



Kelli Morgan, PhD

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About Me:

As a curator, educator, and social justice activist who specializes in American art and visual culture, my scholarly commitment to the investigation of anti-blackness within those fields has demonstrated how traditional art history and museum practice work specifically to uphold white supremacy. Besides my own curatorial experience, I mentor students, emerging curators, and regularly train staff at various museums to foster anti-racist approaches in collection building, exhibitions, community engagement, and fundraising. Over the past two years, I've become a leading and influential voice in bolstering anti-racist work in art museums.

Scholarly & Curatorial Interests:

Anti-Racist Curatorial Practice, American Art, African American Cultural History, Black Feminist Theory, Critical Race Theory

Anti Racism Facilitation:

- 09/2021** Critical Race Theory in Museums Portrait Series, Museum Hue
- 09/2021** Ways of Looking: Addressing Whiteness in Museum Permanent Collections – Museum Staff Training, Mount Holyoke College Art Museum
- 03/2021** Designing Inequity & Collecting Sociopaths: The Importance of Anti-Racism & Equity work in Art Museums – Museum Staff Training, Minneapolis Museum of Art.
- 10/2020** Wayfinding: Navigating White Supremacy Culture in Art Museums – Museum Staff Training and Graduate Fellow Advising, Arizona State University and LA County Museum of Art (LACMA).
- 10/2020** Equity in Arts and Humanities Curriculum, or the Lack Thereof... – Faculty Training, The Key School, Annapolis, MD.
- 08/2020** Dismantling Racism in Museums and Public Spaces – Wabash Pastoral Leadership Program, Wabash College, Crawfordsville, IN.
- 02/2019** DePauw University Humanities Faculty Training – Department of Art and Art History, Greencastle, IN.

Education:

- 09/2017** UMASS Amherst, Ph.D., Afro-American Studies
- 05/2013** UMASS Amherst, M.A., Afro-American Studies
- 08/2006** Wayne State University, B.A. – Cum Laude, African American Studies

Professional Experience:

Academic

09/2020 – Present Professor of the Practice & Director of Curatorial Studies, Department of the History of Art and Architecture, Tufts University

01/2019 – 12/2020 Associate Faculty, Africana Studies Program, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

11/2011 – 08/2020 Part-Time Faculty, Department of African American Studies, Wayne State University

Curatorial

01/2018 – 07/2020 Associate Curator of American Art, Indianapolis Museum of Art at Newfields

07/2016 – 12/2017 Winston and Carolyn Lowe Curatorial Fellow, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

05/2014 – 07/2015 Curatorial Fellow of African American Art, Birmingham Museum of Art

Publications:

Essays

“It’s Time for Museums to Take Critical Race Theory Seriously,” *The Art Newspaper*, Jan 2022.

To Bear Witness: Real Talk about White Supremacy in Art Museums Today, *Burnaway*, June 2020.

“Crafting Diversity and Inclusion: Sketches from a Contemporary Craft Seminar,” in *Craft Capital: Philadelphia’s Cultures of Making*, ed. Glenn Adamson, (Atglen: Schiffer Publishing, 2019), 177-183.