

Rachael Lanning

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Education

University of South Carolina, May 2025 - Columbia, SC

Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology with Distinction, Minor in History

Summa Cum Laude

Overall GPA: 4.0

University of South Carolina Honors College

Relevant Coursework:

Digging Through the Past: Discovering the Archaeological Resources of the University of South Carolina

Principles of Archaeology

Introduction to Biological Anthropology

Understanding Other Cultures

The Anthropology of Sex

The Development of Modern Medicine, 1800 to the Present

The Old South

Introduction to Linguistics

Conflict Archaeology

Spatial History

The History of Public Health

The Forensics of Sherlock Holmes

Environmental Archaeology

The African American Experience in the United States since 1865

Grants and Honors

First Place Poster Discover USC 2025 for: "Alkaline-Glazed Stoneware Distribution in South Carolina: An Insight Into 19th Century African American History and the Landrum-Stork Kiln Site in Columbia"

Outstanding Senior Award 2025

Magellan Scholar Grant December 2024-2025

Robert L. Schuyler Student Travel Award for the SHA 2025 Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana

Mini-Magellan Grant 2024-2025

Honors College Conference Presentation Grant 2024-2025

College of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research Award 2023-2024

President's List (6 semesters)

Experience: Field and Lab Work

Archaeological Field School

- 6 weeks, with Dr. Kelly Goldberg at the University of South Carolina

May-June 2024

Digging Though the Past: Discovering the Archaeological Resources of the University of South Carolina

- Semester of field and lab work, as well as interpretation of artifacts and landscape through the opening of a museum exhibit at the University of South Carolina's McKissick Museum.
- Prominent leadership role with a team of student peers in the course designing and curating class artifacts.

University of South Carolina Public Heritage Lab– Columbia, SC

August 2023 – Present

Archaeology Research Assistant

- Analyzed and interpreted hundreds of artifacts excavated from Sesquicentennial State Park and other locations in South Carolina.
- Applied ceramic analysis methods to artifacts to assess production/distribution patterns of alkaline-glazed stoneware.
- Produced two public interpretation displays shown at Archeological Fall Field Day in Columbia, SC in 2023 and 2024.
- Worked on website development to produce a resource for State Park history in collaboration with South Carolina State Parks.

Honors Thesis: Exploring historical distribution patterns of alkaline-glazed ceramics in South Carolina.

- Comparing samples visually and through X-Ray Fluorescence to determine the spatial origin of the sherds.
- Establishing where the individuals living at Sesquicentennial State Park in Columbia, SC as enslaved individuals and then tenant farmers sourced their ceramics.
- Determining if the sherds from Sesquicentennial State Park were sourced from the local pottery site in Columbia.
- Applying interpretive lenses to expose narratives of marginalized groups in South Carolina's history.
- Preparing an ArcGIS Story Map in conjunction with South Carolina State Parks to create a public facing version of the project.

Work Experience

The Granger Homestead and Carriage Museum- Canandaigua, NY

Summer 2025

Intern, Staff, Tour Guide

- Studied and became proficient in the history of the mansion and carriage barns.
- Led 1-2 hour tours of the mansion and/or the carriage barns for anywhere from 1-20 guests at a time.
- Ran the museum's social media and created educational videos with myself and other docents.
- Posted 3-7 times per week on the Instagram and Facebook pages.
- Researched and prepared exhibit material to be displayed at the museum.
- Helped manage the history centered summer camp for about 20 children.

College of Arts and Sciences: University of South Carolina – Columbia, SC Summer 2024 – May 2025

Ambassador

- Interacted with students, prospective students, parents, donors and staff, as a liaison to the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS).
- Answered questions and shared experiences about my time in CAS.
- Explained resources CAS has to offer from an approachable perspective.

WUSC- Columbia, SC**October 2022-Present***Program Director until May 2025, DJ-current*

- Acted as the WUSC Program Director with administrative work, managing about 190 DJs.
- Played music and spoke on air with cohost as an official DJ with a weekly show.
- Attended weekly meetings to discuss current work with executive staff members and the DJ body.
- Communicated with professional staff members to facilitate processes.

Studio East Dance Company to Flower City Dance- Rochester, NY**March 2021 – Present***Office Manager/Choreographer under Victoria Bach*

- Demonstrated attention to detail while completing clerical tasks including answering incoming phone calls, sorting mail, and sending correspondence.
- Assisted about 10 staff members daily with special tasks by creating documents and presentations.
- Assisted owners with scheduling and other protocols like safety and event planning.
- Interacted with over 200 students and parents to create a caring and fun environment for learning dance.
- Taught classes and assisted instructors in helping students learn dances and stay active in class.

Relevant Volunteer Work**Genesee Country Village and Museum– Rochester, NY****June 2023- August 2024***Seasonal Historic Interpreter*

- Studied historic material relevant to the museum and sites.
- Presented historic material to 1-10 guests at a time as they entered the site.
- Kept historic space clean and presentable for museum goers.
- Assisted at special event weekends and interacted with the public as they explored the museum.
- Communicated with staff members to learn more about my role and their roles in the museum.

National Council for College Leaders**April 2023 - Present***Member – Revenue Chair*

- Worked with the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation, helped to provide information and resources to individuals and college age students with inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD).
- Participated in educational and promotional activities to convey my experience on the council and how I made impacts in the lives of those with IBD.
- Contributed to producing deliverables and webinars based on educational programming.

Publications

Presented at the Southeastern Conference for Historical Archaeology, September 2024 – “Archaeology and Enslavement on USC’s Historic Horseshoe” - Poster

Presented at Discover USC 2024 – “Thinking Outside the Vessel: A New Approach to Analyzing Alkaline-Glazed Stoneware Distribution Patterns in South Carolina” – Poster

Presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology Conference, in January 2025 – “Mapping Reconstruction Era Economics: Employing XRF in An Analysis of 19th Century Stoneware Distribution” – Poster

Relevant Skills

Intermediate High Proficiency in French (Seal of Biliteracy), Community Engagement, Public Speaking, Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Outlook, History/Anthropology, Archaeology, Field Work, Exhibit Curation, ArcGIS

References

Dr. Kelly Goldberg

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Martha Herbig

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The Granger Homestead and Carriage Museum

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Stacey Young

Archaeologist

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