

JAMIE ALLAN BROWN

BA, DipES, MLitt, MBA

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An award-winning museum and heritage scholar specialising in cultural diplomacy, sustainability, and the creation of transformative global partnerships. His work harnesses the diplomatic and policy influence of museums and heritage sites as spaces for partnership, reflection, civic dialogue, and collective action towards a more sustainable and shared future.

EXPERIENCE

Research Fellow, School of Art History, University of St Andrews, United Kingdom
August 2016 to Present

I lead research and partnership-building within the UK's No. 1 School of Art History at the University of St Andrews, advancing world-leading work on museums, sustainability, cultural diplomacy, and heritage-led development. In this role, I design, manage, and deliver major international programmes, foster strategic collaborations with governments, NGOs, museums, policy bodies, and academic institutions, and support the University's global mission through impactful research, governance, reporting, and international partnership facilitation.

As Lead Research Fellow for the £1.5 million ERC-selected and UK-funded *Shared Island Stories Between Scotland and the Caribbean: Past, Present, Future* (2022–2027)—winner of the ICOM Sustainability Award—I oversee research direction, strategic partnerships, project management, finance, and reporting. I collaborate with over 32 partner organisations across the Latin American and Caribbean region, the UK, and Europe, examining the historical, cultural, ecological, and socio-political relationships between island archipelagos.

I led the project management of the €2.2 million European Commission-funded *EU-LAC Museums: Concepts, Experiences and Sustainability in Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean* (2016–2021)—winner of the Europa Nostra ILUCIDARE Award for Cultural Heritage and International Relations. I coordinated 8 international institutions and 27 stakeholder partnerships across 4 continents, managing staff, budgeting, financial reporting, risk management, and research governance, while advancing youth and heritage research. The project positioned museums as civic spaces for decolonisation, peacebuilding, and the safeguarding of heritage, fostering knowledge transfer, equitable collaboration, and long-term international partnerships built on mutual learning and trust.

Across my tenure, I have led 15 international multipartner projects—engaging youth, dignitaries, academics, and community leaders—delivered 12 global conferences across Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, and the Pacific, and created major digital heritage platforms. I have contributed to policy advocacy at UNESCO, the European Commission, and ICOM, strengthening museum capacity from community-led institutions to national museums. My work advances sustainable development, cultural innovation, and collaborative international practice, and has resulted in the adoption of two ICOM museum policy resolutions.

Treasurer, International Committee for Museology (ICOFOM), France
August 2021 to Present

I lead the financial governance and strategic development of ICOFOM, ensuring stability, transparency, and sustainability across its global operations. Working as part of the executive leadership team, I oversee budget planning, financial reporting, risk management, and partnership coordination, aligning financial decision-making with ICOFOM's mission to advance international museological research and collaboration.

A core focus of my tenure has been the **SAREC Special Project**, implemented across **18 countries** through **25 active partnerships**, strengthening **research capacity, equity of participation**, and fostering **South–South and South–North collaboration**. Through these initiatives, I have cultivated long-term institutional partnerships with museums, universities, NGOs, and ICOM national committees, expanding opportunities for **young professionals** and **Global South participants** to engage in sustainable museological practice. My leadership ensures that ICOFOM's resources are strategically channelled to **build partnerships, advance sustainability, and support professional development** across the international museum community.

Project Manager, Centre for Recreation and Tourism Research [CRTR], University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI), United Kingdom
March 2020 to August 2022

I led the design, management, and delivery of **academic and applied transnational sustainable tourism projects** at the Centre for Recreation and Tourism Research (CRTR), fostering **cross-sector and community partnerships** that connected universities, museums, local authorities, and heritage organisations across Europe.

As **Project Lead** for the **European Commission-funded** *The Coast that Shaped the World* (2019–2023), I collaborated with museums and heritage centres across Scotland to document and preserve **intangible cultural heritage** along the west coast, sustaining **traditional storytelling** and community identity through inclusive cultural engagement.

I also served as **Project Lead** for the **European Commission-funded** *PEAK: Empowering Mountain Youth Entrepreneurs* (EU-funded, 2021–2023), coordinating partnerships across **Scotland, Greece, Italy, Iceland, and Ireland** to develop **youth-led resources** supporting entrepreneurship and sustainable economic development in **mountain and rural communities**.

My role strengthened **academic–community collaboration**, embedding **heritage, sustainability, and innovation** within regional development through effective **European and North American partnership-building and project leadership**.

Consultant and Community Development Specialist, United Kingdom and International
December 2012 – Present

I lead consultancy and development initiatives fostering **strategic partnerships, governance, and cultural collaboration** across museums, heritage organisations, charities, and community groups in Scotland and internationally. My work supports **policy development, education, and sustainability**, advancing programmes aligned with the **UN Sustainable Development Goals**.

As **Project and Community Coordinator** with **Forgewood and Garrion People's Housing Co-operatives** (2013–2016), I managed **£2 million in community assets**, led **34 volunteers and 3 staff**, and co-secured **£1.5 million in external funding**. I established partnerships with local government and funders to strengthen community engagement, skills development, and inclusion.

I have advised **museums, performing arts charities, and social enterprises** on **legal frameworks, safeguarding, and strategic planning**, including education delivery at the **Museum of Scottish Lighthouses**. As **Youth Consultant** for the **Scotdec Global Learning Centre** (2012–2014), I co-developed an **international education pack** and facilitated **global citizenship workshops** across **Scotland, Cyprus, and wider Europe**, promoting intercultural dialogue and sustainable development.

English/Social Sciences Teacher, Moscow Economic School (MES), Russia
August 2012 to December 2012

Taught English and Social Sciences within the **International Baccalaureate framework**, developing **enquiry-based lessons** for students aged 11–18. Integrated **ancient history, visual resources, and museum objects** to enhance learning and supported **teacher professional development** through creative, museum-inspired pedagogy.

Internship, British Museum, United Kingdom
January 2009 to December 2010

Completed a two-year internship specialising in **educational collaboration and community partnership development**. Supported programmes connecting the Museum with **local schools and community groups, integrating traditional knowledge and cultural learning** into educational practice. Awarded the Marsh Christian Trust Volunteer of the Year (Scotland) 2010 for outstanding contribution to museum education and public engagement.

EDUCATION

M.B.A. Business Administration (Executive), University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI), United Kingdom.

M.Litt. Museum and Gallery Studies, University of St Andrews, United Kingdom.

B.A. Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Strathclyde, United Kingdom.

Dip. E.S. European Studies, University of Vienna, Austria.

Cert. Creativity and Thinking Skills in Language Education, Riga, Latvia.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Brown, JA 2025, 'Youth unleashed: museums as platforms for heritage and climate dialogue ', Museum International, vol. 77, no. 1-2, pp. 80-91. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13500775.2025.2540213>

Brown, KE, Brown, JA, Ali Malheya, R, Bobohojiev, A, Hassan Al Sulaiti, F, Cummins, A, Garlandini, A, Franco, S & Bertin, M 2025, Museums at the forefront of cultural, digital and ecological diplomacy. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14964789>

Bertin, M, Brown, JA, Brown, KE, Gonzalez Rueda, AS, Lagarde, L & Tissandier, M (eds) 2025, 'Sea of islands and poetics of relation: rethinking islandness', ICOFOM Study Series, vol. 53, no. 1–2. <https://doi.org/10.4000/14f88>

Brown, JA & Hall, K 2025, 'Tides of change: youth, museums and heritage in the climate emergency', ICOFOM Study Series, vol. 53, no. 1-2, pp. 210-223. <https://doi.org/10.4000/14f8u>

Brown, KE, Brown, JA, Davies, A, Villalobos, ML & Villarreal , RM 2023, Community crafts and cultures in Costa Rica: community resilience in response to climate change. in N Borrelli, P Davis & R dal Santo (eds), Ecomuseums and climate change. Ledi, Milan, pp. 237-264. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7614782>

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- International Council of Museums (ICOM) Award for Sustainable Development Practice in Museums, for the *Shared Island Stories* project, awarded in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE), November 2025.
- Europea Nostra ILUCIDARE Award for the *EU-LAC Museums* project, awarded in Venice, Italy, October 2021.
- Volunteer Friendly Award 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016.
- Marsh Christian Trust and British Museum Volunteer of the Year (Scotland), awarded in London, UK, December 2010.
- Institute of Contemporary Scotland's Young Scot of the Year 2010, awarded in Glasgow, UK, December 2010.
- UNICEF 60th Anniversary Award, awarded in London, UK, June 2006.