

# Shannon Sproston

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## WORK EXPERIENCE

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### Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture

September 2024 – Present

*Image and Film Research Manager (Government Contractor)*

*Remote*

- Conducts research and manages graphic assets to support the development of museum exhibits.
- Coordinates with rights holders to facilitate licensing of digital artifacts for exhibit use.
- Maintains a structured digital archive of sourced materials, ensuring efficient retrieval and compliance.

### Huntsville Museum of Art

March 2022 – June 2024

*Rights and Reproductions Coordinator | January 2024 – June 2024*

*Huntsville, AL*

- Established the museum's first Rights & Reproductions department, creating all policies and practices from scratch.
- Led copyright and licensing efforts for the museum's collection, securing agreements with rights holders.
- Managed digital and physical records, ensuring compliance with copyright regulations and institutional policies.

### Freelance

February 2022 – April 2023

*Archive Researcher*

*Remote*

- Supervised archival clearances, ensuring full rights compliance across all platforms.
- Sourced rare and unique footage, liaised with media archives, and assisted with rights clearance.
- Conducted in-depth archival research for major documentary productions.
- Collaborated with production teams to curate historically accurate visual content.

#### Projects Include:

- *Rogan Productions – King of the Metaverse (2023)*
- *Radiate Films – Stoned Cold Country (2022-2023)*
- *Lightbox Entertainment – Secrets of Miss America (2022-2023)*
- *Mindhouse Productions – The Wives (2022)*
- *Kingdom Story Company – Various Projects (2022)*
- *Arrow Media – Who Killed Biggie and Tupac? (2022)*

## CERTIFICATIONS, SKILLS & INTERESTS

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- **Certifications:** World Intellectual Property Organization - General Course on Intellectual Property
- **Skills:** Archival research, rights clearance, copyright management, metadata development, documentary production support, legal documentation for media licensing
- **Technology:** Smartsheet, Excel, Planner/Trello, digital asset management (DAM) systems, rights & clearances tools
- **Interests:** Documentaries, historical research, media preservation

## EDUCATION

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### University of Massachusetts Amherst

*Master's, Data Analytics and Computational Social Science*

May 2025

*Amherst, MA*

### University of Alabama

*Bachelor of Arts, Anthropology*

*Bachelor of Music, Composition*

May 2018

*Tuscaloosa, AL*