

KATE MASUR

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RECENT EMPLOYMENT

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| 2025- | John D. MacArthur Professor, Professor of History, Northwestern University (with courtesy appointment in Black Studies) |
| 2021-2024 | Board of Visitors Professor; Professor of History, Northwestern University (with courtesy appointment in Black Studies) |
| 2015-2021 | Wayne V. Jones II Research Professorship in History, Northwestern University |
| 2011-2021 | Associate professor of History (with courtesy appointment in Black Studies), Northwestern University |
| 2005-2011 | Assistant professor of History, Northwestern University |

EDUCATION

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

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Freedom Was in Sight! A Graphic History of Reconstruction in the Washington DC Region (with illustrator Liz Clarke), UNC Press, 2024. Finalist, 2025 PROSE Award in Humanities: Nonfiction Graphic Novels, Association of American Publishers; Finalist, 2024 Foreword INDIES Book of the Year Awards (Graphic Novels & Comics).

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 and Families: Reconstruction Republicans and the Question of Women's Reproductive Autonomy," *William and Mary Bill of Rights Journal*, March 2025.

with Gregory Downs, "Designed to Ameliorate the Condition of People of Color: The Reconstruction Republicans and the Question of Affirmative Action," *Journal of American Constitutional History*, 2, no. 3 (Summer 2024).

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.

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

“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.

“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.

ADDITIONAL AWARDS, HONORS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Ver Steeg Award for Graduate Advising, Northwestern University, 2023

ANCHOR Grant, Northwestern, for collaborative work on local Black history with Shorefront Legacy Center and NU’s Center for Civic Engagement (AY 2024-25, AY, 2025-26)

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 SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION AND IN PUBLIC HISTORY

Co-editor (with Greg Downs), *Journal of the Civil War Era*, 2020-

Board of Directors, American Society for Legal History (elected to three-year term), 2024-

Member, John Phillip Reid Book Prize committee, ALSH, 2023-2026

Program Committee Co-Chair, Organization of American Historians annual meeting, 2025

Program Committee Member, ASLH annual meeting, 2024

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 (published online by [Just Security](#)).

Mentor, Second Book Writers’ Workshop, Southern Historical Association, 2022

Reviewer, NEH American Rescue Plan: Humanities Organization grant program, 2021

James A. Rawley Book Prize committee, Southern Historical Association, 2021

Expert Witness, House Committee on Natural Resources, H.R. 5532, Reconstruction Era National Historic Park Act, summer 2018.

Evaluator, National Historical Publications and Records Commission, 2017, 2021

Program Committee & Local Arrangements Committee, Organization of American Historians, 2021 annual meeting

Editorial Board, *Journal of American History*, 2015-2018

Recent advising/consulting:

- Historians Council on the Constitution, Brennan Center for Justice 2023-
- Advisory committee, National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, 2023-
- 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

- *Reconstruction 360*, NEH-Funded Documentary Film Project, 2018-
- Project Historian (with Greg Downs), National Historic Landmark Theme Study on the Era of Reconstruction, 2015-2017
- Advisor, “Teach Reconstruction” Campaign, Zinn Education Project, 2017-
- On-air expert, *Making Black America: Through the Grapevine*, PBS documentary produced by Henry Louis Gates, Jr.
- National Museum of African American History & Culture, Washington, D.C., Reconstruction exhibit, opened 2021
- 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.