

# Diana Williams Bell-Kite

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## Education

- College of William and Mary**, Williamsburg, VA, August 2004–August 2005. Master of Arts, Early American and United States History. Thesis entitled: “‘A Nation’s Wail Their Requiem!’: Memory and Identity in the Commemoration of the American Civil War Dead, 1865–1870.”
- Davidson College**, Davidson, NC, August 1998–May 2002. Bachelor of Arts, *Cum Laude*, Honors in History, French minor.
- Institut de Touraine**, Tours, France, October 2000–May 2001.

## Professional Experience

- North Carolina Museum of History**, Raleigh, NC, August 2007–present. Associate Curator. Develop museum’s artifact collections (specifically flat textiles and objects related to religious history, public memory, and Hispanic/Latino history and culture), perform collections research and cataloging, curate museum exhibits, coordinate the museum’s Latino outreach initiative, write and review articles, give public presentations and programs, respond to public inquiries on diverse historical subjects, supervise interns.
- University of North Carolina at Greensboro**, Greensboro, NC, August 2015–present. Adjunct Lecturer. Develop syllabus and teach HIS 547: History Museum Curatorship: Collections Management to Museum Studies graduate students.
- Tryon Palace Historic Sites and Gardens**, New Bern, NC, February 2006–July 2007. Curator of Interpretation. Oversaw research, development, and implementation of interpretive tours, programs, exhibits, and activities. Supervised full- and part-time staff.
- Historic Oak View County Park**, Raleigh, NC, July 2005–February 2006. Part-time Education staff member. Helped create temporary exhibit, conducted educational programs for elementary students.
- Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture**, Williamsburg, VA, August 2004–July 2005. Editorial Apprentice. Copyedited, proofread, and checked quotations and citations for the Institute’s book publication division and the *William and Mary Quarterly*.
- Carolina Academic Press**, Durham, NC, October 2002–July 2004. Accounts Manager. Processed and reconciled accounts, provided customer service, managed Cats Pajamas software, and copyedited and proofread for this small publishing company.
- Orange County Historical Museum**, Hillsborough, NC, July 2003–July 2004. Part-time Docent. Interpreted local history museum on weekends for visitors.
- Historic Stagville**, Durham, NC, June–August 2001. North Carolina State Government Intern. Created a comprehensive volunteer training manual at the site of the largest plantation complex in North Carolina.
- Davidson College French Department**, Davidson, NC, August 1998–May 2000. Part-time Assistant. Aided the associate editor of *The French Review*.
- Bennett Place State Historic Site**, Durham, NC, February 1996–August 1998. Part-time Interpreter. Gave tours of the site of the largest troop surrender of the Civil War.

## Exhibitions

- Los Jets: Playing for the American Dream**, North Carolina Museum of History, Raleigh, N.C., forthcoming April 1, 2016–October 2, 2016. Co-curating this exhibit focused on the first predominantly Latino sports team to win a state-wide championship in North Carolina.
- Made especially for you by Willie Kay**, North Carolina Museum of History, Raleigh, N.C., January 2016–September 5, 2016. Curated this exhibit of formal dresses made by a successful African American fashion designer during the Jim Crow era.

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- Al Norte al Norte: Latino Life in North Carolina***, North Carolina Museum of History, Raleigh, N.C., May 2012–April 2013. Curated this exhibit of José Galvez’s documentary photography—the first exhibit focusing on Latino history and culture ever presented at the museum.
- The Story of North Carolina***, North Carolina Museum of History, Raleigh, N.C., opened April 2011 (permanent exhibit). Co-curated this 20,000 sq. ft. centerpiece permanent chronological history exhibit and secured rights and reproductions for over 650 historical images used in the exhibition.
- In Search of a New Deal: Images of North Carolina, 1935–1941***, North Carolina Museum of History, Raleigh, N.C., October 2009–January 2011. Collaborated with staff at Historic Oak View County Park to adapt this traveling exhibit of documentary photographs from the Farm Security Administration for display at the North Carolina Museum of History.
- Selections from the North Carolina Museum of History***, Raleigh Convention Center, Raleigh, N.C., August 2008–July 2009. Curated this off-site exhibit introducing Raleigh visitors to the North Carolina Museum of History’s collections.
- Everyday Artistry***, North Carolina Museum of History, Raleigh, N.C., August 2008–January 2010. Curated this exhibit of utilitarian decorative objects from the museum’s collection.
- Days of Jubilee: African Americans and the Reconstruction Era in Eastern North Carolina***, Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens, New Bern, N.C., March 2007–March 2008. Curated this panel exhibit for the site’s visitor center.
- Rhythm of the Factory: Life and Labor in North Carolina’s Textile Mill Communities***, Historic Oak View County Park, February–June 2006. Researched and wrote label text for this temporary park exhibit.

### Grants

- “Latino Americans: 500 Years of History,”** Funded at \$10,000 to the North Carolina Museum of History Foundation. Programming grant, National Endowment for the Humanities / American Library Association., July 2015–July 2016. Successfully wrote and administered this grant.
- “Abrir las puertas: Opening the doors to Latino community and culture at the North Carolina Museum of History,”** Funded at \$20,000 to the North Carolina Museum of History. Small Project Support Grant, Social Justice and Equity focus area, Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, Winston-Salem, N.C., January 2012–April 2013. Successfully wrote and administered this grant.
- “Al Norte al Norte: Latino Life in North Carolina,”** Funded at \$9,649.30 to the North Carolina Museum of History Associates. Large Grant, North Carolina Humanities Council, Greensboro, N.C., November 2011–August 2013. Successfully wrote and administered this grant.

### Select Publications

- “Memorials of Satin: Funeral Ribbon Quilts in Context”** *Uncoverings* 37 (Forthcoming 2016).
- “Quilting in North Carolina”** *NCPedia* <http://ncpedia.org>, 2015.
- “Commemorative Quilting”** *Tar Heel Junior Historian Magazine* 53 Fall 2014.
- La Historia de Carolina del Norte*** *North Carolina Museum of History* (Spanish-language gallery guide, 2014), with Susan Horton and Debra Nichols.
- “Gemstones”** and **“SNCC”** *Tar Heel Junior Historian Magazine* 52 (Spring 2013).
- “The Stanly-Spaight Duel”** and **“The Live-at-Home Program”** *NCPedia* <http://ncpedia.org>, 2010.
- “Learning the ‘Live-at-Home’ Lesson”** *Tar Heel Junior Historian Magazine* 49 (Spring 2010).
- “Thinking Outside of the Gallery: An Adventure in Off-site Exhibition”** *ALHFAM Bulletin* 40 (Spring 2010).
- “A Deadly Contest: The Stanly-Spaight Duel”** *Tar Heel Junior Historian Magazine* 48 (Fall 2008).
- Numerous articles in museum publications: *Circa*, *The Palace Magazine*, and *Living History Classroom*.

### Select Conference Presentations

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- “Abrir las puertas: Opening your institution’s doors to North Carolina’s Latino community and culture,”** *North Carolina Museums Council Annual Meeting*. Raleigh, NC, March 2013, with José Villalba, Inés Palacios, Bill McCrea, and José Galvez.
- “Constructing ‘Core:’ the North Carolina Museum of History’s Chronological History Exhibit,”** *North Carolina Museums Council Annual Meeting*. Raleigh, NC, March 2010, with RaeLana Poteat, RoAnn Bishop, and Bill McCrea.
- “Thinking Outside of the Gallery: An Adventure in Offsite Exhibition,”** *Association of Living History, Farm and Agriculture Museums Annual Meeting*. Winston-Salem, NC, June 2009.
- “Leaping Labels: Engaging Visitors Whether Your Site is High-Tech or No-Tech,”** *Association of Living History, Farm and Agriculture Museums Regional Meeting*. Staunton, VA, February 2009, with RaeLana Poteat and RoAnn Bishop.
- “White Husbands, White Wives, ‘Mulatto’ Babies: Divorce, Race, and Democratization in 1830s North Carolina,”** *American Society for Legal History Annual Meeting*. Washington, DC, November 2003, with John Wertheimer and Patrick Baejter.
- “Female Benevolence and the Paradox of Confederate Nationalism: An Alabama Perspective,”** *Alabama Studies Symposium*. Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, AL, July 2003.
- “Confederate Ladies Aid Societies: Did Involvement Offer Advancement?,”** *Innovative Perspectives in History Conference*. Virginia Tech University, Blacksburg, VA, March 2000.

### Invited Presentations

I make an average of 3–4 presentations to interest groups and community groups per year. In recent years these have included presentations to the Capital Quilters’ Guild, Windsor Point Retirement Community, Garner Lions Club, the Crystal Coast Quilters’ Guild, among others.

### Awards

- Annual Meeting Fellowship**, American Alliance of Museums, Atlanta, GA, April 2015. Received funding to travel to and attend this annual conference.
- Award of Merit**, *The Story of North Carolina*, American Association of State and Local History, Salt Lake City, UT, 2012.
- Certificate of Excellence in Exhibition Design**, *The Story of North Carolina*, Southeastern Museums Conference, Williamsburg, VA, 2012.
- Southeast Region Fellowship**, Association of Living History, Farm and Agriculture Museums Annual Meeting, Ottawa, ON, June 2008. Received funding to travel to and attend this annual meeting.
- Kendrick K. Kelley Program in Historical Studies**, Davidson College, Davidson, NC, August 2001–May 2002. Participated in this honors program with research funding for history majors, which culminated in writing a substantial thesis of original historical research, “Female Benevolence and the Paradox of Confederate Nationalism, 1861-1870.”

### Related Professional Experience

- State Employees Combined Campaign**, Raleigh, NC, June 2014–December 2014. Served as the Department of Cultural Resources co-chairperson for this charitable giving drive.
- North Carolina Museum of History Latino Community Advisory Board**, Raleigh, NC, February 2012–present. Serve as founder and chairperson on this museum committee that advocates for and advises on the inclusion of Latino history and culture in the museum’s exhibits and programs.
- Literacy Council of Wake County**, Raleigh, NC, September 2010–August 2013, ESL tutor for two Spanish-speaking adults with whom I met twice weekly, 2012 ESL tutor of the year.
- North Carolina State University Encore Program**, Raleigh, NC, May–June 2010. Developed and taught a summer course titled “Explorations in Public Memory” in this continuing education program for senior adults.

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**Historic Oak View County Park Advisory Board**, Raleigh, NC, January 2008–present. Serve on the advisory board of this nineteenth-century historic farm complex and agricultural history educational center, chair 2011-2013.

### **Language Skills**

**English**, native language

**French**, fluent (speaking, reading, writing)

**Spanish**, intermediate (reading), elementary (speaking, writing)