BATTLES FOR THE BALLOT
NEW JERSEY VOTING RIGHTS, THEN AND NOW

PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE PROGRAM
# Schedule at a Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>VIRTUAL LOCATION</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:00–10:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Welcome and Special Remarks</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Sara Cureton, Executive Director, New Jersey Historical Commission&lt;br&gt;• Tahesha Way, New Jersey Secretary of State</td>
<td>Zoom link to come</td>
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<td><strong>Keynote Panel</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Ari Berman, Senior Reporter, <em>Mother Jones</em>&lt;br&gt;• Ryan P. Haygood, CEO &amp; President, New Jersey Institute for Social Justice&lt;br&gt;• Martha S. Jones, Society of Black Alumni Presidential Professor and Professor of History, Johns Hopkins University</td>
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<td>10:35–11:05 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Virtual Book Signing</strong></td>
<td>Zoom link to come</td>
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<td>10:50 a.m.–12:05 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Morning Panel Sessions</strong>&lt;br&gt;New Jersey Women's Suffrage: Its Many Faces&lt;br&gt;African Americans and Voting before the 15th Amendment</td>
<td>Zoom link to come</td>
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<td>12:10–1:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>New Jersey Historical Commission Awards &amp; Prizes</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Virtual Exhibition Tour</strong></td>
<td>Zoom link to come</td>
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<td>1:05–2:20 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Afternoon Panel Sessions I</strong>&lt;br&gt;Voting in Times of Crisis: Documenting the 2020 Election&lt;br&gt;Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Women’s Suffrage</td>
<td>Zoom link to come</td>
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<td>2:25–3:40 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Afternoon Panel Sessions II</strong>&lt;br&gt;Protest and Controversy in New Jersey Political History&lt;br&gt;New Jersey Women: Electing and Elected</td>
<td>Zoom link to come</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:50–4:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Post-Election Breakout Discussions</strong></td>
<td>Zoom link to come</td>
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Take a look at this year’s NJ History Conference **Posters & Projects Session** to see some of the latest research on topics related to New Jersey history. We encourage you to submit comments and questions via the website form that the poster and project contributors can respond to at a later date.
9:00–10:30 a.m. Welcome and Special Remarks, Keynote Panel (link to come)

Welcome and Special Remarks

- Sara Cureton, Executive Director, New Jersey Historical Commission
- Tahesha Way, New Jersey Secretary of State

Keynote Panel

**Ari Berman** is a Senior Reporter at *Mother Jones*, Reporting Fellow at Type Media Center, winner of an Izzy Award for outstanding achievement in independent media, and author of *Give Us the Ballot: The Modern Struggle for Voting Rights in America*, *Herding Donkeys: The Fight to Rebuild the Democratic Party and Reshape American Politics*, and the forthcoming *Minority Rule*.

**Ryan P. Haygood** is President & CEO of the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice. A nationally respected civil rights lawyer who has litigated some of the most important civil and voting rights cases of our time, Mr. Haygood leverages his expertise to advance the Institute’s work to empower New Jersey’s communities of color through criminal justice reform and expanding democracy and economic justice in the Garden State.

**Martha S. Jones** is the Society of Black Alumni Presidential Professor and Professor of History at Johns Hopkins University. She is a legal and cultural historian whose work examines how Black Americans have shaped the story of American democracy. Professor Jones is the author of *Birthright Citizens: A History of Race and Rights in Antebellum America* and *Vanguard: How Black Women Broke Barriers, Won the Vote, and Fought for Rights for All*.

10:35–11:05 a.m. Virtual Book Signing (link to come)

Join us for a virtual book signing with keynote speakers **Ari Berman**, author of the forthcoming *Minority Rule*, and **Martha S. Jones**, author of *Vanguard: How Black Women Broke Barriers, Won the Vote, and Fought for Rights for All*, published this September. Attendees will have the chance to meet both authors online by signing up as part of registration. Space is limited. Signed books can be ordered through the [Asbury Book Cooperative](#).

Please note that in some cases customers will receive signed bookplates separately, to be inserted into the books.
10:50 a.m.–12:05 p.m. Morning Panel Sessions

New Jersey Women’s Suffrage: Its Many Faces (link to come)

Moderator: Erica Ryan, Associate Professor of History and Director of the Gender and Sexuality Studies Program, Rider University

- “In the Political Arena: African American Women and the Vote from Civic Righteousness to Electoral Politics”
  Betty Livingston Adams, Professor of History (retired), Rutgers University
- “Suffrage Ran in Families”
  Lisa Hendrickson, Independent Historian
- “Jewish Suffragists in New Jersey”
  George Robb, Professor of History, William Paterson University

African Americans and Voting before the 15th Amendment (link to come)

Moderator: Jason R. Ambroise, Associate Professor of History, William Paterson University

- “Robert Aaron, an African American Voter in 18th-Century New Jersey”
  Nancy Piwowar, President of the Board of Trustees, Historical Society of Plainfield and Drake House Museum
- “Newark’s Black Activists’ 1866 Landmark Movement for the Right to Vote”
  Noelle Lorraine Williams, Consultant, Newark Public Library, and Independent Artist and Scholar

12:10–1:00 p.m. Awards & Prizes, Virtual Exhibition Tour (link to come)

NJ Historical Commission Awards & Prizes

- Awards of Recognition
  - Derek Davis, Trustee, Camden County Historical Society
  - Claire Garland, Director, Sand Hill Indian Historical Association
  - Kristin O’Brassill-Kulfan, Assistant Teaching Professor and Coordinator of Public History, Rutgers University–New Brunswick
  - The South Jersey Culture & History Center
- Richard P. McCormick Prize (in partnership with the New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance)
  - Noriko Matsumoto, Senior Lecturer in Sociology, University of Vermont, for Beyond the City and the Bridge: East Asian Immigration in a New Jersey Suburb
- Richard J. Hughes Award
  - Thomas D’Amico, Supervising Planner/Historic Sites Coordinator, Somerset County Planning Division

Virtual Exhibition Tour

We partnered with New Jersey Digital Highway to make a permanent virtual exhibition on New Jersey voting rights history featuring documents, images, multimedia, and other sources. This tour will feature contributors introducing the project and discussing items on display.
1:05–2:20 p.m.  Afternoon Panel Sessions I

### Voting in Times of Crisis: Documenting the 2020 Election (link to come)

**Moderator:** Ann D. Gordon, Research Professor Emerita, Department of History, Rutgers University–New Brunswick

- Kristin O'Brassill-Kulfan, Assistant Teaching Professor and Coordinator of Public History, Rutgers University–New Brunswick
- Andrew Urban, Associate Professor of American Studies and History, Rutgers University–New Brunswick
- Student speakers—to be announced

### Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Women’s Suffrage (link to come)

**Moderator:** Laura Troiano, Assistant Professor of Professional Practice and Acting Director of the Honors College, Rutgers University–Newark

- Carol Simon Levin, Professional Storyteller and Independent Historian
- Susanna Rich, Poet and Producer, Wild Nights Productions, LLC
- Beth Zak-Cohen, Librarian, Newark Public Library

2:25–3:40 p.m.  Afternoon Panel Sessions II

### Protest and Controversy in New Jersey Political History (link to come)

**Moderator:** Lucia McMahon, Professor of History, William Paterson University

- “The Broad Seal War: New Jersey’s Contested Election of 1838 and Subsequent Loss of Representation in the U.S. House of Representatives”
  Ronald Becker, Professor Emeritus, Rutgers University Libraries
- “Patriotism and Protest: The Story of Joseph T. Angelo and the Bonus March”
  Phillip Papas, Senior Professor of History, Union County College
  Michele Rotunda, Assistant Professor of History, Union County College

### New Jersey Women: Electing and Elected (link to come)

**Moderator:** Maxine N. Lurie, Professor Emerita, Seton Hall University

- “The Issue of Women’s Voting Rights in 18th-Century New Jersey and Beyond”
  Linda Garbaye, Assistant Professor of American History, Clermont Auvergne University
- “Widows in Office: Elected to a Dead Husband’s Seat, 1920–1940”
  Katherine Parkin, Professor of History, Monmouth University
3:50–4:30 p.m.  Post-Election Breakout Discussions (link to come)

Facilitators:
• Lori Outzs Borgen, Director, Center for Social Justice, Seton Hall School of Law
• Greer Luce, Chief Communications Officer, New Jersey Historical Commission
• Madeleine Rosenberg, Chief Public Historian, New Jersey Historical Commission
• Andrew Urban, Associate Professor of American Studies and History, Rutgers University–New Brunswick

Whether or not the results are still in process, the outcome of the 2020 U.S. presidential election and the ongoing struggle for voting rights will shape our conversations at this year’s NJ History Conference. To provide a platform for framing the election and exploring it through constructive dialogue, we have scheduled time for breakout discussions at the end of the program. Please join us for informal, facilitated conversations to share your thoughts, ask questions, discuss context and implications, and connect with other conference attendees.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The New Jersey Historical Commission is grateful for the participation of the 2020 conference speakers, moderators, and attendees. We particularly appreciate the generous support of our sponsors, partners, and the members of this year’s Conference Planning Committee. Thank you!

2020 NJ History Conference Planning Committee

Jason R. Ambroise
William Paterson University

Lori Outzs Borgen
Seton Hall School of Law

Veronica Calder
New Jersey State Archives

Jayne Carmody
Rumson Country Day School

Larry Greene
Seton Hall University

Elizabeth Hyde
Kean University

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Andrew Urban
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Hettie Williams
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Melissa Ziobro
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Eugene Mazo
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