

Christy Coleman grew up in Williamsburg, Virginia and earned her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Hampton University. She currently serves as CEO of the American Civil War Museum, located in Richmond and Appomattox, Virginia. In her role as CEO, she has been instrumental in furthering discussion around the Civil War, its legacies, and its relevance not only in the Richmond region but around the nation.

Christy began her career at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. During her time with CWF she had increasing levels of responsibility finally serving as Director of Historic Programs being responsible for all programming and tours in the Historic Area. In 1999 she left to become President and CEO of the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit, MI. In 2008, Ms. Coleman was named President and CEO of the American Civil War Center at Historic Tredegar (ACWC) leading the young organization to prominence and sustainability.

In 2013 she helped orchestrate the merger of ACWC with the Museum of the Confederacy to create the American Civil War Museum. Christy has served on a number of local commissions and national boards. A tireless advocate for the power of museums, narrative disruption and inclusivity, she has been an innovator and leader in the history museum field. Christy strives to make museum experiences meaningful to diverse communities.

She has a number of published works and consults with other museums and universities on a variety of topics related to American history and culture, representation and inclusive narratives. She is also an award-winning play and screenwriter. A dynamic and thoughtful public speaker, Christy is a widely sought-after with appearances NPR, CNN, CBS Morning News, UnCivil, BackStory, Adam Ruins Everything, and many others.

Select Professional Activities/Awards/Recognitions

- Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA December 2018
- Honorary Doctor of Civil Law, University of the South, Sewanee, TN October 2018
- 2018 Richmond Power List: Arts and Culture, Style Magazine , August 28, 2018
- Meet the 31 People Who are Changing the South, Time Magazine August 6, 2018
- 2017 Richmond Power List: Arts and Culture, Style Weekly Magazine, Aug. 29, 2017
- Co-Chair, Monument Avenue Commission, City of Richmond, VA 2017-2018
- Citizens Advisory Council for the Executive Mansion, Commonwealth of Virginia 2016-present
- Person of the Year Finalist-Richmond Times Dispatch, 2015
- The "It" List, Boomer Magazine, Richmond, VA December 2012
- American Association for State and Local History, Council Member 2018-2022; 2000-2004
- American Alliance of Museums 1992-present, Board Member 2002-2006
- Association of African American Museums, member 1994- present