

KATE MASUR

History Department, Northwestern University, 1881 Sheridan Rd. #202, Evanston, IL 60208

(p) 847-491-2849; (f) 847-467-1393; kmasur@northwestern.edu

Personal webpage: katemasur.com

EMPLOYMENT

2021-	Professor of History (with courtesy appointment in African American Studies) Board of Visitors Professor
2011-2021	Associate professor of History, Northwestern University
2015-2021	Wayne V. Jones II Research Professorship in History
2005-2011	Assistant professor of History, Northwestern University
2002-2004	Assistant editor, Freedmen and Southern Society Project, Univ. of Maryland, College Park

EDUCATION

1998-2001	University of Michigan, Ph.D., American Culture
1997-1998	University of Michigan, Graduate Certificate, Women's Studies
1994-1997	University of Michigan, M.A., American Culture
1989-1994	Brown University, A.B. with honors in Modern Culture & Media; History

SELECTED AWARDS, HONORS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Ver Steeg Award for Graduate Advising, Northwestern University, 2023
National Endowment for the Humanities Faculty Fellowship, 2018-2019
Andrews Fellow, W.E.B. Du Bois Research Institute, Hutchins Center, Harvard University, 2014-2015
OAH Distinguished Lecturer, 2013 - present
John T. Hubbell Prize for best article in the journal *Civil War History*, 2010
ACLS/Ryskamp Fellowship, 2010-2011
Binkley-Stephenson Award for best article in the *Journal of American History*, OAH, 2007
National Endowment for the Humanities Faculty Fellowship, 2007-2008
Kluge Postdoctoral Fellowship, Library of Congress, 2004-2005

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Until Justice Be Done: America's First Civil Rights Movement, from the Revolution to Reconstruction, W. W. Norton, 2021. Finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in History; winner of the John Nau Prize from the Univ. of Virginia; the Littleton-Griswold Prize from the American Historical Association; the John Phillip Reid Book Prize from the American Society for Legal History; finalist for the Lincoln Prize; *New York Times* critics' pick of 2021; NPR top 100 books of 2021.

Freedom Was In Sight! A Graphic History of Reconstruction in the Washington DC Region (with illustrator Liz Clarke), forthcoming, UNC Press, 2024.

"Abortion Rights and Federalism: Some Lessons from the Nineteenth Century United States," 14 *ConLawNOW* 151, 2023.

Web exhibit: *Black Organizing in Pre-Civil War Illinois: Creating Community, Demanding Justice*, 2022. A major collaborative research project on the history of African Americans in antebellum Illinois, created in association with the Colored Conventions Project at Penn State University.

"The U.S. South, 1840 to 1860," in *The New History of the American South*, vol. ed. by Laura F. Edwards, series ed. by Fitzhugh Brundage, University of North Carolina Press, 2023.

"The Second Missouri Crisis, State Citizenship, and African Americans' Rights in the Antebellum United States," in *A Fire Bell in the Past: The Missouri Crisis at 200*, edited by John Craig Hammond and Jeffrey Pasley, University of Missouri Press, 2021.

Intro and republication, *They Knew Lincoln* by John E. Washington (1942), Oxford Univ. Press, 2018.

An Example for All the Land: Emancipation and the Struggle over Equality in Washington, D.C., University of North Carolina Press, hardcover 2010, paperback 2012. Finalist for the Lincoln Prize and honorable mention for the Avery O. Craven Prize; *Choice* Outstanding Title, 2010.

with Gregory P. Downs, *National Historic Landmark Theme Study on the Era of Reconstruction*, Eastern National Press, 2017.

Co-editor with Gregory P. Downs, *The World the Civil War Made*, University of North Carolina Press, 2015.

"State Sovereignty and Migration before Reconstruction," *Journal of the Civil War Era*, 9, no. 4 (Dec. 2019): 588-611.

"'Color was a Bar to the Entrance': Race and Respectability in Lincoln's White House," *American Quarterly*, 69, no. 1 (March 2017): 1-22.

"Patronage and Protest in Kate Brown's Washington," *Journal of American History*, 99 (March 2013), 1047-1071.

"The African American Delegation to Abraham Lincoln: A Reappraisal." *Civil War History*, 56, no. 2 (June 2010), 117-144.

"A Rare Phenomenon of Philological Vegetation": The Word "Contraband" and the Meanings of Emancipation in the United States, *Journal of American History*, 93, no. 4 (March 2007), 1050-1084.

SELECTED PUBLIC SPEAKING, DISCUSSIONS, AND KEYNOTES

"We Ask Only for Evenhanded Justice: Fighting the Black Laws in Lincoln's Illinois," Lincoln Forum, Gettysburg, PA, Nov. 2023

"A Supreme Fact-Check," Brennan Center online panel on the Supreme Court and Originalism, Oct. 2023.

"We Ask Only for Evenhanded justice: Fighting the Black Laws in the Antebellum Midwest," Annual Thornbrough Lecture, Indianapolis, Sept. 2023 .

"Dismantling the Tools of Tyranny," plenary panel, American Constitution Society, May 2023.

"Reconstruction: When did it End?" American Civil War Museum's 18th Annual Symposium, Feb. 2023.

"The Unfinished Business of Democracy: Lincoln, Wilson, and the Issue of Race," keynote panel, National World War I Museum, Feb. 2023.

"Until Justice Be Done," Annual Charles Jackson Lecture, University of Kentucky-Knoxville, Sept. 22, 2022

"Reconstruction and the Origins of Jim Crow," National WWI Museum and Memorial, Aug. 11, 2022

"Until Justice Be Done," Annual Gilbert Osafsky Lecture, UIC, April 27, 2022.

"Until Justice Be Done," Regula Lecture, Center for Constitutional Law, University of Akron School of Law, April 11, 2022.

"American Foundings: How Should We Remember? History, Meaning, and Community," keynote panel, Catholic University of America, March 31, 2022

"What Do We Mean When We Talk about 'Civil Rights'?" Keynote address, Landscapes of Civil Rights in the National Capital, Dumbarton Oaks, Feb. 25, 2022

"Until Justice Be Done: America's First Civil Rights Movement, from the Revolution to Reconstruction," Annual Weeden Lecture, Lawrenceville School, Nov. 2021.

"Black Civil Rights Activism during Reconstruction: The National View," keynote Address, *Recovered Voices: Black Activism in New Orleans from Reconstruction to the Present Day*, Historic New Orleans Collection, March 2021.

"The Missouri Compromise, Black Americans, and the Problem of State Citizenship in the Antebellum United States," Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy, University of Missouri, Feb. 2021.

“Reconstruction: Peace and the Propaganda of History,” Rebuilding State and Society after Civil War, Kent State University, Feb. 2020.

SELECTED SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION AND IN PUBLIC HISTORY

- Co-editor (with Greg Downs), *Journal of the Civil War Era*, 2020-
- Program Committee Co-Chair, Organization of American Historians annual meeting, 2025
- Program Committee Member, American Society for Legal History annual meeting, 2024
- Book prize committees for Southern Historical Association, American Society for Legal History, 2021-
- with Gregory P. Downs, Evan Bernick, and attorneys, *Brief of Professors of History and Law as Amici Curiae in Support of Respondents*, Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. President and Fellows of Harvard College; Students for Fair Admissions, Inc., v. University of North Carolina, *et al.*, Aug. 2022.
- with Gregory P. Downs, “Our Fragile Democracy: Political Violence, White Supremacy, and Disenfranchisement in American History,” Testimony provided to the U.S. House of Representatives Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol, May 2022.
- Advisory committee, National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, 2023-present
- University Advisory Committee, DC History Center, 2022-present
- Scholarly Advisory Board, American Civil War Museum, Richmond, VA, 2021-present
- Scholars Advisory board, Ford’s Theatre, Washington, D.C., 2016-present
- Historical consultant, Obama Foundation Presidential Library and Museum, 2022-2023
- *Free and Equal*, NEH-Funded Multimedia Reconstruction project, 2019-2022
- National Museum of African American History & Culture, Washington, D.C., Reconstruction exhibit, opened 2021
- Scholarly consultant, *Reconstruction 360*, NEH-Funded Documentary Film Project, 2018-
- Project Historian (with Gregory Downs), National Historic Landmark Theme Study on the Era of Reconstruction, 2015-2017
- Expert Witness, House Committee on Natural Resources, H.R. 5532, Reconstruction Era National Historic Park Act, summer 2018.
- Project Historian (with Greg Downs), National Historic Landmark Theme Study on the Era of Reconstruction, 2015-2017
- Editorial Board, *Journal of American History*, 2015-2018
- Core advisor, *Reconstruction and the Birth of Jim Crow*, 4-part PBS documentary produced by Henry Louis Gates, Jr., aired spring 2019.
- Core advisor, National Constitution Center exhibit on the Civil War and Reconstruction, 2018-19.
- Civil War Traveling Document curriculum, Newberry Library, 2018.

Op-Eds in *Chicago Tribune*, *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Atlantic Online*; essays in History News Network/Time.com, Smithsonian.com, White House Historical Society blog, and elsewhere.

Courses Taught, History Department, 2005-present

Undergraduate

History of Abortion in the United States
The Right to Vote in the United States
Abolition and Equality: Black Activism in the 19th-Century Midwest (in partnership with the Colored Conventions Project)
U.S. Women's History since 1865 (recognized on 2021-22 ASG Honor Roll)
The Civil War and Reconstruction
Constitutional Revolution: The 14th Amendment, Past and Present
The Anti-Slavery Movement
Abraham Lincoln in History and Memory
United States History, 1865-present
Reconstruction: The United States, 1865-1900
Race and Nationhood in the 19th-Century United States

Graduate classes

History of the State in the United States
Reconstruction: The U.S. after the Civil War
Field Seminar: Nineteenth-Century U.S. History
Race, Region, and Power in U.S. History
Slavery, Emancipation, and Citizenship (co-taught with Ivy Wilson, English)

Graduate independent studies

U.S. Women's History, 1865-present
Reconstruction in History and Historiography
African American Women and Citizenship in the Civil War and Reconstruction
Comparative Studies of Race in the Modern U.S.
The U.S. South in the 19th Century
African Americans, Race, and Civil Rights in the Nineteenth Century
Literature of Nineteenth-Century U.S. History
Thinking about Race in the U.S.: Colonial Era through 1940