

THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF SOUTHERN CULTURE & SQUARE BOOKS
UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI • OXFORD, MISSISSIPPI



TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL
OXFORD
CONFERENCE
FOR
THE

WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY, MARCH 27-29, 2019

BOOK

OXFORD CONFERENCE



for the Book

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2019

Wednesday's luncheon program takes place at the J. D. Williams Library on the University campus. Three program sessions on Wednesday afternoon take place at the Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics, located on the University campus. The final reading for the day takes place at Off Square Books on the Oxford Square (129 Courthouse Square). The authors party is at the Memory House (406 University Ave.).

- 11:00 a.m. Welcome Lunch at Archives and Special Collections**
Hosted by the Friends of the Library
Archives and Special Collections
J. D. Williams Library
- 11:30 a.m. Art, Science, and the Pillaging of American University Libraries**
Travis McDade
Archives and Special Collections
J. D. Williams Library
- 1:00 p.m. A Life of Reading**
Edmund White
Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics
- 2:15 p.m. Reading and Comments**
Michael Carroll
Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics
- 3:00 p.m. Living in the South, Photographing Beyond**
David Zurick, in conversation with David Wharton
Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics
- 5:00 p.m. Reading and Conversation**
Leanne Shapton
Off Square Books on the Oxford Square
- 6:30 p.m. Book Conference Authors Party**
Comments by Ralph Eubanks
Co-hosted by the Friends of the Library
The Memory House
406 University Ave.
(Advance Ticket Required)

THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2019

Thursday's sessions take place at the Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics on the University campus. *Thacker Mountain Radio* will be held at the Lyric Theatre. The book signing for Thursday's authors will be held at Square Books (main store).

- 9:30 a.m. The Spiritual South**
Dennis Covington, in conversation with Ralph Eubanks
Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics
- 11:00 a.m. The Appalachian South**
Jessie Wilkerson, Karida Brown, Elizabeth Catte, and Meredith McCarroll
Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics
- Lunch on Your Own**
- 1:00 p.m. A History of New Orleans at Year 300**
Jason Berry, in conversation with Curtis Wilkie
Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics
- 2:30 p.m. Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom**
David Blight
Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics
- 4:00 p.m. Making Smarter Decisions When You Don't Have All the Facts**
Annie Duke
Cosponsored by the Department of Philosophy and Religion, the College of Liberal Arts, the Honors College, the Student Union, and the Department of Psychology
Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics
- 5:00 p.m. Book Signing for Thursday's Authors**
Square Books
160 Courthouse Square
- 6:00 p.m. Thacker Mountain Radio**
Guest authors: [Leanne Shapton](#) and [Ken Wells](#)
Lyric Theatre on the Oxford Square
1006 Van Buren Ave.
- 8:00 p.m. On the Border: A Book and a Movie**
Mark Hains (*Border Walk*) and *La Frontera* (Rex Jones)
The Powerhouse
413 S. 14th St.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 2019

Friday's sessions take place at the Lafayette County Courthouse on the Oxford Square, at the Lafayette County and Oxford Public Library, and at Off Square Books on the Oxford Square.

- 10:30 a.m. Editing Dreams: An Author and an Editor**
Wright Thompson and Scott Moyers
Lafayette County Courthouse on the Oxford Square
- 12:00 p.m. Poetry Talk and Lunch**
Dave Lucas
Lafayette County and Oxford Public Library
401 Bramlett Blvd.
(Advance Registration Appreciated)
- 1:15 p.m. On the Fringes of Noir**
William Boyle, Willy Vlautin, Elle Nash,
and Gabino Iglesias
Lafayette County Courthouse on the Oxford Square
- 2:30 p.m. Reading and Conversation**
Kiese Laymon, in conversation with Brian Foster
Lafayette County Courthouse on the Oxford Square
- 3:45 p.m. Reading and Comments**
Salvatore Scibona
Lafayette County Courthouse on the Oxford Square
- 5:00 p.m. Meet the Authors**
Closing Reception and Book Signing
Off Square Books on the Oxford Square
- 7:00 p.m. Waiting on the Blue**
An In-Store Performance by Willy Vlautin and Justin
Peter Kinkel-Schuster
The End of All Music
103A Courthouse Square



Special Events

Register for events online at
www.oxfordconferenceforthebook.com/attend.

Welcome Lunch

Wednesday, March 27, at 11:00 a.m.

Hosted by the Friends of the University of Mississippi Library, this lunch in the J. D. Williams Library's Archives and Special Collections is a wonderful kick-off event.

Free, but advance registration appreciated.



Book Conference Authors Party

Wednesday, March 27, at 6:30 p.m.

Co-hosted by the Friends of the Library and held at the historic Memory House on the University of Mississippi campus (406 University Ave.), this much-loved opening reception is a lively fundraiser with wonderful food, drinks, and conversation between fellow conference attendees and conference authors. This is a ticketed event.

Tickets are \$50 per person. Purchase tickets through the conference website. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door.

Thacker Mountain Radio

Thursday, March 28, at 6:00 p.m.

Thacker Mountain Radio will have a special OCB show at the Lyric Theatre on the Oxford Square (1006 Van Buren Avenue).

Free, no registration necessary.



Poetry Talk and Lunch

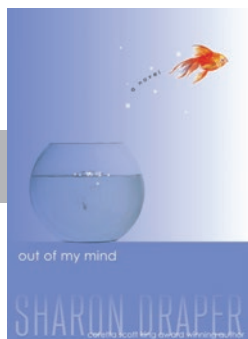
Friday, March 29, at noon

Hosted by the Lafayette County and Oxford Public Library (401 Bramlett Blvd.), this lunch includes a talk on craft by poet Dave Lucas.

Free, but advance registration appreciated.

The Children's Book Festival

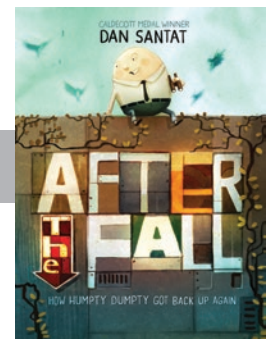
The 2019 Children's Book Festival will be held Friday, March 29, at the Ford Center for Performing Arts. The festival serves more than 1,200 first and fifth graders from schools in Lafayette County and Oxford. Committees made up of local school librarians, teachers, and representatives from the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, the Lafayette County



Literacy Council (sponsor of the first grade), Junior Auxiliary (sponsor of the fifth grade), and Square Books, Jr. choose the books each year. The Oxford Conference for the Book then

invites those authors to present programs at the Ford Center to each grade.

The first-grade author is Dan Santat, with *After the Fall*, and he will address students at 9:00 a.m. The fifth-grade author is Sharon Draper, with *Out of My Mind*, and she will address students at 10:30 a.m. There will be a book signing at Square Books, Jr. at 3:00 p.m. that day.



The Participants

KATHY ANDERSON



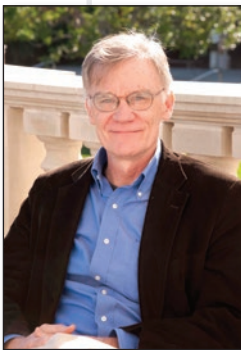
Jason Berry

City of a Million Dreams: A History of New Orleans at Year 300

Jason Berry is an independent writer, documentary film producer, and journalist living in New Orleans. *City of a Million Dreams: A History of New Orleans at Year 300* is his tenth book and the basis for a companion film documentary he is producing, slated for release in 2019. He is also the author of *Last of the Red Hot Poppas*, a comic novel about Louisiana politics, and *Up from the Cradle of Jazz*, a history of New Orleans music. Berry is a longtime contributor to the *Daily Beast* and the *National Catholic Reporter*, among other outlets.

Thursday, 1:00 p.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics

COURTESY OF HUNTINGTON LIBRARY,
SAN MARINO, CALIFORNIA



David W. Blight

Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom

David Blight has written the definitive, dramatic biography of the most important African American of the nineteenth century: Frederick Douglass, the escaped slave who became the greatest orator of his day and one of the leading abolitionists and writers of the era. In his most recent book, *Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom*, Blight has drawn on new information held in a private collection that few other historians have consulted, as well as recently discovered issues of Douglass's newspapers. There has not been a major biography of Douglass in a quarter century. David Blight's *Frederick Douglass* affords this important American the distinguished biography he deserves.

Blight is professor of American history at Yale University and director of the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition. *Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom* was named by the *New York Times* as one of the Ten Best Books of 2018.

Thursday, 2:30 p.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics



William Boyle

A Friend Is a Gift You Give Yourself

William Boyle is from Brooklyn, New York. His debut novel, *Gravesend*, was nominated for the Grand Prix de Littérature Policière in France and shortlisted for the New Blood Dagger in the UK. A new edition of *Gravesend* and Boyle's follow-ups *The Lonely Witness* and the recently published *A Friend Is a Gift You Give Yourself* are also available from Pegasus Crime. He lives in Oxford, Mississippi, and teaches at the University of Mississippi.

Friday, 1:15 p.m., Lafayette County Courthouse on the Oxford Square

BRIAN L. CHRISTIAN



Karida L. Brown

Gone Home: Race and Roots through Appalachia

Karida L. Brown is assistant professor of sociology and African American studies at the University of California, Los Angeles. Her book *Gone Home: Race and Roots through Appalachia* offers a much-needed corrective to the current whitewashing of Appalachia. In telling the stories of African Americans living and working in Appalachian coal towns, Brown offers a sweeping look at race, identity, changes in politics and policy, and black migration in the region and beyond. Drawn from over 150 original oral history interviews with former and current residents of Harlan County, Kentucky, Brown reconstructs the life histories of black coal miners, showing the mutable and shifting nature of collective identity, the struggles of labor and representation, and that Appalachia is far more diverse than you think.

Thursday, 11:00 a.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics

JEFF BOND



Michael Carroll

Stella Maris: And Other Key West Stories

Michael Carroll's debut story collection, *Little Reef*, won the Sue Kaufman Prize for First Fiction from the American Academy of Arts and Letters and was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for Gay Fiction and the Publishing Triangle Award. His work has appeared in *Ontario Review*, *Boulevard*, the *Yale Review*, the *Harvard Review*, the *Southwest Review*, *Open City*, and *The New Penguin Book of Gay Short Stories*. Originally from Jacksonville, Florida, he is married to writer Edmund White and lives in New York City. *Stella Maris: And Other Key West Stories* is his most recent short story collection.

Wednesday, 2:15 p.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics



Elizabeth Catte

What You Are Getting Wrong about Appalachia

Elizabeth Catte is the author of the *What You Are Getting Wrong about Appalachia*, a critical look at *Hillbilly Elegy*-fication of politics that uses radical history to challenge perceptions of the region as a hub of white, working-class woe. She also recently published, as coeditor, *55 Strong: Inside the West Virginia Teachers' Strike*. Catte's work has been featured in or on many outlets, including *All Things Considered*, the *Guardian*, the *Nation*, the *New Yorker*, *Bookforum*, *On the Media*, *Guernica*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and the *New York Review of Books*.

Thursday, 11:00 a.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics

JIM NEEL



Dennis Covington

Revelation: A Search for Faith in a Violent Religious World and *Salvation on Sand Mountain*

Dennis Covington is the author of two novels and three nonfiction books. He is the author of *Revelation: A Search for Faith in a Violent Religious World* and *Salvation on Sand Mountain*, a National Book Award finalist. His articles have been published in the *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times Magazine*, *Lapham's Quarterly*, *Vogue*, and many other periodicals. He was born in Birmingham, Alabama, and earned a BA from the University of Virginia and an MFA from the Iowa Writers' Workshop, where he studied under Raymond Carver. He currently teaches creative writing at Texas Tech University.

Thursday, 9:30 a.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics



Sharon M. Draper

Out of My Mind

Sharon M. Draper is a professional educator, as well as an accomplished writer of over thirty award-winning books for adolescents and teachers, including *Copper Sun*, winner the Coretta Scott King Award, the highly acclaimed Jericho and Hazelwood trilogies, and *Out of My Mind*. She was the National Teacher of the Year, has been honored at the White House six times, and was selected by the US State Department to be a literary ambassador to the children of Africa as well as China. In 2015 she was honored by the American Library Association as the recipient of the Margaret A. Edwards Award for lifetime literary achievement. Her newest novel is *Blended*.

Friday, 10:30 a.m., Ford Center for Performing Arts



Annie Duke

Thinking in Bets: Making Smarter Decisions When You Don't Have All the Facts

Annie Duke is an author, professional speaker, decision strategist, and former professional poker player. In her book *Thinking in Bets: Making Smarter Decisions When You Don't Have All the Facts*, Duke reveals to readers the lessons that have been cultivated by combining her academic studies in cognitive psychology with real-life decision making experiences at the poker table. For two decades, Duke was one of the top poker players in the world. In 2004, she bested a field of 234 players to win her first World Series of Poker (WSOP) bracelet. The same year, she triumphed in the \$2 million winner-take-all, invitation-only WSOP Tournament of Champions. In 2010, she won the prestigious NBC National Heads-Up Poker Championship. Prior to becoming a professional poker player, Duke was awarded a National Science Foundation Fellowship to study Cognitive Psychology at the University of Pennsylvania. She currently resides in the Philadelphia area.

Thursday, 4:00 p.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics



Ralph Eubanks

Session moderator

Ralph Eubanks is the author of *The House at the End of the Road: The Story of Three Generations of an Interracial Family in the American South* and *Ever Is a Long Time: A Journey into Mississippi's Dark Past*, which *Washington Post* book critic Jonathan Yardley named as one of the best nonfiction books of the year. He has contributed articles to the *Washington Post* "Outlook" and "Style" sections, the *Wall Street Journal*, *WIRED*, the *New Yorker*, and National Public Radio. He is a recipient of a 2007 Guggenheim Fellowship from the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation and has been a fellow at the New America Foundation. He is the former editor of the *Virginia Quarterly Review* at the University of Virginia and served as director of publishing at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. from 1995 to 2013.

Thursday, 9:30 a.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics



Brian Foster

Session moderator

Brian Foster grew up in Shannon, Mississippi, and earned a BA in African American studies from the University of Mississippi and an MA and a PhD in sociology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His research takes a critical, interdisciplinary, and multi-method approach to the study of race, culture, and inequality, with particular attention to post-soul (i.e. post-1970s) black cultures in the rural American South. In general, his work addresses two questions: how have rural southern communities changed in the fifty-plus years since the civil rights and Black Power movements, and what are the perspectives and experiences of black southerners living in these contexts? Geographically, much of his work is set in the Mississippi Delta.

Friday, 2:30 p.m., Lafayette County Courthouse on the Oxford Square



Mark Hains

Border Walk

Mark Hains worked for two decades as the research coordinator for the Longleaf Alliance and as a research associate with Auburn University. He resigned these dual positions in November 2014 to walk the 1,000-mile Texas-Mexico border. Hains's walk began at International Boundary Marker 1 in El Paso and ended over a thousand miles later at Boca Chica Beach in Brownsville, where the Rio Grande empties into the Gulf of Mexico. From right-wing ranchers to cowboy poets to human-rights activists to fence/wall opponents, Hains met a myriad of people along the way who were eager to discuss the balance between border security and immigration justice. Hains's trek ultimately resulted in his book, *Border Walk*, and he was the subject of the feature-length film *La Frontera*, filmed and produced by Rex Jones of the University of Mississippi's Southern Documentary Project. Hains and Jones will screen the film and discuss the book, to be followed by a Q&A.

Thursday, 8:00 p.m., The Powerhouse



Gabino Iglesias

Coyote Songs

Gabino Iglesias is a writer, editor, journalist, and book reviewer living in Austin, Texas. He is the author of *Coyote Songs*, *Zero Saints*, and *Gutmouth*. He is the book reviews editor at *Pank Magazine*, the TV/film editor at *Entropy* magazine, and a columnist for *LitReactor* and *Clash Media*. His nonfiction has appeared in places like the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *El Nuevo Día*, and other venues. The stuff that's made up has been published in places like *Red Fez*, *Flash Fiction Offensive*, *Drunk Monkeys*, *Bizarro Central*, *Paragraph Line*, *Divergent Magazine*, *Cease*, *Cows*, and many horror, crime, surrealist, and bizarro anthologies. When not writing or reading, he has worked as a dog whisperer, a witty communications professor, and a ballerina assassin. He teaches at Southern New Hampshire University's MFA program.

Friday, 1:15 p.m., Lafayette County Courthouse on the Oxford Square



Rex Jones

La Frontera (film)

Rex Jones is a documentary filmmaker who joined the Southern Documentary Project in 2011. Jones is a native of Hickory, Mississippi, and an MFA graduate in science and natural history filmmaking from Montana State University. His films have been broadcast nationally on PBS, won awards from various organizations, and been chosen as official selections of film festivals nationwide. He is also the coauthor, with Lecile Harris, of *Lecile: This Ain't My First Rodeo*, which won the 2016 Will Rogers Medallion Award for Excellence in Western Literature (Biography and Memoir).

Thursday, 8:00 p.m., The Powerhouse



Kiese Laymon

Heavy: An American Memoir

Kiese Laymon, Otilie Schillig Professor of English and Creative Writing at the University of Mississippi, was born and raised in Jackson, Mississippi. He is the author of the novel *Long Division* and a collection of essays, *How to Slowly Kill Yourself and Others in America*. Most recently, he is the author of the memoir *Heavy: An American Memoir*, which won the Andrew Carnegie Medal and has been named a Best Book of 2018 by *New York Times* critics, *Publishers Weekly*, NPR, *Broadly*, *Buzzfeed* (Nonfiction), *The Undeclared*, *Library Journal*, the *Washington Post*, *Southern Living*, and *Entertainment Weekly*.

Friday, 2:30 p.m., Lafayette County Courthouse on the Oxford Square



Dave Lucas

Weather: Poems

Dave Lucas was born and raised in Cleveland. He studied literature and poetry at John Carroll University (BA, 2002), the University of Virginia (MFA, 2004), and the University of Michigan (PhD, 2014). His first book of poems, *Weather*, received the 2012 Ohioana Book Award for Poetry. Named by Rita Dove as one of thirteen "young poets to watch," he has also received a *Discovery/The Nation* Prize and a Cleveland Arts Prize. In 2018 he was appointed the second Poet Laureate of the State of Ohio. A cofounder of Cleveland Book Week and Brews + Prose at Market Garden Brewery, he teaches at Case Western Reserve University.

Friday, 12:00 p.m., Lafayette County and Oxford Public Library



Meredith McCarroll

Unwhite: Appalachia, Race, and Film

Meredith McCarroll is the director of writing and rhetoric at Bowdoin College. She was born and raised in Western North Carolina and earned her PhD at the University of Tennessee. Her recent book, *Unwhite: Appalachia, Race, and Film*, demonstrates how typical characterizations of Appalachian people serve as foils to set off and define the “whiteness” of non-Appalachian southerners. In this dynamic, Appalachian characters become the racial other. Analyzing the representation of the people of Appalachia in films such as *Deliverance*, *Cold Mountain*, *Medium Cool*, *Norma Rae*, *Cape Fear*, *The Killing Season*, and *Winter’s Bone* through the critical lens of race and specifically whiteness, McCarroll offers a reshaping of the understanding of the relationship between racial and regional identities.

Thursday, 11:00 a.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics



Travis McDade

Torn from Their Bindings: A Story of Art, Science, and the Pillaging of American University Libraries

Travis McDade is curator of law rare books at the University of Illinois College of Law and the country’s foremost expert on crimes against rare books, maps, documents, and other printed cultural heritage resources. He is the author of four books on the subject. The first, *The Book Thief: The True Crimes of Daniel Spiegelman*, highlighted the federal judicial recognition of books as cultural objects whose value cannot be adequately captured by market price. His second book is *Thieves of Book Row: New York’s Most Notorious Rare Book Ring and the Man Who Ended it*. His most recent book is *Torn from Their Bindings: A Story of Art, Science, and the Pillaging of American University Libraries*. He lectures extensively on the subject of rare book crime, and is an active member of the Mystery Writers of America.

Wednesday, 11:30 a.m., Archives and Special Collections, J. D. Williams Library



Scott Moyers

Panelist

Scott Moyers was Wright Thompson’s editor for *The Cost of These Dreams: Sports Stories and Other Serious Business* and vice president and publisher of the Penguin Press, an imprint of Penguin Random House. He lives in Brooklyn, New York, with his family.

Friday, 10:30 a.m., Lafayette County Courthouse on the Oxford Square



Elle Nash

Animals Eat Each Other

Elle Nash is the author of *Animals Eat Each Other*. She is a founding editor of *Witch Craft* magazine and a fiction editor at *Hobart Pulp*. Her work has been featured in *Volume 1 Brooklyn*, *The Fanzine*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Elle*, *The Offing*, *Enclave*, and other places. She lives in the Ozarks with her husband, daughter, and their dog. Occasionally she reads tarot in exchange for money.

Friday, 1:15 p.m., Lafayette County Courthouse on the Oxford Square



Dan Santat

After the Fall (How Humpty Dumpty Got Back up Again)

Dan Santat is a *New York Times* best-selling author who has published more than a hundred books for children. He is best known for titles such as, *The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend*, which won the 2015 Randolph Caldecott Medal, *After the Fall (How Humpty Dumpty Got Back up Again)*, which was listed as one of NPR's Best Books of 2017, and *Oh No! (Or How My Science Project Destroyed the World)*, which won the Silver Medal in illustration from the Society of Illustrators. He is also the creator of the Disney animated series, *The Replacements*. Dan lives in Los Angeles with his lovely wife, two kids, and a menagerie of pets.

Friday, 9:00 a.m., Ford Center for Performing Arts



BEOWULF SHEEHAN

Salvatore Scibona

The Volunteer

Salvatore Scibona's first novel, *The End*, was a finalist for the National Book Award and winner of the Young Lions Fiction Award. His work has won a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Pushcart Prize, an O. Henry Award, and a Whiting Award; and the *New Yorker* named him one of its "20 Under 40" fiction writers to watch. He directs the Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers at the New York Public Library. *The Volunteer* is Scibona's latest book.

Friday, 3:45 p.m., Lafayette County Courthouse on the Oxford Square



DEREK SHAPTON

Leanne Shapton

Guestbook: Ghost Stories

Leanne Shapton is an artist and author of several books, including *Swimming Studies* (winner of the 2012 National Book Critics Circle Award for Autobiography), *Important Artifacts and Personal Property from the Collection of Lenore Doolan and Harold Morris*, and a coauthor of the *New York Times*-bestselling *Women in Clothes*. She is also the cofounder of J&L Books, a nonprofit publisher of art and photography books. She lives in New York City. *Guestbook: Ghost Stories* is Shapton's latest book.

Wednesday, 5:00 p.m., Off Square Books

~~Thursday, 6:00 p.m., The Lyric Theatre, *Thacker Mountain Radio*~~



THOMAS MCCALLUM

Wright Thompson

The Cost of These Dreams: Sports Stories and Other Serious Business

Wright Thompson is a senior writer for *ESPN: The Magazine*. He lives in Oxford, Mississippi, with his wife, Sonia, and their daughter, Wallace. Prior to joining ESPN in 2006, he worked as a newspaper reporter in Kansas City and New Orleans. He is a Montana landowner, an Ole Miss Rebels football fan, and a devoted son of his birthplace, the Mississippi Delta. The recipient of numerous awards for journalism, Thompson is most proud of the Ernie Pyle Award and the Dan Jenkins Medal. *The Cost of These Dreams: Sports Stories and Other Serious Business* is his first book.

Friday, 10:30 a.m., Lafayette County Courthouse on the Oxford Square



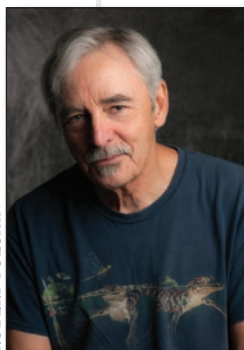
Willy Vlautin

Don't Skip out on Me

Willy Vlautin was born and raised in Reno, Nevada. He started playing guitar and writing songs as a teenager and quickly became immersed in music. It was a Paul Kelly song, based on Raymond Carver's "Too Much Water So Close to Home," that inspired him to start writing stories. Vlautin has published five novels, including *The Motel Life*, *Northline*, *Lean on Pete*, *The Free*, and, most recently, *Don't Skip out on Me*. He also founded the band Richmond Fontaine in 1994. The band produced eleven studio albums plus a handful of live recordings and EPs. Driven by Vlautin's dark, storylike songwriting, the band, now retired, achieved critical acclaim at home and across the UK and Europe. In 2014 Vlautin formed the Delines with singer Amy Boone (Damnations) and released their first album, *Colfax*. Vlautin currently resides in Scappoose, Oregon.

Friday, 1:15 p.m., Lafayette County Courthouse on the Oxford Square

Friday, 7:00 p.m., The End of All Music



ROBERT TOLCHIN

Ken Wells

Gumbo Life: Tales from the Roux Bayou

Ken Wells covered car wrecks and gator sightings for his hometown weekly before leaving the bayous for a journalism career that included twenty-four years on the *Wall Street Journal*. He's written five novels of the Cajun bayous and lives in Chicago. His latest book is *Gumbo Life: Tales from the Roux Bayou*.

Thursday, 6:00 p.m., The Lyric Theatre, *Thacker Mountain Radio*



David Wharton

Session moderator

David Wharton is the Center for the Study of Southern Culture's director for documentary studies and an assistant professor of Southern Studies. His first book, *The Soul of a Small Texas Town: Photographs, Memories, and History from McDade*, was published in 2000, and he published his second book of photographs, *Small Town South*, in 2013. Wharton's most recent book is *The Power of Belief: Spiritual Landscapes from the Rural South*, published in 2016. His photographs record rural landscapes and townscapes from across the South.

Wednesday, 3:00 p.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics



ANDREW FLADERBOE

Edmund White

The Unpunished Vice: A Life of Reading

Edmund White is the author of many novels, including *A Boy's Own Story*, *The Beautiful Room Is Empty*, *The Farewell Symphony*, and, most recently, *Our Young Man*. His nonfiction includes *City Boy*, *Inside a Pearl*, and other memoirs, including, most recently, *The Unpunished Vice: A Life of Reading*; *The Flâneur*, about Paris; and literary biographies and essays. He was named the winner of the 2018 PEN/Saul Bellow Award for Achievement in American Fiction. White lives in New York.

Wednesday, 1:00 p.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics

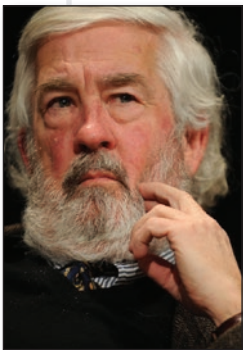


Jessica Wilkerson

To Live Here, You Have to Fight: How Women Led Appalachian Movements for Social Justice

Jessica Wilkerson has a joint appointment in history and Southern Studies at the University of Mississippi. She earned her MA in women's history from Sarah Lawrence College and PhD in history from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. *To Live Here, You Have to Fight: How Women Led Appalachian Movements for Social Justice* is her first book. She has also written for *100 Days in Appalachia*, *Salon*, *Rewire News*, and *Longreads*. Her research interests include women's and gender history, working-class history, US social movements, Appalachian history, and oral history. Wilkerson teaches classes in southern history, women's history, contemporary US history, and oral history.

Thursday, 11:00 a.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics



Curtis Wilkie

Session moderator

Curtis Wilkie was a reporter for the *Clarksdale Press Register* in his home state of Mississippi during the 1960s and then served as a national and foreign correspondent for the *Boston Globe* for twenty-six years. He is coauthor, with Jim McDougal, of *Arkansas Mischief: The Birth of a National Scandal* and author of *Dixie: A Personal Odyssey through Events That Shaped the Modern South*, *The Fall of the House of Zeus: The Rise and Ruin of America's Most Powerful Trial Lawyer*, and *Assassins, Eccentrics, Politicians, and Other Persons of Interest: Fifty Pieces from the Road*. Wilkie holds the Kelly Gene Cook Chair of Journalism at the University of Mississippi. His latest book, with Thomas Oliphant, is *The Road to Camelot: Inside JFK's Five-Year Campaign*.

Thursday, 1:00 p.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics



David Zurick

A Fantastic State of Ruin: The Painted Towns of Rajasthan

David Zurick earned his PhD in geography from the University of Hawaii and the East-West Center, Honolulu. His books and photography have won numerous awards, including the National Outdoor Book Award and Kentucky Arts Council Al Smith Visual Artist Fellowship Award (twice). In 2009 he received the Mount Everest Award for his lifetime achievement in Himalaya studies. He is a fellow of the Explorers Club, and his latest book is *A Fantastic State of Ruin: The Painted Towns of Rajasthan*, a series of color photographs made in India. Zurick, also a filmmaker, completed his documentary film *Crossing Sacred Ground* in 2017, which has been screened in multiple film festivals.

Wednesday, 3:00 p.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics

The Places

Center for the Study of Southern Culture—The Center for the Study of Southern Culture, founded in the mid-1970s, is an educational institute at the University of Mississippi in Oxford, Mississippi, and the first regional studies center in the country. The Center's mission is to investigate, document, interpret, and teach about the American South through academic inquiry and publications, documentary studies of film, photography, and oral history, and public outreach programs. The interdisciplinary Southern Studies faculty and the undergraduate and graduate degree programs are the core of the Center's work.

The Center's undergraduate and graduate curricula incorporate traditional disciplines of the arts, humanities, and social sciences to form

an interdisciplinary framework for studying the South. The Center promotes research on the South's varied cultures by supporting the work of its faculty, staff, students, alumni, and visiting scholars. It offers opportunities for increasing understanding of southern culture through publications, conferences, lectures, and documentary media. Because of its location, the Center focuses much of its work on Mississippi and the Deep South, while at the same time exploring the region as a whole, both in its American and global contexts. Interests of Center faculty, staff, and students are always changing, and particular emphases include documentary studies, literature, history, religion, foodways, music, race and ethnicity, and globalization and identity.

Over the last quarter century the Center has become a focal point for innovative education and research on the American South, strengthening the University's instructional program in the humanities, promoting scholarship on many aspects of southern culture, and encouraging public understanding of the South as a diverse and complex space.

Department of Archives and Special Collections—Located on the third floor of the J. D. Williams Library, the Department of Archives and Special Collections houses important collections of Mississippiana. Since 1975, the primary purpose of Archives and Special Collections has been to acquire, conserve, and make accessible rare books, manuscripts, maps, visual and audio materials, and ephemera related to the University of Mississippi, the state of Mississippi, and the blues.

For this year's OCB, a display case in the Department of Archives and Special Collections features items from the literary papers of W. Ralph Eubanks. In addition to contributing commentary to newspapers and magazines, Eubanks is the author of two books: *Ever Is a Long Time: A Journey into Mississippi's Dark Past* (2003) and *The House at the End of the Road: The Story of Three Generations of an Interracial Family in the American South* (2009). The display is available for public viewing in Special Collections from 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Monday–Friday.

The End of All Music—Opened in 2012, the End of All Music is located on the Square in downtown Oxford, Mississippi, upstairs in the historic Duvall's building. The store stocks mainly new and used vinyl, filling up three rooms and separated into rock, blues, soul, R&B, gospel, jazz, and country, as well as a large collection of 45 singles. Alongside the racks of used vinyl are all new and reissued records, as well as new releases in both CD and LP format. In 2016, *USA Today* ranked the End of All Music as one of ten great music stores in the country.

Friends of the Library—Founded in 1940, the Friends of the Library provides vital support to the J. D. Williams Library. Membership dues support new acquisitions, thus keeping the library strong for students and faculty.

Lafayette County Courthouse—The Lafayette County Courthouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It was constructed in 1872 to replace an earlier building burned during the Civil War. The courthouse currently houses several judicial courtrooms and related offices. The courthouse also plays a significant role in William Faulkner's fictional Yoknapatawpha County. The courthouse appears in multiple works, including stories featuring the lawyer Gavin Stevens, in the dramatic ending to *The Sound and the Fury*, and in *Go Down, Moses*.

Lyric Theatre—The property at 1006 Van Buren has enjoyed an extremely interesting life since its original construction in the late 1800's. The structure was originally a livery stable owed by William Faulkner's family in the early part of the twentieth century. During the 1920s it was converted into a theater for live performances and silent films when it was named the Lyric Theatre. The advent of motion pictures saw the Lyric evolve into Oxford's first movie theater. In 1949 William Faulkner walked from his home in Oxford (Rowan Oak) to his childhood stable for the world premiere of MGM's *Intruder in the Dust*, which was adapted from one of his novels. The Lyric stopped operating as a movie theater in the 1970s and was left abandoned from many years until the early 1980s when it was restored and converted into office spaces and a health center. In 2007 the Lyric underwent an extensive restoration process and was returned to its original use as a theater. It began operating again on July 3, 2008.

Memory House—The first buildings on this site may have dated to 1837, but the Memory House dates back to the 1850s, shortly after the University of Mississippi formally opened its doors in 1848. It has had

several owners since then. During the Depression, Memory House became a boarding house to many University of Mississippi students who took their noon meal there. Dolly and John Falkner (brother to William Faulkner) made their home at Memory House throughout their married lives, except for brief periods, and there they raised two sons, Jimmy and Chooky. After John Falkner's death in 1963, Dolly kept Memory House alive, opening it to the community through the annual Oxford Pilgrimage. Late in the summer of 1983 Dolly fell ill and subsequently died in September of 1984. Jimmy Faulkner and Chooky Falkner kept the house for about eight years, renting rooms out as apartments. On April 2, 1992, Chooky Falkner sold his half of the house to the University of Mississippi Foundation, and later that year Jimmy sold his remaining half interest. An extensive renovation project began in April 1994 and was completed in December of the same year. Today, the Memory House is the home and offices of the University of Mississippi Foundation.

The Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics—The mission of the Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics is to create better understanding of the media, politicians, and the role of the First Amendment in our democracy. The center is funded through a \$5 million grant from the Freedom Forum, a foundation dedicated to educating people about the importance of a free press and the First Amendment.

The Powerhouse—In 1928 Oxford constructed what would be its last power plant. Prior to this time, the city of Oxford received electricity from a power plant located near the University of Mississippi campus. This location, however, was prone to flooding in heavy rains, which was one reason for the construction of a new plant.

In 1950 Oxford signed a contract with Tennessee Valley Authority in order to receive wholesale electricity if the city built a new electric power substation and transmission line. Oxford's voters approved this and the TVA began delivering electricity to Oxford in January of 1951. The power plant only provided electricity during an interim period when the TVA could not provide enough. In March 1952 the TVA became the sole provider of electricity in Oxford, and the power plant was relegated to a storage warehouse.

In 2008 the old power plant became the Powerhouse Community Arts Center, and it is now the home of the Yoknapatawpha Arts Council. This historic building serves as a venue for theater and art classes, performances, and community events. Once filled with the hum of machinery generating energy, the building now resonates with the artistic energy of performers and artists.

Square Books—Square Books is an independent bookstore in three separate buildings (about one hundred feet apart) on the historic town square of Oxford, Mississippi, home of the University of Mississippi and many great writers, including William Faulkner, Barry Hannah, Larry Brown, Willie Morris, and John Grisham. Square Books is known for its strong selection of literary fiction, books on the American South and by southern writers, a large inventory of reduced-price remainders, and its emphasis on books for children. The store hosts the popular *Thacker Mountain Radio* show and more than one hundred and fifty author events a year. The main store, Square Books, is in a two-story building with a cafe and balcony on the second floor. Off Square Books is a few doors down from the main store and has lifestyle sections such as gardening and cookbooks, and Square Books, Jr., the children's bookstore, is in a building on the east side of the square.

Thacker Mountain Radio—*Thacker Mountain Radio* is a live radio show featuring weekly author readings and a wide array of musical performances from the Square in Oxford, Mississippi. The free show is taped and broadcast every Thursday at 6:00 p.m. during the fall and spring and rebroadcast every Saturday night on Mississippi Public Radio.

Center for the Study of Southern Culture Institutes



Southern Documentary Project

The Southern Documentary Project, SouthDocs for short, produces works of documentary storytelling from the perspective of studying the American South. SouthDocs teaches classes in Southern Studies, provides internships and multimedia workshops, and helps to drive the Center's MFA in Documentary Expression program.

SouthDocs filmmakers have created dozens of films of all lengths. While the primary focus is documentary, some filmmakers also specialize in narrative film storytelling. Southern Studies students, especially those in the master's program and the MFA in Documentary Expression program, work with SouthDocs filmmakers on projects throughout the year.



Southern Foodways Alliance

On July 22, 1999, in Birmingham, Alabama, author and activist John Egerton convened a two-day meeting of fifty people who lent their names to a nonprofit organization dedicated to the documentation and celebration of the diverse food cultures of the American South.

Three-fifths of the founding members attended the organizational meeting wherein a mission was set and a name adopted: The Southern Foodways Alliance. The Center agreed to act as the incubator of the SFA and provided start-up capital, earned from sale of the Center-researched and written cookbook, *A Gracious Plenty: Recipes and Recollections from the American South*. In May of 1998, the Center staged the first Southern Foodways Symposium, organized by John T. Edge, then a graduate student.

At that July of 1999 meeting, the founders elected a board of directors and agreed to hire John T. Edge as director of the SFA. He remained the sole employee until Mary Beth Lasseter was hired as associate director in 2004. As the SFA has grown, it has honed a mission that leverages oral history and film work through publications and programming.

Living Blues

Living Blues Magazine

Living Blues magazine, America's first blues publication, was founded in Chicago in 1970 by Jim O'Neal and Amy van Singel. From its inception, the magazine has aimed to document and preserve the African American blues tradition. *Living Blues* was acquired by the University of Mississippi in 1983 and is published bimonthly by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture. *Living Blues* shares the Center's mission to promote scholarship and documentary work. Center graduate students frequently serve as interns and contributors for the magazine. With in-depth features on blues icons like Howlin' Wolf, Muddy Waters, and B. B. King, as well as more obscure artists and rising stars, *Living Blues* has provided the best in blues journalism and photography for over forty years. In 2009 *Living Blues* was honored by the state of Mississippi with a Mississippi Blues Trail historical marker, located outside of Barnard Observatory. *Living Blues* is also a past recipient of the Blues Foundation's prestigious Keeping the Blues Alive Award.



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Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference

“Faulkner’s Families,” July 21–25

This summer’s Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha conference on “Faulkner’s Families” (July 21–25) will feature a pair of exciting sessions to complement the regular conference program of keynote lectures, scholarly panels, discussions, and tours.

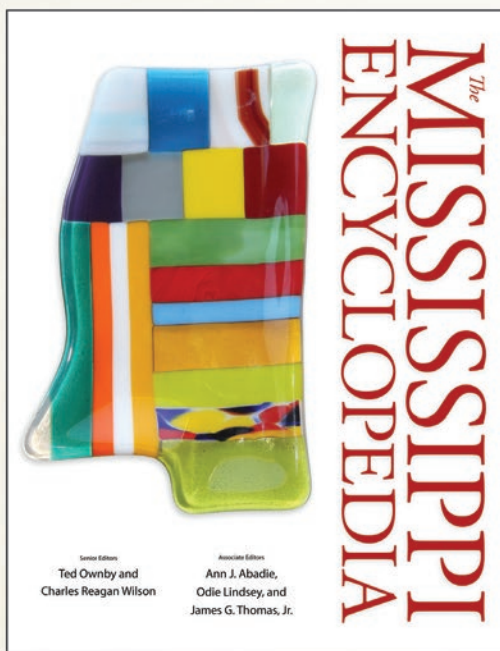
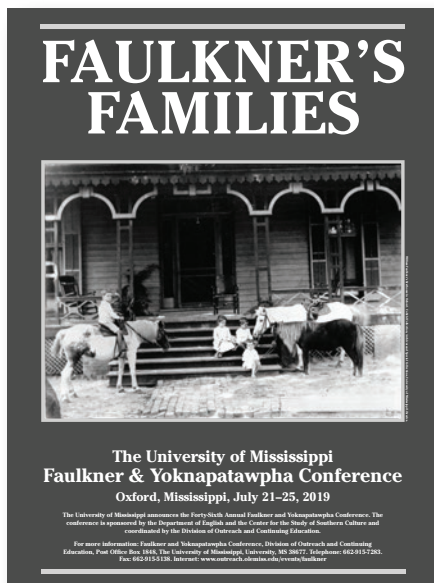
First, with support from the University of Mississippi Slavery Research Group, Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha is proud to host an evening session by noted writer, lecturer, and genealogist Kenyatta D. Berry. Berry, author of *The Family Tree Toolkit: A Comprehensive Guide to Uncovering Your Ancestry and Researching Genealogy* and host of the popular PBS series *Genealogy Roadshow*, specializes in African American genealogy, including the researching of slave ancestry, and in DNA-based genealogical research. This summer she will lead a ninety-minute workshop, scheduled for Sunday, July 21, at 7:30 p.m., focusing on the challenges and rewards of tracing family history. The workshop will be open to members of the Lafayette-Oxford-University community as well as to conference registrants.

“Faulkner’s Families” is also excited about the return of the Elevator Repair Service (ERS)

theater company to Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha. Core members Vin Knight, April Matthis, and Ben Williams will join company director John Collins for a viewing and discussion of ERS’s *The Sound and the*

Fury, its word-for-word adaptation, originally staged in 2008, of section 1 of Faulkner’s 1929 saga of the Compson family of Jefferson, Mississippi. The session, scheduled for Monday evening, July 22, at 8:00 p.m., will screen a recording of ERS’s 2015 remounting of *The Sound and the Fury*, staged at the Public Theater in New York. Collins, Knight, Matthis, and Williams will provide commentary on the screening, followed by a talkback with audience members. The session will provide a unique experience of, and new insights into, one of Faulkner’s greatest novels of family.

For more information about keynote speakers and conference registration, please visit the conference website at www.outreach.olemiss.edu/events/faulkner/, or see the Fall 2018 issue of the *Southern Register*. Contact Mary Leach at mleach@olemiss.edu for details. For other inquiries, contact Jay Watson, Director, at jwatson@olemiss.edu.



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We are proud that the conference is free and open to the public. This does, however, require fundraising in support of author travel, stipends, venue rental, and the many other things necessary for planning a three-day-long event. Any amount helps in our mission to bring celebrated writers to Oxford.

If you do wish to support the conference, visit oxfordconferenceforthebook.com for information on online giving. If you prefer to send a check, you may mail it to the following address: The University of Mississippi Foundation – OCB General Support, P.O. Box 249, University, MS 38677-1848.

The Abadie Endowment

An endowment, started in the summer of 2011, honors retired Center associate director Ann Abadie. Past and present members of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture's Advisory Committee started the fund, and with encouragement from the Center's partners at Square Books, many past participants in the conference made contributions as well.

Contributions to the endowment are very much welcome. Anyone interested in making a contribution can mail it to The University of Mississippi Foundation – Abadie Endowment, P.O. Box 249, University, MS 38677-1848. Checks should specify that they are in support of the OCB Endowment.

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The conference is partially funded by the University of Mississippi, a contribution from the R&B Feder Foundation for the Beaux Arts, a grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council, and promotional support from Visit Oxford.



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Founded in 1940, the Friends of the Library provides vital support to the J. D. Williams Library. 100% of our membership dues support new acquisitions, thus keeping our library strong for our students and faculty.



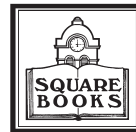
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This program is financially assisted by the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council. MHC's purpose is to provide public programs in traditional liberal arts disciplines to serve nonprofit groups in Mississippi.



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