



## **Ashley Gilbert Wins AWRN Graduate Student Research Grant**

We are pleased to announce that the 2023-2024 Atlantic World Research Network (AWRN) Graduate Student Research Grant has been awarded to **Ashley Gilbert**, PhD Student in History.

This AWRN grant of \$500 will help to support research for Gilbert's dissertation, "Revolutionary Crossroads: Taverns in the Southern British Mainland Colonies, 1740-1783." More specifically, this grant will enable her to make two archival visits to the South Caroliniana Library in Columbia, SC, to examine rare surviving tavern ledgers, account books, and business papers, from the revolutionary era.

Congratulations to Ashley on a project that explores how taverns—particularly those owned or operated by women—served as political institutions that furthered the spread of revolutionary ideas throughout the southern mainland British colonies during the Revolutionary Era. By situating these spaces within the broader Atlantic World, she examines their role as nodes of empire, purchasing and disseminating goods and news from the broader British Empire and Atlantic World. Yet, in the context of the evolving political climate before the American Revolution, she considers how taverns in the south colonies transformed into political outlets for revolutionary ideas and sites for debates on empire, authority, and rebellion. Many thanks also to **Dr. Greg O'Brien** for contributing his helpful and detailed letter of support.

AWRN Graduate Student Research Grants are available by application each fall and are open to MA, MS, MBA, MFA, and PHD student applicants seeking to defray the costs of travel to collections, conferences, field work sites, artistic and theatrical venues, museums, summer seminars, and specialized summer schools. For further information, please email [awrn@uncg.edu](mailto:awrn@uncg.edu).