



**QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST**



**AMERICAN
UNIVERSITY**
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DIFFICULT PASTS: DIFFICULT PRESENTS.

Conversations on public history and history in public.

Tuesday 3 October, 9.30am – 5pm
School of International Service
(Founders Room), American University

A symposium co-hosted by the Centre for Public History at Queen's University Belfast, and the School of International Service and the Public History program in the College of Arts and Sciences at American University.

This one-day symposium will explore the uses and abuses of the past with a particular focus on divided societies and marginalised communities. It will explore the ways in which history can be weaponised in the public space or used to privilege particular versions of the past, but will also examine some of the ways in which public engagement with history can serve to amplify marginalised voices and address division and inequalities in today's societies.

Click here to RSVP

by Tuesday 26 September



KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Barbara Stephenson, vice provost for global affairs and chief global officer, joined the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2019. She advances Carolina's global reach, impact and reputation. Previously, she was president of the American Foreign Service Association. During her distinguished 34-year career in the Foreign Service, she was US ambassador to Panama, the first woman charg  d'affaires and deputy ambassador at the US Embassy in London, and dean of the Leadership and Management School at the Foreign Service Institute. She earned her PhD, MA, and BA in English literature from the University of Florida.

SPEAKERS ALSO INCLUDE:

Laia Balcells (Georgetown), Dominic Bryan (QUB), Kevin Gaines (UVA), Carole Gallagher (AU), Lisa Goff (UVA), Michelle Kelso (GWU), Dan Kerr (AU), Olwen Purdue (QUB), M.J. Rymza-Pawlowska (AU), Penny von Eschen (UVA)

ROUNDTABLES WILL FOCUS ON:

- Problems with the past in public: memory, memorialisation and commemoration
- Dealing with contested pasts: public history sites, conflict transformation and social justice
- Addressing contemporary issues: community public history and social justice in divided societies



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