

April Grayson

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EDUCATION

Master of Fine Arts in Film
San Francisco CA May 2009

San Francisco Art Institute

Certificate in Documentary Video Production University of Washington
Seattle WA June 1996

Bachelor of Arts in English
Jackson MS May 1992

Millsaps College

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2013-PRESENT ALLUVIAL COLLECTIVE COMMUNITY BUILDING

2022 - Present Director of Community and Capacity Building, The Alluvial Collective
(formerly the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation)

2021 Interim Co-Executive Director
William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation Oxford MS

2018 - 2022 Director of Community and Capacity Building
William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation Oxford MS

2013 - 2018 Community Building Coordinator
William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation
at the University of Mississippi Oxford MS

2021 UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

Adjunct Professor, School of Journalism and New Media, Oxford MS

2011-2013 VIDEO PRODUCTION LEAD

Apex Learning Seattle WA

2010-2011 FILM INSTRUCTOR

Purple Thistle Centre Vancouver, BC, Canada

2010-2011 FREELANCE WEBSITE DESIGNER

Fraser Health Psychiatry New Westminster, BC

2005-2009

DOCUMENTARY EDUCATOR

William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation at the
University of Mississippi Oxford, MS

2001-2005

FREELANCE VIDEO, FILM, AND DOCUMENTARY WORK

Oxford MS Clients included PBS, The History Channel,
the University of Mississippi, and Southern Poverty Law Center
For PBS

- Slavery and the Making of America, documentary series (2003)
- The Murder of Emmett Till, American Experience documentary by Stanley Nelson (2002)
- “The Blues: Feel Like Going Home” documentary by Martin Scorsese (2002)
- “The Blues: The Soul of a Man” documentary by Wim Wenders (2002)
- “The Blues: Warming by the Devil’s Fire” documentary by Charles Burnett (2001)

For Nonprofit Organizations

- The University of Mississippi, video projects (2001-2005)
- Southern Foodways Alliance, oral history projects (2003)
- The Southern Poverty Law Center, research project (2003)
- Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi, anti-smoking PSA (2002)
- The National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (1999)

1999-2001

PROJECT COORDINATOR AND INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGNER

AdvanceOnline, Incorporated Seattle WA

1996-1999

**ARTICLE EDITOR, TECHNICAL EDITOR, PROJECT
COORDINATOR**

Full time contractor for Microsoft Corporation (*Encarta
Encyclopedia*) and Wasser Inc. (Microsoft Press)
Redmond/Seattle, WA

PUBLICATIONS AND FEATURED MEDIA

- Engelage, Navina; Grayson, April; Lamplugh, Gabrielle; Neu, Elena; Pfaffinger, Teresa; Surak, Sarah M. [Elevating Youth Voices: From Public History to Civic Engagement](#), Transatlantic Exchange of Civic Educators, June 2022
- Grayson, April. "Geschichte, Erinnerung und der Weg zur Racial Justice im „Bauch der Bestie“" [Außerschulische Bildung – Zeitschrift der politischen Jugend- und Erwachsenenbildung](#), January 2022
- Rendon, Jim. "[Zoom Gives a Boost to Nonprofit's Work Advancing Racial Healing](#)," The Chronicle of Philanthropy, June 29, 2021
- Whitlinger, Claire. *Between Remembrance and Repair: Commemorating Racial Violence in Philadelphia, Mississippi*, The University of North Carolina Press, 2020
- Grayson, April. "[Unearthing and Confronting Oxford's Lynching History With Rev. E.W. Higginbottom Sr.](#)" Mississippi Free Press, May 19, 2020
- Featured guest on [Community Chats podcast](#) by Community Engagement at the University of Mississippi, 2020
- Neiman, Susan, *Learning from the Germans: Race and the Memory of Evil*, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2019
- Mississippi Folklife, "[Interview with Eddie F. Carter, Jr.](#)," February 4, 2019
- Gregory, Vanessa, "[A Lynching's Long Shadow](#)," New York Times Magazine, April 25, 2018
- Schilling, Mary Kaye, "[America's Lynching History: How the Equal Justice Initiative is Helping Counties Acknowledge Terrorism](#)," Newsweek magazine, November 29, 2018
- Yeoman, Barry, "[Healing Racial Fault Lines](#)," Mindful magazine, August 11, 2016
- For other articles and quotes, [visit the Lafayette Community Remembrance Project Facebook page](#)

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- Transatlantic Exchange of Civic Educators (TECE) fellowship, a project of the Arbeitskreis deutscher Bildungsstätten e.V. (AdB) and the Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life (July 2021-May 2022)
- University of Mississippi Excellence in Community Engagement Award, team award with Lafayette Community Remembrance Project (2022)
- University of Mississippi Excellence in Community Engagement Award finalist, team award with Lynching Memorialization in Lafayette County group (2019)
- Finalist, A Blade of Grass Fellowship (2017)
- Mississippi Historical Society's Elbert Hilliard Oral History Award (2009)
- Murphy and Cadogan Fellowship in the Fine Arts, San Francisco Foundation (2008)
- Year of Delta Heritage Award, Delta State University (2008)
- Best Experimental, Delta International Film and Video Festival (2008)
- RUMA Award for Most Promising Mississippi Filmmaker, Crossroads Film Festival (2008)
- American Association of University Women (AAUW) Career Development grant (2007)
- Mississippi Film and Video Alliance completion grant (2007)
- Mississippi Arts Commission artist mini-grants (2006, 2007)

CONFERENCES, PRESENTATIONS, AND SCREENINGS

- Anti-Racism and Community Memory Work, Martin University, Indianapolis IN (2023)
- University of Hertfordshire, guest presenter, United Kingdom (2022)
- Harvard University, Harvard Law School, guest presenter (2022)
- Taos Center for the Arts, Open Screen, film screenings (2022)
- [Video series: Elevating Youth voices](#), Transatlantic Exchange of Civic Educators (2022)
- Georgia Tech, School of Architecture, guest presenter, (2022)
- Princeton University, School of Architecture, guest presenter, Princeton NJ (2021)
- Western Carolina University guest panelist, Cullowhee NC (2021)
- North Mississippi Rural Legal Services oral history phase 2 presentation, Oxford MS (2021)
- National Day of Racial Healing virtual conference presenter, Mississippi (2021)
- University of Hertfordshire, guest lecturer, United Kingdom (2020)
- National Day of Racial Healing presenter, Jackson MS (2020)
- Land & Power: The Summit, Mississippi Museum of Art's Center for Art and Public Exchange, Lafayette County MS (2019)
- North Mississippi Rural Legal Services oral history phase 1 presentation, Oxford MS (2019)
- Racial Redress Conference, Columbia University, New York NY (2019)
- PROJECT(ion) Fringe Festival, Oxford MS (2019)
- Association of African American Museums annual conference presenter, Jackson MS (2019)
- Oral History Association, paper at the OHA annual conference, Montreal, QC, Canada (2018)
- Welcoming Interactive, Welcoming America conference, Louisville KY (2018)
- Southern Legislative Conference, Biloxi MS (2017)
- The Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly session "The 'Welcome Table:' Building Trust Relationships That Work!" New Orleans LA (2017)
- Race and Sustainability Conference, "Vulnerability, Historical Memory and Healing," University of Mississippi School of Law (2017)
- The Radical South conference, University of Mississippi (2017)
- CUNY Law School, New York NY (2016)
- Silicon Valley social media executives and data center staff, Oxford MS and elsewhere (2016)
- National Endowment for the Humanities forum "Civil Rights Literacy and the Common Good," 3 events in Jackson MS, Biloxi MS, Oxford MS (2016)
- Colgate University, Hamilton NY (2015)
- University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson MS (2015)
- Oral History Association, "Coming to the Welcome Table: Transforming Local Narratives through Oral Histories from the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement," paper presented at the OHA annual conference, Madison WI (2014)
- Delta State University, Cleveland MS (2013, 2014, 2015)
- StoryCenter digital storytelling workshop/screening at Loyola University, New Orleans (2014)
- Tulane University, New Orleans LA (2014)

- Columbia University, “Talking Before the Talking: Oral History as an Important Tool for Historical Dialogue,” paper presented at the Historical Justice and Memory: Questions of Rights and Accountability in Contemporary Society conference, New York NY (2013)
- Brandon High School guest lecturer, Brandon, MS (2014)
- Western Carolina University visiting artist and lecturer, Cullowhee, NC (2013)
- Gallery Vertigo, Vernon, BC, Canada (2013)
- Ozark Foothills FilmFest (2010)
- Cream from the Top, Richmond Art Center, Richmond, CA (2010)
- Lo-Fi Hi-Fi, Gallery 130, University of Mississippi (2010)
- San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA (2009)
- Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson, MS (2009)
- Oxford Film Festival, Oxford, MS (2009)
- SWARM Gallery, Oakland, CA (2009)
- Vernissage, SFAI MFA exhibition, Herbst Pavilion, San Francisco, CA (2009)
- Alive and Kicking! group show, Swell Gallery, SFAI, San Francisco, CA (2009)
- Documenta Quito, Quito, Ecuador (2008)
- SF IndieFest, San Francisco, CA (2008)
- CineSlam Park City, Park City, UT (2008)
- Immediate Future: The 2008 Murphy and Cadogan Fellowships in the Fine Arts group show, San Francisco Arts Commission Gallery (2008)
- Chow Fun show, Swell Gallery, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA (2008)
- Oxford Film Festival, Oxford, MS (2008)
- Delta International Film and Video Festival, Cleveland, MS (2008)
- Crossroads Film Festival, Jackson, MS (2008)
- Winter Institute annual meeting, University of Mississippi (2008)
- University of Mississippi guest lecturer, Brooke White’s art class (2007)
- MFVA Award Winners screening, Jackson, MS (2007)
- Winnipeg International Film Festival, Winnipeg, MB (2007)
- Oxford Film Festival, Oxford, MS (2007)
- Delta International Film and Video Festival, Cleveland, MS (2007)
- Crossroads Film Festival, Jackson, MS (2007)
- Tupelo Film Festival, Tupelo, MS (2007)
- Moviate Artsfest Film Festival, Harrisburg, PA (2007)
- FESPACO Pan African Film/Television Festival, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso (2007)
- Ghana’s Fiftieth Jubilee Celebration, Accra, Ghana (2007)
- MFA group show, Swell Gallery, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA (2007)
- I Shoot Myself group show, Diego Rivera Gallery, SFAI, San Francisco, CA (2007)
- MFA group show, Swell Gallery, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA (2007)
- Voices from the American South, Diego Rivera Gallery, SFAI, San Francisco, CA (2007)
- University of Mississippi guest lecturer, art department (2006)
- Mississippi Public Broadcasting television broadcast (2006)

- Aarhus Festival of Independent Arts, Aarhus, Denmark (2006)
- Crossroads Film Festival, Jackson, MS (2006)
- Tupelo Film Festival, Tupelo, MS (2006)
- Site Specific Acts group show, San Francisco, CA (2006)
- Swallows Nest, Swell Gallery, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA (2006)
- Center for the Study of Southern Culture, Oxford, MS, (2005)
- Oxford Film Festival, Oxford, MS (2005)
- KCTS arts focus, Seattle, WA (2000)
- 9-1-1 Media Arts, Seattle, WA (1996)

TEACHING AND COMMUNITY-BASED ARTS WORK

- Community Oral History Workshop, Smith Robertson Museum (2023)
- University of Mississippi, adjunct professor for Multimedia Storytelling II graduate class (2021)
- North Mississippi Rural Legal Services oral history workshop and oral history project (2019)
- University of Mississippi School of Law oral history workshop (2017)
- NEH-sponsored oral history workshops for high school teachers and students (2016-2017)
- Summer Youth Institute oral history, photography, and art workshops (2014-2017)
- Visiting lecturer, Brandon High School (2014)
- Visiting artist, Western Carolina University (2013)
- University of Mississippi video and oral history workshops for student activists, Barksdale Honors College students, and UM School of Law students (2004-2008)
- Guest lecturer in University of Mississippi art classes and public lectures (2004-2008)
- Youth and adult documentary video and oral history workshops throughout Mississippi (2004-2008, 2016-2017)
- Mentor for university student interns and campus student leaders (2004-2008)
- Video oral history projects about race and civil rights history in Mississippi communities (2004-2007)
- Community-initiated websites about civil rights history, reconciliation, and oral histories (2004-2009)
- Multimedia curriculum development about Mississippi civil rights history (2005-2017)
- Annual Civil Rights Education summits for teachers (2005-2007)
- Community-based commemorative event video screenings
 - McComb Legacies commemoration of 40 years of civil rights history (2005)
 - 40th anniversary commemoration of the Neshoba murders of civil rights workers James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner (2004)
 - Medgar Evers 40th anniversary memorial commemoration (2003)
- PieceWorks Deep South Arts Collective, Oxford, MS, co-founder and president (2003-2008)
- Mississippi Film and Video Alliance, board member (2003)
- Oxford Film Festival, screening committee co-chair (2003)

For a complete filmography, see <https://www.aprilgrayson.com/art/>