



# Charles Redd Center for Western Studies

Winter 2026 Newsletter (Vol. 17)

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# Winter 2026 Lectures

Follow on [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) to find which of these lectures will be livestreamed. Lecture titles are tentative and room locations are tentative. Updates will be posted on the individual Facebook Event page (linked below). View all upcoming events [here](#).

Like our Facebook page or RSVP for the events to receive notifications when the dates approach.



## March 12: Paul Hutton

*Interim Curator, Buffalo Bill Museum. American cultural and military historian and award-winning author, documentary writer, and television personality. Distinguished Professor of History at the University of New Mexico, former executive director of the Western History Association, and past president of Western Writers of America*

### "Why the West Matters"

*Annual Annaley Naegle Redd Lecture*

**11:00 AM, B192 JFSB (Education in Zion Auditorium)**



## March 19: Rachel Morgan

*Archeologist and Independent Author*

### Sins of the Shovel: Looting, Murder, and the Evolution of American Archaeology

*Co-sponsored with the BYU Department of Anthropology*

**11:00 AM, B192 JFSB (Education in Zion Auditorium)**

[FHSS Event page](#)

For previous lectures, visit our [YouTube Channel](#).



# Recent Redd Center-Funded Awards

## Publication Grants

The Redd Center regularly awards publication grants to support presses publishing books on the American West. Presses use these subventions for a variety of purposes such as including additional images or maps, improving production quality, or lowering list price.

In November 2025, the University of Utah Press was awarded a publication grant for *A Reed Shaken by the Wind: A Human and Natural History of the Bear River Marsh* by Andrew Hedges.

In December 2025, the University of Nebraska Press was awarded a publication grant for *Religion in the North American West* by Todd Kerstetter and Fred E. Woods.

# Publications from Past Redd Center Awards

*The Redd Center asks awardees to notify the center if their center-funded research leads to publications.*



Martin Nekola's Redd Center-funded book on Czech communities in the southwest and the mountain states will be released early in 2026.

# External Association Awards

Every year the Redd Center provides funding to sponsor awards administered by a number of organizations. This is a powerful way to extend the benefits of Redd Center resources beyond the scope of what our limited staffing allows us to administer.

## Western Museum Association

### CHARLES REDD AWARD FOR EXHIBITION EXCELLENCE

**Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art**, Southmoore High School, Moore, OK, *"Repainting the I: The Intermountain Intertribal Indian School Murals."*

## Western History Association

**CHARLES REDD TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD** for schoolteachers attending the annual conference.

- **Alicia Ernest**, Poudre School District, Fort Collins, CO.
- **Molly Marie Lesandrini**, Mount Elden Middle School, Flagstaff, AZ.
- **Uku Urb**, Cristo Rey Jesuit High School, Chicago, IL.
- **Angela Rea**, Cantwell-Sacred Heart of Mary High School, Montebello, CA.

**ARRINGTON-PRUCHA PRIZE** for the best article of the year in Western American Religious History.

**Eric Gonzaba**, "Born-Again Boogie: Christian Nightclub Experiments in California, 1970–1990," *California History* (Spring 2024).

**JENSEN-MILLER AWARD** for the best article in the field of women and gender in the North American West.

**Jamey Jespersion**, "Trans Misogyny in the Colonial Archive: Re-Membering Trans Feminine Life & Death in New Spain, 1604-1821," *Gender & History* (2024).

## BYU College of Family, Home and Social Sciences

### MARY LOU FULTON CONFERENCE AWARDS

for best student posters dealing with the Intermountain West

#### Fall 2025

1st place:

**Lexy Comish and Lauryn Wilde**, *"'I Have Struggled to Feel a Sense of Belonging': Black Latter-day Saint Perceptions of Belonging Inside and Outside Utah."*

2nd place:

**Jeremy Bennett**, *"Building Backgrounds by Bottles."*

3rd place:

**Taryn Frerichs**, *"Health in Rural Utah: Care Satisfaction and the Influence of Social Networks."*

Honorable Mention:

**Aletta Day and Jessi Olsen**, *"The Past and Future of Burials on BYU Campus"*

## BYU Department of Plant and Wildlife Sciences

### 2025 GRADUATE RESEARCH CONCLAVE AWARDS

**Caden Seely**, oral presentation, "Tracing Microplastics from Polymer-Coated Urea: Urban to Agricultural Pathways and Environmental Fate."

**Mallory Hinton**, poster presentation, "Survival and Habitat Selection of Male Greater Sage-Grouse in Strawberry Valley, Utah."

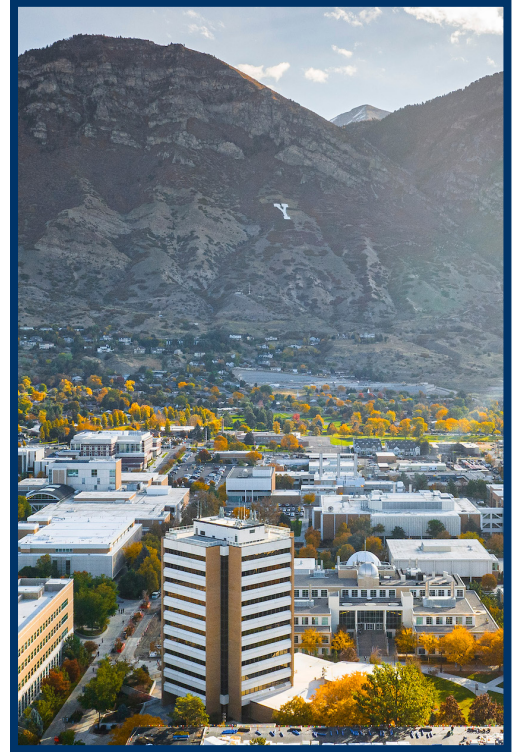
# 2026 Awards Cycle

Each year these funding opportunities support Western-focused research, programming and events, publications, and other activities across the world.

There are specific categories for students and faculty (at BYU and Off-Campus anywhere), independent scholars, public institutions and programming initiatives, etc. Priority is given to research on the Intermountain regions Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, or Wyoming. All disciplines (history, literature, sociology, geology, botany, range science, etc., literally any discipline or approach) are eligible as long as the proposed work will increase understanding about the region.

Applications are due March 15, 2025.

Follow the link for further information and application instructions: [reddcentergrants.byu.edu](http://reddcentergrants.byu.edu).



# Writing Westward Podcast Update

The Writing Westward Podcast is a monthly author-interview podcast. Each episode features a conversation with writers of new work on the North American West, sampling from a variety of disciplines and subfields. Full episode list at [writingwestward.org](http://writingwestward.org).



The podcast is hosted and produced by Redd Center Associate Director Professor Brenden W. Rensink.

**Listen on**



# INTERMOUNTAIN



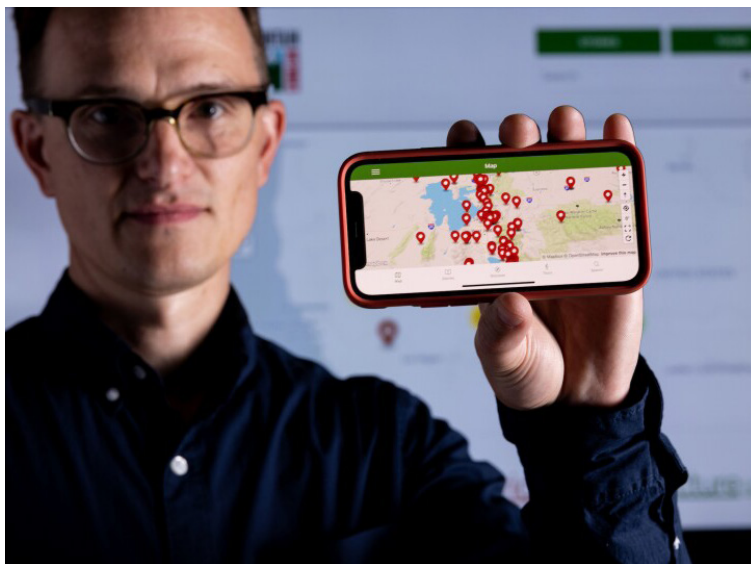
HISTORIES

POWERED BY:

CURATEscape

## Intermountain Histories Update

The Intermountain Histories project curates local histories on a website (<http://www.intermountain-histories.org>) and free mobile apps (iOS and Android). Stories are written by students from universities around the Intermountain West, and in collaboration with various professors.



### Recent Stats:

Appx. 850 stories and 72 multi-story tours with more being added regularly

17 Collaborating Professors at  
10 Universities

Over 600 student authors

19 BYU Student Interns and 11 BYU  
Student Research and Editorial Assistants  
Appx. 22,000 website users per month



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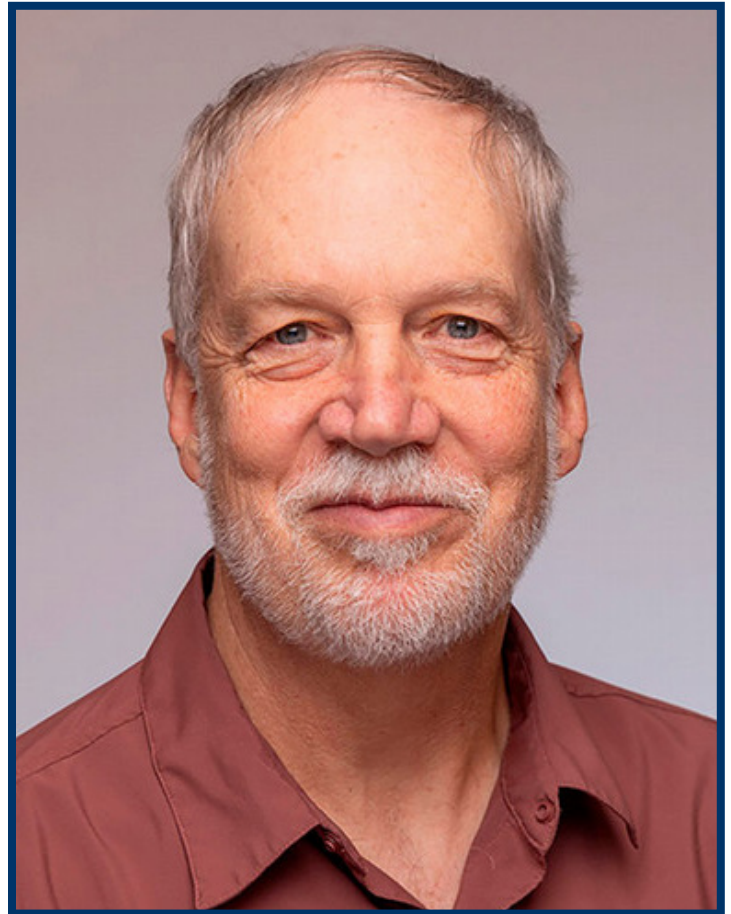


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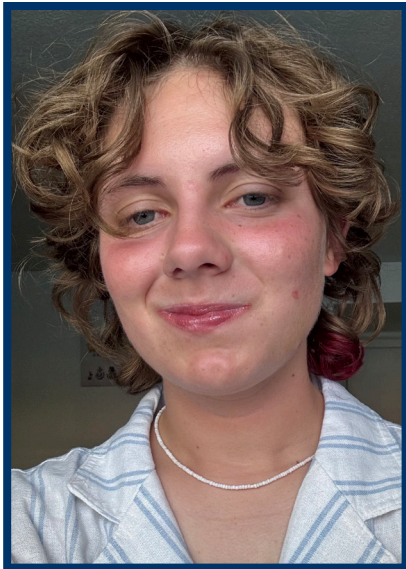
# New Faces at the Redd Center

## Winter 2026 Visiting Scholar

**Daniel Herman** comes to BYU from Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington, where he has taught since 1999. His plan is to continue writing his book, "Legacy of Reform: The Inner West and American Politics, 1890–1988." Judging from how he spends his days, his favorite pastime is sitting in front of computers, but theoretically he prefers hiking and rockhounding. He has a wife, Greta, and a 10-year-old daughter, Pearl, who makes an effort to read his draft chapters (a page or two) to prove she can do it. Like others, he is deeply impressed by BYU's scenery, bustle, and friendliness.



**Olson AhMu** is a history major and is from Blue Springs, Missouri. He enjoys cooking and eating food, playing pickleball, watching documentaries, and spending time with family.



**Susie Cameron** is a junior from Rexburg, Idaho. She's studying history and loves researching women's history, US civil rights movements, and 60s and 70s counterculture. She's a big fan of rock and roll, splash pads, IKEA, and Scooby Doo.

### Winter 2026 Intermountain Histories Intern

**Harrison Endicott** is a junior from Huntsville, Utah, majoring in history and minoring in English. He enjoys playing the piano, board games, and wildlife photography. Following his graduation from BYU in 2027, Harrison plans to pursue a doctorate studying American Religious History.



**Nora Wosnik** grew up in Cache Valley, Utah, and is a political science and history major with an emphasis in International Studies. She works with Dr. Buckley and is interested in foreign relations, public service, and history. Outside of academics, Nora enjoys staying active through basketball, mixed martial arts, and weightlifting. She values her family, loves learning, and hopes to pursue a career as a US foreign relations ambassador or a museum curator.