

## **Ted Widmer**

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### **Work Experience:**

- Senior Fellow, Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs, New York City (2015-2016)
- Adjunct Professor of History, Brown University (2013 to present)
- Assistant to the President (of Brown University) for Special Projects (2012 to 2015).
- Senior Adviser to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton (2012 to 2013). Advised Secretary Clinton on signature initiatives, such as new articulations of human rights; the historical context of U.S. foreign policy, and the capture of history within the State Department.
- Beatrice and Julio Mario Santo Domingo Director and Librarian, John Carter Brown Library, and Adjunct Professor of History, Brown University 2006-2012. Concluded pre-existing \$11.5 endowment campaign, raised \$1.5 million to endow Curatorship of Maps, and raised \$1 million to create Hodson Trust Fellowship for the writing of non-traditional history.
- Inaugural Director, C.V. Starr Center for the Study of the American Experience Washington College, 2001-2006. Conceived and launched the George Washington Book Prize with the Gilder Lehrman Institute for American History and Mount Vernon (the prize awards \$50,000 annually for the best book on the founding era); created the first American Studies Institute (a joint venture with the State Department for teaching U.S. history to Muslim students from foreign universities), received a \$1 million Teaching American History grant from the Department of Education, and received \$5 million in subsequent funding.
- Senior Advisor to the President for Special Projects, 2000-2001 (director of the Clinton Administration History Project, and advisor to President Clinton on issues relating to history, including the Clinton Oral History Project)
- Special Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs and Director for Speechwriting, National Security Council, 1997-2000 (foreign policy speechwriter for President Clinton)
- Lecturer on History and Literature, Harvard University, 1993-1997 (received 1994 Stephen Botein Prize for Teaching Excellence)

### **Books:**

Lincoln on the Verge: An Odyssey, By Rail (to be published by Simon and Schuster in 2017), a study of Lincoln's twelve-day railroad journey to Washington to assume the presidency

Brown: The History of an Idea (Thames and Hudson, 2015): the first major history of Brown University in a century

Disunion: Modern Historians Revisit and Reconsider the Civil War (Black Dog, 2013), edited a collection of essays on the Civil War from the "Disunion" feature of the *New York Times*

Listening In: The Secret White House Recordings of John F. Kennedy (Hyperion, 2012); an annotated edition of the major tape recordings of President Kennedy, preface by Caroline Kennedy (*New York Times* bestseller list)

Ark of the Liberties: America and the World (Hill and Wang, 2008) a history of American exceptionalism ("Editors' Pick" of the *New York Times*)

American Speeches (Library of America, 2006), a two-volume definitive collection of political speeches from the American Revolution to the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century; a one-volume paperback with a new introduction was issued in 2010

Martin Van Buren (Henry F. Holt/Times Books, 2005), for a series of presidential biographies edited by Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., chosen by the editors of *the New York Times Book Review* as a notable book

Campaigns: A Century of Presidential Races, co-authored with Alan Brinkley (DK Publishing and the *New York Times*, 2001)

Young America: The Flowering of Democracy in New York City (Oxford University Press, 1999); recipient of the 2001 Washington Irving Literary Medal

### **Education:**

Harvard University: Ph.D. in the History of American Civilization (1993); A.M. in History (1987); A.B. *magna cum laude* in the History and Literature of France and America (1984)

### **Other Writings:**

- Author of "Hindsight," a monthly column on history in the *Boston Globe* (beginning April 2014)
- Frequent contributor to a variety of publications, including the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Politico*, *Salon*, *Slate*, *The Guardian*, *Chicago Tribune*, and *Los Angeles Times*
- Editor, The Harvard Lamppoon, 1876-2001 (published privately, 2001)
- Contributing Editor, *George* (1996-1997)

- Contributing Editor, *The American Scholar* (2005-present)

**Addenda:**

- Trustee, Massachusetts Historical Society (June 2015-present)
- Juror, George Washington Book Prize (January 2015)
- Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress (2015-present)
- Board of Trustees, *Harvard Lampoon* (1996-present)
- Commissioner, RI 350 (a commission celebrating the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Rhode Island Charter of 1663)
- Commissioner, Rhode Island Civil War Commission (celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil War)
- Juror, Robert F. Kennedy Book Prize (2006)
- Advisory Board of the Lincoln Prize (for best book on the Civil War or Lincoln)
- Corresponding Fellow, Massachusetts Historical Society (2002)
- Elected to American Antiquarian Society (2006)