

# ANA HILDA FIGUEROA DE JESÚS

Based in Puerto Rico & New York City · ahilda@outlook.com · ahilda.blog

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Over 8 years advancing equitable and sustainable access to Caribbean, Latin American and Latinx arts and cultural sectors through curatorial leadership; public humanities program design, administration and evaluation; research, writing, criticism & editorial; and mentorship & educational initiatives.

## EDUCATION

### New York University (NYU)

MA, Latin American and Caribbean Studies; Advanced Certificate, Museum Studies 2025  
*Henry M. MacCracken Fellow*

### Universidad de Puerto Rico, recinto de Río Piedras (UPR–RP)

BA, Art History 2021  
*Magna Cum Laude*

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Workshop Facilitator | Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, San Juan, PR 2026

- Facilitated Jóvenes Líderes Program supported by MAC en el Barrio and community leaders from El Caño Martín Peña, designing a participatory arts-education workshop using curatorial practice as a tool for youth civic engagement and community storytelling.
- Advanced equitable access to arts education by building participants' leadership and collaborative problem-solving skills through the collective development, installation, and interpretation of an exhibition.

### Curatorial Assistant | Museo de Arte, UPR–RUM, Mayagüez, PR 2026

- Led a collection-wide research initiative producing 80+ artist biographies and evaluating 500+ works strengthening institutional records and public access.
- Advised museum leadership on registrar operations, external partnerships, copyright, and deaccession policy contributing directly to institutional strategy and risk management.
- Mentored museum staff in research methodologies building internal capacity for future initiatives.

### Research Collaborator | Baker Museum, Artis-Naples, Naples, FL 2026

- Contributed to a Warhol Foundation-supported retrospective on Puerto Rican late artist Carlos Raquel Rivera. Created condition reports on all loaned objects and assisted in 18 stakeholder interviews building relationships with artists, collectors, and institutional partners.

### Curator & Program Manager | Galería La QuNa, Caguas, PR 2025 – 2026

- Curated contemporary art exhibition including 45 artists across Latin America; designed a recurring public programming series expanding sustained community engagement.
- Managed program administration and resource logistics, including budgets, contracts and loan of agreement; authored public-facing materials for print and marketing.

### Program Advisor | Transcultura, Caribbean InTransit — UNESCO, Remote 2025

- Advised cultural entrepreneurs on financial management and project implementation in compliance with UNESCO's international funding and reporting standards; evaluated impact data to inform sustainability recommendations.

### Curatorial Associate | The Latinx Project, NYU, New York, NY 2024 – 2025

- From concept through installation, co-curated *RicanVisions: Global Ancestralities and Embodied Futures* showcasing 19 intergenerational artists from the Puerto Rican diaspora.
- Coordinated logistics for exhibitions and institutional events; supported selection processes for Fellowship, Curatorial, and Artist-inResidence programs.

### Curator | Taller Boricua, New York, NY 2024

- Curated retrospective *The Art of Resistance* presenting 25 years of art and agit-prop by vagabond, Nuyorican artist, writer and filmmaker.

- Public Engagement Guide** | *ArtNexus — Armory Show (NYC) & Art Basel (Miami), Various* 2023
- Delivered public education programming on Contemporary art trends at two of the field's largest international convenings.
- Curatorial (Collections) Intern** | *Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY* 2023
- Contributed to the D. Daskalopoulos Collection gift initiative. Researched and documented 100+ artworks. Authored object catalog records and exhibition narrative proposals.
- Guest Instructor** | *UPR-RP, San Juan, PR & UAGM, Gurabo, PR* 2023
- Instructed three comprehensive lectures for undergraduate Art History course and graduate-level Curatorial course, designing and facilitating materials. Supervised by Dr. Quintín Rivera Toro.
- Collections Manager** | *OsviArte, San Juan, PR* 2023
- Managed private collection operations, provenance documentation, and external relations.
- Assistant Registrar** | *UAGM Museum, Gurabo, PR* 2023
- Led database migration and cataloging protocols; edited institutional collection guide publication.
- Collections Manager & Web Designer** | *Colección Reyes-Veray, San Juan, PR.* 2021 – 2022
- Built digital infrastructure and database systems; managed artworks loan and donation logistics.
- Artist Estate Registrar** | *Estate of Luis Antonio Vargas Vélez, Isabela, PR* 2021
- Catalogued 350+ objects. Advised on preservation strategy and institutional partnerships.
- Curatorial Assistant** | *Museo de Historia, Antropología y Arte, UPR-RP, San Juan, PR* 2019 – 2021
- Biographical and bibliographical research for The Exhibitions Archive (1950-1980) project. Authored object catalog records for permanent collection. Managed archival digitization and copyrights for Puerto Rican Prints Collection. Research assistant for *El Cartel: Voz para la resistencia* exhibition and publication.
- Katzenberger Art History Intern** | *Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C.* 2020
- Secured copyright clearances for 300+ archival audio files in the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden library.
- Administrative Assistant Student** | *Sistema de Bibliotecas, UPR-RP, San Juan, PR* 2018 - 2019
- Assisted in Cataloguing Section. Marked, verified and edited codes in newly acquired materials and inventories.

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- “Puerto Rican Women in Arts: lo afectivo, crítico y diverso.” *Revista Plástica* (2025)
- “Navigating Noise, Diasporic Mappings, and Ruptured Spaces.” *RicanWritings, CENTRO* (2025)
- “De-facing Capital.” *Interventions, The Latinx Project* (2025)
- Solo exhibitions reviewed for *ArtNexus*: Ana González (2025), Dagoberto Rodríguez (2024), Jaime Lauriano (2024), Marisol Plard Narváez (2023), and Angel Otero (2023)

## RESEARCH

- “The Esso Salon of Young Artists: Puerto Rico (1964)” (2024)
- Mitchell Family Award for Outstanding Scholarship in Latin American and Caribbean Studies*
- “Remembering the Island of Enchantment” (2024)
- “Iconography of Masculinities in Puerto Rican Art (2000–2020)” (2021)

## CONFERENCES & PANELS

- “Marked Bodies: Mapping Gender in Afro-Caribbean Art and Culture.” *The Gund, Kenyon College, Gambier, OH* (2026)
- “Desmantelando narrativas coloniales: los museos ante la memoria colectiva y las interseccionalidades caribeñas.” “La isla del encanto: (De)construcciones del paraíso.” *Museums Association of the Caribbean, Ciudad de Panamá, Panamá* (2024)

“Iconografía de las masculinidades en el arte puertorriqueño (2000-2020).” Museo de Arte de Ponce, virtual (2021)

## **VOLUNTEER**

Museo de Arte Contemporáneo (2022) · Visión Doble Journal (2020) · New School Institute (2020) · MECA International Art Fair (2019) · AIESEC in Río Piedras (2018 – 2019)

## **HONORS & FELLOWSHIPS**

MAC Travel Fellowship, Museums Association of the Caribbean (2024) · Public Humanities Fellow, The Latinx Project – La Sala de Pepe (2024) · Young Critics Contest, International Association of Art Critics, Puerto Rico (2022) · Community Journalist Stipend, Council of Library and Information Resources (2020)

## **SKILLS**

Softwares: TMS, eMuseum, WordPress, FileMaker, Canva, Microsoft 365, Google Suite, Zoom, Navan, Horizon Information Portal  
Languages: Spanish (Native) · English (Advanced) · French (Conversational)