

Sarah McNamara

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DEGREES RECIEVED

Ph.D., History, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2016

M.A., University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2012

B.A., History and Spanish Language and Linguistics, University of Florida, 2009

summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Associate Professor, Department of History, Texas A&M University, 2024–Present

Assistant Professor, Department of History, Texas A&M University, 2016

Core Faculty, Latina/o & Mexican American Studies, Texas A&M University, 2016–
Present

TEACHING & RESEARCH FIELDS

Latino

Women and Gender

Labor

Immigration

Modern United States

Oral History

PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH

Book

Ybor City: Crucible of the Latina South, Chapel Hill, NC: University of North

Carolina Press, 2023

*Winner of the Sara A. Whaley Book Prize, National Women’s Studies
Association

*Winner of the H.L. Mitchell Prize, Southern Historical Association

*Winner of the Willie Lee Rose Book Prize, Southern Association for
Women’s Historians

*Winner of the Florida Non-Fiction Award, Bronze Medal, Florida Book
Awards

*Honorable Mention, Best First Book, Immigration and Ethnic History
Society

Refereed Journals

“A Not-So Nuevo Past: Latina Histories in the U.S. South,” *Labor: Studies in
Working Class History*, Vol. 16, No. 3 (September 2019): 73–78.

“Borderland Unionism: Latina Activism in Ybor City, 1935–1937,” *Journal of
American Ethnic History*, Vol. 38, No. 4 (Summer 2019): 10–31.

“I Speak Inglés,” *South Writ Large: Stories, Arts, and Ideas of the Global South*
(Spring 2012): direct-to-digital journal.

Chapter in Books

“Settlement of Ybor City, 1885–1930,” in *50 Events that Shaped Latino History*,
ed. Lilia Fernandez, ABC-CLIO (March 2018): 172–195.

Editorial Contributions

Journal of American Ethnic History, Special Issue on the Multi-Ethnic U.S.

South, editors Sarah McNamara Cecilia Márquez, Vol. 38, No. 4 (Summer
2019).

Public History

PI, Director, Lead Scholar: “1937 Antifascist Women's March Historical Mural/Marker” of the “Nuestra Historia: A Public History, Public Art Project, and Historic Site Project”

Honors and Awards:

Preserving Place Award, Best Place-Making Project of 2023,
Florida Historical Trust.

Critic’s Choice Award, Best of the Bay, “Category: Sarah
McNamara, Best Labor Notes and Community
Engagement,” Winner, 2023.

Critic’s Choice Award, Best of the Bay, “Category: Michelle
Sawyer, Best Reminder that Antifascists are Everywhere,”
Winner, 2023.

Sarah McNamara and Michelle Sawyer, Best Public Art Project,
Best of the Bay, Finalist.

Supported by Grants and Funds:

Gobioff Foundation

Casa Ybor

Hillsborough County Historical Commission

City of Tampa Division of Arts and Culture

Carlos H. Cantu Hispanic Endowment Fund at Texas A&M

Immigration and Ethnic History Society

Slice of Life Documentary Productions

Community Partners and In-Kind Support and Contributions:

Center for José Martí Studies at the University of Tampa

Hillsborough County Community College Art Galleries

Silver Meteor Gallery

Círculo Cubano de Tampa

Scholarly Coverage, Academic Journal:

Sarah McNamara and Michelle Sawyer, [“Interview.”](#) *South Writ Large*, June 2023.

Press Coverage, Newspapers and Digital News:

Paul Guzzo, [“Tampa Mural Honors 5,000 Women Who Protested Fascism in 1937,”](#) *Tampa Bay Times*, March 30, 2023.

(state of Florida, paper of record)

Selene San Felice, [“New Mural Celebrates the Latinas that Shaped Ybor City,”](#) *Axios*, March 31, 2023.

Ray Roa, [“New Ybor City mural commemorates Tampa’s antifascist women’s march of 1937,”](#) *Creative Loafing*,
March 29, 2023

Press Coverage, Radio and Television:

“Mid-Point with Shelley Reback,” WMNF, March 29, 2023.

“The Skinny with Mitch Perry, Ray Road, and Ben Montgomery,”
WMNF, March 31, 2023.

“Mural in Tampa Bay,” Fox News 13, March 31, 2023.

Lizbeth Gutierrez, [“Ybor Native sharing Ybor City Latina History through mural and book.”](#) Bay News 9, May 5, 2023.

Project Director, Paul Ortiz; Lead Scholar, Sarah McNamara: “Becoming Latino Tampa: Ybor City and West Tampa’s Last Generation.” Oral history and community education initiative, September 2015–September 2016.

Supported by Grants and Funds:

National Endowment for the Humanities, “Latino Americans: 500 Years of History, Big Award,” Sponsored by the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program, University of Florida.

Community Partners and In-Kind Support and Contributions:

Tampa Bay History Center

Hillsborough County Archives and Records Division

Ybor City Museum Society

Book Reviews

Hernández, Bernadette Marie, *Border Bodies: Racialized Sexuality, Sexuality, and Violence in the Nineteenth Century Borderlands*, in *Western Historical Quarterly* (forthcoming, 2025).

Sittig, Ann L. and González, Martha Florinda, *The Mayans Among Us: Migrant Women and Meatpacking in the Great Plains*, in *Labor: Studies in Working Class History* (2021).

Other Publications

“Ybor City,” *Southern Cultures*, Digital Publication, September 2023.

“Searching,” *Boletín Martiano*, Newsletter of the Center for José Martí Studies,
Vol. 3, No. 1 (Spring 2023): 2–14.

“The Year of the Teacher Strike,” *LAWCHA Newsletter*, Labor and Working
Class History Association (2019-2020): 8.

Works in Progress

Monograph

Sarah McNamara, *Swing: A History of Florida’s Latino Vote*, in progress.

Refereed Articles and Chapters

“Latinos in the U.S. South since 1945,” in *The Oxford Research
Encyclopedia of American History*, Oxford University Press, under
contract, anticipated 2025.

“So, you want to understand Latino Politics in Florida?” in *Latino
Political Histories*, edited by Benjamin Johnson, Andrew Sandoval
Strausz, and Geraldo Cadava, University of Pennsylvania Press,
in progress.

Public History

“Nuestra Historia: A Public History, Public Art Project, and Historic Site
Project.” Digital platform of project delivered by December 2025
and site 2 of project launched by September 2025.

AWARDS

Faculty Excellence Award, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Texas A&M
University, 2024

Distinguished Achievement Award for Teaching, Association of Former Student, Texas
A&M University, 2023

Early Career Teaching Award, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Texas A&M
University, 2023

Montague Award for Teaching Excellence, College of Liberal Arts, Texas A&M
University, 2021–2022

Emerging Diversity Scholar Award, National Center for Institutional Diversity,
University of Michigan, 2016

National Endowment for the Humanities, “Latino Americans: 500 Years of History, Big
Award,” 2016. Grant Writer and Lead Scholar, Sarah McNamara; Project
Director, Paul Ortiz, Sponsoring Institution, Samuel Proctor Oral History Program
at the University of Florida.

FELLOWSHIPS

Faculty Fellowship Program, Glasscock Center for the Humanities, Texas A&M
University, 2022–2023

Monroe Research Fellowship, Tulane Center for the Gulf South, 2022

Summer Scholars Research Fellowship, College of Liberal Arts, Texas A&M University,
2022

Postdoctoral Fellowship, American Association of University Women, 2020°2021

Mellon Emerging Faculty Leaders Fellowship, Institute for Citizens and Scholars
(formerly the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation at Princeton
University), 2020–2021

Phi Beta Kappa Society, 2009

GRANTS

US Latino Digital Humanities Grants-in-Aid Program, University of Houston and Arte

Publico Press, 2024

STRP- Type IV Grant, Office of Research, Texas A&M University, 2024

Faculty Research SEED Grant, Race and Ethnic Studies Institute, Texas A&M University

2023

Public History Project Grant, Immigration and Ethnic History Society, 2023

Carlos H. Cantu Research Grant, Texas A&M University, 2022–2023

Carlos H. Cantu Research Grant, Texas A&M University, 2021–2022

Publication Support Grant, Glasscock Center for the Humanities, Texas A&M

University, 2021

Graduate Research Grant, Glasscock Center for the Humanities, Texas A&M University,

2021

Matching Research Funds Grant for Postdoctoral Fellows, American Association of

University Women, 2020–2021

Carlos H. Cantu Endowment Research Grant, Texas A&M University, 2019–2020

College of Liberal Arts, S.E.E.D. Grant, Texas A&M University, 2019–2020

Albert J. Beveridge Grant, American Historical Association, 2015

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

“The Historical Is Personal: Family, Community, and Documenting New Histories,”

Panelist and Co-organizer, Southern Historical Association, October 2024.

“Looking South of the Sunshine State: New Transnational Approaches to Race, Culture, and Politics in Late-Twentieth Century Florida,” Commenter and Chair, Southern Historical Association, October 2024.

“What a Way to Make a Living: Evolving U.S. Industry in the Late Twentieth Century,” Commenter and Chair, Southern Labor Studies Association, September 2024.

“Florida Book Award Spotlight,” Word of the South Book Festival, April 2024.

“The Latinx South: New Directions and State of the Field,” Panelist and Organizer, Organization of American Historians, April 2024.

“The Latinx South in Conversation: New Directions & State of the Field,” Panelist and Organizer, Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting, November 2023.

“Writing Latina Biography: Envisioning a New Generation of Latina Legacies,” Panelist and Organizer, Berkshire Conference for Women’s Historians Triannual Meeting, June 2023.

“New Book Session- *Ybor City: Crucible of the Latina South*: A discussion of immigration, gender, and *latinidad* in Labor History,” Panelist, Labor and Working Class History Association Bi-Annual Meeting, May 2023.

“Confronting Crises with Vicki L. Ruiz: The Future of Latina History in Uncertain Times,” Panelist, Organization of American Historian Annual Meeting, Virtual Session, April 2023.

“Teaching the History of Latinxs in the U.S. South,” Panelist, Southern Historical Association, November 2022.

“Questioning Democracy: Oral History as a Decolonizing Tool,” Panelist, Oral History Association, October 2020.

- “Latina Labors, Latinas Histories: A Discussion of Latina Histories Across Borders,”
Panelist and Organizer, Berkshire Conference of Women’s Historians Triannual
Conference, May 2020. (conference cancelled due to Covid-19).
- “Latinxs in the Nuevo South: A State of the Field Discussion,” Panelist and Organizer,
American Studies Association, November 2019.
- “Southern Latinidades,” Panelist and Organizer, Labor and Working-Class History
Association Bi- Annual Meeting, May 2019.
- “The Labors of Latinas Across Borders, Region, and Time,” Panelist, Borderlands and
Frontiers Committee Sponsored Panel and Discussion, American Historical
Association Annual Meeting, January 2019.
- “A Not-So Nuevo Past: Latina Histories in the U.S. South,” Panelist, American Historical
Association Annual Meeting, January 2019.
- “New Directions in Latina/o Southern Histories,” Panelist and Organizer, Southern Labor
Studies Association Conference, May 2018.
- “A Discussion with Perla Guerrero, *Nuevo South: Latinas/os, Asians, and the Remaking
of Place*,” Panelist, Southern Labor Studies Association Conference, May 2018.
- “La Vida Feminista: Luisa Capetillo and Radical Feminism in the Global South, 1900-
1922,” Panelist and Organizer, Berkshire Conference on the History of Women,
Genders, and Sexualities Triennial Conference, Hempstead, New York, June
2017.
- “Making a Cuban Exception: Gender and Race in Florida 1940-1959,” Organization of
American Historians Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, April 2017.

“Unmotherly Women and Foreign Tramps: Racial Exclusions and Ethnic Stereotypes in the Development of the American Welfare State, 1930-1937,” Panelist, Southern Labor Studies Association Annual Meeting, Tampa, Florida, March 2017.

“Latina Feministas: Latina Organizing and Feminist Performance, 1930-1940,” Panelist, American Historical Association Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, January 2016.

INVITED LECTURES

“Florida History Is Latinx History: Researching, Finding, and Remembering Ybor City,” Cefecito por Honorado Nuestra Historia Lecture Series, Florida Atlantic University, October 2024.

“Fighting Fascism in the Factory: The Radical Women of Ybor City,” Keynote of Closing Celebration to the exhibit ‘Smoke Signals,’ Wolfsonian-FIU Museum, September 14, 2024.

“Ybor City and Dreamland: New Books in Immigration History,” Immigration and Ethnic History Society Books Series, October 20, 2024.

“Preserving Place and Remembering Community: A Conversation with Sarah McNamara, author of *Ybor City*,” Ybor City Rotary Club, July 30, 2024.

“Research and Writing, *Ybor City*,” Department of History, University of Georgia, October 2, 2023.

“History, Biography, and *Latinidad*: Understanding Latinidades in Community and the Classroom,” Presentation to National Humanities Center Teacher Advisory Council, National Humanities Center, September 23, 2023.

“*Ybor City*: A Book Event with Sarah McNamara,” Center for the Study of the American South, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, September 22, 2023.

- “Florida History Is Latino History: A Book Event with Sarah McNamara and James López,” Florida Conversations Lecture Series, Tampa Bay History Center, September 20, 2023.
- “*Ybor City: Crucible of the Latina South*, An Author Discussion with Sarah McNamara,” Tombolo Bookstore, September 15, 2023.
- “Researching, Writing, and Engaging Community: A Presentation and Discussion with Sarah McNamara,” Café con Tampa, September 15, 2023.
- “Happy Birthday Tampa!: Walking Tour and 136th Birthday Celebration,” City of Tampa Archives Awareness Week, July 15, 2023.
- “Radicals and Revolutionaries: An Evening of Artists and Untold Histories of Ybor City,” The Bricks Gallery of Ybor, City of Tampa Archives Awareness Week, July 14, 2023.
- “*Ybor City: Crucible of the Latina South*, An Author Discussion,” Oxford Exchange Bookstore, July 9, 2023.
- “*Ybor City: Crucible of the Latina South*, A Book Launch Event,” Tempus Projects and Kress Gallery, May 4, 2023.
- “Nuestra Historia Is Women’s History: 1937 Antifascist Women’s March,” Keynote Speaker, Círculo Cubano de Tampa Women’s History Month Event, March 30, 2023 (PM Event).
- “The Importance of Latina Histories and Public Memory,” Historical Marker & Mural Dedication Event, sponsored by the City of Tampa, March 30, 2023 (AM Event).
- “Latina Histories are Women’s Histories: Finding, Researching, and Writing, *Ybor City: Crucible of the Latina South*,” Women’s History Month Event Speaker,

Department of Women and Gender Studies, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, March 23, 2023.

“History Is Personal: Remembering, Finding, and Writing Women’s Histories,” Keynote Speaker, City of Tampa Women’s History Month Event, March 1, 2023.

Invitation and event hosted by Mayor of Tampa, Jane Castor.

“Searching,” Working Group in Labor and Working-Class History, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, November 13, 2020.

“Latina Labor Histories and Question of Region,” Latinx History Speaker Series, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, September 17, 2020.

“From Picket Lines to Picket Fences: Finding Ybor City in the Latinx South,” Georgetown University, January 28, 2020.

“A Not-So Nuevo South: Latina Histories in Florida,” College of William and Mary, December 3, 2019.

“Re-thinking the Cuban Exception,” Latina/o Studies Speaker Series, Department of Latina/o Studies, New York University, October 17, 2017.

“What does a citizen look like?: Immigration Policy and the Politics of Belonging,” DACA Immigration Reform Speaker Series, Carlos H. Cantu Lecture Series, College Station, TX, September, 28, 2017.

“Oral History for Social Justice Scholarship,” NACCS-Tejas Conference, College Station, TX, February 23, 2017.

INTRAMURAL PROFESSIONAL & SERVICE ACTIVITY

History Department Service

Digital Parliamentarian, History Department, Texas A&M University, 2024–2025

Public History Search Committee, History Department, Texas A&M University,
2023–2024

Marketing and Communications Committee, History Department, Texas A&M
University, 2023–2024

Public History Committee, Inclusive Excellence Grant, History Department,
Texas A&M University, Fall 2023

Executive Committee, History Department, Texas A&M University, 2022–2024

Glasscock Faculty Fellowship Evaluation Committee, Glasscock Center, Texas
A&M, 2023

ACES Search Committee, History Department, Texas A&M University, 2022–
2023

Transformational Hire Search Committee, History Department, Texas A&M
University, 2022

Public History and Digital History Ad-Hoc Committee, History Department,
Texas A&M University, 2022–Present

Accessibility Ad-Hoc Committee, History Department, Texas A&M University,
2022

Digital Outreach Committee, History Department, Texas A&M University, 2022–
Present

Social Committee, History Department, Texas A&M University, 2021–2022

Climate and Inclusion Committee, Department of History, Texas A&M
University, 2018–2020

Undergraduate Studies Committee, Committee Member, History Department,
Texas A&M University, 2017–2018

Conference Planning Committee, NACCS-Tejas Conference, Texas A&M
University, 2016–2017

Library Committee, Committee Member, History Department, Texas A&M
University, 2016–2017

Undergraduate Thesis Supervision

Miriam Chen, Topic: Asian Immigration and Law, Glasscock Summer Scholars
and LAUNCH Thesis Program, 2023–2024.

Brooke Thorson, “The Woman Question: The Lasting Legacy of Coeducation at
Texas A&M,” LAUNCH Thesis Program, 2020.

Vanessa Fernandez, “*Sigue Adelante: Living the Bracero Program*,” LAUNCH
Thesis Program, 2019.

Graduate Program Committee Service

Leslie Torres, Comprehensive Exam Committee, Field: Latina/o/x/e History,
advised by Sonia Hernández

Abigail Folis, Comprehensive Exam Committee, Field: Women and Gender
History, advised by Roger Reese.

Katherine Kuehler Walters, “The 1920s Ku Klux Klan Revisited: White
Supremacy and Structural Power in a Rural County,” advised by Carlos
Blanton, dissertation defended in Spring 2018.

Graduate Program Workshop Presentations

Crushing Conferences, Graduate Professional Development Workshop, October 2018.

Crafting a Competitive Job Application, Graduate Professional Development Workshop, September 2017.

Crafting a Competitive Job Application, Graduate Professional Development Workshop, September 2016.

University Service

Faculty Co-Advisor, Feminism for Aggies, Texas A&M University, 2023–Present

Faculty Co-Advisor, Council for Minority Student Affairs (CMSA), Texas A&M University, 2017–2021

EXTRAMURAL PROFESSIONAL & SERVICE ACTIVITY

Prize Committees

Ellis W. Hawley Prize Committee, Organization of American Historians, 2024–2025

Herbert G. Gutman Prize for an Outstanding Dissertation, Labor and Working Class History Association, 2023–2025

Robert B. Cherney Award Committee, Pacific Coast Branch-American Historical Association, 2023–2025

Editorial Advisory Board

Labor: Studies in Working Class History, University of Illinois Press, Editorial Board Member, 2024–Present

Journal of American Ethnic History, University of Illinois Press, Editorial Board
Member, 2024–Present

Southern Cultures, University of North Carolina Press, Editorial Board Member,
2024–Present

Politics and Culture in the Twentieth Century South Series, University of Georgia
Press, Advisory Board Member, 2023–Present

Manuscript Reviewer

Journal of Southern History, 2023

The University of Nebraska Press, 2023

Southern Cultures, 2019

The University of Florida Press, 2018

Elected Office Positions in Professional Organizations

President, Southern Labor Studies Association, 2024–2026

Vice President and President Elect, Southern Labor Studies Association, 2022–
2024

Elected Board Member, Southern Labor Studies Association, 2020–2023

Elected Board Member, Immigration and Ethnic History Society, 2019–2021

Invited Office Positions in Professional Organizations

Programming Committee, Labor and Working Class History Association, 2024–
2025

Public Relations Committee, Labor and Working Class History Association,
2022–2024

Nominating Committee, Immigration and Ethnic History Association, 2021–2024

Organization Programming Committee, Labor and Working-Class History Association, 2020–2024

Conference Programming Committee, New Orleans Meeting, Southern Historical Association, 2020–2021

Conference Programming Committee, Chicago Meeting, Labor Working-Class History Association, 2020–2021

Publication Committee, Committee Member, Oral History Association, 201–72020

Graduate Student Workshop Committee, Southern Labor Studies Association, 2019

Committee on Diversity, Chair, Oral History Association, 2015–2018

K–12 Education

Latino Americans, Curriculum Development, Texas Humanities and Story + Reason, 2023–2024.

Reviewed the episodes “Empire of Dreams” and “New Latinos,” explained accessibility for K-12 students, and suggested primary sources for instruction. Will review the completed lesson plans following Story + Reason curriculum work.

“Understanding Latinidades,” Teacher Digital Workshop Series, National Humanities Center, May 28, 2023.

Developed and delivered a workshop for K-12 instructors who wish to understand Latinx history and incorporate it into their classrooms. This workshop centered on basic definitions of *latinidad* and provided

curriculum development suggestions as well as readings for furthering understanding by teachers and their students.

Latino Americans, Curriculum Development, Texas Humanities, 2020–2022.

Wrote and developed curriculum and teaching resources for K–12 teachers to align with PBS Documentary Series, “Latino Americans,” on the following topics: Cuban refugees and the Mariel Boatlift, Central American refugee and asylum in the United States, the DREAM Act and DACA, 2021-2022.

“Latina Activism and the Great Depression,” National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Teachers Institute on Women and the American Story, Sponsored and Directed by the University of Massachusetts-Boston and the New York Historical Society, July 16, 2020.

Developed and delivered a workshop for K-12 instructors who wish to understand Latina activism during the Great Depression and incorporate it into their classrooms.

LANGUAGES

Spanish, high proficiency, speaking and writing

Latin, reading knowledge

PROFESSIONAL AFFILITATIONS

American Historical Association

Berkshire Conference of Women’s Historians

Labor and Working Class History Association

Oral History Association

Organization of American Historians

Southern Labor Studies Association

Southern Historical Association

National Women's Studies Association