



COUNCIL FOR MUSEUM ANTHROPOLOGY
Secretary's Report to the Board & Business Meeting 2021

BOARD

CMA Board Members 2020-2021

President: Cara Krmpotich (2020-2022)
President-elect: W. Warner (Bill) Wood (2020-2022) to be followed by a term as President (2022-2024)
Treasurer: Jennifer Kramer (2020-2022)
Secretary: Catherine Nichols (2020-2022)
Board Members: Emily Stokes-Rees (2018-2021), David Odo (2018-2021), Christy DeLair (2018-2021),
Adrian Van Allen (2020-2023), Laura Peers (2020-2023), Elysia Poon (2020-2023)
Student Board Member: Kristin Otto (2019-2021)
Past President: Carolyn Heitman (2020-2022)

CMA Board Committees for 2020-2021

CMA Awards Committee: Adrian Van Allen, Cara Krmpotich, Catherine Nichols, Laura Peers
CMA Book Award: Jennifer Kramer (Chair), Christy DeLair, Laura Peers
CMA Nominations Committee: Cara Krmpotich (Chair), Carolyn Heitman, Bill Wood
CMA Communications Committee: Catherine Nichols (Chair, General Communications, Website, *Anthropology News*), Corinne Kratz (Facebook), Lillia McEnaney (Blog), Felicia Katz-Harris (Twitter), Christy DeLair (*Anthropology News*)
CMA Committee on Journal: David Odo (Chair), Cara Krmpotich, Kristin Otto, Emily Stokes-Rees
CMA Committee on Conference: Kristin Otto, David Odo, Jennifer Kramer, Elysia Poon
CMA Baltimore Reception Committee: Emily Stokes-Rees, Jennifer Kramer, David Odo, Carolyn Heitman

CMA 2021 Election Results & Board Transitions

Board Member At-Large Seats: John Carty (2021-2024), Lijun Zhang (2021-2024), Kristin Otto (2021-2024)
Student Board Member: Halena Kapuni-Reynolds (2021-2023)

Retiring Board Members: David Odo (2018-2021), Christy DeLair (2018-2021), Emily Stokes-Rees (2018-2021), Kristin Otto (2019-2021) [retiring as student rep]

Upcoming CMA Board Elections 2022

The CMA will be holding elections this year for the following positions:

President-elect (2022-2024); Treasurer (2022-2024); Secretary (2022-2024)

EDITORS

Editors of *Museum Anthropology*

Emily Stokes-Rees, Syracuse University (2019 – Mar 2021)

Phaedra Livingstone, Centennial College (2019 – Aug 2021)

Hannah Turner, University of British Columbia (Sept 2021 – present)

Lillia McEnaney, Books and Exhibit Reviews Editor, *Museum Anthropology* (June 2020 – June 2021)

Museum Anthropology Blog, maintained and updated this year by Lillia McEnaney

-See: <https://www.museumanthropologyblog.com>

CMA Website, maintained by CMA Secretary Catherine Nichols

-See: <http://museumanthropology.org/>

CMA Facebook page, maintained by Corinne Kratz

-See: <https://www.facebook.com/CouncilForMuseumAnthropology>

CMA Twitter feed, maintained by Felicia Katz-Harris

-See: <https://twitter.com/MuseumAnth> Follow: @MuseumAnth

COMMUNICATIONS

Committee

The Communications Committee coordinates communication via the CMA email, blog, website, and social media presence. These platforms allow us to expeditiously reach out to members and to the general public about current events, exhibits, awards, job calls, awards, conferences, and a wide variety of current news in the field.

Email

CMA used the AAA Communities list-serv for CMA to communicate with members.

Website

The CMA Website includes updated addresses for CMA board members and officers, as well as content on membership, *Museum Anthropology*, a page on advocacy, and other general information about CMA.

This year, Lillia McEnaney, Cara Krmptich, and Catherine Nichols offered a proposal to the Board to combine the CMA website and blog, and contract a web developer to design a new site. Previously, the CMA website was hosted on WordPress while the blog was hosted on Squarespace, requiring separate hosting costs and using different web addresses.

The AAA has recently offered the option to provide website hosting services for sections, if websites are developed on the WordPress platform, releasing CMA from annual site hosting fees and site maintenance related to platform updates.

After consulting with Shawn Ifill, AAA Web and Database Services Administrator, we learned that the Association for Africanist Anthropology (AAA section) had recently redesigned their website and had successfully migrated to AAA servers. We contacted AfAA President Yolanda Covington-Ward to inquire about the development and migration process and she referred us to Lincoln Ward, a contract web developer who offered his services to develop the new CMA site for a substantial discount, based on our status as a AAA section.

The Board approved this proposal and website development was initiated in May 2021. The website development ad-hoc team both contributed and solicited new images, and knowledge and ideas regarding site architecture, and have worked iteratively with Lincoln to design the new website. Once the new site is finalized, it will be migrated to AAA servers and updated by the CMA Secretary and Blog Manager. We hope the new site will be live to members by the end of 2021.

Blog

From Lillia McEnaney:

This year, the CMA blog continued to act as a resource for museum anthropologists and practitioners, serving as a central locale to find news from the field, job, fellowship and internship announcements, as well as calls for papers, presentations, and book chapters.

This year, we received over 7,000 individual visits, which shows a very high 45% year-to-year increase.

Of these, 5,700 hits were from unique visitors, which is a 56% increase from last year. There was a total of 8,700 page views, which was again, a 33% increase from last year.

Approximately 3,400 of our 7,000 individual visits were from direct links, and the majority of the remaining ~2,000 were from Google searches. For those who found the blog via Google, the most popular search terms were “museum anthropology,” “museum anthropology journal,” “native american art studies association,” “death to museums,” and “mother tongue film festival,” showing that the blog continues to be a hub for conference and event information, as well as general news from the field.

Additionally, approximately 300 hits came directly from the CMA Facebook page.

Of these readers, 49% were from the United States, with Japan, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Germany comprising the majority of the remaining visitors.

Our call for contributions and submissions remains open. In December, Jen Shannon authored a guest post for the blog titled “[SAR Guidelines in Teaching: The University of Colorado Museum Studies Program](#).” This post was one of our most popular of the year. Other successful posts included calls for papers and position announcements, as well as our 2020 book award winner announcements.

Overall, the blog continues to run smoothly, and serves as an important and long-running communications and outreach initiative of the CMA.

Facebook

From Corinne A. Kratz:

As in the past, posts on the CMA Facebook page this year included announcements for jobs, fellowships, conferences, workshops, and CMA award competitions; news and reviews about museums and exhibitions; materials for teaching museum anthropology; recognition of accomplishments by CMA members and others in the museum world (please encourage members to send accomplishments to be posted!); and related topics. I include material from inside and outside the US. We also continued to have considerable (though now waning) activity in the sub-discussion group created in March 2020 as the COVID19 pandemic became a major concern. The sub-discussion “[Effects of COVID-19 Pandemic on Museum and Heritage Sites](#)” has allowed conversation about how the pandemic was affecting museum professionals and institutions. After meteoric growth in its first month, current membership in the discussion group is at 657 now, only slightly larger than in the November 2020 report.

Analytics. Facebook analytics only cover the prior month, so I tracked over the year at different times to have more extended information available for the 2021 Board meeting and annual report. Facebook changed their analytics page a couple of months ago, moving Insights to a Business platform that is much harder to use, makes it difficult to find figures, and that has eliminated some information previously available. The new Insights platform is designed to encourage users to buy ads from Facebook and to encourage them to use Instagram, now combining analytics for the two. That new, less effective page with impoverished information is the basis of the following analytics.

We launched the CMA Facebook page in 2013 and gradually added followers. Our total number of followers saw significant growth in the last five years, but now seems to have settled into smaller rates of annual growth. We currently have 3,372 followers, about 5% more than last year.

Nov 2017	1,225 followers
Nov 2018	2,426 followers (98% increase)
Nov 2019	3,031 followers (25% increase)
Nov 2020	3,214 followers (6% increase)
Nov 2021	3,372 followers (5% increase)

2020 and 2021 have been unusual years, but we may be reaching a plateau that will rise only more gradually. Our reach will continue to expand if we all spread the word, share posts, and encourage colleagues, friends, and students to like and follow the page. It would be great to reach 4,000 soon, though at the current rate of increase that might take another three years.

Please announce the CMA Facebook page at any sessions you are doing on museum anthropology at the AAA meetings or elsewhere and encourage students, friends, and colleagues to like and follow the CMA page.

Our FB page continues to give us international reach. Last year our fans/followers were located in 47 countries around the world (a little higher than previous years, as shown in screenshots in previous reports). We had fans/followers in North America, South America, Asia, Africa, Europe, Australia and the Pacific region. Facebook analytics no longer show the full list of countries where our followers are located. Instead, they only show a list of the top ten countries and try to get users to create audiences for targeted adverts. Last year about 43.5% of our followers were in the US. This year 45.5% are in the US. Our other top ten countries are Canada (6.5%), Australia (3.5%), UK (3.5%), Mexico (2.7%), Germany (2%), South Africa (2%), Italy (1.9%), India (1.8%), and Columbia (1.7%). Facebook no longer tells us where the other 35.4% of our followers are located, but even from the top ten list it is clear we still reach North America, South America, Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia and the Pacific region.

The age and gender profile for followers of the CMA Facebook page shows the 18-34 year old demographic making up 34.9%, dropping again for the fourth year. This decline tracks more general reduction in FB use by younger demographics (<https://www.marketingcharts.com/digital/social-media-82512>, <https://techcrunch.com/2019/12/12/is-facebook-dead-to-gen-z/>; accessed 17 October 2021). Women make up 69% of our followers, slightly more than in the last two years. FB no longer shows distinctions between fans and followers.

FB posts often move far beyond those who are fans/followers and FB analytics used to track that, showing demographics for those reached and those engaged. Unfortunately they have removed this useful detail from their analytics, but instead report that we *could* be reaching 250,000,000 people (!) if only we would spend money to advertise with their targeted tools. The only remaining breakdown provided is by age and gender, which compared with last year shows slight increases in all groups 35 years and older.

Followers	2021	vs	2020
25-34	31.4%		32%
35-44	29.1%		28%
45-54	18.6%		16%
55-64	9.3%		8%
65+	8.1%		7%

Reach varies by the post, typically from around 100 to 600, with a number falling in the 700-1000 range, and a smaller number reaching 1,500-2,000. Our aggregate monthly reach has continued to be lower this year, though this year this report is being written in mid-October, a time when reach typically begins to pick up because of the AAA meetings, posts about sessions, award announcements, and photos from sessions and events. Three years ago, our reach had increased to 10,000 monthly from roughly November through July. In the early part of the COVID pandemic our monthly post reach also jumped to over 10,000 and our post engagement in the same period increased 244%. Our monthly figures are now typically back in the 2-5000 range, with increases when CMA Awards and CMA Mentoring Events are announced. Periodic analytics tracking post reach from November 2020-Oct 2021 included 3,998 (2-29 Nov); 1,930 (19 Dec-15 Jan); 3,345 (4 Feb - 3 March), 4,127 (26 Feb - 25 March); 2,079 (23 April-20 May); 2,167 (23 May-19 June); 3,117 (12 June-9 July); 5,194 (12 July-8 Aug); 2,418 (14 Aug-10Sept); 2,768 (25 Aug-21 Sept); 7,967 (19 Sept-16 Oct). The jump in the last period corresponds to announcement of CMA Awards and one of the CMA Mentoring Events held on 15 October.

Our high reach posts (over 2000 reach) in the past covered a range of topics, with common themes involving award announcements; decolonization, repatriation, and social justice issues; and professional resources (collections etc.). This year, like last, we had very few that reached that level of circulation, just three high impact posts (cf. four last year and 24 in 2019). All three of the 2000+ posts were about CMA Mentoring Events, underlining the high level of interest and significance of these efforts. That reach was the result of at least two postings per event, the original

announcement and one or two reminders. At the end of this report, I list all our posts with 2000+ reach over the year through 17 October 2021. We also had seven posts that reached over 1000, with a couple close to 2000 (cf. 3 in 2020). I list these as well since they seem to be the new norm for high-reach. I don't know why there are fewer high-reach posts this year and last, but as noted, 2020-2021 have been strange years.

Such broad reach posts can help increase our total fans/followers because FB allows me to see people who react to a post who could be invited to like the page (though this too is less information that they provided in the past). It can also help boost our usual monthly reach. With the AAA meetings and events getting under way in a few weeks, we want to post our usual information about sessions and opportunities, but have not yet gotten information about the program. I expect to post that in the next few weeks. Without a CMA reception, I will not be able to post photos from the event, which usually garner a lot of attention, but I will post screen shots from the CMA Awards Zoom to be held next month. The lack of in-person events will likely affect the analytics in the coming year. News and ideas for CMA FB posts are welcome. Please encourage students, friends, colleagues, and others to follow and like the CMA Facebook page.

CMA social media coordination across FB, the CMA blog, and Twitter is good, with cross-posting of central announcements and information and ad hoc coordination on other posts. This generates diverse content that should encourage people to follow all of the platforms. Catherine has also kept us all in touch as chair of the Communications Committee. The social media managers contact each other for job postings so they get full coverage across all platforms; likewise for any CMA-specific announcements. I often cross-post blog posts if I have not already posted on the topic. It's great to have a strong Twitter presence again now with Felicia Katz-Harris as part of the communications team.

I'm happy to continue managing the FB page, if the Board wants me to continue, but will readily pass it on to someone else if the Board prefers new input and approach.

High reach posts (seen by >2000 people) 2021:

- * CMA Mentoring Series: Archives 101 with Diana Marsh (posted 2 + 22 March) 3,038
- * CMA Mentoring Series: Close Looking w/ Laura Peers (12+20 July) 3,221+548=3,769
- * CMA Mentoring Series: Grant Writing w/ Jason Jackson (posted 30 Sept + 12 Oct) 1,847 + 744 = 2,591

High reach posts (over 1000 people) 2021:

- * Talk by Nana Oforiatta Ayim on new Ghana national museum (posted 21 June) 1,100
- * Death, Jeremy Silvester, director of Namibia Assoc of Museums (posted 5 July) 1,000
- * Multi-year postdoc at the Pitt Rivers (posted 20 July) 1,432
- * Photos from CMA Mentoring Series: Close Looking w/L. Peers (posted 26 July) 1,288
- * CFP: Participation and Public Interpretations: How to Navigate Multiple Historical Narratives in Museums? (posted 20 Sept) 1,412
- * CMA Lifetime Achievement/Distinguished Service Award - Kratz (posted 8 Oct) 1,902
- * CMA Book Award - *Ceremony Men* by Jason Gibson (posted 10 Oct) 1,147

Twitter Feed

From Felicia Katz-Harris:

October 2020 – October 2021

To date, the CMA Twitter account (@MuseumAnth) has 1179 followers, which is up by 175 followers from this time last year. October 2020 – October 2021 saw 20,441 profile visits. Impressions for the year is 156,121, although mentions in the last year are low: 68.

In the last 28 days, which seems to be how Twitter summarizes activity, there have been 2,264 profile visits, 24 mentions, 52 tweets, and 17.1K impressions. Engagement rate is low, between 2.3-5%. More specifically, over the course of the last 28 days, engagements show 88 link clicks; 26 retweets; 60 likes; and 6 replies.

28 day summary with change over previous period



The top tweet, earning 7,465 impressions in the last month, was the announcement of the 2021 CMA Awards; it was also one of the top tweets of the year, earning more mentions and impressions than typical posts. Other popular tweets for the year include the announcement of @NMNH’s exhibition on cell phones – asking people for their participation (earning 8,174 impressions), and a post about a discussion at the Fowler Museum, with Dan Hicks, Lauren Kroiz, Natasha Becker, and Marla Berns about repatriation (7,853 impressions). Posts about job announcements, conference announcements, kudos, and news stories about repatriation and restitution appear to be among those most appreciated by followers.

Generally, the increase in followers over the past year seems very low, considering the increase in Twitter activity. It is challenging to get followers to participate in CMA tweets. Even when people and organizations are tagged, there are only a small handful of “likes” and “retweets” and rarely comments. Tweets have specifically asked for specific participation or feedback, sometimes trying strategies like posting off-topic or using humor. Tagging individual CMA followers, or Twitter users working in closely related fields does increase visibility, and also followers. This is especially so when those individuals have a high number of followers.

The CMA Twitter account follows the CMA Facebook and Blog pages, sharing content. CMA Twitter often links to the Blog, especially for CMA-specific news, as it provides more information than Twitter is able to include (due to limited character counts). The CMA Twitter account also re-tweets posts from CMA followers, including museums, related institutions, associations, and individuals. News stories of interest to CMA are also shared with followers. CMA members on Twitter, and other forms of social media, should be encouraged to share news with us, so that we can blast it out.

Summary of Twitter Activity: October 2020 – October 2021

month	profile visits	mentions	tweets	impressions	new followers
Oct 2020	18			117	
Nov 2020	953	3	21	10.5K	30
Dec 2020	2235	8	37	12.2K	16
Jan 2021	1989	7	40	9533	27
Feb 2021	2752	8	44	21.7K	21
March 2021	3037	3	59	26K	22
April 2021	1634	4	35	13K	11
May 2021	870	3	25	15.6K	5
June 2021	1690	1	44	9808	6
July 2021	1290	1	33	6220	3
Aug 2021	610	3	29	6143	7
Sept 2021	1881	9	51	11.9K	16
October 22, 2021	1482	18	22	13.4K	9
totals	20,441	68	440	156,121	173

Anthropology News Column – CMA Section News

Anthropology News is in its fourth year as a magazine format plus online format, and recently launched a redesigned public website (<https://www.anthropology-news.org/>) and new submission portal, with updated

submission guidelines for section news (<https://www.anthropology-news.org/section-submission-information/guidelines-for-section-authors/>). Section news has moved to a quarterly submission system. Section news is published online, with clickable links to section news articles featured in periodic *Anthropology News* email communications. Some previously published section news articles can be found on CMA’s section page: <https://www.anthropology-news.org/articles/section/council-for-museum-anthropology/> It’s a great way to get out short, timely pieces about current work.

CMA columns 2020-2021:

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Title of Column</u>	<u>Author(s)</u>
03/25/2021	Studying Historical Artifacts on YouTube	Lise Puyo
10/21/2021	Reflections on “Museums Different”	Amanda Sorensen

Please send column ideas to Catherine Nichols at cnichols@luc.edu

CMA AWARDS

Michael M. Ames Award for Innovative Museum Anthropology

The CMA Michael M. Ames Prize for Innovative Museum Anthropology is awarded to individuals for innovative work in museum anthropology. Examples include: outstanding single or multi-authored books or published catalogues; temporary or permanent exhibits; repatriation projects; collaborations with descendant communities; educational or outreach projects; multimedia works, and other endeavors.

The CMA is extremely pleased to announce the winner of the 2021 Council for Museum Anthropology Michael M. Ames Prize for Innovative Museum Anthropology: Nicola Levell, University of British Columbia, for her exhibition, associated catalogue, educational programming, and virtual platform, "Shadows, Strings & Other Things" -- and her book on this work, *Bodies of Enchantment*. Thanks to all who submitted nominations for consideration, and congratulations to Nicola and all associated with the project.

Through puppetry, Levell’s project showcases seven modes through which visitors and scholars experience the (im)material cultural heritage of puppetry and exhibit making, including an onsite gallery, digital 3D scans of the exhibit, videos, podcasts, virtual reality, an open access gallery guide, and the *Bodies of Enchantment* book. This multi-modal project offers a compelling model for anthropologists engaging in multi-faceted scholarship and public engagement. Multiple aspects of museum operations are evident in the project’s design and execution: from sensitive collecting and documentation, to curation, to theatrical and creative public programming, to the multi-purpose digital platform that extended and archived the temporary exhibition.

“Shadows, Strings & Other Things” is an exemplar of how museum anthropology generatively troubles easy distinctions between tangible and intangible culture; animacy and object; and how it brings into public conversation ontological queries about things-belongings-beings. Levell’s museological practice does not shy away from politics and the pressing need to unsettle Western hegemonic structures, nor is it anchored in an ahistorical and disengaged formation—rather it invokes the core principles of Michael Ames’ efforts to decolonize and democratize museums.

Council for Museum Anthropology Distinguished Service Award

The CMA Board offers a Distinguished Service Award to recognize CMA members whose careers demonstrate extraordinary achievements that have advanced museum anthropology. These achievements might include: collections work, community collaborations, exhibitions, publications, public programming and outreach, teaching, policy development, etc. While many anthropologists distinguish themselves through

their works, this award is meant to single out those who, over the course of their careers, have truly helped to define and or reshape the field of anthropology in and of museums. Nominees are expected to have spent at least 20 years working in the field of museum anthropology.

The CMA is delighted to announce the winner of the 2021 Council for Museum Anthropology Lifetime Achievement/Distinguished Service Award: Corinne A. Kratz, Distinguished Professor of Anthropology and African Studies Emerita at Emory University, and Emory Director for the African Critical Inquiry Program. Thanks to all who submitted nominations for consideration.

Kratz's academic work spans a lifetime of scholarly and engaged anthropological achievement. Over the course of her near 50-year career, Kratz has redefined both museum anthropology and critical museology, especially at the intersections between these fields and African Studies. Kratz is the author of the award-winning book *The Ones That Are Wanted: Communication and the Politics of Representation in a Photographic Exhibition*, which is a description of, and extended critical reflection upon, Kratz's own exhibition 'Okiek Portraits,' a traveling exhibition of fieldwork photographs taken during her work with the Kaplelach and Kipchornwonek Okiek people of South-central Kenya. Including tri-lingual captions, short dialogues between Kratz and her Okiek interlocutors, and the use of color photographs, the exhibition challenged earlier visual stereotypes of the Okiek. Based on the failures and successes of the exhibition as it traveled around the United States, Kratz's ethnography was one of the first book-length studies to take seriously the idea that an exhibition may be engaged as an anthropological 'field site' in its own right. It is a seminal study for visual anthropology and critical museology, and exemplifies participatory and collaborative methodologies while taking seriously the dynamics and contexts of visitors and institutions. In addition, Kratz is a lead editor on the landmark volume *Museum Frictions: Public Cultures/Global Transformations*, one of the most important contributions to critical museology of recent decades.

Kratz's impact on a global community of scholars is also evident in her mentorship, especially her support of African Early Career Researchers. In addition to mentoring young scholars at Emory University, Kratz's service and mentoring activities extended transnationally to the Institutions of Public Culture Program, a partnership between the Center for the Study of Public Scholarship at Emory and South African cultural institutions. Following Ivan Karp's death in 2011, Kratz carried forward their joint commitment to developing public intellectual life in Africa by establishing the Ivan Karp and Corinne Kratz Fund. The Fund supported the creation of the African Critical Inquiry Program, which provides research funding for African doctoral students from across the continent and sponsors innovative annual workshops in South Africa. We honor her generosity of spirit and time, and her indelible human connection with a global community of colleagues.

Council for Museum Anthropology Book Award

The Council for Museum Anthropology Book Award was created to recognize and promote excellence in museum anthropology. The award is awarded biennially to a scholar within the field of museum anthropology for a solo, co- or multi-authored book published up to two years prior to the award date. The CMA Book award will be given to the author(s) whose work is judged to be a significant and influential contribution to museum anthropology.

The 2021 CMA book award committee (Chair – Jennifer Kramer; Members - Christy DeLair, Laura Peers) have the pleasure to award the 2021 CMA book award to Jason Gibson for his 2020 book, *Ceremony Men: Making Ethnography and the Return of The Strehlow Collection* (SUNY Press).

Gibson, J. 2020. *Ceremony Men: Making Ethnography and the Return of The Strehlow Collection*. Albany, NY: SUNY Press.

“In this deftly reflexive and sensitive work, Jason M. Gibson analyzes the historical colonial context for the collection of central Australian men's songs, stories, and ceremony by linguist/anthropologist T.G.H. Strehlow. Gibson redresses the anthropological myth of Strehlow as heroic salvager and replaces it with an awareness of the intentional co-creation of this archive by Anmatyerr and Arrernte ceremonial specialists who actively allowed their secret and sacred knowledge to be recorded for posterity. Through

ethnographically specific, place-based exchanges with contemporary Anmatyerr ritual knowledge holders, Gibson offers a nuanced understanding of authority, ownership, and reciprocity that emerge around this significant archive and the significance of its holdings to Anmatyerr men today. Eschewing simplistic repatriation rhetoric and grounded in rich fieldwork and Anmatyerr ritual knowledge holders' perspectives and voices, this ethnography intimately details the challenges and opportunities in co-stewarding this collection into the future.”

Whiting Public Engagement Fellowship

The Whiting Public Engagement Programs, including the Public Engagement Fellowship and the Public Engagement Seed Grant, provide funding for humanities faculty to pursue ambitious projects that engage the public in new ways. Within the context of museums, this can include public programs and within exhibitions and collections, and outreach programs that move beyond the museum. Proposals are submitted to the CMA Board for nomination annually. In 2021, the CMA Board nominated the proposal by Diana Marsh, “Community Access to Indigenous and Anthropological Histories in the Archives: Bringing CoPAR to Wiki, SNAC, & the Linked Data World.”

Other Awards

No student travel awards were given in 2021, due to lack of applicants. Nomination instructions for next year will be available at: <https://museumanthropology.org/cma-awards/>

CMA Mentoring Activities 2020 – 2021

From Kristin Otto:

Building from the success of 2019’s Museum Methods Workshop, and in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the CMA offered new models of mentoring programs during 2020 and 2021. Supported by an AAA Section Mentoring Grant, we initially planned to host an in-person career portfolio workshop at the AAA Annual Meeting. However, the pandemic and move of the conference to virtual platforms altered those plans. We instead offered the career portfolio workshop during the AAA’s virtual workshop series in November/December. Dylan Freeman-Grist and Carolina Garcia from Haley Sharpe Design—an international consultancy in the museum and heritage sector—facilitated the workshop entitled “Portfolio Development for the Cultural Heritage Sector.” They were assisted with contributions from CMA board members Joshua Bell, Cara Krmpotich, David Odo, and Emily Stokes-Rees. Through a series of interactive and breakout room exercises on Zoom, twelve student and professional members of CMA took steps to begin creating their own career portfolios and learned tactics for documenting skills and developing professional identities. The AAA Section Mentoring grant was essential for providing support for the workshop’s professional facilitators.

Inspired by the model of the virtual workshop, the CMA pursued new opportunities for building research and career-oriented skills among students and emerging professionals. We established a virtual series that would allow broad, international, and interdisciplinary CMA audiences to connect with each other around diverse mentorship topics. Since March 2021, we have hosted four such events facilitated by senior CMA members:

March 26: Archives 101 for Museum Anthropologists (facilitated by Diana Marsh)

May 28: Making the Most of Your Museum Internship (facilitated by David Odo, with contributions from Paul Tamburro, Courtney Uldrich, and Amanda Sorensen)

July 22: Close Looking, Careful Visiting: Key Methodologies in Material Culture Research (facilitated by Laura Peers)

October 15: Grant Writing in Museum Ethnography (facilitated by Jason Baird Jackson, with contributions from Emily Jean Leischner and Kristin Otto)

These workshops proved to be essential opportunities for students, young professionals, and more senior CMA members to connect with each other and have conversations on the topics of research and careers during the pandemic. Attendance at each workshop ranged from 20 – 40 participants, averaging 30 participants each overall. An overview of registrations showed that select participants regularly attended the workshop sessions, while each session also drew in new audiences from the U.S. and around the world. We are thankful to the CMA members that volunteered their time to facilitate these workshops. As these virtual events have been a pilot effort in many ways, we look forward to seeing how opportunities for mentorship through CMA evolve in the future.

Virtual Symposium for Students and Young Professionals

The COVID-19 pandemic has placed significant pressures on students and early career museum professionals, as well as limited opportunities to connect with fellow scholars at conferences. The Council for Museum Anthropology (CMA) will be delaying its own in-person conference until 2023. With this in mind, the CMA will be hosting a virtual symposium on Zoom in Spring 2022 focused on the ongoing work of students and emerging professionals.

The virtual symposium, entitled *The Future is Now: Emerging Perspectives in Museology and Museum Anthropology* will take place March 25-26, and will provide opportunities for participants to share their research in a supportive environment with fellow scholars and professionals. Interested participants will be invited to submit individual abstracts or organized panels. Two papers selected for excellence by the CMA board will be awarded prizes of \$500 each. The call for abstracts will be released on November 1, 2021 with a deadline of December 31, 2021. We applied for and received an AAA Section Mentoring Grant, which will support two \$500 stipends for student interns to assist with communications and presenter support at the conference.

From Catherine Nichols:

The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have been widespread, having a particular effect on CMA members' ability to gather in-person and engage in general networking and socializing. Beginning in February 2021, periodic CMA "Zoom socials" were hosted by Catherine Nichols. Format is casual, with attendees engaging in light discussion, introductions, and in the most recent two socials, lighthearted games of Zoom Pictionary. Zoom socials were held: Feb 17, May 4, Aug 24, 2021.

CMA Committee on the Conference

From Kristin Otto:

The results of the 2020 survey on the CMA biennial conference showed that the majority of our membership would prefer to reserve the funds and wait to hold an in-person conference until it is safe to do so. Given the differences in vaccine rollout internationally, the current status of COVID cases, and the challenges many potential institutional hosts currently face, we have decided to continue to postpone the call for host institutions. We hope that at the time that we release a call for potential hosts, institutions and locations may be in a better place to envision an in-person conference with all the financial and logistical considerations in requires.

With this in mind, the earliest that we may host another CMA conference will be in 2023. We are actively searching for institutional hosts for a future CMA conference. Anyone interested in a conversation about hosting the conference can reach out to council.museumanth@gmail.com or Kristin Otto at krotto@nmsu.edu.

2021 MEETING: CMA SESSIONS

**Council for Museum Anthropology Preliminary Program
American Anthropological Association 2021 Annual Meeting
November 17-21, Baltimore, MD (and Virtual)**

Prepared by W. Warner Wood

IN-PERSON PANELS/POSTERS

(2-1620) Anthropology at St. Louis and Before

Oral Presentation (In-Person)

Council for Museum Anthropology

11/18/2021: 10:15 AM - 12:00 PM

Sean O'Neill, Christopher Lowman, Richard Warms, Robert Launay, Reece McGee

(2-1460) Entangled Histories and Bundles of Relations: Contemporary Ethnographic Work In and Around Collections

Invited Session - Oral Presentation (In-Person)

Council for Museum Anthropology

2:00 PM - 3:45 PM

Catherine Nichols, Diana Marsh, Kristin Otto, Christopher Berk, Howard Morphy

(3-2233) From Ecomuseum to Museum Family: Developments in China and Taiwan

Poster (In-Person)

Council for Museum Anthropology

4:15 PM - 6:00 PM

Yanqi Wei

(4-3340) Anthropology In/Of Museums and Their Collections

Volunteered - Oral Presentation (In-Person)

Council for Museum Anthropology

4:15 PM - 6:00 PM

Chris Urwin, Lawrence Ramirez, Sylvia Ngo, Meryl Shriver-Rice, Elizabeth Oakley, Foster W. Krupp, Sonia Barragan

VIRTUAL PANELS/PODCASTS/TALKS

(2-1690) "Small Museums—Large Truths"

Oral Presentation (Virtual)

Council for Museum Anthropology

10:15 AM - 12:00 PM

John Bodinger de Uriarte, Sigurjon Hafsteinsson, Joseph Gonzales, Anna Runarsdottir, Bergsveinn Thorsson

(3-2553) A Conversation on Community-led Databases: Surveying Methods of Knowledge Sovereignty

Invited Session - Roundtable / Townhall (Virtual)

Council for Museum Anthropology

4:15 PM - 6:00 PM

Christina Hodge, Diana Marsh, Cara Krmpotich, Ricardo Punzalan, Alexandria Rayburn, Sandrena Raymond

(0-0430) Remediating Sky Blanket: A conversation with Jaad Kuujus.

Podcast (Virtual)

Council for Museum Anthropology

Hannah Turner, Kate Hennessy, Meghann O'Brien

(0-0980) Global Themes in Local Context: A Case Study of a Japanese Human Rights Museum

Talk (Virtual)

Council for Museum Anthropology

Lisa Mueller

(0-1240) Constructing Arab Cultural Heritage from Museums-Based Materials
Talk (Virtual)
Council for Museum Anthropology
Sara Ann Knutson

PREVIOUS REPORTS

Past CMA Reports, including last year's Secretary's, Treasurer's and President's Report are available at:
<https://museumanthropology.org/cma-annual-meeting-reports/>

*Report Submitted by Catherine Nichols
Secretary to the Council for Museum Anthropology
November 11, 2021*