Nominated Council Bios

**Scott Alvey**

**Executive Director, Kentucky Historical Society**

Scott Alvey, a 25-year museum professional, is executive director of the Kentucky Historical Society (KHS). He is responsible for directing the organization’s mission, values and strategic priorities through programming, publications, exhibits and other public resources.  Alvey began his career as an education volunteer for the Museum of History and Science in Louisville. As the museum grew into Louisville Science Center, so did his job duties. He became assistant director of exhibits and later rose to director of visitor interaction. In 2008, he joined KHS as design studio director, leading efforts to create promotional and interpretative presentations at the Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History. He began serving as KHS deputy director in 2012 and was named executive director in July 2018.

An Evansville, Ind., native, Alvey is a 2010 graduate of the American Association of State and Local History (AASLH) Seminar for Historical Administration. Besides teaching a seminar and chairing a host committee for AASLH, he was president of the Kentucky Museum and Heritage Alliance, vice president of the Kentucky Association of Museums and state director for the Southeast Museums Conference.

Alvey holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Western Kentucky University.

KHS is a membership organization and agency within the Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet.

**Matthew S. Davis**

**Director of Historic Museums, Georgia College**

Matthew S. Davis is the Director of Historic Museums at Georgia College, which includes Georgia’s Old Governor’s Mansion, Andalusia: the Home of Flannery O’Connor, and the Sallie Ellis Davis House. His duties include oversight of the historic properties, coordinating administrative functions, research, curatorial work, educational programming, fundraising, and management of the Watson-Brown Foundation Junior Board of Trustees, Milledgeville Chapter. Aside from his duties at the museums, Davis teaches as an adjunct professor at Georgia College in the History Department and Museum Studies Program within the Department of Art. He also teaches at Georgia Military College in the History Department.

Matt, a native of Kinston, NC, received his education at Georgia College & State University graduating *Summa Cum Laude* with a Bachelor of Science Degree in History in 2002 and a Master of Arts in History with a concentration in Public History in 2004. Davis is a member of several professional museum groups and boards. He was the founder and first chair of the Milledgeville Museum Association, was elected president of the Georgia Association of Museums in 2018, and serves on the programming, evaluation, and mid-career committees of the Southeastern Museums Conference. In 2012, Davis was named as the Museum Professional of the Year by the Georgia Association of Museums. Additionally, he is the State Awards Chair for the American Association of State and Local History, is a committeeman at large for CurCom, serves as an accreditation reviewer for the American Alliance of Museums, and is a 2016 graduate of the 21st Century Museum Leadership Institute, which was sponsored by the George Washington University and the Smithsonian Institution.

**Lance Wheeler**

**Curator of Interpretation, Two Mississippi Museums**

Lance Wheeler currently serves as Curator of Interpretation for the Two Mississippi Museums located in Jackson, Mississippi. Originally from Jersey City, New Jersey, he earned a BA in History with a focus on American slavery at Belmont Abbey College and MA in History with a concentration in Museum Studies at University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

As a public historian, Mr. Wheeler realizes the importance in engaging patrons, not only through facts and dates, but also through personal stories and relativity to current events. Lance believes that museums should be seen has resource centers that allow the community to share their voices and gives individuals the historical connections they need to understand how the past has shaped the present and will shape the future. In his words, “Museums are more than buildings that hold artifacts and the stories of those before us, museums are places that take the visitors on a spiritual journey that bridges the past with the present and beyond.”