

Joe Austin

Formal education

Ph.D., University of Minnesota, 1996.

B.A., University of Houston, 1986.

Title of thesis

“Taking the Train: Youth Culture, Urban Crisis and the ‘Graffiti Problem’ in New York City, 1970-1990”

Academic positions held

University of Milwaukee at Milwaukee

Associate Professor of History, 2004-present

Bowling Green State University

Assistant Professor of Popular Culture, 1998 –2004

Lecturer in American Cultural Studies, 1996-1998.

Research Interests

Youth Cultures and Subcultures, 1945-present.

Visual Cultures and Popular Culture: Film, Magazines, Photography, and
Alternative Media.

Cultural Theory and Everyday Life.

20th Century U.S. Cultural and Urban History.

Publications

Book

Taking the Train: How Graffiti Art Became an Urban Crisis in New York City.
(New York: Columbia University Press, 2001)

Edited Volumes

Austin, Joe, & Willard, Michael N. (Eds.). *Generations of Youth: Youth Cultures and History in Twentieth Century America*, (New York: New York University Press, 1998)

Articles

in journals

“The City and the Name,” *Public Art Review*, 6/2 (1995), p.34.

“Youth, Neoliberalism, Ethics: Some Questions.” *Rhizomes* (refereed e-journal), Issue 10, Spring 2005 [<http://www.rhizomes.net/issue10/austin.htm>]

in books

“Rome is Burning (Psychedelic): Traces of the Social and Historical Contexts of Psychedelia.” In Christoph Grunenberg (ed) *Summer of Love: Art of the Psychedelic Era*. London: Tate Publishing.

“Introduction: Angels of History, Demons of Culture,” with Michael N. Willard, in *Generations of Youth: Youth Cultures and History in Twentieth Century America*, eds. Joe Austin and Michael N. Willard (New York: New York University Press, 1998), pp.1-20.

“Knowing Their Place: Local Knowledge, Social Prestige, and the Writing Formation in New York City,” in *Generations of Youth: Youth Cultures and History in Twentieth Century America*, eds. Joe Austin and Michael N. Willard (New York: New York University Press, 1998), pp.240-252.

“Re-Writing New York,” in *Connected: Engagements with Media at Century's End*, ed. George E. Marcus (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995), pp.271-312.

in scholarly newsletters

“The 2003 Society for the History of Children and Youth Conference: Some Reflections,” *SHCY e-Newsletter*, 1/2 (2003).

<http://www.majbill.vt.edu/history/jones/SHCY/Newsletter2/3austin.html>

Book reviews

Mark Shiel and Tony Fitzmaurice, eds., *Cinema and the City: Film and Urban Societies in a Global Context* (Oxford, UK: Blackwell, 2001), in *Urban Studies*, 41/1 (2004): 235-236.

Susan A. Phillips, *Wallbanging: Graffiti and Gangs in L.A.* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1999), in *American Ethnologist*, 29/2 (2002): 450-451.

Harris M. Berger, *Metal, Rock, and Jazz: Perception and the Phenomenology of Musical Experience* (Hanover, NH: Wesleyan University Press, 1999) in *Northwest Ohio Quarterly*, 73/1 (2001): 48-49.

Encyclopedia articles

“Youth Culture,” in *Encyclopedia of Children and Childhood: In History and Society*, ed. Paula Fass (New York: MacMillan Reference, 2004), 910-916.

“Graffiti,” in *American Boyhood: An Encyclopedia*, eds. Priscilla Ferguson Clement and Jacqueline S. Reinier (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2001), 315-320.

“Gangs,” in *American Boyhood: An Encyclopedia*, eds. Priscilla Ferguson Clement and Jacqueline S. Reinier (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2001), 306-311.

“Graffiti,” with Melisa Riviere, in *American Girlhood: An Encyclopedia*, ed. Miriam Formanek-Brunell (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2001), 342-350.

Publications aimed at a general audience

“Youth Culture, Moral Panics and the `Wars on Graffiti' in New York.” *Underground Productions*, 21 (2002), n.p. (Swedish hip-hop magazine; reprint of

article originally appearing in *Elementary* 2 (1997), a U.S. hip hop magazine now defunct).

“The Long Conversation about ‘Lost’ Children.” Program for theatre production of “*Straight on ‘Til Mornin,*” (2001), n.p. Great Lakes Theater Festival, March 25-April 25, 2001.

Courses usually taught, since 1998

Undergraduate

Introduction to Popular Culture

Studies in Popular Literature: Zines

Youth Cultures

Introduction to Popular Film

P.K.Dick’s Science Fiction

Popular Entertainments

Popular Culture Research

American Popular Film

History of American Popular Culture

History Seminar in Theory and Methods

US History Survey, 1877-present

Graduate

Visual Culture

Topics: Film Studies and Popular Film

Popular Music

Theory and Methods in Popular Culture Studies

Youth and Film

American Cultural History

US History Seminar: History of Popular Culture

Urban History Seminar: US Cities in the 1970s

US History Colloquium: American Youth Cultures

Ph.D. advisees, program, date of completion

Georgina Gabor, Communication Studies, 2003

Ilana Nash, American Culture Studies, 2002

Kris Ferluga, ACS , 2001

Committee member, 4 other completed Ph.D., 2000-2003

M.A. advisees, program, date of completion

Matthew Ascah, Popular Culture, 2003

Kathleen McConnell, POPC, 2003

Michael Barbaro, POPC, 2002

Ed Purchla, POPC, 2002

Patrick Gray, ACS , 2001

R. Stewart Varner, POPC, 2001

Kristen Kidder, POPC, 2001
Jason Kucsma, ACS, 2000
Marisol Alvarez, POPC, 2000
Cathy Navarro, POPC, 2000
Vincent Stephens, POPC, 1999
Committee member, 4 other completed M.A. theses, 1997-2003

Teaching awards

Nominated for the *BGSU Outstanding Contributor to Graduate Education Award*, 2002-2003.

Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 2000. Nominated by Melanie Bandy, BGSU Honors undergraduate.

BGSU Alumni Association Mentorship Award for work with undergraduate Wes Bowman, winner of *Alumni Association Distinguished Undergraduate Research Award*. Spring, 1999. Bowman's paper also won the Roger Rollings Award for Best Student Paper at the 1998 Popular Culture Association in the South Conference in Augusta, Georgia.

Consultative services to community agencies or groups.

Consultant to the Chicago Historical Society on the *Teen Chicago* exhibition project, August 2002-2005.

Reviewer, Women Make Movies, a non-profit organization supporting independent feminist filmmakers. New York City, 2002-2003.

Consultant to the Museum of the City of New York for acquisition of the Martin Wong Graffiti Art Collection, 1996.

Presentations

"Urban History, Cultural Studies, and Youth Cultures." Urban History Association, Milwaukee, WI. October 7, 2004.

"Gender, Cultural Capital, and the Local/Global Nexus in Contemporary Youth Cultures." Cultural Theory/ Historical Practices Lecture Series. Carlow College, Pittsburgh, PA, March 27, 2003. **(invited)**

"You Name the Place: Urban Youth Culture, Public Space, and Graffiti Writing." School of Justice Studies Colloquium, Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ, January 9, 2003. **(invited)**

"Wild Name Reserve: New York City's Location in Global ("graffiti") Writing Culture." American Studies Association, Houston, TX., November 14, 2002. **(I organized this panel.)**

"Writing Fine Art." Eye-Talian Flava: The Italian American Presence in Hip-Hop, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, City University of New York, and Casa Zerilli-Marimo, New York University, New York City, October 5, 2002. **(invited)**

“New Work in Youth Culture Studies: Emerging Debates, Public Interventions.” 2001 American Studies Association. Washington, DC, November 10, 2001. **(I organized this roundtable.)**

“The New Girl Cinema.” 2001 Society for the History of Children and Youth. Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI, July 28, 2001. **(I organized this panel.)**

“In the Gothic Gaze: Utopia and Dystopia in Goth Photography.” 2001 International Gothic Association. Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada, June 16.

“The Forbidden Art.” Graffiti Art Forum and Hip-Hop Showcase. Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh, PA, May 11, 2001. **(invited)**

“The United States of Hip-Hop?: The Problem of Writing in the Hip-Hop Paradigm.” The Hip-Hop Paradigm. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, March 23-24, 2001.

“Barbarian Threats to the New Rome: Urban Youth, Graffiti Writing, and the End of Adolescence in New York City.” Children in Urban America. Marquette University, Institute for Urban Life, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, May 5, 2000.

“Building the Bomber: The (Unintended) Consequences of the ‘War on Graffiti’ in New York City.” Hip Hop: A Cultural Expression. Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH, September 10, 1999.

"Graffiti Wars: Youth Culture, Urban Crisis, and Channels of Assault." 1998 American Studies Association. Seattle, November 20, 1998.

“Ill Legal Conventions? Graffiti and Hip Hop at the Scribble Jam.” 1998 Conference on Holidays, Ritual, Festival, Celebration, and Public Display. Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH, May 30, 1998.

"Other Academies?: Ethnography, Networks of Circulation, and Intellectual Labor," 1997 American Studies Association. Washington, D.C., November 29, 1997.

“Urban History and the Graffiti Subculture in New York City.” History and Culture Lecture Series. Carlow College, Pittsburgh, PA, January 29, 1998. **(invited)**

"Further Adventures in (Urban) Style: Appropriation, Spectacle and the City in Contemporary Youth Formations." The Style Conference. Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio, July 25, 1997.

"Bombing the Mediated City: Video Technology and Graffiti." 1997 Performance Studies Association. Atlanta, GA, April 12, 1997.

"Youth Culture, Moral Panic, and the 'Graffiti Problem' in New York City." On Subway Trains and Gallery Walls: Graffiti Writing in New York City. Museum of the City of New York, October 19, 1996. **(I helped to organized this day-long symposium.)**

"'You Got To Work For Your Fame': Work and Reward in Hip Hop's Political Economy, 1970-1990." 1996 Organization of American Historians. Chicago, March 28. **(I organized this panel.)**

"The Game is the Name: "Fame" and the Work Ethic in Contemporary Youth Culture." 1995 American Studies Association. Pittsburgh, November 9, 1995.

"Where the Other Canons are Stored: Popular Culture, Youth Subcultures, and the HipHop Nation." 1994 Organization of American Historians. Atlanta, April. (**I organized this panel.**)

"Graffiti Art and Urban Aesthetics." 1993 American Studies Association. Boston, November 4, 1993.

"Brief Meetings on a Walled Street: High Art, Street Writing, and the Contradicted Spaces of Two Counter-Aesthetics." Sixteenth Annual Whitney Symposium on American Art and Culture. Whitney Museum of American Art, New York City, May 1, 1993. (**invited**)

"Another Young City: Youth Culture, Autonomy, and "Invisible" Urban Space." 1992 American Studies Association. Costa Mesa, California, November 7, 1992. (**I organized this panel.**)

"A Symbol That We Have Lost Control": Authority, Public Identity, and Graffiti Writing." 1991 American Studies Association. Baltimore, Maryland, November 1, 1991.

Evaluative Reviews of My Publications in Scholarly Journals

Green, M. (2003). [Review of *Taking the Train.*] *Urban Studies*, 40(4), 864-865.

Lachmann, Richard. (2002). [Review of *Taking the Train.*] *American Journal of Sociology*, 108(1), 296.

Harris, Moira (2002). [Review of *Taking the Train.*] *Public Art Review*, Fall/Winter, 41-2.

Fishwich, Marshal. (2001). [Review of *Generations of Youth.*] *Journal of Popular Culture*, 35(3), 212-3.

Pedersen, B.T. (2001). [Review of *Generations of Youth.*] *Ariel: A Review of International English Literature*, 32(4), 252-254.

Formanek-Brunell, Miriam. (1999). [Review of *Generations of Youth.*] *Journal of American History*, 86(2), 855-856.

Kruckemeyer, Kate. (1999). [Review of *Generations of Youth.*] *American Studies International*, 37(1), 102-104.