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**From closed museum spaces to inclusive cultural meeting points:
connecting indigenous heritage collections and communities in the
Dominican Republic**

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CURRICULUM VITAE

Arlene Álvarez was born in La Romana, Dominican Republic in 1973. She obtained a master's degree in public administration from Baruch College through the National Urban Fellowship Program, and a bachelor's degree in Sociology and Political Science from Rutgers University in the United States. She was appointed the director of the Altos de Chavón Regional Museum of Archaeology in the Dominican Republic for 19 years where she oversaw all aspects of collections care, community outreach and educational development. Arlene Álvarez served as a coordinator for the SAMP Intercontinental Museum Network where she collaborated in several projects between museums from Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Sweden. She also worked as program coordinator for the Center for Latino Arts and Culture-New Brunswick, and the Hispanic Images Project-Newark Campus, at Rutgers University.

She is an independent heritage management consultant and instructor for the Museum Studies Graduate Program at Harvard University Extension School. She became a part time affiliated PhD researcher within the ERC-Synergy Nexus 1492 Project at Leiden University's Faculty of Archaeology in 2014. Her research interests include heritage management, community participation, and social development.