

HDC's Preservation School | spring 2017: Instructor Bios



Tara Kelly

Tara Kelly is Vice President of Policy & Programs at the Municipal Art Society of New York, a preservation and planning advocacy organization founded in 1893. Previously, she was Executive Director of Friends of the Upper East Side. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Isles of Shoals Association, the Board of Advisors of the Historic Districts Council, as well as the Island Heritage & Artifacts and Property Standards Committees of the Star Island Corporation. She holds an M.S. in Historic Preservation from Pratt Institute and a B.S. in Linguistics from Georgetown University.



Gregory Dietrich

A graduate of Columbia University's Historic Preservation and Real Estate Development programs, Gregory Dietrich has been working in the field of Historic Preservation for over sixteen years. Between 1999 and 2000 he directed the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission's Historic Preservation Grant Program, and between 2004 and 2009 he managed the New York office of a New Jersey-based cultural resource management firm. Since 2009 he has been the sole proprietor of Gregory Dietrich Preservation Consulting, which provides services that include historic architectural investigations, preservation policy analyses, historic tax credit and grant applications, National Register Nominations, and cultural resource studies to satisfy regulatory permitting requirements. (www.gdpreservationconsulting.com)



Brendan Coburn

Brendan Coburn is the founding partner of CWB Architects, a Brooklyn-based architecture firm. CWB Architects has designed a wide variety of residential projects, along with significant commercial and institutional projects including the award-winning library addition to the Grace Church School and an AIA award winning theater renovation for the Atlantic Theater Company in Chelsea. In his early career, Brendan worked at I.M. Pei and Partners and Rafael Vinoly Architects. In addition to his professional work, Brendan serves on the board of the Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy, the board of the Brooklyn Central YMCA, where he is the chair of the buildings committee, and the Board of Directors for the Historic Districts Council. Brendan is a registered architect in New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. He is also a member of the American Institute of Architects and holds a certificate from the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards. Brendan was born in Boston, Massachusetts, but has called Brooklyn home since 1972. Brendan received his Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture from the University of Virginia in 1989 and his Master of Architecture degree from Yale University in 1994.



Daniel Allen

Daniel Allen, AIA, is a principal of CTA Architects P.C. (CTA) and is the firm's historic preservation specialist. Mr. Allen began his career in preservation over thirty years ago as a craftsman in the manufacture of architectural terra cotta and cast stone. This early interest led to work for exterior wall consultants and restoration architects. Mr. Allen received a Masters of Science in Historic Preservation from Columbia University while actively working in the field. He also gained important experience as an architectural conservator for the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities (now Historic New England) in Boston before returning to rejoin CTA. Mr. Allen is the President of the Board of Directors of the Historic Districts

Council, and a member of the Association for Preservation Technology, the Board of Directors of the New York Preservation Archive Project and the American Institute of Architects. He is an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Historic Preservation at Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. Mr. Allen brings a long record of sensitive restoration and adaptive reuse to many important projects.



Lynn Massimo

Lynn Massimo holds a degree in fine art photography from New York University and spent part of her early career as an architectural photographer. Though she has officially left the commercial world of photography, her expertise found a new outlet in 2013, when she co-founded the Sunset Park Landmarks Committee to advocate for the designation of a Historic District in Sunset Park, Brooklyn. As part of this effort, Lynn spearheaded a block-by-block outreach and survey campaign, including the documentation of Sunset Park's many elegant rowhouses, religious structures, institutional buildings and green spaces. Her photographs proved instrumental in bringing awareness to the cause and

bringing the campaign to the attention of the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission.



Cristiana Peña

Cristiana Peña has worked in the nonprofit historic preservation field in various capacities, including advocacy and community organizing, public programs and messaging, and grant giving and professional development. In these various roles, she has carved a niche for herself in the world of social media and branding, and has brought these skills to her more recent roles as both an independent consultant for nonprofit organizations and as the Chief Social Media Coordinator for CIRCA, a curated, online historic house marketplace that showcases the most beautiful old homes for sale all across the country. Cristiana serves on the Board of Advisers for the Historic Districts Council and holds a Master of Science in Historic Preservation from Columbia University.