

Ansley T. Erickson

Teachers College, Columbia University
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Academic Appointments

Associate Professor, History and Education Policy, Teachers College, Columbia University, 2017 to present

Co-Director, Center on History and Education, Teachers College, Columbia University, 2018 to present

Scholar-in-Residence, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, New York Public Library, 2017

Affiliated Faculty, Department of History, Columbia University, 2011 to present

Affiliated Faculty, Edmund W. Gordon Institute for Urban and Minority Education, Teachers College, 2013 to present

Assistant Professor, History and Education, Teachers College, Columbia University, 2011 to 2017

Assistant Professor, Cultural Foundations of Education, Syracuse University, 2010-11

Education

Ph.D., United States History, Columbia University, 2010, *with distinction*

Awards

History of Education Society Outstanding Book Award, 2017

History of Education Society Prize for best essay, 2016 (with co-author Andrew Highsmith)

History of Education Society Claude A. Eggertsen Dissertation Prize, 2011

Bancroft Dissertation Prize, Columbia University, 2010

Books

Educating Harlem: A Century of Schooling and Resistance in a Black Community, (New York: Columbia University Press, 2019) (co-edited volume with Ernest Morrell)

Making the Unequal Metropolis: School Desegregation and Its Limits (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2016)

Journal Articles

"How/Should We Generalize?," *History of Education Quarterly* 60th Anniversary Forum, Vol. 60, No. 1 (April 2020): 86-97.

"The Neighborhood Unit: Schools, Segregation, and the Shaping of the Modern Metropolitan Landscape," (Andrew Highsmith, co-author), *Teachers College Record*, Vol. 130 (April 2018)

"Desegregation's Architects: Education Parks and the Spatial Ideology of Schooling," *History of Education Quarterly* Vol. 56, No. 4 (November 2016), 560-589

"Case Study as Common Text: Collaborating in and Broadening the Reach of History of Education," *History of Education Quarterly* Vol. 56, No. 1 (February 2016), 125-133

- “Segregation as Splitting, Segregation as Joining: Schools, Housing, and the Many Modes of Jim Crow” *American Journal of Education* Vol. 121, No. 4 (August 2015), 563-595 (Andrew Highsmith, co-author)
- “Slavery and the American College: Historical Entanglements that Matter for Understanding Inequality Today” (Commentary) *Teachers College Record*, May 30, 2014
- “Building Inequality: The Spatial Organization of Schooling in Nashville, Tennessee after *Brown*.” *Journal of Urban History*, Vol. 38, No. 2 (March 2012), 241-270

Book Chapters

- “Who Decides?: Governing New York City Public Schools since the 1960s,” in Kim Phillips-Fein, Johanna Fernandez, and Mason Williams, ed. *New York City Since the 1960s* (working title), in progress.
- “The Myth of De Facto Segregation,” in Sherman Dorn and David Gamson, ed. *What Everyone Gets Wrong about the History of Education*, in progress. (Andrew Highsmith, co-author)
- “History and Education Policy,” in Lora Cohen-Vogel, Janelle Scott, and Peter Youngs, ed., *AERA Handbook of Education Policy*, forthcoming 2024. (Matthew Gardner Kelly, Michael Hines, Esther Cyna, and Leana Cabral, co-authors).
- “HARYOU: An Apprenticeship for Young Leaders, in Ansley T. Erickson and Ernest Morrell, eds. *Educating Harlem: A Century of Schooling and Resistance in a Black Community* (New York: Columbia University Press, November 2019)
- “Cities in the History of Education,” in John Rury and Eileen Tamura, eds. *The Oxford Handbook of History of Education*, (New York: Oxford University Press, 2019)
- “Schools in U.S. Cities,” in Tim Gilfoyle et al., eds. *The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2018)
- “Fairness, Commitment, and Civic Capacity: The Varied Desegregation Trajectories of Metropolitan School Districts,” in David Gamson and Emily Hodge, eds., *The Shifting Landscape of the American School District* (New York: Peter Lang, 2018)
- “The Rhetoric of Choice: Segregation, Desegregation, and Charter Schools,” in Michael Katz and Mike Rose, eds. *Public Education Under Siege*, (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2013), 122-130 (reprint)

Digital History

- New York City Civil Rights History Project, <http://nyccivilrightshistory.org>
Co-director with Brian Jones, Jessica Murray, and Jeanne Theoharis. Work in progress
- Harlem Education History Project, <http://harlemeducationhistory.library.columbia.edu>
Work in progress in collaboration with Columbia Libraries, Teachers College Digital Futures Institute, Institute for Urban and Minority Education, and other partners.
- The Modern School Oral History Project, [video](#) and [panel discussion](#), Fall 2020 and ongoing work in progress with While We Are Still Here and alumni partners.

Selected Public Communication

- Featured scholar in Nashville Public Education Foundation’s [“By Design: The Shaping of Public Education in Nashville.”](#) 2021.
- Featured scholar in WPLN-Nashville’s [“The Promise” podcast](#), Season 2.

[Interviewee in *School Colors Podcast*, Season 2.](#)

[“Interview with Ansley Erickson, co-editor of *Educating Harlem: A Century of Schooling and Resistance in a Black Community*.”](#) March 23, 2020, *Gotham Blog*.

[“*Educating Harlem: A New Book on School and Resistance in New York*.”](#) Interview with Ansley Erickson and Ernest Morrell, *Black Perspectives*, April 24, 2020.

[“What Nashville can teach New York about school desegregation.”](#) *Washington Post*, September 4, 2019

[“As historians and New York City educators, here’s what we hope teachers hear in the city’s new anti-bias training.”](#) Co-authored with Brian Jones and Adam Sanchez. *Chalkbeat*, May 17, 2018.

[“Integrating the Divided City.”](#) CSPAN BookTV presentation, October 16, 2016

Media Appearances

Quoted in *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, *Education Week*, *Fast Company*, *The Tennessean*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Inside Higher Ed*, *Chalkbeat*, *The Christian Science Monitor*

Fact checking for *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*

Selected Grants and Fellowships

Humanities NY Action Grant, “New York City Civil Rights History Project,” 2023 (\$10,000)

National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Institute for Teachers, Harlem’s Education Movements: Changing the Civil Rights Narrative,” 2023 (co-director, with Brian Jones and the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, New York Public Library) (\$180,000)

National Public Historic Records Commission, National Archives Public Engagement Grant for New York City Civil Rights History Curriculum, 2020-22 (co-director with Brian Jones, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, New York Public Library and Jeanne Theoharis, Brooklyn College, City University of New York) (\$270,000)

National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Institute for Teachers, Harlem’s Education Movements: Changing the Civil Rights Narrative,” 2019/postponed to 2021 (co-director, with Brian Jones and the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, New York Public Library) (\$140,000)

HumanitiesNY, Documenting the Modern School, 2019 (\$5000)

National Academy of Education/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2011-13 (\$60,000)

Selected Recent Invited Presentations and Guest Lectures

“Thinking aloud about Space and Black Placemaking in a Harlem School,” Voices of the Movement Conference, Penn State University, April 2023.

Panelist, Conditions in Harlem Revisited: From the 1936 Mayor’s Commission Report to Today, Schomburg Center of the New York Public Library and Municipal Archives of New York, September 2023.

Host and discussant, “Fugitive Pedagogy: Carter G. Woodson and the Art of Black Teaching,” Reimagining Education Summer Institute, Teachers College, July 2021, with Jarvis R. Givens

Panelist, “Historical Perspectives on Racial Justice and Injustice,” Just Education Policy Institute, June 1,

2021.

“Educating Harlem: A Conversation on History and Public Engagement,” Brown University, April 14, 2021. With Ernest Morrell, Karen Taylor, Nick Juravich, and Khadijah Akeem.

“One School at the Center of the City,” Steinhardt School of Education, New York University, February 2020

“One School at the Center of the City,” Center for American Studies, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle – Paris III, October 2019

Panelist, “Archives, Activism, and Education,” CUNY PublicsLab, March 12, 2021.

“More causality, less anti-blackness,” Brown at 65 conference, Penn State University, May 2019

“The ‘It’ City and Its Schools: How Nashville Made and Remade Inequality,” University School of Nashville and Leadership Nashville, December 2018

Harlem Education History Project works-in-progress presentations, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Universidad de Patagonia Austral, Universidad Nacional General San Martín, and Universidad Nacional Pedagógica, Buenos Aires, 2018

“Educating Harlem: Activism for Equality in the Mid-Twentieth Century,” Columbia University Institute for Research on African American Studies, Many Faces of Black New York Scholars and Teachers Institute, July 2015 and July 2017

“Making the Unequal Metropolis: School Desegregation and Its Limits” Book talks and presentations
Rutgers University, March 2017

Wesleyan University, March 2017

Lehman Center for American History, Columbia University, January 2107

State University of New York – Binghamton, December 2016

Virginia Tech, October 2016

New York University Graduate Seminar in Urban History, October 2016

Southern Festival of Books, Nashville, TN, October 2016

Teachers College, Columbia University, September 2016

Parnassus Books, Nashville, TN, June 2016

BookCulture, New York, NY, April 2016

City Club of Cleveland, April 2016

Brown University, March 2016

Panelist, “NYC Schools: Segregation Then, Segregation Now, Segregation Forever?” Gotham Center for New York City History, CUNY Graduate Center, November 2016

“Making the Unequal Metropolis: School Desegregation and Its Limits,” Panelist, Conversations in Black Freedom Studies, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Studies, New York Public Library, May 5, 2016

Service to the College

Teachers College elected representative to the Columbia University Senate, 2021-23

Appointed member, Teachers College Standing Committee on Promotion and Tenure, 2021-22

Program Director, Program in Politics and Education, 2022-present

Service to the Profession

Board of Directors, Spencer Education Fellows, Columbia School of Journalism, (2023-present)

Associate Editor, *American Educational Research Journal*, (2020-2023)

External Reviewer for Promotion to Tenure at five institutions.

Division F (History and Historiography) Secretary, American Educational Research Association, 2018-20

National Academy of Education/Spencer Dissertation Fellowship Mentor, 2017, 2019, 2020

Manuscript Reviewer, Books: Cornell University Press (2018, 2020), Yale University Press (2019), University of Chicago Press (2020), University of North Carolina Press (2021, 2023), University of South Carolina Press (2021)

Manuscript Reviewer, Articles: *Education Researcher* (2021); *History of Education Quarterly* (2015-18); *AERA Open*, (2018); *Journal of Urban History* (2015, 2017-18); *Arris: Journal of the Southeast Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians*, (2016); *Theory and Research in Education*, (2013, 2017)

Editorial Board Member, *History of Education Quarterly*, 2015-18

Division F Mentor, American Educational Research Association, 2017

Chair, History of Education Society Outstanding Book Award Committee, 2016

Member, History of Education Society Outstanding Book Award Committee, 2014-2015

Co-leader, History of Education Society Archival Research Mentoring Session, 2015

Professional Memberships

American Educational Research Association

American Historical Association

History of Education Society

Organization of American Historians

Urban History Association

Professional Experience in Education

History and Humanities Teacher, New York City Public Schools, 2000-2003

Research Associate, Arts Education Program Evaluation, 1998-2000
Center for Children and Technology, New York, NY

Research Assistant to the Director, 1995-1997

Project Manager, 1997-1998

Coalition of Essential Schools and Annenberg Institute for School Reform, Providence, RI