

Donna C. Parker

Vita

Associate Professor
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Education

Master of Science, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY
Institutional and Home Environment, Area of Concentration - Textiles and Clothing, 1987
Bachelor of Fine Arts, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY
Area of Concentration – Studio Weaving, 1977
Teacher Certification 7-12, 1977

Employment

Exhibits Curator, Kentucky Museum, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY, 1988-
Present
Exhibits Technician, Kentucky Museum, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY,
1981-1988

Intellectual Contributions

- Parker, Donna C. "Historic Schools of Warren County, Kentucky." Online Exhibit. January 12, 2015.
[\[view online\]](#)
- Parker, Donna C. "Dating Historic Costume." Midwest Open-Air Museums Magazine, Summer/Fall 1992: Rpt. in "Historic Clothing: Period Clothing Articles in the Midwest Open Air Museums Magazine Vol. 1-30." Midwest Open-Air Museums Magazine 30 (2009): 12-15. (Note: issue printed in 2011).
- Parker, Donna. "Civil War Exhibit Planning Powerpoint." Kentucky Museum Educators Website (2011).
- Parker, Donna. "Recommended by Duncan Hines.Powerpoint." WKU TopScholar Digital Repository (February 2009). [\[view online\]](#)
- Parker, Donna. "The Diary of Adne Etta Abernathy of Giles County Tennessee, 1884." Published by the author (2007).
- Parker, Donna. "Use of flax in America" – WKU TopScholar Digital Repository (November 2007).
[\[view online\]](#)
- Parker, Donna and Jeffrey, Jonathan. "Big Red: Western's Consummate Ambassador." Alumni: Western

- Kentucky University Alumni Magazine (Winter 2004): 10-11. [\[view online\]](#)
- Parker, Donna. "Building for the Future: Rosenwald Schools in Warren County." Landmark Report 21 (April 2003): 6-8. [\[view online\]](#)
- _____. Kentucky Women Artists: 1850-2000. The Kentucky Museum and The Owensboro Museum of Fine Art, 2001. [Artists' biographies for 1850-1970 section].
- Parker, Donna and Jeffrey, Jonathan. "Fulling Around: The Shaker Fulling Mill at South Union, Kentucky" Chronicle of the Early American Industries Association 52 (December 1999): 127-133. [\[view online\]](#)
- Parker, Donna and Jeffrey, Jonathan. A Thread of Evidence: Shaker Textile Industries at South Union, Kentucky. South Union, Kentucky: Shaker Museum at South Union, 1996.
- Parker, Donna and Jeffrey, Jonathan. "A Thread of Evidence: Shaker Textiles at South Union, Kentucky." The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society 94 (Winter 1996): 33-58. [\[view online\]](#)
- Parker, Donna and Jeffrey, Jonathan. "'We Have Raffeled for the Elephant & Won!': The Wool Industry at South Union Kentucky 1814-1868." The Kentucky Review 13 (Winter 1997): 58-74. [\[view online\]](#)
- Parker, Donna. "'Ho! for Drakes Creek': Something Ventured, Nothing Gained" Communal Societies 14 (1994): 113-122. [\[view online\]](#)
- Parker, Donna. "Made to Fit a Woman: Riding Uniforms of the Frontier Nursing Service." Dress 20 (1993): 53-64. [\[view online\]](#)
- Parker, Donna and Jeffrey, Jonathan. "Sericulture, Silk and South Union Shakers." The Shaker Messenger 15 (May 1993): 5-9, 30. [\[view online\]](#)
- Parker, Donna. "Dating Historic Costume." Midwest Open-Air Museums Magazine 13 (Summer/Fall 1992): 30-35.
- Parker, Donna and Jeffrey, Jonathan. "Flax Production at South Union, Kentucky." The Shaker Messenger 14 (April 1992): 7-9, 23. [\[view online\]](#)

Professional Presentations

- "Fulling Around: The Shaker Fulling Mill at South Union, Kentucky" – Costume Society of America Southeast Regional Conference 'Tis a Gift to be Simple: Celebrating the Sewn Arts – Pleasant Hill Shaker Museum (2011)
- "Stars, Bars and Hopefully More Cars: Challenges and Opportunities in Exhibit Planning" – American Association for State and Local History National Conference "Winds of Opportunity" – Oklahoma City, Oklahoma (2010)
- "Stars, Bars, and Hopefully More Cars: Adventures in Museum Planning," – Kentucky Department of Parks Historic Sites Managers Training Meeting, Bowling Green, Kentucky. (2009)
- "Stars, Bars, and Hopefully More Cars: Adventures in Museum Planning," – Kentucky Museum and Heritage Association Annual Meeting, Owensboro, Kentucky. (2009)
- "Recommended by Duncan Hines," – Consumer and Family Science WKU Alumni Annual Meeting, Bowling Green, Kentucky (2008)
- "Clothes Encounters of the Kentucky Kind: Costume in Kentucky 1790-1850," – Kentucky Association of Museums Annual Meeting, Covington, Kentucky (2007)
- "Clothes Encounters of the Kentucky Kind: Costume in Kentucky 1790-1850," – Heritage Touring Conference (2006)
- "Museum Exhibit Design," Kentucky Association of Museums Annual Meeting, Bowling Green. (2003)

“Exhibit Design for the Beginning Professional,” Kentucky Intensive Museum Management Seminars, Owensboro, Kentucky and Danville, Kentucky. (1998-2000)

"Ho! for Drakes Creek:' Something Ventured, Nothing Gained," - Berkshire Seminar, South Union, Kentucky (1998)

“Exhibit Design for the Beginning Professional,” Kentucky Intensive Museum Management Seminar, Bowling Green, Kentucky. 1998

“Protecting and Preserving Textiles: Saving Grandma’s Old Quilt,” Museum of the Barrens, Glasgow, Kentucky. (1997)

"Ho! for Drakes Creek:' Something Ventured, Nothing Gained," - South Union Seminar, South Union, Kentucky. (1995)

"Wool Manufacturing at South Union, 1814-1868," - South Union Seminar, South Union, Kentucky. (1994)

"The Felts Log House: Strategies for Interpreting and Furnishing an Historic Log House" – Southeastern Museums Conference, Norfolk, Virginia. (1993)

"Made to Fit a Woman: Riding Uniforms of the Frontier Nursing Service" - Costume Society of America Region VI Symposium, Pleasant Hill, Kentucky. (1993)

"Flax Production at South Union, Kentucky" - Berkshire Seminar, South Union, Kentucky. (1993)

"Sericulture, Silk and the South Union Shakers" - South Union Seminar, South Union, Kentucky. (1993)

"Fossilized Dress of the Shakers," Shaker Topic Series, South Union, Kentucky. (1992)

"Flax Production at South Union, Kentucky" - South Union Seminar, South Union, Kentucky. (1992)

"Beyond Mere Apparel: Using Costume to Interpret Women's History" - Women’s Studies Conference, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky. (1990)

“Collecting Kentucky: Dating a Costume” - Kentucky Association of Museums Annual Conference, Maysville, Kentucky. (1989)

Western Kentucky University Bicentennial Speakers Bureau (1997-1998)

Kentucky Museum Speakers Bureau – Current [\[view online\]](#)

Major Kentucky Museum Exhibitions – In-house, Collaborative and Traveling

Standing the Test of Time: Kentucky’s White Oak Basket Tradition (2016)

US Bank Celebration of the Arts Annual Open Arts Competition (2004-2016)

Backward and Forward: 20th Century Quilts (2016)

Never Again: Nazi German and the Holocaust (2016)

Conscience of the Human Spirit: The Life of Nelson Mandela (2016)

Reminders of South Africa: The Nancy Baird Collection (2016)

VSAarts Bowling Green Side by Side” (2005-2016)

Ecuador Unframed: the Art of Oswaldo Guayasain (2015)

The Final Word (2015)

Conscience of the Human Spirit: The Life of Nelson Mandela (2015)

Reminders of South Africa: The Nancy Baird Collection (2015)

WKU Interior Design Senior Thesis Show (2008-2015)

Saving the Orphans: Why Keep Unidentified Photos? (2014)

Chester Cornett: Beyond the Narrow Sky (2014)

Faces and Places: Quilts and Textiles from the Kentucky Museum (2013)
 Dororthy Grider: Selected Works (2013)
 Documenting Tradition: Images from the Kentucky Folklife Program (2013)
 WKU Museum at the Augenstein Alumni Center (2013)
 Duncan Hines Festival Art Contest (2007-2012)
 Instruments of American Excellence (2012)
 Elizabeth Richardson Quilt Gallery (2012)
 Ewing Galloway: The World in Photographs (2012)
 Preserving the Past: Sustaining the Future (2011)
 Chinese Learning Center (2011)
 Horse in Kentucky Preview (2011)
 Hilltopper Halls of History (2011)
 History to Practice: Verbal and Visual Responses to Masterpieces of Graphic Design from the Kentucky Museum and Library (2011)
 Settling Schweizer: Scenes of an Immigrant Community (2011)
 WKU Senior Art Exhibition (2007 -2011)
 Shooting the Big Shots (2010)
 AquaVenture (2010)
 Kentucky Heritage Quilt Show (2007-2010)
 Snell Franklin Decorative Arts Gallery (2009)
 A Star in Each Flag: Conflict in Kentucky (2008)
 Sights and Sounds of Warren County (2008)
 The Little Colonel: A Romanticized Look at Kentucky Childhood (2007)
 Nature's Bounty: Quilts and More (2007)
 Recommended by Duncan Hines (2007)
 Slow Time: The Works of Charley, Noah and Hazel Kinney (2007)
 Caves: A Fragile Wilderness (2007)
 Aids Memorial Quilt (2007)
 Western 100 (2006)
 Baskets from Home: White Oak Baskets of South Central Kentucky (2006)
 BIG RED: The All-American Mascot Turns 25! (2006)
 The Wright Approach: Wilbur and Orville and Their Flying Machine (2003)
 Young at Heart: Children's Book Illustrations (2003)
 The Hill Builder: Brinton B. Davis and Western Kentucky University" online exhibit (2003)
 Bill Whitey Sanders: Comic Opera (2002)
 New York: A City Searching for Hope (2002)
 Kentucky Women Artists: 1850-1970 (2001)
 Kentucky Women Artists: 1850-1970 online exhibit (2001)
 Ninety Miles of Dixie: 31W Today (2001)
 Joe Dudley Downing 2000 (2000)
 Joe Dudley Downing 2000 online exhibit (2000)
 Ninety Miles of Dixie: Highway 31W Today (2000)
 Contemporary Coverage: Not Your Grandmother's Quilt Anymore! (2000)

Expressing Kentucky” online exhibit (2000)
A Kind of Nobility: The Kentucky Orphan Brigade (1999)
Cover Stories: Warren County Quilts and Quilters (1998)
Roads, Rails and Rivers: Warren County Then and Now (1997)
Roads, Rails and Rivers: Warren County Then and Now online exhibit (1997)
Come to the Church in the Wildwood: Warren County’s Historic Rural Churches (1997)
Look What I See: Art and the Child’s Point of View (1996)
Remember Me When I Am Gone: Kentucky Friendship and Memory Quilts (1995)
Hard Times and High Hopes: Fashion of the Thirties (1994)
The Little Colonel: Memory, Imagination and Kentucky (1994)
Contemporary Traditions: Works of Kentucky Craftspeople (1993)
Joe Downing: Recent Works (1993)
The Felts Log House (1992)
A Change of Style: Works of Kentucky Craftspeople (1990)
Piece by Piece: A Sampling of Logan County Quilts (1990)
The Kentucky Building: Continuing the Dream (1999)
Joe Downing: The Art of an International Kentuckian (1998)
Sh-Boom: An Explosion of Fifties Fashion (1998)

Consultantships

Grayson County High School, Grayson County, KY, National History Day Student Exhibit and Website Reviewer (2015)
WKU ROTC, Exhibit Design Consultant (2013-2014)
Bowling Green Country Club, Exhibit Design Consultant (2013-2014)
African American Museum, Exhibit Development Consultant (2011-2015)
Richardsville Elementary, Exhibit Design Consultant (2011)
Task Force/Faculty - Kentucky Intensive Museum Management Seminar, Historical Confederation of Kentucky and Kentucky Association of Museums (1997-1999)
Soil Conservation Service, Warren County. Exhibit consultant, "Where the Rainwater Flows" traveling exhibit. (1991-1993)
Kentucky Humanities Council. Costume consultant, "Kentucky Chautauqua" portrayal, by Dr. Carol Crowe-Carraco, of Mary Breckinridge, Frontier Nursing Service. (1991-1992)
Kentucky Humanities Council. Exhibit consultant/technical advisor, "Beyond the Borders: Shaker Philosophy through Textiles," Shakertown at South Union. (1991)
Kentucky Folklife Program. Exhibit consultant/technical advisor and artist conceptualization, "The Ties that Bind: Folklife Along the Kentucky River" traveling exhibit. Funded by National Endowment for the Arts. (1990)

Awards and Grants

Margie Helm Library Team Award, “A Star in Each Flag: Conflict in Kentucky” (2008)
Grant – “Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln’s Journey to Emancipation.” American Library Association

(2003)

Historical Confederation of Kentucky Outstanding Publication Award for A Thread of Evidence: Shaker Textile Industries at South Union, Kentucky. (1996)

Historical Confederation of Kentucky 1st Place Museum Exhibits Award-- "Remember Me When I Am Gone" exhibit. (1995)

Western Kentucky University Faculty Research Grant-- "Fulling Around: The Shaker Textile Finishing Industry at South Union, Kentucky." (1995)

Historical Confederation of Kentucky Public Programs Certificate of Merit-- "A Change of Style" exhibit. (1991)

Selected University and Community Service

University, Advisory Committee on Faculty Continuance, Promotion, and Tenure Committee Alternate (2013 - 2016)

University, Ad-hoc Committee on Faculty Continuance, Promotion, and Tenure, 4 separate committees formed. Served as Chair for one and member for three (2014-2016)

University, Instruments of American Excellence Exhibit Committee (2010 - Present)

College, University Libraries Sabbatical Committee (current)

College, University Libraries Faculty Funding Committee (current)

College, University Libraries Challenged Materials Study Group (2014)

College, University Libraries Website Team/Web & Emerging Technologies Working Group (through 2012)

Department, Continuance, Promotion and Tenure Committee (2009 – 2015)

Museum, MAP Assessment Team, American Alliance of Museums – Collections (2016)

Museum, MAP Assessment Team, American Alliance of Museums – Community (2015 - 2016)

Museum, Book Committee (2014 – Present)

Museum, Department, Planning Committee, US Bank Celebration of the Arts (2004 - Present).

Museum, Purchase Award Selection Committee (2004 – Present)

Museum, Kentucky Museum Recent Acquisitions Committee. (2003 - Present)

Museum, Kentucky Museum Friends Event Committee (2014 – Present)

Mt. Pleasant Church of Christ Volunteer, Anna, Kentucky. Education, Website and general activities (2009 - Present)

Professional Associations Past and Present

Costume Society of America

Kentucky Association of Museums

Kentucky Museum Heritage Alliance

Midwest Open Air Museums Coordinating Council

National Association of Museum Exhibition