## Abena Boakyewa-Ansah

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UNC Asheville | Asheville, NC

<b>EDUCATION</b>	

## PhD., Vanderbilt University, May 2022

- <u>Dissertation</u>: "Freedom Was Their North Star:' African American Women's Efforts to Define and Secure Freedom in the American Civil War"
- Advisor: Richard Blackett

## Scottish MAhons., University of Edinburgh, 2015

- <u>Dissertation</u>: "Crafted 'By Their Own Hands': African American Religious Experience in Union Occupied North Carolina, 1861-1865"
- Advisor: David Silkenat

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<b>EMPLOYMENT</b>	

<u>University Fellow for Faculty Diversity, History Department, UNC Asheville, July 2022- present Archival Researcher, Center for Latin American Studies, Vanderbilt University, June 2018-August 2018 Research Assistant, Kim Welch, Vanderbilt University, June 2017- September 2017 Graduate Assistant, Black Cultural Center, Vanderbilt University, January 2017- July 2017</u>

<b>PUBLICATIONS</b>	
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"Crafted 'By Their Own Hands': African American Religious Experience in Union Occupied North Carolina, 1862-1865," North Carolina Historical Review, Vol.94, July 2017. p. 299-332.

AWARDS	Ćχ	CERTII	-16	ш	$\cup$	D	10	

Certificate in Humanities Teaching and Learning, Vanderbilt Center for Teaching, 2019
Distinguished Student Award, Vanderbilt Black Cultural Center, 2018
Harold Sterling Vanderbilt Scholarship, Vanderbilt University, 2016
Compton Prize for American History, University of Edinburgh, 2015

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J. Léon Helguera Endowed Fellow, Vanderbilt University, 2021-2022
Summer Residency in Meaningful Pedagogy, National Humanities Center, 2021
Graduate Teaching Fellow, Center for Teaching, Vanderbilt University, 2020-2021
Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellow, Library Company Philadelphia, 2019-2020
Dissertation Fellow, Wilson Library, University North Carolina Chapel Hill, 2019-2020
Ruth R. Miller Fellowship, Massachusetts Historical Society, 2019-2020

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<u>Conference Paper:</u> "She Was Hunting Freedom: Enslaved Women's Efforts to Leave the Confederacy," **Southern Historical Association Panel**, November 2021

Podcast Co-Host: "Carved in Ebony Podcast," Highest Good Media, November 2021.

<u>Podcast Interview:</u> "History, and the Gospel with Abena Ansah-Wright," **Sweet Tea with Jasmine and Portia,** May 2021

<u>Workshop Series Co-coordinator:</u> "Teaching Race in Higher Education," **Vanderbilt Center for Teaching**, 2020-2021

Round Table Panellist: "What is the function and purpose of history in times of rapid social, political and technological change?", **300th Anniversary of History at Edinburgh University**, November 2019

Researcher: Center for Latin American Studies, Summer 2018

(Crafted historical timeline with archival sources, classroom discussions questions and activities for K-12 schools in Tennessee)

<u>Conference Paper:</u> "Freedom Constrained: Black Nashville in Slavery and Freedom," **Vanderbilt University's Wrestling with Our Past Conference**, *March 2018* 

<b>TEACHING</b>		

IoR/Co-Lecturer, "Slavery in American History," Spring 2022

Graduate Teaching Fellow, Graduate student pedagogical development seminars, June 2020-June 2021

TA for "Capital, Labor and Democracy in the United States," Spring 2019

TA for "American History 1877-1945," Fall 2018