

ELISTA ISTRE



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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Heritage Studies, Arkansas State University, August 2013

Honors: Summa Cum Laude graduate- 2013
ASU Convocation of Scholars, College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Honoree- 2012, 2013

Master of Arts, Heritage Studies, Arkansas State University, May 2012

Honors: Summa Cum Laude graduate- 2012
ASU College of Humanities and Social Sciences Student Member Appointee-
2010-2012

Certification, American TESOL Institute, August 2007

Advanced Certification: Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages

Master of Arts, Public History, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, May 2002

Honors: Summa Cum Laude graduate- 2002
Council of Southern Graduate Schools Award Nominee for Best Thesis-2002
UL-Lafayette Award for Best Graduate Thesis- 2002
UL-Lafayette Outstanding Graduate Student Award (Neiheisal Award)- 2002
Amos E. Simpson Award for Best Graduate Research Paper- 2002
Student Government Association Award of Merit- 2001, 2002
Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities- 2001, 2002
UL-Lafayette Board of Regents M.A. Fellowship Recipient- 2000

Bachelor of Arts, History, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, May 2000

Minor fields of study: Spanish and Business
Honors: Summa Cum Laude graduate- 2000
UL-Lafayette Outstanding Graduate, College of Liberal Arts- 2000
UL-Lafayette Outstanding Graduate, History and Geography Department- 2000
Dr. Alexander Sas-Jaworsky Endowed History Scholarship Recipient- 1999
Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities- 1998, 2000
UL-Lafayette Honors Alumni Scholarship Recipient- 1998-1999
David Caffrey Mills Memorial Endowed Scholarship Recipient- 1998-1999
UL-Lafayette Distinguished Freshman Award- 1997-1998
UL-Lafayette Dean's List- 1997-2002

Study Abroad, Universidad de Sevilla (Spain), Spring 1999

Honors: Academic Programs International Scholarship Recipient- 1999



MUSEUM EXPERIENCE

Belle Heritage, LLC

Founder and Director, January 2018-present

- Provide museum consulting expertise
 - Louisiana Military Museum- Abbeville, Louisiana, January 2019-present
- Conduct living history programs
 - Established Belle Heritage Living History Corps, 2020
- Offer educational tours and scholarly programs
 - Conduct workshops, present conference sessions, facilitate summer camp programs, give lectures, provide other educational opportunities, 2018-present

Center for Military History, U.S. Army

Team Lead, Museum Data Specialist, Science Applications International Corporation, Department of Defense Contractor, November 2015-May 2017

- Fort Bliss and Old Ironsides Museum- Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas
 - Learned how to manage the Army Historical Collection Accountability System (AHCAS) database for cataloguing artifacts
 - Developed and implemented a plan of action to systematically locate, identify, photograph, catalog, and store thousands of artifacts in the First Armored Division Collection
 - Coordinated and directed a team of Soldiers to increase the museum's inventory from 4% accountability in AHCAS to 97% accountability in a six-month period
- Fort Carson and Fourth Infantry Division Museum- Fort Carson, Colorado Springs, Colorado
 - Worked directly with the Museum Director and Museum Curator to reach 100% accountability of the Fort Carson and Fourth Infantry Division Collections in AHCAS within a six-month period
 - Identified, photographed, stored, and created records for hundreds of artifacts that were donated or found in collection but not previously accounted for in AHCAS
- Rock Island Arsenal Museum- Rock Island, Illinois
 - Worked closely with museum volunteers to confirm inventory in AHCAS and prepare thousands of non-exhibited artifacts in the Rock Island Arsenal Collection for transfer and permanent storage at Anniston, Alabama
 - Oversaw a team of Soldiers and disinterested parties to conduct quarterly weapons inventories for 1,227 small arms in open storage

Historic Dyess Colony: Boyhood Home of Johnny Cash- Jonesboro, Arkansas

Assistant Director and On-site Manager, January 2015-July 2015

- Developed and implemented a variety of essential startup procedures, including establishing written policies and procedures, conducting new hire training sessions, designing interpretive strategies and educational materials, and facilitating day-to-day operating standards
- Coordinated a staff consisting of interpretive guides, graduate assistants, and a facilities manager
- Monitored ongoing restoration of additional historic structures within the museum complex
- Fostered established relationships between Cash family members, Dyess residents and the Arkansas State University community
- Engaged in frontline interpretation with domestic and international visitors daily

Historic Dyess Colony: Boyhood Home of Johnny Cash- Jonesboro, Arkansas

Graduate Assistant, August 2009-July 2013

- Cultivated relationships among Johnny Cash family members, Dyess community members, and Arkansas State University faculty and staff members to cast vision and help transform Dyess into a culturally and economically sustainable heritage site
- Organized thousands of historic photographs and documents in various collections and used these resources to help design exhibits and interpretive materials
- Conducted dozens of audio and video interviews with Johnny Cash relatives and Dyess residents
- Developed the master interpretive plan for the *Historic Dyess Colony: Boyhood Home of Johnny Cash* museum complex to fulfill community needs, emphasize the region's cultural and historical significance, and preserve the Cash family's legacy
- Helped select the master plan development firm and museum exhibit design and fabrication firm
- Garnered support and heightened awareness for local, national, and international audiences through dozens of formal and informal presentations across the country
- Provided weekly written reports to the project director, maintained a detailed hourly time log to document completed tasks, and promptly submitted all required travel documents and purchase orders as needed

Jean Lafitte National Historic Park and Preserve Acadian Cultural Center- Lafayette, Louisiana

Interpretive Park Ranger, Seasonal Hire, June 2008-September 2008, May 2009-August 2009

- Researched, developed, and presented daily programs and special interpretive programs to diverse audiences to enhance the visitor experience and maximize the park's cultural and natural resources
- Planned, coordinated, and conducted multiple cultural summer camps for children of various ages
- Inspired a spirit of cooperation among coworkers, park volunteers, camp counselors, and camp participants through personal interactions and activities as acknowledged in the employee review

Longfellow-Evangeline State Historic Site- St. Martinville, Louisiana

Interpretive Park Ranger, February 2008-May 2009

- Developed and conducted numerous interpretive programs and tours for visitors and students
- Engaged diverse audiences through hands-on historical activities and educational programs

Vermilionville Cajun and Creole Heritage and Folklife Park- Lafayette, Louisiana

Historic Programs Manager and Museum Curator, August 2002-April 2005

- Supervised a staff of approximately twenty historical interpreters and craftspeople, in addition to volunteers, interns, and members of the Vermilionville Friends group
- Maintained a historically-accurate and well-groomed 23-acre village comprised of 22 original and reproduction historic structures using available resources
- Designed and implemented educational events and hands-on learning programs to preserve, revitalize, and celebrate local traditions, crafts, occupations, language skills, and other topics of significance to thousands of visitors and community members annually
- Collaborated with community members, educators from area schools, and UL-Lafayette to develop and host special interpretive programs and workshops, annual celebrations,

summer camps, cultural festivals, and customized tours that fulfilled visitor and community needs

- Developed partnerships with entities such as the National Park Service to obtain grants that enabled craftspeople to demonstrate traditional skills and generate new funding sources
- Oversaw curatorial tasks, such as acquisition, restoration, and inventory of artifacts
- Facilitated weekly staff meetings and conducted all training workshops for museum personnel
- Managed the site's historic clothing department
- Balanced the department's annual budget

Center for Cultural and Eco-Tourism, Center of Excellence, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Center Associate, May 2002-May 2009

- Served as a consultant for area historical museums and associations
- Documented several Louisiana parishes by writing articles and taking photographs



TEACHING EXPERIENCE

English Language Services

Independent TESOL Instructor, August 2006-May 2009

- Taught English as a second language in the United States and in Angola, West Africa
- Designed and implemented curriculum courses to fulfill specific educational needs

University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Office of International Affairs- Lafayette, Louisiana

Intensive English Program Instructor, January 2006-August 2006

- Taught English as a second language to prospective university students from various countries
- Developed lesson plans for different learning levels
- Coordinated cultural excursions and educational field trips



PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

National Association for Interpretation

- Board Member, 2015-2018
- Cultural and Historical Interpretation Section of NAI
Director, 2015-2018
Deputy Director, 2013-2015
- Accreditation Task Force Member, 2015-2016
- Member, 2010-present

Arkansas Living History Association

- Living History Interpretation Certification Committee Chair, 2016-present
- Living History Interpretation Certification Committee Member, 2013-2015
- Master Level Living History Interpretation Certification conferred 2012
- Journeyman Level Living History Interpretation Certification conferred 2011
- Apprentice Level Living History Interpretation Certification conferred 2010
- Member, 2010-present

Association for Living History, Farm and Agricultural Museums

- Member, 2010-present

Creole Heritage Center

- Member, 2011-present

Louisiana Historical Association

- Member, 2019-present

Louisiana Association of Museums

- Member, 2019-present

Association for the Study of African American Life and History

- Member, 2019-present

American Association for State and Local History

- Member, 2019-present



PUBLICATIONS

- “*Les Créoles de Louisiane du Sud: origine et évolution d'une identité moderne*” (“South Louisiana Creoles: Origins and Evolution of a Modern Identity”), Paris, France: L' Harmattan, *Traditions voyageuses dans l'espace francophone*, 2019, pp. 52-62.
- *Creoles of South Louisiana: Three Centuries Strong*, University of Louisiana at Lafayette Press, Spring 2018.
- “The Future of the Past: Living History Interpretation,” co-authored with Jacob Koch, *Legacy Magazine*, National Association for Interpretation, Spring 2018.
- “Soldiers on the Front Line of Interpretation,” *Legacy Magazine*, National Association for Interpretation, November/December Issue, 2017.
- “Interpreting Living Cultures: Indians, Cajuns, and Creoles,” *Legacy Magazine*, National Association for Interpretation, March/April Issue, 2017.
- “*Les Créoles du Sud de la Louisiane: Origines et évolution d'une identité culturelle moderne*” (“South Louisiana Creoles: Origins and Evolution of a Modern Cultural Identity”), *Cahiers des Anneaux de la Mémoire*, vol. 15, *Creolités aux Amériques françaises*, 2014, pp. 147-91.
- Book Review on *Louisiana Creole Literature: A Historical Study* by Catharine Savage Brosman, *Arkansas Review: A Journal of Delta Studies*, vol. 45, no. 3, December 2014, pp. 191-93.
- Foreword author for *Shadows in the Forest: Woodland Warriors of the Mississippi Valley* by Tim L. Jarvis (Herrin, Illinois: Broken Antler Publishing, 2014).
- “*De l'Angola à l'Acadiana: Les Traditions Orales en Afrique Centrale Atlantique et dans le Sud de la Louisiane*” (“Angola to Acadiana: Oral Traditions in Central West Africa and South Louisiana”), *Cahiers des Anneaux de la Mémoire*, vol. 14, *L'Afrique centrale atlantique*, 2011, pp. 277-98.



RESEARCH AND CONSULTING PROJECTS

***Creoles of South Louisiana: Three Centuries Strong*, UL-Lafayette Press, 2018**

Author, 2009-2018

- Conducted numerous oral history interviews with members of the Creole community
- Utilized a variety of sources including books, scholarly articles, historical photographs, documentary films, and oral history interviews to write chapters on topics including the complexity of Creole identity, foodways, musical traditions, language, and heritage preservation

First Cousins: Cajun and Creole Music in South Louisiana, Fleurish Films Production, 2016
Assistant Director and Historical Consultant, 2009-2016

- Conducted dozens of oral history interviews with scholars and musicians throughout Acadiana
- Edited over 250 hours of footage to produce a 55-minute documentary film
- Worked with community leaders, musicians, scholars, and various historic sites and dancehalls to coordinate filming locations
- Provided historical expertise for the film's narrative and living history segments

Shadows in the Forest: Woodland Warriors of the Mississippi Valley by Tim L. Jarvis, Herrin, Illinois: Broken Antler Publishing, 2014
Editor, 2013-2014

- Served as copy editor to correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar errors within this award-winning non-fiction book
- Provided stylistic and structural editing to develop cohesiveness, chronological order, and clarity within the manuscript
- Provided guidance and assistance to the author throughout the writing process by offering expertise on the work's historical subject matter and living history interpretation aspects

Oral History Project: Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita Survivors

Research Assistant, 2006

- Transcribed numerous hurricane survivor oral history interviews conducted by Jacques Henry, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Research Project: 19th and 20th century Census Data records in St. Martin Parish

Research Assistant, 2001-2002

- Analyzed decades of census records to provide racial and socio-economic statistics for Marc David, Ph.D. candidate, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

Center for Cultural and Eco-Tourism, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Intern, Summer 2001

- Traveled to various parishes throughout Acadiana to photograph and document key cultural and historical elements
- Conducted research and provided synopses of these parishes for inclusion on the Center's website



CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

- "African Connections to the Louisiana Creole Experience," Southern University Study Abroad Program- Accra, Ghana, Spring 2020 (postponed due to Covid-19)
- "When the Past is Still Present: Louisiana Creoles and the American South," Arkansas Living History Association Annual Conference- Fayetteville, Arkansas, Spring 2020
- "First Cousins: Cajun and Creole Music in South Louisiana," *Congres Mondial des Acadiens*, New Brunswick, Canada, Fall 2019
- "Creole Cowboys: Blazing Trails Then and Now," 4th Annual Old Spanish Trail Celebration- Rayne, Louisiana, Fall 2019
- "Interpreting Multiculturalism: The Creole Experience," Louisiana Association of Museums Conference- Natchitoches, Louisiana, Fall 2019

- “Musical Migrations: Louisiana Creoles and the American South,” Association for the Study of African American Life and History Conference, Charleston, South Carolina, Fall 2019
- “Louisiana’s Creole Gumbo,” Ashokan Nature Center Southern Week, Olivebridge, New York, Summer 2019
- “Creole Connections: Interpreting Multiculturalism at Home and Abroad,” National Association for Interpretation International Conference, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Spring 2019
- “Folktales, Family, Fun,” and “Foodways and Tales,” Crossroads Festival, Arts and Science Museum of Southeast Arkansas- Pine Bluff, Arkansas, Spring 2019
- “Creoles of South Louisiana: Three Centuries Strong,” Arkansas Living History Association Annual Conference- Little Rock, Arkansas, Spring 2019
- “Cajun and Creole Country: Interpreting Living Cultures,” Multi-Day Pre-Workshop, National Association for Interpretation Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, Fall 2018
- “Spice It Up!: Interpreting Louisiana’s Multicultural Gumbo,” National Association for Interpretation Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, Fall 2018
- “Creole Culture: *First Cousins* Film and *Creoles of South Louisiana* Book,” Creole Heritage Center 20th Anniversary Celebration, Natchitoches, Louisiana, Fall 2018
- “Louisiana’s Creole Gumbo,” Ashokan Nature Center Southern Week, Olivebridge, New York, Summer 2018
- “*First Cousins et Les Creoles en français*,” Festival de Cornouaille, Quimper, France, Summer 2018
- “Interpreting Multiethnic Stories Through Film and Print,” Association of Living History, Farm, and Agricultural Museums Conference, Tahlequah, Oklahoma, Summer 2018
- “First Person Living History Immersion Training,” Bent’s Old Fort NHP, La Junta, Colorado, Summer 2018
- “Soldiers on the Front Lines of Interpretation,” National Association for Interpretation Conference, Spokane, Washington, Fall 2017
- “Lights! Camera! Action!: Using Film to Celebrate Culture,” Arkansas Living History Association Annual Conference- Batesville, Arkansas, Spring 2017
- “Journeyman Certification Workshop,” Arkansas Living History Association Annual Conference- Batesville, Arkansas, Spring 2017
- “Missions and Mayhem: Accuracy, Bias, and Controversy in Historical Interpretation,” National Association for Interpretation Conference- Corpus Christi, Texas, Fall 2016
- “Who Am I? Research Techniques for Cultural and Living History Interpretation,” Arkansas Living History Association Annual Conference- Van Buren, Arkansas, Spring 2016
- “Interpretorture: Running the Gauntlet of Bad Interpretation,” Arkansas Living History Association Annual Conference- Van Buren, Arkansas, Spring 2016
- “Better Than Broadway: How to Use Theater to Create and Present Amazing Interpretive Programs,” National Association for Interpretation Workshop- Virginia Beach, Virginia, Fall 2015
- “Riding the Tide of Certification with Living History,” National Association for Interpretation Workshop- Virginia Beach, Virginia, Fall 2015
- “Living History in Living Communities: Cajuns, Creoles, and Colonists in Southwest Louisiana and Northeast Arkansas,” Arkansas Living History Association Annual Conference- Little Rock, Arkansas, Spring 2015
- “Living History on the Santa Fe Trail: A Night and a Day in the Life of Bent’s Old Fort,” National Association for Interpretation Workshop- Denver, Colorado, Fall 2014
- “South Louisiana Creoles: Origins and Evolution of a Modern Cultural Identity,” *Cahiers de la Memoire* Symposium- Nantes, France, Fall 2014
- “Louisiana’s Cultural Gumbo,” University of Louisiana at Lafayette Road Scholar Program- Lafayette, Louisiana, multiple presentations, Fall 2013-2015

- “*Fais-do-dos* and *Zydeco*: A Historical Overview of Southwest Louisiana’s Cajun and Creole Music,” University of Louisiana at Lafayette Road Scholar Program- Lafayette, Louisiana, multiple presentations, Fall 2013-2015
- “Bayous to Boots: The Life Cycle of a Louisiana Alligator,” University of Louisiana at Lafayette Road Scholar Program- Lafayette, Louisiana, multiple presentations, Fall 2013-2015
- “Interpretorture: Running the Gauntlet of Bad Interpretation,” National Association for Interpretation Workshop- Reno, Nevada, Fall 2013
- “Authenticity and Accuracy: A Panel Discussion,” National Association for Interpretation Workshop- Reno, Nevada, Fall 2013
- “‘Honey, We’s All Creoles’: Exploring South Louisiana’s Creole Identity, Culture and Heritage,” Arkansas State University- Jonesboro, Arkansas, Spring 2013
- “Cultivating the Land: From Slavery to Tenant Farming and Beyond in the Arkansas Delta,” Delta Symposium XIX: Cultivating the Delta- Jonesboro, Arkansas, Spring 2013
- “Diving Deeper into Multicultural and Multilingual Interpretation,” Arkansas Living History Association Annual Conference- Helena, Arkansas, Spring 2013
- “Lost in Translation? Techniques for Multicultural Interpretation,” National Association for Interpretation Workshop- Hampton, Virginia, Fall 2012
- “The Johnny Cash Boyhood Home Project,” National Association for Interpretation Workshop- Hampton, Virginia, Fall 2012
- “Historic Dyess Colony and the Johnny Cash Music Festival: An Update,” Kiwanis International- Paragould, Arkansas, Fall 2012
- “Resilience in the Repertoire: Storytelling Traditions in Angola and South Louisiana,” Louisiana Folklore Society Annual Conference- Lake Charles, Louisiana, Spring 2012
- “Johnny Cash’s Hometown: Living History in the 21st Century,” Arkansas Living History Association Annual Conference- Fayetteville, Arkansas, Spring 2012
- “Walk the Line: Interpreting Johnny Cash’s Hometown,” National Association for Interpretation Workshop- St. Paul, Minnesota, Fall 2011
- “Living History: Behind the Scenes at Fort Snelling,” National Association for Interpretation Workshop- St. Paul, Minnesota, Fall 2011
- “Historic Dyess Colony and the Johnny Cash Music Festival,” Kiwanis International- Jonesboro, Arkansas, Fall 2011
- “Interpreting Minority Cultures through Living History Programming,” National Association of Interpreters Region VI Workshop- Eureka Springs, Arkansas, Spring 2011
- “Historic Dyess Colony: Boyhood Home of Johnny Cash,” National Association for Interpretation Region VI Workshop- Eureka Springs, Arkansas, Spring 2011
- “‘*Allons à Lafayette!*’: The History, Music, and Dance of South Louisiana,” Association of Living History, Farm and Agriculture Museums/Arkansas Living History Association Annual Conference- Little Rock, Arkansas, Spring 2011
- “‘A Good Deal More Than Their Dignity’: African Slavery in French Colonial Louisiana, 1699-1763,” Association of Living History, Farm and Agriculture Museums- Little Rock, Arkansas, Spring 2011
- “Interpreting Minority Cultures through Living History Programming,” National Association for Interpretation Workshop- Las Vegas, Nevada, Fall 2010
- “Southwest Louisiana’s Cajun and Creole History and Music,” Delta Symposium XVI: Region and the Politics of Culture- Jonesboro, Arkansas, Spring 2010
- “Living History: To Do or Not to Do,” Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, Arkansas, Spring 2010
- “Cultural Groups of South Louisiana,” University of Louisiana at Lafayette Elderhostel Program-Lafayette, Louisiana, multiple presentations 2005-2009

- “Bayous to Boots: The Life Cycle of a Louisiana Alligator,” University of Louisiana at Lafayette Elderhostel Program- Lafayette, Louisiana, multiple presentations 2007-2009
- “Louisiana’s Native Americans,” Center for New Orleans Studies Elderhostel Program- Lafayette, Louisiana, multiple presentations 2005-2007
- “Connecting People with their Past,” Louisiana Council for the Social Studies 38th Annual Conference- Lafayette, Louisiana, Fall 2004
- “Louisiana’s Cultural Gumbo,” Center for New Orleans Studies Elderhostel Program- Lafayette, Louisiana, multiple presentations 2002-2007
- “You Never Get a Second Chance to Make a First Impression: Frontline Strategies for Winning Visitors’ Hearts,” Louisiana Association of Museums Conference- Lafayette, Louisiana, Fall 2004
- “The Historic Village Museum and Social Studies Education: Welcome to Vermilionville!” Louisiana Council for the Social Studies 36th Annual Conference- Lafayette, Louisiana, Fall 2002
- “Tourism in Lafayette: A Comparison of Acadian Village and Vermilionville,” Louisiana Historical Association Annual Conference- New Iberia, Louisiana, Spring 2002
- “Geronimo: The Final Surrender,” Louisiana Historical Association Annual Conference- Hammond, Louisiana, Spring 2001



LIVING HISTORY PRESENTATIONS

- “Cultural Diversity in the Marketplace”- Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve Chalmette Battlefield and National Cemetery, Chalmette, Louisiana, 2020
- “National Association for Interpretation First Person Living History Immersive Training Coordinator”- Bent’s Old Fort National Historic Site, La Junta, Colorado, 2018
- “La Señora de El Paso: Intercultural Relationships among Women on the Santa Fe Trail”- Bent’s Old Fort National Historic Site, La Junta, Colorado, 2016
- “Bent’s Fort and the Southern Fur Trade”- Fur Trade Symposium, La Junta, Colorado, 2015
- “Surviving Captivity: Raid at Martin’s Station”- Wilderness Road State Park, Ewing, VA, 2015
- “Women on the Santa Fe Trail”- Bent’s Old Fort National Historic Site, La Junta, CO, 2014
- “Captured!: Frontier Life during the French and Indian War”- Fort De Chartres, Prairie du Rocher, Illinois, 2012-2013
- “Living among the Kaskaskia Indians”- Private lands, Kokomo, Indiana, 2012
- “Letters from Home: The Role of Women during World War II”- Muskogee War Memorial Park: Home of the USS Batfish, Muskogee, Oklahoma, 2012
- “Following the Trail: Adopted Choctaws along the Natchez Trace”- Natchez Trace, Columbia, Tennessee, 2012
- “The Trail of Tears during Arkansas Statehood”- Old Statehouse Museum, Little Rock, Arkansas, 2012
- “French, Furs, and Forts along the Ohio River,”- Fort Massac State Park, Metropolis, Illinois, 2011-2012
- “Cultural Crossroads: Immigrants and the Battle of New Orleans,”- Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve Chalmette Battlefield and National Cemetery, Chalmette, Louisiana, 2005, 2011-2012
- “Rations and Resistance: Life as a French Civilian during World War II,”- Lake Charles State Park, Powhatan, Arkansas, 2011
- “Louisiana Native Culture During the Colonial Period,” Marksville State Historic Site- Marksville, Louisiana, 2008-2009
- “French Females on the Frontier,” Fort St. Jean Baptiste State Historic Site- Natchitoches, Louisiana, 2004-2005



INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

- 2020- Ghana (postponed due to Covid-19)
- 2019- Brazil, Argentina
- 2018- Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Germany, Estonia, Russia, France
- 2014- France, Singapore, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Hong Kong, Japan, China
- 2010- Russia, Poland, Czech Republic
- 2009- Canada, South Africa, Angola
- 2008- Australia, Angola,
- 2007- Angola
- 2005- Switzerland, Italy, Austria, Germany, Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary, Romania, Belgium, The Netherlands, France
- 2005- Romania
- 2004- Germany
- 2003- Guatemala
- 2002- Italy, Austria, Germany, Switzerland, France, England, Belgium, The Netherlands, Ireland
- 1999- Spain and Ireland
- 1998- Mexico
- 1997- Greece, Turkey
- 1995- Egypt, Israel



SPECIAL SKILLS

- Museum Database systems
 - AHCAS (Army Historical Collection Accountability System)
 - PastPerfect Museum Software
- Linguistic abilities
 - English- excellent
 - Spanish- good
 - French- fair
 - Portuguese, Italian, German, Arabic- poor
- Ability to work well with diverse populations
- Ability to adapt easily to different surroundings and cultures at home and abroad
- Ability to learn and grasp concepts quickly, as well as transmit new ideas enthusiastically to others