



What is AHN?

The Accountable History Network is a worker-owned co-op based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where we focus on preparing groups and individuals to grow into radical accountability through historical reckoning and relational healing.

AHN's worker-owners work both together and within our individual areas of practice to design and facilitate processes, trainings and workshops that are grounded in historical context, a critical analysis of power, and a commitment to healing. Our work fosters personal, sustainable, accountability to systemic issues of historical trauma and inequity through utilizing a framework of inheritances, be they inheritances of intergenerational trauma, wealth, access, marginalization, or narrative. What we call "radical accountability" can be found at the crossroads of the above practices and frameworks for understanding the world we live in. We believe that through building radical accountability we can create more space for belonging within intersectional movements for collective liberation, rooted in Black and Indigenous liberation.

Since the fall of 2020, we have collectively designed and led workshops and trainings for 300 individuals, including taking multiple cohorts through our Growing Out of Whiteness (GROW) series, and working intensively to train a smaller group of staff and faculty at Pomona College to recognize and shift patterns that perpetuate violence in our Cultivating the Conditions to Grow training series.

What does "accountable history" mean?

Accountable history is the practice of bringing together in-depth, innovative, historical research and emerging frameworks of critical analysis to re-examine foundational narratives that we apply to our personal lives, our communities and our institutions. When engaging in accountable history as a practice, we accept that "history" as we know it represents as much silence and erasure as it does the reality of lived experience and historical subjectivity. Accountable history as a practice insists that reckoning is necessary for change, and that a more full and critical understanding of where we come from both individually and collectively can help give us the tools to find our whole selves beyond institutional categorization and control.

What is "relational healing?"

At AHN, we work from the understanding that self regulation is co-regulation, attachment and attunement determine our ability to shift negative patterns, and that we can create more space for deliberate choice through healthy executive functioning. Our group processes anchor the work of building radical accountability in relational alliances, whether between cohorts, or caregivers in clinical contexts. We push back at individualistic frameworks of healing by both fostering healthy attachment and alliance within groups, and by connecting our healing to the lineages we come from, whether of ancestry or community.

Who We Are

Alexandra Jasmine Brown (she/they)

Alexandra Brown is a Licensed Social Worker from Philadelphia Pennsylvania specializing in working with children and families with complex trauma and emotional and behavioral challenges stemming from intergenerational trauma. Alexandra was trained as a Clinical Social Worker at Temple University, graduating in 2017 with their Masters of Social Work out of which her passion for the study of Intrauterine Trauma, Adverse Childhood Experiences, and Epigenetics stemmed. Alexandra's treatment focus starts with psychoeducation on the impact of generational trauma and how that plays out in "live time," moving along the continuum of recognition of self-mediated shame and guilt, how these feelings manifest in our bodies, and tools that empower individuals to shift through this work towards a place of unconditional self-love and healing. Alexandra's work includes the acknowledgement and incorporation of various types of intersectional identities, examining how moments of intersection impact the relationship we have with ourselves, others, and the world around us. Alexandra brings their learning and practice of ecosystemic family therapy into alignment with deeper forms of societal reckoning. In doing so, they shift the stigma of diagnosis from individual children to systems that reproduce violence and trauma over time.

Recent work:

- Training Center of Philadelphia, three-year cohort trainer with a special emphasis on historical and generational trauma

Winter Rae Schneider (they/she)

Winter is a historian, educator and organizer who brings historical complexity to bear on processes of narrative-building movement strategy. They received their PhD from UCLA, where their work was supported by the University of California Center for New Racial Studies, the Institute of American Cultures, and the Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation award. They are trained in archival research, oral history and historical ethnography, and their doctoral research explored methodologies of historical reconstruction in post-emancipation contexts in the Americas. In the classroom, they have designed and taught courses ranging from African Diasporic history, to gender studies courses on "American Masculinities," "Intersectional Liberation Movements," and most recently on a new methodology for historical reckoning through "Family Histories." Their first book, *Debts of Independence: Rural Accounts of Sovereignty in Haiti's Nineteenth-Century* is under contract with the University of Florida Press.

Recent work:

- Assistant Visiting Professor of History, *Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY*. Courses taught: "Family Histories: Critically Accounting for the Past." This new history methods course asked students from across the Open Society University Network (OSUN) to rigorously engage their own relationship to place, lineage and narrative as a way into building historical understanding that feels transformative.
- Process design and facilitation "Cultivating the Conditions to Grow" and "Growing Out of Whiteness" (AHN)



What We Offer

Process design:

Radical Accountability Processes

- AHN offers wrap-around process design, facilitation and training for groups to learn how to see, understand, and respond to systemic inequity and structural violence as manifest in the space that they share together.
- Our process design offers the depth of our collective framework of radical accountability, drawn from clinical social work, historical research and interdisciplinary critical theory.
- Grounded in the historical and critical awareness of context, AHN's radical accountability processes meet groups where they are and address their current needs and barriers to change.

Historical Memory Processes

- Sometimes what is missing from spaces that organize for change is a deep understanding of place, space, lived experience and historical subjectivity. In historical memory processes, we conduct research and design curricula to bring groups through creating a shared vision for transformational movement strategy that is deeply accountable to a critical understanding of the past.

Workshops and Trainings:

- **What is Radical Accountability?**
 - This five-part training for people at all levels of understanding helps identify the need for collective liberation, and it helps participants build a plan for preparing to move towards radical accountability rooted in historical understanding, contemporary intersectional movement strategy, and embodied healing.
- **Growing Out of Whiteness**
 - This three-part training helps participants develop an understanding of the role of power and privilege in historical violence and ongoing racialized trauma as it manifests at the level of personal experience.
- **Understanding Critical Context**
 - While historical reckoning is necessary, critical historical understanding rooted in rigor and excellence is still relatively rare. This workshop helps groups understand the politics and dilemmas of understanding context through personal reflection and research.

Trainings for practitioners

- AHN offers “train-the-trainer” style trainings for practitioners who want to organize for change based on their social location and social ecology
- We offer workshop design for clinical practitioners that focuses on person of the therapist (POT)

Mentorship and consultation:

- Worker-owners at AHN are available for mentoring individuals in building radical accountability based on their specific needs
- We are available for consultation individual or collective consultation for individuals