

Ayana Omilade Flewellen

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EDUCATION

- 2018 Doctor of Philosophy in Anthropology – University of Texas at Austin.
2014 Masters of Arts in African and African Diaspora Studies – University of Texas at Austin.
2011 Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology (Summa Cum-Laude) & Minor in African American Studies - University of Florida – Gainesville.

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- 2020-Present Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Riverside
2018 – 2020 University of California President’s Postdoctoral Fellowship, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley

GRANTS

- 2022 Princeton University Press - Supporting Diverse Voices Book Proposal Development Grant
2021-2023 Andrew Mellon Swayer Seminar – Co-PI: \$225,000
2021 Slave Wrecks Project – Joint project between the Smithsonian Institute’s National Museum of African American History and Culture and George Washington University. P.I. Ayana Flewellen, Co-PI Justin Dunnivant \$15,000
2019-2020 Wenner-Gren Foundation Post Ph.D. Research Grant: \$13,180
2019 Slave Wrecks Project – Joint project between the Smithsonian Institute’s National Museum of African American History and Culture and George Washington University. P.I. Ayana Flewellen, Co-PI Justin Dunnivant \$15,000
2019 - 2021 University of California-Historically Black Colleges and Universities Initiative (UC-HBCU). Summer Research Internship Support Grant. University of California. Research Methods in African Diaspora Archaeology. P.I. J. Cameron Monroe. \$250,000 (over four years)
2018 Slave Wrecks Project – Joint project between the Smithsonian Institute’s National Museum of African American History and Culture and George Washington University. P.I. Ayana Flewellen, Co-PI Justin Dunnivant \$15,000
2018 University of California-Historically Black Colleges and Universities Initiative (UC-HBCU). Summer Research Internship Support Grant. University of

- California. Research Methods in African Diaspora Archaeology. P.I. J. Cameron Monroe. \$150,000
- 2017 Slave Wrecks Project – Joint project between the Smithsonian Institute’s National Museum of African American History and Culture and George Washington University. P.I. Justin Dunnivant, Co-P.I. Ayana Flewellen - \$15,000

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIP

- 2021-22 NEH Fellow - Digital Archaeological Archive of Comparative Slavery
- 2021 NEH Summer Scholar - NEH Summer Institute, *Visual Culture of the American Civil War and Its Aftermath*
- 2020-21 Bard at Brooklyn Public Library Fellow
- 2018-20202 University of California President’s Postdoctoral Fellowship
- 2019 Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies’: Digital Archaeological Archive of Comparative Slavery Short-term Fellowship
- 2017-2018 University Graduate Continuing Fellowship - University of Texas at Austin
- 2016 Graduate Student Travel Award, University of Texas at Austin Graduate School
- 2012-2014 UT COLA Thematic Graduate Fellowship

AWARDS

- 2021 Society for American Archaeology - Outstanding Public Archaeology Initiative Award
- 2020 The Explorers Club Inaugural Explorers 50 Program Honoree
- 2018 Society of Historical Archaeology’s Gender and Minority Affairs Committee Diversity Field School Award – for the 2017 Estate Little Princess Field School
- 2016 Ada Anderson Youth and Arts Honoree – Austin Trailblazers Award

PUBLICATIONS

In Preparation

- 2022 Book: *The Will to Adorn: Black Women and Sartorial Choice After Enslavement*

Under Review

- 2022 Chapter: “Digging in Our Grandmother’s Gardens: Black Women Archaeologists in the United States from the 1930s to the Present” in *Women’s Accomplishments in Archaeology*. Springer
- 2021 Authors: Justin P. Dunnivant and Ayana Omilade Flewellen. “Towards a Archaeology of Redress,” *Current Anthropology*. (peer reviewed).
- 2021 Authors: Rona Carter, Eleanor K. Seaton, Ayana Omilade Flewellen. “The Value of Intersectionality to Pubertal Development Research,” *Journal of Adolescent Research*. (peer reviewed).

Published

- 2022 *In Press* “Dress and Labor: An Intersectional Analysis of Clothing and Adornment Artifacts Recovered from the Levi Jordan Plantation.” In *Archaeologies* (peer reviewed).
- 2021 Book Review: *Heritage, Tourism, and Race: The Other Side of Leisure*, by Antoinette Jackson. In *Transforming Anthropology*.
- 2021 Ayana Omilade Flewellen, Alicia Odewale, Justin Dunnivant, Alexandra Jones, William White III. “Creating Community and Engaging Community: The Foundations of the Estate Little Princess Archaeology Project in St. Croix, USVI.” In *International Journal of Historical Archaeology* (peer reviewed).
- 2021 Authors: Ayana Omilade Flewellen, Justin P. Dunnivant, Alicia Odewale, Alexandra Jones, Maria Franklin, Zoe Crossland Tsion Wolde-Micheal. “‘The Future of Archaeology is antiracist.’ Archaeology in the Time of Black Lives Matter.” In *American Antiquity* (peer reviewed).
- 2020 Authors: Maria Franklin, Justin Dunnivant, Ayana Omilade Flewellen, Alicia Odewale. “The Future is Now: Archaeology and the Eradication of Anti-Blackness” In *International Journal of Historical Archaeology* (peer reviewed).
- 2019 “African Diasporic Choices: Locating the Lived Experiences of Afro-Crucians in the Archaeological and Archival Record.” In *Nordic Journal of Information Science and Cultural Mediation* (peer reviewed).
- 2018 Authors: Justin Dunnivant, Ayana O. Flewellen, Alexandra Jones, Alicia Odewale, and William White III. “Assessing Heritage Resources in St. Croix Post-Hurricanes Irma and Maria.” In *Transforming Anthropology* (peer reviewed). Vol. 26, Number 2, pp. 157–172
- 2018 Authors: Odewale, Alicia, Justin Dunnivant, Ayana Omilade Flewellen, and Alexandra Jones. “Archaeology for the Next Generation.” Anthropology News website, January 2, 2018. [https:// doi.org/10.1111/an.729](https://doi.org/10.1111/an.729)
- 2017 “Locating Marginalized Historical Narratives at Kingsley Plantation.” In *Historical Archaeology* (peer reviewed). 51(1), 71-87
- 2017 Book Review of *Spill*, by Alexis Pauline Gumbs. In *Ethnic and Third World Literatures*, Volume 16, Hybrid Archives and Crossed Disciplines. Vol. 17, Spring 2017
- 2016 Book Review of *Yabo*, by Alexis De. Veaux, In *Ethnic and Third World Literatures*, Volume 15, Hybrid Archives and Crossed Disciplines. Vol 16, Spring 2016
- 2012 Co-Authored with Justin Dunnivant “Society of Black Archaeologists.” *The African Diaspora Archaeology Network Newsletter*. Spring 2012

Technical

In Preparation

- 2021 Dunnivant, Justin, and Flewellen, Ayana O. *Coral Bay Shipwreck One Preliminary Report 2021*.

Published

- 2019 Flewellen, Ayana O., Dunnivant, Justin, Alicia Odewale, William A. White, III, and Alexandra Jones *Estate Little Princess Preliminary Report 2019*, 12VAm-1-197, Plot 46. Society of Black Archaeologists Report 01-2019.

- 2018 Dunnavant, Justin, Flewellen, Ayana O, Alicia Odewale, William A. White, III, and Alexandra Jones *Estate Little Princess Preliminary Report 2018*, 12VAm-1-197, Plot 46. Society of Black Archaeologists Report 02-2018.
- 2017 Dunnavant, Justin, Ayana O. Flewellen, and William A. White, III *Research Design for the Estate Little Princess Archaeological Field School in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands*. Society for Black Archaeologists Report 01-2018.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2022 **Principle Investigator**, Estate Little Princess Archaeological Field School, St. Croix, USVI
- 2021 **Co-principle Investigator** with Justin Dunnavant, Coral Bay Shipwreck One, St. John, USVI
- 2019 **Principle Investigator**, Estate Little Princess Archaeological Field School, St. Croix, USVI
- 2018 **Principle Investigator**, Estate Little Princess Archaeological Field School, St. Croix, USVI
- 2017 **Co-principle Investigator** with Justin Dunnavant, Estate Little Princess Archaeological Field School, St. Croix, USVI
- 2016 - 2018 **Coordinator** under the auspices of the Slave Wrecks Project, the Society of Black Archaeologists and Diving With A Purpose in the creation of a marine and terrestrial archaeology training program, St. Croix, USVI
- 2016 **Intern**, The George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center, Austin
- 2014 **Laboratory Technician**, University of Texas at Austin, Texas Historical Archaeology Laboratory
- 2014 **Graduate Student Volunteer Excavator**, Monmouth University, Nevis Heritage Survey Project., systematic excavations of 18th century British Fort. PI: Edward Tennant-Gonzalez
- 2012 **Intern**, Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture Spring Internship. Intern Supervisor: Dr. Deborah Mack
- 2012 **Research Fellow**, Breaking New Ground research fellowship funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. PIs: Dr. Mark R Schultz and Dr. Adrienne Petty.
- 2012 **Intern**, Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture Summer Internship. Intern Supervisor: Dr. Elaine Nichols
- 2011 **Field School**, University of Florida, Tanzania Field School in Heritage Management Studies. PI: Dr. Peter Schmidt
- 2011-2019 **Oral History Project Coordinator** for the Society of Black Archaeologists Oral History Project
- 2011 **Intern**, University of Florida, Samuel Proctor Oral History Program Spring Internship
Intern Supervisor: Dr. Paul Ortiz
- 2010 **Field School**, University of Florida, Kingsley Plantation Field School. PI: Dr. James Davidson

2009-2011 **Laboratory Technician**, University of Florida, Historical Archaeology Laboratory

MEDIA

- 2021 **Featured**, CNN Short Films – Documentary – *Lessons From the Water: Diving With a Purpose*
<https://www.cnn.com/2021/08/07/us/cnn-films-shorts-diving-with-a-purpose-charles-todd/index.html>
- 2021 **Speaker**, California Institute of the Arts’ Redcat – Podcast - *Black Motion Pictures: Ayana Omilade Flewellen*
<https://art.calarts.edu/events/black-motion-pictures-ayana-omilade-flewellen>
- 2021 **Speaker**, Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary – Podcast – *Pouring Libation: Lessons from the Water on Mothering, Ceremony, and Surrendering*
<https://www.stage.tba21.org/detail/pouring-libation-lessons-from-the-water-on-mothering-ceremony-and-surrendering>
- 2020 **Featured**, PBS Digital Platform – Article
<https://www.pbs.org/wnet/secrets/blog/she-digs-ayana-omilade-flewellen/>
- 2019 **Featured**, Science Magazine Digital Platform – Video
<https://youtu.be/4sTZxGnPP14>
- 2019 **Featured**, Science Magazine Digital Platform – Article
<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2019/11/caribbean-excavation-offers-intimate-look-lives-enslaved-africans>
- 2019 **Featured**, National Geographic Digital Platform – Video
https://youtu.be/u2l_EugvRw8

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 Brandis University: *Black Feminist Archaeology of the Past, Present and Future*
- 2022 La Trobe University (Melbourne, Australia): *African Diaspora Archaeology on St. Croix USVI: A Society of Black Archaeology Project*
- 2022 Eastern Carolina University: *Diving With a Purpose: Transforming Maritime Archaeology*
- 2022 Rice University: *A Black Feminist Archaeology of Adornment in Post-emancipation Texas*
- 2022 University of Connecticut: *“The Will to Adorn:” Black Women and Sartorial Choice Post-Emancipation*
- 2021 Stanford University: *Black Feminist Archaeology of the Past Present and Future.*
- 2021 University of Southern California: *Archival Grounds: The Estate Little Princess*
- 2021 Boston University’s Andrew Fisk Memorial Center for Archaeological Research: *Black and Indigenous Futures - Moderated*
- 2021 UCR Anthropology Department; 40th James Young Colloquium: *Keynote*
- 2021 National Marine Sanctuary Foundation; Capitol Hill Ocean Week: *Justice, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion - Panelist*
- 2021 National Park Foundation: *Wonder Calls: Diving With a Purpose - Panelist*
- 2021 The University of Maine: *Anthropological Perspectives on Diversity and Inclusion - Panelist*

- 2021 Stanford University; Theoretical Archaeology Group, Opening Plenary Session: *Black Feminist Theory: Expanding Disciplinary Boundaries Questions – Organized and Moderated.*
- 2021 Harvard University: *Historical Archaeology and Afro-Crucian Heritage*
- 2021 The University of Michigan: “*The Will to Adorn:*” *Black Women and Sartorial Choice Post-Emancipation*
- 2021 Penn Museum: *Honoring Black Stories in White Institutions: A Programmatic Collaboration between Black history Untold and the Penn Museum.*
- 2021 Monticello Thomas Jefferson Foundation: *Archaeological Work on St. Croix and Future Visions*
- 2021 The Non-Obvious Beyond Diversity Summit: *Remembering the Past: How Museums Can Drive the Conversation About Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging*
- 2021 Cambridge University’s Garrod Research Seminars: *The Society of Black Archaeologists: Envisioning a Diverse and Inclusive Discipline*
- 2020 Stanford University: *A Black Feminist Archaeology of Adornment in Post-emancipation Texas*
- 2020 Whiting Foundation and the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes: *The Humanities Tomorrow: A Series of Public Conversations*
- 2020 Digital Archaeological Archive of Comparative Slavery: *Historical Archaeology at the Estate Little Princess, St. Croix, USVI*
- 2020 Harvard Museum of Science and Culture: *Diving With a Purpose A Fifteen-Year Odyssey*
- 2020 The University of California, Los Angeles, Cotsen Institute of Archaeology: “*The Will to Adorn*” *A Black Feminist Archaeology of Sartorial Choice in Post-emancipation Texas*
- 2020 The University of Oregon’s Museum of Natural and Cultural History: *Historical Archaeology and Afro-Crucian Heritage*
- 2020 Columbia University, Society of Black Archaeologist, Theoretical Archaeology Group: *Archaeology in the Time of Black Lives Matter.* Zoom. June 25, 2020
- 2019 The University of California, Los Angeles, Contested Foundations: Commemorating the Red Letter Year of 1619, Conference: *The Materiality Of 17th Century African Diasporic Life In The Americas.*
- 2019 National Museum Of Women In The Arts, FRESH TALK: Accessory to Action—Adorning Wakanda. June 30, 2019.
- 2019 The University of California, Los Angeles: *A Black Feminist Archaeology of Adornment*
- 2019 TomTom Festival, Charlottesville, Virginia: *Dressing for the Times: African American Dress Practices Post-emancipation*
- 2019 The University of California, Los Angeles Gender and Slavery Symposium: *Colonial Surveillance and Sartorial Choice Among the Enslaved in the Danish West Indies*
- 2019 The University of California, Riverside: *The Clothes on Their Backs: Interpreting Sartorial Practices of Self-Making Within The African Diaspora*
- 2019 The University of California, San Diego: *A Black Feminist Archaeology of Sartorial Choice in Post-emancipation Texas*

- 2018 The University of California, Merced: *The Clothes on Their Backs: Sartorial Practices of Self-making at the Estate Little Princess*
- 2018 Friends of The National Park Service St. Croix: Summer Lecture Series *Sustainable Archaeology: The Estate Little Princess Archaeology Project*
- 2018 The University of Tulsa Spring Helmerich Center for American Research Symposium. *The Genesis of the Society of Black Archaeologists*
- 2017 Queen's College, The City University of New York. *Black Feminist Archaeology and the Quest for Sustainable Archaeological Praxis,*
- 2017 University of the Virgin Islands Caribbean Cultural Center: *Sustainable Archaeology: The 2017 Estate Little Princess Archaeological Field School in St. Croix.*
- 2016 Sankofa 5 Conference Reflections on the New York African Burial Ground 25 Years Since, in Williamsburg, Virginia: *Society of Black Archaeologist and The Future of The Discipline,*
- 2016 Panelist at the 2016 Gloria Anzaldúa Bruncheon at the University of Texas at Austin "For Queer People of Color and Allies,"
- 2015 Moderator of artist talk, The George Washington Carver Museum's Conversations with Contemporary Artist featuring Professor John Yancey

PAPERS PRESENTED

- 2020 *A Black Feminist Archaeology of Adornment*, Society for Historical Archaeology, Boston, MA.
- 2017 *Sustainable Archaeology: The 2017 Estate Little Princess Archaeological Field School in St. Croix.* Association of American Anthropology Annual Conference, Washington, DC
- 2017 Co-presented with Justin Dunnvant. *Community Archaeology and Capacity Building: The 2017 Estate Little Princess Archaeological Field School in St. Croix.* International Association for Caribbean Archaeology Conference, St. Croix
- 2017 *Digging in Our Mothers' Gardens: Unearthing Formations of Black Womanhood*, Society for Historical Archaeology, Dallas, TX.
- 2016 *Speaking with Elders to Build New Futures: The Society of Black Archaeologists and the Need to Document the Researcher's Experience*, Association of American Anthropology Annual Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- 2016 *Adornment as Akin to Freedom: African American Women and Identity Formations.* Association for the Study of African American Life and History,
- 2015 *Three Bozals: An Exploration of Possibility.* African and African Diaspora Studies Department Graduate Seminar Series, University of Texas at Austin
- 2014 Co-organizer and co-chair, with Justin P. Dunnvant, "Theorizing African Diaspora Archaeology" symposium. Annual meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology, Quebec City, Canada.
- 2014 *Interrogating Notions of Freedom and Enslavement Through the Representation of Anna Kingsley at Kingsley Plantation.* Society for Historical Archaeology, Quebec City.

- 2014 Co-presented with Courtney Bailey. *Oakwood Cemetery: Austin's "Colored Burial Ground"*. Abriendo Brecha, Annual Conference, University of Texas at Austin
- 2014 Co-presented with Justin Dunnivant. *Black Experiences in Archaeology*. Poster presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology, 2013 Annual Conference, Quebec City.
- 2013 *Silence of Black Women at Heritage Sites Through Anna Kingsley*. Association of American Anthropology, 2013 Annual Conference, Chicago.
- 2013 *Examining Hegemonic Silence of Black Women at Heritage Sites Through Anna Kingsley*. New Directions in Anthropology, Annual Conference, Houston.
- 2012 *Black Feminist Theory and It's Praxis in Historical Archaeology*. Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Annual Conference, Pittsburgh
- 2012 *Representations of Black Women in Museum Exhibits and The Dissemination of Gendered Knowledge*. National Council of Black Studies, Annual Conference, Atlanta.
- 2011 *Deconstructing Black Beauty Aesthetics: A Critical Look at Aesthetics Black Women Are Subscribing To*. National Council of Black Studies, Annual Conference, Cincinnati.
- 2011 *Representations of Black Women in Museum Exhibits and The Dissemination of Gendered Knowledge*. Association for the Study of African American Life and History Annual Conference, Richmond.

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 2021-2026 *American Antiquity* Editorial Board
- 2021-Present Digital Archaeological Archive of Comparative Slavery Advisory Committee
- 2021-2023 President, Society of Black Archaeologists
- 2021-2023 Board Member, SBA Liaison: Society for Historical Archaeology
- 2020-Present Advisory Board, SAPIENS
- 2020-2021 Webinar Series Organizer, Co-sponsored by the Wenner-Gren Foundation, the Society of Black Archaeologists, the Indigenous Archaeologists Collective
- 2019-Present Board Member, Diving with a Purpose
- 2019-2021 President-Elect, Society of Black Archaeologists
- 2011-Present Co-Founder, Society of Black Archaeologists
- 2017 Conference Organizer for the New Directions in Anthropology Graduate Student Conference, April 8th-9th, The University of Texas at Austin
- 2016 Community Organizer for the Women's Center of Central Texas' Women's Empowerment Conference, April 1-2nd 2016, Austin, Texas
- 2012-Present Committee Member for Gender and Minority Affairs Committee for the Society for Historical Archaeology

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Society for American Archaeology (SAA)
- Society of Black Archaeologists (SBA)
- Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA)
- Association of Black Anthropologists (ABA)