

# Kristyn Scorsone

New York/New Jersey

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## **EDUCATION**

- Present      Ph.D. Candidate, American Studies, Rutgers University-Newark  
Proposed graduation date: May 2023
- 2017          M.A. History, Rutgers University-Newark  
Thesis: *Invisible Pathways: Entrepreneurship by Queer Women of Color in Newark.*  
Advisor: Whitney Strub
- 2015          B.A. History, Women's and Gender Studies minor, Rutgers University-Newark

## **TEACHING**

### **Rutgers University-Newark**

- Instructor  
Department: History  
Course: History of Newark (Fall 2022)
- Instructor  
Department: History  
Course: Oral History: Storytelling as Resistance (Summer 2022)
- Instructor  
Department: History  
Course: African American History I (Fall 2021)
- Teaching Assistant under Dr. Mary Rizzo  
Department: History  
Course: Black Arts Movement and Cultural Activism (Spring 2021)
- Instructor  
Department: American Studies Department  
Course: Introduction to American Studies (Spring 2018)
- Proctor for Dr. Ruth Feldstein  
Department: Federated Department of History  
Course: History of Western Civilization I. (December 2018)
- Recitation Instructor under Junius Williams, Esq.  
Department: Honors Living-Learning Community (HLLC)  
Course: Local Citizens in a Global World (Fall 2016)

### **Kearny Public Schools**

- Substitute Teacher (2013–2015)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- “Glitter on Halsey Street: Queer and Trans World-Making in Newark, 1970s-present” in *Queer Newark*, ed. Whitney Strub (Rutgers University Press, forthcoming 2023).
- Op-ed with Dominique Rucker, “[LGBTQ+ students should see themselves represented in](#)

- [history, too,”](#) *The Star-Ledger*, August 2022.
- “[Pride Month Q&A](#),” 94.5 PST, June 22, 2021.
- “[A call for resources on sexual harassment and gender discrimination in public history](#),” *History@Work*, March 2021.
- “[Queer Like Us: A Conversation with the Queer Newark Oral History Project](#),” Audible.com, June 2020.
- “[Invisible Pathways: Public History by Queer Black Women in Newark](#),” *The Public Historian*, May 2019.
  - Listed as among the five “Most-Read Articles” in *The Public Historian*, October 2020.
- “[The Queer Newark Oral History Project](#),” *Get Out!*, August 15, 2018.
- “[Brick City’s Queer Oral History Project Shines Light on Black LGBT Past](#),” *Out in Jersey*, April 22, 2017.
- “[Emerging LGBTQ Scholars Reflect on Dawn of Trump Presidency](#),” *OutHistory.org*, January 2, 2016.
- “[Dispatch from Fireball in Newark: The Ballroom Scene and Legendary Houses](#),” *Notchesblog.com*, May 12, 2016.
- “[Making Art, Resisting Detention](#),” *States of Incarceration.org*, Humanities Action Lab, 2016.
- Staff blogger for [Los Angeles Music Blog](#). (2010–2011) Link to Facebook page; the official website is no longer in operation.

## **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

### **National Council of Public History Travel Award (2023)**

- The Graduate Student Travel Award provides assistance for conference travel costs for five graduate students who will present a poster or will participate in a session or working group at the NCPH annual meeting.

### **Graduate Student Travel Award (2023)**

- Awarded by the Rutgers University-Newark Graduate School. These awards are designed to provide GSN (School 26) students with support to cover costs associated with attending, and presenting their research at, prestigious national and international academic conferences.

### **Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship (2022-2023; 2021-2022)**

- Awarded by the Rutgers University-Newark Graduate School, the Dean's Dissertation Fellowship is the Graduate School's most prestigious and comprehensive financial award for students in the last year of their doctoral programs.
- Initially awarded for 2021-2022 academic year. Opted for an extension of TA/GA stipend due to COVID19 funding.

### **Henry Rutgers Graduate Fellowship (2021-2022)**

- Awarded by the Rutgers University-Newark Graduate School.

### **Jan Herman Veenker Award (2016)**

- Awarded by the Circle of Friends organization and Rutgers University-Newark Women’s and Gender Studies Program for creative, outstanding, and positive leadership in developing and implementing programs and services that meet the needs of diverse communities of Greater Newark and beyond.

### **The Beth Niemi Award for Excellence in Women's and Gender Studies (2015)**

- Given for outstanding work in Women's and Gender Studies at Rutgers University-Newark.

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Rutgers University-Newark Digital Humanities Research Institute (January 2022)**

- The Rutgers University—Newark Digital Humanities Research Institute (RUN-DHRI) is a four-day series of virtual workshops hosted by Dana Library January 10-13, 2022. The RUN-DHRI is supported by the P3 Collaboratory and generous donations from RU-N alumni, with instructor training provided through the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), and the City University of New York (CUNY) Graduate Center.

### **PUBLIC AND DIGITAL HUMANITIES PROJECTS**

#### **Monument Lab, Residency, 2020**

- Invited to be one of nine New Jersey-based artists/public historians to participate in a research residency for Monument Lab working in collaboration with the New Jersey Historical Commission and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, both divisions of the New Jersey Department of State. Projects will influence early-stage event planning for the U.S. Semi quincentennial beginning in 2026.
- Submitted a multi-media public art and history proposal that engages the public in thinking about the ways in which a Revolutionary War monument in Newark would be in tension with the city's LGBTQ history, especially as it pertains to queer people of color.

#### ***Queer Newark Oral History Project Podcast*, Host/Producer, 2018-2019**

- Created, produced, and hosted a podcast for the Queer Newark Oral History Project to engage the wider public in a multi-racial queer and trans history.
- Hosted on the QNOHP website and iTunes via Libsyn.

#### ***Oral History of Joel Conarroe*, Oral Historian, 2018**

- Interviewed Joel Conarroe, editor, and president of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation on his friendship with American novelist Philip Roth for the Newark Public Library. Edited and transcribed audio. *At Home in Newark: Stories from the Queer Newark Oral History Project*, Curatorial Team, 2017
- Researched, curated, installed and assessed a traveling exhibit on the urban queer community of Newark, New Jersey using the digital repository of oral histories collected by the Queer Newark Oral History Project as part of a graduate seminar under Dr. Mary Rizzo. Our class partnered with the Newark Public Library, a community advisory board comprised of members of the Newark LGBTQ community, scholarly advisors, and an advanced graphic design class at Rutgers University-Newark. The exhibit was on display at the Newark Public Library from December 2017-March 2018 and is on permanent display at Rutgers-Newark.

#### ***Boricuas in the Garden: The Story of Puerto Ricans in New Jersey*, Curatorial Team, 2017**

- Co-curated with Ingrid Betancourt, Chief Librarian for Special Collections and Yesenia López, Director of the New Jersey Hispanic Research and Information Center at the Newark Public Library on the history of Puerto Ricans in New Jersey.

#### ***Touring the Elizabeth Detention Center: A Diary Comic*, Artist and Author, 2017**

- Wrote and drew a comic based on my experience touring the Elizabeth Detention Center,

which I attended as part of a graduate seminar on Public History and Mass Incarceration. Distributed free copies at the opening reception for *States of Incarceration: Seeking Asylum, Resisting Detention* held on October 18, 2017 at the Project for Empty Space in Newark, New Jersey and donated the artwork to our local partner, First Friends of NY and NJ. *Touring the Elizabeth Detention Center: A Diary Comic* was also featured in a news story and article "Behind the Doors of Immigrant Detention" on *Voice of America* by Aline Barros, November 14, 2017.

*My Newark Story*, Digitization Team, 2017.

- Assisted with digitization of archival photographs to mapping website, HistoryPin.org, for the Newark Public Library.

*States of Incarceration: Seeking Asylum, Resisting Detention*, Curatorial Team, 2015

- Co-curated a portion of the Humanities Action Lab (HAL) *States of Incarceration* exhibit, which was part of a larger national exhibit on mass incarceration as part of a graduate seminar on Public History and Mass Incarceration under Dr. Mary Rizzo. Working with another graduate student, we submitted a digital photography exhibit featuring immigrant detainee artwork in partnership with First Friends of New Jersey and New York, an advocacy organization for detained immigrants and asylum seekers. Co-presented with three other graduate students our work on behalf of our class at the States of Incarceration Conference on April 15, 2016 at the New School's Theresa Lang Student and Community Center.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

- Workshop Facilitator. "Queering the Past: Teaching New Jersey's LGBTQ+ History in K-12 Schools," Montclair State University – Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Education Project. January 31, 2023.
- Workshop Facilitator. "Teaching with Local Stories: The Power & Possibility of LGBTQ+ Oral History for Student Learning," Teaching Against Erasure, Rutgers University-Newark. November 12, 2022.
- Guest Speaker. "The Practice of Oral History: The Queer Newark Oral History Project," Dr. Jennifer Musial's LGBTQ Social Change undergraduate class, New Jersey City University. October 27, 2022. Dr. Musial invited me to return after my presentation last year.
- Moderator. "LGBTQ Educators Panel Discussion" for the Queer Newark Oral History Project. June 22, 2022.
- Panelist. "The Future is Queer: Challenges and Triumphs" for the Town of Maplewood Art and Culture's Pride month events. June 11, 2022.
- Moderator. Revolution NJ series: "Big Ideas: Concepts for the 250<sup>th</sup> - How Does Society Shape Individual Actions and Beliefs?" New Jersey Historical Commission. Virtual talk. March 23, 2022.
- Guest Speaker. "A History of Absences: Making Community Visible." Dr. Joseph Plaster's Queer Oral History undergraduate course, Johns Hopkins University. Virtual talk. February 8, 2022.
- Training. "Creating Safe Spaces for LGBTQ Colleagues and Coworkers." Academic Foundations Center, Rutgers University-Newark. Virtual presentation. February 7, 2022.
- Training. "Creating Safe Spaces for LGBTQ Colleagues and Coworkers." BOLD Women's Leadership Network, Rutgers University-Newark. Virtual presentation. November 12, 2021.

- Guest Speaker. “The Practice of Oral History: The Queer Newark Oral History Project,” Dr. Jennifer Musial’s LGBTQ Social Change undergraduate class, New Jersey City University. October 28, 2021.
- Guest Speaker. “Newark Launch of The Institute for the Study of Global Racial Justice.” Virtual event. September 23, 2021.
- Training. “Creating Safe Spaces.” Professional development workshop. East Orange School District. Virtual presentation. September 2, 2021.
- Radio Interview. “PopCrush Nights.” Interview for Pride Month with Kayla Thomas. 94.5 PST, Central New Jersey. June 22, 2021.
- Presenter. “LGBTQ+ Museum Stories Make Us Happy Hour.” New England Museum Association. Virtual session. May 19, 2021.
- Presenter. “Lessons Learned, Paths Taken, and What Lies Ahead.” National Council on Public History 2021 Annual Meeting. Virtual session. March 8-27, 2021.
- Invited Presenter. “The Queer Newark Oral History Project.” Organized by Dr. Anne M. Valk (CUNY) and Dr. Ellen Noonan (NYU) for their Urban Listeners group of local documentarians. Virtual presentation. November 16, 2020.
- Invited Presenter. “Queer Newark: An Archive of Pride.” Newark Public Library, Newark, NJ. Virtual presentation. June 10, 2020.
- Invited Presenter. “Protecting Newark’s History.” Newark Public Library, Newark, NJ. Virtual presentation. May 6, 2020.
- Cancelled due to COVID19 pandemic:
  - Presenter at the 2020 National Council on Public History Conference. Atlanta, GA.
  - Presenter at 2020 Berkshire Conference of Women Historians. Baltimore, MD.
- Discussion Leader. “Tell Me a Story: A Queer Newark Oral History Workshop.” Telling Untold Histories Unconference. Rutgers University - Newark. April 26, 2019.
- Panel Organizer. Queer Newark Oral History Project Pop Up. National Council on Public History 2019 Annual Meeting. Hartford, CT. March 28, 2019.
- Invited Presenter. “Queer Newark Oral History Project: A Live Oral History with Angela Raine.” Audible, Inc. Newark, NJ. November 13, 2018.
- “Self-Expression in Newark’s Popular Culture” panel. New Jersey History Forum. Monmouth University. West Long Branch, NJ. November 2, 2018.
- Moderator. Oral History Roundtable with Linda Caldwell Epps, President and CEO of 1804 Consultants; Maria Santiago, oral historian and archivist at StoryCorps; and Krista White, Digital Scholarship and Pedagogies Librarian at the John Cotton Dana Library, Rutgers University-Newark. Queer Newark Oral History Project: Oral History Bootcamp. Newark Public Library, Newark, NJ. October 19, 2018.
- Invited Presenter. PhD Workshop. Rutgers University-Newark. October 15, 2018.
- Invited Presenter. “Queer Newark Oral History Project: A Community’s Response to the Problem of Invisibility.” Mathematica Policy Research. Princeton, NJ. June 20, 2018.
- “Making Place Queer: LGBTQ History and Preservation” panel. 2018 NJ History and Historic Preservation Conference. Passaic County Community College. Paterson, NJ. June 8, 2018.
- “Let’s Listen: Presenting Diverse Oral Histories” panel. New Jersey Library Association Annual Conference. Atlantic City, NJ. May 31, 2018.
- Discussion Leader. “Oral History Bootcamp Part 2.” Telling Untold Histories Unconference. Newark Public Library. Newark, NJ. May 17, 2018.
- “Creating Absent Archives: Empowering Community Histories” panel. National Council on Public History 2018 Annual Meeting. Las Vegas, NV. April 20, 2018.
- Discussion Leader. “LGBTQ: Responsible Stories/Privacy & Safety” Telling Untold Histories Unconference. Rutgers University-Newark. May 11, 2017.

- Moderator. “Archives and Activism in Newark: Documenting Newark’s Long History of Civil Rights” panel. Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference. Newark, NJ. April 21, 2017.
- “In Honor of Horacio N. Roque Ramírez, Part 1: Oral History as Queer Archive: Listening with Horacio N. Roque Ramírez” panel. American Historical Association 131<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting. Denver, CO. January 6, 2017.
- “Seeking Asylum, Resisting Detention” panel. Humanities Action Lab: States of Incarceration Launch Exhibition. Collaborated with the director of First Friends of NJ and NY, a local an advocacy group for detained immigrants and refugees, to curate an exhibit of immigrant detainee artwork. New School, NYC. April 15, 2016.
- Presenter. “HistoryPin How To.” Telling Untold Histories Unconference. Rutgers University-Newark, NJ. May 13, 2016.
- Co-moderator. “Historical Legacies: Pioneers” panel with Newark LGBTQ+ AIDS activists. Rutgers University-Newark, NJ. October 21, 2015.

### **GUEST LECTURES**

- Film: *Modern Times* (1936). Topics in US History: American Popular Cultures, 1890-1945. Rutgers University-Newark. November 6, 2018.
- Film: *Unforgivable Blackness* (2004). Perspectives in US History: The Civil Rights Movement. Rutgers University-Newark. November 6, 2018.
- Oral history as a methodology. Queer Newark Oral History. Rutgers University-Newark. March 23, 2017.
- Discussion of queer identity and discussion of the Queer Newark Oral History Project. Women (Gender), Culture, and Society. Seton Hall University. October 17, 2017.

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

#### **Researcher**

#### **Apple**

#### **Remote (December 2022 – April 2023)**

- Worked closely with Apple’s Research and Strategy team dedicated to cultural moments on a research project for Pride 2023. My expertise and point of view will be used to inform how editorial and design teams across Apple Services honor Pride-led narratives globally.
- Apple’s 2023 theme: Stronger Together. My research explores solidarity and allyship in the LGBTQIA+ community through a narrative framework I devised based on my work as an oral historian with the Queer Newark Oral History Project at Rutgers University-Newark.
- Final deliverables: final research presentation, media list, and presentations of my research in multiple meetings with other teams across Apple including Strategy, Design, Editorial, Diversity and Inclusion, and Apple’s executives.

#### **Intern Manager**

#### **Humanities Action Lab**

#### **Rutgers University-Newark (Summer 2022)**

- Train and manage cohort of summer interns for the Newark Community Voices internship as they create short historical documentaries in partnership with a community organization, Newark Water Coalition.

## **Volunteer Manager**

### **Queer Newark Oral History Project**

#### **Rutgers University-Newark (2018–2020; Spring 2022)**

- Recruit, train, and manage student and community volunteers, assist with events, update website, manage social media, and conduct oral history interviews with various former and present LGBTQ community members.
- Led a partnership with Audible Inc. headquartered in Newark, NJ. QNOPH marched with Audible Pride in the 2019 New York City Pride Parade, which was nationally televised on ABC7. QNOHP and Audible Pride also marched together in the 2019 Newark Pride March.

## **Event Planner**

### **Queer Newark Oral History Project**

#### **Rutgers University-Newark (2021)**

- Event planner for fall/spring 2021-2022 semesters under an incubation grant awarded by the New Jersey Council for the Humanities (NJCH).

## **Graduate Assistant**

### **Humanities Action Lab**

#### **Rutgers University-Newark (2019–2020; Summer 2021)**

- Managed social media accounts and websites.
  - Led social media initiative where HAL *Climates of Inequality* and *States of Incarceration* exhibit partners could “takeover” HAL social media channels to provide firsthand accounts of the exhibit and related programming as it traveled to their host location.
  - Shared the stories of frontline organizers across the country during the COVID19 pandemic and Black Lives Matter uprisings.
- Helped shape HAL projects such as The Translocal Learning Studio (TLS) and the Mass Listening Project. The TLS consists of online modular sessions through Zoom that include undergraduate and graduate students, members of community organizations, and faculty from HAL’s 20+ partner communities. Participants engage in a nonhierarchical dynamic as both teachers and learners to collaboratively challenge modes of justice-centered public history. The Mass Listening Project collects submissions of stories dealing with the intersections of the COVID19 pandemic and environmental justice issues. Both projects were new approaches for HAL that were developing in real time.
- Created organizational system and inventory for content and metadata submitted by HAL’s national and global partners that included images, video, text captions, map data, and audio files as well usage permissions which were used in HAL’s *Climates of Inequality* physical and online exhibit.
- Assisted in publishing the *Climates of Inequality* exhibit on HAL’s website hosted on WordPress. Worked with developers to troubleshoot and improve functionality as well as provided critical input on a full site redesign.
- Assisted at the 2019 HAL International Convening at Rutgers University-Newark and other events, which included set up, break down, tech, and live social media engagement.
- Trained new team members and organized social events to help morale during the pandemic.

## **Temporary Assistant to Dr. Salamishah Tillet**

### **Clement A. Price Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience**

#### **Rutgers University-Newark (January 2019)**

- Organized Dr. Tillet’s personal library.

**Temporary Assistant to Dr. Mary Rizzo**

**American Studies Department**

**Rutgers University-Newark (Summer 2018)**

- Obtained photograph permissions for Dr. Rizzo's forthcoming book, assisted with preliminary planning for the 2019 Telling Untold Histories unconference, created informational flyers on traveling exhibits for prospective host institutions, performed quality check on exhibit materials, schedule meetings, and organized shared files in Google Drive.

**Graduate Assistant**

**American Studies Department**

**Rutgers University-Newark (2017–2018)**

- Organized events, managed social media, and wrote monthly departmental newsletter.

**Freelance**

**Newark Public Library (2018)**

- Transcribed passages from novels by Philip Roth as part of Centropa curriculum project.

**Graduate Student Assistant**

**Queer Newark Oral History Project**

**Rutgers University-Newark (2015–present)**

- To date, conducted over twenty-five oral history interviews with various former and present LGBTQ community members.
- Received IRB certificate and extensive training to conduct oral histories.
- Organized workshops on podcasting as well as led the creation of a podcast for the project.
- Manage social media, moderate event panels, organize digital files, and attend meetings, events, and workshops.

**Archival Assistant**

**New Jersey Hispanic Research and Information Center**

**Newark Public Library (2016–2017)**

- Processed archival material, created presentations, digitized audio and video collections, uploaded digital collections to CONTENTdm, managed social media, and hosted researchers for the Puerto Rican Community Archives, the only special collection related to this community.

**Temporary Administrative Assistant**

**Office of the Dean of Faculty**

**Rutgers University-Newark (2014)**

- Answered telephones, managed calendar for Associate Dean, organized committee meetings, and general office work.

**Archival Intern**

**Newark Museum-Newark (2014)**

- Created master inventory list and filing system, updated finding aids, assisted researchers, and filed archival material.



## Writer

### LA Music Blog, Los Angeles (2010–2011)

- Wrote multiple articles each week using Wordpress for [www.lamusicblog.com](http://www.lamusicblog.com).
- Photographed concerts and events, interviewed major artists, reviewed albums/videos, and anticipated music trends.

## Production Assistant Intern

### Cosmic Toast Studios, Burbank (2010–2011)

- Script coverage, production assistant, and researcher for projects such as *Bri What?* and Hasbro's *Littlest Pet Shop*.
- Included in writing team for children's television show: *This One 'N That One* created by Jane Seymour.
- Wrote text for an ESL workbook as part of their subsidiary, *Slangman Publishing*.

## Casting Intern

### Extreme Makeover Home Edition, Los Angeles (2009–2010)

- Analyzed high volume mail submissions to select families who fit the parameters of the show, identified red flags among candidates, and pitched quality finds to casting associates.
- Telephoned regional media, community leaders, organizations, and non-profits to promote the show.
- Attended pitch meetings with casting associates and executives.
- Logged episode footage, data entry, arranged meeting rooms and provided refreshments.

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- National Council on Public Humanities
- Committee on Lesbian and Gay History

## SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- Member, NCPH Board-Led Subcommittee on Gender Discrimination and Sexual Harassment, National Council on Public History, 2019-present.
  - Team Leader, Resources Team, 2020-present.
  - I led the creation of a living resources document: "[Gender Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Resources for Public History Practitioners, Consultants, Educators, and Students](#)," August 2021.

## VOLUNTEER WORK

### Sponsored Dancer

#### Newark LGBTQ Community Center Annual Dance-A-Thon (2016–2018)

- Volunteer annually as a dancer to raise money for the Newark LGBTQ Community Center.

### Celebrity Talent Escort

#### GLAAD Media Awards - Los Angeles and New York City (2008–2012)

- Personal assistant to celebrities: Lucy Hale (*Pretty Little Liars*), Lisa Vanderpump (*Real Housewives of Beverly Hills*), Malcolm Ingram (*Small Town Gay Bar*), Cory Monteith (*Glee*), and U.S. Representative Maureen Walsh. Escorted celebrities to red carpet, PSA spot, dinner,

green room stage presentation, and after-party.

**OTHER SKILLS**

- Wix, Audacity, Zoom, Wordpress, and MailChimp.
- Basic understanding of Adobe Premier, Filmic Pro, Final Cut Pro, and OMEKA.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

- Hudson County Democratic Committee. District One representative for Kearny, New Jersey. June 2018– 2021.
- LGBTQ Caucus member serving under the Hudson County Democratic Committee Chair, New Jersey. April 2019.
- Improvisational comedian. Upright Citizens Brigade Theatre, New York City and Los Angeles, 2011–2017.