

Participant Bios

Wednesday March 9, 2022 6:30 PM

DEMOCRACY IN CRISIS: THE ROLE OF CIVIC EDUCATION AND ITS IMPORTANCE FOR CIVIC HEALTH

Carrie Taylor – Facilitator, Lippitt House Museum Director



Martha Frutchey, moderator, was born and raised in the midwest, and came to Brown for the inaugural year of the Master in the Arts of Teaching (MAT) program. After graduating she spent over 30 years as a social studies teacher in North Attleboro, MA and participated in the curriculum conversion to standards-based learning. After retirement, spent 13 years as the adult trainer at Girl Scouts of Rhode Island. Now retired, she spends time with the civic engagement segment of the League of Women Voters.



Athena is a Junior at Classical High School in Providence. She is the Youth Chair of the Education Committee of the Rhode Island Civic Learning Coalition and is also a Youth Fellow.



Marcos Bonilla was born in the Dominican Republic in 1996. He moved to the US in 2014 to pursue his English Language studies. Currently, he works at the Genesis Center School as an Enrollment Specialist, continues his education at the CCRI for an English Major, and serves the Rhode Island Army National Guard as a Religious Affairs Specialist. – Genesis Center Enrollment Specialist, former volunteer, and Citizenship Prep student. Currently serving as Specialist in RI Army National Guard. Pursuing English degree at Community College of Rhode Island.



Justin is a sophomore at East Providence High School, where he works to promote equity within (and outside) of his community. His passion and fire for Civics education sparked when being formally introduced to civics through a U.S. Government and Politics course where he partook in engaging conversations with his peers. Justin loves advocating for human rights and does this through the civic education that he has received and continues to receive in his day-to-day life.



Julia Renaud is the Associate Director of Grants and Strategic Initiatives at the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities, where she is proud to support and amplify the many ways that the cultural sector strengthens the state's civic health. Prior to joining the Council, Julia served in public programs, archival, curatorial, and communications roles in museums and cultural organizations in New York and Providence. Originally from the San Francisco Bay Area, Julia holds an MA in Public Humanities from Brown University and an AB in American History and Literature with a minor in History of Art and Architecture from Harvard University.