



COLLEGE of
CHARLESTON

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES

HSS Scholar

Benjamin Cameron Schaffer

MAJOR: HISTORY

MINOR: POLITICAL SCIENCE

Educational Highlights: I've maintained a 3.9 GPA, while interning and volunteering at various museums and institutions in the city. In 2014, I won the first place award in the undergraduate category of the W. Curtis Worthington, Jr. Research Paper Competition for my article "The Euro-Confederate Doctors: The Impact of the 19th-Century European Medical World on the Careers of Three Southern Physicians." This article is set to be published in the Journal of the South Carolina Medical Association in 2015. In 2014, I also received The Society of First Families of South Carolina Scholarship Award for my interest in South Carolina's colonial past. I also actively participate in historical battle reenactments and living history demonstrations for the public. To top it off, I am employed as a tour guide at the Old Exchange Building.



Research Focus or Project: My main interest is in the history of the British Atlantic World, namely in Britain's imperial ambitions in pre-Revolutionary North America from 1600 to 1775. For instance, my senior seminar paper, "Muskets before Plowshares: Resistance among Indentured Servants and Government Responses in Colonial British America" details the tenuous (and often violent) relationship between rebellious indentured colonists and their imperial and provincial overlords throughout the 17th and 18th centuries. I am also currently working on a paper comparing interactions between the British military and Jews in colonial America.

Future Plans: My parents taught me at a young age the importance of following my education as far as it would take me. Throughout my college career, they have been lovingly rooting me on and motivating me. I'm also indebted to the counsel of a number of world-class history professors. I plan to continue to follow my passion for history by attending the University of New Hampshire's History PhD program in the autumn of 2015.

*Presented by Jerold L. Hale, Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and the
Department of History at the College of Charleston on the 15th day of May 2015.*