sites and their preservation led her to pursue a career in the arts, culture, and heritage sector. Her favourite museum is the Tenement Museum in New York City.