

GETTYSBURG COLLEGE–GILDER LEHRMAN MA SUMMER 2023 NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the Gettysburg College–Gilder Lehrman MA Summer 2023 Newsletter! We celebrated our first 75 graduates at the MA program's inaugural at Gettysburg College this July. The program continues to grow with an astounding 922 enrollments by 660 students for the Summer 2023 term.

In this edition of the newsletter, we are excited to share new accomplishments by students and alumni, feature a new group of amazing scholarship recipients, and more.

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INAUGURAL COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY FOR THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2023



On July 15, 2023, graduates and their loved ones gathered at the Majestic Theater in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, for the inaugural commencement of the Gettysburg College–Gilder Lehrman MA in American History. The ceremony featured speeches by the president of Gettysburg College, Bob Iuliano, and the chief operating officer of the Gilder Lehrman Institute, Kathrine Mott, as well as an inspiring commencement address by Yale University's Sterling Professor of History and African American Studies, David Blight.



Graduates who had traveled from as far away as Georgia, Utah, and California lined up to receive their diplomas and were welcomed into the Gettysburg College alumni community. They received embroidered "stoles of gratitude" to give to a loved one who helped them reach this milestone—a Gettysburg College tradition.

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in the ceremony and cheered on loved ones and their accomplishments, and to the Gettysburg College faculty and staff who made this event possible. And congratulations to the Class of 2023!



REMEMBERING PAUL THOMPSON

In Fall 2022, MA student Paul Thompson tragically passed away. On July 15, he was posthumously awarded an honorary degree from Gettysburg College during the inaugural commencement ceremony for the Gettysburg College–Gilder Lehrman MA in American History.



Paul was a mentor and teacher who taught International Baccalaureate (IB) History for over 27 years at Mira Loma High School in Sacramento, California, in the same classroom where he started his career as a student teacher. He set an example of excellence and traveled each summer to experience the world, bringing history to life in his classroom. Paul's greatest strengths as a teacher were getting students excited about learning history, understanding its importance, and developing critical thinking skills.

STUDENT AND ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS

If you would like to be featured in a future highlight, email onlinecourses@gilderlehrman.org with the subject line MA Newsletter, and let us know what exciting things you are doing in the world of history or K–12 education.

Graduate Patricia Lackey teaches at Cedar Cliff High School in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania. With her MA, she is now the first in her district to offer dual enrollment courses for her students. Patricia said, "I was drawn to the GLI MA program because history is my first love and I have always wanted at least an MA in history. I found the flexibility compelling and was excited to work with renowned historians, something I would never be able to do with a brick-and-mortar school."

Her superintendent took note of her plan to earn a degree. She explained, "My superintendent was enthusiastic about my pursuit of the MA because we would be able to offer this option for students. I am excited that students can begin to earn college credit in high school as it is often a more affordable option for families than sending freshmen straight to a four-year institution."



Patricia Lackey with Professor David Blight at the 2023 Gilder Lehrman Teacher Symposium at Gettysburg College



Kelly Dunbar, another graduate of the program, teaches AP US History and American History to 10th and 11th graders in Black Mountain, North Carolina. Since completing her capstone on Black women leaders in Buncombe County from 1865 to 1930, she has joined the Swannanoa Valley Museum's education board. She has presented her research through the museum's summer cafe series.

Kelly was also voted in as an executive board member for the North Carolina Council of Social Studies.

Learn more about her work and presentations for the summer cafe series [here](#).

STUDENT AND ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Graduate Eirik Harteis currently teaches dual enrollment and IB courses at South Lakes High School in Fairfax County, Virginia. This summer the local Lovettsville Historical Society and Museum held a panel on "Slavery in the German Settlement." Eirik was able to present his capstone research on the impact of slavery in northern Loudon.

"GLI's master's program offered me the chance to study with fabulous teachers and connect with other history educators across the nation. It was a rich experience and the price was right. "

–Eirik Harteis



MA program graduate William Schmadeke was awarded the 2023 Gilder Lehrman Scholarly Fellowship and is currently researching Cold War infrastructure that is, as he describes it, "hiding in plain sight." Will provided the National Defense and Highway Act of 1956 as one example of Cold War policy that has shaped our lives. He explained, "Ostensibly built to service the growing suburban lifestyle, it was also a vital transportation system in the event of nuclear war. . . . For the most part, our Cold War infrastructure has been repurposed for the current needs and while wonderful, it is important that we recognize its ulterior purpose. This research is intended for that purpose."

"The Gilder Lehrman Fellowship program has allowed me to chase after history in an entirely new way. From undergraduate studies to graduate studies (through Gilder Lehrman's own program), there has always been a structure to what has been expected. If you will, there has always been a 'clear end-point.' Through the generosity of this program, I have been encouraged to research in my own fashion, and while it has been difficult to be my own editor and project manager, it has also proved exhilarating. Without the support of the Fellowship, I doubt I would have had the inclination to work on something like this and I am incredibly thankful."

–William Schmadeke



Q&A FACILITATORS

We'd like to thank our Summer 2023 Q&A facilitators for their valuable contribution to the MA Program! Throughout the term, each course has five live sessions where students interact with course lead professors and ask questions about lectures, readings, and research. This term, the following current students and alumni have stepped up to facilitate live sessions with lead professors and their students.

CherylAnne Amendola
Jim Coe
Kevin Conn
Faith Stackhouse Daly
Kim Denning-Knapp
Jaime Licon
Jennifer Harrison Macon
Craig Moore
Alan Nunez
Joe Refinski
Nicole M. Sealey

If you are a current student or have graduated from the MA program and are interested in facilitating Q&A sessions in future semesters, please contact onlinecourses@gilderlehrman.org.

The Fall 2023 term begins Thursday, September 21, 2023, and ends Wednesday, December 13, 2023. Registration for courses ends Wednesday, September 27, 2023. Applications for the Gettysburg College–Gilder Lehrman MA in American History are open and considered on a rolling basis. To view full course descriptions, please visit the [Gilder Lehrman MA Fall 2023 Courses](#) page.

NEW COURSES

AMHI 606: Warfare in Early America: 1585–1840

with Timothy Shannon, Professor of History, Gettysburg College

AMHI 668: LGBTQ+ History of the US: 1800 to the Present

with Stephen Vider, Assistant Professor of History and Director of the Public History Initiative, Cornell University

AMHI 672: The Lives of the Enslaved

with Daina Ramey Berry, Michael Douglas Dean of Humanities and Fine Arts, University of California, Santa Barbara

AMHI 619: The American Enlightenment: Intellectual History to 1787

with Caroline Winterer, William Robertson Coe Professor of History and American Studies, Stanford University

AMHI 680: American Immigration History

with Madeline Hsu, Professor of History, University of Texas at Austin

AMHI 662: The Kennedy Era

with Barbara Perry, Gerald L. Baliles Professor and Director of Presidential Studies, University of Virginia

SUMMER 2023 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Thanks to the generosity of external funders, we have been able to offer John Nau Scholarships to Houston- and San Antonio-area teachers to fully fund their degrees, \$750 Dev Chodry Scholarships for students taking two or more courses in a term, and 100 Abraham Lincoln Scholarships of \$500 each to be distributed throughout the academic year. To apply for Fall 2023 scholarships, please visit the [Gilder Lehrman MA Scholarships](#) page.



JOHN NAU SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Kathryn Bradley
Dr. John Folks Middle School
San Antonio TX

I have always had a dream of earning a master's degree in American History, and the Gettysburg College-Gilder Lehrman MA program has provided me with an incredible opportunity to continue to pursue that dream. The program offers an incredibly inclusive, diverse set of courses to further my studies and deepen my knowledge of historical topics. My intention is to focus on traditionally underrepresented voices in American history, so I may carry those perspectives into my classroom and provide a more robust historical education for all of my students. The Nau Scholarship has provided me with financial stability, allowing me to pursue more than one class per semester while still performing at the highest level in my classroom and providing for my family of seven. I feel incredibly lucky to be a part of this program, and will be forever grateful for the generosity of the Nau scholarship.

JOHN NAU SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Miguel Mercado **Langham Creek High School** **Houston, TX**

I would like to thank Gilder Lehrman and Gettysburg College for providing me the opportunity to seek my M.A. in American History by awarding me the John Nau Scholarship. I am humbled to be selected amongst my peers in education in the Houston and San Antonio areas. I feel like my fifteen years in teaching have built up to this moment and I plan to take advantage of this opportunity. I have participated in numerous Gilder Lehrman events since my first teacher seminar in the summer of 2019. Since that time, this tremendous organization has inspired thoughts of seeking a graduate degree and now by awarding me the John Nau Scholarship, they have paved the way for me to reach these goals. I will be motivated in my coursework and prepared to begin this journey with Gettysburg College.



Shannon Schaefer **Lamar High School - Houston ISD** **Houston, TX**



I'm incredibly grateful for the Nau scholarship, which alleviates the financial burden of pursuing the MA with Gettysburg/GLI. I'm a second-career teacher and history was my undergrad minor, so I've had a lot of catching up to do with content. Gilder Lehrman's work has been indispensable for my own in the classroom, and I'm so looking forward to diving more deeply into America's history through this program. I know my students will benefit greatly, and I'm excited to continue building my own historical knowledge.

Nadia Raesch **Brandeis High School** **San Antonio, TX**

I am extremely excited to be receiving this scholarship. I have longed for many years to finish my degree, however financing it was always a deterrent. I cannot wait to dig into history with some of the greatest minds and use some of what I learn in the classroom.



DEV CHODRY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Nate Daniels
Madison Central High School
Richmond, KY

Taking classes has been hard work, but the depth of the content has been fantastic. I have used information I've learned in every class I've taken so far in my own classes, giving my students an even better experience because of my experience.

Rebecca DeVries
Miami Lakes Educational Center and Technical College
Miami, FL

I'm so thrilled to receive this scholarship. Working towards your MA while teaching at the same time is stressful (but so rewarding!) and this helps so much with peace of mind and motivation to continue and do well. Thank you so much!



Lance Paradis
Schroon Lake Central School
Schroon Lake, NY

The GLI Program through Gettysburg has been a stimulating experience that has pushed me in terms of my own academic writing and research, and influenced the degree at which I teach and expect that of my upper level students. I am extremely grateful to be a recipient of this scholarship, which will enable me to continue to pursue higher learning at an affordable cost.



Jonathan David Prudek
Juniper Christian School
Seoul, South Korea

I am very thankful to be a recipient of the Dev Chodry scholarship and to be a participant in GLI's MA program. The combination of convenience and quality of the MA program has made it a worthwhile investment, and it has frequently borne dividends in my teaching. I am grateful that this program is available for students like myself who are seeking high-quality opportunities for professional advancement while living abroad.

DEV CHODRY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Rachell Stevenson
DeLand Middle School
DeLand, FL

I'm so grateful to be receiving this scholarship which is helping me push further into this amazing program! I have loved being able to work and also balance classes that have been thought-provoking, rigorous, but also extremely interesting.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Laine Smith
Green Forest High School, Green Forest, AR

Receiving this scholarship is very exciting. I love being a part of this program that supports teachers as they expand their content knowledge. Everyone associated with the program has been very encouraging and ready to help with anything I have needed.



Jake Richardson
Empower College Prep, Phoenix, AZ

I am very appreciative as I take classes depending on my ability to pay. This will help me finish the program earlier which will enable me to offer dual-enrollment college credit US History classes to my students.



ABRAHAM LINCOLN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Kristin Collins

**Heritage Junior High School, Escondido,
CA**

I'm honored to receive the scholarship to help fund the remainder of my time in the program. The Gilder Lehrman MA program has turned me into a historian and I've gained a greater appreciation for the study of history. The knowledge and skills I've acquired in this program have been something I've shared with my students, friends, and family. As someone who was the first in their family to graduate college I never thought a master's degree would be possible. But the affordable price, online classes, and phenomenal professors have made this all possible.



Alicia Cosgrove
**Stonecreek Junior High School,
Bakersfield, CA**

As a history educator, it has been a lifelong dream of mine to get an MA in history but work, time, and life got in the way. This program has been perfect for someone like me. I am about halfway through and continue to be impressed by the quality of instructors and support provided through GLI.

Aditi Doshi

Van Nuys High School, Los Angeles, CA

I pursue the Gettysburg/Gilder Lehrman M.A. to gain access to cutting edge historical scholarship and methods, both for myself and my students. Through the program, we are all learning and stretching our skills as historians and researchers.



Justine Kuehle

San Rafael High School, San Rafael, CA

I am so overjoyed that I was able to receive this scholarship! I love taking these MA courses and any support I can get to help me achieve this degree is greatly appreciated!

ABRAHAM LINCOLN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Veronica Ly
Carnegie Middle School, Carson, CA

I'm so grateful for receiving this scholarship to support me in growing my expertise in the field of American history so that I may continue to advocate for the relevance of history and the importance of knowing and teaching the histories of marginalized voices. Gilder Lehrman's quality of curriculum, instructors, and resources never ceases to amaze and enlighten me.

Emily Sorensen
Laton High School, Laton, CA

I am so honored and thrilled to receive this scholarship. Thank you so much!



Stuart Trapani
Schurr High School, Arcadia, CA

Working to earn my Master's with Gilder Lehrman has been a phenomenal experience. I have taken 4 classes so far and each has left me wanting to research even further into their areas of focus. Each professor has been supportive and facilitates discussions that expand beyond textbook understandings of content. I am honored to be a recipient of this scholarship and I look forward to taking many more Gilder Lehrman courses. Thank you!



Autumn Githara
Lewis-Palmer Middle School, Monument, CO

I am so grateful and appreciative of this scholarship. This generous offer eases my financial responsibility this summer, reducing stress and helping me focus on my course this term. I have learned so much in this MA program and cannot wait to continue in my pursuit of my degree. I extend a heartfelt thank you to GLI for selecting me!

ABRAHAM LINCOLN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Alexus McIntyre
Basis DC, Washington, DC

I am grateful for discovering the Gilder Lehrman program. Being able to complete my MA in History at an affordable rate while working full time has been amazing. The resources available have been useful both in my graduate studies and as pedagogical tools in the classroom!



Amanda Ruvolo
Wheaton High School, Washington, DC



This upcoming summer will be my last class in the Gilder Lehrman Program. By August I will be done with my MA degree, and I can honestly say this program has helped me become a better historian. Prior to enrolling in the GLI Program, my knowledge of US History was very limited because my focus during undergraduate experience was in World History. This program has taught me so much about different historical topics from culture in the 1960s to Native American relationships and conflicts. I became a better historian and teacher because of it. I am thrilled to receive this scholarship as a great way to end my time with Gilder Lehrman.

I have learned so much already through this program and am eager to use my new knowledge and skills in my district's new curriculum!

Cynthia Apantenco
Yorkeville High School, Yorkville, IL

Laura Avila Peterson
Fenton High School, D100, Bensenville, IL

Very grateful and excited to be able to continue my work with GLI.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

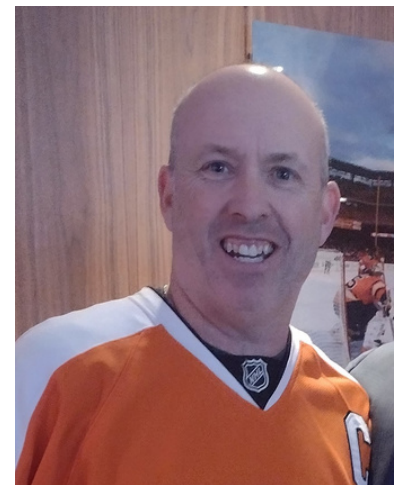
Abigail Kremer
Mercy Academy, Louisville, KY



As I begin working on my Capstone for this program, I am incredibly grateful for the confidence that I have gained as a history teacher and researcher. More than specific content knowledge, I have learned how to guide my students in the process of conducting their own historical research which is an invaluable skill. The fact that these courses are led by the experts in their field challenges me to stay up to date with the historiography. I also appreciate that the cost of this program is affordable for educators. As someone who has had to pay for the entire degree out of pocket, it has been manageable thanks to the reasonable cost of the courses and scholarship opportunities like this!

Jimmy Grant
Fallston High School, Fallston, MD

I'm proud to be pursuing higher education, we tell our students to be lifelong learners. We have to set the example! Gilder Lehrman has constantly supported teachers in these pursuits



Jessica Weichert
Takoma Park Middle School, Takoma Park, MD



It is such an honor to be awarded the Abraham Lincoln Scholarship. I have thoroughly enjoyed beginning my classes this summer, and believe that this program is exceptional. The professors are excellent, and there are a myriad of enriching resources that allow students to delve deeper into the content that piques their interest. Though this is a rigorous master's program, it is truly a historian's paradise to be able to communicate with other K-12 educators, and have access to some of the best history professors around the country. I feel very fortunate to be part of this program.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Jared Maynard **Dearborn High School, Dearborn, MI**

This summer I am taking my 3rd and 4th classes in the program. So far I have enjoyed the freedom of picking topics I care about for final papers. I appreciate the flexibility the program gives while teaching full time with two toddlers. My hope is to write a majority of my papers with a Michigan focus. Living and teaching in the Dearborn/Detroit area definitely helps with that! Thank you again for the scholarship!



Sarah Darling **Worthington Middle School, Worthington, MN**

I am so excited to be embarking on this new adventure in life with the Gilder Lehrman Master of History Program. I have been teaching for 34 years and love it but felt the call to go further into the study of history as I embrace what may come next in life. I am excited about the classes, discussions, and find the interactive sessions incredibly helpful. My daughter and I are both working college students and this scholarship helps so much. I am grateful and blessed. Thank you.



Rosemary Bethell **Fulton High School, Fulton, MO**

I am very excited to continue my education and earn my Masters in History from Gettysburg College. I'm honored to be given this scholarship and so very thankful.

Patrick Henderson **Frontier School of Excellence, Kansas City, MO**

I am honored to receive this scholarship which will enable me to continue to work towards my MA in American History degree. I am grateful for the professors that I have access to through this program, and to be a student of the vast amount of experience and knowledge that they possess. This program will serve to make me a better teacher for my current and future students.



ABRAHAM LINCOLN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

I am so grateful for the Abraham Lincoln Scholarship! It allows me to continue working toward my Master's Degree in American History and to develop the skills and content knowledge to be a better teacher!

William Farnsworth
St. Stephens High School,
Hickory, NC

Tanya Cepeda
Morristown High School, Morristown, NJ

Thank you so much for this scholarship. Both this scholarship and this program are vehicles for achieving knowledge, confidence and peace of mind. These gifts generate even more motivation to achieve our goals. While the program is extremely challenging, I appreciate all the support GLI and Gettysburg shows its graduate students. Thank you all, again!



Alyssa Pierce
First Avenue School, Jersey City, NJ

I am excited and honored to have been selected as a scholarship recipient and grateful for all of the opportunities the MA program has afforded me. I am thrilled to be part of a program that has not only reignited my passion for research but given me the chance to become a better teacher for my students.

Devon Burger
Brooklyn Urban Garden Charter School,
Brooklyn, NY

I'm so grateful to receive this scholarship! I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to take classes that help me grow as both a student and an educator, and that is made possible in part to this financial support. I've been incredibly impressed by the entire program so far, and I look forward to my future classes as well.



ABRAHAM LINCOLN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Angela Tate
Xenia High School, Xenia, OH

I am honored to be awarded the Abraham Lincoln Scholarship as I being my MA in American History through Gettysburg College. Gilder Lehrman continues to provide teachers and historians with opportunities to further our personal education and improve the lives of our students.



Lindsey Barton
Bixby Middle School, Bixby, OK

I am grateful to Gettysburg College and the Gilder Lehrman Institute for the opportunity to further my education in my chosen field of American History. I am entering year seventeen of my career in public education and am more passionate than ever about providing a quality civics and history education to the nearly 200 students I serve each year. Because of my dual role as both an eighth grade U.S. history teacher and citizenship instructor for adult immigrants and refugees, completing a more traditional master's program of similar rigor would simply not be feasible. It is my goal to grow my students into well-rounded, empathetic citizens who will actively participate in our democracy and will strive to uphold the most fundamental goals of equality and equity for all. I look forward to implementing what I learn through my coursework into my own classroom in pursuit of that calling.

Anthony Barbano
Baldwin Middle School, Pittsburgh, PA

I am BEYOND excited to receive the Lincoln Scholarship! I will be entering my final semester of classes before Capstone, and this will be a massive help for me. I have had nothing but amazing experiences with Gilder Lehrman, Gettysburg, and the MA program as a whole. I recommend to all!!!



ABRAHAM LINCOLN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Miriam Klein **Cornell School District, Coraopolis, PA**

The Gilder Lehrman Gettysburg Master's program is a great example of how teachers can interact with leading scholars. The classes are diverse and the instructors wonderful. I am in my third semester and have really enjoyed learning from the scholars, instructors, and my fellow students.



Dani Roseberry **Coppell High School, Coppell, TX**

This scholarship makes it possible for me to finish my MA. I cannot express how grateful I feel to have a program that makes it possible to earn my MA while teaching full-time, serving on committees, and mentoring new teachers while being the primary parent to my own children. This program has elevated everything about my work.

I am honored to receive the Abraham Lincoln scholarship. I have enjoyed my courses with the Gilder Lehrman Institute, and will have completed my master's degree in History through GLI this summer. The GLI program has deepened my content knowledge and made me a better educator. I love the courses offered and the selection of professors is top notch!

Daniel Sharp **CityLab High School** **Dallas, TX**

George Orr **City Academy, Salt Lake City, UT**

I much appreciate the support provided by this scholarship as I launch into the Gilder Lehrman Institute/Gettysburg College MA. I am looking forward to this tremendous opportunity to delve deep, develop my skills and discuss with peers.



ABRAHAM LINCOLN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Katie Derrah

Pacific Middle School, Seattle, WA

It has been such a joy to rediscover and grow my skills as a student and budding historian through this program, and I recommend it to every history teacher I know. The knowledge I'm gaining will enable me to be more flexible and confident in taking on new teaching responsibilities and positions. I'm taking my fifth course this summer and am excited to pick up my pace in the program this year—the financial support through this scholarship will really help! Thank you for supporting teachers in furthering their education.



Beth Merritt

Lonati Anglo-American School, Brescia, Italy

As a teacher at an international school in Italy, I appreciate the opportunity that the Gilder Lehrman MA program provides. I can fulfill a personal goal in higher education while also serving as an ambassador of American history and culture in my classroom. The story of the United States interests students the world over, especially aspects of the country's more challenging past, including human and civil rights struggles, race and gender issues, labor history, and migration. Receiving the Abraham Lincoln Scholarship is a great honor, and I thank you.