

# Kyle Parks

## Education

**University of Delaware** Newark, DE – Master of Arts in History (May '21)  
Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies

**McDaniel College** Westminster, MD – Bachelor of Arts in History, *Summa Cum Laude* (May '18)  
Minors in New Media Journalism & Spanish

## Professional Experience

**Asst. Director of Public Programs & Engagement**, Kalmar Nyckel Foundation | *Wilmington, DE* (June '21 – present)

- Developing, delivering, and growing education programs and public events.
- Writing grants and identifying potential sources of funding for the delivery of education programs.
- Managing Fort Christina Park and communicating with the State of Delaware and First State National Historical Park to ensure smooth site promotion and maintenance.
- Overseeing visitor services and making visitor experience improvements in Fort Christina Park and the Copeland Maritime Center.
- Expanding tourism connections and coordinating group tours.

**Interpreter & Social Media Manager**, Old Swedes Historic Site | *Wilmington, DE* (July '18 – June '21)

- Gave tours of site; assisted with marketing, media, and website; completed research for interpretive programs and events; curated social media posts.

**Graduate Assistant**, Delaware Humanities | *Wilmington, DE* (June '20 – May '21)

- Maintaining and organizing collection and institutional memory; conducting interviews with stakeholders; developing programs to commemorate organization's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- Completed research and found guests for *A Matter of Facts* podcast (June-Aug. 2020).

**E. Lyman Stewart Intern**, New Castle Historical Society | *New Castle, DE* (June '20 – Aug. '20)

- Focus of internship: interpretation and programs.
- Developed *Liberty and Intelligence: Secrets Are Afoot*, an outdoor, self-guided, nontraditional tour to guide visitors around Historic New Castle while social distancing.
- Created educational video series, *New Castle Narrated*.

**Teaching Assistant**, University of Delaware Department of History | *Newark, DE* (Aug. '19 – May '20)

- Placements: *Europe and the World I* (Fall 2019) and *East Asian Civilization: Japan* (Spring 2020).
- Attended classes, held office hours, assisted students, graded.

**Team Member**, University of Delaware Museum Studies SWAT Team | *Wilmington, DE* (Jan. '20)

- Catalogued, organized, and maintained collections at Greenbank Mills & Philips Farm.
- Annual collections triage for small museums by the University of Delaware Museum Studies Program.

**Museum Interpreter/Educator**, Delaware Historical Society | *Wilmington, DE* (Sept. '18 – Aug. '19)

- Delivered and developed education and outreach programs; helped in Research Library.

**Visitor Services Associate**, Brandywine River Museum of Art | *Chadds Ford, PA* (Nov. '18 – Aug. '19)

- Improved guest experience; assisted with admissions and retail sales.

## Professional Experience (continued)

- Education Intern**, Kalmar Nyckel Foundation | *Wilmington, DE* (June '18 – Sept. '18)
- Assisted with group education programs and oversaw creation of LEGO education program.
- Peer Tutor**, McDaniel College Writing Center | *Westminster, MD* (Sept. '16 – May '18)
- Tutored fellow students face-to-face in writing and multimedia projects in a fast-paced, diverse environment.
- Classroom Assistant**, McDaniel College Department of History | *Westminster, MD* (Aug. '16 – Dec. '16)
- Created lesson plans for a history seminar course; guided classroom discussion.

## Community Involvement & Leadership

- Board Member**, Delaware Museum Association | *Dover, DE* (Nov. '21 – **present**)
- Monitoring the state of Delaware's museum industry and collaborating to provide helpful resources to museum professionals and institutions.
- Docent**, Rockwood Museum & Park | *Wilmington, DE* (Sept. '18 – June '19)
- Led tours of museum, helped visitors, and assisted with special events.
- Editor-in-Chief & Multimedia Editor**, McDaniel Free Press | *Westminster, MD* (Sept. '14 – May '18)
- Student newspaper of McDaniel College.
  - Served as Staff Reporter from Aug. '14 – May '15, Multimedia Editor from May '15 – May '18, and Editor-in-Chief from May '16 – May '18.
  - Wrote and edited articles, oversaw all visual materials, designed print issues, and managed the paper.
- Member & President**, McDaniel College Gender & Sexuality Alliance | *Westminster, MD* (Sept. '17 – May '18)
- Oversaw club meetings and events, led advocacy and inclusion initiatives, ran social media, planned major events.
- Committee Member**, McDaniel College SafeZone Committee | *Westminster, MD* (Sept. '17 – May '18)
- Attended regular meetings to promote inclusion of LGBTQ+ students at McDaniel College.
  - Researched gender inclusive housing options to promote comfortable dorm options for transgender students; brought concerns of LGBTQ+ students forward to college administration.
- Band Member**, McDaniel College Pep Band | *Westminster, MD* (Sept. '16 – May '17)
- Helped establish McDaniel College's first pep band in 50 years.
- Club Member**, McDaniel College History Club | *Westminster, MD* (Sept. '14 – May '17)
- Attended meetings, participated in history-focused discussions and activities.
- Contributor**, Contrast Literary Magazine | *Westminster, MD* (April '17)
- Published photographic works in the publication's 2017 issue.
- Garden Assistant & Social Media Team**, Hagley Museum & Library | *Wilmington, DE* (June '15 – Sept. '16)
- Assisted with various gardening tasks and created videos for museum website.

## Research, Presentation, & Conference Experience

- "Swedes and the Evolution of the Delaware Valley" | *Virtual* (Jan. '22)

- Virtual presentation for volunteers and members of Pennsbury Manor, a historic site in Bucks County, PA.
- Spoke on the origins of a Swedish presence in the Delaware Valley, moving chronologically to modern day projects to interpret Swedish American history in the region.

**“Their Own Best Interests’: Swedes and the (Mis)Management of Glebe Lands in Wilmington, 1730-1760”**

| *Virtual* (Jan. '22)

- Virtual presentation for Old Swedes Historic Site, a historic site in Wilmington, DE.
- Presented a condensed version of a research paper "Their Own Best Interests': Swedes and the (Mis)Management of Glebe Lands in Wilmington, 1730-1760," shedding light on the history of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church and the early history of Wilmington, DE, with an emphasis on land ownership, management, and development.

**“The Underground Railroad in Delaware” | Bethany Beach, DE**

(Feb. '19)

- Prepared and delivered presentation at the South Coastal Library to an audience of 80 for the Delaware Historical Society.

**2018 Phi Alpha Theta Mid-Atlantic Conference | Westminster, MD**

(March '18)

- Presented abbreviated version of capstone project, “The Humble Iron Painter: Literati Representations of Tang Peng and *Tiehua* in the Qing Dynasty.”

**2017 ASIANetwork Annual Conference | Chicago, IL**

(April '17)

- Conference focus: Digital and Beyond: Ways of Knowing Asia.
- Participated in panel presentation “New Practices in Teaching Traditional Chinese Arts and Literature” based on summer 2016 research on iron painting (*tiehua*).

**McDaniel College Summer Research Showcase | Westminster, MD**

(Sept. '16 and Oct. '17)

- Presented at poster sessions based on research from the summers of 2016 and 2017.
- Designed posters for groups to present, assembled research website for 2016 research, and organized findings into presentable format.

**Student Research Fellow, McDaniel College Dep. of History | Westminster, MD**

(May '16 – Nov. '17)

- Summer 2017: “Seawalls and the Grand Canal in Qing China.”
  - Completed environmental history project focusing primarily on illustrations and construction techniques of the seawall in Hangzhou Bay, China, and the Grand Canal.
  - Searched for, read, and tracked historical resources relating to the Hangzhou Bay seawall and proofread translations of sources.
- Summer 2016: “Digital Wuhu Iron Pictures (*Tiehua*).”
  - Completed social and cultural history project analyzing the contexts of iron painting, native to Wuhu, Anhui Province, China.
  - Maintained shared website showcasing examples of art as well as personal research blog on [www.kyleschronicles.com](http://www.kyleschronicles.com).

## Awards & Distinctions

**Departmental Honors in History**

(May '18)

- Recommended by the history faculty of McDaniel College.

- Recognition for excellence in history, including a minimum 3.5 grade point average in all history courses and presenting an academic paper at a history conference.

**Global Fellow**

(March '15 – May '18)

- Completed the Global Fellows Program at McDaniel College, a co-curricular global studies distinction.
- Earned through globally focused coursework, study abroad, workshops, and colloquia to master global thinking and cultural sensitivity.
- Study abroad experience: 2.5-week intensive study trip to Greece (Jan. 2017); 2.5-week intensive study trip to China (Jan. 2018).

**Hugh Barnette Speir, Jr Prize**

(May '18)

- Awarded to the graduating history major at McDaniel College demonstrating the highest excellence in European history.

**Western Maryland Norman E. Santorius Gift & Citation**

(May '18)

- Awarded biennially to the student responsible for the greatest contribution to moral and spiritual uplift in the student body at McDaniel College.

**James D. Essig Memorial Scholarship**

(April '17)

- Awarded to a history major at McDaniel College with at least a 3.0 grade point average that demonstrates high academic and personal integrity.

**President's List Honors**

(Sept. '15 and Sept. '16)

- Recognition for students at McDaniel College who attained a 4.0 grade point average for the previous academic year.

**Academic Honor Societies**

- Phi Beta Kappa, *liberal arts and sciences* (March '18)
- Phi Sigma Iota, *world language, literature, and culture* (April '18)
- Phi Alpha Theta, *history* (March '17)
- Sigma Tau Delta, *English language and literature* (April '17)