

# ANNA L. WEISSMAN

## EDUCATION

**2019 • PhD • Political Science**

**University of Florida, Gainesville, FL**

with coursework in history, anthropology, museum studies, and gender studies

**2014 • MA • Political Science**

**University of Florida, Gainesville, FL**

Graduate certificate, Gender and Women's Studies

**2010 • BA • International Studies**

**Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL**

*Magna Cum Laude*

with coursework in anthropology, economics, history, sociology, and political science

## RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

**Sept 2021- Historical Preservation Commission of La Porte, Indiana**

President, appointed by Mayor Tom Dermody

- Facilitate the advancement of local designation of La Porte's significant individual structures and historic districts
- Lead research projects on historic districts and individual historic sites
- Lead commission in planning and executing public education and outreach events, revenue-building enterprises, and community engagement
- Lead annual planning and commission budget management

**July 2020- The Historic Barker Mansion, Michigan City, IN**

Curatorial Fellow (July 2020-Dec 2020); Acting Director (Dec 2020-Sept 2020)

**April 2022** Curator (Dec 2020 - April 2022)

- Restoration Project Management
  - Managed \$4.5-million-dollar site improvements and development projects, structural repairs, and restoration
  - Managed \$50,000 historic garden restoration
  - Provided weekly project updates and design input with guided presentations for Board of Directors in New York
  - Procured conservators for specialty work
- Exhibits Design and Project Management
  - Designed and implemented 1200-square foot, multi-room, permanent exhibit on historic Haskell & Barker Factory (opening winter 2022)
    - Coordinated exhibition content development, design, graphics, production, and installation, and management of \$300,000 budget
    - Managed exhibit team based in Chicago, New York, and Michigan City
    - Managed design, fabrication, and installation with Ravenswood Studio (Lincolnwood, IL)

- Collection Management
  - Managed \$4-million-dollar historical collection, digital archive, and physical archive
  - Overhauled digital database and performed comprehensive inventory on entire collection (~2,000 items)
  - Completed restructuring and reorganization of archive
  - Supervised volunteers and part-time curatorial staff

**Jan 2020- Smithsonian National Museum of American History, Washington, D.C.**

**2020-** Research Historian and Curatorial Asst. [closure due to Covid-19]

- June 2020**
- Exhibition team, “Girlhood: It’s Complicated” permanent exhibit (5,000 sq. foot gallery, June 12, 2020- January 2, 2022) and traveling exhibit (2023-2025)
  - Collection team, “New Paths to Change: Undocumented Immigrant Activism, 2000 to Present,” with the Smithsonian Latino Center and the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center
  - Designed research on acquisition history, documentation, curatorial notes, exhibits pertaining to African American history 1963-1979; developed and implemented organizational methodology of division records
  - Spearheaded collections initiative across divisions regarding responsible, community-focused collection practices, African American and Native communities
  - Helped manage \$40,000 for auction to procure objects and ephemera for NMAH collection
  - Scholarly Advisory Committee, Division of Cultural and Community Life, NMAH

**Dec 2018- Matheson History Museum, Gainesville, FL**

**2018-** Interpretative Planner volunteer

- Aug 2019**
- Planned exhibit and generated theme, storyboard, and content; historical writing, interpretation, and exhibit script, catalogues, and media for temporary exhibition for “McCarthy Moment: The Johns Committee at the University of Florida (1958-59),” Feb 2020-Aug 2020 and “Trailblazers: 150 Years of Alachua County Women,” March 2020, for *Celebrate Women 2020*

**Feb 2018- Panama Canal Museum Collection, Special Collections, George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL**

- Aug 2019**
- Planned exhibit and generated theme, storyboard, and content; historical writing, interpretation, and exhibit script, catalogues, and media for temporary exhibition of “Fog of War? WWII Propaganda in the Panama Canal Zone,” Spring 2020
    - Worked with Curation and Collections Management teams in the Panama Canal Museum Collection and the Latin American and Caribbean Collection
    - Presented proposal to exhibit stakeholders for final stage approval

**2012- Instructor and Instructional Designer**

**2019** University of Florida, Department of Political Science, Gainesville, FL

**2015- Instructor and Instructional Designer**

**2019** Santa Fe College, Gainesville, FL, Department of Behavioral Sciences

**2011 Bertsch Properties, Chicago, IL**

- Director of Leasing Department
  - Streamlined strategic marketing and company branding
  - Overhauled and improved office organization and interoffice communication
  - Enacted systems organization, managed website and internal database
  - Designed attractive media-based advertisements

**2010 TenFab Design, Chicago, IL**

- Account Executive
  - Outside business-to-business sales for tension fabric project design working with Exhibit Houses
  - Originated and managed national accounts, coordinated with client, design team, and project management to ensure optimal project completion

**2006- Lake Forest Media Group**

- 2009**
- Account Executive
    - Presented directed marketing packages to high-end home industry professionals in business-to-business outside sales
    - Designed media advertisement packages for web, direct mail, and print advertisements in the Chicago Luxury Home and Condo annual (30,000 circulation) and the Chicago Midwest Design Source (15,000 circulation) industry publication

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

Association of Academic Museums and Galleries (AAMG)  
 American Alliance of Museums (AAM)  
 Indiana Landmarks  
 American Association of State and Local History  
 National Trust for Historic Preservation  
 American Alliance of Museums (AAM)

**LANGUAGES**

English (native)  
 Polish (C1)  
 French (B2)  
 German (A2)

references available upon request