

**Consortium on the Revolutionary Era and Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World
Program Annual Meeting and Conference**

Charleston, May 14-16, 2026

Thursday, May 14

Keynote and Reception: Charleston Museum, 360 Meeting Street

Kathleen DuVal, *The American Revolution and the Survival of Native Nations*

5:00 pm Reception catered by *Carolina's Lowcountry Cuisine*

Lobby of the Charleston Museum

Galleries will be open and accessible, but no food or beverages

6:15 pm Lecture by Pulitzer Prize winning historian, Kathleen DuVal

Charleston Museum Auditorium

All events take place at the Rita Liddy Hollings Science Center, 58 Coming Street

Coffee Service and Registration: 8:00am-8:30am (Lobby of Rita)

Session 1: Friday, May 15, 8:30-10:15

1A Transatlantic Intellectual Histories

Rita 102

Chair: *Francesca Langer, University of Central Missouri*

A Realm Beyond Time and Space: Neoclassicism, Civilization, and the United States Capitol

Jerry Biggerstaff, Florida State University

Count Rumford, or an American Loyalist in Europe

Suzane Krebsbach, independent scholar

Plant Politics: Pecans and the Meaning of American Independence Abroad

Jacqueline Reynoso, CSU Channel Islands

Comment: *Francesca Langer*

1B American Households

Rita 103

A/V

Chair: *Amanda Mushal, The Citadel*

Reading Patriotism: Revolutionary Sentiment at a Charleston Merchant Household

Andrew Agha, Aghatech Industries

Nicole Isenbarger, South Carolina State Park Service

Transforming Debt into Money: Personal Credit in the Republic of Texas

Daniel Glenn, St Edwards

Revolution in His Ranks: The Influence of George Washington's Military Aides on the Evolution of His Views on Slavery (1775–1783)

Melchior Baltazar, independent scholar

Comment: *Samantha Payne, College of Charleston*

**1C Lowcountry Perspectives: Public History and the American Revolution (roundtable)
Rita 152**

Chair: *Katherine Pemberton, SC 250 Education Outreach Coordinator*

Carl Borick, Director, Charleston Museum

Elizabeth Chew, CEO, South Carolina Historical Society

Eric Emerson, Director, State Historic Preservation Office and State Archivist

*Joshua Shumak, Vice-Chief, Wassamasaw Tribe of Varnertown Indians/South Carolina
Commission for Community Advancement and Engagement*

Session 2: Friday, May 15, 10:30-12:15

**2A Faithful Identities: Religion and National Belonging in Revolutionary World
Rita 102**

Chair: *Judith Ridner, Mississippi State University*

“Securing Spiritual Liberty:” Presbyterian Nationalism during the American Revolution
William Harrison Taylor, Alabama State University

A Revolutionary Faith for Revolutionary Times: Jemery Belknap's Universalist American
Revolution”

Peter Messer, Mississippi State University

Comment: *Judith Ridner*

2B Reordering the political

Rita 103

AV

Chair: *Wayne Hanley, West Chester University*

Lafayette and the Other Bonapartes (1830-1834)

Robert Rhodes Crout, College of Charleston

The End of French exception: The “Hundred Thousand Sons of St. Louis”

Enrico Magnani, independent scholar

The Durability of the *Ancien Régime*: Reflections on the Revolution in France from the Perspective of Bourbon Spain

Phillip Fox, Wayne State College

Comment: *Wayne Hanley*

2C Long Live the People! New Approaches to American Popular Sovereignty in the Age of the French Revolution

Rita 152

AV

Chair: *Todd Estes, Oakland University*

Democratic Exaltation in the United States: The Feeling of Sovereignty before, during, and after the French Revolution

Matthew Rainbow Hale, Goucher College

“With Much Anxiety”: Popular Sovereignty and Sectional Tensions in the Democratic-Republican Societies, 1793-1795”

Michelle Orihel, Southern Utah University

American Sovereignty and the Genet Mission

Robert Alderson, George State University, Perimeter College

Comment: *Todd Estes*

Lunch, 12:15-2:00

Rita 101

Zara Anishanslin, *The Painter's Fire: A Forgotten History of the Artists Who Championed the American Revolution*

Session 3: Friday, May 15, 2:30-4:15

3A Reflections on Nations in Arms

Rita 102

Chair: *Carol Harrison, University of South Carolina*

Foreign Witnesses to Independence: French Artillerymen in Revolutionary America
Ted Hart, Independent scholar

The Colossal Weight of the Whole People: Prussian Ideas of a Nation in Arms Before Jena
Ethan Soeffje, University of North Texas

I Thought It My Duty to Keep You a Friend with 25,000 Men': Queen Luise of Prussia,
Queenship, and Wartime Politics in Bad Pyrmont
Samantha Sproviero, Temple University

Comment: *Carol Harrison*

3B Exposure, Enclosure and Embodiment in the Age of Revolutions

Rita 103

AV

Chair: *John Navin, Coastal Carolina University*

“Dead in the Streets, thro’ Hunger”: The American Revolution as a Black Starving Time”
Sean Gallagher, USC Columbia

“The Burden of Nightmares: Necropolitical Miasma in Colonial Prisons of the Atlantic World”
Andrew Kettler, University of South Carolina, Union

“Emotions in the Mothers of Gynecology Archive,”
Chris Blakley, Morgan State University

Comment: *John Navin*

3C Scandal and Violence

Rita 152

Chair: *Katherine Grenier, The Citadel*

Rethinking Emotions and Post-Revolutionary Violence in the Early United States
Sharon Halevi, University of Haifa

Both Coward, and Catamite”: Same-Sex Intimacy, Lord Germain, and British Public Opinion of the American Revolution

John McCurdy, Eastern Michigan University

Comment: *Katherine Grenier*

Session 4: Friday, May 15, 4:30-6:15

4A Africans and African Americans in the American Revolution Rita 102

Chair: *Gerald Horne, University of Houston*

“‘They Should Be Free When This Disturbance Was Over’: The Geographical Mobilization of the Ethiopian Regiment, 1775-1776”

Justin Iverson, US Air Force Historian

African Voices in the American Revolution

Aaron Spencer Fogleman, Northern Illinois University

Comment: *Gerald Horne*

4B Rural Liberty, Urban Liberty: Central European Landscapes in the Age of the American Revolution Rita 103

Chair: *George Williamson, Florida State University*

Taking Liberties in Charleston in 1784: Central European Travelers in the Low Country

Heather Morrison, SUNY New Paltz

The Rural Socrates Abroad: Swiss Peasants, British Radicals, and the New American Republic

Denise Phillips, the University of Tennessee, Knoxville

The Lure of the "Free" Farmer and the Loyal Serf: Rethinking the Meaning of the Land and Labor in Habsburg Central Europe

Rita Krueger, Temple University

Comment: *George Williamson*

4C Negotiating Freedom of Religion and Authority in the Wake of the French Revolution

Rita 152

Chair: *Jeffrey Burson, Georgia Southern University*

The French Government Against Freedom of Religion in Post-Revolutionary France:
The Fight Against the *Petite Église* in the Vendée (1802–1840)
Xavier Marechaux, SUNY Old Westbury

Life After Divorce: Cardinal Caprara and Lay People Post-Concordat
Kathryn Marsden, Oglethorpe University

“Freedom of Religion: The Problem of Theophilanthropy for the Directory (1797-1799)”
Corinne Gressang, Slippery Rock University

Comment: *Jeffrey Burson*

Coffee Service and Registration: 8:00am-8:30am (Lobby of Rita)

Session 5: Saturday, May 16, 8:30-10:15

**5A Roundtable: Let’s Hear about Jenkin’s Ear: Freedom, Trade, and War in the Pre-
Revolutionary Atlantic World**

Rita 102

Chair: *Carol Harrison, University of South Carolina*

Grant Kleiser, Trinity School

Eva Landsberg, Library Company of Philadelphia

Jacqueline Ly, Le Moyne College

5B Talking Revolutions, Getting More Pacific

Rita 103

AV

Chair: *Philip Baltuskonis, Auburn University*

Seductive Papers: Friars, Intermediaries, and Organizers in the Huánuco Rebellion of
1812

Taylor Cozzens, Arkansas Tech

Little Imperialists in Big Revolutions: Female State Actors in the Frontier West and
Revolutionary Far East

James Bland, Columbus State University

Trans-Pacific Absolutisms: Russia, Spain, and Latin America in a Revolutionary Age
Marcos Perez Cañizares, Cornell University

Comment: *Philip Baltuskonis*

5C Revolutionary (dis)Loyalties: Households and Allegiances Beyond National Borders
Rita 152
AV

Chair: *Elizabeth Chew, South Carolina Historical Society*

Building a “little kingdom”: Loyalism and Land on the Upper Canadian Frontier, 1783-1815
Timothy Compeau, Huron University

A Family Divided: Frances Burney, Alexandre d’Arblay, and the English Channel
Kelly Summers, MacEwan University

Gender, Agency, and Household Power in the Age of Emigration: The Du Pont Women and their Dependents, 1792 to 1807
Sydney Watts, University of Richmond

Comment: the audience

Session 6: Saturday May 16, 10:30-12:15

6A Pedagogy roundtable: teaching Africa in the Revolutionary Era
Rita 102

Chair: *Renuka Gusain, University of North Carolina at Asheville*

Congo, Angola, and African Atlantic Creoles
Cathy Skidmore-Hess, Georgia Southern University

Rise of the Zulu State in the Age of Revolutions
Aran Mackinnon, Georgia College and State University

African and Africans in the Revolutionary Era: Anonymous Avatars to Radical Rebels
Matt Childs, University of South Carolina

Comment: the audience

6B Constitutional Experiments
Rita 103

Chair: *Carol Harrison, University of South Carolina*

“Read Mably!”: Classical Republican Influences on the 1791 French Constitution
Alec Slawich, Florida State University

Denizenship and the Continuing Dominance of the Prerogative State 250 Years On
Margaret Barber Crosby, Liberty University

Comment: *Carol Harrison*

6C America 250 Amid Controversy
Rita 152

Chair: *Simon Lewis, College of Charleston*

The Curriculum War over American Independence
Zach Deibel, Virginia Military Institute

From Constructing to Dismantling: Revolutionary History at Independence NHP, 2021-2025
Stefan Kosovych, independent scholar

Comment: *Simon Lewis*

Lunch Provided: 12:15pm-2:00pm, Rita 101 (first come, first serve)

Session 7: Saturday, May 16, 2:30-4:15

7A Atlantic Worlds and Western Memories: Reframing the Revolutionary Era from the Periphery
Rita 102

Chair: *Peter Messer, Mississippi State University*

Three Lives, Three Upheavals: La Guerre Folle on Saint Pierre and Miquelon
Irene Kim, Independent Historian

The Golden Rock and The Hudson Hollows: Atlantic Smuggling and Gendering of Revolutionary Politics
William Matthews, Independent Historian

History Colorado Collections and Memories of the Revolutionary War Era
Jori Johnson, Collections Access Coordinator, Stephen H. Hart Research Center, History Colorado

Comment: *Peter Messer*

7B Perspectives on Abolitionism
Rita 103

Chair: Daniel Skidmore-Hess, Georgia Southern

Honorable Insanity: Radical Abolition and the Meaning of Madness in 19th Century U.S.
Joel B. Criswell, Texas A&M University

Leonora Sansay's *Zelica, or the Creole* (1820) and Harriet Martineau's *Society in America* (1837) and *The Man and the Hour* (1841): Race and White Feminism in Revolutionary French Haiti

Sharon Worley

Comment: *Vaughn Scribner, University of Central Arkansas*

7C Families in Revolution
Rita 152

Chair: *Hayden Ros Smith, College of Charleston*

Women, Crisis, and Colonial Opportunity: Ulster's 1772 Migration and the Making of South Carolina's Revolutionary-Era Backcountry
Kelly McMichael

Louisa Wells' Trans-Atlantic Adventure: The trials and tribulations of a Charleston Native during the American Revolution
Kate Kaitcer, Texas Christian University

Seduced Away: The Revolutionary Trials and Tribulations of John Pafford
Benjamin Schaffer, University of South Carolina

Comment: *Hayden Ros Smith*

Session 8: Saturday May 16, 4:30-6:15

Plenary: Models of Rule in the Revolutionary Era: Washington, Napoleon, and Dessalines
Rita 101
AV

Chair: *Janet Polasky, University of New Hampshire*

“George Washington: A Republican in War and Peace”
Rosemarie Zagarri, George Mason University

Napoleon: A “crowned Washington”?
Lynn Hunt, UCLA

“Emperor Jacques I of Hayti: Leader of the First Nation to Permanently Ban Slavery”
Julia Gaffield, William and Mary

Comment: *Janet Polasky*