



Kate Bowell

MUSEUM PROFESSIONAL

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museumsaskew.com



PROFILE

I have been a professional consultant, curator, audience evaluator, exhibit developer, and interpretive writer in museums, zoos, and heritage sites for over 10 years.

Working across multiple disciplines and with a variety of audiences, the unifying thread between all my work is connection: finding effective, emotive, and evocative ways to connect people to places, things, and, ultimately, one another.

SKILLS

Interpretive Design
Exhibit Development
Audience Evaluation
Project Management
Program Development
Interpretive Writing
Social Media
Collections Management,
emphasis on zoology
Live Animal Management,
emphasis on invertebrates

EXPERIENCE

CONSULTING DIRECTOR

Museums Askew Consulting

2011 - Present

Freiburg, Germany

Conduct assessments, lead workshops and trainings, develop interpretive projects, and write for (and about) museums and other cultural organizations. Projects include:

- **Museum Natur & Mensch – Freiburg, Germany**
Developed and executed multiple visitor assessment projects to support the development and opening of the exhibits *Wald* and *Wasser*
- **Riksställningar/The Swedish Exhibition Agency – Visby, Sweden**
Authored an article on the challenges and potential solutions of telling object-based stories without supporting objects
- **Madison Science Museum – Madison, Wisconsin**
Created the mission statement, vision, and website of the museum
- **Town of Windsor Museum at Boardwalk Park – Windsor, Colorado**
Created and lead visitor evaluation training, developed museum-specific evaluation handbook for staff and volunteers, conducted summative evaluation of permanent exhibits
- **Warren AFB ICBM and Heritage Museum – Cheyenne, Wyoming**
Consulted on collections and database protocol in preparation for a complete collections move

EDUCATION

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Museum & Field Studies,
emphasis in Zoology
University of Colorado
2008

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Zoology
University of Guelph
2005

BACHELOR OF ARTS

English Literature
University of Guelph
2005

DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION

Berlitz Language School

2013 - Present

Freiburg, Germany

Director of all educational programs, practices, and teachers for Berlitz Freiburg

- Oversee approximately 60 teachers working in over 10 languages
- Responsible for recruiting and training new instructors, monitoring developmental needs of experienced instructors, and planning and leading on-going training sessions
- Primary point-of-contact for hundreds of students
- Implement, oversee, and monitor all organization quality standards



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TRAINING

Certified Interpretive Guide,
The National Association of
Interpretation

NAGPRA Consultant,
The National Park Service

German, Common European
Framework: B1

PUBLICATIONS

MuseumsAskew.com

Articles on exhibitry, best
practices, interpretation,
translation, and audience
evaluation

“Att berätta utan synliga föremål”/“Telling Stories with Invisible Objects”

Riksställningar/The Swedish
Exhibition Agency

The Excavation at Lindenmeier: A Folsom Site Uncovered 1934-1940

The Fort Collins Museum of
Discovery

Trails of Northern Colorado: Exploring Cultural and Natural Heritage

The Fort Collins Museum of
Discovery

Working the Land, Creating a Life: The Early Years at Bobcat Ridge

The Fort Collins Natural Areas
Department

EXPERIENCE

ENGLISH TEACHER

Berlitz Language School

2013 - Present

Freiburg, Germany

Teach English to students with diverse backgrounds, language abilities, and learning goals.

- Create customized syllabi and lessons to meet specific student needs
- Teach one-on-one as well as groups of up to 10 students
- Work exclusively with the CEOs of several major German companies

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Denver Zoo

2011 - 2012

Denver, Colorado

Conducted and analyzed the results of institution-wide visitor studies

- Member of the front-end and formative evaluation team for *Toyota Elephant Passage*
- Executed studies on visitor movement, exhibit element attendance, and conducted on-one-one interviews

COLLECTIONS ASSOCIATE

History Colorado

2011 - 2012

Denver, Colorado

Managed all artifacts scheduled for upcoming exhibition during the collections move and exhibit installation of the new History Colorado Center

- Created and managed a database of over 10,000 objects
- Coordinated with design consultants, conservationists, and exhibit developers and technicians to prepare the objects for exhibition
- Assisted in exhibit and object installation

CURATOR OF INTERPRETATION

Fort Collins Museum of Discovery

2008 - 2011

Fort Collins, Colorado

Principle member of the creation of a new multi-disciplinary science and regional history museum and the museum representative for multiple natural-cultural projects throughout Colorado

- Lead exhibit developer for the natural history exhibits *Wildlands & Wildlife*, *Natural Areas*, and *Live Animals*; author of interpretive text for *Wildlands & Wildlife*
- Museum liaison and interpretive developer for Soapstone Prairie Natural Area, home of the Nation Historic Landmark Lindenmeier Archaeological Site
- Developed cultural interpretation training and resources for over 200 naturalists communicating American Indian history
- Principle visitor evaluator; collaborated on three projects with researchers at Colorado State University
- Developed the museum's first social media handbook
- Co-author of multiple publications and editor and author of the museum's blog, *More to Explore*



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MEMBERSHIPS

International Committee on
Museums

American Alliance of Museums

National Association of
Interpretation

EXPERIENCE

COLLECTIONS ASSOCIATE

Denver Museum of Nature and Science

2007 - 2008

Denver, Colorado

Responsible for the Education Zoology Wet Collection in preparation for a collections move

- Inventoried, identified, and re-housed the collection
- Wrote a collection conservation plan
- Reconciled and updated the collection's written records and database
- Coordinated and oversaw five volunteers assisting on the project

ZOOLOGY CURATORIAL ASSISTANT

University of Colorado Museum of Natural History

2006 - 2008

Boulder, Colorado

Daily management of over 200,000 wet and dry invertebrate and vertebrate specimens

- Specimen preparation, housing, cataloging, and databasing
- Developed protocol to reconcile written and electronic records; located over 2,000 "missing" specimens
- Organized and oversaw preparation for the de-installation of the museum's *Biology Hall*; managed two work studies students

ENTOMOLOGIST

Cambridge Butterfly Conservatory

2006

Cambridge, Ontario

Managed all of the facility's living collections

- Oversaw care and programming of invertebrate, amphibian, reptile, bird, and mammal collections
- Liaison with chrysalid supply farms in four countries
- Ensured the organization met all national and international standards for the importation, accommodation, and care of animals

DIRECTOR OF INTERPRETATION

Cambridge Butterfly Conservatory

2005 - 2006

Cambridge, Ontario

Managed all interpretive staff, programming, and exhibits

- Hired, trained, and oversaw a staff of five
- Created 14 interpretive programs for school groups, special functions, and the general public
- Lead programs, lectures, and special events for audiences regularly exceeding 100 participants
- Created onsite and outreach programs for K-12 students and summer camps
- Organization representative and liaison for media events, public appearances, and VIP guests