

## **Jason Mancini Bio**

Dr. Jason Mancini joined CT Humanities as Executive Director in 2018. At CTH, he is focused on strengthening organizational partnerships, engaging diverse audiences, and anchoring Connecticut's placemaking, public history, and integrative digital initiatives.

Jason is also co-founder of Akomawt Educational Initiative and the former Executive Director of the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center. During the past 30 years, he has worked with tribes and Indigenous peoples of southern New England, Alaska, Hawai'i, and New Zealand. He is an ally to these communities and works to build awareness of Indigenous rights and histories in public spaces. His academic interests include Indigenous social networks, maritime labor, and migration; Indigenous citizenship and political activism; and re-indigenizing public history and education.

Currently a Visiting Associate Professor of Slavery and Justice at Brown University's Simmons Center, Jason served previously as Adjunct Professor of Anthropology at the University of Connecticut, Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Connecticut College, Visiting Assistant Professor of History at Brown University, and Social Sciences Instructor at Sea for Sea Education Association (SEA).

Jason is a Scientist-in-Residence at Mystic Aquarium, a member of Everyday Democracy's Civic Health Advisory Committee, board member of UConn's Asian and Asian American Studies Institute, advisor for UConn's Tribal Educational Initiative, and served on the African American Curriculum Development Committee for the State Education Resource Center (SERC).

Jason holds a Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Connecticut with expertise in the archaeology and ethnohistory of New England. His article, "in contempt and oblivion": Censuses, Ethnogeography, and Hidden Indian Histories in Eighteenth-Century Southern New England, published in the *Journal of Ethnohistory* and his forthcoming projects, "Beyond Reservation: Indian Survivance in Southern New England," and "The Narraganset Chief, or the Adventures of a Wanderer": Recovering an Indigenous Autobiography, examine the nuanced and subverted histories of the Indigenous peoples of the American northeast.