

# Karen Breece

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## Education

**Master of Arts in Museum Studies (expected May 2021)**

GPA: 4.00

**Indiana University - Purdue University Indianapolis**

Indianapolis, IN

*Courses taken in Museum Education, Evaluation, and Fundraising*

**Bachelor of Arts in History (May 2019)**

GPA: 3.98

**Earlham College**

Richmond, IN

College Honors

Member of Phi Beta Kappa

*Minors in Museum Studies and Art History*

## Relevant Experience

Indianapolis Zoo

August 2020 – June 2021

**IUPUI Museum Studies Fellow**

Indianapolis, IN

- Drafts and edits copy for temporary Zoo signage and publications
- Coordinates signage projects between Zoo departments
- Collects observation data on exhibits and animal presentations
- Cleans, organizes, and analyzes visitor observation data to prepare written evaluation reports
- Presents evaluation data to staff and internal stakeholders
- Provides support for educational programs and seasonal events

Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis

January – May 2021

**Community Engagement Associate**

Indianapolis, IN

- Assists Dr. Lois Silverman, Professor of Museum Studies, with evaluating the partnership between her Museums, Health, and Well-being class and a social service agency
- Uses qualitative data analysis to evaluate the service-learning pedagogy used in the course
- Prepared an IRB application detailing the risks and benefits of a study of routine educational practices for participating students

The Indianapolis Museum of Art

August 2019 – February 2020

**Audience Research Associate**

Indianapolis, IN

- Collected exit and exhibition surveys from museum visitors in order to support Newfields' audience research
- Built customer service skills by interacting with visitors in a warm and helpful way, giving them directions, and answering questions about museum events and exhibits

The Joseph Moore Museum

August 2016 – May 2019

**Outreach Staff**

Richmond, IN

- Researched and designed interpretative programs promoting science education focusing on women scientists from Indiana that incorporated Indiana K-12 educational standards
- Co-led 12 hour-long public programs at an educational center for girls aimed at fostering girls' interest in future careers in science and technology
- Led public programs aimed at educating museum visitors, including school tours, activity stations at museum events, and planetarium shows

Earlham College

August – November 2018

**Curatorial Practicum Student**

Richmond, IN

- Researched and curated *Art Against Assimilation*, an exhibit featuring art by Native American artists that ran from November 2018 – May 2019
- Presented research behind exhibit at a public talk
- Wrote and group-edited labels to complement the exhibit's artwork

The Indianapolis Museum of Art

May – August 2018

**Public Programs Intern**

Indianapolis, IN

- Coordinated with Public Programs staff to facilitate large-scale public programs (primarily film screenings and family-focused programming days)
- Created and managed pre-show activities for Summer Nights film screenings, including participatory game shows and art-making activities
- Recommended and implemented changes for small-scale programs, such as ordering new games for a weekend board game night

Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art

May – July 2017

**Public Programs Intern**

Indianapolis, IN

- Developed 3 docent training sessions discussing foundations of interpretation, working with children, and leading and planning museum public programs
- Completed activity proposals for public museum events detailing directions for volunteer-led arts-and-crafts activities
- Interacted with museum visitors in a public outdoor setting on a daily basis, including giving demonstrations for activities and collecting visitor data for evaluation
- Aided with large-scale museum events such as the Juneteenth Celebration and the Eiteljorg Indian Market and Festival by assisting with event set-up, staffing activity stations, and moderating public presentations

## **Volunteer Experience**

Calvary United Methodist Church

August 2019 – March 2020

### **Sunday School Assistant**

Brownsburg, IN

- Co-lead an hourlong lesson every week incorporating reading, crafts, and teamwork activities for 7 and 8-year-olds
- Planned and executed 2 lesson plans for 7 and 8-year-olds using constructivist pedagogy

## **Skills**

- Advanced Written Communication Skills in English – extensive academic and copy-writing experience
- Research Skills utilizing online and physical archives -- has written multiple historical research papers
- Developed Interpersonal Skills – led numerous tours and presentations for various audiences
- Audience Research and Evaluation skills – Experience collecting data, qualitative and quantitative data analysis, and writing reports for stakeholders
- Basic Computer Skills – Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Google Drive applications
- Basic Photoshop, Photo Editing, and Graphic Design Skills
- French – Proficient
  - Semester Abroad in France in Fall 2017