

Shirley Paxton Fofang

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EDUCATION

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
History PhD program

September 2022-present

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
History PhD program

August 2021-April 2022

Yale University, New Haven, CT
Majors: History and Ethnicity, Race, & Migration (Major Field GPA: 3.88)
Distinction in the Major for Ethnicity, Race, & Migration

Class of 2017

History thesis: Envisioning Black Citizenship in Connecticut in the Wake of the Haitian Revolution

ER&M thesis: Music and Mission: Group Decision-Making and the Politics of Performance for Shades of Yale

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Graduate Public Humanities Intern

Summer 2023

- Morven Museum and Gardens, Princeton, NJ

Graduate Research Assistant, The Scarlet and Black Research Center, Rutgers

September 2022-present

- Researching and drafting chapter of African American history textbook for NJ state curriculum

Educator, the Lower East Side Tenement Museum

November 2018-present

- Leading multiple tours on immigration history in historic building to school groups and general public

Research Assistant to Yale University History Professor

October 2017-July 2022

- Transcribed and summarized primary source documents from 19th century British West Indies

Curator of Muriel Rukeyser Poetry Wall, Cathedral of St. John the Divine

December 2018-August 2020

- Organized archive of poetry submissions from incarcerated people, weekly responses to current writers
- Curated a selection of poems from archive for use in The Value of Sanctuary exhibit (February-June 2019)

Member of Staff at Book Culture, independent bookstore

November 2017-2018

- Worked at cash register, assisted customers, organized and shelved for course rush and regular operations

Co-Coordinator of Lecture Series, St. Anthony Hall

June 2015-January 2016

- Designed lecture series, invited 8-10 guest speakers; managed budget and event logistics

Volunteer Intern, American Friends Service Committee

June-July 2014

- Researched geographic distribution of NYC prison population; local candidates' policy

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Language skills

- French (conversational), Spanish (basic), Portuguese (basic)

Back-Up Vocals

2017-present

- Performing live music and recording original songs for NYC-based artists