

# Erik Ledbetter

Principal at Heritage Management Solutions

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## Experience

### **Principal at Heritage Management Solutions**

April 2010 - Present (2 years 4 months)

### **Executive Director at Visitor Studies Association**

April 2010 - July 2011 (1 year 4 months)

### **Director, International Programs and Ethics at American Association of Museums**

2003 - 2010 (7 years)

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## Education

### **Yale University**

M.Phil, History, 1989 - 1992

### **The Johns Hopkins University**

BA and MA, History, 1984 - 1988

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[Contact Erik on LinkedIn](#)



## About Erik Ledbetter

Born and raised in Washington, D.C., Erik has been working in museums since he first volunteered as a docent at the National Air and Space Museum in his early teens. His subsequent museum experience includes paid and volunteer positions in transportation, science, and technology museums. He has extensive experience in oral history programs focusing on the development of international "big science" projects in astronomy and physics.

Erik's current disciplinary specialty is transportation museums. He serves on the Board of Directors of a living history museum which preserves, operates and interprets trolley cars and electric railroads. He also writes and publishes frequently on railroad museums and industrial history topics.

Prior to founding HMS, Erik served as Director of International Programs and Ethics at the American Association of Museums. His responsibilities included administering the U.S. National Committee of the International Council of Museums, providing analysis and comment on issues involving international cultural property, staffing the ethics committee of AAM, and directing an international museum partnership program funded by the United States Department of State. He led AAM's response to the Nazi-era asset issue from 2003 through 2009, overseeing the design, development and launch of AAM's Nazi-Era Provenance Internet Portal. With Elizabeth Merritt, he co-wrote a bimonthly column on museum ethics and nonprofit management for AAM's flagship magazine, MUSEUM.

Erik also spent several years in the private sector managing the development of Web-based education tools for clients in higher education and private industry. He holds an M.Phil. in History from Yale University and an M.A. and B.A. in History from the Johns Hopkins University.