



CODY FIREARMS MUSEUM

Ashley Lynn Hlebinsky has spent the past six years accruing a combination of hands-on experiences, research fellowships, internships, and museum employment focusing around the study of firearms.

A Pittsburgh native and former competitive ballroom dancer, Hlebinsky had her first experience working with firearms in a museum context through a curatorial internship with the Soldiers and Sailors National Memorial Hall in her hometown. She completed a B.A. and M.A. in American History and Museum Studies from the University of Delaware, where she furthered her knowledge by teaching the weapons portion of an undergraduate military history survey course.

Over the past three years, she has been working between the Cody Firearms Museum and the National Firearms Collection of the National Museum of American History at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. In Cody, she has served as a Buffalo Bill Research Fellow, publishing and presenting on the perception of firearms in popular culture, a Kinnucan Arms Chair Grant Recipient, studying the role of women in the industry, an intern, a firearms assistant, Curatorial Resident, and now Curator.



Hlebinsky worked closely with then-curator Emeritus Warren Newman on several exhibits, including the installation of the Raymond Wielgus art gun collection. Her biggest collaboration between Cody and D.C. was the Smithsonian loan exhibition, *Journeying West: Distinctive Firearms from the Smithsonian Institution*. Working with Newman and Smithsonian

Curator David Miller, she was instrumental in the selection of firearms, written text, design, and public relations surrounding the loan. Her work with the Cody Firearms Museum has been featured by the NRA Third Century and can be viewed on their [website](#).

Hlebinsky assumed the position of Curator in January 2015.

Links and other information

Cody Firearms Museum website: <http://centerofthewest.org/explore/firearms>

Firearms Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CodyFirearmsMuseum?fref=ts>

Firearms Blog: <http://centerofthewest.org/category/cody-firearms-museum/>

YouTube Center of the West channel: <http://www.youtube.com/user/atBBHC>