

NICOLE BELOLAN, PHD
NICOLE BELOLAN CONSULTING
nicole@nicolebelolanconsultingllc.com |
<https://nicolebelolanconsultingllc.com/>

EDUCATION

University of Delaware

2017, Ph.D., History of American Civilization

2012, M.A., History

2009, M.A., Winterthur Program in American Material Culture

The Pennsylvania State University

2007, B.A., American Studies, French Minor

Employment History

February 2023-Present, Nicole Belolan Consulting LLC, Independent Consulting Historian, Riverton, NJ

- Providing a variety of inclusive and sustainable consulting services for history, humanities, and arts non-profits in the greater Philadelphia region and beyond.
 - Editing services (from annual reports and newsletters to museum exhibitions)
 - Access and inclusion planning for disabled people
 - Disability history research, writing, and interpretation
 - Collections management for small museums and historic sites
 - Volunteer management
 - Historical research, writing, and interpretation
 - Historical program development

August 2018-2023, Public Historian in Residence, Mid-Atlantic Regional Center for the Humanities (MARCH), Rutgers University-Camden

- Served as Acting Director, Mid-Atlantic Regional Center for the Humanities (MARCH), January 2020-August 2020
 - Managed graduate and undergraduate students performing a variety of programming and other humanities projects and editing the *Encyclopedia of Greater Philadelphia*, in addition to duties listed below
- Directed the Continuing Education Program in Historic Preservation (MARCH)
 - Shaped curriculum and identify and hire instructors
 - Taught classes and workshops
 - Promoted the program and manage enrollment and process payments
 - Managed program assistant
 - Mentored program participants
 - Collaborated with advisory committee
- Co-Edited *The Public Historian* (National Council on Public History)
 - Managed, cultivate, and edit non-book reviews and articles

Last Updated November 8, 2023

- Coordinated calls for papers and complementary material on NCPH blog, *History@Work*, <https://ncph.org/history-at-work/>
- Collaborate in managing Assistant Reviews Editor
- Served as Digital Media Editor (National Council on Public History)
 - Managed, cultivated, and edited blog content for *History@Work*
 - Managed 20 volunteer Lead and Affiliate Editors
 - Coordinated calls for papers and complementary material for NCPH journal, *The Public Historian*
 - Edited and developed free electronic content that complements journal and blog

August 2017-June 2018 Program Coordinator and Postdoctoral Fellow-in-Residence, Consortium for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine, Philadelphia, PA

- Facilitated access to humanities collections at museums, libraries, and archives for scholarly audiences through coordinating research fellowship program applicant recruitment and evaluation
- Assisted in designing humanities public programming at Consortium member museums and libraries, including researching and proposing programming content and prospective scholarly participants, in person and digitally
- Facilitated and promoted scholarly working groups in the history of science, technology and medicine, in person and digitally
- Facilitated and promoted Consortium initiatives by managing social media

August 2016-June 2017, Rowan University, and Curator, Red Bank Battlefield Park (house museum and historic site), Gloucester County, NJ

- Curated collections at Whitall House Museum and Red Bank Battlefield Park
- Provided public and scholarly access to collections at Whitall House Museum
- Managed completion of National Park Service American Battlefield Protection Program archaeology survey grant
- Managed county grant for interdisciplinary programming about shad and the environment
- Supervised and trained site manager, volunteer guides, and college interns in best practices in preservation of collections and providing access to those collections
- Coordinated social media outreach
- Taught upper-level undergraduate courses in public history, material culture, and related fields, emphasizing issues and trends in the museum and public history field more broadly
- Mentored undergraduates pursuing museum and public history careers

August 2013-December 2014, Graduate Assistant for Sustaining Places, University of Delaware Museum Studies Program, Newark, DE

- Developed and taught small museum workshops on collections documentation and management for professionals and volunteers from over 26 museums and historic sites

Last Updated November 8, 2023

- Coordinated and promoted small museum workshops on topics such as podcasting, managing archaeological projects, social media, and board development
- Project managed for annual museum “SWAT” inventory volunteer project

January 2012-January 2016, hours as needed, Resident Caretaker and Historical Consultant, Cooch’s Bridge Historic Trust, Newark, DE

- Served as live-in caretaker at the private 1760 Cooch family home, site of the only Revolutionary War battle fought in Delaware
- Conducted routine preventative conservation sweeps for family collections
- Implemented rehousing and reorganization for family collections
- Advised family on preservation of artifacts and house

May 2011-August 2011, Post-Graduate Fellow in Historical Interpretation, Newport Historical Society, Newport, RI

- Facilitated access to collections by leading site and walking tours of downtown Newport and NHS properties for public and private groups
- Assisted in supervising intern projects including an exhibition on eighteenth- and nineteenth- century needlework, a gallery guide for the collections dating from the seventeenth century to the present, and an exhibition about the James Franklin printing press
- Researched gravestone in the Common Burying Ground, culminating in a public talk

June 2009-August 2010, Cataloguing Assistant, IMLS Furnishing Textile Cataloguing Project and Lunger Cataloguing Project, Winterthur Museum, Wilmington, DE

- Lunger Project
 - Catalogued and photographed 702 eighteenth- and nineteenth-century silver spoons and other small silver objects using collections management software KE Emu
- IMLS Project
 - Inventoried, researched, catalogued, and assessed over 800 furnishing textiles made in the twentieth century using diverse historic textiles using collections management software KE Emu
 - Recommended and assisted with collections preventative conservation, rehousing, and overall collections management of furnishing textiles
 - Facilitated access to collections by hiring, training, and supervising a photographer for textile collection cataloguing project

Last Updated November 8, 2023

SELECTED WORKSHOPS, PANELS, AND PAPERS

DISABILITY HISTORY

Chair, Disability, Material and Visual Cultures in Early America, Disability in the Vast Early Americas Conference, October 2023, University of Notre Dame, IN, October 21-22, 2023

Convener, Disability History in Public Space Roundtable Discussion, Art-Reach Cultural Accessibility Conference, October 3-5, 2023

Speaker, “Disability Things’ In National Park Collections,” National Park Service (internal), August 15, 2023

Public Talk: “Disability History, Contemporary Rights,” Sunday, June 11, 2023, National Constitution Center, Philadelphia, PA.

Capstone Presentation, “Folklife and the Material Culture of Disability History in Early America,” Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife and Culture, June 25, 2021

“Crutches,” History of Science Society and Society for the History of Technology Virtual Forum Joint Round Table, October 10, 2020

Discussant, Making Disability Modern Roundtable Discussion, February 11, 2021, Bard Graduate Center

Panelist, “Disability Rights in the United States: A History in Three Parts,” Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum, August 13, 2020

“Accessing the Material Culture of Physical Disability in the Early Republic,” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic Annual Meeting (SHEAR), July 19, 2019

What William Birch Left Out: The Visual Culture of Disability in Early America,” William Birch and the Complexities of American Visual Culture: A Symposium Celebrating the Tenth Anniversary of the Visual Culture Program at the Library Company of Philadelphia, Library Company of Philadelphia, October 5, 2018

“The Material Culture of Living with Physical Disability at Home, 1700-1900,” Tuesday Talk, DAR Museum, Washington, DC, April 11, 2017,
<http://www.dar.org/museum/education/museum-program-videos>.

“Gamaliel’s Artificial Leg and Elizabeth’s Invalid Furniture: Disability and Bradford Family History,” Reclaiming a House’s History, Duxbury Rural and Historical Society, Duxbury, MA, March 25, 2017

Last Updated November 8, 2023

Panelist for post-performance audience discussion about disability and *The Elephant Man*, by Bernard Pomerance, performed by the Resident Ensemble Players (REP), University of Delaware, March 16, 2017

“Shawnee Captive, Unhealthy Sister, and Infirm Shaker: Constructing Histories about People with Disabilities through the Things they Used at Home,” Society for the History of Early Republic Annual Meeting (SHEAR), July 19, 2014

“Dismembered Memory: Desire Tripp and Her Arm’s Gravestone,” Newport Historical Society Annual Meeting Keynote Address, Newport, RI, September 22, 2011

ACCESS AND INCLUSION

Panelist, Doing Accessible Digital History, American Historical Association Annual Meeting, January 2023

“Disabilities Then, Disabilities Now,” Democracy Conversation Project, NJ Humanities, Multiple Sites, 2022-2023

Panelist, Disability Justice in Preservation, Preservation League of New York State, September 27, 2022

Panelist, “A Public Historian’s Toolkit for Disability Justice,” National Council on Public History Annual Conference, May 2, 2022

“Building an Audience for Accessible Digital Programs,” New Jersey Historical Commission Webinar and NJ Humanities Webinar, May 28, 2020

“Best Practices of Preserving Collections and Providing Access in a Crisis,” New Jersey Historical Commission Webinar, April 20, 2020

Accessibility Lab, Small Museum Association Annual Meeting, February 16, 2020

“Accessible Museums, Accessible Objects: Interpreting Material Culture of Disability for Contemporary Audiences,” Crossing Boundaries: Interpreting Institutionalization, Disability Rights, and Public Policy in the Mid-Atlantic Region, Mid-Atlantic Regional Center for the Humanities (MARCH), November 19, 2016

WRITING AND PUBLISHING

Workshop, “From Project to Print: Professional Writing for Public Historians,” National Council on Public History Annual Conference, Spring 2023

Public History Writing Lab, National Council on Public History (NCPH) Annual Meeting, March 11, 2021

“Writing for History Publications,” American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) Webinar, May 30, 2019

Last Updated November 8, 2023

“Publishing in Public History: A Structured Conversation,” Repair Work, National Council on Public History (NCPH) Annual Meeting, March 29, 2019

COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT (SEE ALSO “TEACHING” BELOW)

“SWAT Stories: Lessons from the Collections SWAT Teams and How They Can Help You With Your Collections,” All Hands on Deck, Small Museum Association Annual Conference, February 20, 2017

“Taming Your Treasures: Collections Management for Beginners,” Sustaining Places, Museum Studies, University of Delaware, September and November 2014

“Museum Storage Wars: Designing Creative Collections Storage on a Budget for Your Small Museum,” Sustaining Places, Museum Studies, University of Delaware, November 2013 and March 2014, and Small Museum Association Conference, Ocean City, MD, February, 2014

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

“Visibility of Disabled People in Early America,” National Park Service Disability History Handbook (forthcoming)

“Disability History,” [The Inclusive Historian’s Handbook](#) (forthcoming).

“Folklife and the Material Culture of Disability History in Early America,” in Nicole Belolan and Marla Miller, eds., *Living with Disabilities in New England, 1630–1930*, Dublin Seminar Proceedings (forthcoming).

Nicole Belolan, “Choosing and [Not?] Using Artificial Limbs in 19th-Century America,” *Historic Deerfield Magazine*, Health and Wellness, Volume 19 (Autumn 2021): 9-13.

“The Material Culture of Gout in Early America,” in Elizabeth Guffey and Bess Williamson, eds., *Making Disability Modern: Design Histories* (New York: Bloomsbury, 2020), 19-42.

Book review—Terry Childs and Mark S. Warner, eds., *Using and Curating Archaeological Collections*, in *History News: The Magazine of the American Association of State and Local History* Vol. 75. No. 2 (Spring 2020): 37.

[“Dear Dr. Gruber,” All of Us, July 21, 2020.](#)

[“‘Confined to Crutches’: James Logan and the Material Culture of Disability in Early America,” Pennsylvania Legacies, Vol. 17, No. 2 \(Fall 2017\): 6-11.](#)

Last Updated November 8, 2023

Book review—Catherine E. Kelly, *Republic of Taste: Art, Politics, and Everyday Life in Early America*, in *The William and Mary Quarterly*, Vol. 74, No. 3 (July 2017): 577-581.

“An ‘effort to bring this little handicapped army in personal touch with beauty’: Democratizing Art for Crippled Children at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1919-1934,” *New York History* 96, 1 (Winter 2015): 38-66.

[“Object Lesson: Desire Tripp and Her Arm’s Gravestone,” *Common-Place*, 13, 3 \(Spring 2013\).](#)

“From the Collection: ‘The Blood of Murdered Time’: Ann Warder’s Berlin Work Collection at Winterthur, 1840-1865,” *Winterthur Portfolio* 45, 4 (Winter 2011): 321-352.

“Challenges in Cataloging and Researching Nineteenth-Century French Candy Wrappers,” *Art Documentation* 29, 1 (Spring 2010): 16-22.

EDITING

Editor, with Marla Miller, 2021 Dublin Seminar on New England Folklife Proceedings—Disability History (forthcoming)

Managing Editor, *History@Work*, 2023-present

[Editor, with Sarah Case, *LGBTQ Public History: Reports from the Field* \(National Council on Public History, October 2019\).](#)

Founding Editor, [*All of Us*](#), Disability History Association blog.

Co-Editor, *The Public Historian*, National Council on Public History, 2018-2023

Digital Media Editor, *History@Work*, National Council on Public History, 2018-2023

TEACHING

Department of History, Rutgers University-Camden

Museums in the Digital Age (graduate seminar) (Fall 2023)

Development of the United States I: U.S. Survey I (undergraduate survey) (Fall 2022)

Accessibility and Inclusion in Public History and Public Life (graduate seminar) (Spring 2021)

Continuing Education in Historic Preservation, Rutgers University-Camden

Reading Groups for *Robert Morris’s Folly*, *Historic Real Estate*, *Ethnic Renewal in Philadelphia’s Chinatown*, *The House on Diamond Hill*, and *Plundered Skulls and Stolen Spirits*, *Entangled Lives*, *Smell Detectives* (2020-2022)

Last Updated November 8, 2023

Preservation Showcases (Spring 2022 and Fall 2022)

Introduction to Online Historic Sources for Preservation Research (October 12 and 19, 2019)

Introduction to Historic Interiors (Five-week workshop, spring 2019)

Cleaning Historic Interiors for Beginners (May 10 and 17, 2019)

Department of History, University of Delaware

History Museums Behind the Scenes (undergraduate seminar) (Summer 2017 and Winter 2018)

World History from 1400-Present (undergraduate survey) (Summer 2014)

Department of History, Rowan University

American Material Culture Studies (undergraduate seminar) (Spring 2017)

Introduction to Public History (undergraduate seminar) (Fall 2016)

BOARD SERVICE

2019-Present	Board Member, Secretary (until 2022) and currently Director of Governance, Disability History Association
2018-2023	Ex-officio Board Member, National Council on Public History (NCPH)

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2023-present	Member, Consultants' Committee, National Council on Public History
2023	Reviewer, Preservation and Access, National Endowment for the Humanities
2023	Reviewer, Office of Federal and State Partnerships, National Endowment for the Humanities
2022-present	Member, Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife
2021-present	Revolution NJ Scholarly and Public Programming Committee
2021	National Park Service Disability History Handbook Community Forum and Scholars' Roundtable
2020/21	Planning Committee, Dublin Seminar in New England Folklife (disability history theme)
2020-present	Grant Reviewer, NJ Humanities
2019	Grant Reviewer, National Endowment for the Humanities, Digital Projects for the Public
2019	Grant Reviewer, Middlesex County, NJ, History Grants
2019	Referee, Pasold Research Fund, Edinburgh, Scotland
2018-2020	Scholarship Advisory Committee (Publications & Programs), Newport Historical Society, Newport, RI
2017	Fellowship Selection Committee Member, Winterthur Museum and Library Dissertation and Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program

Last Updated November 8, 2023

2009-present Liberal Arts Alumni Mentor for careers in cultural heritage institutions and museums, The Pennsylvania State University

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2023, Outstanding Young History Alumni Award, The Pennsylvania State University
2020, Rutgers-Camden Chancellor's Award for Staff Excellence in Service
2018, NEH Summer Institute, Global Histories of Disability
2015-2016, University of Delaware Dissertation Fellowship
2015-2016, Winterthur Library Dissertation Fellowship
2015, American Antiquarian Society Center for Historic American Visual Culture Fellowship
2015, General Society of Colonial Wars Caesar Rodney Fellowship
2015, Philadelphia Area Center for History of Science (now Consortium for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine) Research Fellowship
2015, Winterthur Library Short-term Research Fellowship
2013-2014, Delaware Public Humanities Institute Fellowship (DELPHI), Center for Material Culture Studies, University of Delaware

MISCELLANEOUS SKILLS

Experienced as a grant reviewer at national, regional, and local levels.
Experienced in developmental editing and editorial planning for public history, museums, and the humanities.
Experienced in capacity-building for small organizations.
Experienced in non-profit project planning, management, and governance.
Experienced in collections management projects for small museums and historic sites.
Experienced in advising on access and inclusion for disabled people in cultural and educational settings.
Experienced in volunteer management.
Experience updating web sites using WordPress and similar platforms.
Longtime user of Microsoft software.
Grant management.

HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

Gardening with native plants
Primary source-based costumed living history interpretation
Plain sewing (beginner level)
Antiquing
Restoring my historic house

MUNICIPAL INVOLVEMENT

Member, Environmental Commission and Green Team, Borough of Riverton, NJ