

Kate Betz, Head of Education at The Bullock Texas State History Museum, leads a team of educators who seek to tell the continually unfolding story of Texas through meaningful educational experiences. She oversees the development and coordination of programs for adults, families, educators and students and manages the museum's ongoing evaluation efforts. Ms. Betz's programs have at their core the desire to share unique experiences with a diversity of people in an environment that encourages life-long learning and development. Prior to coming to the Bullock in 2009, Ms. Betz managed public programming at The Farmers' Museum and the Fenimore Art Museum in Cooperstown, New York. She has a B.A. in American Studies from Wesleyan University and an M.A. in History Museum Studies from the Cooperstown Graduate Program.

Bob Brinkman joined the staff of the Texas Historical Commission in 2001 and is the coordinator of the Historical Markers program, in which capacity he has written 600 or so historical marker inscriptions. Bob graduated from Round Rock High School and earned degrees in cultural geography from the University of Texas and historic architecture from Texas A&M. He has been a member of several heritage groups and has presented papers at Texas State Historical Association, East Texas Historical Association and West Texas Historical Association conferences. Bob also writes sports, history and travel articles for local newspapers. He compiled the recent Arcadia Publishing pictorial history of Round Rock.

Liz Carmack is a copywriter and editor for the Texas Association of Counties (TAC). She coordinates with association staff to produce targeted online and print communications about the organization's services, programs, activities, and mission. Liz shares her love of history and travel through her writing. She writes about Texas history for *County* magazine, which TAC publishes online and in print six times a year. Her latest book—*Rodeo Austin: Blue Ribbons, Buckin' Broncs, and Big Dreams*—was released by Texas A&M University Press in 2012. Her book *Historic Hotels of Texas: A Traveler's Guide* (also released by TAMU) is in its second printing. Liz has a bachelor's degree in journalism from Oklahoma State University and a master's degree in mass communications from the University of Leicester in Leicester, England.

Laura Casey is Coordinator of the Museum Services Program at the Texas Historical Commission, a position that allows her to work directly with small and mid-sized history museums throughout Texas using the skills she developed over the last nineteen years working in the museum field. Before spending nine years working as museum director at museums in Illinois and Kansas she earned a bachelor's degree in History from Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, and a master's degree in Museum Studies from the University of Nebraska.



Madeline Clites joined the THC as a Program Specialist for the County Historical Commission (CHC) Outreach program in July of 2014. In this capacity, she will be promoting the work of CHCs through a series of online articles. Madeline holds a B.A. in historic preservation from the University of Mary Washington in Virginia, and a Master's in historic preservation from the University of Kentucky. Previously, Madeline worked for the Architect of the Capitol at the United States Capitol as a Program Analyst in Historic Preservation. In her spare time, Madeline volunteers with Preservation Austin and the Elisabet Ney Museum in Austin. She looks forward to working with CHCs and sharing their preservation successes so that others may learn and be inspired.

Rebekah Dobrasko is a historian with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in Austin. Originally from Louisiana, she recently moved to Texas from South Carolina, where she served as the Review and Compliance supervisor and state tax credit coordinator with the State Historic Preservation Office. Rebekah has a B.A. in History from Tulane University and an M.A. in Public History from the University of South Carolina. Rebekah is interested in ways TxDOT can assist communities in telling their stories of transportation and local history in a larger Texas context.

Amy Hammons works for the Texas Historical Commission (THC) as a coordinator for the County Historical Commission (CHC) Outreach Program. This program helps CHCs promote local preservation efforts and protect historic resources. Amy began working for the THC in 2002 providing architectural recommendations for federal and state projects affecting historic property. She contributed technical support to projects ranging from hurricane relief in coastal regions to development impacts on the Mission Trail Historic District in San Antonio. Prior to the Commission, she worked for architecture firms contributing to institutional, commercial, and residential projects. Amy earned a Bachelor of Environmental Design degree from Texas A&M University and will finish her master's in the Human Dimensions of Organizations at UT-Austin in December. Amy volunteers with AIA Austin, Preservation Texas, and her church.

Linda Henderson started her career at the Texas Historical Commission in 1997 and has worked with courthouses, military sites, historical markers, and as editor of *The Medallion*. She has been a federal and state project reviewer since 2006 and is currently the agency's liaison to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for non-archeological projects. With degrees in both English and Architecture from the University of Texas at Austin, she enjoys the storytelling side of preservation as well as the more technical aspects of her work.

Born and raised in Austin, **Donna Howard** graduated from Reagan High School and earned a bachelor's degree in nursing (1974) and a master's in health education (1977), both from the University of Texas. She has worked as a critical care nurse at Brackenridge and Seton hospitals, served as the first hospital-based Patient Education Coordinator in Austin, and helped get the Seton Good Health School off the ground. She has served as president of the Texas Nurses Association (District 5) and was a Health Education instructor at UT. A strong advocate for public education, Howard served on the Eanes ISD board in West Austin from 1996 to 1999, and is certified as a Master School Trustee by the Texas Association of School Boards. First elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 2006, Rep. Howard currently serves as Vice-Chair for the House Administration Committee and sits on the Appropriations and Higher Education Committees.

Sarah McCleskey is a historian in the Official Texas Historical Marker Program for the Texas Historical Commission. With the commission since 2005, Sarah currently writes and edits inscriptions for historical markers, processes marker applications and orders, and coordinates with county historical commissions and the general public on matters related to research and markers. She earned a bachelor of arts in history from Texas A&M University in College Station and a master of liberal arts with a concentration in history and social justice from St. Edward's University in Austin

Linda Miller is the Education Outreach Manager for the Bullock Museum's Web and Digital Media Department. She is responsible for writing website content and developing additional materials and programs for both general and student/educator audiences across the state. Linda has an M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction from UT and spent her first career as an award-winning Lake Travis ISD classroom teacher and as a Fulbright Teaching Scholar in Oxford, England. She then moved into her second career in educational publishing as Executive Editor for Instructional Media for Holt, Rinehart and Winston (now Houghton Mifflin Harcourt). Linda is thrilled to be starting her third career at the Bullock Texas State History Museum where amazing things are about to happen in the museum and online!

Evan R. Thompson is the executive director of Preservation Texas, the statewide advocate for preserving the historic resources of Texas. Prior to joining PT earlier this year, he served for four years as executive director of the Preservation Society of Charleston in Charleston, South Carolina, and served six years as executive director of Historic Beaufort Foundation, a National Historic Landmark town in South Carolina. He is a graduate of The University of Texas School of Law and the University of Richmond. In 2011, he was the inaugural recipient of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's American Express Aspire Award, recognizing an emerging national leader in the preservation field.

Katie Raney is the Family Programs Manager at The Bullock Texas State History Museum. Focusing on one of the largest audiences to visit the Bullock Museum, Ms. Raney encourages a family-friendly learning environment for intergenerational groups. Through the creation of programs, events and gallery guides, she helps families discover what they love about Texas history and the Bullock Museum. Ms. Raney also programs for niche audiences, including scout groups and homeschool students, expanding their traditional work to include interdisciplinary learning at the museum. Before joining the Bullock team in 2013, Ms. Raney managed interpretive programming and volunteer efforts for two Texas state parks, and holds a B.A. in history and English from George Mason University.

Leslie Wolfenden, Historic Resources Survey Coordinator for the Texas Historical Commission (THC), manages the Historic Texas Highways and Historic Resources Survey programs. She oversaw the two-year Bankhead Highway Survey project that wrapped up this summer and reviews historic resources survey reports that come into the THC. Her goal is to make survey information available and interesting to the general public for heritage tourism and economic development purposes. Previously, in the private sector, she conducted a broad range of historic resources investigations including urban and rural historic resources surveys, Section 106 and NEPA compliance, and building condition assessments. She has an AA in Interior Design from Bauder College, a BS in Architecture from the University of Texas Arlington, and a MS in Historic Preservation from the University of Texas Austin.

Lisa E. Worley is the Youth Education Specialist for the Texas Historical Commission. After earning a MA in Public History from Colorado State University, she has worked in the museum and history fields as a docent, educator, curator, interpretive specialist and director at museums in Arizona, Colorado, California and Texas, and she spent five years as an historian for a cultural resources management firm. Over her career she has developed educational programs for youth and adults, including summer camps, heritage events, school tours, traveling trunks, hands-on exhibits, book clubs, classroom materials, and lecture series, as well as training programs to introduce volunteers to working with the public. Ms. Worley currently serves as the co-chair of the Austin Museum Partnership and maintains active memberships in Texas Association of Museums, Texas Living History Association, Texas Council for Social Studies, American Alliance of Museums, and Museum Education Roundtable.

