

# Jennifer R. Blanks, PhD

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## SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

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Experienced researcher and professional in the fields of environmental planning, critical geography, environmental science, historic preservation planning, and critical management for cultural resources, specifically African American cemeteries. Experience supervising, coordinating, and executing digital humanities and community engagement projects alongside key stakeholders that oversee the mitigation, restoration, and overall management of cultural resources in the presence of natural resource development, environmental stressors, and other impacts from the surrounding environment. Proven success in leading non-profit organizations, securing funding, and fostering strategic partnerships. Committed to diversity, equity, and social justice within multi-cultural environments. Exceptional technical and analytical skills to create complex cultural resource risk assessment tools. Leverages critical thinking to efficiently solve problems and skillfully implement preservation regulatory laws into practice. Deeply committed to incorporating local knowledge and fostering community engagement in cultural resource assessments and overall management.

## CORE COMPETENCIES / AREAS OF EXPERTISE

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Analytical Thinking	Environmental Science	Project Management
Community Outreach	Field Investigation	Policy Development
Community Engagement	Geospatial Applications	Qualitative Analysis
Cultural Resource Management	Geodatabase Management	Quantitative Analysis
Database Management	Historic Preservation	Regulatory Compliance
Environmental Assessment	Land Use Planning	Stakeholder Coordination
Environmental Impact Analysis	Microsoft Office Suite	Teamwork
Environmental Planning	Oral Communication	Technical Writing/Report

## EDUCATION

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**Texas A&M University**, College Station, TX United States

PhD, Urban and Regional Science, GPA: 3.8/4.0, 05/2024

**Certificate:** Digital Humanities

**Title:** Urban Development and Cultural Heritage: Black Geographies Perspective Through Recovering Memories of Historic Texas Black Cemeteries

**Jackson State University**, Jackson, MS United States

Master's degree, Environmental Science, GPA: 3.6/4.0, 12/2017

**Title:** Mapping seagrass using Landsat 8: A case study in the Pascagoula River Basin

**Northern Arizona University**, Flagstaff, AZ United States

Bachelor's degree, Environmental Science, GPA: 3.2/4.0, 12/2015

**Emphasis:** Environmental Management

## EXPERIENCE

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**The Cemetery Sista, LLC**

**Cultural Resource Specialist: Founder; Texas and Louisiana Service Area**

*10/2021-Present*

- Founded and lead an educational and social justice institution dedicated to the preservation of African American burial cemeteries and memorialized landscapes in the United States.

- Provides subject matter expertise and witness on African American cemetery preservation, cultural resource management, environmental justice, and climate-related threats impacting historic burial landscapes for legal cases.
- Interprets historical, environmental, and spatial data for professional, regulatory, and potential legal applications.
- Successfully developed and executed strategic initiatives, increasing community engagement and fostering partnerships with local government, businesses, and community organizations.
- Designed and implemented data collection protocols (e.g., surveys, site assessments, field observations) to gather information on cemetery conditions, environmental hazards, and community needs, synthesizing data into actionable insights.
- Complete grant applications on behalf of cemetery associations to secure funding for various projects
- Implemented cemetery risk assessments and developed new service offerings, enhancing organizational growth and expanding the client base.
- Conducted environmental assessments and planning for projects related to historic preservation and cultural resource management.
- Collaborated with interdisciplinary teams to develop and implement sustainable planning strategies that integrated historic preservation and environmental stewardship.
- Developed policy recommendations to support historic preservation efforts, resulting in improved public awareness and protection of historic resources.
- Coordinated fundraising efforts, securing grants and donations to support preservation projects and educational programs.
- Created social media platform to increase awareness about urban planning issues impacting African American cemeteries.
- Active member of Montgomery County Historical Commissioner Committee.

**Texas Department of Transportation; Austin, TX**

**Environmental Project Planner III- Cultural Resources Management Tribal Coordinator**

*2/2025-Present*

- Lead cultural resources planning and tribal consultation for transportation projects, providing subject matter expertise to ensure environmental compliance with state and federal laws.
- Serve as primary liaison with federally recognized tribal nations, resource agencies, consultant teams, and internal staff, facilitating regular communication and elevating tribal voices in TxDOT's planning processes.
- Evaluate environmental impacts related to archeological and non-archeological cultural resources, conducting and overseeing field surveys and integrating findings into environmental assessments and compliance documentation.
- Prepare and review technical reports, environmental assessments, and programmatic evaluations; ensure regulatory alignment with NEPA, NHPA, and related cultural resource laws.
- Coordinate project development with district planners, engineers, and environmental teams to refine designs and minimize cultural resource impacts.
- Develop and manage consultant scopes, work authorizations, and deliverables for cultural resource investigations under professional service contracts.
- Represent TxDOT at public and professional meetings, presenting on cultural resource policy, tribal coordination, and environmental planning strategies.
- Monitor evolving regulatory frameworks and best practices, advising leadership on implementation of updated environmental compliance procedures.

**The Bullard Center for Environmental and Climate Justice at Texas Southern University**

**Program Coordinator for Community Outreach and Engagement**

*12/2024-2/2025*

- Facilitated community outreach initiatives by organizing events, workshops, and activities aligned with the Thriving Communities Grantmaking Award.
- Managed program logistics, including scheduling, budget tracking, and reporting to ensure efficient execution of community-based projects.

- Collaborated with diverse stakeholders, such as community leaders, local organizations, and grant recipients, to promote engagement and partnerships.
- Developed educational materials and resources tailored to support community development and capacity-building efforts.
- Monitored and evaluated program outcomes, providing detailed reports and recommendations to enhance project effectiveness.
- Supported grant administration, including reviewing applications, tracking deliverables, and ensuring compliance with funding requirements.
- Promoted community advocacy by fostering dialogue and participation in decision-making processes related to urban and environmental issues.

**United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service ORISE Postdoc Fellowship, 08/2023 to 10/31/2024**

**Remote Geospatial Data Analyst**

*Southern Research Station, Knoxville, TN, United States*

- Assist with processing and analysis of harvest utilization data collected by the Resource Use team
- Collaborate in the development and documentation of methods for data transfer and processing to populate the National Database
- Participate in the interpretation and data delivery through visualization tools
- Work with Timber Products Output (TPO) data to track tree removals for specific wood products and mill residue production
- Utilize Harvest Utilization Studies (FTS) data to estimate harvested volume left on site (logging residue)
- Provide key timber production estimates to inform analyses on wood markets, sustainability, and supply and demand
- Gain experience in collecting and managing FIA's Harvest Utilization (FTS) data
- Contribute to the preparation of manuscripts and other documentation
- Utilized remote sensing techniques to extract relevant information from satellite imagery of primary wood processing facilities and woodyard areas
- Actively engaged in regular meetings with mentors and team members to discuss project objectives, progress, and challenges
- Assisted in developing and refining econometric models using statistical software such as R or Python
- Conducted descriptive and inferential statistical analyses to identify patterns and relationships in the collected data to articulate complex economic concepts and present research findings to diverse audiences
- Familiarity with econometric modeling techniques and ability to contribute to the development and evaluation of models

**Contracted to support Program Coordinator for Community Outreach**

**Coalition of Community Organizations (COCO), 05/2024 – October 2024**

*Houston, Texas United States*

- Led community outreach initiatives, focusing on environmental justice and community engagement through educational programs and workshops.
- Developed and facilitated a series of climate change workshops, enhancing community awareness and preparedness.
- Built and maintained relationships with community leaders, organizations, and stakeholders to support program goals and objectives.
- Managed program budgets and resources in collaboration with grant oversight bodies to ensure financial accountability and sustainability.
- Create survey instruments to improve user experience for future engagement events
- News promotion, radio broadcasting, and other public facing forms of outreach to spread awareness of coordinated events and workshops in Houston area.

## **Urban and Regional Science Doctoral Researcher**

**Texas A&M University, 08/2018 to 05/2024**

*PhD Candidate*

*College Station, Texas United States*

- Assisted in completing two Historic Texas Cemetery (HTC) designation applications, ensuring documentation met eligibility criteria
- Reviewed at least 50 deed records, corresponded with property details, and traveled to cemeteries for application and documentation assistance
- Conducted deed research in various counties to confirm application documentation and developed electronic maps of cemeteries using ArcGIS
- Conducted over 500 hours in-depth interviews and hosted focus groups to gather qualitative data on cemetery preservation
- Utilized participatory GIS techniques, including photomapping, asset mapping, and sketch mapping, to integrate community input into preservation efforts
- Maintained accurate geodatabases and records of all burial plots and cemeteries assessed during the study.
- Developed and implemented three training programs on cemetery preservation best practices, with a focus on African-American cemeteries
- Created five online training materials and conducted public workshops
- Implemented robust financial management practices to effectively allocate grant funds, optimize research expenditures, and maximize project impact
- Maintained meticulous records of grant expenditures, facilitating accurate reporting and transparency in financial management processes
- Employed strategic budget planning and monitoring techniques to track expenses, identify cost-saving opportunities, and mitigate financial risks
- Collaborated with stakeholders and funding agencies to provide regular updates on project progress, budget utilization, and outcomes achieved through grant-funded research initiatives
- Recognized for exemplary stewardship of grant resources, earning praise for accountability, transparency, and fiscal responsibility in managing research budgets
- Provided consultative and technical assistance on cemetery preservation to individuals, historical commissions, volunteer groups, local officials, and the public
- Created and edited publications and technical assistance documents
- Conducted comprehensive risk assessments of cemeteries, meticulously documenting the cultural landscape to ensure preservation and protection of historical sites
- Developed and updated information for agency websites and social media outlets, emphasizing African-American cemeteries
- Conducted research to implement changes to current rules and policies as needed
- Responded to public and media requests for information on cemetery preservation programs and research
- Managed data entry and scanning of supporting documentation
- Communicated effectively with the public, county historical commissions, and cemetery trustees
- Maintained a regular work schedule with consistent attendance with one field visit minimum per quarter
- Adhered to all safety guidelines, procedures, and ethical requirements implemented by IRB offices

## **Brazos Valley African American Museum, 10/2022 to 03/2023**

*Intern; Museum Curator*

*College Station, Texas*

- Identify cultural heritage organizations for engagement
- Curate museum exhibits
- Host events at the museum
- Influential in developing and curating museum exhibits, including the Black Veterans Day and Canaan Cemetery exhibitions.

- Assist with developing marketing and promotional campaigns for special events and educational programs.
- Remain abreast of applicable laws, ethics, and museum management and operations regulations

**Texas Freedom Colonies Project, 08/2019 to 08/2022**

**Research Assistant**

*Texas A&M University College Station, Texas*

Identify cultural heritage site risk management tools and policies to create the Texas African American Cemetery Registry

- Supported the development of a strategic plan for an African American cemetery registry, contributing to the preservation and recognition of historically significant sites
- Manage crowdsource geospatial collection tools
- Work alongside diverse stakeholder groups such as community groups, state policymakers, policymakers, non-profit groups
- Conduct internal research and contribute to multiple projects within the organization
- Host interactive workshops to train preservationists, planners, and non-professionals on various archival management best practices
- Present relevant research updates, demonstrations, and presentations to the general public
- Manage a portfolio of client projects to deliver strategic planning, technical assistance, meeting facilitation, and partnership development, research and analysis, grantmaking, and other services as requested
- Visit African American cultural heritage sites to participate in co-planning activities with stakeholders

**United States Geological Survey, 05/2022 to 10/2022**

**Haywired Project Earthquake Scenario**

*Risk Communicator Intern*

Conduct research to synthesize existing literature and knowledge on risk communication, with a specific focus on effective strategies for engaging socially vulnerable populations

- Assist in the development of resources and materials to translate research findings into actionable strategies and practices for risk communication
- Support efforts to engage residents, businesses, and stakeholders in ongoing and new initiatives to prepare the region for future earthquakes
- Collaborate with partners in the HayWired Coalition and the HayWired Campaign to ensure alignment of communication efforts with project goals and objectives.
- Contribute to the development and delivery of training programs and capacity-building activities aimed at empowering practitioners with the tools and knowledge needed for effective risk communication.
- Assist in the dissemination of project findings and resources through various channels, including reports, presentations, and online platforms

**Esri, 05/2020 to 09/2020**

**Health and Public Safety Professional Services ArcGIS Analyst Intern**

*Redlands, CA, United States*

- Assist Law Enforcement, Fire Safety, and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) professionals in translating real-world needs into practical, state-of-the-art geospatial solutions
- Recommend relevant strategies, architectures, and solutions tailored to meet the requirements of public safety agencies, and collaborate with stakeholders to prepare for implementations, change management, and migration activities
- Support the planning, tracking, and execution of project scope, cost, schedule, and contractual deliverables, ensuring quality assurance, change control, and risk management
- Provide business development support by identifying and promoting technology and implementation patterns to support the unique needs of Law Enforcement, Fire Safety, and Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

- Provided strategic recommendations and technical expertise to support stakeholders in adopting and implementing cutting-edge geospatial technologies

**Esri, 05/2019 to 08/2019**

**Local and State Government Professional Services ArcGIS Analyst Intern**

*Redlands, CA, United States*

- Assist local and state planners in translating real-world needs into state-of-the-art geospatial solutions that align with their planning objectives.
- Collaborated with local and state planners to successfully translate planning objectives into practical geospatial solutions, resulting in enhanced community planning processes and improved decision-making.
- Provided strategic recommendations and technical expertise to support planners in adopting and implementing cutting-edge geospatial technologies.
- Established and nurtured strong relationships with local and state planning professionals, stakeholders, and partners, contributing to the expansion of Esri's footprint in various markets.
- Cultivate and expand relationships with local and state planning professionals, stakeholders, and partners to drive planner success and satisfaction.

**USDA Forest Service, 10/13 to 12/2015**

**Field and Lab Technician**

*Rocky Mountain Research Station Flagstaff, AZ*

- Collect GPS coordinates of Pinus ponderosa using GIS technology in 100m x 100m plots by physically hiking and camping in mountainous, rugged climates.
- Served as a GIS expert in the field amongst student peers in the absence of lab supervisors.
- Regularly monitored greenhouse experiments in regenerating Pinus ponderosa seedlings collected during field data trips.
- Prepared soil samples to test total carbon and nitrogen levels using Elemental Analyzer, EA.
- Routinely monitored lab supplies and cleaned the lab following the end of the workday.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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**Texas A&M University, 08/2022 to 05/2023**

Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning Instructor of Record

Course: Landscape Architecture Writing Intensive Course

**Texas A&M University, 08/2019 to 05/2022**

Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning Instructor of Record

Course: Cultural and Social Issues in the Natural and Built Environment and Building Better Cities

**Texas A&M University, 08/2018 to 05/2019**

Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning Instructor of Record

Course: Building Better Cities Writing Intensive

**Jackson State University, 08/2016 to 05/2017**

Department of Biology Instructor of Record

Course: Introduction to Biology Lab

**PRESENTATIONS**

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**Blanks, J and Abuabara, A. (March 2023)**

Title: "Did you check on the cemetery?" A Geospatial Risk Assessment of Cemeteries

Prairie View A&M University Southeast Louisiana PRIMIR Conference

**Blanks, J. (April 2023)**

Title: "Preservation at the Intersections: Patterns of Disproportionate Multihazard Risk and Vulnerability in Louisiana's Historic African American Cemeteries"  
UAA Conference; Nashville, Tennessee

**Blanks, J. and Auden, V. (September 2022)**

Title: "The Texas Freedom Colonies Project: Centering Black Communities in Planning and Historic Preservation"  
*ICOMOS Panel presentation at Association for the study of African American Life and History*

**Blanks, J. (May 2022)**

Title: "Assisting Cemetery Stewards Reclaim, Maintain, and (Re)Imagine Memorial Landscapes"  
*Aya Symposium, Dallas, Texas*

**Blanks, J. (February 2022)**

Title: "Planners Advocating for the Deceased"  
American Association of Geographers Virtual

Roberts, A. and **Blanks, J. (September 2021)**

**Title:** "The Critical Cultural Landscape Framework: Integrating Black Cemetery Preservation Into Public Planning: Sugar Land and African American History- Convict Leasing and its Legacies"  
Rice University Current Scholarship, Education, and Activism Symposium Virtual

**Blanks, J. (July 2021)**

**Title:** "Preservation at the Intersections: Patterns of Disproportionate Multihazard Risk and Vulnerability in Louisiana's Historic African American Cemeteries"  
46<sup>th</sup> Annual Natural Hazards Research and Applications Workshop Virtual

**Blanks, J. and Carter, S. (February 2021)**

Title: "The Texas Freedom Colonies Project: Project Developments"  
The Real Places Conference Texas Historical Commission

Carter, S. and **Blanks, J. (September 2020)**

Title: "Preserving Black spaces through grassroots archives and cemeteries"  
Health, Hazards, and Harmony: The Future of the Built Environment Texas A&M University College of Architecture Symposium Virtual

**Blanks, J. (February 2020)**

Title: "Cemetery Management For Natural Disasters and Preservation Planning"  
Esri Black History Month Event <https://youtu.be/pJZMXoY9ZMk?si=ojN3aOojQAvkf6q9>  
Esri Inc. Main campus in Redlands, California February 2020.

**Blanks, J. (September 2019)**

Title: "Impacts of chronic flooding on an African-American Cemetery: The case of Sweet Rest Cemetery in Tamina, Texas"  
Resilience Rising: Research and Practice on Harvey and Hazards of the Future

**Blanks, J. (September 2017)**

Title: Mapping seagrass using Landsat 8: A case study in Pascagoula River Basin.  
Mississippi, USA, 14th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Resources. Jackson, MS

**Blanks, J. (March 2017)**

Title: Mapping the spatial density of seagrass using Landsat 8  
Emerging Researchers National Conference of Science. Washington, D.C.

**Blanks, J. (February 2017)**

Title: Mapping the spatial density of seagrass using Landsat 8

Mississippi Academy of Science, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS

**Blanks, J. (May 2016)**

Title: Mapping the spatial pattern of seagrass using Landsat 8

International Symposium on Nano-environment Science and Health Conference, Shaanxi Normal University, Xi'an, China

**Blanks, J. (September 2016)**

Title: "How does high severity fires affect regeneration patterns of *Pinus ponderosa* in Northern Arizona?"

13th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Resources. Jackson, MS

**Jennifer Blanks, C. Smolenski, S. Stanfield. (December 2015)**

Title: Dark Sky Meter: Measuring Night Sky Light Pollution

Environmental Sciences and Studies Senior Research Seminar of Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ

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**PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS**

**Blanks, Jennifer.** "Spatial Significance: Black Cemeteries as Repositories of Memory in the Urban Environmental Justice Landscape." In *Political Ecologies of Futurity: Storytelling Plantation Afterlives, Climate Erasures, and Socioecological Justice*. Lexington Book, **2025**. (In Press)

Roberts, R., Aduen, V. **Blanks, J.**, Carter, S., Girault, K. January (2023). Digital Juneteenth: Territorializing the Freedom Colony Diaspora. Public Culture.

Roberts, Andrea; **Blanks, Jennifer** (2022). TX Freedom Colonies Project's Plan to Preserve Endangered Historic Black Settlements & Cemeteries. Available electronically from <https://hdl.handle.net/1969.1/195850>.

**Blanks, J.**, Abuabara, A., Roberts, A., & Semien, J. (2021). Preservation at the Intersections: Patterns of Disproportionate Multihazard Risk and Vulnerability in Louisiana's Historic African American Cemeteries. *Environmental Justice*, 14(1), 1-13.

**Blanks, J.** (2020). Cemetery Management Today or Reinterment Management Tomorrow. In D. Newton, The climate change debate (Vol. 1, p.141-145). Santa Barbara, California: ABC

Clio. <https://books.google.com/books?hl=en&lr=&id=WU3bDwAAQBAJ&oi=fnd&pg=PP1&ots=FNI4Rfe5XQ&sig=-jRsQSCJynzo9JrXNUcCStldsXs#v=onepage&q&f=false>

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**NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

**Blanks, J. (2020).** Facetime Funeral. Legacy: A William Avertte Anderson Magazine. William Averette Anderson Fund (Vol. 2, Issue 1).

Semien, J., **Blanks, J.**, Richards, A., Dixon, B., and Daniels, L. (2019) Legacy: A William Averette Anderson Magazine. William Averette Anderson Fund. Volume 1 Issue 1.

Daniels, L., Semien, J., **Blanks, J.**, Richards, A. and Alley, A. (2019). Southbridge Community Report. William Averette Anderson Fund. Volume 1, Issue 1.

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**PRESS, OPINIONS, FEATURES**

**Blanks, J.** "Gone But Not Forgotten: Saving Our Cemeteries From Disaster" University of Colorado- Boulder Natural Hazards Center Newsletter Research Counts, **October 20, 2023** <https://hazards.colorado.edu/news/research-counts/gone-but-not-forgotten-saving-our-cemeteries-from-disaster>

**Nira, R.**, "App developed by graduate student aims to help preserve African-American cemeteries". Texas A&M University College of Architecture Newsletter, **January 11, 2022**. <https://www.arch.tamu.edu/news/2022/01/11/app->

[developed-by-graduate-student-aims-to-help-preserve-african-american-cemeteries/?fbclid=IwAR3ky9L0sXaOhe5Sl858tLbASV4v21b0Ha1BgAC8UdzXklwsg8U\\_K6Ajl1s](https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2021/sep/10/african-american-graves-climate-crisis)

**Hagerty, Colleen.** "The quest to find African American graves before they're lost to the climate crisis". The Guardian, **September 10, 2021.** <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2021/sep/10/african-american-graves-climate-crisis>

**USDA Monthly News Letter the Explorer**, USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station 2015

## **GRANTS, AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS**

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### **Texas A&M University McKain Scholarship**

**Awarded:** April 2023

**Value:** \$2,500

Received the McKain Scholarship, selected among applicants based on the significance of the dissertation topic for the field of architecture, including originality, soundness of methodology, and relevance of findings to the profession(s). Preference given to students demonstrating high financial need. Awarded to the two highest-ranked students by a committee comprising faculty members from relevant departments, with the Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies serving as a tie-breaker if required.

### **Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Diversity and Inclusion Fellowship**

**Awarded:** April 2023

**Value:** \$800

Description: Received funding from the ACSP Governing Board for the Diversity & Inclusion Fellowship Program, aimed at promoting diversity and inclusion among planning researchers. This fellowship covers project expenses and encourages innovative contributions to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion in the field of planning, including student participation in ACSP-sponsored events.

### **Texas A&M University Race & Ethnic Studies Institute (RESI) and the Carlos H. Cantú Endowment & Scholarship**

**Awarded:** September 2022

**Value:** \$10,000

Supports advanced dissertation research, facilitating the completion of the dissertation or significant components thereof. Engaged in grant-writing activities, collaborating closely with academic advisors to develop comprehensive project descriptions, grant justifications, and budgets. Advisors provided feedback and submitted confidential letters of support directly to RESI.

### **Bill Anderson Fund (BAF) Fellowship**

**Awarded:** August 2018

**Value:** Non-Monetary, Peer to Peer Professional Development Organization

Mission of BF is to expand the number of historically underrepresented professionals in the fields of hazards and disaster research and practice. The work of BAF empowers the diverse next generation of professionals, academics, and researchers as leaders who are well-equipped to facilitate meaningful social change on complex issues of inequity.

### **National Trust for Historic Preservation PastForward 2021 Diversity Scholarship**

**Awarded:** October 2021

### **National Trust for Historic Preservation PastForward 2021 Diversity Scholarship**

**Awarded:** October 2020

### **Cultural Heritage Center Prize for Planning and Preservation**

Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning, Texas A&M University

**Awarded:** May 2020

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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### **The William Averette Anderson Fund (BAF)**

**Inducted:** August 2018-2024

Participate in executive student council positions, presenting research at conferences nationwide. Additionally, engage in monthly teleconference calls for peer research updates, attend virtual webinars, and travel to conferences.

### **Esri Black Girls Mapp**

**Inducted:** June 2019-2022

Mentor young women of color proficient in GIS, remote sensing, and other geospatial tools to engage in collaborative research nationwide.

### **National Society of Collegiate Scholars**

**Inducted:** September 2012

Northern Arizona University Chapter of academic society for outstanding scholastic performance.

## **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

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### **Montgomery County Historical Commission Committee**

*November 2024-Present*

- Appointed to advise and support the preservation of historic and cultural resources throughout Montgomery County in accordance with state heritage and preservation laws.
- Review and provide recommendations for state historical marker applications, cemetery preservation efforts, and local heritage tourism initiatives.
- Collaborate with county officials, preservation professionals, and community stakeholders to promote public education on local history and support stewardship of historic sites.
- Participate in site visits, public meetings, and strategic planning sessions to identify and prioritize cultural resource protection and heritage conservation goals.
- Support programming that elevates underrepresented narratives and advocates for the inclusion of African American and Indigenous historic sites in county preservation plans.

### **Council of Texas Archeologists Lost Cemeteries Task Force**

**Texas Historical Commission, 08/2021 to Present**

*Houston, Texas United States*

- Record cultural landscape of the cemetery
- Locate and map unmarked or abandoned burial sites
- Research historical records and gather local knowledge about lost cemeteries
- Collaborate with communities, organizations, historical societies, and stakeholders to protect and preserve these sites
- Advocate for the recognition and conservation of cultural heritage associated with lost cemeteries
- Provide guidance and resources for proper documentation and maintenance of these burial sites
- Raise public awareness about the historical and cultural significance of lost cemeteries
- Recruit, train, and manage volunteers who assist with various preservation and maintenance tasks.

### **The Lincoln Center, 03/2022 to 05/2024**

**Volunteer**

College Station, Texas

- Tutoring students in various subjects such as Math, Science, and English for students in K-6<sup>th</sup> grades
- Arts and crafts with students in K-6<sup>th</sup> grades
- Support hosting annual holiday events such as Easter-EGGstravaganza Block Party, Christmas Holiday Block Party, and “I Have A Dream MLK Program”

### **The William Averette Anderson Fund (BAF) 08/2018-05/24**

Texas A&M University Chapter

- Assist with fundraising recorded breaking 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Disaster Dash 5k (\$20,000+)
- Manage multiple tasks related to each student committee.

- Participate actively in executive student council meetings, serving as an effective representative of BAF fellows
- Upward mobility within the executive student council by serving as Vice Chair (Year 2022-2023).
- Annually review and update organization By-laws, as needed.
- Create a community portfolio for partnered communities.
- Assist in creating a writing workshop webinar series.
- Create a BAF magazine, which highlights the current work of fellows and alumnus
- Participate in community outreach with neighborhoods and partner communities.
- Create presentations and reports the communities can share with their local government to improve various development in their neighborhood.

**Wellborn Community Center Cemetery, 05/2022 to 09/2022**

**Volunteer**

College Station, Texas

- Volunteered at a cemetery, performing tasks such as removing overgrown vegetation, scrubbing headstones, and maintaining burial records.

**Urban and Regional Science Student Organization (URSSO) President, 05/2019-05/2020**

Texas A&M University,

College Station, Texas

- Represented the URSSO to the university and non-university communities
- Plans prepare and chair all Executive Committee meetings
- Completes annual URSSO recognition procedures as mandated by Texas A&M University
- Appoints other URSSO members to ad hoc committees and task forces, or delegates that power to other Officers/Delegates on a case-by-case basis
- Facilitate the realization of the goals of the URSSO.
- Informs the Executive Council regarding the President's activities and all associated matters