

Key Staff Biographies

Louise Mirrer, Ph.D., President and Chief Executive Officer of The New York Historical, has served in this role since 2004. She is responsible for all exhibitions, programs, activities, and administrative functions. Dr. Mirrer holds a double Ph.D. in Spanish and the Humanities from Stanford University and has published widely on language, literature, medieval studies, and women's studies, in both books and articles in Spanish and English. She has taught in the History and Literature departments at Fordham University, University of California-Los Angeles, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, and the CUNY Graduate Center, and also served as an academic administrator for over twenty years.

Monique Quinn, Chief Financial Officer, joined The New York Historical in 2023. Previously, she served as Controller at The Metropolitan Opera for over a decade. She brings extensive experience in non-profit financial operations after having also served as Chief Financial Officer of the National Audubon Society for 11 years.

Valerie Paley, Ph.D., Senior Vice President and Sue Ann Weinberg Director of the Patricia D. Klingenstein Library, also serves as founding director of the Center for Women's History. Her work at The New York Historical encompasses a critical range of curatorial, scholarly, and administrative responsibilities, including the development of a joint Masters Program in Museum Studies with the CUNY School of Professional Studies, which launched in fall 2019. A graduate of Vassar College, she holds an M.A. in American Studies and a Ph.D. in History from Columbia University, where she teaches an undergraduate seminar in museums and public culture at the Columbia Center for American Studies.

Leslie Hayes, Vice President for Education, oversees the implementation of all of The New York Historical's education programs, which serve thousands of students, teachers, and high school and college interns each year. In addition, she was the project director for the *Women & the American Story* and *Opening the Oval* curriculum projects. Hayes has led hundreds of workshops for K-12 educators and regularly presents at conferences, with a focus on supporting teachers interested in incorporating inquiry-based instruction into their classrooms. She also participates in the Cultural Institutions Working Group for the Educating for American Democracy (EAD) network. She previously worked at the Brooklyn Public Library and South Street Seaport Museum. She holds an M.P.A in Nonprofit Management from New York University, an M.Phil in History from Cambridge University, and a B.A. in History and English from Penn State University.