

Sarah Elizabeth Calise

www.sarahcalise.com

EDUCATION/CERTIFICATION

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2018-Present (Expected Aug. 2022)

M.S. Information Science, Concentration in Digital Collections

Middle Tennessee State University, 2014-2016

M.A. Public History, Concentration in Archival Management

University of Florida, 2009-2013

B.A. History, Concentration in American History

Summa Cum Laude

Academy of Certified Archivists, 2018-Present

SKILLS & COMPETENCIES

- **Collections Management Software:** CONTENTdm, PastPerfect, Re:Discovery Proficio, Omeka, Preservica Starter, working knowledge of ArchivesSpace and Intranet Quorum
- **Computer Languages:** HTML, XML, working knowledge of Python
- **Design Tools:** Canva, GIMP, Microsoft Publisher, Procreate, working knowledge of Adobe Photoshop and InDesign
- **Digital Tools:** Scalar, WordPress, Omeka S, ArgGIS, KnightLab
- **Metadata:** DACS, LCSH, Dublin Core, VRA Core, MODS, METS, Getty Vocabularies, EAD, MARC, RDA, XML, XSD, Open Refine, Oxygen Studio

PUBLIC HISTORY EXPERIENCE

Founder

Nashville Queer History, July 2021-Present

<https://nashvillequeerhistory.org/>

Nashville Queer History is a project of the MTSU Center for Historic Preservation that researches, documents, and provides digital access to Nashville's archival sources related to the city's LGBTQ+ history.

- Researches primary sources via online databases and in-person archival collections
- Conducts oral histories with members of Middle Tennessee's LGBTQ+ community
- Supervises research assistants
- Manages social media and website content

- Writes grants to fund NQH research and public programming

Project Archivist

Black Craftspeople Digital Archive, May 2020-Present

<https://blackcraftspeople.org/>

- Provides expertise on describing and classifying items in the Omeka-based digital archive using Dublin Core and Library of Congress Subject Headings
- Edits and proofreads text
- Other duties as assigned

Archivist

Albert Gore Research Center, March 2017-Present

- Acquires, preserves, processes, and provides access to archival materials for political and regional collections in these formats: paper, born-digital, photographic, three-dimensional, textiles, and audio/visual
- Leads outreach and public programming initiatives, including content development, management of campus and community partnerships, fundraising, and promotion
- Coordinates physical and online exhibits for Gore Center and other MTSU departments, including research, narrative development, fabrication, and installation
- Designs and conducts classroom instruction using primary sources for K-12 grades
- Conducts classroom instruction for MTSU courses on archives and specific topics, including the development of a graduate-level Maymester course in 2017
- Oversees training and scheduling of graduate assistants and undergraduate student workers
- Manages the Gore Center's online presence and website, including WordPress blogs and social media accounts
- Manages the Gore Center's digital collections in CONTENTdm software, and participates in digital partnerships with other campus archives and libraries
- Performs reference services for users on and off campus
- Performs preservation techniques as needed to archival collections
- Provides tours for classes and other interest groups
- Leads oral history initiatives, manages community relationships related to oral history collections, conducts interviews, creates transcripts, and provides access to digitized audio files
- Creates and implements policies regarding research, use of materials, collecting strategies, and social media

Project Archivist

Albert Gore Research Center, May 2016-Feb. 2017

- Arranged and inventoried the papers of Congressman Bart Gordon
- Performed preservation techniques on damaged documents
- Researched and wrote blog posts for Gore Center's WordPress
- Provided reference services for political collections

Archives Consultant

Joe C. Davis Foundation, June 2016-Oct. 2016

- Arranged, inventoried, and described archival material for the Joe C. Davis Foundation
- Rehoused documents and photographs, and performed conservation tasks for damaged photographs
- Developed a plan for exhibits, including a guide on best practices for fabrication, installation, and long-term collections care

Graduate Assistant

Albert Gore Research Center, Aug. 2014-May 2016

- Developed and managed a digital collection on student protest movements using CONTENTdm software and Dublin Core metadata standards. Access the digital collection here: bit.ly/MTSUFForrestHall
- Helped build donor relationships with the university's Black and LGBTQ+ student organizations
- Developed exhibits using Gore Center collections, including research, narrative text, fabrication, and installation
- Processed political and regional history collections, and created object records in PastPerfect
- Provided reference services to users, and gave tours to student groups
- Co-managed the Gore Center's social media content
- Developed a podcast using oral history collections

Curatorial Intern

National Baseball Hall of Fame & Museum, June 2015-Aug. 2015

- Researched and wrote exhibit labels for various galleries
- Curated the recent acquisition exhibit case
- Managed and updated object accession records
- Researched and wrote online and print magazine articles on baseball and American history
- Evaluated current exhibits, and developed plan to update a bilingual exhibit
- Provided visitor services, including tours for the public and V.I.P. guests
- Developed and provided public programming for the museum's education department
- Aided in the logistics and production of large public events, including the annual Hall of Fame Weekend with more than 50,000 attendees

Assistant to Library and Archives

Dept. of Special & Area Studies Collections, University of Florida, April 2013-Aug. 2014

- Provided reference services for users of the Latin American & Caribbean Collection and Special Collections departments
- Assisted archivists in the processing, inventorying, and rehousing of archival collections
- Assisted curators with exhibit development, fabrication, and installation

- Created MARC records for new books and gifts
- Trained student workers in basic MARC cataloging and reference services procedures
- Recorded and analyzed reference data

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

- “Dismantling White Supremacy in the Archives.” Keynote. South Carolina Archival Association annual conference. Held virtually on October 16, 2020.
- “Out of the Archives and Into the Classroom: Partnering with Local Archives for Primary Source Activities.” Presented with Donna Baker. MTSU Teaching with Primary Sources Mini-Conference. Murfreesboro, TN. June 2018.
- “Documenting the Confederacy on Campus.” Palmetto Archives, Libraries & Museums Council on Preservation (PALMCOP). Columbia, SC. February 2018.

Conferences

- “Challenging White Public History.” Working group. National Council on Public History. Held virtually on March 13, 2021.
- “Archives Inaction: How We Can Liberate Archives from Oppressive Practices.” Society of Tennessee Archivists. Johnson City, TN. November 2017.
- “Black Treasure Rediscovered: Brief Vignettes of Archival Practices in Preserving and Displaying Black Culture.” Association for the Study of African American Life and History. Richmond, VA. October 2016.
- “Public History and the Potential of Sports History Museums.” National Council on Public History. Baltimore, MD. March 2016.
- “Balancing Out Memories of a Southern School.” Southeastern Museums Conference. Jacksonville, FL. October 2015.

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

- UNDER CONTRACT: Calise, Sarah. *Y'all Come Out Now, Y'Hear: Nashville's Queer History*. Nashville, TN: Vanderbilt University Press.

Peer-Reviewed Essays

- FORTHCOMING: Calise, Sarah. “Striking Out: Museums Aren’t Interpreting Queer Sports History...But They Should Be.” In *Interpreting Sports at Museums and Historic Sites*, edited by KathrynLeann Harris and Doug Stark. Rowman & Littlefield.

- UNDER REVIEW: Calise, Sarah and Torren Gatson. "We Are 'True Blue' Too: Civil Rights and Civil Unrest on the Campus of Middle Tennessee State University, 1930-1990." *Material Culture Review*.
- Baker, Donna and Sarah Calise. "A Redemptive Model of Labor: Documenting Student Activism at Middle Tennessee State." *History@Work*, October 11, 2019. <https://ncph.org/history-at-work/archives-student-activism-mtsu/>
- Calise, Sarah. "Historical Fanfiction as Affective History Making." *Nursing Clio*, October 2, 2019. <https://nursingclio.org/2019/10/02/historical-fanfiction-as-affective-history-making/>
- Calise, Sarah. "Gays in Space: How an Archive of Star Wars Fanzines Helped this Queer Woman Live Her Best Life." *Nursing Clio*, December 11, 2018. <https://nursingclio.org/2018/12/11/gays-in-space-how-an-archive-of-star-wars-fanzines-helped-this-queer-woman-live-her-best-life/>
- Calise, Sarah. "Protesting the Confederacy on Campus." *The Activist History Review*, July 25, 2018. <https://activisthistory.com/2018/07/25/protesting-the-confederacy-on-campus/>

Other Journal and Magazine Essays

- Calise, Sarah. "'Containment and Control, Not Care or Cure': An Interview with Elizabeth Catte on Virginia's Eugenics Movement." *Nursing Clio*, April 15, 2021. <https://nursingclio.org/2021/04/15/containment-and-control-not-care-or-cure-an-interview-with-elizabeth-catte-on-virginias-eugenics-movement/>
- Calise, Sarah. "The Two Wars." *Contingent Magazine*, August 15, 2020. <https://contingentmagazine.org/2020/08/15/the-two-wars/>
- Calise, Sarah. "Lincoln Park." *Chattanooga Regional Historical Journal*, vol. 21 (Winter 2018): 25-34.
- Calise, Sarah. "A Gift for Life: Eleanor Gehrig's Unique Bracelet is now a Museum Treasure." National Baseball Hall of Fame & Museum's *Memories and Dreams*, Winter 2015.

Book Reviews

- Calise, Sarah. Review of *Baseball in the Garden of Eden: the Secret History of the Early Game*, by John Thorn. *Alpata: A Journal of History* vol. 9 (Spring 2012): 134-136.

SPONSORED PROGRAMS

Movement 68 Symposium, Oct. 23, 2018

This two-hour event honored 50 years of Black student activism at Middle Tennessee State University. Recording of event accessible on YouTube: https://youtu.be/n4-o9_AEX1w

- Coordinated event logistics with internal and external vendors, including travel and lodging for all invited speakers, catered dinner and reception, lecture hall rental, audio and visual recording, livestreaming with closed captioning, and promotion for event

- Fundraised \$6,000 in sponsorship money to cover cost of symposium and honorariums for each presenter
- Created and maintained relationships with invited speakers through email, phone, and mail correspondence
- Conducted oral histories with relevant university faculty, staff, students, and alumni
- Promoted event through social media, the Albert Gore Research Center website, local and university press, university email, and classroom instruction
- Designed promotional fliers and event programs using Microsoft Publisher, PowerPoint, and Adobe Photoshop

EXHIBITS

I AM TRUE BLACK: A History of Black Student Life & Activism, March 2021

- Researched and curated documents, photos, and objects from MTSU's university archives and three local archives
- Managed the work of three junior curators
- Fabricated and installed exhibit labels, facsimiles, and displays in partnership with the university library
- Developed and implemented promotional plans, such as button and t-shirt campaigns, a gift card giveaway, and social media posts
- Hosted a live virtual tour of the exhibit via Facebook
- Created related educational content, like the I Am True Black Syllabus

Battle for the Ballot: The Story of Women's Suffrage in the United States, March 2020

- Researched and curated documents and photographs using digital collections across Tennessee and the United States
- Wrote exhibit panel and label text
- Fabricated and installed exhibit labels, facsimiles, and displays in partnership with the university library

Movement 68: Honoring 50 Years of Black Student Activism, Oct. 2019

- Researched and wrote online exhibit text
- Curated documents, photographs, video and audio files
- Online exhibit URL: <https://movement68.wordpress.com/>

The Southern Statesman: Albert Gore, Sr. in Congress, 1939-1971, Sept. 2019

- Researched and wrote exhibit narrative text and labels
- Curated artifacts and documents from political and regional history collections related to themes of Gore's time in office
- Designed three exhibit panels using Microsoft Publisher and GIMP photo editing software
- Fabricated and installed exhibit labels, facsimiles, and displays, including a talk-back board
- Aided in the planning of a public program featuring former Vice President Al Gore, Jr. and historian Dr. Anthony Badger

A Great and Noble Undertaking: Remembering Tennesseans in WWII, May 2019

- Researched and wrote exhibit narrative text and labels

- Curated artifacts and documents that explore various themes about Tennessee and World War II
- Coordinated logistics with library partners, including exhibit fabrication, installation, design, and a visitor feedback survey
- Participated in public media interviews promoting the exhibit, including print, television, and radio

Atomic Appalachia: the History of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, July 2018

- Supervised the graduate student intern who developed this online exhibit, accessible here: <https://oakridgehistory.wordpress.com/>
- Helped research, curate, and edit exhibit narrative and images

Women with Wings: The Tennessee Ninety-Nines, March 2018

- Supervised the graduate student who developed this online exhibit, accessible here: <https://ninetyninestn.wordpress.com/>
- Helped research, curate, and edit exhibit narrative and images

Collection Highlights from the Albert Gore Research Center, Oct. 2017

- Co-curated this exhibit on themes in Rutherford County (political, veterans, women, and university), Tennessee history located in the Chamber of Commerce building
- Fabricated and installed exhibit labels and displays

From the President to the People, Jan. 2017

- Researched and co-curated this exhibit on history of presidential inaugurations using Albert Gore Research Center political collections
- Supervised graduate student workers

History of Central Magnet School, May 2015

- Researched and edited exhibit text on the 150-year history of the educational landscape located on the grounds of Central Magnet School in Murfreesboro, Tennessee
- Designed seven text panels using Microsoft PowerPoint and Adobe Photoshop software

Warriors with Words and Faith, Dec. 2014

- Researched, curated, and wrote exhibit text with a team of graduate students about two influential individuals from Tennessee using their manuscript papers housed at the Albert Gore Research Center

Veterans History: Global Service, Individual Stories, Nov. 2014

- Researched and selected impactful quotes from oral histories with veterans for educational exhibit display on World War II to present military conflicts

GUEST LECTURER

Middle Tennessee State University

- "A Social History of World War II." U.S. History 1877 to Present. October 12, 2020.

- “What is an Archivist?” Archival Research Methods. February 24, 2020.
- “Civil Rights Movement at MTSU.” U.S. History 1877 to Present. October 30 & 31, 2019.
- “Movement 68: Honoring 50 Years of Black Student Activism at MTSU.” Intro to Africana Studies. April 11, 2018
- “Tennesseans in the Sixties.” The Historian’s Craft. January 23, 2018.
- “A History of the Confederacy on Campus.” Tennessee History. November 29, 2017.
- “Tennessee during World War II.” The Historian’s Craft. October 2, 2017.

Other Colleges and Universities

- “Digital Archiving & Social Media.” Appalachian State University. March 9, 2021.
- “Intro to Exhibit Labels.” Sewanee: The University of the South. November 2, 2020.
- “Intro to Archives & Activism.” Cumberland University. September 24, 2020.
- “Archives as Activism/Activism in Archives.” Sewanee: The University of the South. December 9, 2019.
- “Intro to Archives.” Cumberland University. September 11, 2018.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- James E. Walker Library Digital Seeds Grant Review Committee, 2020
- MTSU Holocaust Studies Program Committee
Member, 2019-Present

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & SERVICE

- Academy of Certified Archivists, 2018-Present
Cultural Competency Task Force, 2020-Present
- Association of Centers for the Study of Congress
Awards Committee Chair, 2019-Present
Awards Committee member, 2018-Present
- National Council on Public History
- Society of American Archivists
President of MTSU Student Chapter, 2015-2016
- Society of Tennessee Archivists
Education Committee Chair, 2021-Present
President, 2019-2020
Vice President, 2018-2019
- Tennessee History Day
State Judge, 2016-Present
Regional Judge, 2015-Present
- Project STAND (Student Activism Now Documented)
Student Engagement Committee, 2018-Present