

Michael Burton

Assistant Professor, Department of Textiles, Merchandising & Fashion Design

Director, Robert Hillestad Gallery

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

[Animating History](#)

[Student Work](#)

mburton4@unl.edu

Education

MFA University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2007)
School of Art, Art History, and Design
Emphasis: Fine Art

BFA (cum laude) Green Mountain College (2000)
Dept. of Art
Emphasis: Painting

Academic Appointments

2020-present *Assistant Professor*, Department of Textiles, Merchandising, and Fashion Design
University of Nebraska Lincoln
Fellow - Center for Digital Research in the Humanities
Research Affiliate- Nebraska Center for Research on Children, Youth, Families and Schools

2015-2020 *Assistant Professor of Practice*, Department of Textiles, Merchandising, and Fashion Design
University of Nebraska Lincoln

2010-2015 *Lecturer*, Department of Textiles, Merchandising, and Fashion Design, University of Nebraska Lincoln
2010 *Instructor*, Department of Textiles, Merchandising, and Fashion Design, University of Nebraska Lincoln
2008-2010 *Instructor*, Department of Art and History, University of Nebraska Lincoln
2008-2010 *Instructor*, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha, Nebraska

Assistant Professor

60% teaching 30% research, 10% service

Undergraduate/ Graduate courses

(numbers indicate Mean scores for teaching evaluations, with 5 as the highest possible score)

TMFD 104 Computer Basics Fall 2022 - 35 students $M_{te}=4.34/5.0$ Fall 2021 - 30 students $M_{te}=4.35/5.0$ Fall 2020 - 36 students $M_{te}=4.4/5.0$ Sp 2020 - 20 students $M_{te}=4.32/5.0$ Fall 2019 - 16 students $M_{te}=4.73/5.0$ Sp 2019 - 22 students $M_{te}=4.73/5.0$ Fall 2018 - 27 students $M_{te}=4.63/5.0$ Sp 2018 - 29 students $M_{te}=4.44/5.0$ Fall 2017 - 28 students $M_{te}=4.13/5.0$ Sp 2017 - 30 students $M_{te}=4.39/5.0$ Fall 2016 - 28 students $M_{te}=4.28/5.0$ Sp 2016 - 27 students $M_{te}=4.28/5.0$ Fall 2015 - 25 students $M_{te}=4.39/5.0$	TMFD 121 Visual Communication with Animation Fall 2022 - 58 students $M_{te}=4.53/5.0$ Fall 2021 - 60 students $M_{te}=4.35/5.0$ Fall 2020 - 80 students $M_{te}=4.52/5.0$ Sum 2020 - 52 students $M_{te}=4.53/5.0$ Sp 2020 - 76 students $M_{te}=4.52/5.0$ Fall 2019 - 65 students $M_{te}=4.61/5.0$ Sp 2019 - 65 students $M_{te}=4.63/5.0$ Fall 2018 - 48 students $M_{te}=4.64/5.0$ Sp 2018 - 50 students $M_{te}=4.38/5.0$ Fall 2017 - 49 students $M_{te}=4.07/5.0$ Sp 2017 - 45 students $M_{te}=4.04/5.0$ Sum 2017 - 26 students $M_{te}=4.06/5.0$ Fall 2016 - 43 students $M_{te}=4.33/5.0$ Sp 2016 - 43 students $M_{te}=4.32/5.0$ Fall 2015 - N/A students $M_{te}=N/A$	TMFD 146 Visualization Studio Fall 2022 - 21 students $M_{te}=4.55/5.0$ Fall 2021 - 22 students $M_{te}=4.44/5.0$ Fall 2020 - 19 students $M_{te}=4.25/5.0$ Sp 2020 - 21 students $M_{te}=4.86/5.0$ Fall 2019 - 11 students $M_{te}=4.74/5.0$ Sp 2019 - 24 students $M_{te}=4.6/5.0$ Fall 2018 - 23 students $M_{te}=4.5/5.0$ Sp 2018 - 20 students $M_{te}=4.31/5.0$ Fall 2017 - 20 students $M_{te}=4.46/5.0$ Sp 2017 - 21 students $M_{te}=4.58/5.0$ Fall 2016 - 18 students $M_{te}=4.73/5.0$ Sp 2016 - 21 students $M_{te}=4.58/5.0$ Fall 2015 - N/A students $M_{te}=N/A$
TMFD 144 Introduction to Design Theory and Criticism Sum 2022 - 20 students $M_{te}=4.25/5.0$	TMFD 145 Color Studio Sp 2023 - 25 students $M_{te}=4.79/5.0$ Sp 2022 - 25 students $M_{te}=4.10/5.0$ Sp 2021 - 31 students $M_{te}=4.81/5.0$	TMFD 425/825 Advanced Design for Printed Textiles Sp 2023 - 7 students $M_{te}=4.97/5.0$ Sp 2022 - 24 students $M_{te}=4.72/5.0$ Sp 2021 - 20 students $M_{te}=4.55/5.0$ Sp 2020 - 14 students $M_{te}=4.75/5.0$ Sp 2019 - 14 students $M_{te}=4.85/5.0$ Sp 2018 - 18 students $M_{te}=4.61/5.0$ Sp 2017 - 13 students $M_{te}=4.51/5.0$ Sp 2016 - 15 students $M_{te}=4.31/5.0$

Graduate committees

- Tina Shitabi, M.A. Apparel Design (chair)
- Lauren Baccus, M.A. Material Culture (chair)
- Rafael Bertacini, M.A. Material Culture (chair)
- Adria Chaidez, M.A. Apparel Design
- Sarah Wolcott, Ph.D. Quilt Studies
- Younhee Kang, Ph.D. Material Culture
- Molly McPherson, Ph.D. Apparel Design (reader) - graduated 2022
- Koichi Saito, Ph.D. Education - graduated 2022
- Heather Stiebel, Ph. D. Apparel Design – graduated 2022
- Kylin Flothe, Ph.D. Material Culture (reader) - graduated 2022
- Phoebe Jan-McMahon M.F.A Art – graduated 2017

Service Responsibilities

- Director and Chair of the Robert Hillestad Gallery Committee (Dept) (2020 – present)
- Member of PoP faculty Search Committee (Dept) (2022)
- Member of TMFD Recruitment and Retention Committee (Dept) (2020 – present)
- Member International Quilt Museum Exhibition Committee (University) (2018 – present)
- Faculty Fellow - Center for Digital Research in the Humanities (University) (2021 – present)
- Research Fellow – Nebraska Center for Children, Youth, Families, and Schools (University) (2023 – present)
- Member of NU150 Commission (University) (2018 – 2019)
- Chair of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (Dept) (2015 – 2020)
- Member of CEHS Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (College) (2015 – 2020)
- Member of Robert Hillestad Gallery Committee (Dept) (2011 – present)
- Informatics minor development committee (University) (2014 – 2017)

Directed Student Learning

UCare undergraduate student project – Animating History Lab – AY 22/23

- Jo Sayer – sophomore - History

First Year Research Experience (FYRE) – Animating History Lab – AY 22/23

- Aspen Gurr – freshman – Media Arts

Grants

Total: \$323,570.00

External: \$237,700

Institutional: \$85,870

Funded - Internal Support

M. Burton, Dreher, K. Thomas, W.G. (2023 - 2024) UNL Research Council: Layman Grant, *Animating History; Using Film as an Educational Tool to Tell Stories of Enslaved Families Who Sought Freedom through the Law* - \$10,000

M. Burton, Dreher, K. Thomas, W.G. (2022-2023) UNL Research Council: Interdisciplinary Research Grant – *Animating History Lab, The Diary of Michael Shiner – Film Production* \$20,000

M. Burton, Casto, M.A., Starkey, S. (2022) UNL Convocations Grant – *Kendra Benson – This Woman’s Work – Exhibition and lecture in the Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery-* \$1,000

M. Burton (2021-2022) Bridge Funds - CEHS Audrey Newton Innovation and Excellence fund– *Animation staff for Animating History Lab* - \$12,000

M. Burton (2021) GAP Funding – UNL Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor - \$2,000

M. Burton, Starkey, S. (2021-2022) CEHS Technology Innovation Grant – *Motion Capture for Animation* \$7,370

M. Burton (2017-2019) UNL Cather Project - *A Gold Slipper film and art exhibition production grant* \$8,000

M. Burton, Thomas, W.G. (2016-2017) UNL Arts and Humanities Research Enhancement Program Grant - *support for film production of Anna* \$10,000

M. Burton (2016) Hixson Lied Dean’s Office - *support for film production of Anna* \$2000

M. Burton (2013-2014) CEHS Technology Innovation Grant – *“Vault” Video Tutorial Database* - \$13,500

Funded - External Support

M. Burton, Dreher, K. **Thomas**, **W.G.** (2021-2022) Kitty M. Perkins Foundation NU Foundation - *The Bell Affair finish costs for distribution* \$20,000

M. Burton, Dreher, K. **Thomas, W.G.** (2019-2021) National Endowment for the Humanities - *Media Production grant* \$200,000

M. Burton, Dreher, K. **Thomas, W.G.** (2020-2021) Maryland Humanities Major Grant – *Media Production grant* \$8,400

M. Burton (2016) Hatchfund.org Crowd - *funding support for film production of Anna* \$4,300

M. Burton (2013) Nebraska Arts Council - *Distinguished Film Maker Award* \$5,000

Unfunded

M. Burton (2023) Nebraska Arts Council Individual Artist Fellowship- Filmmaking - \$5,000

M. Burton, Dreher, K. **Thomas, W.G.** (2021) Better Angels Society Ken Burns Prize – *finishing funds for distribution* \$200,000

M. Burton, Dreher, K. **Thomas, W.G.** (2021) Just Films Ford Foundation funding for *distribution and education* \$200,000

M. Burton, Dreher, K. **Thomas, W.G.** (2018) National Endowment for the Humanities - *Media Production grant* \$200,000

M. Burton, Trainin,G. National Endowment for the Humanities - *Media Production grant* \$200,000

M. Burton, **Winter, S.** (2013) National Endowment for the Humanities - *Media Production grant* \$200,000

Awards

Total awarded: 8

Nominated: 2

Honorable Mention: 1

2022	<u>Won</u> Best Animation (Best in Category) Prince George's Film Festival	Bowie, MD
2022	<u>Won</u> NUtech Creative Works Award	Univ. of Nebraska
2022	<u>Nominated</u> Silk Roads Film Awards – Nominated – 1.) Best Experimental Film 2.) Best First-Time Producer in Experimental Film	Cannes, France
2022	<u>Won</u> Art Stream International Film Festival - Monthly Award March- April 2022	Amsterdam, NL
2019	<u>Won</u> Dudziak Prize for Legal History	
2019	<u>Won</u> CEHS Distinguished Research and Creative Activity Award	University of Nebraska
2018	<u>Won</u> Best Animation, New Media Film Festival, James Bridges Theater	Los Angeles, CA
2018	<u>Hon. Men.</u> Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Creativity - Utopia Film Festival,	Greenbelt, MD
2014	<u>Won</u> Distinguished Filmmaker Nebraska Arts Council	Omaha, NE
2008	<u>Won</u> Best In Show, Sioux City Art Center 61 st Exhibition	Sioux City, IA

Animated Films Produced

Total Produced 7

2023 ***The Diary of Michael Shiner*** - Animated short film about the story of Michael Shiner. Shiner was an enslaved man who worked for the Washington D.C. Navy Yard both as an enslaved and a free man. Shiner wrote an exhaustive diary that spanned more than 60 years. He wrote about politics, astronomical events, and day to day life in the mid 1800's. Our story focuses on three remarkable days where Shiner worked to free his wife Phillis and their children by using his keen knowledge of the law and his network of powerful friends.

Responsibilities: Supervising Producer - pre-production coordination of all vendors and sub-contractors, contracts for all vendors (production company, music manager, and cg artists), all of the film's financial management, supervising all aspects of production, and distribution planning. **Art director** – All visual elements of the film developed and completed by me and my post production team. **Co-Executive Producer** – Role shared with my co-PIs (Dreher and Thomas).

Funding provided by an Interdisciplinary Grant of \$20,000 offered by the Office of Research and Economic Development at the University of Nebraska

2022 ***The Bell Affair*** – the feature length animated feature film that tells the story of Daniel and Mary Bell, an enslaved family in Washington D.C. (1832-48) who sued for their freedom, then led one of the largest escape attempts in American history. (completed Dec 2021) the film is the result of the interdisciplinary collaboration of scholars/ writers/ artists William G Thomas III (Professor of History) and Kwakiutl Dreher (Associate Professor of English) and Michael Burton (Assistant Professor Textiles, Merchandising, and Fashion Design). The film makes visible the stories of marginalized and enslaved families by telling their stories and connecting them to the larger historical narrative of American history via the medium of animation. The entire production was filmed and produced virtually because of Covid-19.

Responsibilities: Supervising Producer - pre-production coordination of all vendors and sub-contractors, contracts for all vendors (production company, music manager, and cg artists), all of the film's financial management, supervising all aspects of production, and distribution planning. **Art director** – All visual elements of the film developed and completed by me and my post production team. **Co-Executive Producer** – Role shared with my co-PIs (Dreher and Thomas).

Completed in December 2021, the film took three years to produce.

Shared responsibilities with co-PIs include grant proposal development, film development, community outreach, and distribution.

Funding provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities, Maryland Humanities Council, Kitty M Perkins Foundation, and the UNL Office of Economic Development.

Film Website: Animatinghistory.com/bellaffair/

2020 *A Gold Slipper* - Animated short film and fine art exhibition based on the short story written by Willa Cather 1920.

Responsibilities: Director – All visual elements of the film developed and completed by me and my post production team. **Producer** - pre-production coordination of production vendors and sub-contractors, contracts for all vendors (production company, music manager, and cg artists), all of the film’s financial management, supervising all aspects of production, and distribution planning.

Completed in April 2020, the film took one year to produce.

Funding provided by The UNL Cather Project

Film Website: michaelburtonart.com

2018 *Anna*- Animated short film about the story of Ann Williams, an enslaved woman who, in 1815, jumped for her freedom from a 3rd story building in Washington D.C. rather than be sold to a Georgia planter and taken from her family. She later sued for her freedom and Francis Scott Key was her attorney.

Responsibilities: Director virtually direct actors who filmed with a hired production team in Richmond Virginia. Also direct actors filmed in Nebraska. **Art director** – All visual elements of the film developed and completed by me and my post production team. **Supervising Producer** - pre-production coordination of all vendors and sub-contractors, contracts for all vendors (production company, music manager, and cg artists), all of the film’s financial management, supervising all aspects of production, and distribution planning. **Co-Executive Producer** – Role shared with my co-PIs (Dreher and Thomas).

Completed in December 2018, the film took two years to produce, won two awards, and was screened in seven film festivals.

Shared responsibilities with co-PIs include grant proposal development, film development, community outreach, and distribution.

Funding provided by the UNL Office of Economic Development.

Film Website: Annwilliamsfilm.com

2016 *On A Knife’s Edge* by Normal Life Pictures – A feature length film about the coming of age story of a Lakota Sioux man and his family history.

Responsibilities: Animator: recreated 4 stories of Lakota Sioux Native Guy Dull Knife in painted animation format.

Funding provided by ITVS and VisionMaker Media

Distribution: Film Festivals and on America ReFramed - PBS

2011 *Demo and Do* for the Denver Art Museum: Live stop motion animation created with the public in the museum.

2010 *Where You Lost Yourself*; Animation for Musician Aaron Beaumont; Milan Records

Film Festivals (juried)

Total accepted:20

Total entered: 57

Total denied: 37

2023	Los Angeles Animation Festival (finalist)	Los Angeles, CA
2023	Golden State Film Festival	Los Angeles, CA
2022	Silk Roads International Film Festival	Cannes, France
2022	Prince George’s Film Festival	Bowie, MD
2022	ArtStream Film Festival	Amsterdam, NL
2022	Oniros film festival	Online
2021	FlickFair	Online
2021	Toronto International Animation Festival (cancelled by Covid-19)	Toronto, Canada
2018	Virginia Film Festival	Charlottesville, VA
2018	New Media Film Festival	Los Angeles, CA
2018	Utopia Film Festival	Greenbelt, MD
2018	Hampton Film Festival	Hampton Rds, VA
2018	Atlantic Selects Film Screening	Online
2018	Hip Hop Film Festival	Harlem, NY
2018	Bronze Lens Film Festival	Atlanta, GA
2016	Anchorage International Film Festival	Anchorage, AK
2016	Prairie Lights Film Festival	Grand Island, NE
2013	Gratitude Festival	So. Dartmouth, MA

2012	Buzzards Bay Film Festival	New Bedford, MA
2010	<i>Videoholica</i> International Juried Video Art Festival 2010	Varna, Bulgaria
2010	<i>Home Grown</i> Juried Film Festival Bourbon Theater	Lincoln, NE
2009	<i>Building Bridges to the Homeland: An Evening of Short Films</i>	New Bedford, MA

Art Exhibitions (invited/solo/juried)

Total: 25

2023	<i>Visions Seen in the Air</i> , National Willa Cather Center (invited)	Red Cloud, NE
2023	<i>Landscape</i> , Kiechel Fine Art (invited)	Lincoln, NE
2022	<i>Art Struct</i> , Vero Beach Museum of Art (invited)	Vero Beach, FL
2022	The 15 th Annual <i>Digital Graffiti</i> (juried)	Alys Beach, FL
2021	<i>Floor of the Sky</i> , Kiechel Fine Art (invited/ solo)	Lincoln, NE
2021	<i>A Gold Slipper</i> , Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery (solo)	Lincoln, NE
2020	<i>A Gold Slipper</i> , Kiechel Fine Art (invited)/ solo)	Lincoln, NE
2020	<i>Nebraska Now</i> ; Anna, Museum of Nebraska Art (invited/ solo)	Kearney, NE
2020	<i>A Gold Slipper</i> , Willa Cather Foundation Museum (invited/solo)	Red Cloud, NE
2015	<i>Art Seen</i> , Joslyn Art Museum (juried)	Omaha, NE
2014	<i>Currents</i> , Kimmel Harding Nelson Art Gallery (juried - solo)	NE City, NE
2011	<i>Blink! Light, Sound and the Moving Image</i> , Denver Art Museum	Denver, CO
2011	RISD Museum (invited)	Providence, RI
2011	<i>Digital Graffiti</i> Digital Art Festival (juried)	Alys Beach, FL
2010	<i>Digital Graffiti</i> Digital Art Festival (juried)	Alys Beach, FL
2010	<i>Digital Works</i> National Juried Exhibition, Long Beach Island Foundation (juried)	Love Ladies, NJ
2010	Bemis Underground Regional Juried Exhibition (juried)	Omaha, NE
2010	<i>Channel</i> , University of Nebraska Omaha, UNO Art Gallery (invited)	Omaha, NE
2010	<i>TWEEN</i> Fred Simon Gallery, The Nebraska Arts Council	Omaha, NE
2009	<i>A-B(O)MB The Fallout</i> , Artoconecto (juried)	Miami, FL
2009	Athens Video Art Festival (juried)	Athens, Greece
2008	<i>A-B(O)MB</i> Bakehouse Arts Complex (juried)	Miami, FL
2008	<i>61st Juried Exhibition</i> Sioux City Art Center, Best in Show (juried)	Sioux City, IA
2007	<i>Sheldon Connections 2</i> ; Evidence Sheldon Museum or Art (juried)	Lincoln, NE

Film Screenings, Presentations, Publications

Screenings (6)

2023	<i>The Bell Affair</i> – National Daniel Bell Family Reunion Wealthy St Theater	Grand Rapids, MI
2023	<i>The Bell Affair</i> – CEHS Staff Council event	Lincoln, NE
2023	<i>The Bell Affair</i> – Remember the Pearl event	Washington D.C.
2023	<i>The Bell Affair</i> – Old Greenbelt Theatre – PG County Hist. Society. Feb 9 approx. 120 attended	Greenbelt, MD
2023	<i>The Bell Affair</i> - 81st Annual College Language Association Convention, April 5-8, 2023	Atlanta, GA
2023	<i>The Bell Affair</i> – Westchester University	Westchester, PA

Screening & Presenter (6)

2023	<i>The Bell Affair</i> – The International Quilt Museum, Humanities Nebraska Annual Patrons Board meeting - April 14 approx. 75 attended	Lincoln, NE
2022	Regional <i>The Bell Affair</i> – approx. 100 attended, Prince George’s County Memorial Library System and PGC Office of Human Rights	Maryland / Online
2022	<i>The Bell Affair</i> : Mary Ripema Ross Media Arts Center – approx. 80 attended	Lincoln, NE
2022	Regional <i>The Bell Affair</i> North America Premiere – approx. 500 attended; Publick Playhouse Theater	Hyattsville, MD
2022	<i>The Bell Affair</i> – approx 50 attended; Talent Plus	Lincoln, NE
2021	National Virtual Author Series – 18 in attendance; National Willa Cather Center	Red Cloud, NE

Presenter (11)

2022	IGNITE <i>The Making of The Bell Affair</i> – Johnny Carson Center for New and Emerging Media	Lincoln, NE
2022	Regional History of Dress in Film- <i>The Bell Affair</i> – American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Teachers conference; Co-presented with Heather Striebel Ph.D.	Lincoln, NE

2020	<i>National Un/Tethered; Cather on the Cusp of the 1920's</i> ; National Willa Cather Center	Red Cloud, NE
2019	<i>Teaching Studio Foundations using the Scientific Method</i> ; FATE Foundations in Art Theory and Practice Conference	Columbus, OH
2016	New Media Workshop, Utah State University	Logan, UT
2016	New Media Workshop; Drake University	Des Moines, IA
2014	<i>Animating the Petticoat Quilt</i> , International Quilt Museum	Lincoln, NE
2013	<i>Color Wheel or Color Won't</i> Posthaus, FATE Foundations in Art Theory and Practice Conference.	Savannah, GA
2012	University of Indiana Bloomington	Online
2011	University of Nebraska Omaha	Omaha, NE
2011	<i>Masters and Music</i> University of Nebraska Omaha	Omaha, NE

Chaired Conference Presentations (5)

2022	(Co-Chair) National Humanities Conference – approx. 20 attended session	Los Angeles, CA
2021	<i>NFT¹ Open Forum</i> – Kiechel Fine Art/ Lincoln Calling – September 22 nd , 2021	Lincoln, NE
2018	<i>Not your average Nine-head</i> ; Mid America College Art Assoc.	Lincoln, NE
2017	<i>Make it, Save it, quick Update it; using gifs to teach foundation Concepts</i> , FATE Foundations in Art Theory and Practice Conference	Kansas City, MO
2011	<i>This Place has Changed; Google Sketch Up and the Freeware World</i> FATE; Foundations in Art Theory and Practice Conference	St. Louis, MO

Publications (3)

2021	Burton, M (2021). The Living Picture: Creating a Multimedia Adaptation of “A gold Slipper”. <i>Willa Cather Review</i> 62(3), p. 15-19; https://www.willacather.org/system/files/idxdocs/wcr_2021_62.3.pdf
2018	(Co-Author) <i>Anna</i> Directed by Burton, Michael and Lynn Dreher, Kwakiutl; https://video.alexanderstreet.com/watch/Anna
2016	Burton, M. (n.d.). <i>TMFD 146: Visualization studio-a peer review of Teaching Project Benchmark portfolio-student perceptions of learning to draw the human form</i> . DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/prtunl/25/

Service to the discipline of art and film (2)

2017-2019	Director: <i>Cube Art Project</i> video art and animation festival	Lincoln, NE
2014	Juror: University of Nebraska Omaha Annual Student Art Exhibition	Omaha, NE

¹ NFT (Non-fungible token) is a non-interchangeable object or digital asset such as a file, image, or animation stored on a blockchain. The NFT can be bought and sold as an asset using cryptocurrency. The NFT itself is a value-based token because it's authenticity and provenance is recorded on a digital ledger (blockchain) with any transaction requiring authentication on the decentralized network (cloud). The panel discussion explored how NFTs have affected the art market and changed perceptions of the intrinsic and extrinsic value of art. Differing perspectives of value were discussed and the mystery of what an NFT is, were decoded for audiences.

Selected Press Coverage

Total Press (not all listed below): 38
Total Local: 33
Total National: 5

2023	Deanna Dawson, <i>The Bell Affair Brought Local History to the Screen</i> , Greenbelt News Review, February 16, 2023 Research and Economic Development, <i>17 faculty earn Layman Awards for research</i> , Nebraska Today, June, 20, 2023 Dan Moser, <i>2023-24 Layman Awards recipients named</i> , Research and Economic Development, June 20, 2023
2022	William Ford, <i>Animation Documentary Tells Story of Enslaved Family Who Fought for Freedom</i> , Washington Informer, June 2, 2022

2022 Sheilah Kast, The Searing Story of the Enslaved Family's Fight for Freedom, *On The Record*, May 14, 2022
<https://www.wypr.org/show/on-the-record/2022-05-19/the-searing-story-of-the-enslaved-bell-familys-fight-for-freedom>

2022 Deann Gayman, New film, 'Bell Affair' explores freedom suits in America, *Nebraska Today*, April 4, 2022

2022 Nelson, August UNL Professors Create Film Celebrating Black-led Emancipation, *Daily Nebraskan* Feb 23, 2022

2022 Kiechel Fine Art Center showcases NFTs by local artists, *Nebraska News Service*, April 2, 2022

2021 Nebraska Quarterly Magazine, *Professor earns kudos for history of freedom suits*, p34, Fall 2021

2021 Willa Cather's 'A Gold Slipper' adapted for exhibition, *Nebraska Today* Dec 3, 2021

2021 L Kent Wolgamott, NFTs, The Hottest New Product in the Art Market, come to Lincoln, *Lincoln Journal Star* Sep 6, 2021

2021 Kiechel features Burton's Nebraska-inspired artworks, *Nebraska Today*, August 30, 2021

2021 Magic Alchemy; Artists Talk about Inventing the NFT and Digital Art at Kiechel Fine Art, *Customs BMX.com*, August, 2021

2021 Friday Live radio program, *Nebraska Public Media: Discussing The Bell Affair*

2021 Deann Gayman, Thomas Earns Lynton Prize for a 'Question of Freedom', *Nebraska Today*, March 26, 2021

2020 L Kent Wolgamott, A Gold Slipper Illustrates and Illuminates Cather Short Story, *Lincoln Journal Star* Jan 23, 2020

2020 Rick Brown, MONA to host 'Collection Connection' program Jan. 22, *Grand Island Independent*, Jan 8, 2020

2020 Rick Brown, UNL professor Michael Burton tells Anna's story of escaping slavery in 12-minute animated film *Kearney Hub*, Jan 16, 2020

2019 John Tolley, A Nebraska Team Brings to Life the Story of "Anna", *Big Ten Network Live Big*, February 26, 2019
<https://btn.com/2019/02/26/a-nebraska-team-brings-to-life-the-story-of-anna-btn-livebig/>

2018 Deann Gayman, Nebraska-Produced 'Anna' Collects Top Animation Prize at Festival, *Nebraska Today*, June 22, 2018

2018 Deann Gayman, Nebraska-Produced 'Anna' Selected for Festivals, *Nebraska Today*, May 3, 2018

2018 Emily Buder, "A Slave Who Sued for Her Freedom", *The Atlantic*, May 1, 2018
<https://www.theatlantic.com/video/index/559364/ann-williams/>

2017 Leslie Reed, 'Anna' Team Combines to Tell Slave's Story Through Innovation, *Nebraska Today*, April 24, 2017

2017 Mel Lucks, "Anna Brings Together a Diverse Team to Spark an Innovation on Campus", *Silicon Prairie News*, March 2, 2017