

Joy Bivins

Curator

**Experience:**

Chicago History Museum (Curator, 2003-present; Exhibition Developer, 2002-03)

Education:

M.P.S., Africana Studies, Cornell University, 2003; B.A., History and Afro-American and African Studies, University of Michigan, 1998

A native Chicagoan, Ms. Bivins is passionate about her city, its history, and people. As a member of the Chicago History Museum staff since 2002, Bivins has used that passion to help develop diverse exhibitions including *Chicago History in Pictures* (2002); *Teen Chicago* (2004); *Without Sanctuary: Lynching Photography in America* (2005); and *Colonia to Community: The Southeast Side* (2006). Most recently, in 2010, Bivins co-curated *Facing Freedom*, an exhibition that examines conflicts over the meaning of freedom in United States history.

Ms. Bivins is a regular presenter at local elementary and high schools and has presented at the annual meetings of the American Association of Museums, the Association of African American Museums, the Association of Midwest Museums, and the Oral History Association. Bivins has contributed to the *Journal of American History*, authored exhibition-related essays for *Chicago History* magazine, and is a regular contributor to the Museum's blog. In addition to her curatorial work, Ms. Bivins is a part-time instructor at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.