



United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Interior Region 1
North Atlantic-Appalachian
1234 Market Street, 20th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107

September 21, 2021

To whom it may concern,

Dr. Iris Leigh Barnes and I met 2 years ago when I applied to be a graduate assistant at the Lillie Carroll Jackson Civil Rights Museum, while pursuing my Master of Arts in Museum Studies and Historical Preservation from Morgan State University. In the time that I have known Dr. Barnes, she has served as my Direct Supervisor, a member of my Thesis Committee, and a trusted mentor. Dr. Barnes is an extremely dedicated, hardworking, and driven individual. Through her words and more importantly her actions, she has shown me that she is openminded, respectful, and willing to work hard to achieve her goals and help others along the way. It was a pleasure working under Dr. Barnes because she was always willing to share her knowledge of the history and museum field. I attribute much of my success to Dr. Barnes who provided me with resources and practical knowledge that I would have never been exposed to in school.

Dr. Barnes is an experienced researcher, instructor, and interpreter with strengths in conducting inclusive archival research to better inform interpretation practices. She has a proven ability to capture the experiences of individuals and groups who have been historically marginalized through her museum and history work. Dr. Barnes offers subject matter expertise in African American History, museum management, and the best practices for inclusive historical interpretation. Her passion to uplift the forgotten voices of the past through intentional historical research and interpretation shines through in all the work she conducts.

My experience working with Dr. Barnes as graduate assistant at Lillie Carroll Jackson Civil Rights Museum was so great, that we have maintained a strong professional relationship and often collaborate on programs and research initiatives together to this day. Dr. Barnes is extremely dependable and reliable and can be looked at as someone you can count on to make things happen successfully. Dr. Barnes is an exemplary asset to the history and museum field.

Yours faithfully,

Taylor Brookins

Taylor Brookins
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