

Daisy Ahlstone

Pronouns: They/Them – (805) 850-5858 – daisy.ahlstone@gmail.com – daisyahlstone.com

CURRENT ROLE

2025-Present **Operations Manager**, [Western States Folklore Society](#); Manage 162 society memberships, hosts 3 virtual events annually, coordinates committee meeting agendas and scheduling, & supports external communications to the society membership. Develop and implement outreach & retention strategies. Redesigned website for increased membership enrollment and payment accessibility. Coordinate logistics & production of the Society's peer-reviewed journal, *Western Folklore*.

EDUCATION

May 2025 **PhD in Comparative Studies**, Ohio State University Columbus, OH
Dissertation: "What Holds Us Together: Community, Ecology, and Folklore in the 21st Century."
Dissertation Committee: Maurice Stevens (Chair), Merrill Kaplan, fabian romero, Thomas Davis, & Tim Frandy (outside reader).

May 2019 **MA in English/Folklore**, Utah State University Logan, UT
Thesis: Thylacine Dreams: The Vernacular Resurrection of an Extinct Marsupial.
Thesis Committee: Lynne McNeill (Chair), Christine Cooper-Rompato, & John McLaughlin.

June 2009 **BA in Folklore**, University of Oregon Eugene, OR
Minors: Gender Studies; Certificate of Film Studies

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

2023 with Dominick Tartaglia, Kaitlyn Kinney, Christine J. Widmayer, Anna Morel, and Jared L. Schmidt. "Becoming *Folkwise*: Sustaining Digital Community while Socially Distant." *Cultural Analysis* (1): Pandemic & Politics.

2022 "Giving Life to Legends: Material Representation of Ostensive Behavior." *Western Folklore*. 82(1): 3-59.

2018 with Camille Sleight-Price and Michelle Jones. "Forbidden Foodways: Tide Pods, Ostensive Practice, and Intergenerational Conflict." *Contemporary Legend* 3, no. 8: 86-112.

Book Chapters

2023 "Gaming Extinction: Representations of the Thylacine in Video Games" in *Thylacine: The History, Ecology and Loss of the Tasmanian Tiger*, edited by Gareth Linnard and Branden Holmes, 176-179. CSIRO Publishing [Book received [2023 Whitley Award for Historical Zoology](#)].

- 2023 “Narrating Perseverance: An Overview of Thylacines in Fiction” in *Thylacine: The History, Ecology and Loss of the Tasmanian Tiger*, edited by Gareth Linnard and Branden Holmes, 176-179. CSIRO Publishing [Book received [2023 Whitley Award for Historical Zoology](#)].

Book Reviews

- 2026 “Griffinology: The Griffin’s Place in Myth, History and Art” by A. L. McClanan. *Marvels & Tales* 40(1).
- 2022 [“Posthuman Folklore”](#) by Tok Thompson. *Western Folklore* 81(1): 75-78.
- 2021 [“Lifelong Learning and Dementia: A Posthumanist Perspective”](#) by Quinn, Jocey, and Claudia Blandon. *Disability Studies Quarterly* 41(1).
- 2019 [“Culture and Value: Heritage, Tourism and Property”](#) by Regina Bendix. *Western Folklore* 78(4): 357-359.

Other Publications

- 2026 “Thinking with Fungus.” *Borderlore*, January 29, 2026. borderlore.org/thinking-with-fungus/.
- 2025 *The Thylacine: The Life, Death, and Legends of the Tasmanian Tiger*. Zine. Microcosm Publishing.
- 2021 with Dominick Tartaglia, Kaitlyn Kinney, Christine J. Widmayer, Anna Morel, & Jared L. Schmidt. [“A Case Study: Folkwise.”](#) *Folklore Advocacy Toolkit*, American Folklore Society. 8 September 2021.

Forthcoming Publications

- 2026 with J. S. Jordan. “Wild Systems Theory and the Contextual Reality of Meaning: Folklore, Embodied Context, and Community” *Journal of Folklore Research*. Special Issue: Disturbed Traditions: Folklore in the Anthropocene.

COLLEGE TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2026	Goucher College CSP 657: Culture, Spirituality & Sustainability Fall 2026 (online)	Adjunct Instructor	Baltimore, MD Cultural Leadership & Management
2023-2025	Ohio State University	Various Roles	Columbus, OH
<i>Instructor of Record:</i>			
	COMPSTD 2350/ENGLISH 2250: Introduction to Folklore Spring 2023 (hybrid), Fall 2023 (hybrid), Spring 2024 (hybrid), Fall 2025 (online)		Comparative Studies
<i>Teaching Assistant:</i>			
	CS1100: Introduction to Comparative Studies Fall 2022 (online)		Comparative Studies

2020 **Columbus State Community College** **Adjunct Instructor** **Columbus, OH**
 ENGLISH 2367: English Composition II English Department
 Spring 2020 (transferred courses online mid-semester),
 Summer 2020 (online)

2017-2019 **Utah State University** **Instructor of Record** **Logan, UT**
 ENGLISH 1010: Introduction to Writing: Academic Prose English Department
 Fall 2017, Spring 2018
 ENGLISH 1010: Intermediate Writing: Research in a English Department
 Persuasive Mode
 Fall 2018, Spring 2019

Other Teaching Experience

2017-2019 **Writing Center Tutor**, Utah State University; Logan, UT

EDITING EXPERIENCE

2021-2025 **Copy Editor**, [*Cultural Analysis*](#) (peer-reviewed journal)

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2025 “MycoLore: How to Study Folklore like Fungi”
 American Folklore Society Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA.

2025 “What is a Quilt About?: Wild Systems Theory, Embodied Context, and
 Folklore”
 Western States Folklore Society Annual Meeting. Logan, UT.

2025 “What is a Quilt About?: Wild Systems Theory, Embodied Context, and
 Folklore”
 IU/OSU Annual Graduate Conference. Columbus, OH.

2024 “Wild Systems Theory, Embodied Context, and Folklore”
 American Folklore Society Annual Meeting. Santa Fe, NM.

2024 “Playful Learning on Twitch: Perspectives on Creating Educational and
 Engaging Livestreams”
 Panel with Kathleen Kuo, Ryan Thompson, and Dana Plank.
 Play/Make/Learn Conference, Madison, WI.

2024 “Previewing the new WSFS website”
 Western States Folklore Society Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA.

2024 “Crafting Assignments in the Folklore Classroom”
 Western States Folklore Society Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA.

2023 “Workshop for Online Communication for Folklorists”
 Panel with Andrea Kitta, Lynne McNeill, and Virginia Siegel, American
 Folklore Society Annual Meeting. Portland, OR.

2023 “Manufacturing Cryptids”
 Midwest Popular Culture Association Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL.

- 2022 "Decomposition as a Model for Concluding Ethnographic Projects"
American Folklore Society Annual Meeting. Tulsa, OK.
- 2021 "Becoming *Folkwise*: Sustaining Digital Community while Socially Distant"
Panel with Dominick Tartaglia, Kaitlyn Kinney, Christine J. Widmayer,
Anna Morel, and Jared L. Schmidt, American Folklore Society Annual
Meeting. Virtual.
- 2021 "Ostensive Behavior: The Effect of Storytelling on Non-Human Animals"
American Folklore Society Annual Meeting. Harrisburg, PA.
- 2021 "The Material Practice of Ostensive Behavior"
International Society for Contemporary Legend Research Annual
Meeting, Virtual.
- 2021 "Texting, Zooming, and Memes: Sustaining Digital Community while Socially Distant"
Panel with Dominick Tartaglia, Kaitlyn Kinney, Christine J. Widmayer,
Anna Morel, and Jared L. Schmidt, Western States Folklore Society
Annual Meeting, Virtual.
- 2020 "Ostensive Behavior: The Limitations of Combining Theories"
Folklore Society of Utah Annual Meeting, Virtual.
- 2020 "Hindsight is 2020: Revisiting and Revising Past Projects"
IU/OSU Annual Graduate Conference. Columbus, OH.
- 2019 "Thylacine Tourism: Marketing the Undead"
American Folklore Society Annual Meeting. Baltimore, MD.
- 2018 "A Folklorist's Touch: Applying Ethnographic Interview Techniques in Learning
Environments."
Folklore Society of Utah Annual Meeting, Ephraim, UT.
- 2018 "Thylacine Dreams: Symbolism in the Vernacular Resurrection of an Extinct
Marsupial"
American Folklore Society Annual Meeting. Buffalo, NY.
- 2018 "Thylacine Dreams: Ostensive Practice in the Vernacular Resurrection of an
Extinct Marsupial"
International Society for Contemporary Legend Research Annual
Conference, Brussels, Belgium.
- 2018 "Forbidden Foodways: Tide Pods, Ostensive Practice, and Intergenerational
Conflict"
Panel with Camille Sleight-Price and Michelle Jones, Western States
Folklore Society Annual Meeting, Long Beach, CA.

INVITED TALKS & WORKSHOPS

- 2026 "Extinction, Folklore, & Multispecies Interdependencies"
Job Talk. Louisiana State University.

- 2025 “Werewolves: What they are, where they come from, and why they matter”
[Arrow Senior Living Management](#). Virtual.
- 2024 “[Manufacturing Cryptids: Threatened and Endangered Species Storytelling](#)”
Folk Zoology Conference. Virtual.
- 2023 “Manufacturing Cryptids”
Lecture for Intro to Folklore course taught by Patricia Sawin, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Virtual.
- 2023 “Decomposition as a Model for Ethnographic Community Centered Research”
[Belief Narrative Network Online Lecture Series](#), International Society for Folk Narrative Research, Virtual.
- 2022 “Quilting and Queer Folklore”
Lecture for Intro to Folklore course taught by Zahra Abedinezhad, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.
- 2022 “Manufacturing Cryptids”
Lecture for Queer Ecology course taught by Robin Cremins, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.
- 2022 “[Ecology and Folklore as Tools for Resistance](#)”
Folklore & Resistance Roundtable, The Carterhaugh School for Folklore and the Fantastic, Virtual.
- 2022 “Using Folklore to Bring Communities Together Online”
Lecture for Intro to Folklore course taught by Jeanmarie Rouhier-Willoughby, University of Kentucky, Virtual.
- 2021 “[Storytelling on Social Platforms Twitch & Discord](#)”
Artists Standing Strong Together, Virtual.
- 2021 “Manufacturing Cryptids”
Lecture for Intro to Folklore course taught by Rachel Ross, Penn State Harrisburg, Virtual.
- 2021 “Manufacturing Cryptids”
Lecture for Intro to Folklore course taught by Mary Sellers, Penn State Harrisburg, Virtual.
- 2018 “Curriculum Vitae Workshop”
English Department, Utah State University, Logan UT.
- 2018 “Legends and Ostension”
Co-led with Michelle Jones, Introduction to Folklore course taught by Eric Morales, Utah State University, Logan UT.
- 2017 “Organizing Your Way Through Grad School”
Practicum in Teaching Writing, Utah State University, Logan UT.

MULTIMEDIA PROJECTS

- 2020-Present **Director** of [WiseFolk Productions, LLC](#), producers of *Folkwise*. Leads a five-person multimedia team overseeing digital content production, public education initiatives, and community engagement strategies. Produced and hosted interviews with over 150 guests over the last 5 years. Conducts in-depth research & develop engaging interview questions. Edits both film & written media with brand consistency across social media platforms. Develops and sustains partnerships with cultural non-profit organizations, including the American Folklore Society, National Folklife Network, and International Society for Contemporary Legend Research. Oversee organizational finances, including contract administration, merchandise management, and recurring subscription revenue. Produces social media content including campaign scheduling, audience engagement, and event promotion.
- 2023-Present **Writer**, [MycoLore](#): essays, zines, artwork, and more on mycology, folklore, community, collaboration, research, and philosophy.
- 2025-2026 **Website redesign lead**, [Western States Folklore Society](#), Remote.
- 2024 **Researcher, interviewer, film editor**, [Wise Words](#): partnership between the [National Folklife Network](#) and WiseFolk Productions to co-produce a series of educational videos, personal interviews, and educational infographics for NFN members. Funded by the National Endowment for the Arts. (Films viewable upon request).
- 2020-2024 **Videographer, communications** with [Livelihoods Knowledge Exchange Network](#): Increased LiKEN's capacity to tell stories that align with their community-and-ecologically centered by visually weaving film, photos, and art together with spoken and written work. For the [Sharing Successes in Agroforestry project](#), conducted on-site, ethnographic video production and film editing for LiKEN's project on sustainable forest farming. Created a branding and public relations kit for social media and website.
- 2023 **Solo exhibition**, "Extinction in Stripes: Artwork of the Thylacine": Humanities Institute Mini-Exhibit, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.
- 2021 **Website redesign lead**, [Richland Grow-Op \(RGO\)](#), Mansfield, OH.
- 2020 **Director, producer, editor**, *Yellow Creek Hellbenders: A Comparison Between Wildlife Biologists and Folklorists*, Film, Columbus, OH. (Film viewable upon request).

MEDIA APPEARANCES

- 2025 ["ReggieCon celebrates Native American Heritage Month with 'Wheetago War: Roth'"](#)
Live appearance at [ReggieCon](#), Illinois State University. Virtual.
- 2024 ["ReggieCon celebrates Native American Heritage Month with 'Hero Twins!'"](#)
Live appearance at [ReggieCon](#), Illinois State University. Virtual.

- 2024 ["Ep 57: From Extinction to Legend: The Tasmanian Tiger's Journey in Popular Culture with Daisy Ahlstone"](#)
Featured guest, interviewed by Vanessa Rogers. *Fabric of Folklore Podcast*, Spotify Podcasts.
- 2024 ["Letters of Rec for Thylacines | S2E8 Floaties for Krakens"](#)
Featured guest, interviewed by Camille Acosta. *Floaties for Krakens Podcast*, Spotify Podcasts.
- 2024 ["EP 29: Daisy Ahlstone"](#)
Featured guest, interviewed by Spencer George. *Good Folk Podcast*, Substack Podcasts.
- 2023 ["S2E1 Mark My Wizard \(Research, Inclusivity, & Collaboration\)"](#)
Featured guest, interviewed by Perry Carpenter and Mason Amadeus. *Digital Folklore Podcast*, Apple Podcasts.
- 2021 ["Episode 156 - Thylacines with Folklorist Daisy Ahlstone"](#)
Featured guest, interviewed by Paul Romero and Ben Radford. *Squaring the Strange*, Apple Podcasts.
- 2021 ["The TMC Podcast \(The Movie Club\): O Brother, Where Art Thou?"](#)
Featured guest, interviewed by Toemas Pappas. *The TMC Podcast*, YouTube.
- 2021 ["Feasts & Festivals of Ice & Fire \(Virtual Ice & Fire Con 2021\)"](#)
Panel with Dominick Tartaglia and Lydia Bringerud, Ice and Fire Con, YouTube.
- 2021 ["Interview with... Daisy from Folkwise?"](#)
Featured guest, interviewed by Dom Tartaglia. *Folkwise*, YouTube.

TEACHING, RESEARCH, & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

- 2023 [Summer Intensive on Community-Engaged Scholarship](#), Michigan State University
- 2022 [COMPSTD 1100 Course Design Institute](#), Ohio State University Drake Institute for Teaching and Learning
- 2021 [Advanced Methods Institute](#), Ohio State University
- 2020 [Faculty Professional Development Initiative \(FPDi\)](#), Columbus State Community College

Pedagogical Development Courses Taken

- 2022 COMPSTD 6500, Transformative Access Pedagogy, Ohio State University
- 2017 ENGL 6820, Pedagogical Practicum, Utah State University

PUBLIC HUMANITIES RESEARCH AND PROJECT EXPERIENCE

- 2025-Present **Operations Manager**, [Western States Folklore Society](#); coordinates production of the Society's peer-reviewed journal, *Western Folklore*. Manages membership, website, and communications. Develops and implements outreach and retention strategies.
- 2024-2025 **Graduate Engagement Assistant**, Ohio State University; project included a collaborative focus group of graduate students from across departments building support for their community-engaged research projects. The group developed shared understandings of Engaged Research and Community-Driven Participatory Theorizing practices and created and executed a strategic plan for community-facing programming that shared knowledge and skill sets cultivated over the course of the year with broader communities.
- 2021-2022 **Graduate Field School Research Assistant**, Ohio State University; Networked, designed, and collaborated on the sustainability of a graduate-level field school course focused on ethnographic and community-based participatory research connecting Appalachian Forest communities, students, and the Center for Folklore Studies.
- 2021 **Ethnographic Researcher**, [Women Owning Woodlands: Ohio Field School](#), Ohio State University; Trained in Participatory Action Research and Ethnographic fieldwork methods as part of an ongoing project researching oral histories of place-making in Southeast Ohio; archived and processed collected data into Ohio State University Center for Folklore Studies Archives.
- 2018 **Archival Intern**, American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress; Archived and transcribed materials from the Civil Rights History Project. Designed an accessible search engine for the AFC website and selected main content for demonstration. Attended and assisted staff with event planning.
- 2018 **Ethnographic Researcher**, Bear River Heritage Area Cattle-Branding Project, Utah State University; Interviewed and photographed individuals as part of an ethnographic project on cattle-branding practices in Cache County; archived and processed collected data into Fife Folklore Archives.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, & AWARDS

- 2024, 2025 Graduate Student Travel Grant, Center for Folklore Studies, Ohio State University
- 2022; 2023; 2024 Graduate Research Small Grants Program, College of Arts & Sciences, Ohio State University
- 2022 Don Yoder Religious & Folk Belief Section Prize, American Folklore Society
- 2022 Folklore and Science Section Junior Prize, American Folklore Society
- 2021 WSFS Technology Grant, Western States Folklore Society

2021	COVID Relief Folklore Student Association Award, Center for Folklore Studies, Ohio State University
2020-2021	Graduate Enrichment Fellowship, Ohio State University
2019	English Department Scholarship, Utah State University
2018	Janice Judge Dee Scholarship, Utah State University
2017-2018	Folklore Fellow Scholarship, Utah State University

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2017-Present	Western States Folklore Society
2017-Present	International Society for Contemporary Legend Research
2016-Present	American Folklore Society
2023-2025	International Association for Environmental Philosophy
2024-2025	North American Mycological Society
2023-2024	Engagement Scholarship Consortium
2023-2024	Association for Community Organization and Social Action
2023-2024	Midwest Pop Culture Association
2017-2022	Folklore Society of Utah
2016-2022	Citizen's Climate Lobby
2019-2020	Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SEIF)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Service to Institution

2020; 2022; 2025	Conference Organizer , IU/OSU Folklore Student Conference
2021 – 2024	President , The Ohio State University Folklore Student Association
2022	Conference Organizer , A Collective Address to Death Graduate Conference
2018-2019	Graduate Mentor , Utah State University English Department
2017-2019	President , Utah State University Folklore Club

Service to Discipline

2026-Present	Blind Peer Reviewer , <i>Journal of Folklore and Education</i> (peer-reviewed journal)
2026-Present	Blind Peer Reviewer , <i>International Journal of Play</i> (peer-reviewed journal)
2026-Present	Blind Peer Reviewer , <i>Journal of American Folklore</i> (peer-reviewed journal)
2025-Present	Grant Reviewer , MidAtlantic Arts
2025-Present	Board Member , Belief Narrative Network, International Society for Folk Narrative Research
2025-Present	Blind Peer Reviewer , <i>English Studies</i> (peer-reviewed journal)

2023-Present **Section Convener**, Folklore & Science, American Folklore Society
 Chair of Folklore & Science Prize Committee

2021, 2022, 2023 **Conference Hybridization**, American Folklore Society & WiseFolk Productions

2021 – 2022 **Conference Organizer**, Western States Folklore Society Conference

2017 – 2019 **Section Convener**, Graduate Student & Young Professionals, American Folklore Society

Service to Community

2025-2026 **House Treasurer**, [Bloomington Co-operative Living](#)

2024-Present **Collaborator**, Trans Folklorist Solidarity Working Group

LANGUAGES & OTHER SKILLS

Languages

- Spanish (intermediary reading and writing; proficient conversationally)
- German (intermediary reading & translation)

Software & Digital Production

- Archiving and data management
- WordPress, Wix, and basic website design
- Social media and project management utilizing Buffer, Trello, Slack, Microsoft 360
- Content design & creation utilizing Canva & Adobe Express
- Adobe Premiere & Adobe Rush, and iMovie
- On-location videography and audio engineering
- Green screen studio production
- Live streaming on Twitch and YouTube (See [Folkwise](#))