32nd Annual ACRA Conference



October 15–18, 2026

Horton Grand Hotel – San Diego, California



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ACRA 2026 Program Summary

THURSDAY, October 15, 2026

8:00am–12:00pm Board of Directors Meeting

Location: Salt and Whiskey Dining Room
Moderator: Shawn Patch, ACRA President, New South Associates

12:00pm–5:30pm Registration

Location: Regency West

1:00pm–5:00pm San Diego Trolley Tour & Old Town Market Experience

Location: Meet in lobby of the Horton Grand to meet the trolleys.

Ticketed Event. Experience San Diego through an open-air trolley tour that combines engaging narration with a citywide perspective on layered history, cultural landscapes, and urban development. This fully guided experience travels through the city's most notable districts, offering insight into San Diego's evolution from its early colonial foundations to its present-day identity, making it especially relevant for those working in cultural resources, preservation, and heritage management.

The tour includes a dedicated one-hour stop at Old Town Market, located within Old Town San Diego State Historic Park, widely recognized as the birthplace of California. This district preserves and interprets the region's transition from Spanish to Mexican to American governance, with historic buildings and reconstructions dating from the 1820s through the 1870s. It remains one of the most active and accessible examples of public-facing interpretation in California.

Old Town Market itself offers a dynamic blend of historic setting and contemporary use, with artisan vendors, traditional foods, and live craft demonstrations woven into the historic fabric. Attendees can explore more than 40 specialty shops, observe interpretive practices in action, and experience a living cultural landscape that continues to evolve. And yes—fresh churros are made on site, right





in front of you, and are widely considered some of the best in the city.

This experience offers both a broader understanding of San Diego's historic context and a focused opportunity to engage with one of its most iconic heritage destinations.

6:00pm–8:00pm ACRA 32nd Annual Conference Welcome Reception

Premier Sponsor: Applied EarthWorks, Inc.
Secondary Sponsors: New South Associates; Terracon
Location: Courtyard
Remarks by Shawn Patch, ACRA President, New South Associates

Say hello to your colleagues as ACRA welcomes all of our participants to San Diego. Hors d'oeuvres will be served, and a ticketed then cash bar will be available.

FRIDAY, October 16, 2026

7:00am–4:00pm Exhibitor Hall & Coffee Room

Location: Regency West

7:30am–4:30pm Registration

Location: Regency West

8:00am–8:15am President's Welcome

Location: Regal Ballroom (across alley from Regency West)
Presenter: Shawn Patch, ACRA President, New South Associates

8:15am–9:15am Session 1: Body Doubling: Governmental-Private Partnerships in a CRM Landscape

Sponsor: Heritage Business International, L3C
Location: Regal Ballroom
Moderator: Shelby Reed, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin (VHB)
Speakers: Lillian Ondus, VHB; Caroline Staley, GDOT; Kristin Udick, VHB

Georgia's Department of Transportation (GDOT) Cultural Resources program operates within a constrained staffing structure of fewer than 20 internal positions, despite an extensive load of federally and





state-funded projects. This imbalance created an unsustainable ratio of projects to staff, threatening both efficiency and the high standards that have been previously held to. In response, GDOT, with the Atlanta consultant community, developed an innovative, collaborative model—"Support Services"—that redefines how responsibility for cultural resource management is shared across public and private sectors.

Launched in 2019, the Support Services program reflects a deliberate shift toward collective action and mutual accountability. Through this model, consultants are embedded within GDOT's Cultural Resources team, functioning as an extension of agency staff rather than as external contributors. This "body doubling" approach enables consultants to directly participate in core responsibilities, including the review and preparation of Section 106, Georgia Environmental Policy Act (GEPA), and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation, as well as project schedule management.

This partnership—through a contract currently held by VHB—demonstrates how collaboration can expand institutional capacity while maintaining high professional standards. The program has grown to include dedicated teams of historians and archaeologists, along with additional on-call specialists to address surge demands. Together, these professionals now manage over half of GDOT's cultural resources workload, supporting activities ranging from compliance documentation to surveys, assessments of effects, and stewardship initiatives.

Beyond increasing efficiency, the Support Services model establishes a sustainable framework for shared responsibility in cultural resource stewardship. VHB not only provides staffing, but also invests in training, mentoring, and maintaining a pipeline of qualified professionals—including former GDOT staff and specialized experts—who can be rapidly mobilized. This ensures continuity, resilience, and accountability across projects.

By embedding collaboration into its operational structure, GDOT has created a scalable model in which government agencies and consultants jointly uphold the identification, protection, and stewardship of cultural resources. This approach illustrates how shared responsibility can move beyond concept to practice, enabling more responsive, effective, and enduring preservation outcomes.





9:15am–10:15am Session 2: From Alignment to Action: Communication That Moves Work Forward

Sponsor: ASC Group
Location: Regal Ballroom
Speaker: Angela Huntsman, Humanyen

Designed for professionals who need to influence outcomes without relying solely on formal authority, this interactive session offers practical approaches for creating alignment, encouraging shared responsibility, and improving execution in a consistent and sustainable way. Explore how communication shapes whether work gains momentum or gets stuck. Learning the Strategy–Tactic–Execution cycle, participants will understand how to frame direction, set expectations, and share information to increase clarity, reduce misalignment, and strengthen follow-through across teams.

10:15am–11:15am Session 3: Managing the Mental Load

Sponsor: Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc.
Location: Regal Ballroom
Moderator: Sarah Lowry, M.A. RPA, New South Associates, Inc.
Speakers: Jennifer Barbee, Applied EarthWorks, Inc.; Sarah Herr, Desert Archaeology; Charity Kys, Historical Research Associates (HRA); Lindsay Simmons, Northern Land Use Research Alaska (NLURA)/Statistical Research, Inc. (SRI)

Managers often carry an invisible mental load that can quietly drain energy, focus, and effectiveness. This session brings that burden into the open, examining its impact and offering practical strategies to manage it more sustainably. Panelists will share real-world approaches for setting boundaries, preventing burnout, motivating staff, and shifting mindsets so managers can better support both themselves and their teams. With actionable insights and audience discussion, this session will equip attendees with tools for more sustainable and collaborative leadership.

11:15am–12:00pm Session 4: Update from the ACHP

Sponsor: VHB
Location: Regal Ballroom
Speaker: Jaime Loichinger, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation





As the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) continues to play a central role in shaping national preservation policy, recent actions and evolving priorities have generated significant discussion—and concern—within the cultural resources community. This interactive session brings together cultural resource management (CRM) professionals, policy advocates, and regulatory experts for a timely and candid conversation about the current state of the ACHP, and recent Administration decisions and initiatives that are reshaping the landscape.

Designed as a facilitated discussion rather than a traditional panel, this session will provide space for attendees to reflect on how recent events are impacting federal, tribal, and private-sector practice. Key issues on the table may include procedural changes, potential shifts in leadership or priorities, and the intersection of preservation policy with other federal initiatives such as energy development, infrastructure expansion, and environmental justice.

Ample time will be dedicated to audience Q&A, creating an open forum for sharing experiences, raising concerns, and proposing ideas for collective advocacy and action. Join us for a dynamic dialogue that aims to inform, connect, and empower ACRA members navigating an increasingly complex regulatory environment.

12:00pm–1:30pm **Boxed Lunches/Free Time and Committee Meetings (Optional)**

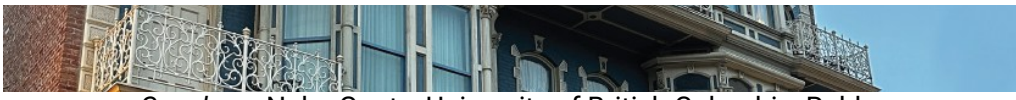
Boxed lunches will be provided for all conference attendees. Want to get more involved in ACRA? Several committees are having a working lunch during this time to discuss their goals and initiatives. This is an optional event; additional details will be provided during the slate of sessions.

Sponsor: Mead & Hunt
Location: Regal Ballroom

1:30pm–2:30pm **Session 5: The FAIR and CARE Principles in American Archaeology: Reports from the FAIR+CARE Cultural Heritage Network**

Location: Regal Ballroom
Moderator: Chris Nicholson, Center for Digital Antiquity at Arizona State University





Speakers: Neha Gupta, University of British Columbia; Robby Heckman, SRI; Sarah Kansa, Alexandria Archive Institute; Desireé Martinez, California State Polytechnic University; Karimah Richardson, Autry Museum of the American West

The FAIR+CARE Cultural Heritage Network emerged from a three-year Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) leadership grant and consists of over 40 participants from Tribal Historic Preservation Offices; CRM; federal and state agencies; museum, library, and archives professionals; university researchers; and data publishers and repositories. Since 2023, the Network has been working online and through in-person workshops to develop, disseminate, and promote ethical good practice guidance and digital data governance models to reconcile the apparent social and technical contradictions in the data life cycle. In this panel, network participants and CRM participants will report on their work in the Network, what they have learned, share examples on the implementation of the FAIR and CARE principles in American archaeology, and propose next steps to expand and support this work.

2:30pm–3:30pm Session 6: Turning Tension into Collaboration

Location: Regal Ballroom
Speaker: Kaci Korinek, Workplace Change

Conflict is not an exception in cultural resource management, it's a constant, shaped by high-impact projects, diverse teams, and complex field conditions. Left unaddressed, conflict quietly erodes trust, disrupts collaboration, and weakens accountability. Handled well, it becomes a powerful driver of clarity, alignment, and better outcomes. This session reframes conflict as a normal and necessary part of effective teams, while equipping leaders with practical tools to address tension early and constructively. Participants will learn how to navigate differences and difficult conversations in ways that strengthen relationships, reinforce expectations, and keep work moving forward.

3:30pm–3:45pm Coffee Break

Sponsor: Sensys
Location: Regency West





3:45pm–4:45pm **Session 7: Specialized Services and Collaboration as a Core Business Strategy**

Sponsor: SGS Beta
Location: Regal Ballroom
Moderator: Jennie Sturm, SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA)
Speakers: Richard Guttenberg, Alta Archaeological Consulting; Shelly Davis-King, Davis-King & Associates/California Academy of Sciences; Carrie Albee, Gray & Pape, Inc. (Gray & Pape)

Specialized services such as preservation planning, geophysics, ethnography, and community engagement are well-established components of the CRM industry, yet are often treated as "value-added" extras—optional enhancements rather than essential elements of responsible CRM practice. This panel challenges that outdated mindset and reframes niche services as inherently collaborative endeavors that strengthen project outcomes, reduce risk, and build trust with clients and stakeholders.

Panelists representing a range of these specialized services will demonstrate how integrating these services from the earliest stages of project planning leads to more accurate results, smoother regulatory compliance, stronger client relationships, and more meaningful community engagement.

Rather than "selling" add-ons, CRM firms can position these services as foundational to shared stewardship—aligning with the conference theme by emphasizing mutual responsibility among consultants, agencies, and clients. Attendees will gain strategies for communicating the value of niche services transparently, ethically, and effectively, ensuring clients understand that these disciplines are not upsells but essential tools for better science, better compliance, and better outcomes.

4:45pm–5:30pm **Session 8: Be the Bison: Tools for Leaning into Momentary Discomfort to Build Lasting Collaboration**

Location: Regal Ballroom
Speaker: Nicole Beaudin, Nicole Beaudin Coaching

Bison do not run from storms — they turn and walk directly into





them, moving through the discomfort faster and emerging on the other side more quickly than animals that flee. This session invites you to adopt that same counter-intuitive orientation within yourself and your collaborative relationships.

Effective collaboration rarely fails for lack of technical expertise. It fails because the hard conversations, the moments of friction, and the spaces of genuine uncertainty go unaddressed. This interactive work session draws on somatic awareness, intuitive decision-making, and relational trust-building to give participants concrete tools for staying present and engaged precisely when discomfort signals the urge to retreat.

Participants will leave with:

- A framework for recognizing and reinterpreting moments of interpersonal or interagency friction as opportunities for deeper collaboration
- Embodied, low-tech exercises for resetting nervous system responses during tense consultations or negotiations
- Practical strategies for naming shared stakes and building mutual accountability across jurisdictional and cultural boundaries
- A personal action commitment and peer accountability structure to sustain momentum beyond the conference

Through facilitated reflection, small-group scenario work, and whole-room dialogue, this session creates a generative space where attendees practice — not just discuss — the relational skills that make shared stewardship of cultural resources possible.

SATURDAY, October 17, 2026

7:00am–4:00pm **Exhibitor Hall & Coffee Room**

Location: Regency West

7:30am–10:00am **Registration**

Location: Regency West





8:00am–8:45am **Session 9: Complexities to Results: A Collaborative Approach to Historic Compliance**

Location: Regal Ballroom
Moderator: Wes Cunningham, Potomac-Hudson Engineering, Inc.
Speakers: Kristen Heitert, Gray & Pape; CDR Avery Weston, United States Coast Guard

How do you upgrade mission-critical facilities without compromising historic integrity—or your schedule? In 2025, the U.S. Coast Guard Academy (Academy) faced this challenge during a historic investment in shore facilities and infrastructure. Two new buildings are planned for construction on the New London, Connecticut, campus, which is considered eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places as a historically and architecturally significant district.

To meet an aggressive timeline, the Academy implemented a streamlined approach focused on collaboration between multiple stakeholders to satisfy National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requirements, including Section 110 historic studies and preliminary Section 106 documentation. This session will explore how concurrent processes, phased deliverables, and early stakeholder engagement/collaboration-enabled completion of preliminary findings within 30 days of the initial site visit—without sacrificing compliance or quality.

The Academy—one of four main academies that provide armed services officer training—has operated at its current site since 1932. Attendees will learn how government and industry partners collaborated to reestablish district boundaries, update historic building inventories, conduct archaeological assessments, and develop effects findings for proposed construction projects. Presenters will share lessons learned on contracting strategies, communication protocols, and innovative review processes that kept the project on track despite potential roadblocks. By examining this case study, participants will gain practical insights into accelerating cultural resource compliance for complex projects, ensuring both mission readiness and preservation of historic assets.





This presentation will demonstrate how open communication, collaboration, and industry best practices can be combined to efficiently complete a project on a streamlined timeline. Moreover, eagerness to work together between CRM practitioners, the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), and interested stakeholders was integral to this project's success. This project is a strong example of how deliverables do not need to suffer, construction deadlines do not need to be delayed, and compliance can still be realized when all parties collaborate and communicate.

CDR Avery Weston will outline the Academy's leadership role and onsite coordination, emphasizing how proactive, concurrent communication with industry partners enabled the Academy to meet the accelerated environmental review schedule. Wes Cunningham and Kristen Heitert will detail the technical strategies behind updating the historic building survey, refining National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility for the Academy Historic District, conducting archaeological assessments, and developing an effect finding for the proposed construction projects. Mr. Cunningham will also explain how a phased deliverable approach with interim submissions supported the Coast Guard's compressed timeline.

8:45am–9:45am **Session 10: Lessons from an Executive Coach: Practical Tools for Everyday Leadership**

Location: Regal Ballroom
Speaker: Thomas Norris, Humanyen

This session introduces a practical leadership communication toolkit built from executive coaching experience, focused on the three challenges leaders face most often: gaining alignment, influencing behavior, and navigating difficult conversations.

The premise is simple—every leader, whether formally trained or not, needs to spend time providing feedback, coaching, and mentoring. The question is whether they have some simple tools at hand to do it effectively.

Participants will learn three specific, usable approaches to improve clarity, strengthen accountability, and guide conversations in a way that leads to better outcomes. The session will also address a





common organizational breakdown: the slow or incomplete flow of information—particularly when issues or "bad news" are not surfaced early enough to act on.

By improving how leaders communicate and coach in day-to-day interactions, this session helps create stronger alignment, more open information flow, and more effective collaboration across teams.

9:45am–10:45am Session 11: Federal Government Contracting 101: A Roadmap for Commercial Businesses

Location: Regal Ballroom
Speaker: Tim Valley, PilieroMazza

Providing goods or services to government agencies is worth billions to businesses working with the federal government. If you're considering entering the world of government contracting, this session is for you!

Learning objectives include:

- Small business and set-aside registration requirements
- Regulatory and compliance obligations
- The contract bidding process

10:45am–11:45am Session 12: ACRA's Washington Update/ Government Relations

Sponsor: ASM Affiliates
Location: Regal Ballroom
Moderator: Andrew Goldberg, ACRA Lobbyist/Agora
Speakers: Andrew Goldberg, ACRA Lobbyist/Agora; Burr Neely, ACRA VP for Government Relations/ICF International, Inc. (ICF)

This session will focus on ACRA's lobbying and advocacy efforts in Washington over the past year. The presenters will review significant developments in the legislative and regulatory arenas, including historic preservation and infrastructure, and how the midterm elections may affect CRM. They will also discuss ongoing efforts to engage member firms, broaden ACRA's outreach with allied groups, engage federal agencies, and how you can speak up for the industry.





11:45am–12:00pm Session 13: ACRA Business Meeting

Sponsor: Richard Grubb & Associates, Inc.
Location: Regal Ballroom
Speaker: Amanda Stratton, ACRA Executive Director

ACRA has been fighting to promote a thriving cultural resource management industry. Join your fellow members to look back at the events of the past year, hear about the important ACRA initiatives and programs slated for the future, and discuss maximizing your membership value.

12:00pm–1:30pm Lunch on Your Own; Take a Student to Lunch (Optional)

For those who registered for the optional student lunch activity, pairings will be announced prior to the event.

1:30pm–2:15pm Session 14: Clearing the Path: Collaborative Tools for Streamlined Section 106 Compliance and Wildfire Risk Reduction

Sponsor: Brockington & Associates
Location: Regal Ballroom
Speakers: Jennifer Darcangelo, Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E); Adam Sriro, Southern California Edison (SCE)

As California utilities accelerate efforts to reduce wildfire risk across millions of acres of federally managed lands, effective collaboration between agencies and industry partners has become essential. This session, jointly presented by representatives from Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) and Southern California Edison (SCE), will explore how existing streamlining tools and programmatic approaches are being applied to utility operations and maintenance (O&M) activities on lands managed by the United States Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and National Park Service (NPS). Building on lessons learned through real-world coordination and project implementation, we will discuss how standardized review processes, data sharing, and enhanced communication protocols are improving outcomes for both utilities and agencies. Critical communication tools, such as early coordination calls, shared GIS systems, standardized reporting templates, and defined escalation procedures, have resulted in successful collaboration among utilities and federal partners. Together, our efforts





demonstrate how collaboration and shared responsibility can sustain cultural resource protection while advancing the urgent goals of wildfire resilience and infrastructure safety.

2:15pm–3:15pm **Session 15: Bridging the Gap: University CRM Centers and the Workforce Development Crisis**

Location: Regal Ballroom
Moderator: Todd Ahlman, Texas State University Center for Archaeological Studies
Speakers: Jennifer Barbee, Applied EarthWorks, Inc.; Kevin Cupka Head, Missouri State University; Caitlin Gulihur, Terracon; Ann Scott, Terracon

In the 1960s and 1970s, university research centers and institutes served as the vanguard for a burgeoning CRM industry. Concurrent with the development of the private sector, many universities shifted priorities from applied to academic research, and the university-based CRM center seemed destined for the spoils pile. As opportunities for field and laboratory experience vanished from college campuses, so too did the capacity to prepare students for careers in CRM. The impact of this loss as a contributing factor in the present crises of workforce quality and quantity has received relatively little attention. Today, too few CRM-oriented university-based centers offer paid opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to learn the skills that adequately prepare them for a successful career in CRM. The collaborative environment fostered by ACRA's Academic Collaboration Committee and the University Partnership Program offers an opportunity to rehabilitate this historical bridge between academy and industry.

This guided panel discussion, moderated by Dr. Todd Ahlman, Director of the Center for Archaeological Studies at Texas State University, will explore the impact of university centers. The panel will consider the benefits and challenges of teaming with university centers and discuss their crucial role in the workforce development pipeline. Participants will also highlight examples of how university centers serve industry as sources of local and regional expertise, provide specialized services, facilities, and equipment, and are ideal hubs for collaboration among the general public, government agencies, private industry, and academia. The perspectives of





center directors and alumni working in CRM will be presented alongside those of industry partners, and the panel will ultimately emphasize how the current climate is ripe for a revitalization of the model.

3:15pm–3:30pm Coffee Break

Sponsor: CEC
Location: Regency West

3:30pm–4:30pm Session 16: Navigating Professional Boundaries in an Age of Advocacy

Location: Regal Ballroom
Moderator: Kimberly Smith, HDR
Speakers: Anna Banowsky, University of California-Santa Barbara; Jennifer Darcangelo, PG&E; George Herbst, BLM; Ray Teran, Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians

Professionals are often encouraged to bring their values and voices into their work. At the same time, organizations must maintain credibility, neutrality, and compliance with regulatory or contractual obligations. This session explores the often-blurred line between personal advocacy and organizational advocacy, and how professionals can navigate that boundary responsibly.

Through practical examples and facilitated discussion, the session examines how personal beliefs, ethical commitments, and public engagement intersect with professional roles. Participants will explore the benefits of maintaining a clear separation between personal advocacy and organizational positions and maintaining trust with diverse clients/stakeholders. The session will also consider the potential drawbacks of strict separation, such as limiting authentic engagement or creating confusion about values within mission-driven organizations.

The discussion will highlight panelists with experience balancing aspects of personal, political, and professional advocacy. They will share some of their strategies for communicating clearly about when individuals speak for themselves versus their organizations. Panelists also will discuss their experience developing internal policies that support both professional responsibility and personal expression.





4:30pm–5:30pm **Session 17: Current Events: 2025 and 2026, a View from Your Peers**

Location: Regal Ballroom
Moderator: Cinder Miller, ACRA Past President/Gray & Pape
Speakers: Nicki Combs, ACRA President-Elect/Mead & Hunt; Shawn Patch, ACRA President/New South Associates; Stefanie Perez, SP Faunal Services; Adie Whitaker, Far Western Anthropological Research Group

This session focuses on current events at CRM companies of different sizes and located in different geographies of the U.S. Each presenter will give a 6-minute, 40-second PechaKucha-style presentation (20 slides, 20 seconds per slide) on the challenges faced by their business in 2025 and 2026. These challenges relate to the business climate, changes in staffing, cancellation or postponement of contracts, changes in market sectors, challenges related to integration after acquisition, or whatever the presenter chooses to emphasize. Each presenter will also talk personally about how their life has changed in the last two years; the intent is for the presenters to be a little vulnerable. This is meant to be a humanizing presentation, sharing what we all are dealing with and what it's like keeping a business afloat in these uncertain times.

6:00pm–9:00pm **ACRA Awards Social at the San Diego Museum of Illusions**

Premier Sponsor: SWCA Environmental Consultants
Secondary Sponsor: Statistical Research, Inc.; Stantec
Location: San Diego Museum of Illusions
Awards Presenters: Charissa Durst, ACRA Awards Committee Chair/Hardlines Design Company; Shawn Patch, ACRA President/New South Associates

Join ACRA at the Museum of Illusions for food and libations to celebrate ACRA's industry award winners. The venue is located within walking distance of the hotel, approximately 3 blocks northeast of the hotel.

SUNDAY, October 18, 2026

Breakfast with friends and colleagues.



Speaker Biographies



Todd Ahlman, Ph.D.

Director, Center for Archaeological Studies - Texas State University

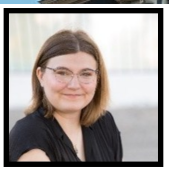
Todd Ahlman, Ph.D.., is an anthropological archaeologist with more than 35 years of archaeological experience in 25 states, the Caribbean, and Europe. As Director of Texas State University's Center for Archaeological Studies (CAS), he manages grants and contracts that provide applied archaeological experiences for undergraduate and graduate students. His current research interests include military sites archaeology in Europe and the Caribbean, the study of the African Diaspora in the South and Caribbean, and 20th century material culture. He previously worked for Historical Research Associates, Inc. and The Louis Berger Group, Inc., and has taught courses on CRM archaeology and GIS at the University of Tennessee, University of Montana, and Texas State University.



Carrie Albee, M.A.

Architectural Historian, Mid-Atlantic Regional Manager, Gray & Pape, Inc.

Carrie Albee is an architectural historian with 29 years of experience researching, documenting, evaluating, and managing aboveground cultural resources. She began her career in the Carolinas where she fell in love with the rural vernacular of the Coastal regions. After working for the North Carolina Department of Transportation and the Historic Charleston Foundation, Carrie returned to her home state of Maryland and entered the field of CRM, working for EHT Traceries, URS (now AECOM), ERM, and now Gray & Pape, Inc. She has expertise in developing historic contexts and enjoys discovering the story behind a site. Carrie has specialized experience with Federal agency historic preservation programs, working collaboratively with agency personnel at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Navy, and US General Services Administration (GSA) to balance mission with stewardship. Between 2019 and 2025, Carrie worked with NASA to develop the agency's Section 106 Programmatic Agreement for the management of NASA Centers.



Anna Banowsky, M.A.
Doctoral Student, University of California-Santa Barbara
Anna Banowsky, MA is a Ph.D. student at the University of California-Santa Barbara and a former District 92 candidate for Iowa State House of Representatives (California & Iowa). She is presently completing doctoral studies in archaeology of religion and politics of the Roman Near East. Anna ran in 2024 for a seat in the Iowa State Legislature while still a M.A. student in Anthropology. She graduated from the University of Iowa with the M.A. degree in 2025. In addition to her past participation in Iowa's local/statewide politics, her advocacy work includes currently serving on both the Government Affairs and Fundraising committees for the Society for American Archaeology, and she has previously served as a member of the Historic Preservation Commission for the City of Washington in Iowa.



Jennifer Barbee, MBA
President and CFO, Applied EarthWorks, Inc.
Jennifer Barbee is the President and CFO of Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (Æ), a CRM firm headquartered in Fresno, CA. Jennifer has three decades of experience in finance and accounting, human resources, information systems, operations, and safety. In her current role, she leads the executive team and the business operations to achieve strategic objectives for growth, digital processes, and financial stability. Jennifer enjoys extolling the benefits of employee ownership and the value of being 100 percent Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP). She is equally passionate about succession planning and developed an in-house Leadership Development Academy in preparation for the future. Drawing on her foundational experience working for Fortune 100 companies including Alcoa and Comcast, Jennifer promotes a culture of continuous improvement where problem solving and implementing changes are demystified. Jennifer currently serves on the Æ Board of Directors and Æ's ESOP Administrative Committee. Jennifer is an active ACRA volunteer. Since 2017, she has been a member of the Continuing Education Committee, coordinated several webinars and hot topics. Since 2021, she has been a member of the Academic Collaboration Committee, which she now chairs.



Nicole Beaudin

Executive Coach & Intuitive Strategist; Creator of Be the Bison

Nicole Beaudin spent fifteen years inside the high-pressure world of corporate retail leadership, including a stint as Director of Buying at Tory Burch reporting directly to the founder, before discovering what was actually determining whether smart, capable people thrived or burned out. It wasn't strategy, willpower, or even resilience in the way most leadership training defines it. It was the subconscious work underneath — the guided inner work that changes how a person shows up and the actions they take every day.

That insight became Be the Bison: a framework built on a simple, counterintuitive observation from the natural world. When storms roll across the plains, most herd animals run from them, prolonging their exposure. Bison turn and walk straight into the storm, moving through it faster and emerging stronger on the other side. Nicole teaches high-achieving founders, executives, and teams to do the same — with their hardest decisions, their growth edges, and the moments where the instinct to retreat is strongest.

Today, Nicole works as an executive coach and intuitive strategist, blending applied performance psychology with deeper inner work to help leaders build what she calls an inner operating system capable of matching their outer ambition. A certified Reiki practitioner and trained coach and facilitator, she brings a rare combination to her work: the operational fluency of someone who has built and led real businesses, the intuitive, somatic awareness to help clients hear what their body already knows before their mind catches up, and a step-by-step coaching process—teaching the lessons of the subconscious, then asking the clarifying, powerful questions that guide clients to know themselves more fully and shift on their own.

Her clients describe the result as a total transformation and recalibration — a return to clarity, capacity, and momentum. Nicole often describes the work itself as an archaeological dig: scuffing off the outdated programming that holds her clients back, layer by layer, to uncover the greatness — the treasure — that has been inside them all along.



Sarah Bliss

Director of Community Conservation Initiatives, Mojave Desert Land Trust

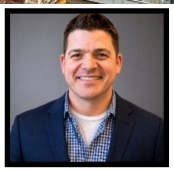
Sarah Bliss has spent her entire life in Southern California and has dedicated the last 15 years to working in museums, historic preservation, and environmental management. Her work emphasizes fostering partnerships and breaking down communication barriers between Tribes and various governmental and NGO entities. At Mojave Desert Land Trust, she began as the Director of Land Conservation and has recently established a new department, Community Conservation Initiatives; with one of the main program goals to enhance tribal engagement and access in the region. In her work focusing on tribal engagement, programs, and access, she strives to connect and center Indigenous knowledge and Western sciences.



Kevin Cupka Head, M.A., RPA

Director, Warren Center for Archaeological Research; Research Professor at Missouri State University

Kevin Cupka Head, M.A., RPA, is the Director of the Warren Center for Archaeological Research (CAR) and Research Professor at Missouri State University. His more than 20 years of CRM experience began as an undergraduate student employee of the Archaeological Resources Management Service at Ball State University. At CAR, Kevin oversees a wide range of CRM service contracts, applied research, public outreach and hands-on workforce development, largely within and around the Missouri Ozarks. Cupka Head has also worked for Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc., the University of Illinois Public Service Archaeology and Architecture Program, R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Construction Engineering Research Laboratory. A Ph.D. candidate at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Secretary of the Missouri Archaeological Society, Kevin has been an active member of the ACRA Academic Collaboration Committee since 2022 and serves on the ACRA Alternative Pathways to SOI Qualifications task force and Airlie House 2.0 Workforce Training working group.



Wes Cunningham, M.A.
Project Manager and Architectural Historian/Historian, Potomac-Hudson Engineering, Inc.
Wes Cunningham is a Project Manager and Architectural Historian/Historian with public history and archaeology experience including as an architectural historian, a research historian, an oral historian, managing historic properties, cataloguing and creating metadata for archival special collections, as a field archaeologist, as an archaeological laboratory technician, and as a historic preservation specialist. He graduated with a B.A. in History with a minor in Archaeology, and an M.A. in History with a specialization in Public History. Mr. Cunningham has extensive experience with NRHP nominations and amendments for historic properties and districts including property assessments, evaluations, research, and writing, listing over 40 on the NRHP. He is experienced in the technical aspects of historic architecture and archaeological survey fieldwork, and report writing, in addition to detailed archival research. He has extensive experience in fieldwork as a historian conducting research, including oral histories and archival exploration; as an architectural historian surveying buildings, districts, and landscapes; and as an archaeologist performing Phase I surveys to identify sites and assisting on intensive archaeological excavations at historic and prehistoric sites to assess NRHP eligibility and recover significant archaeological data.

He has worked for nationally renowned CRM firms and has been a part of numerous architectural history and archaeological investigations throughout the United States from Michigan and the Great Lakes Regions to Florida and the Gulf Coast, and from the Pacific Northwest to all along the Atlantic coast. As a historian, cultural resources specialist, and Project Manager, Mr. Cunningham has over 15 years of experience in all aspects of cultural resources management at federal and state levels and has worked for a myriad of clients including branches of the military, federal entities, local municipalities, private developers, regional businesses, and non-profits. His areas of expertise include detailed archival research and genealogy, historic architecture and cultural landscape investigation, Section 106/110 cultural resource regulatory compliance, NRHP nominations, conducting oral histories, and various other historic preservation and cultural heritage projects.



Jennifer Darcangelo, M.A.
Tribal and Cultural Resource Practice Lead, Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Jennifer Darcangelo is the Tribal and Cultural Resource Practice Lead for Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E), one of the largest utility companies in the U.S., serving approximately 16 million people across northern and central California. With more than 30 years of experience, Jennifer began her career as an archaeologist specializing in California precontact archaeology. She holds a B.A. in Anthropology and an M.A. in Cultural Resources Management from Sonoma State University. Her career has included managing state and federal cultural resources compliance in both the public and private sectors. Over the past decade, her work has focused on fostering collaborative partnerships among Tribes, agencies, and stakeholders to support responsible cultural resource stewardship.



Shelly Davis-King, M.A., RPA
Owner, Davis-King & Associates; Research Associate, California Academy of Sciences, Anthropology
Shelly Davis-King is sole proprietor of Davis-King & Associates, an ACRA firm, and a Research Associate of the California Academy of Sciences. She has nearly 60 years of international experience in anthropology and archaeology, focusing on California ethnography, prehistory, and history for most of that time. Formal training and early career work centered on the American Southwest, and the Mesolithic and Upper Paleolithic of Western Europe where Ms. Davis-King conducted master's and doctoral research. Her work with scores of federally-recognized and unrecognized tribes in California has helped her develop a strong and familiar relationship with active Native American elders and leaders. She has worked with other cultural groups, including the mafia (the subject of her M.A. thesis) and the elderly. She has a strong understanding of federal law and policy and has worked in the CRM industry since 1970.



Andrew Goldberg (ACRA Chief Lobbyist)
Principal, Agora
Andrew Goldberg has spent more than three decades building and leading winning advocacy programs. After studying architecture and design at the University of

Pennsylvania, Andrew got his start in politics running local and state campaigns in New York. In Washington, Andrew served as a top legislative aide to key members of Congress, helping two freshman members establish their policy agendas and enact far-reaching legislation on education, health care, and other issues.

After a stint in the UK, where he created a parliamentary lobbying program for a British healthcare association, Andrew was named the first-ever full-time executive director of Democrats Abroad, the party's overseas arm. Andrew then moved to the American Institute of Architects, where he served as managing director of government relations and advocacy, transforming its advocacy program to raise the profile of its members in Washington and push several landmark bills to enactment.

In 2018, Andrew formed Agora, a government relations consulting firm that specializes in helping associations in the infrastructure and environment sectors grow their influence in Washington. Andrew is also the co-founder, with former U.S. Representative Russ Carnahan, of BuildingAction, a broad-based coalition advocating for sustainable building policies.

Andrew has served on the Board of Directors of the National Home Performance Council, the Executive Committee of the High Performance Buildings Coalition, the Advisory Board of the Environmental and Energy Study Institute, and the Advisory Board of the U.S. House Livable Communities Task Force. Andrew has served as a media spokesperson for several organizations and has been quoted in Politico, Roll Call, the Hill, the Washington Post, and others.

A native New Yorker, Andrew has served as cubmaster of his son's cub scout pack and assistant coach in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase (BCC) baseball league. He is an unabashed Yankees fan, but will work with Red Sox fans on a case-by-case basis.



Caitlin Gulihur, M.A., RPA
Archeology Team Lead, Terracon Consultants, Inc.
Caitlin Gulihur, M.A., RPA, is the Archeology Team Lead in Terracon Consultants, Inc.'s (Terracon) Austin office. She earned her B.A. in Anthropology and Classical Archaeology from the University of Texas at Austin and her M.A. in Anthropology from Texas State University. While at

Texas State University, she worked at the Center for Archaeological Studies assisting with the curation of artifacts and records in compliance with the Antiquities Code of Texas. She has been at Terracon since 2017. In addition to managing the Austin archeology team, she is also a Principal Investigator and Project Manager.



Neha Gupta, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Anthropology, University of British Columbia, Okanagan
Neha Gupta, Ph.D., is assistant professor in anthropology at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan. She directs DARE | Digital Archaeology Research Environment, a research lab focused on geospatial and digital methods in anti-colonial and Indigenous studies of archaeology and heritage, geovisualization and GIS, place-based heritage, and community governance of data.

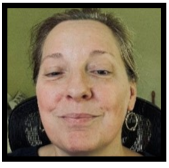


Richard Guttenberg, M.A., RPA
Southern California Regional Director, Alta Archaeological Consulting
Richard Guttenberg is a prehistoric archaeologist with more than 25 years of experience leading a wide range of archaeological projects in California. He serves as Southern California Regional Director at Alta Archaeological Consulting, an ACRA firm, and has been active in ACRA since 2017 as a member of the Continuing Education Committee. He recently completed a two-year term as Southern Vice President for the Society for California Archaeology (SCA) and now serves as its liaison to ACRA. Richard has worked extensively on the Southern Channel Islands. His current research examines prehistoric chronologies and settlement patterns across coastal landscapes in Southern California and northern Baja.



Robert Heckman, M.A., RPA
President, Statistical Research, Inc.
Robert (Robby) Heckman is the President of Statistical Research, Inc. (SRI). Mr. Heckman received his B.A. in anthropology from the University of Arizona in 1992 and his M.A. in anthropology from Northern Arizona University in 2002. Mr. Heckman joined SRI in 1992 and has served in a multitude of capacities for the firm since that time. He has extensive experience planning and managing large and complex projects across many of the western states for various federal, state, and

local agencies as well as tribal and private clients. Mr. Heckman's management approach is founded on fostering communication and establishing trust and a partnership with our clients. By leveraging the inherent flexibility of the NHPA, Mr. Heckman seeks to provide the best possible outcome for our clients and the resources in their charge. Mr. Heckman and SRI have a proven track record of working collaboratively with our clients and the communities in which we work to provide data-driven management solutions that enable better-informed decisions, planning, and allocation of funding resources. Mr. Heckman also oversees the continuing development and implementation of the SRI-specific data collection standards and conventions and relational database (SRID) that help ensure SRI projects are not simply "one-off" events and instead result in truly cumulative data sets that can be leveraged to contextualize future work, support data-driven conclusions, facilitate longitudinal research goals, engage the public, and provide informed management options for our clients.



Kristen Heitert, M.A., RPA
Northeast Regional Manager/Senior Principal Investigator, Gray & Pape, Inc.
Kristen Heitert is Northeast Regional Manager and senior principal investigator at Gray & Pape, Inc. in Providence, Rhode Island. She graduated with a B.A. in Anthropology and History from the University of Connecticut in 1993, and an M.A. in Anthropology with a specialization in historical archaeology from The College of William and Mary in 1998. She began working in CRM in 1996 and since that time has completed hundreds of archaeological projects from Maine to Virginia. Ms. Heitert's primary responsibilities consist of preparing scopes of services and cost proposals, client and agency coordination, preparing technical work products, and managing technical staff at the regional and corporate levels. She has decades of cultural resources compliance experience under Sections 106 and 110 of the NHPA and has worked with a wide range of public and private clients including USACE, NPS, National Grid, and Historic New England.



George A. Herbst, M.S., RPA
Federal Preservation Officer, U.S. Bureau of Land Management
George A. Herbst, M.S., RPA serves as the Federal Preservation Officer for the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Department of the Interior (DOI) (California & nationwide). He is BLM's principal advisor on compliance with the NHPA and leads national cultural resources policy and program implementation. With more than two decades of federal service across the DOI and Department of Defense, he has held senior leadership roles including State Archaeologist/Deputy Preservation Officer for BLM California and Cultural Resources Program Manager for Pacific Air Forces. His work integrates historic preservation into large-scale planning and infrastructure initiatives, streamlines regulatory processes, and leads complex consultations with Tribes and federal and state partners. He is a Ph.D. candidate in Anthropology (Archaeology) at the University of California, Santa Barbara and holds an M.S. degree in Archaeological Prospection. He has experience in policy development, interagency coordination, and strategic program leadership. His advocacy is informed in large part by his experience working with the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and other host nations, where he has demonstrated that integrating cultural resources into project planning improves project delivery, reduces risk, and builds stakeholder trust. His background in strategic and risk communications complements this work by promoting clear, credible engagement in complex and sensitive environments.



Sarah Herr, Ph.D., RPA
President, Desert Archaeology
Sarah is the majority owner and president of Desert Archaeology. She enjoys conducting projects that are participatory and place-based, involving local and descendant communities. Her research interests include population mobility, the development of frontiers, and ceramic analysis. She is also interested in the history, practice, and ethics of archaeology, and recently completed nine years as an editor for the Society for American Archaeology (SAA) journal Advances in Archaeological Practice.



Angela Huntsman, Ph.D.
Organizational Development Consultant, Humanyen
Angela Huntsman, Ph.D., is an organizational development consultant, leadership advisor, and speaker who helps organizations prepare for the future by developing strong leaders, strengthening teams, and building internal talent pipelines.

For 20 years, she has partnered with leaders and owners facing growth, leadership transitions, workforce challenges, and increasing complexity. Through leadership development, team building, management training, and organizational consulting, she helps organizations strengthen their teams, develop future leaders, and create workplaces where people can do their best work as the organization grows and evolves.

Angela believes that meaningful progress does not always require large-scale programs. Often, a few intentional investments in leadership, team development, and employee growth can create lasting impact throughout an organization. Her practical, people-centered approach helps organizations build the leadership depth, team effectiveness, and talent needed to navigate change, support continued growth, and prepare for the opportunities ahead.

Known for translating complex people and organizational challenges into practical action, Angela helps organizations create environments where leadership can be shared, talent can grow, and people and businesses can thrive together.



Kaci Korinek
Vice President of People Operations, Workplace Change
Kaci is a Human Resources (HR) executive and the Vice President of People Operations at Workplace Change, a people-centered HR organization focused on transforming work environments for the better. Kaci brings expertise in organizational change, leadership development, compensation, employee and labor relations, and a range of other HR solutions to complex organizational challenges.

Her career spans impactful roles, including HR Deputy Director for the Oregon Employment Department and Learning and Development Manager at Gallup. Kaci holds a master's degree in HR Management and Development, a bachelor's degree in Human Relations, and a

change management certification from Prosci.



Charity Kys, SHRM-CP
Chief People Officer, Historical Research Associates, Inc.
Charity Kys is a strategic HR leader with more than 20 years of experience across public, private, medical, and non-profit organizations. She currently serves as the Chief People Officer for Historical Research Associates, Inc. (HRA), where she leads multi-state people and safety operations. She also provides HR consultancy services to partner firm Gray & Pape, Inc., working to assist both organizations in navigating complexity while strengthening culture, compliance, and employee performance.

Charity is known for partnering with executives, owners, and operational leaders to design progressive HR solutions that align with organizational strategy and business growth. Her expertise spans talent acquisition and workforce planning, compliance in highly regulated environments, benefit strategy, and development of scalable HR infrastructure, including building HR departments from the ground up.



Jaime Loichinger
Director of the Office of Federal Agency Programs, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Jaime Loichinger is the Director of the Office of Federal Agency Programs (OFAP) at the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP). OFAP participates in Section 106 reviews, develops and implements program alternatives, provides technical assistance and guidance for Section 106 users, and works to improve federal agency and stakeholder understanding of Section 106. OFAP also administers the ACHP's training program, including delivery of classroom courses, webinars, and e-learning. Jaime is an anthropologist by training, holding a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology-Sociology from Oakland University (Rochester, MI) and a Master's of Applied Anthropology from the University of Maryland, College Park.



Sarah Lowry, M.A., RPA
Director of Geophysics and Cemetery Studies, New South Associates
Sarah Lowry is the Director of Geophysics and

Cemetery Studies at New South Associates. Sarah has more than 15 years of professional experience working with near-surface geophysical methods and archaeology, and she has been running the Geophysics Department at New South Associates for over 8 years. Additionally, Sarah is on the New South Associates board of directors and serves as Secretary. She received an M.A. in anthropology from the University of Denver in 2009. Sarah's technical research interests include helping people engage with their histories, particularly in historic cemeteries. Her other professional hat includes running a busy department while managing workload and the mental load that can come with being the person ultimately responsible for her department's success.



Desireé Martinez, RPA
Tribal Relations and NAGPRA/CalNAGPRA Director, California State Polytechnic University-Pomona
Desireé Martinez is the Tribal Relations and NAGPRA/CalNAGPRA Director at California State Polytechnic University-Pomona. She is a Registered Professional Archaeologist with 25 years of experience in archaeological fieldwork, research, curation and repatriation. Desireé has extensive experience consulting with Native American leaders and community members in a variety of contexts including the collection of ethnographic and historic data from an indigenous perspective and the implementation of community-based research. She is at the forefront of creating and implementing collaborative archaeological agendas at the State and National levels.



Cinder Miller, Ph.D. (ACRA Past President)
President, Gray & Pape, Inc.
Dr. Cinder Miller is the President of Gray & Pape, Inc. and the immediate Past President of ACRA. She has worked in the field of CRM for 30 years, managing projects in 28 states and overseas for a wide variety of public- and private-sector clients. She has worked with ACRA, on committees and on the board, for nearly 20 years. As President of Gray & Pape, Dr. Miller is keenly in tune with the financial health of the company and with the projects the firm chases and the work it wins. As a member of the Executive Committee at ACRA, she has seen up close the impact of current federal policy on her business and on the industry as a whole. Cinder sees part of her role at Gray & Pape

as being the optimist in chief; in her presentation at the conference this year, she will talk about her challenges in fulfilling that key executive duty in the last two years.



Burr Neely, RPA (ACRA Vice President of Government Relations)
Director of Cultural Resources – PNW, ICF International, Inc.
Burr Neely, Director of Cultural Resources in the Pacific Northwest for ICF International, Inc. (ICF), has more than 25 years of experience in historic preservation, archaeology, architectural history, project management, and client service. His work has included consulting, research, identification, evaluation, and mitigation of historic properties across precontact and historical-period projects in Alaska, California, Colorado, Oregon, Utah, and Washington.

Throughout his career, Burr has supported federal historic preservation compliance through meaningful engagement with agencies, clients, and interested parties. He has held leadership roles with ACRA, including serving as Vice President of Government Relations from 2017 to 2021, chairing the Government Relations Committee, and most recently resuming the Vice President of Government Relations role.

Burr also brings extensive nonprofit and community service experience. He has served on historic preservation, land conservation, and environmental education boards and committees, including the Fairbanks Historic Preservation Commission, the Whatcom County Purchase of Development Rights Committee, Historic Fairhaven, and the North Cascades Institute. His professional and volunteer work reflects a long-standing commitment to historic preservation advocacy, effective compliance practice, and the stewardship of cultural resources.



Chris Nicholson, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Center for Digital Antiquity - Arizona State University
Chris Nicholson is the Executive Director of the Center for Digital Antiquity at Arizona State University and oversees the tDAR repository (the Digital Archaeological Record). He has a Ph.D. in archaeology (University of Wyoming) and his work

is focused on digital data preservation, archives and archival research, and open access platforms in anthropology. For fun, his outside research interests include paleoclimates and environmental archaeology, human paleoecology, and landscape archaeology.



Thomas Norris
Leadership, Career, and Life/Transition Coach, Humanyen
Thomas Norris is a coach who helps clients navigate life challenges and grow in leadership with confidence and purpose. He is client-centered and works with individuals to close the gap between where they are and where they want to be. He guides clients in exploring questions central to their personal and professional journey. Thomas is an expert in building coaching cultures to integrate and institutionalize leadership best practices.

Thomas is an active member of the International Coaching Federation and adheres to its stringent code of ethics and core competencies. He has published articles on his blog and on LinkedIn about the benefits of mindfulness for stress, burnout, and work-life balance.



Lillian Ondus
Archaeology Support Team Lead, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin
Lillian has 5 years of professional experience and currently serves as Vanasse Hangen Brustlin's (VHB) Archaeology Support Team Lead for this contract with GDOT. In her role, she supervises a team of three embedded VHB archaeologists. Lillian provides technical guidance and mentorship to her embedded team and assists with onboarding new archaeologists onto the contract. In her role, she supports compliance with regulatory requirements, due diligence, and alignment with client standards and schedules. She is also currently the leader of the Civil Rights Working Group at GDOT, working to ensure historical Black experiences are acknowledged during project scoping and reporting. Additionally, she is the Vice President and Membership Director of the Georgia Association of Environmental Professionals (GAEP), a Board Member of the Society for Georgia Archaeology, and an active member of the Georgia Partnership for Transportation Quality (GPTQ) Archaeology Steering Committee.



Shawn Patch, M.A., RPA (ACRA President)
Principal Investigator and Branch Manager, New South Associates, Inc.
Shawn Patch has been with New South Associates, Inc., since 2006 and manages the Greensboro, North Carolina office. He received his B.A. in Anthropology from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and his M.A. in Anthropology from Eastern New Mexico University. He prepares proposals, manages projects, and works with federal, state, and private clients. In his spare time, he is overseeing renovations to an 1860s farmhouse in his hometown in Vermont.



Stefanie Perez, M.A.
Principal, SP Faunal Services
Stefanie M. Perez is a zooarchaeologist with over a decade of experience in CRM. Stefanie received her B.F.A. in Historic Preservation from the Savannah College of Art and Design in 2010. In 2014, she graduated with her M.A. in Applied Archaeology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Since graduating, Stefanie has served in multiple roles including field archaeologist, project management and coordination, and Director of Production. She spent two years as a middle grades educator while she worked on her teaching certificate. In 2024, Stefanie opened a faunal consulting company, SP Faunal Services. Through these roles, Stefanie has extensive experience in faunal analysis as well as public outreach and education, reflecting a strong commitment to both scientific research and community engagement. Stefanie believes deeply in the collaborative nature of archaeology and is dedicated to advancing inclusive and innovative practices within the field.



Shelby Reed
Architectural Historian, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin
Shelby is an Architectural Historian on the Preservation Planning Team in VHB's Atlanta office. She has served as a Support Service Historian embedded at GDOT since 2022. Her experience includes environmental reviews on both national and state levels, under Section 106 of the NHPA and the GEPA, for projects involving built environment cultural resources. Additionally, she assists GDOT through managing the Rising Historians Working Group to help historians and preservationists

that are early in their career to do work with GDOT.



Karimah Richardson
Associate Curator of Anthropology and Repatriation Supervisor, Autry Museum of American West
Karimah Richardson is the Associate Curator of Anthropology and Repatriation Supervisor at the Autry Museum of American West, primarily working with the Southwest Museum of American Indian Collection. Prior to her current curatorial work, she worked in CRM and still occasionally consults to assist firms with Osteology. She is a Ph.D. candidate in Anthropology at the University of California-Riverside, and one of the co-directors of the Pimu Catalina Island Archaeology Project. She actively seeks opportunities to engage with Native and other descendant communities to include their voice and perspectives in anthropology, archaeology and museum practices, projects, and exhibits.



Nicki Sauvageau Combs, M.A., MBA (ACRA President-Elect)
Department Manager - Mid-Atlantic Cultural Resources, Mead & Hunt
Nicki Sauvageau Combs is the Department Manager for Mid-Atlantic Cultural Resources at Mead & Hunt. She holds a B.A. in Anthropology from San Francisco State University, and an MBA and an M.A. in Anthropology from the University of Colorado, Boulder. She oversees a staff of more than 50 archaeologists, architectural historians, historians, GIS professionals, and others, as well as contributing to business development and managing projects.



Ann M. Scott, Ph.D., RPA
Program Manager for Environmental Planning, Terracon Consultants, Inc.
Ann M. Scott, Ph.D., RPA is a Program Manager for Environmental Planning at Terracon, a national firm specializing in environmental, geotechnical, and materials testing services. She earned her Ph.D. in Latin American Studies in 2009 from The University of Texas at Austin. She received an M.A. in Anthropology from Northern Illinois University and a B.S. degree from Central Michigan University. She has over 25 years of archeological experience and has worked for the NPS, the State of

Wisconsin, the State of Illinois, and various private consulting firms in the Midwest and Texas including ACRA member firms. Ann has been involved with ACRA for over a decade serving a few terms as a member of the board of directors or being involved in the various committees; she is currently involved with the Academic Collaboration Committee.

In addition to a successful career in CRM, Ann has a long record of conducting research in Latin America. She has participated in archeological research in Peru, Bolivia, Honduras, Guatemala, Belize, and Mexico. She also specializes in Mesoamerican cave archeology studying the use of caves in a ritual context. Her dissertation research examined contemporary use of sacred space among the Kaqchikel Maya in the southern Highlands of Guatemala. She moved back to the Midwest to work in the Great Lakes region and conduct client and program development out of the region. She recently bought a historic home in Michigan.



Lindsay J.A. Simmons, M.A., RPA (ACRA Secretary)
General Manager, Northern Land Use Research Alaska, LLC; Vice President, Pacific Northwest, Statistical Research, Inc.
Lindsay Simmons, M.A., RPA, serves in a dual leadership role as General Manager of Northern Land Use Research Alaska, LLC (NLURA) and Vice President, Pacific Northwest for SRI. In these positions, she oversees scoping, staffing, logistics, scheduling, and operational execution for CRM projects across Alaska and the Pacific Northwest.

With 19 years of CRM experience, primarily in rural Alaska, Lindsay manages projects ranging from small grant-funded studies to large energy, transportation, and infrastructure developments. Her statewide experience has reinforced a key lesson: in Alaska, “small” does not necessarily mean “simple.” Successfully delivering projects in remote regions requires practical solutions to challenges posed by limited field seasons, complex logistics, and a large quantity of consulting parties.

In addition to coordinating personnel, equipment, schedules, and resources, Lindsay is passionate about developing the next generation of cultural resource professionals through customized mentorship and hands-on training. Her focus on building both

technical and management skills, combined with a commitment to clear, resolution-focused communication, helps create collaborative teams that consistently deliver successful project outcomes.

Outside of work, Lindsay enjoys raising her two energetic “feral little boys,” a role that continually strengthens her adaptability and ability to manage competing priorities.

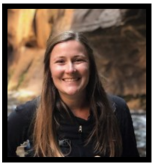


Kimberly Smith, M.A., RPA
Northeast Cultural Resources Lead, HDR
Kimberly Smith, M.A., RPA is the Northeast Cultural Resources Lead/Professional Associate for HDR (Rhode Island). She provides strategic leadership and technical oversight for archaeological and cultural resources compliance projects throughout the northeastern United States. Kim brings extensive experience with Section 106 of the NHPA, NEPA compliance, and coordination with federal, state, Tribal, and local stakeholders. Her work spans large-scale infrastructure, transportation, energy, and public-sector projects, with an emphasis on practical, collaborative solutions that balance regulatory requirements, project delivery, and resource stewardship. Kim is deeply committed to mentoring staff, advancing innovative practices in cultural resources management, and strengthening the role of CRM professionals in complex, multidisciplinary projects.



Adam Sriro, M.A., RPA
Senior Manager, Environmental Planning South, Southern California Edison
Adam Sriro is currently Senior Manager of Environmental Planning South at Southern California Edison (SCE), where he oversees a team of environmental project managers supporting Operations and Maintenance projects across SCE’s 50,000 square mile service territory. Adam spent the last 24 years at SCE writing state-wide cultural resource management plans for BLM, NPS, and USFS, serving as Point of Contact for United States Forest Service (USFS) programmatic permitting, and developing cross-functional environmental compliance programs. Adam has a B.A. in Cultural Anthropology, with an emphasis in Archaeology, from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and an M.A. in CRM from Sonoma State University. Adam is an RPA and is currently chair of the State Historical Resources Commission, which is a nine-member state review board responsible for the

identification and registration of properties for the NRHP, California Register of Historical Resources, California Landmarks and Points of Historic Interest.



Caroline Staley, M.S.
Senior History Team Leader, Georgia Department of Transportation
Caroline is a Senior History Team Leader for GDOT. She gained her undergraduate degrees from the University of Georgia in History and in Social Science Education. Caroline attended graduate school at Clemson University and gained her Master of Science Degree in Historic Preservation. Following graduate school, Caroline was employed in Person County, North Carolina as a County Planner. After two years, she moved home to Georgia and began her career at GDOT beginning as an Associate Historian and now as a Senior History Team Leader.



Amanda Stratton
Executive Director, American Cultural Resources Association
Amanda Stratton joined ACRA as the organization's first full-time executive director in June 2018, bringing with her over 10 years of experience working in the non-profit and trade association industries. Based in Washington, DC, she is working alongside the Board of Directors to execute the association's strategic plan and ensure that ACRA is effectively serving its diverse membership base. Committed to growing the organization and CRM industry overall, her priorities include increasing member engagement, bringing new opportunities to ACRA and its members, and raising the profile of the industry with policymakers, affiliated organizations, and the general public.



Jennie O. Sturm, Ph.D., RPA
Geophysical Archaeology Team Lead, SWCA Environmental Consultants
Dr. Jennie Sturm has more than 22 years of experience using geophysical and remote sensing methods for cultural resource management. She has a particular passion for ground-penetrating radar (GPR) and has led hundreds of GPR surveys across the United States and internationally, with projects ranging from historic cemeteries in the western U.S. to complex archaeological landscapes in Peru, Turkey, and Oman. Dr. Sturm is a

passionate advocate for the preservation of people's historic places through science and technology. She is currently the Geophysical Archaeology Team Lead at SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA), an ACRA firm.



Ray Teran, B.S.
Resource Management Director, Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians
Ray Teran, B.S., is the Resource Management Director for Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians (California). He has worked in a variety of public sectors in grant writing/ administration, city management, State government, school district leadership and Tribal Government over several decades. For the last 13 years he has worked as the Resource Management Director for the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians where he oversees grants, federal programs, environmental projects, mental health initiatives, housing development, cultural resource preservation and liaison to utility and other governmental entities. He received a Bachelor of Science Public Management from the University of Arizona and served in the United States Navy.



Kristin Udick
Senior Architectural Historian, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin
Kristin is a Senior Architectural Historian in VHB's Atlanta office. She currently serves as VHB's History Support Team Lead for GDOT. In her role, she supervises a team of four embedded VHB historians. Kristin provides technical guidance and mentorship to both her embedded team and junior GDOT staff members, providing technical oversight, quality assurance, and coordination for cultural resource deliverables. Her experience includes environmental reviews on both national and state levels, under Section 106 of the NHPA and the GEPA) for projects involving built environment cultural resources. Additionally, she has prepared historic context statements, completed Historic Structure Reports (HSRs) and building condition surveys.



Timothy "Tim" F. Valley, Jr.
Counsel, PilieroMazza
Tim returns to PilieroMazza after serving more than three years as an Attorney Advisor at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Office of the

General Counsel, General Law Division – Procurement. With experience both within the government and as a law firm lawyer, Tim is uniquely positioned to help government contractors navigate and resolve challenges in the GovCon ecosystem.

A seasoned legal professional with extensive experience in government contracting and procurement law, Tim assists clients in various government contracting matters, including advising clients in bid protests at the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the Court of Federal Claims (COFC) and size and status protests before the Small Business Administration. Tim also handles claims and appeals before the Civilian Board of Contract Appeals (CBCA) and the Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals (ASBCA).

He also counsels clients on matters of regulatory compliance, issues specific to SBA's small business programs, and data rights for intellectual property under government contracts. With expertise in novations, subcontracts, and teaming agreements, Tim advises clients on complex GovCon matters, including due diligence for mergers and acquisitions. He offers clients guidance on compliance with the Procurement Integrity Act, conducts investigations, and navigates organizational conflicts of interest to ensure clients remain fully compliant in the highly regulated government contracting space.

As an Army Reservist, Tim also serves part time in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps as a Captain. Upon graduating from the JAG Officer Basic Course (JAOBC), Tim made the Commandant's List and received a commendation for top grade in Fiscal and Contract Law.



CDR Avery L. Weston
Commander, United States Coast Guard
Commander (CDR) Avery L. Weston assumed the responsibilities as the Facilities Engineer for the United States Coast Guard Academy in June of 2025, having just completed his tour as the Executive Officer of Base San Juan in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

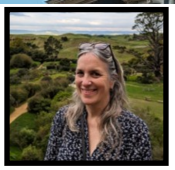
CDR Weston earned a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the Coast Guard Academy (High Honors) and a Master's of Science in Civil Engineering from Virginia Tech. He is a licensed Professional Engineer (P.E.) in the Commonwealth of Virginia and a Project

Management Professional (PMP).

CDR Weston's Coast Guard experience includes serving on CGC Healy, Shore Infrastructure Logistics Center, Coast Guard Yard, and Base San Juan. Onboard CGC Healy, CDR Weston was a member of the crew that provided 400 miles of close quarter ice breaking for the tanker vessel Renda to deliver critical fuel to Nome, Alaska – the first-ever delivery of fuel to an Arctic Alaska settlement via sea ice. At the Shore Infrastructure Logistics Center, CDR Weston oversaw the execution of $250 million annually for depot-level maintenance of facilities and was responsible for the life cycle management of the $27 billion shore plant inventory. As the Assistant Facilities Engineer at the Coast Guard Yard, CDR Weston led the successful completion of the $26M dry-dock expansion project to increase shipyard capacity by 30 percent. As the Executive Officer of Base San Juan, CDR Weston led the Coast Guard's response efforts in the aftermath of two major earthquakes and one of the busiest hurricane seasons to include the $352 million infrastructure rebuild efforts, the largest-ever single investment for the region's Coast Guard facilities.



Adie Whitaker, Ph.D.
Vice President - California Operations, Far Western Anthropological Research Group
Dr. Adie Whitaker is the Vice President of California Operations at Far Western Anthropological Research Group (Far Western) and an at-large board member of ACRA. At Far Western he manages projects throughout California for military, transportation, and utility projects and seeks to bring a research-oriented focus to the CRM. He has maintained an active connection with academia as the Editor of the Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology and an occasional instructor in the Department of Anthropology at University of California, Davis. He is currently helping to lead the California Archaeology Collaborative, an ad hoc group of stakeholders from CRM, academia, government agencies, and tribal governments, that is looking for ways to address the changing landscape of training and practice of CRM in California.

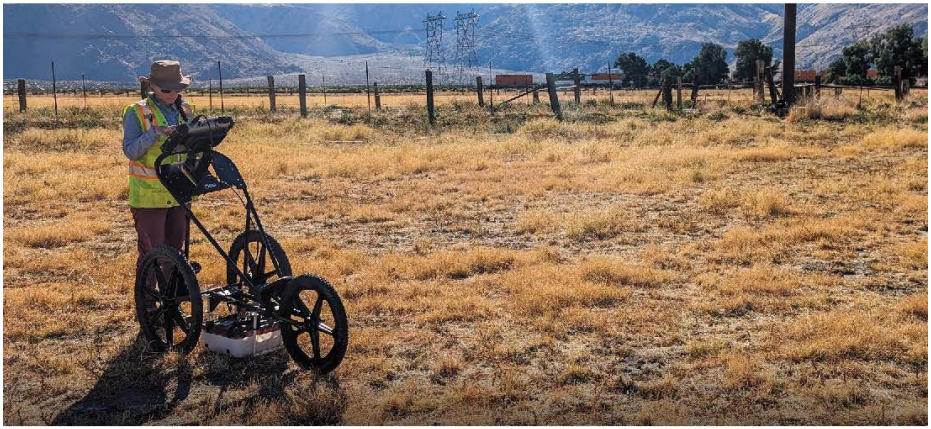


Sarah Whitcher Kansa, Ph.D.

Executive Director, Alexandria Archive Institute

Sarah Whitcher Kansa is the Executive Director of the Alexandria Archive Institute, a non-profit organization that develops the data publishing service Open Context. She has a Ph.D. in archaeology (University of Edinburgh) and has spent three decades conducting zooarchaeological research at sites in the Middle East and Europe. Sarah provides overall project management for data publications in Open Context, works on data editing and review, manages collaborations with other publishers, and organizes peer-review. She is one of four co-directors of the IMLS-supported FAIR+CARE Cultural Heritage Network.

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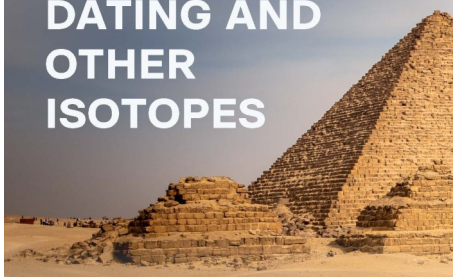
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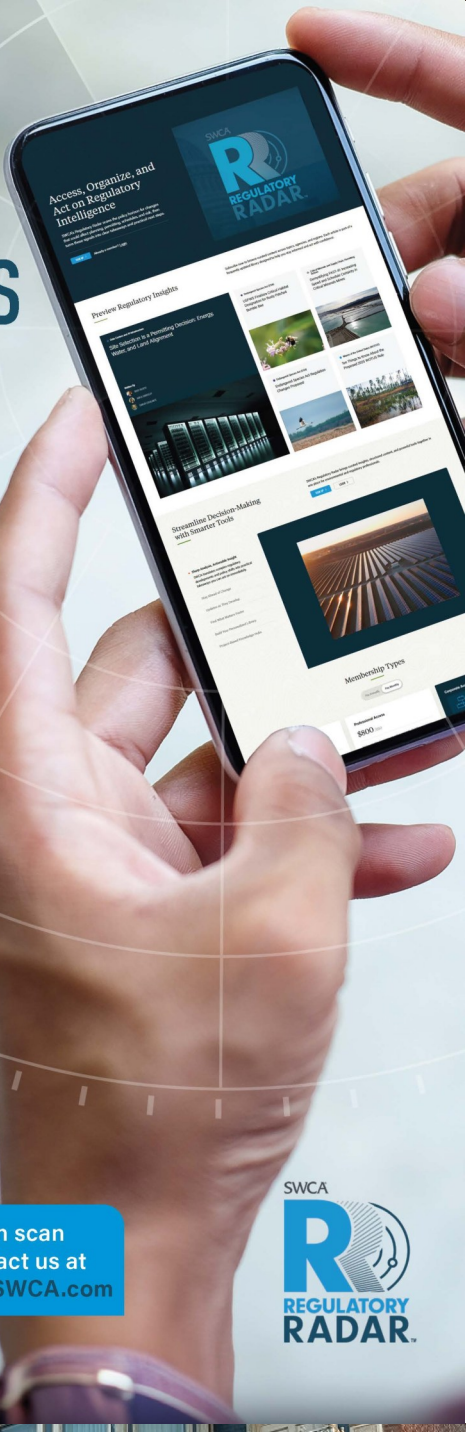


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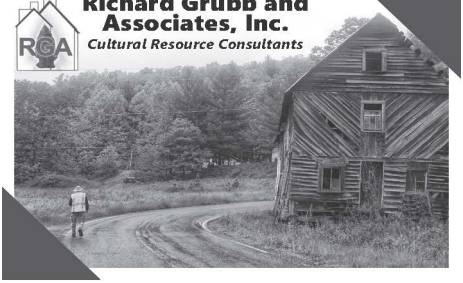
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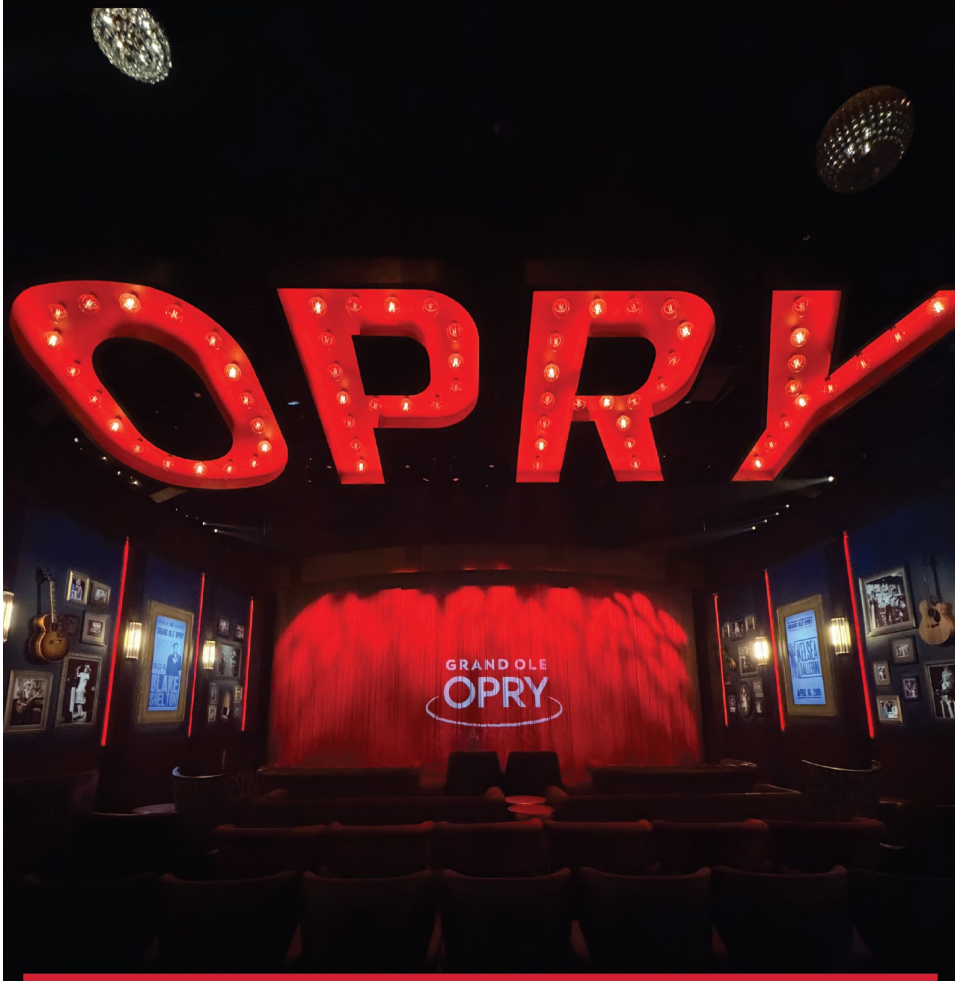
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