

Sally Anne Schmidt

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EDUCATION

Rice University, Houston, TX

PhD, History, May 2009

MA, History, January 2003

Dissertation Title: "Saving Galveston: A History of the Galveston Historical Foundation"

Advisor: John B. Boles

Fields: U.S. Southern History, U.S. Women's History, and Museum Studies

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

BA with departmental honors, History, May 2000

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Nau Civil War Collection, Houston, TX

Curator (10/08-present)

Associate Curator (1/07-9/08), Assistant Curator (1/06-12/06), Curatorial Assistant (1/05-12/05)

Responsible for the care, organization, and exhibition of one of the largest private collections of Civil War artifacts, documents, and photographs. Created and continues to update the collections database and object files. Collaborates with conservation and exhibition specialists. Negotiates with dealers. Evaluates the needs of and organizes the growing collection. Conducts research related to collection items. Plans, writes, and directs the installation of the Civil War exhibits at Silver Eagle Distributors' Houston (2006 – 2019) and Silver Eagle Beverages' San Antonio headquarters (2007 - present) and John L. Nau, III's home. Coordinates loans with museums. Answers research inquiries. Conducts tours and coordinates events for teachers, students, and adults. Catalogs and maintains John L. Nau, III's library of over 6,000 volumes. Represents John L. Nau, III on select historical boards of directors/trustees. Manages a part-time curatorial assistant.

Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX

Jameson Fellow (8/03-5/04)

Conducted a year-long study of the interpretive mission and educational programming of Bayou Bend, dating from Ima Hogg's initial vision through approximately 1994. Participated in and passed the Provisional Docent Training Course. Completed research projects for Bayou Bend curator.

Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX

Education Department Consultant (8/02-11/02, 5/04)

Facilitated discussions with Beeville, Texas, middle school students during the media literacy program, Screening America. Instructed Beeville teachers during a workshop on how to integrate media literacy and the lessons from the Screening America program in their classrooms.

Education Department Intern (1/02-5/02)

Researched themes related to the films of the Screening America media literacy program.
Developed lesson plans and information sheets for middle school and high school teachers.

Photography Department Curatorial Intern (9/01-12/01)

Explored contemporary female photographers from the American South and investigated the concept of the genre of “Southern Photography.”

***The Journal of Southern History*, Rice University, Houston, TX**

Editorial Assistant (1/01-5/01)

Edited book reviews for publication.

Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, MD

Photographic Curatorial Intern (1/00-6/00)

Researched Nineteenth Century photography in the state of Maryland in preparation for the 2000-2001 exhibition, “Maryland in Focus.”

National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C.

Educational Programs Division of the Office of Public Programs Intern (6/99-9/99)

Assisted NARA educators with summer workshops that trained teachers how to utilize primary source documents in their classrooms. Conceptualized and prepared lesson plans for teachers using documents from NARA’s collections.

Evergreen House Museum, Baltimore, MD

Collections Management Assistant, Photographic Collection (9/98-12/98)

Established and implemented a system to catalog the Garrett family photographic archives.

National Museum of American History, The Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Collections Management Intern, Photographic Archives Division (6/98-7/98)

Cataloged and completed condition reports for a recently acquired collection of over 150 Nineteenth Century images. Answered inquiries related to photographic holdings.

OUTSIDE EXHIBITIONS

Curator, *Discovering the Front Line: Highlights from the Nau Civil War Collection*,
The Houston Museum of Natural Science, October 2011 – April 2012

Co-Curator, *Collectors’ Gallery: Selections from the Nau Civil War Collection*,
The Bullock Texas State History Museum, July 2017 – February 2018

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“San Jacinto and the Daughters of the Republic of Texas”

Series “History under the Stars Series”

The San Jacinto Museum and the Texas Historical Commission, La Porte, Texas, November 16, 2024

“The Nau Civil War Collection: A Houstonian Collects”

Series “The Residue of War: Houston Remembers the Civil War and Emancipation Series”

The Houston Seminar, Houston, Texas, November 9, 2016

“The Nau Civil War Collection: Focus on New Purchases”

The Civil War Round Table of Houston, Houston, Texas, March 19, 2015

“Collecting the Civil War: Highlights from the Nau Civil War Collection”

The Civil War Round Table of Northern Louisiana, Shreveport, Louisiana, February 10, 2015

“The Nau Civil War Collection”

The Junior League of Houston, Houston, Texas, October 31, 2014

“Henry McArdle’s Civil War Diary and Sketches”

Roundtable Discussion “Henry McArdle (1836-1908): Painter, Professor, Patriot”

Martin Museum of Art, Baylor University, Waco, Texas, August 30, 2014

“Collecting the Civil War: Highlights from the Nau Civil War Collection”

The Civil War Round Table of Houston, Houston, Texas, November 15, 2012

“Collecting the Civil War” Book Lovers’ and Texana Collectors’ Breakfast

Texas State Historical Association Annual Meeting, Houston, Texas, March 2, 2012

“Highlights from the Nau Civil War Collection”

Friends of the Texas Historical Commission Quarterly Meeting, Austin, Texas, January 27, 2012

“Nineteenth Century Historical Associations in Galveston, Texas”

East Texas Historical Association Spring Meeting, Galveston, Texas, February 18, 2005

“Screening America”

Co-Presenter, Texas Council for the Social Studies Annual Meeting, Austin, Texas, October 11, 2002

“Honoring Texas Heroes: The San Jacinto Monument and Its Cornerstone”

East Texas Historical Association Spring Meeting, Texarkana, Texas, February 23, 2002

PUBLICATIONS

Book Review: *Mark Twain’s Homes and Literary Tourism* by Hilary Iris Lowe (2012), *Journal of Southern History*, November 2013

Book Review: *Civil Rights Memorials and the Geography of Memory* by Owen J. Dwyer and Derek H. Alderman (2008), *Journal of Southern History*, February 2011

Booknote: *Legacy: Walter Chrysler Jr. and the Untold Story of Norfolk’s Chrysler Museum of Art* by Peggy Earle (2008), *Journal of Southern History*, November 2009

“Honoring Texas Heroes: The San Jacinto Monument and Its Cornerstone,” *Houston History*, May 2007

Booknote: *Great Road Style: The Decorative Arts Legacy of Southwest Virginia & Northeast Tennessee* by Betsy K. White (2006), *Journal of Southern History*, May 2007

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

41st Institute for Editing Historical Documents

National Historic Publications and Records Commission and The Association for Documentary Editing, Charlottesville, VA, August 2012

UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, Rice University History Department, Spring 2005

HIST 131: United States Museums and Historic Preservation

Designed and taught a writing-intensive course that included visits to area museums. Participated in a preparatory pedagogy seminar.

Teaching Assistant, Rice University History Department, Fall 2002

HIST 117: The United States, 1776-1877

Facilitated interactive, small-group learning activities and assisted with grading.

ACADEMIC HONORS

History Department Fellowship for Graduate Studies, Rice University

2000-2001, 2001-2002, 2002-2003, 2004-2005, 2005-2006

Jameson Fellowship in the American Decorative Arts, Rice University and Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, 2003-2004

P.E.O. Scholar Award, 2003-2004

Alpha Phi Foundation Graduate Academic Scholarship, 2005-2006

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Junior League of Houston, Inc., member since April 2003

2021 Sara Houstoun Lindsey Award Recipient

Active Member, 2003-2021

Board of Directors, 2014-2015, 2020-2021

Active Leadership Positions: Strategic Planning Director (2020-2021); Charity Ball Invitations and Reservations Chairman (2019-2020); Provisional Chairman (2018-2019); League Archives Chairman (2015-2016); Community Initiatives Director (2014-2015); Family Preservation Assistant Chairman (2013-2014); and Houston Women's Center Chairman (2010-2011, 2011-2012, 2012-2013)

Sustaining Leadership Positions: Communications Sustainer Advisor (2024-2025); *Houston News* Sustaining Writer (2024-2025); Sustaining Club Board Member (2024-2025); Strategic Planning Sustainer Advisor (2022-2023); Charity Ball Sustaining Underwriting Committee (2023-2024)

Trustee, Friends of the Texas Historical Commission, January 2011 to present

Chair of the Board of Trustees, September 2022 to August 2024

Chair of the Board Development and Governance Committee, September 2017 to August 2022

Trustee, July 2015 to present

Representative Trustee for John L. Nau, III, January 2011 to April 2015

The Alamo Trust, November 2024 to present

Member, The Alamo Collections Committee, November 2024 to present

Member, The Alamo Leadership Advisory Council, January 2025 to present

Director, Preservation Houston, June 2017 to June 2025

Chair of Preservation Houston's Annual Cornerstone Dinner, March 2023

Ex-Officio Director, Outside Board Representative for The Junior League of Houston, Inc., June 2017 to May 2019

Director, Epiphany Community Health Outreach Services (ECHOS), June 2021 to present

Chair of the Development Committee, February 2025 to present

Ex-Officio Director, Outside Board Representative for The Junior League of Houston, Inc., June 2021 to May 2024

Alpha Phi International Fraternity, member since 1997

Michaelanean Award Recipient, 2024

Alpha Phi Alumnae of Houston, Texas, member

President, 2006-2007, 2007-2008

Leadership Positions, 2002 to 2008

Alpha Phi Foundation, Development Advisory Group, 2024-2026

Officer, Houston Alumnae Panhellenic Association, June 2022 to present
President, 2025-2026
First Vice President, 2024-2025
Treasurer, 2023-2024
Publicity Chair, 2022-2023

Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council, Houston, Texas, member
Troop #123014 Leader, 2021 to present
Troop #123034 Leader, 2024 to present
Women's Leadership Network Donor, 2022 to present

Christ Church Cathedral, Houston, Texas, member
Member, Children and Youth Council, 2025-present
Chairman, Adult Formation Council, 2012-2014
Member, Adult Formation Council, 2010-2012

PERSONAL

A seventh generation Texan, Sally Anne grew up in Austin and Dallas and lives in Houston with her husband, Marc Tabolsky, and two young daughters.