Spring 2021
Senior Send Off
HISTORY at the University of Iowa
SPRING 2021 HISTORY GRADUATION ADDRESS

CLICK HERE

KAI RYSSDAL
Host, NPR’s Marketplace
BA in History, Emory University, 1985
History Graduation Gift

Primeline 20oz Vacuum Insulated Bottle

Graduating history seniors – please pick these up in person at 280 Schaeffer Hall.

Fri, May 7: 10:00am-Noon
Mon, May 10: 10:00am-Noon
1:00-3:00pm
Tues, May 11: 1:00-3:00pm
Thur, May 13: 10:00am-Noon
12:30-2:30pm
"The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little."

–FDR, Inaugural Address, January 20, 1937
“And men go abroad to admire the heights of mountains, the mighty waves of the sea, the broad tides of rivers, the compass of the ocean, and the circuits of the stars, yet pass over the mystery of themselves without a thought.”

–St. Augustine of Hippo
Emily Bronswick

"Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced."

–James Baldwin
"Without leaps of imagination, or dreaming, we lose the excitement of possibilities. Dreaming, after all, is a form of planning."

–Gloria Steinem

Marissa Stangl
Roman Ebert

"Songs won't save the planet, but neither will books or speeches"

– Pete Seeger
Nicole Allen

"To achieve great things, two things are needed; a plan, and not quite enough time."

– Leonard Bernstein
Alyssa Grady

"I determined to do no less than to transform the world with beauty."
– William Morris, member of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood and of the Arts & Crafts movement

Dressed up as Persephone
Jacob Elliott

“Don't join the book burners. Don't think you're going to conceal faults by concealing evidence that they ever existed. Don't be afraid to go in your library and read every book...”

–Dwight D. Eisenhower
Lee Sailor

"Even a purely moral act that has no hope of any immediate and visible political effect can gradually and indirectly, over time, gain in political significance."

–Václav Havel in a letter to Alexander Dubček
Hannah Haack

"Wherever you go, go with all your heart."

–Confucius
Delaney Knapp

"Start with what is right rather than what is acceptable."

—Franz Kafka
"Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you."

–Ruth Bader Ginsberg
Allison Steger

“Stay close to anything that makes you glad you are alive.”

–Hafez
"The Latina in me is an ember that blazes forever."

–Sonia Sotomayor
Congratulations • UI HISTORY Class of 2021

Ethan Adato
Nicole Allen
Mackenzie Armstrong
Shelby Atkinson
Aaron Baker
Evan Banks
Lydia Berry
Andrew Brimeyer
Emily Bronswick
Connor Browne
Lily Broyles
Alexis Bucklin
Haley Burton
Savannah Buys
Claire Cook
Grant Davis
Duncan Davitt
Carlie Dellmann
Katherine DiRaimondo
Shane Doughty
Zachary Drysdale
Roman Ebert
Jacob Elliott
Owen Flynn
James Ford
Alyssa Grady
Maureen Grady
Peyton Greazel
Hannah Haack
Thaddeus Hall
Erika Hammond
Thomas Hawbaker
Samuel Hettel
Carly Heying
Jacob Hosch
Stephen Iannuzzi
Trevor Johnson
Andrew Ke
Abigail Klein
Delaney Knapp
Dylan Knott
Albin Lasky
Megan McEvoy
Carson Melinder
Emily Miranda
Seneca Nelson
Lydia Nesslar
Ian Ochoa
Sage Ohlensehlen
Dieter Ostermann
Marissa Percy
Isaiah Perrin
Madison Polliit
Quintin Porter
Marco Recinos
Taylor Reising
Justin Rempe
Salma Rios
Michelle Rojas Garay
Charles Rose
Andrew Ruge
Caleb Ryder
Lee Sailor
Daniel Scott
Spencer Siders
Travis Siegel
Caylin Spilman
Marissa Stangl
Elizabeth Starr
Allison Steger
Eric Swanson
Benjamin Szot
Devin Van Dyke
Emily Wilson
Logan Wolf
Noelle Yost
Special Recognition and Awards
• Sophia Gilbert
• John Kamp
• Jack Lauer
• Jude McDonnell
• Miriam Ochs
Allison Steger is a fourth-year history major (minor in German and certificate in museum studies) from Dubuque, Iowa.

"I want to work in the museum field, specifically in collections management. I have a passion for studying Cold War German history, especially the social and economic impacts of life in divided Berlin and life after reunification. Germany seemed like a great fit because I would be experiencing and seeing Berlin rather than just reading about it in a book. I also decided to intern in Germany because they have a lot of museums, so I can get hands-on learning with a subject I’m interested in and I could improve my German skills when I’m there.

Studying abroad is important to me because it helps expand one’s awareness of other cultures than your own. It also provides you an opportunity for independence and building your skills, which in turn will help one build their future. I have never gone outside the United States so I was really excited to use my German skills there, learn more about the culture, and experience what I want to do for a career, but unfortunately, my internship was canceled because of COVID-19."

Visit International Program's website to read more about the Eight UI students awarded 2020 Gilman scholarships.
Emily Bronswick receives 2020 Kay Keeshan Hamod Scholarship

Congratulations to the 2020 Hamod Scholarship recipient Emily Bronswick! Emily is a senior from Antioch, Illinois double majoring in History and Social Studies Education. She is also working on a Spanish minor and an All Social Studies Endorsement. Emily serves as co-president of PAWS UI (Promoting Animal Welfare in Society), volunteers at the food pantry on campus, and tutors at the City High Success Center. She has also worked as an undergraduate teaching assistant and a student ambassador for the College of Education. After Emily graduates, she plans on teaching high school history for several years before potentially pursuing graduate school.

Working to challenge the myths that the civil rights movement was largely confined to the South and that men were uniformly the people most important in driving the movement forward, Emily studies Black Iowa women’s activism during the civil rights era (which she defines as 1945-1965). Her thesis, “‘I Felt if Things Didn’t Change, the World Would Come to an End’: Black Iowa Women’s Activism During the Civil Rights Era, 1945-1965” explores not only how their activist work and the arguments they made were influenced by their gender, class, and positionality as Midwesterners, but also how they helped shape for the better the Iowa in which we all now live.

Read more about the Kay Keeshan Hamod Award and past recipients here...
Emily Bronswick showcased in UI Dare to Discover campaign

Emily Bronswick, undergraduate student, History, Social Studies Education, was chosen for the University of Iowa's 2021 Dare to Discover campaign. Emily is being honored for her research highlighting Black women's activism. Visit dare.research.uiowa.edu/bronswick-emily/ to read about Emily's research and career aspirations!

The Dare to Discover campaign showcases researchers, scholars, and creators from across the University of Iowa. The campaign is sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Research.
History Senior Honors Students
2020/2021
Nicole Allen

Honors Title:
"The Life and Patronage of Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge: Exploring Developments in Cultural Philanthropy with the Institutionalization of American Classical Music"

Congratulations to Nicole Allen
History Honors Thesis Defense - Dec 7, 2020

Committee members: Elizabeth Oakes (honors advisor), Nick Yablon (co-advisor), and Mathew Swiatlowski
Emily Bronswick

Honors Title:

"'I Felt if Things Didn't Change, the World Would Come to an End': Black Iowa Women's Activism During the Civil Rights Era, 1945-1965"

Congratulations to Emily Bronswick
History Honors Thesis Defense - Dec 8, 2020

Committee members: Simon Balto (honors advisor), Ashley Howard, and Landon Storrs
Alyssa Grady

Honors Title:

"'My Ladys Soul': The Successes of Elizabeth Siddal and Jane Morris, & the Rise of the Pre-Raphaelite Sisterhood"

Congratulations to Alyssa Grady
History Honors Thesis Defense - Dec 11, 2020

Committee members: Florence Boos (honors advisor), Elizabeth Yale, and Anne Stapleton
Hannah Haack

Honors Title:
"Pilots in the First World War: How the Phenomenon of the Flying Ace Impacted the War Effort"

Congratulations to Hannah Haack
History Honors Thesis Defense - Dec 2, 2020

Committee members: Glenn Penny (honors advisor), Michaela Hoenicke Moore, and Tyler Priest
Carly Heying

Honors Title:
"'To Follow the Bright Star': American Involvement in the Spanish Civil War and the Shaping of the U.S. Popular Front, 1937-1938"

Congratulations to Carly Heying
History Honors Thesis Defense - Dec 7, 2020

Committee members: Landon Storrs (honors advisor), Alyssa Park, and Michaela Hoenicke Moore
Megan McEvoy

Honors Title:
"Rural Resistance: The Communist Party in 1930s Iowa Farming Communities"
Lydia Nesslar

Honors Title:

"The Woman Question: The Intersection of Evolutionary Discourse and the Development of Early Feminism"

Congratulations to Lydia Nesslar
History Honors Thesis Defense - Dec 7, 2020

Committee members: Elizabeth Yale (honors advisor), Maurine Neiman, and Mariola Espinosa
The Life and Patronage of Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge: Exploring Developments in Cultural Philanthropy with the Institutionalization of American Classical Music

Honors Title:

Dieter Ostermann

Congratulations to Dieter Ostermann
History Honors Thesis Defense - Dec 3, 2020

Committee members: Colin Gordon (honors advisor), Landon Storrs, and Tyler Priest
Salma Rios

Honors Title:
"Man, Myth, Legend: The Many Faces of Thomas More"

Congratulations to Salma Rios
History Honors Thesis Defense - Dec 4, 2020

Committee members: Elizabeth Yale (honors advisor), Michael E. Moore, and Kristy Nabhan-Warren
Honors Title:
"'If We Had Lost The War, We All Would Have Been Prosecuted As War Criminals:' The Bombing Campaign Against Japan in World War Two"
Allison Steger

Honors Title:

"Paving the Way for a Public Presence: Gay and Lesbian Activism, Methods, and Successes in East Germany"

Congratulations to Allison Steger
History Honors Thesis Defense - Dec 11, 2020

Committee members: Lisa Heineman (honors advisor), Michaela Hoenicke Moore, and Bruce Nottingham-Spencer
Honors in the History Major

History Senior Honors Students
2020/2021

Congratulations on successfully defending your History Honors thesis, Fall 2020!
Departmental Awards
2020/2021
Emily Bronswick is the co-recipient of the 2020-21 Stow Persons Award for the Best Honors Thesis for her essay, “'I Felt if Things Didn’t Change, the World Would Come to an End': Black Iowa Women’s Activism During the Civil Rights Era, 1945-1965.”
Stow Persons Award for Best Senior Honors Thesis

Carly Heying is the co-recipient of the 2020-21 Stow Persons Award for the Best Honors Thesis for her essay, “‘To Follow the Bright Star’: American Involvement in the Spanish Civil War and the Shaping of the U.S. Popular Front, 1937-1938.”
Alan B. Spitzer Scholarship

Certificate of Excellence
On the 6th day of May 2021

Charlie J. Bell
Recipient of the
University of Iowa Department of History

2020-21 Alan B. Spitzer Scholarship

Professor Landon Stors
Chair, Department of History

Professor Sarah Bond
Director, History Undergraduate Studies
Flora Belle Houston Memorial Scholarships

Reagan Hart
Recipient of the University of Iowa Department of History
2020-21 Flora Belle Houston Memorial Scholarship

Cameron LaPage
Recipient of the University of Iowa Department of History
2020-21 Flora Belle Houston Memorial Scholarship
Awards for Outstanding Academic Achievement

Carly Heying
Recipient of the University of Iowa Department of History
2020-21 Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement

Allison Steger
Recipient of the University of Iowa Department of History
2020-21 Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement
Megan Christianson plans to travel to the Forest Museum Learning Library and the University of Montana’s Special Collections to research the Montana Wilderness Bill, which passed through Congress with strong bi-partisan support in 1988 only to be vetoed by President Ronald Reagan.

Jack Kamp will be spending time in the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library to explore what influenced JFK to finally declare his support for civil rights legislation in June 1963.

Jack Lauer will be visiting the Harvard University’s Schlesinger Library and the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study and Smith College’s Special Collections to explore how both feminists and antifeminists used food (cookbooks, etc.) to advocate for/against the Equal Rights Amendment between the late 1960s and 1982.
Departmental Contacts

Pat Goodwin – Departmental Administrator
Office: 280 SH

Kathleen O’Neill – Graduate Program Coordinator

Kasey Befeler – Undergraduate Program Coordinator

Colleen Kelley – Senior Academic Advisor
Office: 168 SH
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Congratulations, graduates!

Please keep in touch!
historydept@uiowa.edu