

APRIL LYNN DOWNEY, M.A.

april.lynn.downey@gmail.com ♦ 443-889-6412 ♦ Nottingham, Maryland

PUBLISHED HISTORIAN & RELIGION SPECIALIST

A passionate published author and ambitious researcher, with years of experience in historical and religious studies, with a strong focus on producing academic publications, documentaries, educational media, and historical website content. A world traveler that meets the National Park Service's Professional Qualifications for History. Brings a wealth of technical skills plus project management and interdisciplinary coordination experience.

EDUCATION

- **Master of Arts in Ancient Biblical Civilizations**, Towson University, May 2019 (GPA: 3.94/4.0)
 - Biblical Hebrew, Jewish history, rabbinical studies, ancient Near Eastern archaeology & literature, museum studies, creative non-fiction writing
- **Bachelor of Arts in Religion**, American Public University, August 2014 (GPA: 3.96/4.0)
 - Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, sociology, literature, and philosophy.
- **Certificate in Architectural CAD**, Anne Arundel Community College, May 2006 (GPA: 3.90/4.0)
 - Hand drafting, AutoCAD, 3DS Max, and fine art drawing.
- **Continuing Education**
 - **Coursera**
 - **EdX**
 - "Introduction to [Adobe] Illustrator", 2024
 - "Graphic Design Essentials", 2024
 - **Coursera**
 - "Arts & Heritage Management", 2023
 - **The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation**
 - "What is Section 106", 2023
 - "Successfully Navigating Section 106 Review", 2023
 - **Wondrium**
 - "Critical Business Skills for Success" by Michael A. Roberto, 2022
 - "The Entrepreneur's Toolkit" by Michael G. Goldsby, 2022
 - **Skillshare**
 - "Digital Presence" by Sonja Rasula, 2020
 - "Creative Breakthrough: 8 Exercises to Power Your Creativity, Confidence, & Career" by Danielle Krysa, 2020
 - "Find Your Unique Creative Genius" by Andy J. Pizza, 2020
 - "Social Media Marketing: Top Tips for Growing Your Followers & Going Viral" by Cat Coquillette, 2020
 - "Starting a History Blog" by Elizabeth Hill-Scott, 2020

PUBLICATIONS

Book:

- [*Images of America: Manheim*](#) – a historical book published by Arcadia Publishing, 2021.

Articles:

- [*Visiting a Sacred Space*](#) – Trip Scholars, December 2023
- [*Judean Pillar Figurines*](#) –World History Encyclopedia, October 2020.
- [*Asherah*](#) –World History Encyclopedia, September 2020.
- [*Nehushtan*](#) – World History Encyclopedia, August 2020.
- [*Hebrew Roots for Saraph and Nachash*](#) – graph on World History Encyclopedia, August 2020.

Book Reviews:

- [*An Introduction to the Study of Mysticism*](#) by Richard H. Jones, for Reading Religion, December 2022.
- [*Two Gods in Heaven: Jewish Concepts of God in Antiquity*](#) by Peter Schäfer, for Reading Religion, June 2021.
- [*Religion, History, and Place in the Origin of Settled Life*](#) edited by Ian Hodder, for Reading Religion, September 2020.
- [*I AM: Monotheism and the Philosophy of the Bible*](#) by Mark Glouberman, for Reading Religion, October 2019.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Independent Historian & Religion Specialist

2019 – Present

- Researches and writes variety of historical and religious studies publications
- Produces educational multi-media content about history, mythology, and world cultures
- Crafts a free newsletter called [*Journal of Tales*](#) (history, mythology, world cultures)
- Promotes cultural heritage through virtual field trips, lectures, and book signing events.
- Creates an online educational [YouTube channel](#).
- Founder of the online bookstore [Phoenix Feather Books & Curios](#)
- Provides design consultation & CAD services:
 - Supports businesses in the foodservice industry. Clients and projects include Mark Stech-Novak (a leading foodservice design consultant), three-star Michelin chefs Jean-Georges Vongerichten and Dominique Crenn, Joshu Korn at SIE Culinary Management Group, Google (Charleston East & Bay View), Apple (Cupertino, Culver City, Austin, and more), Peninsula Hotel, and more.
 - Produces CAD 2D plans, elevations, sections, details, and 3D models and renderings.
 - Creates Photoshop renderings

SKILLS

- Writing
 - Academic publications
 - Online media – [website](#), [YouTube](#), [TikTok](#), and [Facebook](#)
 - [Newsletters](#)
- Computer Aided Design (CAD): 2D & 3D drawings and renderings: Vectorworks, AutoCAD, 3DS Max
- Photo Editing & 2D Rendering: Adobe Photoshop
 - [Online portfolio link](#)
- PDF Creation & Editing: BlueBeam, Adobe Acrobat
- Microsoft Office: Word, Excel, PowerPoint
- Video Editing: CyberLink Power Director 365

CAREER ATTRIBUTES

- Continuous Learner
- Thorough Data Analysis
- Outstanding Communication
- Detail-Oriented
- Project Management
- Entrepreneurial Mindset
- Creative

PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

- Natural History Society of Maryland's Archaeology Club
 - President 2022-2023
 - Coordinator 2019-2022
- Assisted with compiling and editing the cookbook *Jewish Food: The Ultimate Cookbook* that has sold >100K copies to date. (Name is in acknowledgments.)
- Photography: Instagram [@april lynn downey](#)
- Archaeological Excavation
 - *Glen Ellen Castle Survey*, 2019
 - *Eutaw Manor House Excavation*, 2018
 - *Kirby Farm Excavation*, 2015
- Traveling
 - Germany, Austria, Ireland, Spain, Italy, the Caribbean, Belgium, France, and numerous states across the USA.