

Shani Roper, PhD

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Accomplished and well-versed Caribbean Public Historian with over ten years experience working with the Jamaican museums.

EDUCATION

PhD History	Department of History (2013), Rice University, Houston, TX (2013) <i>Dissertation</i> : “Ah Almshouse Ting Dat: Developments in Poor Relief and Child Welfare in Jamaica during the Interwar years”
MA History	Rice University, Houston, TX (2009) <i>Specialized in Caribbean, African American and World History</i>
MA History	University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica 2006 <i>Concentration in Early Twentieth Century Jamaican History; Thesis ‘The Visibility of Children in Jamaica 1925 – 1938’</i>
BA History	University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica 2002

PROFESSIONAL AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Officer, Liberty Hall: The Legacy of Marcus Garvey July 2015 – Present

- Editor, *76 King Street, Journal of Liberty Hall: The Legacy of Marcus Garvey*
- Conduct Research and Publish papers on Garveyism, Black Nationalism and Culture and/or Pan Africanism
- Make media and public Presentations on Garveyism and Pan Africanism
- Work with the Director/Curator to maintain the Marcus Mosiah Garvey Multimedia Museum
- Work with the Director/Curator to develop programming for Liberty Hall and the Museum
- Provide support to the museum tour guide, administrator and librarian
- Attend international conferences and network with museum professionals, scholars and activists
- Chairman, Institute of Jamaica Researchers and Curators Committee

Acting Director, Liberty Hall: The Legacy of Marcus Garvey Oct. 2016 – October 2017 & March 2019 - present

- Oversee the programming for Liberty Hall: the Legacy of Marcus Garvey
- Write reports
- Oversee senior and administrative staff
- Secure funding and Maintain the infrastructure of Liberty Hall

- Network with museums and government agencies and bodies
- Network with NGO's and academic institutions
- Oversee the maintenance of the Marcus Mosiah Garvey Multimedia Museum and Liberty Hall's community based programming

Assistant Curator, Museum of History and Ethnography Aug 2002 – Aug 2007

- Conducted research on artifacts and for exhibitions; wrote exhibition scripts
- Provided Assistance to Education Officers at request
- Oversee the People's Museum of Craft and Technology
- Made media and public presentations

Acting Curator, Museum of History and Ethnography June 2006 – Sept. 2006

- Supervised all Assistant Curators and Curatorial Assistants for Museums Division and all Museum Out Stations
- Conducted research and wrote exhibition scripts
- Coordinated research and mounting of permanent and temporary exhibitions
- Conducted media interviews

Acting Education Officer, African Caribbean Institute of Jamaica/Jamaica Memory Bank (ACIJ/JMB) Aug 2004 – Feb 2005

- Arranged outreach for students of all age ranges
- Conducted seminars on the intangible heritage of Jamaica to all primary, secondary, tertiary and adult groups
- Mounted displays on Jamaican Culture (*Our West African Heritage*)
- Provided assistance to Research Officers and ACIJ Librarians

CONSULTANCIES

Parliamentary Project to Rehabilitate the Image of Alexander Bedward in manner that is true to the historical record and make suitable for National Honour. Done in conjunction with Mr. Andre Hylton (former Member of Parliament), Rev. Dr. Garnett Roper, and Dr. Veront Satchell, January 2016

Training Jamaican Urban Transit Company Tour Guides on the History of Kingston for City of Kingston Tour, September 2015

Interview with Karen Marks Mafundikwa on Twentieth Century Jamaica for the film, *The Price of Memory*, July 2013 (http://www.afropunk.com/profiles/blogs/feature-the-price-of-memory-karen-marks-mafundikwa-s-documentary?xg_source=activity)

ACADEMIC POSTS

McPherson/Eveillard Postdoctoral Fellow/Lecturer, Department of Afro-American Studies
Smith College, Northampton, MA August 2013 – June 2015

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

"Centering Women in Jamaica's Poor Relief Administration: the 1930s." *Caribbean Studies* 46 no. 2 (July – December 2018) forthcoming

'A Depraved Class: Regulating Juvenile Delinquency through Legislation in Colonial Jamaica 1881 – 1904' *Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth* Vol. 10 no. 1, 2017, pp. 62 – 80

Punishment, Discipline and Agency in the Government Reformatory in Colonial Jamaica 1869 – 1885' *Journal of Caribbean History* vol. 50 no. 2, 2016, pp. 200 - 221

Veront Satchell and Shani Roper, "The William James Foundry 1817-1843: An Expose of Local Metallurgical Enterprise," in *Industrial Archaeology Review* Vol XXIX no. 2 (November 2007) pp. 105-115

Book Chapters

'Creating Good Colonial Citizens: Industrial Schools and Reformatories in Victorian Jamaica' in Wayne Modest and Tim Barringer (eds) *Victorian Jamaica* (Duke University Press, 2018) 190 - 208

Exhibition Reviews

The Boundaries Between: Fashioning in "Beyond Fashion" *Aica Caraibe du Sud* March 7, 2019 (<https://aica-sc.net/2019/03/07/the-boundaries-between-fashioning-in-beyond-fashion/>)

Exhibition Catalogues

"We have met before: Transatlantic Dialogues through the Arts" for the joint British Consul and National Gallery of Jamaica exhibition "We Have Met Before" September 22, 2017.

Conference Proceedings

'Perceptions of Children in Jamaica' in Aldrie Henry-Lee and Julie Meeks Gardner (eds) *Promoting Child Rights through Research: Select Papers from the Caribbean Child Research Conference 2006 Volume 1* (Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies: University of the West Indies, Cave Hill, Mona and St. Augustine, 2008)

Works in Progress

Book Project

'Eradicate before you Educate: Juvenile Criminality and Social Control in Jamaica 1869 – 1948'

Articles

Writing Histories of Trauma for Children: Liberty Hall and Interventions through a Public History Practice

Dictionary Entries

'Grantley Herbert Adams'; 'Robert Llewellyn Bradshaw'; 'Henry Loving'; 'Ralph Brusch Cleghorn,' *Dictionary of Caribbean and Afro-Latin American Biography* edited by Henry Louis Gates and Franklin Knight. Oxford University Press, 2016

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

'Sankofa: An Evaluation of Educational Programming for History Students and Student Teachers,' Museums Association of the Caribbean, UWI Cavehill, Barbados
November 2018

'Colonial Welfare and Girlhood: Girls' Work and Lives at the Government Reformatory in Jamaica 1869 – 1937,' Association of Caribbean Historians, UWI Cavehill, Barbados
June 2018

'Liberty Hall: The Legacy of Marcus Garvey: Building a Positive Sense of Self Among Children,' Tilting Axis 3: Curating the Caribbean, Cayman Islands, May 2017

'Defining Black Girlhood: Girls Work and Lives in the Government Reformatory in Jamaica 1869 – 1937' Global History of Black Girlhood Conference, University of Virginia, March 2017

"Exterminate those wicked dispositions": Defining Deviance among Afro-Jamaican Youth in the early Reformatory Movement 1859 – 1896,' Association for the Worldwide Study of the African Diaspora, South Carolina November 2015

Corporal Punishment, Discipline and Agency in the Government Reformatory in Jamaica 1869 – 1896 *Social History Project: 150th Anniversary of the Morant Bay Rebellion*
October 2015. University of the West Indies, Mona Campus

Organizer, 'Captive Childhoods: Citizenship, Gender and Labor in the Atlantic' Society for the History of Childhood and Youth, Biennial Conference June 2015. Also presenting 'Every House Needs One: Apprenticeship and Child Labor in Industrial Schools in Colonial Jamaica 1900 – 1938'

Organizer 'Colonial Discourses in Poverty, Public Health and Welfare in the Caribbean' Association of Caribbean Historians Annual Conference, May 2015. Presented 'Age and the Gendered Dimensions of Poverty: The Evolution of Poor Relief in Colonial Jamaica, 1877 - 1896

'Discourses of Gender, Childhood and Delinquency: A look at Childhood and Citizenship in Industrial Schools in Colonial Jamaica 1918 – 1938' American Historical Association, Annual Conference January 2015

'Organizer, 'In Search of a Brighter Future: Children in Jamaica's Transition from Slavery to Freedom 1788 - 1918,' Also presented 'An Undesirable Class: State Responses to Illegitimacy and Juvenile Delinquency in Jamaica 1868-1918,' American Historical Association' Annual Conference January 2014

- 'Diseased Childhoods: Child Labor and Disability in the Government Reformatory in Colonial Jamaica, 1869 – 1875' Five College Childhood Studies Seminar, March 2014
- 'Performing Power: Child Labor and Violence in Colonial Jamaica 1869 – 1896,' *New Perspectives on Violence and Revolution in the African Diaspora*, The George and Ann Richards Civil War Era Center at the Pennsylvania State University, April 2014
- 'Childhood, Delinquency and Social Control: Explorations in Legislation Tackling Juvenile Delinquency in Colonial Jamaica, 1881 – 1904,' *The Law and the Child in Historical Perspective*, University of Minnesota Law School, June 2014
- 'A Almshouse Ting Dat': Navigating Poor Relief in Early Twentieth Century Jamaica,' Department of History, Postgraduate Seminar (University of the West Indies, Mona Campus) February 2012
- 'A Better Jamaica Lies Ahead: Reflections on Children in Jamaica's History' Heritage Week at Jamaica Theological Seminary (Kingston, Jamaica) October 2012
- 'The Struggle for Autonomy: Case Studies of Conflict between Local Authorities and Central Government in Jamaica in 1885, 1923 and 1984' *Jamaica Fifty History Conference*, Department of History, University of the West Indies (Mona Campus, Jamaica) November 2012
- 'British Colonial Policy and its Impact on the British West Indies 1929 – 1938' Houston-Area Phi Alpha Theta History Consortium, Houston Baptist University, Houston, Texas, April 2009
- 'Perceptions of Children 1914 – 1938' *Caribbean Child Research Conference*, Jamaica Pegasus Hotel, Kingston. 2006
- 'Revealing Children in Kingston 1938' Social History Project Symposium (University of the West Indies, Mona Campus) March 2006
- 'Colonial Policy and the Welfare of Children in Kingston 1922 – 1938,' Department of History, Postgraduate Seminar (University of the West Indies, Mona Campus) December 2005
- 'Paradigms of Museums in the Caribbean,' *Archaeological Society of Jamaica Annual Symposium* (University of the West Indies, Mona Campus) April 2003

AWARDS

Captain Charles Septimus Longcope Award: Awarded for best thesis written by students in the Department of History, Rice University (May, 2013)

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

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| June 2016 | CHASE Fund, for the publication of Volume Three of <i>76 King Street: Journal of Liberty Hall: The Legacy of Marcus Garvey</i> |
| June 2010 | Jamaica Foundation of Houston Scholarship |

April 2010

The Dunlevie Teaching Fellowship, Rice University

January 2010

Wagoner Travel Grant, Rice University

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association of Caribbean Historians

Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora

Jamaica Historical Society

Society for the History of Childhood and Youth

Museum Association of the Caribbean