

Society for the History of Women in the Americas (SHAW)

NEWSLETTER, NOVEMBER 2025

SHAW Conference 2026 CFP

Another reminder about the call for papers for our 2026 conference, with the very exciting announcement that next year we will be at the **University of Toulouse Jean Jourès in France!**

We invite papers on any topic relating to histories of women and gender non-conforming people in the Americas, but encourages proposals for papers, panels or roundtables that explore the subject of confinement.

We invite **250 word abstracts** for papers of 20 minutes length. For full panels and roundtable discussions, please include descriptions of all papers proposed. Please submit abstracts along with a 100-word biography of each proposed speaker to shawsociety@gmail.com, by **Monday 12th January 2025**.

More information in the attached CFP!

SEMINAR SERIES

The next exciting instalment of our seminar series is entitled “Overlooked Archives Reveal Lesbian Leadership and Lost Complexities of Gender and Loss in the ACT UP People with Immune System Disorders (PISD) Caucus,” by JD Davids of City University of New York. The seminar is **free** to attend and will take place **on 25th November at 6pm**. Find more information and book at the following link: <https://www.history.ac.uk/news-events/events/overlooked-archives-reveal-lesbian-leadership-lost-complexities-gender-loss-act-people-immune-system>

A message from our new PGR Reps

Our new PGR reps are excited to share a survey they have been working on to gauge what SHAW PGR members might be interested in getting involved in. Please do have a look over the form and fill it in so we can work on making SHAW a more engaging, exciting and useful organisation for postgraduates: [SHAW PGR Survey](#)

Events and opportunities:

BrANCA (The British Association of Nineteenth Century Americanists) Biannual Symposium will take place **December 12-13, 2025 at Université Paris Cité, France.**

The theme is Borders and Ethno-Nationalism: The State of/in Americanist Studies in the Long Nineteenth Century. For further details please see below and refer to the following website: <https://branca-2025.weebly.com/>

BAAS Postgraduate Symposium - BAAS (British Association for American Studies) Postgraduate Symposium will be held at **Teesside University on 29th November 2025**. More information can be found here: <https://baas.ac.uk/news-and-events/2025/07/call-for-papers-baas-postgraduate-symposium-teesside-university-29th-november-2025/>

BAAS Annual Conference CFP - BAAS are delighted to invite submissions for their conference to be held at **University of Glasgow, April 9th-11th 2026**. All proposals should be sent to uofgbaas2026@glasgow.ac.uk, with a copy to conferences@baas.ac.uk by **Friday November 28th 2025**. For more information on the location and theme, follow this link: <https://baas.ac.uk/conferences/baas-2026-university-of-glasgow-9-11-april-2026/>

HOTCUS Winter Symposium CFP - University of Liverpool, Friday 27 February 2026. Its theme is "The American Nation in the Twentieth Century: The Declaration of Independence at 250". Submissions are due Wednesday December 10, 2025. More information here: <https://hotcus.org.uk/events/winter-symposium/>

HOTCUS are also seeking interest in their **new history workshop**: "The aim is to connect people who are currently developing articles or books with expert academic advisors and to facilitate productive conversations about improving initial drafts of work. We hope this will strengthen the quality of HOTCUS-affiliated scholarship collectively and create a fertile environment for us to collaborate on one another's work. We hope to schedule a blend of online workshops for articles during term and more extensive, in-person book workshops at the annual conference. However, the timing of these workshops will depend on levels of interest from HOTCUS members, At this stage we would like to gauge levels of interest to support our planning. Please get in touch if you think that you would:

- Like to submit a completed first-draft of a book manuscript or article (that you intend to submit to a peer-reviewed journal of US history) for feedback. You can be at any stage of your career to submit work but we would probably want to work with a full first draft
- Would be happy to volunteer as a potential workshop participant.

To inform us your interest, could you email Alex Goodall (alex.goodall@ucl.ac.uk), letting him know what role you would like to play, what timings that you are or are not available, or what areas of expertise you'd be keen to help with."

SHAW Steering Committee 25-26 (to be updated):

CHAIR

Dr. Olivia Wright (Leeds Beckett University)

Olivia is an interdisciplinary scholar of the United States based at Leeds Beckett University. Her research explores how different communities have historically used cultural tools and artistic expression to navigate and theorize various manifestations of confinement—both physical sites, such as prisons, psychiatric facilities and reformatory schools, and the various racial, gendered, and socioeconomic confinements that impact upon society more broadly. Her current book project, *Caged Sister: Women's Prison Zines in the United States*, is the first study to collect, analyse, and theorise the long history of collective writing from women's prisons, and is grounded in an analysis of over fifty different publications and nearly 1,000 individual issues gathered through original archival research.

Co-SECRETARY

Dr Hélène Charley

Hélène is an Associate Professor at the University of Toulouse Jean Jaurès. Hélène specializes in American Studies and Film and Television Studies. More specifically, her recent research has focused on contemporary black women filmmakers, aesthetics, and distribution strategies. Her research is grounded on the theoretical background developed by the black feminist scholarship. Hélène brings a wealth of experience to the role and will help expand SHAW's reach into Europe and help to cultivate existing and new connections.

Co-SECRETARY

Dr Rachell Sánchez-Rivera

Rachell is a scholar from Cambridge University, and her interests lie in Eugenics, Racism, Reproductive Justice, Historical Sociology, Sociology of Health and Illness, Critical Race Theory, Disability Studies, Gender, and Queer/Cuír Theory. Her first book, *What Happened to Mexican Eugenics: Racism and the Reproduction of the nation* is currently under review with Cambridge University Press. Her current project focuses on *The Cultural Politics of Reproduction in Latin America* (alongside Dr. Rebecca Ogden, University of Kent). Rachell is a tech guru and plans to record some / all our seminar series and make them available on YouTube to further broaden our reach.

TREASURER

N.B. The post of treasurer is still available, if you are interested, please contact Olivia Wright to discuss the role.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE EDITOR

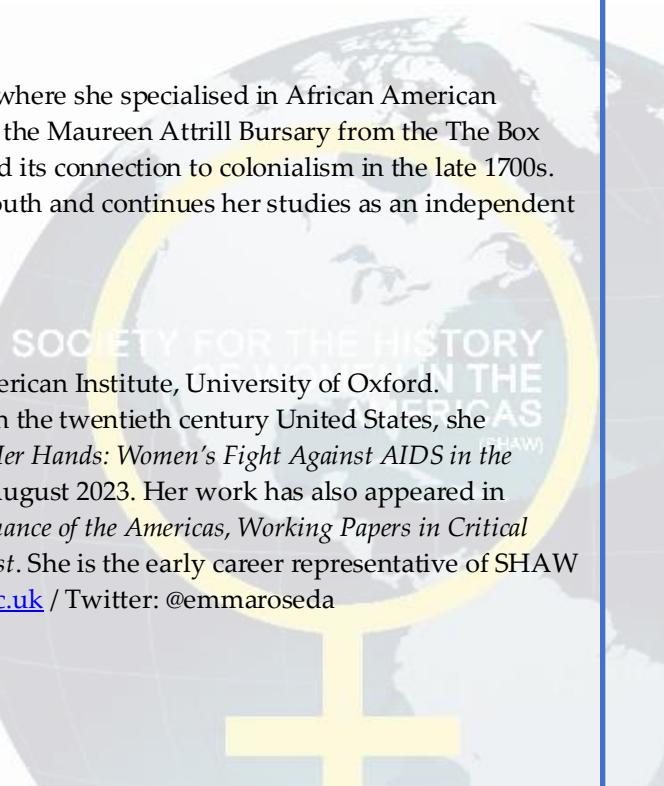
Gabrielle Tymkow

Gabrielle is an MA History graduate from the University of Plymouth, where she specialised in African American History of the early 20th century. In 2020, Gabrielle was the recipient of the Maureen Attrill Bursary from the The Box Museum, looking at the history of the Plymouth Porcelain collection and its connection to colonialism in the late 1700s. Gabrielle is currently the ceramics technician at the University of Plymouth and continues her studies as an independent researcher. gabrielle.tymkow@plymouth.ac.uk

EARLY CAREER REPRESENTATIVE

Dr Emma Day

Emma is a Research Fellow in American History at the Rothermere American Institute, University of Oxford. Specialising in the histories of gender, sexuality, activism, and disease in the twentieth century United States, she completed her PhD in History at Oxford in 2020 and her first book, *In Her Hands: Women's Fight Against AIDS in the United States* is forthcoming from the University of California Press in August 2023. Her work has also appeared in *Modern American History*, *Theatre Annual: A Journal of Theatre and Performance of the Americas*, *Working Papers in Critical Disaster Studies: Historical Approaches to Covid-19*, and the *Washington Post*. She is the early career representative of SHAW and lives in London with her partner and whippet. emma.day@rai.ox.ac.uk / Twitter: @emmaroseda



POSTGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE

Genevieve Johnson

Genevieve is a PhD candidate in the history department at Newcastle University, working on a project around fugitive abolitionism, emancipatory activism and anti-slavery radicalism in the UK, particularly Wales. She has carried out extensive research on forced and coerced Indigenous sterilisation and remains dedicated to this very important work. She contributed a chapter to the collective *Sacred Bundles Unborn* (2021) and has also contributed her research and writing to the BBC history/comedy podcast *You're Dead To Me*. She is the postgraduate representative of SHAW and a member of the Northern Bridge EDI group.

g.johnson6@newcastle.ac.uk

OFFICERS WITHOUT PORTFOLIO

Prof. Kate Dossett

Kate is Professor of American History at the University of Leeds where she researches and teaches Black cultural histories, women and gender history. Her most recent book is *Radical Black Theatre in the New Deal* (2020).

k.m.dossett@leeds.ac.uk

For any general SHAW enquiries please email shawsociety@gmail.com or visit the SHAW website at <https://shawsociety.net>.



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