Maya B Henderson

Tribal Affiliation: Seneca-Cayuga Nation

University of Geography, Dept. of Geography

NSF Graduate Research Fellow

[mbh75542@uga.edu](mailto:mbh75542@uga.edu)

**Education**

2026 Ph.D., Geography, University of Georgia (expected)   
*Adviser:* Dr. Jennifer Rice

2022 M.A., Geography, University of Georgia   
*Thesis:* Carbon Colonialism by the Emerald City: Colonial Social Relations in   
 Urban Climate Action  
*Adviser*: Dr. Jennifer Rice

2020 B.A., Environmental Sustainability: Planning and Management with Geographic

Information Systems (Minor), University of Oklahoma

*Capstone Adviser*: Dr. Mary Lawhon

**Research**

*Areas of Interest*

urban climate justice, Indigenous geographies, tribal sovereignty & (settler) colonialism

*Research Projects*

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 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 Peppler, University of Oklahoma, June 2018-

August 2018.

**Publications**

*Under Review*

2023 **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.

*In Progress*

2023 **Henderson, M.B.** &Orozco, A. “(Un)Abstracting Place Through Indigenous and   
 Black Scholarship”. Planned submission Fall 2023.

*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., & Peppler, R. “Constructing Green Cities”, Feature

Article in SCIPP Newsletter, November 2018.

*Book Review*

2020Lawhon, 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**

2023 Globe Award for Conceptual Advancement

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**

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**

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.

**Community-Scholarship Experience**

2023 Member, Community Geography Collaborative, University of Georgia.

2023 Student, Community GIS Course, University of Georgia.

2021 Community Workshop Organizer, Linnentown Mosaic Project, Social Theory Seminar, University of Georgia.

**Teaching Experience**

*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*

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**

2023- Community Mapping Lab, University of Georgia

2020 - American Association of Geographers (AAG)

2020 - Athena Co-Learning Collective

**Service and Volunteer Experience**

*Departmental & University Service*

2023- 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