

SAVE ANCIENT STUDIES ALLIANCE



2022 ANNUAL REPORT



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WELCOME



A Message from SASA's Founder & Director

Welcome to the third Annual Report of Save Ancient Studies Alliance. In this pamphlet you will learn about our mission, vision, strategies, staff, and programs as of the end of our third year of operation, March 2023. Over the past three years, SASA has grown from an idea into an international organization.



David Danzig

Founder & Director

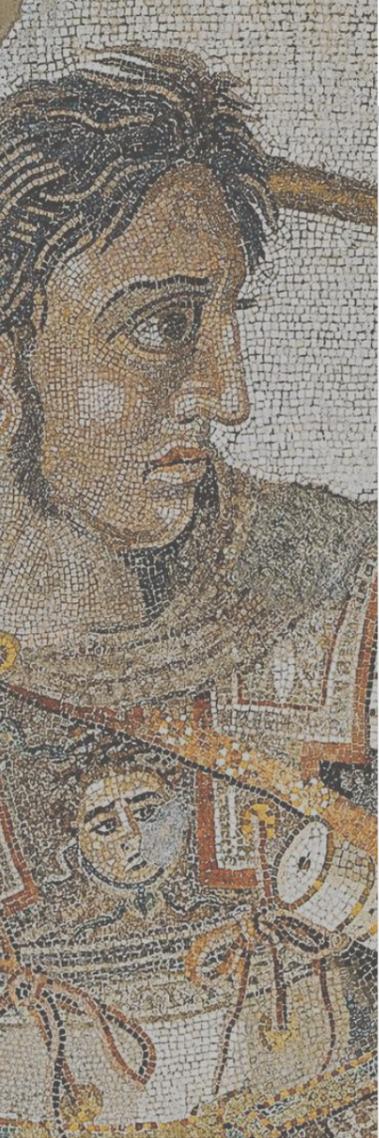
This past year was filled with many successes for SASA

- Our Educational and Public Outreach programs have reached thousands of students, scholars, and enthusiasts.
- Our Partnership Development has grown as we build stronger relationships with Ancient Studies-related organizations of all kinds and sizes.
- Our Community Building, Scholarly Support, and Research programs are steadily progressing.
- Our Educational Support programs are building cutting edge content for Ancient Studies educators.

We are very excited about this coming year for SASA as we help promote, grow, and transform Ancient Studies. As you are guided through the many areas of SASA's extensive vision, community, and programming in this report, we hope that you are encouraged to support and become involved with our work and mission.

MISSION & VISION

1. Mission & Vision Statement
2. The SASA Arc
3. What Is Ancient Studies?
4. The Value of Ancient Studies
5. SASA's Core Values
6. How We Operate



MISSION & VISION STATEMENT

Save Ancient Studies Alliance seeks to reverse the current downward trend in the study of the Ancient World. Building a grassroots movement through education, accessible mentorship, and public scholarship, we work toward our goal of inspiring a wider, inclusive community of learners and students. Save Ancient Studies Alliance envisions a world in which connection with the richness of deep human history and culture is shared by all people. Our vision for a new Ancient Studies will encompass...

- 1 **Broadening understandings of our pasts to help nurture cross-cultural awareness, curiosity, sensitivity, and an affinity for each other.**
- 2 **Engaging with our deep pasts in educational, public, and cultural spheres with widespread opportunities that emphasize openness and accessibility to all.**
- 3 **Sharing Ancient Studies scholarship as a community endeavor of lifelong learners, both inside and outside higher education institutions.**
- 4 **Capturing the active public imagination and exemplifying proactive inclusivity, interconnectedness, and cooperation through humanistic scholarship models of Ancient Studies.**



THE SASA ARC



All of our projects and programming is aimed at achieving one or more of the goals that form the SASA Arc.

1 Knowing What You Know

Educational Sociology and Marketing research about Ancient Studies.

2 Raising Awareness

Generate and harness interest in the Ancient World, while raising awareness for Ancient Studies as the source of our knowledge of the Ancient World.

3 Supporting Education

Support formal and informal Ancient Studies learning at all educational levels.

4 Increasing Accessibility

Increase access to Ancient Studies for all.

5 Forming An Alliance

Encourage Ancient Studies Fields to come together and make public outreach a part of "what we do," in addition to teaching and scholarship.

6 Reenvisionng Post-Education Scholarship

Create a wider, inclusive community of Ancient Studies scholars and students, integrating people of all backgrounds, and scholars employed in academia and in other fields.





WHAT IS ANCIENT STUDIES

The concept of “Ancient Studies” encompasses a variety of academic disciplines—and yet this larger framework is not widely accepted. SASA includes the following disciplines within “Ancient Studies”

- Ancient American and Indigenous Studies
- South Asian Studies
- Central Asian Studies
- East Asian Studies
- Oceania Studies
- Ancient Europe Studies
- Ancient African and Egyptian Studies
- Ancient Near Eastern languages and Civilizations
- Biblical Studies
- Ancient Greek and Roman Studies
- Arabic and Islamic Studies
- Late Antique and Medieval Studies
- Art History
- History of Science and Technology
- Preservation and Conservation
- Ancient Philosophy
- Ancient Music
- Ancient Religion
- General History
- General Archaeology

Ancient Studies is a dynamic and constantly evolving field, so SASA anticipates changing and growing this list in the future.

The concept of a deeper past exists in all disciplines of historical study. This is how history is meant to be encompassed with the term “Ancient.” The potential gains in accepting this moniker and associating these fields with one another is appreciable. The collaboration of our fields will allow for the creation of a larger niche for them within the Humanities, helping to prevent their downsizing and creating a unified advocacy platform within the Humanities.

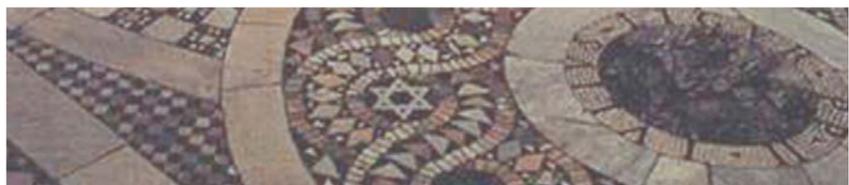


THE VALUE OF ANCIENT STUDIES

We believe the study of peoples, histories, and cultures distant from us in time is profoundly important and has significant contemporary relevance in the following ways...

- Learning about the socio-political dynamics and cultural mentalities which transcend the human experience across time and space
- Studying the past as a mirror in which we are able to see ourselves with greater clarity
- Informing the many aspects of our contemporary culture today through the lens of Ancient Studies
- Influencing how we think about, study, and present Ancient Studies for vibrant interest in today's communities
- Fostering attitudes of cultural respect, empathy, and humility.

As the history of the human journey, Ancient Studies is the core of the Humanities. It brings an inherent understanding and affinity for peoples and cultures that feel markedly different from ourselves. Ancient Studies thereby serves as an inclusive environment to encourage cross-interaction between people of different languages, cultures, socioeconomic backgrounds, gender identities, sexual orientations, and skin colors. The empathy and understanding gained from studying ancient people ameliorates contemporary prejudices and intergroup tensions.



SASA's CORE VALUES

Education

We believe that education empowers individuals, communities, and societies. Liberal Arts and the Humanities, including Ancient Studies, is vital to fostering individuals and societies imbued with empathy, compassion, and altruism, as well as creativity, ingenuity, and innovation.

Accessibility

Everyone benefits from access to information, so we strive to make all of our content as accessible as possible. That is why SASA focuses on the digital. We provide virtual programming that is available from anywhere in the world. We are always looking for opportunities to reach outside of the stereotypical bounds of Ancient Studies, whether in topic, language, or diversity. Everyone has the right to learn, and everyone should be supported in this journey.

Lifelong Learning

Intellectual engagement is a lifelong pursuit, and we support this ongoing quest for knowledge, awareness, and meaning through Ancient Studies. Ancient Studies can be enjoyed and pursued by people of all ages and backgrounds, and should be accepted as participants in excellent scholarly discussion regardless of background, occupation, or means. The current model of restrictive membership must change to an open, inclusive community.

Quality

We aspire to the highest quality of content and education. By recruiting experts and insisting that the research and information we disseminate is evidence based and of a high educational standard, we ensure the most accurate possible representation and interpretation of past peoples and histories.

Mutual Aid

We highly value volunteerism as a means of giving back to one another and a community at large. We also believe that people who contribute to an organization in a regular and ongoing manner deserve financial support and recognition for their time and work. Currently most of SASA's staff, volunteers, and interns are unpaid. We are dedicated to providing all of our volunteering with the necessary tools to succeed, and so we will continue to seek funding to pay our talented and dedicated volunteers.

Inspiration

All of our volunteers have a deep-seated passion for the Study of the Ancient World. This passion permeates and drives all that we do. We hope to impart this passion, and inspire others with curiosity, positivity, and intrepid action in working toward positive change. Only by working together can we achieve our goals and Save Ancient Studies!



How We OPERATE

In this current climate, where the perceived societal value of Humanities is waning, direct lobbying to institutional decision-makers to increase funding for Ancient Studies has proven ineffective. Therefore, the first step in reversing this trend is to raise a groundswell of interest in Ancient Studies. As we transform Ancient Studies into a shining beacon within the Humanities, changing attitudes towards Ancient Studies will lead to the promotion of formal educational engagement in Ancient Studies at all levels.

SASA seeks to translate academic knowledge to a wider audience, so that all generations will continue to learn about the ancient past. At SASA, we view all interest in Ancient Studies positively. Our understanding of the past is shaped by the popular media we consume, including comic books, films, novels, or even video games! Whatever sparks a desire to learn more about Ancient Studies is beneficial and valuable. Through our various grassroots projects SASA successfully harnesses the public imagination and love for the ancient world, creating a rising tide of engagement and bringing together scholars, lifelong learners, young students and enthusiasts from around the world.



Education

Provide content, tools, and instructions online to make the study of the Ancient World more accessible

- We provide Archaeogaming modules for schools which helps teach students about the past through interactive activities.
- We house a resource database with 1,400 websites from all Ancient Studies fields.
- We aim to continue to open the world of Ancient Studies to students in high school, college and beyond by offering monthly reading groups. Each group is led by a SASA Educational Ambassador, a dedicated PhD student specializing in that particular area of study.

Mentorship

Inspire a passion for Ancient Studies among high school, undergraduate, and graduate students

- At SASA, we recognize that many students interested in Ancient Studies might not have many opportunities to seek advice from experienced individuals within the field. We set up our mentorship program to empower our high school aged mentees by assisting them in making conscious choices regarding their education and future careers.
- Each year at SASA we provide multiple internship opportunities for students to learn about and support our work through research, communications, outreach, fundraising, and access.

Accessibility & Public Scholarship

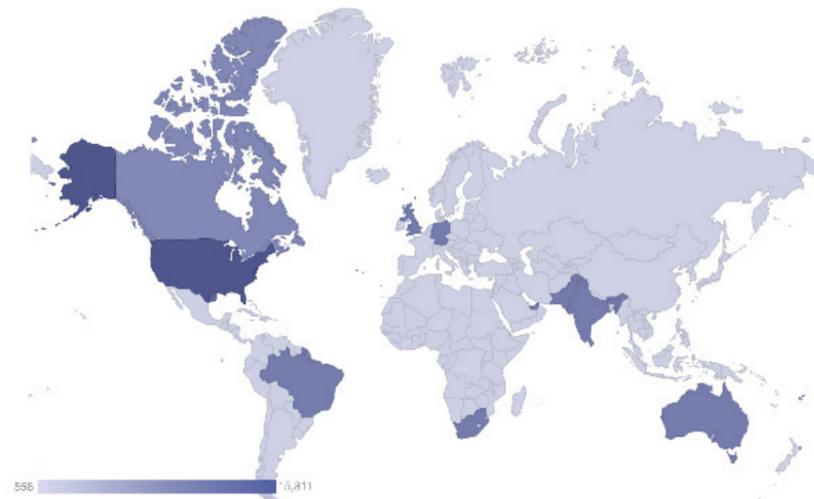
Develop, advocate, and support scholarly life for graduates of subjects related to Ancient Studies who work in non-academic fields.

- Our ultimate goal is to create a wider, inclusive community of scholars and students, integrating people of all backgrounds.
- We engage with the community through our Public Scholarship events, where SASA Educational Ambassadors share findings and research from their specific fields of study.



IMPACT

We are extremely proud of the wide appeal of our programming, as seen in the 198 countries represented among our website visitors. This reflects the truly global interest in Ancient Studies.



The following pages quantify and illustrate this phenomenon...

OUR IMPACT, QUANTIFIED

Since its beginning in Spring 2020, SASA has experienced significant growth of our audience and outreach, including...

260

Interns & Volunteers

60,000

Unique Website Visitors
From **198** Countries

3,500

Mailing List Members Added

4.75 million

Social Media Reaches

DIGITAL OUTREACH

Social Media

Our social media impact alone has obtained over 7,000 subscribers with almost 70,000 regular engagements of liking, sharing, and commenting about ancient studies with social media across the globe.



7,000

Subscribers obtained from social media across all platforms

70,000

Likes, shares, & comments through social media

All Things Video

Videos are integral to SASA's mission as they open the ancient world in an exciting medium. In addition to housing recordings of our live events, our YouTube channel also features Inspire Campaign videos, including Ancient Kitchen, cooking videos of ancient recipes! We also have a series of videos from volunteers on why they love Ancient Studies.



HIGHLY DEDICATED VOLUNTEERISM

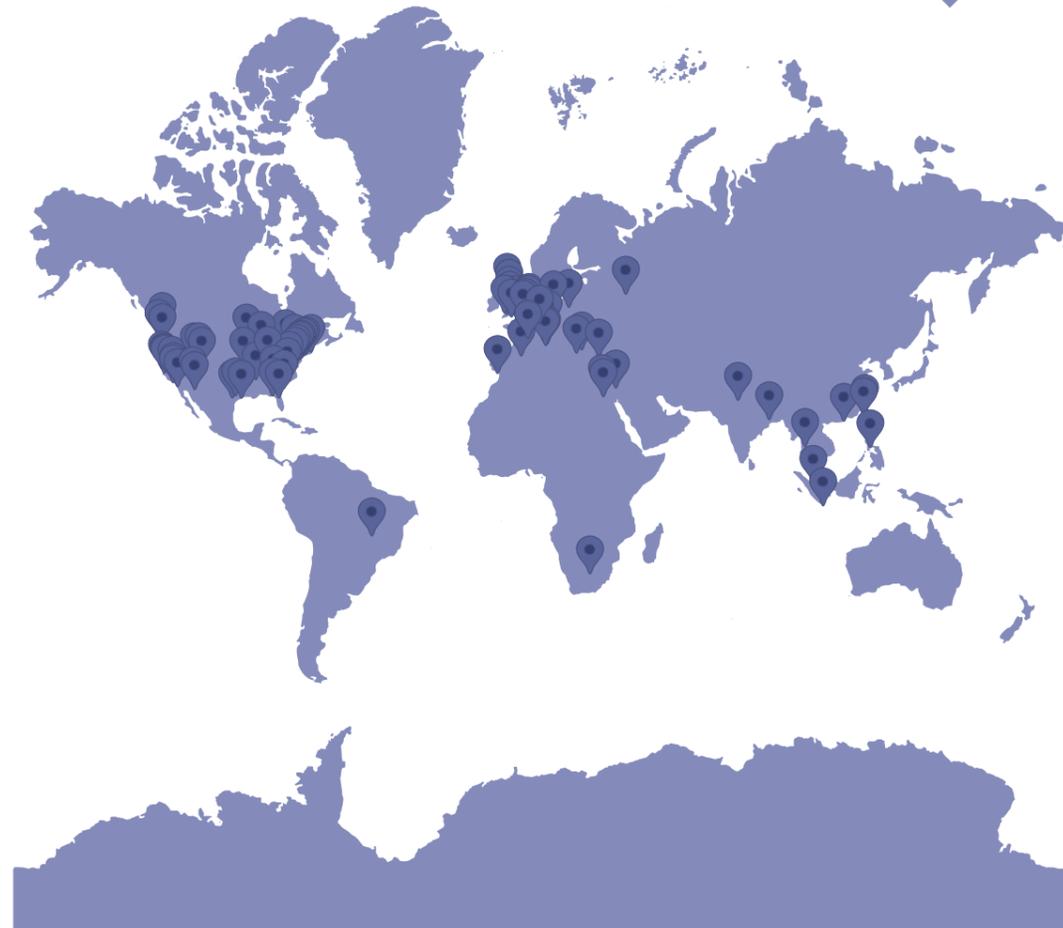
Volunteers and interns continue to play an instrumental role in SASA's reach and success. SASA has had over 260 remote volunteers and interns in our summer, fall, and spring internship programs and volunteering cycles, and that number continues to grow as students, graduate students, ABD's, PhD's, young adults, and adults looking for volunteering opportunities seek innovative internship and volunteering programs alongside and outside the academic world. Our interns are spread across over 200 countries, states, and provinces.

260

Cumulative total of interns & volunteers that have participated in seasonal internship and volunteer cycles

200

Countries, states, and, provinces represented by our interns and volunteers





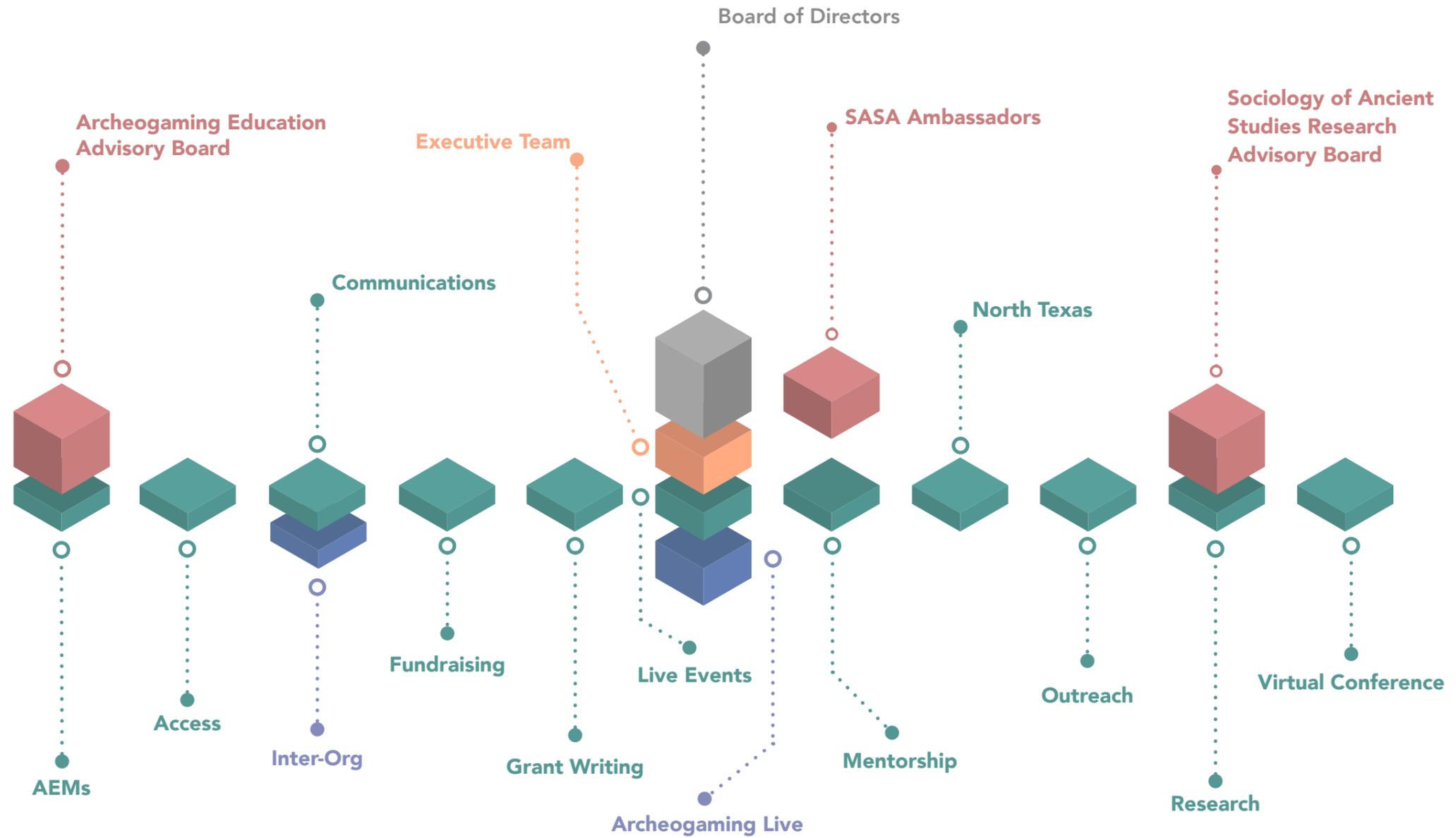
אנחנו מצאנו אשה מצאנו מזוהב ובמזל
ועשרים יום לחודש חשק בשנת חמשת לפי ושש מ
מנין כחן במתנה דעל מימי באתרוה ומעינו
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זוסיק לה תוספת על עיקר כתובה סך עשרין או
כתובה סך ערבעין אדפד הכל קבל עין אתן זהו
לזחנא דנא אזריות כתובה דא כולה עיקר תוספ
אי להתפר עטון כל שפר ארג נכסן וקנין דאית לי מתלמח כל ע
לי אנב מקרקעי כלהון יהון ארוראין וארבעין לכתובה דא לא

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPEMENT

- 1. Organizational Structure
- 2. Teams & Team Leaders
- 3. Internships
- 4. Remote Run Organization
- 5. Funding Model
- 6. Ambassador Program

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

SASA has many teams running independent projects, all managed by the Executive Team, which is responsible to the Board of Directors. In addition, there are three advisory groups which help to guide and support the organization and individual teams. These are the SASA Ambassadors, who work in an advisory capacity with the Board of Directors, the Research Advisory Board, and the AEM Advisory Board.



TEAMS & TEAM LEADERS

The Executive Team



David Danzig
Director



Julie Levy
Program Coordinator



Jacob Asher Lindbert
Recruitment Coordinator



Tara Woodward
Executive Assistant

This Team is the engine that keeps SASA running smoothly, handling SASA's administration, recruiting, finances, legal matters, productivity software, internal processes, and more. Since SASA is a fast-growing start-up organization, the Executive Team innovates new processes, procedures, and tools to support the development of all the other Teams. Participating in the Executive Team is an excellent opportunity for anyone interested in exploring non-profit management and administration. The Executive Team is headed by our Director, David Danzig, and staffed by Julie Levy, the Program Coordinator, Tara Woodward, the Executive Assistant, and Jacob Asher Lindbert, the Recruitment Coordinator, as well as several volunteers and interns.

Archeogaming Education Modules (AEM's)



Paige Brevick
AEM Team Leader

We work with scholars to create complete lesson plans, videos, and materials using video games with ancient related content to explore themes and ideas of ancient history and society. These educational materials are distributed to a network of teachers for use in their classrooms. Our members develop skills in understanding elementary and high school classrooms, the development of script guidelines, editing of scripts, video editing, and distribution. The Team Leader for AEMs is Paige Brevick.

Access



John Haberstroh
Access Team Leader

One of our primary methods for saving Ancient Studies is providing greater ease of access for students who want to begin studying the ancient world and developing their skills. We have published a database of free online resources in all Ancient Studies fields in August 2021, and we are currently compiling a list of colleges and universities that offer programs in Ancient Studies, as well as a list of archaeological sites open to public participation. Access Team members are also working on a list of technical terms across languages for easier access to archaeological information in different parts of the world. The Team Leader for Access Team is John Haberstroh.

Communications



Lauren Kubosch
Communications Team Leader

The vanguard of SASA, the Communications Team, works to create and schedule our social media posts, mass emails, and run our website. The Communications Team plays an integral role in SASA's messaging, look, and feel. The variety of social media content allows members of the team to exercise creativity and build skills transferable to a number of other workplace environments. Getting the word out about SASA is a great opportunity for networking and for furthering our shared goal of bringing ancient studies into the mainstream. The Team Leader for Communications is Lauren Kubosch.

Inter-Organization Communications

A subteam of Communications run by Team Leader Yuna Kim.



Yuna Kim
Inter-Org Team Leader

Inter-Org Communications works hand-in-hand with the Communications Team. We are in charge of mass emails to our mailing lists, SASA's public blog, and other large-scale communications. We are a team of writers and coordinators working to make sure that SASA's longer messages get out into the world.

Fundraising



Marisa Morgan
Fundraising Team Leader

We are hard at work trying to raise funds with a multi-pronged approach, including crowdfunding, individual donor solicitation, and more. Members of this team plan fundraising events and make exciting opportunities available to our donors. In addition we oversee the SASA webshop, Bazaar, and its merchandise. The Team Leader for Fundraising is Marisa Morgan.

Grant Writing



David Danzig
Grant Writing Team Leader

Our director, David Danzig, runs our Grant Writing Team. This team spends their time researching and applying for the grants that keep our biggest operations, like AEMs, running through the year.

Live Events



Lauren Kubosch
Live Events Co-Leader



Cassandra May
Live Events Co-Leader

We develop, plan, and run SASA's live events, including Expert Q&A's, Archaeogaming, and Monthly Book Club. We also run annual events like the SASA Birthday Bash and Halloween Event. Members participate in the entire event creation and production cycle, from soliciting new presenters to organizing events, assisting in live event production, to post-event communications, video editing, and posting. The Live Events Team is co-run by Team Leaders Lauren Kubosch and Cassandra May.

Archaeogaming Live



Kate Minitti
Archaeogaming Live Co-Leader



Alex Vandewalle
Archaeogaming Live Co-Leader

Archaeogaming Live is a subteam within Live Events co-run by Team Leaders Kate Minitti and Alex Vandewalle. Archaeogaming Live runs livestream events where we play video games with ancient studies content and have experts on to live chat with us about them. We also host interviews with scholars who work on reception in video games.

Mentorship



Agnieszka Arcisz
Mentorship Team Leader

Mentoring is a new program at SASA working to connect high school students and undergraduates with mentors in ancient studies. Our goal is to foster connections between students with an interest in ancient studies and the world of opportunities they might find in their future, both inside and outside academia, and also to help those students learn how to take advantage of mentoring more generally. The Team Leader for Mentorship is Agnieszka Arcisz

North Texas Branch Initiative



Miguel Vargas
North Texas Team Leader

The North Texas Branch Initiative has two major goals:

1. *To generate interest in Ancient Studies among high school and college students in the area of North Texas through interactive programming and collaboration with local organizations and institutions, and...*
2. *To create a network of organizations and educators in the region that utilize Ancient Studies content to encourage higher education and intellectual growth.*

The Team Leader for North Texas is Miguel Vargas.

Outreach



Sarah Richardson
Outreach
Team Leader

This team forms relationships and partnerships with other organizations, individuals, and businesses to help further our mission and theirs. Team members focus on making connections with those outside of SASA and maintaining contact information, but are also involved in preparing promotional materials about SASA and in gathering information on conferences and other events. The Team Leader for Outreach Team is Sarah Richardson.

Research



Valeria Zubieta Lupo
Research Team Leader

In our effort to ground our claims and proposed solutions in objective evidence, this team conducts in-depth sociological research and analysis on the downward trend in Ancient Studies throughout the US educational system. We also work to produce and present proactive methods for solving problems in Ancient Studies. Our goals are to complete a White Paper on this topic and a series of published articles and informational videos. Interns on the team help in crunching the data on a variety of educational indicators, analyzing that data, composing results, as well as researching solutions and producing videos about them. Research Team is led by Team Leader Valeria Zubieta Lupo.

Virtual Conference



Anh Nguyen
Virtual Conference
Team Leader

Every year, SASA hosts a virtual conference which is free and open to the public. Our aim is to provide an accessible and public-facing event where scholars come to share their expertise in ancient studies with everyone. The Virtual Conference Team is led by Anh Nguyen.

INTERNSHIPS

Our internships offer a fantastic opportunity to get involved with a vibrant educational community outreach oriented nonprofit in the Ancient Studies sector.

SASA welcomes interns from a broad range of backgrounds who are interested in growing and developing their skills and making a difference. Although we are working on providing funds for internships in the future, the program is currently unpaid. SASA's internships are designed to be mutually beneficial. Our interns participate in various SASA projects ranging from fundraising to social media and Archaeogaming production. In addition to learning new skills related to nonprofit work, we also encourage our interns to build connections within the ancient studies. Internships also include:

- **Monthly professional development events**
- **Career day dance/mentoring by appointment**

Our annual internship cycle consists of 3 recurring periods programs:

- **Autumn: September 1 — December 31**
- **Spring: January 15 — April 30**
- **Summer: May 15 — August 15**

SASA is committed to creating a diverse environment and is proud to be an equal opportunity organization. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for internships without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity/expression, sexual orientation, national origin, genetics, disability, age, or veteran status. We also welcome applicants from diverse educational backgrounds, aside from Ancient Studies, and those on any career trajectory.



THE POWER OF A REMOTE RUN ORGANIZATION

In our third year as a completely remote run organization we are continuing to grow adding over 260 skilled volunteers and interns from over 30 countries. This has caused us to be nimble and creative as we continue to work together across different departments, languages, time zones, and skill sets.

In order to accommodate our growing size and impact, team leaders have worked closely with the executive team to streamline onboarding processes and ensure that valuable volunteer time is used efficiently to further our mission.

SASA uses a variety of modes of communication in order to accommodate individuals with differing comfort levels. In addition, we have continued to build on our Intranet Web Portal, where all staff, volunteers, and interns have access to the tools and information they need. This has been vital for our success with our remote workflow.

FUNDING MODEL —

GRANTS FOR PROJECTS, DONATIONS FOR OPERATIONS

This year we made great strides in our fundraising efforts and we hope to carry that momentum into 2023. With the support of two successful fundraising events, we increased our total gifts from 2021 by 35%, and we have a loyal group of 22 monthly supporters that will continue to give SASA greater financial stability as an organization.

For individual donations, we organized two major fundraising efforts which rallied both new and old donors to the cause of Ancient Studies. In 2022 SASA was supported by 63 individuals, raising almost \$7,000. Our major fundraising campaign coinciding with SASA's beginning, is the Birthday Bash. During the 2021 & 2022 Birthday Bash, we raised over \$4,500, focusing on larger gifts with matching funds from partner organizations, including a \$1000 matching gift from the World History Encyclopedia. Our Fall Fundraiser, a Halloween Bash, emphasized small monthly recurring gifts, as more new recurring donors helped move us toward developing another, sustainable stream of revenue.

Donor Support

While we anticipate developing the relationships required to fund the majority of SASA's programming through Grants and Major Gifts, smaller sustaining donations are still vital to SASA's day to day operations. As such we have designed and begun to implement a new donor support and engagement system to increase transparency and engagement with our donors, so they can see how their support helps move us toward our goals. For example, our new Quarterly Donor Newsletter keeps donors up to date on our spending and securement of grants. Likewise, our new Sustaining Donors Program provides tiered benefits to all monthly recurring donors, helping our donors maintain their connections with SASA.

Fundraising Projects

The SASA Bazaar has grown in its array of ancient-branded merchandise, which provides another stream of revenue toward SASA's operations. This has been an exciting avenue for our fundraising efforts and we plan to continually expand our offerings. One way in which we are doing so is through our design competition first held last fall which invited applicants to submit new artistic designs to go on our items. This competition was designed to promote creativity and engagement with Ancient Studies through art and graphic design.

FUNDING MODEL— OUR FUNDRAISING EFFORTS & BENEFACTORS

Banknote: 1 guan.
Region/Culture: China
Created: 1375 CE.
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Fundraising Summary

35%

Increase in total gifts from 2021

22

Loyal monthly donors presently

\$6,773

In donations during 2022

\$4,500

Raised at our 2021 & 2022
"Birthday Bashes" combined

\$71,186

ALL-TIME TOTAL IN GRANTS
RECIEVED

Grants from Supporting Organizations

**Wenner-Gren
Foundation**

\$20,000

Summer 2024' Virtual
Conference

**THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL**

\$21,236

UNC's Humanities
for the Public
Good—Critical
Issues Project:
Archeogaming
Education Module
Creation

**SOCIETY FOR
CLASSICAL
STUDIES**
ΨΥΧΙΑΤΡΟΣ
ΤΑΤΡΑΜΜΑΤΑ
FOUNDED IN 1869 AS THE AMERICAN
PHILOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

\$2,800

Reading Group
grants for 2021 –
2023 combined

**NEW JERSEY COUNCIL
FOR THE
HUMANITIES**

\$7,150

2021 Action Grant
for Archeogaming
Learning Module
Pilot Program in
New Jersey

**THE GLADYS KRIEBLE DELMAS
FOUNDATION**

\$10,000 Summer Reading Groups for 2023

SASA AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

This year, we were excited to launch our new SASA Ambassador Program. SASA Ambassadors are influential individuals tasked with raising awareness of the issues Ancient Studies faces and the ways SASA is combatting them, as well as supporting our fundraising efforts.

Each of our ambassadors is incredibly accomplished, and we are ecstatic that they share our passion for saving Ancient Studies as we do! Together with our fundraising team they help us build connections with Ancient Studies institutions and organizations, engage with potential donors who understand the value of Ancient Studies, and strategize ways to create new and broader pathways between the many siloes of Ancient Studies scholarship. Already, this has allowed SASA to pursue new opportunities and work towards our goals through collaboration and access to funding.

ABOUT OUR AMBASSADORS

Charles E. Jones



Charles E. (Chuck) Jones, Tombros Librarian of Classics and Humanities at Penn State, Research Associate at the Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures (former Oriental Institute) at the University of Chicago, Vice President of the American Society

for Overseas Research, and creator of the Ancient World Online Blog. He has been at the forefront of Ancient Studies digital outreach for decades.

Aren Maier



Aren Maier, Professor of Archaeology and Head of the Institute of Archaeology at the Martin Szusz Department of Land of Israel Studies and Archaeology at Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel. He has directed

the Tell es-Safi/Gath Archaeological Project (gath.wordpress.com) for the last 25 years, codirects the Minerva Center for the Relations between Israel and Aram in Biblical Times (RIAB; aramisrael.org), is director of the Ingeborg Rennert Center for Jerusalem Studies at Bar-Ilan University, and co-edits the Israel Exploration Journal.

Barbara Porter



Barbara A. Porter is the former director of the American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR) in Jordan, has worked at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, and taught at New York University. She has had an important role

in protecting and supporting the cultural heritage of the Middle East for the last four decades. She is currently an Independent Scholar and leads archaeological tours to the Middle East.

Frederick Winter



Frederick Winter is Vice-Chair of the Board of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers. He has taught and engaged in archaeology for many years. He helped found the Archaeological Institute of America's

Committee on Professional Responsibilities and worked with the Association of American Colleges and Universities. He worked as a Senior Grant Officer for the National Endowment for the Humanities and as Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations at Hood College.



PUBLICITY— SHARING SASA's VOICE

SASA has been increasing its presence at Ancient Studies conferences—and in the public eye through numerous public presentations and conference exhibits. The following pages detail our rising profile as such...

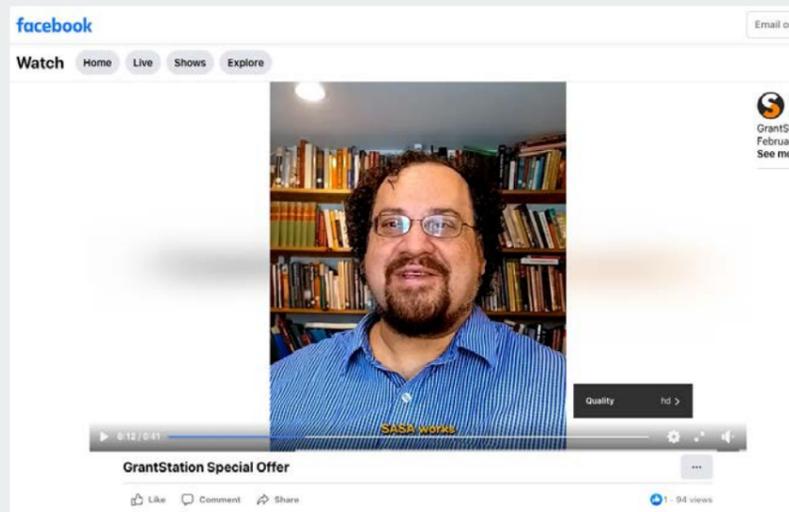


PUBLICITY— PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

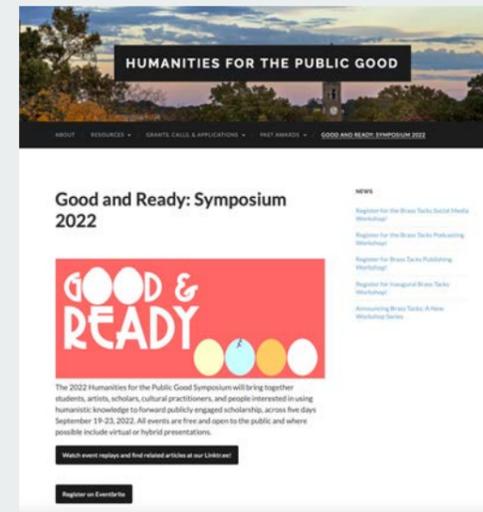
techsoup



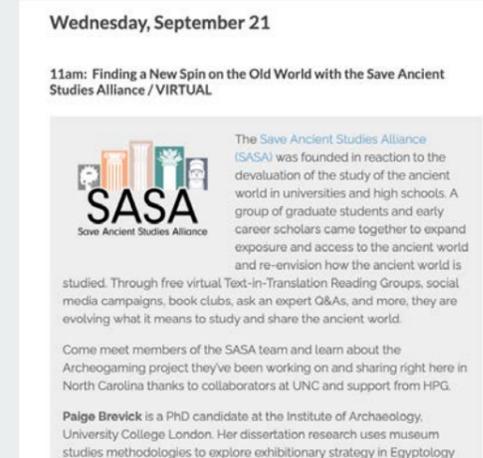
THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL



TechSoup promo for GrantStation featuring SASA Director, David Danzig



University of North Carolina's Humanities for the Public Good 2022 Symposium featuring Paige Brevick and David Danzig



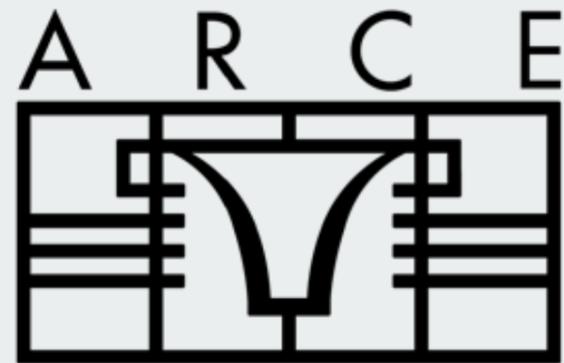
PUBLICITY— CONFERENCE EXHIBITS



American Oriental Society

Founded 1842

—March 2022



AMERICAN RESEARCH
CENTER IN EGYPT

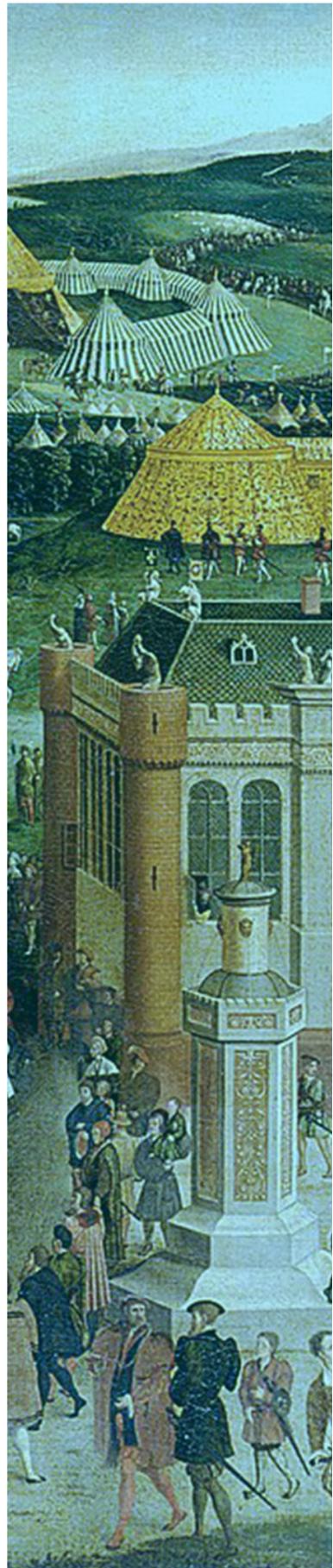
—April 2022



—July
2022



—November
2022



PROGRAMS & PROJECTS

One of SASA's core values is education, and we achieve that goal in many different ways. From live events to classroom modules to our virtual conference, we use our resources and connections to bring Ancient Studies to students, scholars, and the interested public around the world.

SASA offers a wealth of programs and projects, all of which fit into our various goals characterizing each of the six points that come together forming the SASA Arc!

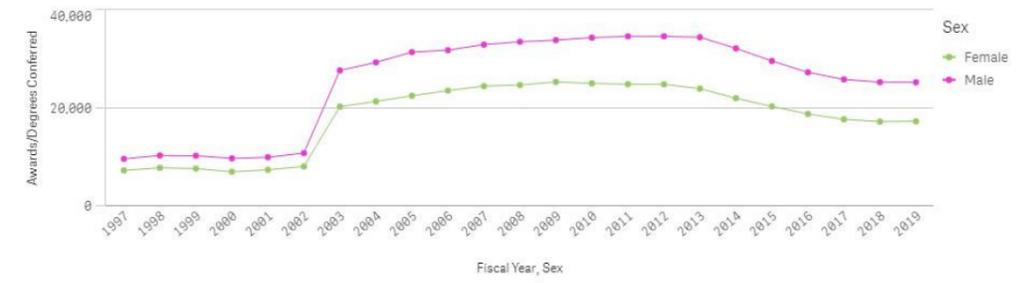
By offering such a diverse range of opportunities, SASA has continued to meet internal goals and provide accessible Ancient Studies education and outreach opportunities for people of all backgrounds.



KNOWING WHAT YOU KNOW

RESEARCHING THE DOWNWARD TREND
AND THE SOCIOLOGY OF ANCIENT STUDIES

SASA is committed to ensuring the quality of the information we put out. Our ongoing research into the Downward Trend of available Ancient Studies degree programs and majors shows the clear need for our work. The data we collect in this research also aids in ongoing demographic and sociological projects, such as how gender impacts degree completions within Ancient Studies disciplines, a project completed in 2022.



SOURCE: Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Completions Survey, unrevised provisional release data.

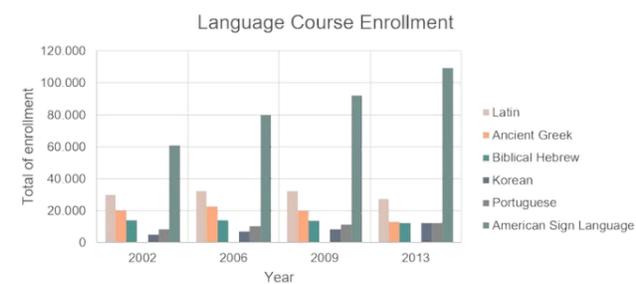
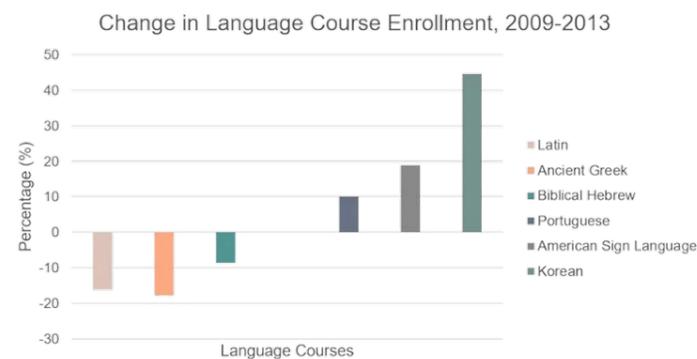
Sociology of AS Research Program

Ongoing Research

In addition to the ongoing research in the Downward Trend, SASA fosters several Sociology of Ancient Studies projects each semester. In the past year, SASA researchers have examined various political uses and misuses of Ancient Studies in various ways, including the distortion of Middle Eastern studies in Nazi Germany, the political manipulations of history curricula by the current Indian government, and the modern American Far Right's use of Ancient Studies. We have also had a researcher work on what an ideal Ancient Studies website might be like using user interface data, and one ongoing project looks at the impacts of artificial intelligence on Ancient Studies.

Conference Presentations

Our researchers' projects will be published on SASA's upcoming Research Blog, but many of them have already been presented at conferences around the globe. Several presentations on the Downward Trend research specifically have happened in the last year, and we look forward to increasing the posters and presentations about SASA and our Research Team's output.





RAISING AWARENESS SASA'S EXPANSIVE OUTREACH PROGRAMING

In order to reach such a large public audience, SASA maintains a substantial outreach program, including social media presence, mailing lists, and more.

Social Media Footprint



SASA's social media footprint is relatively large. We run a Facebook page, Instagram page, Twitter account, Twitch channel, YouTube channel, Discord server, and TikTok account. Social media posts go out regularly, reaching audiences of over 4.75M across all those platforms. Our Twitter, Twitch, and TikTok have been particularly successful in gaining attention and bringing people into our various events and courses. Some internship and volunteer projects include improving social media use Ancient Studies organizations from the user's perspective.

Annual Summer Inspire Campaign

One great source of interest has been the Inspire campaign videos created in our opening year. Those videos continue to reach new people even now, and we hope to recreate the Inspire campaign in the summers to come.



Hybrid Conference Participation

SASA also partners with and participates in various Ancient Studies conferences around the world. In the past year, we had members attend the Annual Society for Biblical Studies conference, the International Society of Biblical Studies, and the American Society of Overseas Research conference. Here, we advertised to graduate students and professional scholars alike, with talks, posters, and tables with information about SASA. We have been very successful this way in bringing in new experts to help create the wonderful content that SASA provides.

Mailing Lists

We also keep several mailing lists in order to reach students, teachers, and other interested parties at various levels. When we send out our call for conference papers, for instance, we reach out to academic departments and ask them to pass it to their faculty and graduate students, and when we have an upcoming master class, we advertise it to the interested public who have signed up to be notified.



SUPPORTING EDUCATION

AIDING STUDENTS & TEACHERS AT ALL LEVELS

While all of the above programs are focused on public access, we at SASA also reach out to students and teachers at various levels. Our winter and summer reading groups reach a wide range from high school, college, graduate, doctorate, post doctorate, and retired. One of our internship projects includes the hotly-debated topic of AI as a tool for studying Ancient Studies.

In The Classroom

Archaeogaming Education Modules

Our Archaeogaming Education Modules combine video game footage and scholarly expertise to create approachable, teachable, and fun educational content for middle and high school. Each module is carefully designed to allow teachers to use our videos, lesson plans, and exercises to teach various ancient world subjects in an engaging way. In 2022, our team created modules on historical Vikings and ancient medicine, with a long-term goal of having a large set of topics to choose from. Anyone who wishes to use them can download them for free.



Online Access

Access Platform

The SASA website also contains many tools for use by students, teachers, and professionals.

Ancient Studies Websites

Our database of Ancient Studies websites, which is constantly being updated, contains more than 1,400 links to pages across the internet. Many of these sites contain their own dedicated educational material, such as translations of ancient texts, dictionaries of ancient languages, or 3D reconstructions of archaeological sites.

Ancient Studies How-to Guides

For some of the more prominent Ancient Studies websites, we are also working on partnering with the organizations behind them to create how-to guide videos to pair with the links in our database. These short video tutorials would demonstrate the best way to use the tools of a given website.

Ancient Studies Degree Granting Programs

Another database under development is our Where to Study Ancient Studies page. This tracks degree-granting programs in all kinds of ancient studies around the world. Students looking to pursue bachelors or higher degrees in any kind of ancient world studies will be able to use this to find out what exists in their geographical area or desired field of study.

Archaeological terms translations

Meanwhile, we have created our own tool for archaeologists working in the field in places where they may have to use a language other than their native one. The Archaeological Terms Translations currently include English, Spanish, French, Hebrew, and Arabic versions, and we are in an ongoing process of increasing accessibility to other widely-used languages.

Mentorship Program In High School & Higher Education

2022 also saw the initial organization of our upcoming Mentorship Program for high school and undergraduate students interested in Ancient Studies. Once it is fully developed, this program will pair students with mentors both in their academic fields and in related non-academic environments. The program aims to give students the chance to develop positive relationships to mentoring and to make connections in their field as well as to give mentors the opportunity to reach students they might otherwise never see. This program is slated to begin during the 2023-2024 school year.

SUPPORTING EDUCATION

ARCHEOGAMING EDUCATION MODULES

Archaeogaming is a new field that integrates the methods of archaeological discovery with the environment of video games, using interactive and collaborative play to learn and to teach about the past. The unique and appealing nature of this program will provide an active learning experience for students and for teachers as well.

SASA has developed a program that utilizes the power of entertainment-oriented video games for humanities education in the classroom. We work off of video games that students play for fun that are designed in lavishly detailed historical settings, such as the Assassin's Creed series. We take content from these games and re-orient it in an educational fashion to produce classroom videos that teachers use in combination with our full suite of support materials. These "modules" purposefully dovetail with curricula across the United States. Already, the educational impact of our modules has scored remarkably high in early implementation with teachers during the 2021-2022 school year. As we continue to create more modules, adapt them to different learning levels, and grow our network of teachers implementing the modules, the positive effects in history classrooms will exponentially increase. Beyond that, students are being indirectly trained to actually see the content in the video games they play recreationally. We expect the impact on humanities engagement outside the classroom that this passive learning engenders will be truly staggering. Program Description SASA has been innovating this new technological approach to Ancient Studies education since the beginning of 2021.

Our first batch of 6 Archaeogaming Educational Modules (AEMs) has been supported by grants from the New Jersey Council for the Humanities and the University of North Carolina's Humanities



for the Public Good initiative. Each AEM we create is an all-in-one single-lesson bundle for teachers. It provides for a holistic, integrated lesson, revolving around a 10-minute video-game-based multimedia lecture, along with interactive class activities and other supporting materials that teachers adapt to their teaching styles. Our AEMs explore historical concepts and practices such as:

- Socio-economic themes, including religion, politics, warfare, and daily life
- Introduction to archaeology and excavation practices
- Identifying and discussing material culture, such as clothing, pottery, and architecture
- Exploring historical causation and personal agency by utilizing the games' non-linear narratives
- These topics stress the place of contemporary societies within the greater human journey, fostering inclusivity, empathy, and understanding of different cultures and communities.



SASA's Archaeogaming Project is currently at the end of its initial development phase, in producing initial AEMs and working toward achieving proof of concept in middle school classrooms. Our first two modules have been used by over 50 educators. Early feedback from teachers has been overwhelmingly positive and the full slate of 6 AEMs were complete for the Fall 2022 roll out. Introductory webinars, both synchronous and asynchronous, were also currently in development.

Our goal for the second phase in the next two years, 2023-2024, is to create a full series of 16 AEMs in line with the middle school Social Studies curriculum of the majority of US states. This will support a complete quarter of study, allowing teachers to employ this series as their major Ancient Studies teaching approach. The following phase, 2025-2026, will be spent extending and adapting the AEM curriculum to support a one semester high school class and one semester college course.

INCREASING ACCESSIBILITY

LIVE VIRTUAL EVENTS: BOOK CLUBS, PARTNER PRESENTATIONS, SPECIAL EVENTS (YEAR ROUND)

We run dozens of virtual events annually. Over the past year, we have had four book club events where authors of popular and scholarly books dealing with Ancient Studies come on our livestreams to be interviewed by our team members, including such writers as Dr. Kara Cooney, Jennifer Saint, and Liv Albert. The Port Ancient program has brought in many other types of creators and educators to show our audience all the various kinds of engagement they can do with Ancient Studies, from The American Insitute for Roman Culture to Religion for Breakfast. Moreover, we have all kinds of special events, particularly during our Birthday Bash and Halloween Bash. These included a roundtable discussion on the Marvel Universe's mythology, ancient cooking classes, and even a mythological cocktail hour.

ArchaeoTours

One of our more occasional programs is the ArchaeoTours, a virtual guided tour of ancient sites around the globe. In 2022, we shared footage of experts leading us through sites like Southampton. While this program is currently on hold, we expect to have more of these in the coming year!

Bi-Monthly Live Events Diversity Series

In addition to continuing all of these programs, in the coming year we hope to begin a public virtual lecture series focusing on diversity in the ancient world. We're currently in the process of developing sources and considering speakers to host bimonthly sessions on topics like Black Africans in the Greco-Roman world, ancient female warriors, and more.

Live Book Club

The Book Club series is a monthly project and live-streamed on SASA's social media platforms as well as those of our partner, World History Online when appropriate. Hosting both fiction and nonfiction books, the book clubs consist of a one-on-one author interview followed by an interactive Q&A with the audience. In 2022 we hosted book clubs for *The Good Kings* by Dr. Kara Cooney, *Elektra* by Jennifer Saint, *Nectar of the Gods* by Liv Albert.

Text-in-Translation Reading Groups

In summer and winter, SASA has run intimate virtual courses of ancient texts in translation taught by experts and scholars from around the globe. This winter session, we had 6 courses on *The Search for the Golden Fleece: Jason and the Argonauts* and *An Introduction to Ancient Near-Eastern Music Theory: Understanding Musical Inscriptions*. We ran 15 courses over the summer, including *Ancient Egyptian Gods in Ancient Texts & Modern Media*, *Literatura y Filosofía en la antigua Grecia*, *Ancient Egypt in Africa*, and *Communicating Power in the Ancient Maya World*. These classes offer the public an opportunity to really engage with the writings of the ancient world.

Weekly Archeogaming Live

We also work in reception of ancient studies, and one major platform currently in ancient studies reception is through video games. Every Friday throughout most of the year, our team of archaeogaming professionals live stream themselves playing games that deal with the ancient world alongside scholars, game developers, and other experts who can explore the ways in which Ancient Studies permeates the most modern means of communication. This year, our livestreams covered everything from *Pokemon Africanus* to indie games like *Heaven's Vault* and *Doki Doki Ragnarok*. The upcoming summer special will focus on the *Total War* Series.

INCREASING ACCESSIBILITY

PORT ANCIENT PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

Crewing the Ship

10

Streams highlighting our Port Ancient partners

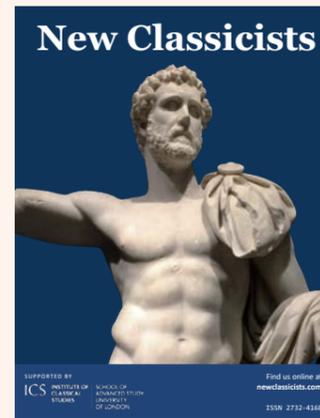
1,300+

Views between all the 2023 steams

New Port Ancient Partners in 2022



Roman History



New Classicists



Vanaheim Vikings



Moirai Myths



INCREASING ACCESSIBILITY

IN-TEXT TRANSLATION READING GROUPS

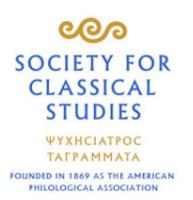
SASA launched our free online Text-in Translation Reading Groups in Summer 2020, creating an accessible means of studying ancient texts in synchronous informal discussion groups. Led by PhD students and Early Career Scholars, these groups cover a wide range of topics about different ancient cultures from around the globe. Over the past two summers and Januaries, we have hosted over 400 participants in our Reading Groups, whose feedback is overwhelmingly positive. 97% of participants offered 4-star or 5-star reviews! In continuing to improve on these learning experiences, we have received grants from the Society for Classical Studies and from the Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation, in the amounts of \$800 and \$10,000, respectively. This support ensures that we provide the best possible experience for Reading Group participants by encouraging excellent applications for Group Leader positions.

97% ★★★★★

Positive Feedback with 4 – 5 Stars

\$1,800

Cumulative Total in Generous Grants



THE GLADYS KRIEBLE DELMAS FOUNDATION

Participant Testimonials

January 2022 -

"Dr. George Longley is an ancient treasure. She made me think about the topics of the ancient world and always gave us the option of talking or reading at our own speed. I would never have been able to engage with ancient studies in this fashion without the SASA group."

"In a nutshell, the session on *Loving, Losing, Remembering: Kalidasa's The Recognition of Shakuntala* was insightful, dynamic, dialogic and democratic."

Payel Ray

Summer 2022 -

"Excellent"

"I thought it was a good way to keep my mind churning during the summer and gave advice for future class activities."

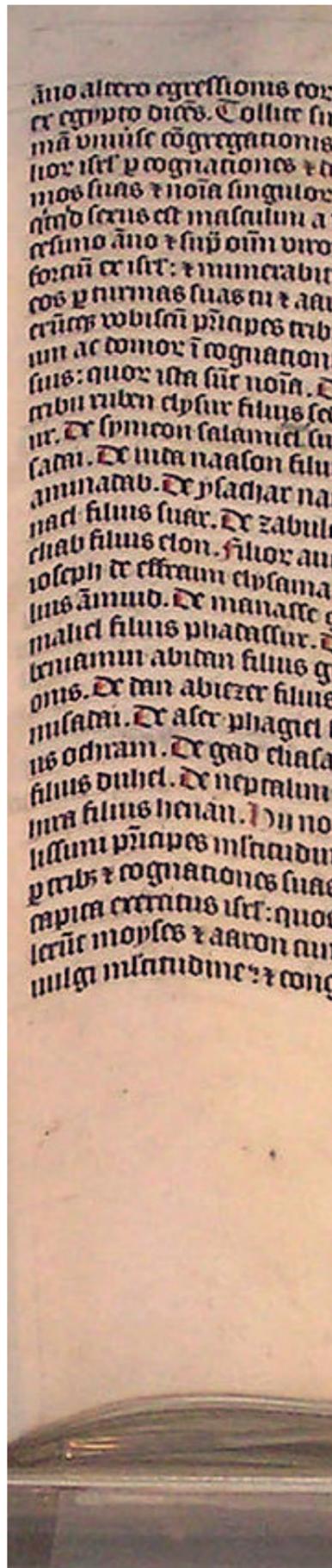
"I absolutely loved the reading group! It's wonderful to be able to discuss various historical topics with a diverse group of people. I learned so much and looked forward to it every week!"

"This reading group was fascinating! It was very interesting to compare the various cultures and find the similarities. We always had a wonderful, engaging conversation!"

Emily Wiencek

"The exploration of distinctiveness and difference between Greek and Sanskrit tragic drama in itself and in the light of the critical analyses of, respectively, Aristotle and Bharata was illuminating, informative, and intellectually stimulating. The source material was provided and open discussion encouraged, allowing fascinating insights through comments and critiques alongside the broad and deep knowledge of the reading group leader. Eight sessions that were both stimulating and educational. It has evoked an interest in further exploring the corpus of Sanskrit drama and other written works."

Ian Russell Lowell



INCREASING ACCESSIBILITY

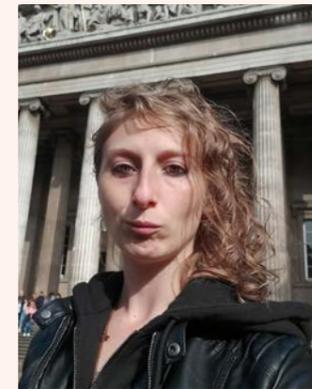
DESTINATION SASA: ARCHAEO TOURS

These partnerships virtually bring people into ancient sites, which they may never have an opportunity to experience otherwise. As such, these events raise awareness of the diversity and wonder of the ancient world, allowing us to increase exposure to the ancient world from an engaging, yet academic, perspective. In one of our latest collaborations, SASA has partnered with virtual tourism companies, to provide engaging specialist tours of ancient sites, including the American Institute for Roman Culture and Travelusion. These tours are run by experts who also work as local guides, and are tailored to the tours' participants as they engage



3

streams with Dr. Lillian Cespedes Gonzalez

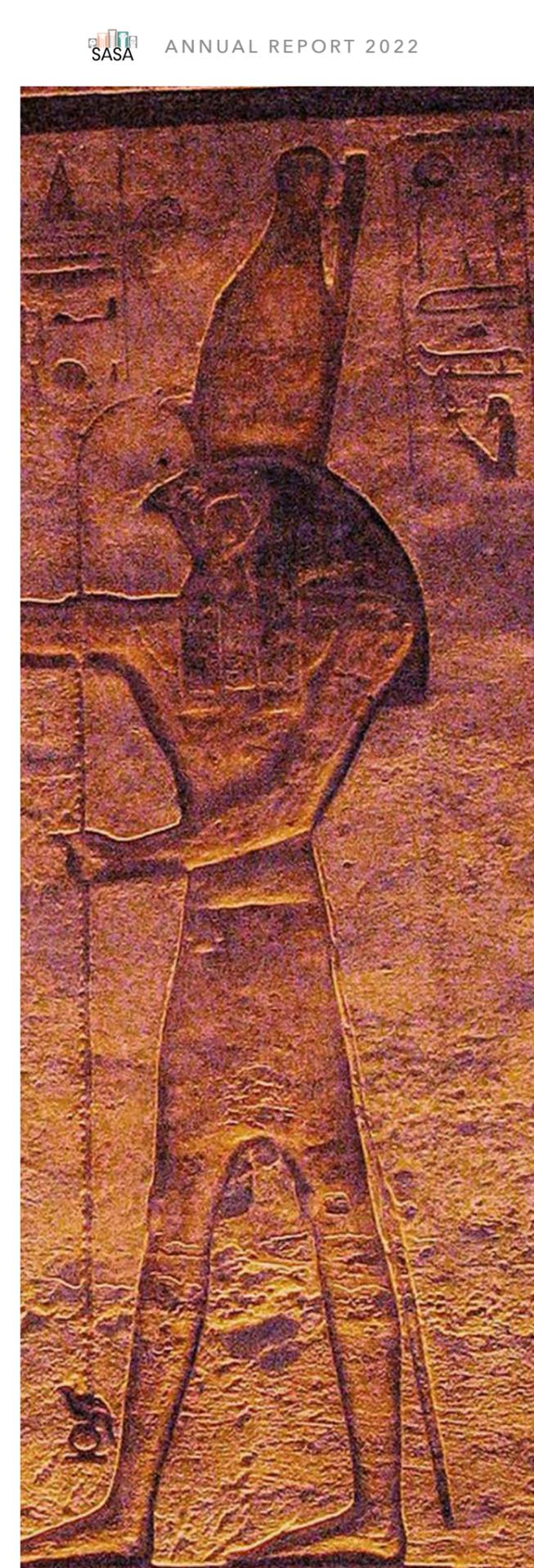
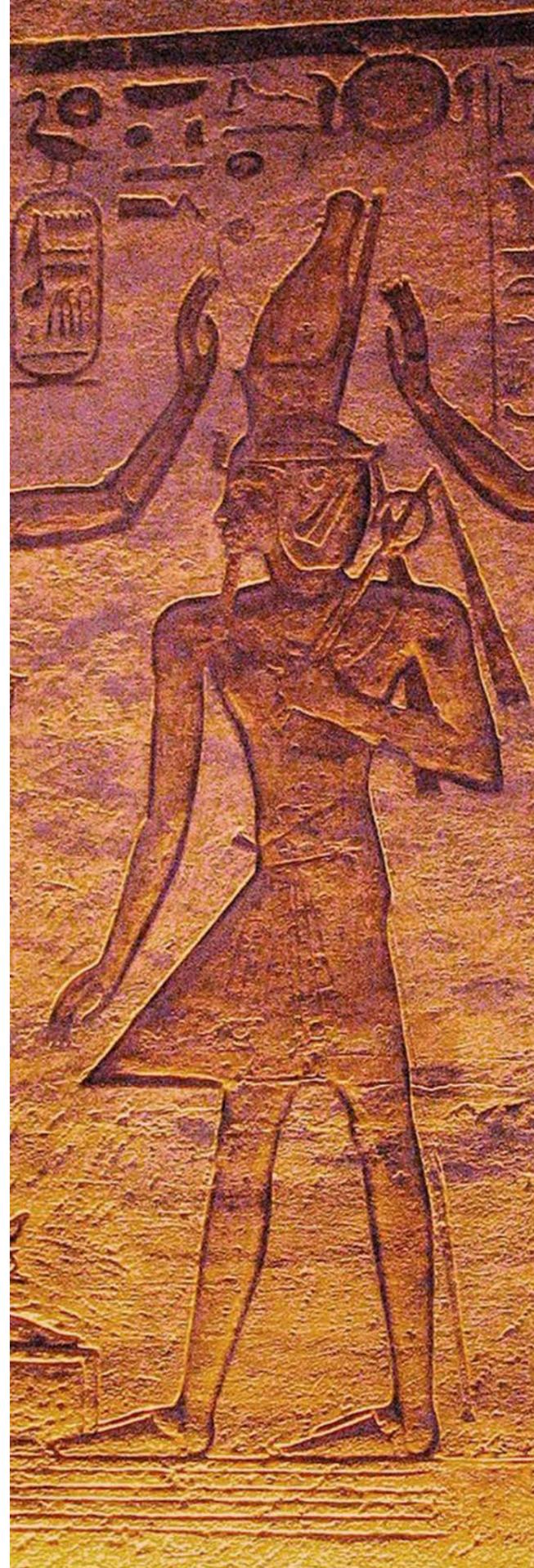


320

views between all 2023 streams

INCREASING ACCESSIBILITY MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Coming in Fall 2023 will be our new Mentorship Program. It seeks to provide high school and college students who are interested in pursuing Ancient Studies direct access to mentors within Ancient Studies fields. These mentorships will help students understand the pleasures and difficulties of studying the ancient world and support their academic and professional growth, in order to set them up for long term success, whether they pursue careers in higher education or in any other field.

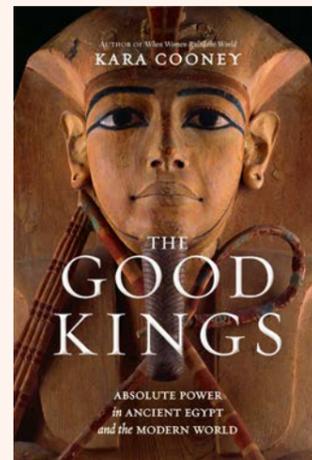


INCREASING ACCESSIBILITY LIVE BOOK CLUB SERIES

The Book Club series is a monthly project and live-streamed on SASA's social media platforms as well as those of our partner, World History Online when appropriate. Hosting both fiction and nonfiction books, the book clubs consist of a one-on-one author interview followed by an interactive Q&A with the audience. In 2022 we hosted four book clubs for *The Good Kings* by Dr. Kara Cooney, *Elektra* by Jennifer Saint, *Nectar of the Gods* by Liv Albert and the editors of "Women in Classical Video Games"



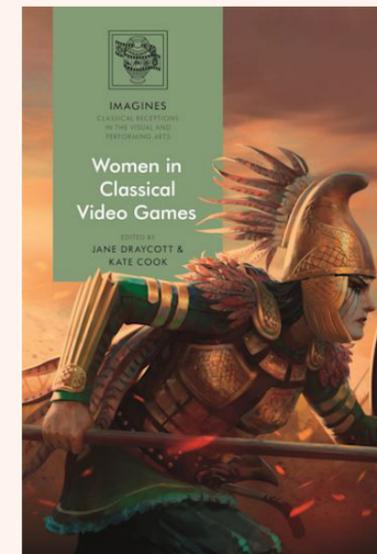
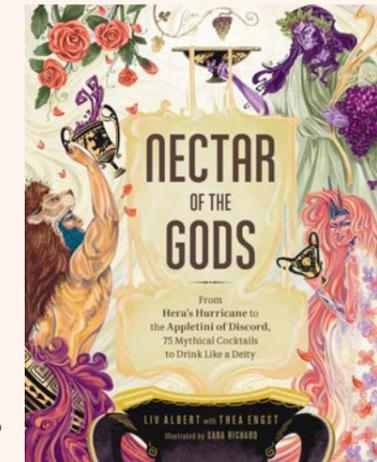
Kara Cooney
Author—*The Good Kings*



Jennifer Saint
Author—*Elektra*



Liv Albert
Author—*Nectar of the Gods*



Jane Draycott & Kate Cook
Editors—*Women In Classical Video Games*

INCREASING ACCESSIBILITY

ANCEINT STUDIES RESOURCES

A collection of quality academic resources for students and scholars of all disciplines of Ancient Studies was previously unavailable. SASA is working to fill this gap by creating a new platform that presents important resources in all Ancient Studies fields and helps connect students and scholars with one another. In the first tier of this project, we have collected over 1,000 websites that in themselves contain tons of useful information. We published the first version of our Ancient Studies Resources database this past October, with a useful search tool. We have also developed partnerships with various creative, open-access projects and media related to Ancient Studies and work to promote them through our social media outlets and partner project gallery, Port Ancient, to disseminate the fascinating, engaging products they have created.

We are also working on producing these databases that are utterly crucial for Ancient Studies:

- *ALL available programs of study in ALL Ancient Studies fields at institutions of higher education in North America and beyond.*
- *Scholarships and fellowships open to Ancient Studies fields for students at all levels, from undergraduate to postdoctoral researchers.*

Access Team Efforts

The access team has continued expanding the Online Resource Database, which now contains over 1,400 entries. The database itself is undergoing a refresh, and a new user interface should appear in 2023. The Where to Study Ancient Studies project was reinvigorated under the leadership of Quill Kukuj who has revamped the Google Form that will be used to collect data. The Access Team also published collaborative lists of archaeological terms in Modern Greek, German, French, and Italian. In 2023, the project will expand to include many more languages.

1,400+

Total Database Entries

Archeological terms available in...

- **MODERN GREEK**
- **GERMAN**
- **FRENCH**
- **ITALIAN**

Inclusion of more languages are on the way for 2023

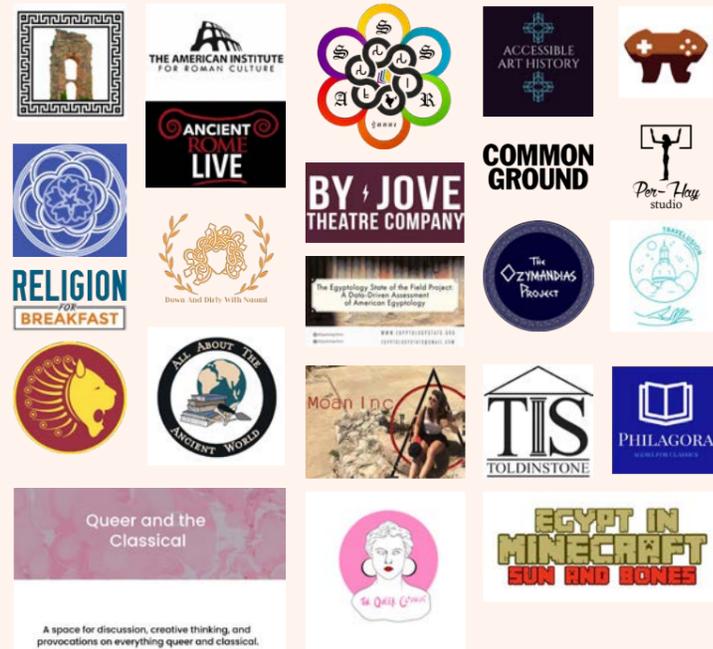
FORMING AN ALLIANCE

BUILDING COMMUNITY BOTH AMONG INDIVIDUALS & ORGANIZATIONS

Community building both among individuals and organizations is another of SASA's core values, and we have other programs which focus on this aspect of our work.

Partnership Development with Ancient Studies Outreach Organizations

We work with other outreach organizations within Ancient Studies to achieve this goal. Many such groups sign on to become Port Ancient Partners, but we are also affiliated with small publishers like Isegoria.



Partnership Development with Ancient Studies Academic Professional Organizations

Furthermore, SASA is engaged in building connections among academic professional organizations, like the Society for Classical Studies, the Society for Biblical Studies, and more. One of our long term goals is to bring together the major institutions from across ancient studies around the world into our Coalition of Ancient Studies Organizations so that we can support partnerships and cross-disciplinary work.

Ancient Studies Alumni Community Building

When it comes to individuals, SASA is working not only with our independent scholars, but also with the alumni of Ancient Studies programs around the world. In the future, SASA plans to create events for networking, re-entry into the field, and other community building activities.

North Texas Branch Initiative—In-Person Community & School Events

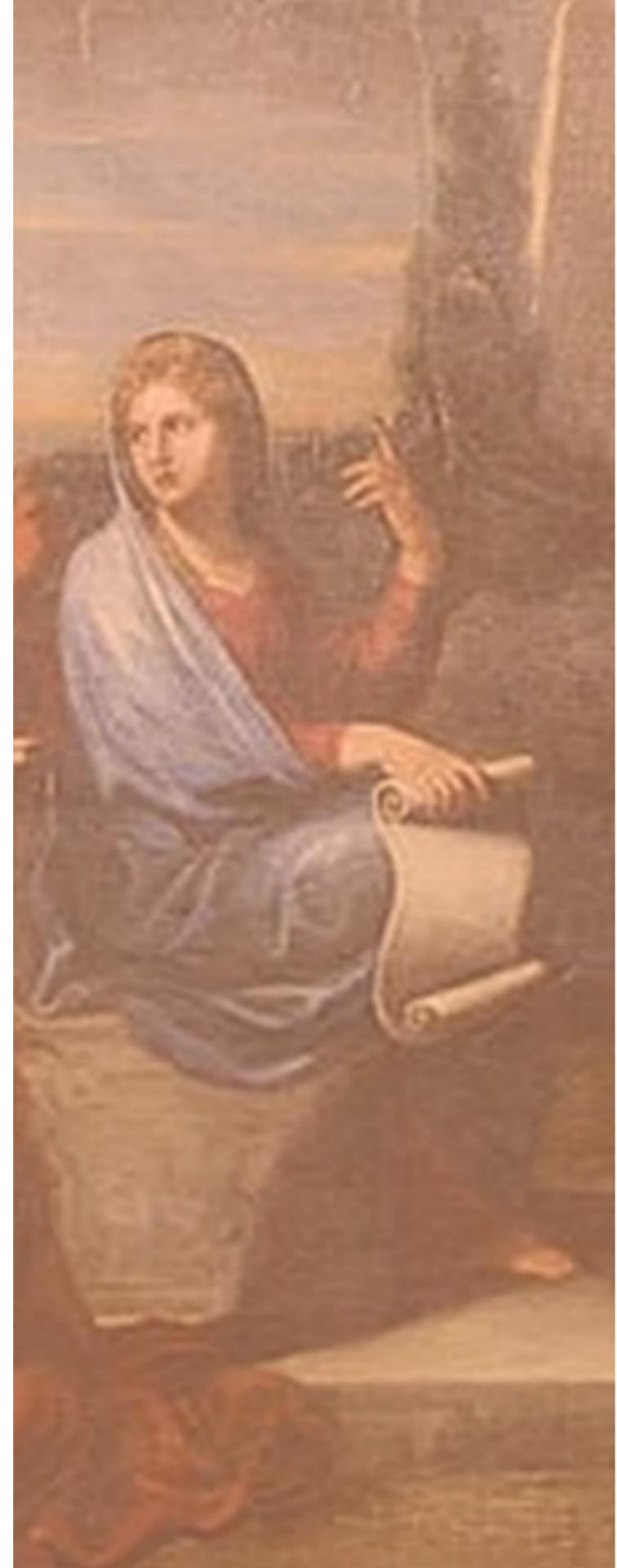
We also work with students through not only our upcoming Mentorship Program, but also our first in-person initiative, the North Texas Branch. High school and undergraduate students in the Dallas area and surrounding are invited to participate in events that are designed to build interest in Ancient Studies by building interpersonal connections with alumni and other students. This program is particularly aimed at encouraging the participation of students of color by focusing on the ways in which they can connect with their own history without abandoning other interests. SASA hopes to build upon the success of the North Texas Branch by starting similar programs in other locations.



FORMING AN ALLIANCE

COALITION OF ANCIENT STUDIES ORGANIZATIONS (CASO)

CASO aims to bring together academic professional organizations to work on outreach and accessibility projects toward the mutual benefit of all Ancient Studies fields. The first official meeting was held on December 18th, 2020, with the member organizations: SASA, the Society for Classical Studies (SCS) and the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL). We are continuing to work together to attract more academic organizations to join CASO. The first joint project of CASO is underway. As a part of the alliance, we have worked on an Ancient Studies Advocacy Project, *Lives in Ancient Studies*. This project is collecting and publicizing video testimonials from alumni of closed or threatened Ancient Studies departments. The goal of this project is to freely distribute professionally edited video collections of these testimonials for use by currently threatened departments in combating the pressure on them by showing the vibrant, meaningful, and successful lives that their alumni have created for themselves. In addition, they will be used as general advocacy tools for Ancient Studies through our organizations.



FORMING AN ALLIANCE

PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT— PORT ANCIENT

Port Ancient is a web collection where SASA has shared information on a variety of projects that focus on different aspects of ancient studies. We believe that these projects will help pave the way to save Ancient Studies by bringing together a wide range of groups working on public outreach, accessibility and engagement with various audiences. Providing a broader platform for these projects will amplify their range and increase the strength of all member's messaging across a range of media channels.

Current Partnerships

The image displays a grid of logos for various partner organizations. The logos include: The American Institute for Roman Culture, Philagora (Agora for Classics), Accessible Art History, Ancient Rome Live, Common Ground, Religion for Breakfast, By Jove Theatre Company, TIS Toldinstone, All About the Ancient World, The Zymandias Project, Moan Inc, The Queer Classical, Per-Hay studio, Travelusion, Egypt in Minecraft Sun and Bones, and The Egyptology State of the Field Project: A Data-Driven Assessment of American Egyptology.

REENVISIONING POST-EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

In addition to supporting students and scholars within the traditional bounds of academia, SASA takes great pride in creating a way for independent scholars to work in community.

Independent Scholars Working Group

Our Independent Scholars Working Group fosters connections among those who are not working with the support of academic libraries and salaries. ISWG provides a space for those scholars to work with their peers, give and receive high quality feedback, and help each other get published.

Independent Scholars Networking

The ISWG hosts two events each month: one for networking and building community, and one to assist in scholarly works and publications. The monthly Community Building event invites scholars to form connections and share resources for their work. ISWG welcomes new members year-round.

Work-in-progress Online Forum

The other monthly event, the Work In Progress meeting, acts as a forum for these independent scholars to share their work at any stage, get professional-quality peer

feedback, and work towards publication. In addition to those outside academia, this space welcomes graduate students looking for additional resources in creating publishable scholarship.

Resources for Independent Scholars

- Grants
- Scholarly materials access
- Affiliations
- Publishing options—Including SASA Virtual Conference Proceedings

SASA maintains a number of resources that ISWG's access. These include access to scholarly materials such as they might have received from a university library, lists of grants available to unaffiliated scholars, and publication resources. Many of our ISWG members go on to present at scholarly conferences, including our own Virtual Conference, and also to get published either through conference proceedings or reputable journals.

National Coalition of Independent Scholars

Joining NCIS as a Partner Organization

Additionally, ISWG partners with the National Coalition of Independent Scholars, an organization dedicated to similar support of independent research, but with a focus on the U.S. market rather than the Ancient Studies disciplines. This allows even more reach and resources for unaffiliated scholars within the United States. ISWG is always interested in providing a wider base of support for its members.



REENVISIONING POST-EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE:
OPENING THE ANCIENT WORLD

SASA held their second annual free academic virtual conference *Opening the Ancient World*, which was live-streamed on August 14th – 15th, 2022. This year's theme was *Who Has the Power? Leaders and Leadership in the Ancient World*.

The goal of the conference was to present and support excellent scholarship by independent scholars. Over the course of the two-day conference, we had 13 presenters deliver insightful academic presentations from around the world, including Brazil and India. In addition to the presentations, three special sessions were hosted to foster discussion and action regarding public outreach and scholarly inclusiveness. These sessions included Roundtable for Independent Scholars, a Storytelling Panel by Inspirational Independent Scholars, and a workshop on Publishing Forums

Working with our partners, the conference was live streamed over a variety of platforms with over 10,000 participants attending the presentations and sessions over the two-day conference. This success provides support for the live-streamed open-access conference model, encouraging participants and presenters globally to attend these events.

Virtual Conference Summary



13 Presenters

10,000+
Participants over...

2 Days of presentations
and sessions





REENVISIONING Post-EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

LET'S GET PUBLISHED EVENTS

The *Let's Get Published* events are a collection of monthly informal virtual gatherings aimed at independent scholars, researchers, and students, offering a comfortable forum to present recent research and receive feedback from an audience of like-minded peers and allow for engagement with current research. These sessions have run from the start of Q1 2022 and have been oversubscribed in each iteration, encouraging their continuation throughout Q2 and Q3. The overwhelming popularity of these groups make it clear that there is not only a market for independent scholars but a need to provide spaces for those outside of the traditional model of academia to continue to support Ancient Studies research and the scholars that contribute to it.

Resources for Independent Scholars

To this end, SASA is working on creating dedicated resources for independent scholars beyond our *Let's Get Published* events. At present, this project is in its infancy, aiming for a Summer 2022 release, with our Independent Scholars Working Groups already live, creating spaces for researchers outside of traditional academic models to be able to access consistent peer support, networking, guidance, and information to continue to sustain their work.



NEW PROJECTS

Reconnecting With Ancient Studies Alumni

In SASA's vision for the future of Ancient Studies, all individuals who have studied the ancient world will be welcome and have easy opportunities and support to participate in active scholarship. This falls within our broad conception of the "Independent Scholar," as we work to build our inclusive Ancient Studies community. Key to this is to reconnect with the tens of thousands of people who hold Ancient Studies degrees but have become disconnected from the Ancient Studies community. Spearheading this initiative will be SASA's Outreach Team and Independent Scholars Working Group. We look forward to creating this new community together.

Engaging The World



In support of our vision of a global community for Ancient Studies, SASA will spend 2023 working to engage individuals, organizations, and schools in Arabic and Spanish speaking locations. This initiative will reach its initial climax during our Fourth Annual Virtual Conference in Summer 2024. With the support of the Wenner-Gren Foundation, one of the world's premier supporters of anthropology and archaeology, SASA will create a multilingual environment in which speakers of English, Arabic, and Spanish will all be able to present and participate equally via simultaneous live interpretation.

Advocacy

Although SASA has stayed mainly on the sidelines through our first three years regarding direct advocacy for Ancient Studies, 2023 will be the beginning of new efforts in this direction. In collaboration with our partner academic professional organizations, we will build relationships with departments that are threatened and develop a program for supporting their employees and students. At SASA, we believe that no one is "at fault" for the current decline in Ancient Studies. Instead, we will begin to take a proactive approach to helping departments, professors, and educators effectively engage with administrators. We believe the value of Ancient Studies is not as exotica, but as a key element in understanding today's world and the totality of humanity in our many varieties. We will work to help decision-makers gain this understanding.



Want to get involved and help Save Ancient Studies? Check out the opportunities available at

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