



## Michael Burton

Animator, Co-Director, Co-Producer

Michael Burton is an award-winning artist and animator whose work recovers the stories of people with extraordinary pasts. He most recently completed animations for a PBS documentary about a Sioux family whose patriarchs fought in WWI and Vietnam, toured with Buffalo Bill, and survived the Fort Robinson Massacre of 1879. The project was funded by ITVS, NET Television, and Vision Maker Media. Burton has screened his animations at the Denver Art Museum, RISD Art Museum, Joslyn Art Museum, the Sheldon Art Museum, and at the Anchorage International Film Festival. Burton was selected as best-in-show at the 61st Sioux City Art Center annual exhibition.



## Kwakiutl L. Dreher

Screenwriter, Co-Director, Co-Producer, Actor

Kwakiutl L. Dreher is a screenwriter, actor, playwright, and author. A native of South Carolina, she writes about African American literature, film, visual, and popular culture. She is the author of *Dancing on the White Page: Black Women Entertainers Writing Autobiography* (SUNY Press) and numerous articles and essays. Dreher plays Nan in *Anna* and has also played Mamie Till in *Anne & Emmett*, Mrs. Harriet Gottlieb in *Dead Man's Cellphone*, and Louise in the film *The Eyes of Isabelle*. Her one-woman show, *In A Smoke-Filled Room*, *Color Matters*, was a playlab selection at the Great Plains Theater Festival in 2013 after its theatrical debut at The Haymarket Theater in Lincoln, Nebraska. A storyteller at heart, she has written and recorded stories for public radio. Dreher is currently at work on a murder mystery set in her hometown, Columbia, South Carolina.



## William G. Thomas III

Story, Co-Producer

William G. Thomas III is an award-winning historian, author, and film producer. A native of Alexandria, Virginia, he writes about American history, law, slavery, and the Civil War. A 2016 Guggenheim Fellow, he is currently working on a book called *The Trials of White Marsh: A Story of American Slavery and Freedom* (Yale University Press) about enslaved families in Maryland who sued for their freedom in the decades after the American Revolution. A digital media historian, Thomas was co-editor of the acclaimed digital project, *The Valley of the Shadow: Two Communities in the American Civil War*. He has published essays in the *American Historical Review*, *Civil War History*, *The Journal of Historical Geography*, *Educause Review*, *Inside Higher Education*, *The New York Times*, and *The Washington Post*.