

As proud as I am of our students and faculty's response to challenging times, we can't do it alone. Nothing assists us more than your lives and careers--tales of what studying history at BU meant for your career and your life as an adult. So please keep in touch! Send your news to us at history@bu.edu.

LANDMARKS

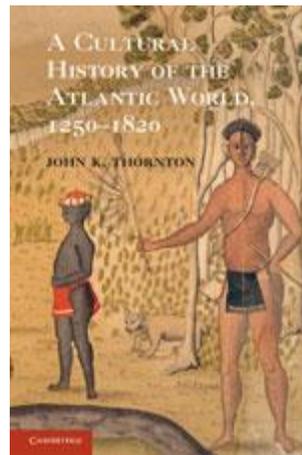
Last spring we inaugurated a new series of public events. Marking significant anniversaries of pivotal moments in history, Landmarks assembles leading scholars and thinkers to reconsider how such events have shaped the modern world. The series kicked off last spring when Pulitzer Prize winning author Alan Taylor reconsidered the War of 1812. The series continues with three big events—open to the public—for 2012 & 2013. On Wednesday, October 17, 2012, at 7pm, a distinguished panel will discuss the Cuban Missile Crisis fifty years after the world was on the brink of nuclear war. In February of 2013, a panel including Edward Muir of Northwestern University and Michael Ignatieff, former leader of Canada's Liberal Party, will consider the influence of Nicolo Machiavelli five hundred years after the publication of *The Prince*. And in March, Professor David Chappell of the University of Oklahoma will investigate the legacy of Martin Luther King. For details on these events, please visit our [History Department web site](#).

Three Students Win Robert Shotwell Dissertation Fellowship

Named after Robert Shotwell, father to one BU alumnus and grandfather to another, the Fellowship brings the quality of persistence to this scholarship. Graduate students are known for procrastination, taking longer and longer to complete their dissertations. Bob Shotwell's notable tenacity has illustrated how being persistent can lead to the satisfaction of completion. Born in Los Angeles during the 1920's, he almost finished college at the University of Southern California before WWII recruiting officers enlisted his skills as a photographer leaving him a semester short of graduation. Almost 60 years later, he returned to receive his degree, the oldest graduate in the history of the Marshall School of Business. In between the war and graduation, he was an entrepreneur in the printing and copier industry and is now engaged in several projects relating to history, his favorite subject. In Camden, Maine, where he resides, he leads a project to refurbish a historic theater and has established the Cole House for history teachers at Montpelier, General Henry Knox's house in Thomaston, Maine. This year's winners are: Seth Blumenthal for *Bridging the Gap: Nixon, New Politics and the First Youth Vote, 1968-1972*; Michael Holm for *America in the World: Ideology and U.S. Foreign Policy in the Early Cold War*; and Jonathan Koefoed for *Cautious Romantics: The Transcendental Trinitarians and the Transatlantic Romantic Discourse*.

John Thornton Publishes Cultural History of the Atlantic World

Cambridge University Press recently announced the publication of Professor [John Thornton's](#) latest book, *A Cultural History of the Atlantic World, 1250–1820*. Exploring the linkages in the histories of Africa, Europe, and North and South America, Thornton traces the backgrounds of the populations on these three continental landmasses brought into contact by European navigation and the political and social implications of the encounters, excavating the origins of a variety of Atlantic societies and showing how new ways of eating, drinking, speaking, and worshipping developed in the newly created Atlantic World. According to Ira Berlin, the author of *Many Thousands Gone*, "John Thornton captures the moment Africa, Europe and the Americas came together and the new world that was created. *A Cultural History of the Atlantic World [1250–1820]* will be a foundation stone in the study of the Atlantic, simultaneously an entry point for novices, a reference for established scholars, and a guide for future studies. An extraordinary achievement."



All the News that Fits

Founded by recent BU History graduate Kyle Pronko, CAS'09, and two of his classmates, a new publication from the Boston University School of Medicine Historical Society is seeking submissions for its inaugural issue next fall.

"Aceso: The Journal of the BU School of Medicine Historical Society" is looking for contributions in the fields of Medicine in Antiquity, History of Medicine, Public Health, and related fields. If you're interested, contact the editors at aceso@bu.edu.

Finally, Professor Phil Haberkern proudly reports that Brendan Conrad Haberkern was born on July 29 at 8:24 a.m., and weighed 7lbs. 6oz. He's doing great, as is mom and his big sister!



That good news should wrap up my fall report, but I promised another historian joke, so here it is (in the best tradition of Milton Berle, I stole this from an archaeologist and revised it a bit): Why should you marry a historian? Because the older you get, the more interesting your spouse will find you.

Best wishes for the autumn! Keep keep in touch! Send stories, jokes, adventures, misadventures, cautionary tales, and any other material to history@bu.edu.

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