

# Maya B Henderson

Seneca-Cayuga Nation Citizen

University of Geography, Dept. of Geography

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow

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## Education

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- 2026      Ph.D., Geography, University of Georgia (candidate)  
*Advisor:* Dr. Jennifer Rice
- 2022      M.A., Geography, University of Georgia  
*Thesis:* Carbon Colonialism by the Emerald City: Colonial Social Relations in Urban Climate Action  
*Advisor:* Dr. Jennifer Rice
- 2020      B.A., Environmental Sustainability: Planning and Management with Geographic Information Systems (Minor), University of Oklahoma  
*Capstone Advisor:* Dr. Mary Lawhon

## Research

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### *Areas of Interest*

Indigenous geographies, urban political ecology, settler-colonial cities, urban climate justice

### *Research Projects*

- 2024      Doctoral Dissertation, “An Indigenous Urban Climate Justice: A Case Study of Seattle, WA”, supervised by Dr. Jennifer Rice, University of Georgia, expected: May 2026
- 2022      Master’s Thesis, “Carbon Colonialism by the Emerald City: Colonial Social Relations in Urban Climate Action”, supervised by Dr. Jennifer Rice, University of Georgia, August 2022
- 2020      Undergraduate Capstone Project, “What is a “Green City”? Understanding Environmental Imaginaries of Residents in a Politically Conservative Area”, supervised by Dr. Mary Lawhon, University of Oklahoma, May 2020
- 2019      Undergraduate Academic Assistant, “Imaginations and moral connotations of “green city” in politically conservative areas”, supervised by Dr. Mary Lawhon, University of Oklahoma, May 2019-August 2019

2018 Undergraduate Academic Assistant, “Constructing Green Cities”, supervised by Dr. Angela Person and Dr Randy Pepler, University of Oklahoma, June 2018-August 2018

## Publications

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### *Under Review*

- 2024 **Henderson, M.B.** & Rice, J.L., “Seeking Climate Justice: An Examination of Settler-Colonial Climate Action in Seattle, Washington”. Submitted to *Annals of the American Association of Geographers*.
- 2024 Athena Co-Learning Collective, **Henderson, M.B.**, Mandal, S., Prostine, B., Rice, J.L., Taillefer, K., Trauger, A., Urresty-Vargas, C., and Wayson, E. ““Be In But Not Of” the University: Collective Refusal as Resistance to Isolation and Precarity”. Submitted to *ACME: An International Journal for Critical Geography*.

### *In Progress*

- 2024 Orozco, A., **Henderson, M.B.**, Berry, R., Rao, M., Hysjulien, A., Martinez, J. & Shannon, J. “Mapping Black Presence and Absence in Athens, GA”. Planned submission Fall 2024.
- 2023 **Henderson, M.B.** & Orozco, A. “(Un)Abstracting Place Through Indigenous and Black Scholarship”.

### *Peer Reviewed*

- 2022 Arney, R.N., **Henderson, M.B.**, Deloach, H., Lichtenstein, G., & German, L. “Connecting Across Difference in Environmental Governance: Beyond Rights, Recognition, and Participation”. *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space*.
- 2021 **Henderson, M.** & Lawhon, M. “What is a “Green City”? Understanding Environmental Imaginaries of Residents in a Politically Conservative Area”. *Southeastern Geographer*.

### *Editor Reviewed*

- 2021 Lawhon, M., **Henderson, M.**, & McCreary, T. “Neither more nor less, but enough: Towards a modest political ecology of the future”, *Political Geography*.
- 2018 **Henderson, M.**, Person, A., & Pepler, R. “Constructing Green Cities”, Feature Article in SCIPP Newsletter, November 2018.

Maya B Henderson, NSF Graduate Research Fellow

### *Book Review*

2020 Lawhon, M. & **Henderson, M.** “Book Review of *A Planet to Win: Why We Need A Green New Deal* by Kate Aronoff, Alyssa Battistoni, Daniel Aldana Cohen and Thea Riofrancos”. Antipode Online, July 2020.

## **Honors & Awards**

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2023 Globe Award for Conceptual Advancement  
2022 Science Post Graduate Scholarship (Declined)  
2021 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program  
2021 Cobell Scholar Graduate Award  
2020 Cobell Scholar Graduate Award  
2020 Letzeiser Honor List  
2020 Clyde F. Bollinger Award  
2020 Academic Achievement Award  
2020 Gamma Theta Upsilon Member  
2019 Udall Scholar  
2019 Academic Achievement Award  
2019 Cobell Scholar Undergraduate Award  
2019 PE-ET Top 10 Senior Honor Society  
2019 Vernon and Sandra Nutter Scholarship  
2018 Academic Achievement Award  
2018 Ralph and Margaret Olson Scholarship  
2017 Academic Achievement Award  
2016 Academic Achievement Award

## **Panels**

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2022 **Henderson, M.B.**, Panelist, Lunch and Learn with Native Student, UGA Career Center, University of Georgia

2021 **Henderson, M.B.**, Panelist, Transnational Movements for Land, Water, and Home, Dept of Geography, University of Georgia (Online Panel)

2020 **Henderson, M.B.**, Panelist, Graduate School Informational, Dept of Geography & Environmental Sustainability, University of Oklahoma (Online Panel)

2019 **Henderson, M.B.**, Panelist, Student Heroes: Environmental Sustainability Panel. Student Heroes Organization. University of Oklahoma

2019 **Henderson, M.B.**, Panelist, Affording College Panel. Edmond Indian Education. Edmond, Oklahoma

## Conference Presentations

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- 2023 Shannon, J., Orozco, A., **Henderson, M.B.**, Rao, M. “Mapping Black Presence (and Absence) in Athens, GA”, Race Ethnicity and Place Conference
- 2023 **Henderson, M.B.** & Rice, J.L. “Seeking Climate Justice: Confronting Settler-Colonial Climate Action in Seattle, WA”, Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting
- 2023 **Henderson, M.B.** & Orozco, A. “(Un) Abstracting Place Through Indigenous and Black Scholarship”, American Indian Studies Conference
- 2022 **Henderson, M.B.** “Against (Settler) Colonial Climate Action: A Look into Seattle, Washington’s Climate Mitigation Plans”, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers Conference
- 2022 **Henderson, M.B.** & Arney, R.N. “Beyond Rights, Recognition, and Participation: Rupturing Settler Colonial Approaches to Environmental Governance”, Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting. (virtual)
- 2022 Arney, R.N. & **Henderson, M.B.** “Decolonizing Conservation and Environmental Governance: Theoretical Foundations for Situating Research and Practice Beyond Coloniality”, Integrative Conservation Conference. (virtual)
- 2020 **Henderson, M.B.** “Imaginations of “green cities” in a politically conservative area”, Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference, Undergraduate Symposium
- 2019 **Henderson, M.B.** “Constructing Green Cities”, Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference, Undergraduate Symposium

## Conference Sessions

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- 2024 **Henderson, M.B.** & Rivera, I. Co-Organizers. “Insurgent Life!” Worldmaking through Anti/Decolonial Digital Geographies”. Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference
- 2023 **Henderson, M.B.**, Arney, A. & Rice, J.L. Co-Organizers. “Politics of Environmental Knowledge: From (Settler) Colonial Spaces to Anti-Colonial Praxis”. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting

## Community-Scholarship Experience

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- 2023 - Member, Georgia Community Geography Collective, University of Georgia
- 2023 - Member, Community Mapping Lab, University of Georgia
- 2023 Student, Community GIS Course, University of Georgia
- 2021 Community Workshop Organizer, Linnentown Mosaic Project, Social Theory Seminar, Fall 2021, University of Georgia

## Teaching Experience

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### *Teaching Assistantships*

- 2022 Teaching Assistant, GEOG 1101 Human Geography, University of Georgia
- 2021 Teaching Assistant, GEOG 1101 Human Geography, University of Georgia
- 2021 Teaching Assistant & Discussion Section Lead, GEOG 1130 World Geography, University of Georgia
- 2020 Teaching Assistant, GEOG 1101 Introduction to Human Geography, University of Georgia

### *Guest Lectures*

- 2024 Understanding Settler-Colonialism, GEOG 1101, University of Georgia
- 2023 Native Politics, POLS 4790, University of Georgia.
- 2023 NAGPRA & Tribal Identity, NAMS 3000, University of Georgia.
- 2022 Climate Action & Colonialism, GEOG 1101, University of Georgia.

## Professional Association

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- 2023- Community Mapping Lab, University of Georgia
- 2020 - American Association of Geographers (AAG)
- 2020 - Athena Co-Learning Collective

## Service and Volunteer Experience

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### *Departmental & University Service*

- 2023- 2024 Co-Chair of the Geography Graduate Student Association, University of Georgia
- 2022 -2023 Graduate Student & Tribal Citizen Committee Advisor on Search Committee for Institute of Native Studies Director, University of Georgia
- 2022 - 2023 Vice-Chair of the Geography Graduate Student Association, University of Georgia
- 2022 - 2023 Cultural & Outreach Chair of the Native American Student Association, University of Georgia
- 2021 Panel Chair for Integrative Conservation Panel, Allied Action & Anti-Colonial Conservation, University of Georgia
- 2018- 2020 President of the Geography and Environmental Sustainability Club, University of Oklahoma
- 2018-2020 Chair of the Liaison Committee for Green Week, University of Oklahoma
- 2019-2020 Co-Chair of Cultural Council for Gamma Delta Pi (American Indian Sorority), University of Oklahoma

### *Service to Discipline*

- 2022 - 2023 Student Representative, Indigenous Peoples Specialty Groups of the American Association of Geographers