Frederica Simmons

Education

Ph.D.	Candidate | Doctor of Philosophy in Art History and Visual Culture; anticipated 2027 Duke University, Durham, North Carolina. Certificate in African and African American Studies; Certificate in Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies; Certificate in College Teaching Dissertation: "Swell: Realms of Resistance in Black Figurative Art," under the supervision of Dr. Jasmine Nichole Cobb, Dr. Richard J. Powell, Dr. Dore Bowen, and Dr. Douglas A. Jones
M.A. | 2022	Master of Arts in Art History; Certificate in Museum Studies. University of St. Thomas, Saint Paul, Minnesota. Qualifying Paper: "*I Will Be a Witness:* Bessie Harvey and Alternative Legacies in American Feminist Art," under the supervision of Dr. Heather Shirey
B.A. | 2019	Bachelor of Arts in Art History; Communication Studies; Magna Cum Laude. University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Phi Beta Kappa Society

Professional Experience

2024 –	Exhibition Reviews Editor, *Panorama: Journal of the Association of Historians of American Art*
2024 | Fall	Lecturer: "Introduction to Visual Culture," Department of Art, Art History, and Visual Studies, Duke University: *Postmodernism: Irony, Parody, & Pastiche*
2023 – 2024	Academic Initiatives Graduate Teaching Assistant, Nasher Museum of Art
2019 – 2022	Curatorial Department Assistant, Minneapolis Institute of Art: Decorative Arts, Textiles, and Sculpture (later, European Art)
2020 – 2022	Archivist and Researcher, Urban Art Mapping Project
2021	Curatorial Lead and Narrative Specialist, Minnesota African American Heritage Museum & Gallery, *Justice for George: Messages from the People*: An Exhibition of Ephemeral Protest Art
2019 – 2020	Educator, Minneapolis Institute of Art: Center for Empathy and the Visual Arts
2017 – 2019	Development and Membership Assistant, Weisman Art Museum

Fellowships

2021 – 2022	Emily Hall Tremaine Journalism Fellowship for Curators
2021 – 2022	Luann Dummer Center for Women Graduate Fellowship

Competitive Seminars, Workshops, and Practicums

March 6 – 9 & June 2 – 28, 2024	Duke to Berlin Graduate Workshop Series on Queer, Trans, and Sexuality Studies
July 31 – August 4, 2023	Black Feminist Theory Summer Institute: "The Ordinary"

Scholarly Publications

2023 "Writings on the Walls: A Study of Black Protest Street Art in the Wake of the Murder of George Floyd," *Beyond the Culture: Black Popular Culture and Social Justice,* eds. Lakeyta M. Bonnette-Bailey and Jonathan I. Gayles, Routledge Transformations in Race and Media

2022 "Beyond the Line: Bessie Harvey's Visual Commentary on the Persistence of the Black Maternity Crisis in the United States," in "Art and Reproductive Rights in the Wake of *Dobbs v. Jackson*," Colloquium, eds. Keri Watson and Katherine Jentleson, *Panorama: Journal of the Association of Historians of American Art* 8, no. 2

2022 Contributor, "Carving a Path from Diversity to Justice," *From Small Wins to Sweeping Change: Working Together to Foster Equity, Inclusion, and Antiracism in Museums*, eds. Priya Frank and Theresa Soto, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers/American Alliance of Museums

2020 Contributor, "The Urban Art Mapping Project: A Discussion of Street Art Preservation and Antiracism," *Creative Texts | Creative Traditions*, *Journal of Folklore and Education,* 8:156-173

Public Writing / Art Criticism

May 20, 2022	"I Will Be A Witness: Bessie Harvey and Alternative Legacies in American Feminist Art," *Hyperallergic*
February 10, 2022	"The Gift of Humanity in Bessie Harvey's Art, an Interview With Faye Harvey Dean," *Hyperallergic*
February 9, 2022	"A New Standard for Uplifting Black Narratives through Conscious Curation," *Hyperallergic*

Exhibitions

December 12, 2020 – November 28, 2021	BIPOC Curatorial Advisory Committee, *In the Presence of Our Ancestors: Southern Perspectives in African American Art,* Minneapolis Institute of Art
May 21 – 23, 2021	Curatorial Lead and Narrative Specialist, *Justice for George: Messages from the People*, An Exhibition of Ephemeral Protest Art, in partnership with the Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery

Digital Projects

2020 - 2022 *George Floyd and Anti-Racist Street Art* Database, The Urban Art Mapping Project | https://georgefloydstreetart.omeka.net

Select Presentations, Conferences and Discussions

February 18 – 21, 2026 *Gender* Session Panel Chair and Presenter, "Swell: Realms of Resistance in Black Figurative Art,", CAA Annual Conference

February 12 – 15, 2025 Session Co-Organizer, "The Students and Emerging Professionals Committee's (SEPC) Guide To All Things CAA," CAA Annual Conference

February 16 – 19, 2022 Presenter, "*I Will Be a Witness*: Bessie Harvey & Alternative Legacies in American Feminist Art," CAA Annual Conference

November 17 – 19, 2021 Presenter, "Race, Power, and Protest Art Boundaries in Post-Uprising Minneapolis," *Arts & Medias Symposium: About Boundaries*, University of Montréal

July 3, 2021 Session Presenter, "Making Permanent the Ephemeral: The Creation of an Anti-Institutional Interpretation Guide," *FORMA(T): Documenting, Collecting and Archiving Street Art in Theory and Practice* for the 2021 Ljubljana Street Art Festival, Slovenia. Institute for Urban Questions (Alternative Ljubljana) and Kino Šiška Centre for Urban Culture

Awards, Honors, and Grants

2022 – Duke University, Durham, North Carolina
- Ernestine Friedl Research Award, Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies, 2025
- Gender and Race Research Award, Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies, 2024

2020 – 2022 University of St. Thomas, Saint Paul, Minnesota
- College of Arts & Sciences Dean's Scholarship 2020 – 2022
- Digital Humanities Grant, 2021 – 2022, "The *As We Are* Project"
- Graduate Team Grant, 2021 – 2022, "The *Post-Uprising Artist Interpretation (PUAI)* Project"

2015 – 2019 University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, Minnesota
- Community Engagement Scholar
- Donald V. Hawkins Scholarship
- Edelstein Family Foundation Scholarship
- U Promise Scholarship

Languages

Spanish High proficiency reading and speaking; proficient writing
French Proficient reading

Professional Service

2024 – Racial Equity Advisory Council, Education Subcommittee, Duke University
2024 – 2025 Student and Emerging Professionals Committee, College Art Association
2020 – 2022 Board of Directors, Minnesota Citizens for the Arts
2019 – 2023 Advisory Board, Goldstein Museum of Design