

2019-2020 SPEAKER DIRECTORY



The Florida Humanities Speakers Directory

is a list of humanities scholars, storytellers, authors, and researchers who are seeking to engage communities across the state. The Florida Humanities Council, with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities and Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, provides funding, promotional support, and capacity-building opportunities for organizations interested in working with these presenters. Each presentation includes a question and answer session at the end, allowing the audience to engage with the speaker.



Organizations can collaborate with presenters in one of two ways:

- As a host for a **Florida Talks** program, a single speaking program.
- As a host for a **Florida Humanities Speakers Series**, a collection of four to six speaking programs taking place over multiple months.

Florida Talks

Deadline: Accepted on rolling basis

Florida Talks are single speaking engagements. Organizations can apply for funds to bring a speaker to their community as a component of other programs, or to celebrate a particular moment of cultural significance (Black History Month, Women's History Month, etc.). Applicants generally receive a response within two weeks of submitting an application.

The program operates on a reimbursement system. Once you apply, and bring a speaker to your community, complete the brief final report to receive the \$500.

Only organizations with an annual budget less than \$500,000 are eligible to host a Florida Talks program.

How to apply:

- Review our Speakers Directory to decide who you want to bring to your community
- Contact the speaker and make sure they are available on your chosen date
- Complete our Florida Talks application. You should hear back within two weeks

Florida Humanities Speakers Series

Deadline: June 21, 2019

The Florida Humanities Speakers Series is an opportunity to deliver a series of high-quality humanities programs to your community. Organizations hosting a Speaker Series recruit and facilitate a series of four to six engaging talks occurring between September 1, 2019 and May 31, 2020.

Speakers Series sites receive up to \$5,000 to host programs, in addition to a comprehensive press kit and statewide promotion of your series. Hosting organizations can create a series based on a particular theme, or develop a custom slate of offerings for your community.

When evaluating applications, the following factors are considered:

- The partner's ability to attract diverse and underserved audiences
- Previous history working with FHC (priority is given to new applicants)
- Geographic spread of programs; in general, if multiple proposals come from the same area, only one will be funded

How to apply:

- Contact four to six speakers and make sure they are available on your chosen dates
- Complete our Speaker Series application by June 21, 2019.

Ready to apply, visit www.floridahumanities.org/speakers

Important Information about FHC Funding

Because the Florida Humanities Council is partially funded with federal dollars, it is possible that your organization may need to register in SAM.gov. The System for Award Management (SAM) is a website used by entities doing business with funds from the U.S. government. You are still eligible to apply for funding without having an active SAM account, but you may need to register before funds can be distributed. Your award notification will inform you of your project's funding source and advise you further on any SAM requirement. Visit [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) to learn more and to register your organization. We strongly recommend that all organizations begin the registration process before applying for FHC funds.

Frequently Asked Questions

How much honoraria do speakers charge?

It will vary speaker to speaker, however all speakers on our roster have agreed to charge no more than \$500 for a program. This amount does not include possible travel expenses.

Who is eligible to apply for the Speakers Series or Florida Talks?

To apply to become a Florida Humanities Speakers Series or Florida Talks partner, you must be a nonprofit organization (this includes museums, libraries, historical societies, municipalities, etc.) Florida Talks funding is limited to organizations with operating budgets of less than \$500,000.

Do Florida Humanities Speakers Series and Florida Talks funds require a match?

All FHC funds must be matched at a minimum with an equal amount of cash and/or in-kind services. Approved matches include staff/volunteer time, equipment/facility usage, publicity, and other program related expenses not covered by FHC funds.

When can we book our programs?

For Speakers Series projects, a schedule must be submitted as part of your application and programs must take place September 1, 2019 - May 31, 2020. Florida Talks programs can be scheduled year-round, however we must receive your application at least 8 weeks before your proposed event.

Can we charge admission to a program?

Yes, however programs must be financially accessible to the public. Admission fees must not present a barrier to public participation.

Can we book speakers who aren't on your roster?

Not at this time. All speakers must come from our pre-approved roster.

Can I join the FHC Speakers Directory?

Yes, see our application page for additional information.

Can we use funding for staffing or facilities?

For Florida Talks programs, none of the requested funds can be used for staffing or facilities. For Speakers Series programs, you may use up to 20% of your FHC funds for staffing related to the project. You may only use FHC funds for facilities if you are renting a venue other than your own. Use of your own facility should be part of your cost share.

My organization currently has an open Community Project grant or other FHC-funded project. Can I also apply for a Florida Talks and/or Speakers Series project?

Yes, you are still eligible for a Florida Talks or Speaker Series project while you have another open FHC project, however you cannot apply for both speakers programs at the same time.

How often can I apply for a Florida Talks program?

You are limited to one Florida Talks program per calendar year.

Does our facility need to be ADA compliant?

Yes, all FHC partners must adhere to state accessibility guidelines. For more information about accessibility, [click here](#).

Need Help?

FHC staff is happy to provide guidance on completing an application, determining eligibility, addressing budgetary questions, as well as troubleshooting technical difficulties with electronic forms. Staff comments and suggestions are based solely on prior experience with speaking programs. Adherence to staff suggestions does not guarantee approval. Please contact staff well in advance of an application deadline to ensure a prompt reply.

General Speaker Questions:

Alex Buell, Program Coordinator
727-873-2001
abuell@flahum.org

Technical questions:

Lisa Lennox, Website Administrator
727-873-2018
llennox@flahum.org



**NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES**

Sponsored in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.



Vincent Adejumo

Scholar

Lecturer, African American Studies Program,
University of Florida

Ph.D., M.A., Political Science, University of Florida

Masters of Public Administration, Strayer
University

B.S., Business Management, Florida State
University



Basma Alawee

Activist, writer

Florida delegate, UNHCR Refugee Congress

Iraq refugee and volunteer translator

Finding a Home: Stories of Refugees

The challenges facing Florida's more than 200,000 refugees, the largest concentration in the country and growing by 25,000 a year. Their stories shed light on their lives and their culture.

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Black Masculinity in Florida

An exploration of the history of race in the United States, how race impacts specific events such as the infamous Trayvon Martin shooting and its implications on other issues, including standardized testing, school suspension, and the criminal justice system.

The Destruction of Rosewood

A critical analysis of Rosewood, a predominantly black community destroyed in 1923 during a racially motivated attack, and other majority-black cities in Florida within the context of group economics and how that tradition among African Americans was destroyed.

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(813) 787-2530



Sharon Austin

Scholar

Political Science Professor and African American Studies Director, University of Florida

Research interests: black politics, African American and Caribbean political relationships, Southern elections, and the history of race in America.

African American Politics

An examination of the social and political relationships among African Americans and people of black Caribbean descent. Other topics include Haitian political behavior, general African American political behavior, and the history and politics of black women. Presentation tailored to audience interest.

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Carrie Sue Ayvar

Storyteller

Recipient, National Storytelling Network Oracle Award for Service and Leadership

Specializing in historical presentations in English and Spanish, often told as the costumed Chautauqua Scholar.

Doc Anna: Swamp Doctor of Florida

The inspiring story of Dr. Anna Darrow, wife, mother, pharmacist, artist and veterinarian and the second woman licensed to practice medicine in Florida. She braved swamps, alligators, venomous snakes, and dangerous outlaws so she could heal the sick, nurse the wounded and deliver babies in the early 20th century.

Rose Weiss: Mother of Miami Beach

When Rose Weiss arrived in 1919, Miami Beach was not much more than a sparsely populated sandbar. With persistence and a smile, this feisty, compassionate Jewish mother began at once to transform it and along the way created jobs, fought prejudice, helped the needy, gave the city its motto and even designed the city's flag.

Stories of Florida—Con Sabor!

Our stories have never been the same since Ponce De Leon first arrived on our shores in 1513. Flowing seamlessly between Spanish and English, these personal, historical and traditional Florida tales connect the people and cultures of Florida, *con un poquito de sabor Latino*—with a little bit of Latino flavor!

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Uzi Baram

Scholar

Professor of Anthropology, New College
Director, New College Public Archaeology Lab
M.A., Ph.D., University of Massachusetts at Amherst
B.A., State University of New York at Binghamton

History and Archaeology of the Black Seminoles

New research has changed the image of the people known as escaped slaves, Black Seminoles, and free blacks, and provided new insights into Spanish *La Florida* as a haven from slavery. From the Apalachicola River in 1816 to the Manatee River in 1821, freedom-seeking peoples fought for their liberty by Florida rivers.

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Cynthia Barnett

Journalist, writer

Author

Rain (2015)

Finalist, 2016 PEN/E.O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award, 2016 National Book Award Longlist

Blue Revolution: Unmaking America's Water Crisis (2011)

Boston Globe Top 10 Science Books of 2011

Florida and the Vanishing Water of the Eastern U.S. (2007)

Gold medal winner, Florida Book Award

Blue Revolution: A Water Ethic for Florida

The Atlantic and the Gulf surround us, thousands of lakes dot the landscape, rivers and streams flow for 10,000 miles, and the world's largest concentration of artesian wells bubble up from beneath the surface. Florida is the nation's most water-rich state yet it is in the midst of an enormous water crisis that threatens our future. It doesn't have to be this way.

RAIN: A history for stormy times

Rain connects us in all sorts of ways—as profound as prayer and art, as practical as economics, as genuine as an exchange between strangers on a stormy day. It plays a key role in civilization, religion, and art. It also allows us to talk about climate change as conversation not confrontation.

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Martha Bireda

Scholar, reenactor

Director, Blanchard House Museum of African American History and Culture of Charlotte County

Author, *The Womb Rebellion* (2017)

Ph.D., University of Florida

M.A., University of Michigan

B.A., Western Michigan University



Brendan Burke

Author, historian, archaeologist

Associate Archaeology Director, St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum

Co-author, *Shrimp Boat City* (2013)

M.A., historical archaeology, The College of William and Mary

Powerful Doctoring Women

Grannies and midwives were powerful “doctoring women” who provided the foundation of healthcare for enslaved African Americans in Florida. Listen, learn, taste, smell, and touch as one such woman named Pearl shares the plants and herbs that kept enslaved Africans healthy on the Bellamy plantation.

The African Roots of Southern Cooking

Enslaved Africans brought their foodways and special skills such as rice cultivation with them during their forced journey through the Middle Passage. Learn how African foods and food preparation influence what Floridians eat today.

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Florida’s Fleet: A Boatbuilding and Fishing Legacy from the First Coast

The Florida-style trawler is one of the most important boats in the state’s history, forged from the hands of Greeks, Italians, Norwegians, African-Americans, and native Floridians. From 1919 until the mid-1980s, it was the backbone of a multi-billion dollar industry that supplied the world with shrimp trawlers and commercial fishing boats of all type.

Lighthouses of the Sunshine State

The history of Florida lighthouses stretches from St. Augustine’s 16th century signal towers to an inland lighthouse in Lake George. Over 50 lighthouses have stood as silent sentinels along Florida’s 1,300 miles of coast, a source of curiosity, folklore and refuge. The lighthouses have endured hurricanes, earthquakes, even military attack.

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J. Michael Butler

Historian, author

Associate History Professor, Flagler College
Ph.D., Masters in history, University of Mississippi
Co-author, *Victory After the Fall: The Memories of Civil Rights Activist H. K. Matthews* (2007)

Police Brutality and Confederate Imagery: The Black Freedom Struggle in One Florida County

A close examination of events in Escambia County in the 1970s demonstrates how—and why—the struggle against segregation in Florida continued well after the Civil Rights movement ended in the 1960s.

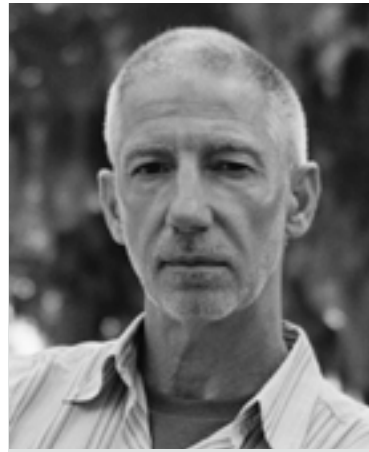
State, Local, and National Campaigns: The Civil Rights Movement in Florida

The idea that Florida did not experience the tumult of other Deep South states during the Civil Rights Movement is a popular misconception. Florida exceptionalism in relationship to the black freedom struggle is placed in its proper regional and national perspective.

The Magnificent Drama: Martin Luther King in St. Augustine

The civil rights movement in St. Augustine drew national attention when Martin Luther King, Jr. visited twice in 1964, sparking marches, arrests, and clashes between protesters and police on the tourist-lined beaches of St. Augustine. Local and national objectives complemented and contradicted each other in ways that affect race relations today.

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John Capouya

Author, pop-culture scholar

Journalism and creative non-fiction professor,
University of Tampa
Former editor at *Newsweek*, *The New York Times*
Author

Florida Soul: From Ray Charles to K.C. and the Sunshine Band (2017)

Gorgeous George: The Outrageous Bad-Boy Wrestler Who Created American Pop Culture (2008)

Florida Soul

The people and the music that define Florida Soul, from Ray Charles, to Sam and Dave, James Brown to Bobby Purify and many more. This rich but under-appreciated musical heritage comes to life in music, words, and vintage photos.

Respect: Soul Music and the Civil Rights Movement

Words, images and stirring music tell the story of the soul music that became the soundtrack of the Civil Rights Movement: Aretha Franklin, Sam Cooke, Sam and Dave, James Brown, and Florida's own Timmy Thomas ("Why Can't We Live Together").

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Jack Davis

Author, historian

Environmental history and sustainable studies professor, University of Florida

Ph.D., Brandeis University

B.A., M.A., University of South Florida

Author

The Gulf: The Making of an American Sea (2017)

Winner, Pulitzer prize for history

An Everglades Providence: Marjory Stoneman Douglas and the American Environmental Century (2009)

Non-fiction gold medal, Florida Book Awards



Anthony Dixon

Historian, archivist

Assistant Professor of History and Archivist, Bethune-Cookman University

Founder and President, Archival and Historical Research Associates

Ph.D., Indiana University

B.S. in History, M.S. in Applied Social Science, Florida A&M University

The African Diaspora Experience in Florida

An examination of Florida's relationship with African descendants, from 1513 to the present, which has had a direct impact on the state's growth. Topics include Florida maroons/black Seminoles, slavery, Reconstruction and the Civil Rights Movement.

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Florida and the Gulf of Mexico: History, Wisdom, and Hope

The role the Gulf of Mexico has played in the course of U.S. history, based on the Pulitzer-winning book *The Gulf*. How people, from pre-Spanish natives to today's shoreside residents, organized their societies and lives around nature, and how Gulf nature has been a positive force in human events.

Marjory Stoneman Douglas: A Life with the Everglades

The life and legacy of writer, feminist, and environmentalist Marjory Stoneman Douglas, who single-handedly redefined the Everglades in popular imagination from a worthless swamp to a valuable part of the Florida ecosystem.

Paradise Lost: Reflections on Florida's Environmental History

The natural side of the human saga in Florida's history, from the early artists and writers who discovered a paradise to the modern day challenges to restore that which has been lost.

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Rebecca Dominguez-Karimi

Scholar

Adjunct professor of composition and literature,
Nova Southeastern University in Davie

Winner, 2008 Florida Atlantic University Frank
and Courtney Brogan Creative Writing Award for
Non-fiction.

Author, *Café con Leche Americana*, short story
in *Multicultural Reflections on Race and Change*
(2006)

I'm An American

How Jim Crow laws affected the Hispanic community,
featuring a Latina's painful teenage memories
about discrimination during World War II and how
she voiced her rights as an American citizen.

Representations of La Femme

On the stereotypical themes of the African American
female body in sheet music art, exploring the evolution
and transformation from early 19th century Southern
plantation life to the pop culture of the early 20th
century. With archival music accompaniment.

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J. Michael Francis

Historian

Hough Family Chair of Florida Studies and
professor of history, USF St. Petersburg

Ph.D. in History, University of Cambridge

B.A., M.A. in History, University of Alberta

Member, St. Augustine 450th Commemoration
Commission.

Before Jamestown: Europeans, Africans, and Indians in La Florida, 1513-1607

The early history of European settlements in Florida
with a focus on Florida's rich yet largely neglected
Spanish colonization, which began nearly a century
before Jamestown with St. Augustine, the first European
settlement of North America established in 1513.

Murder and Martyrdom in Spanish Florida: Don Juan and the Guale Uprising

In the late fall of 1597, Guale Indians murdered
five Franciscan friars and razed their missions to
the ground in what is known as Juanillo's Revolt. It
brought the missionization of Guale territory to an
abrupt end, shedding light on the complex nature
of Spanish-Indian relations and the dramatic early
history of Franciscan missions in Spanish Florida.

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Andrew Frank

Historian

Allen Morris Professor of History, Florida State University

Ph.D., M.A., in history, University of Florida

B.A. in history. Brandeis University,

Author

Before the Pioneers: Indians, Settlers, Slaves, and the Founding of Miami (2017)

The Seminole (2010)

Before the Pioneers: Connecting Ancient and Contemporary South Florida

The 4,000-year human history of the North Bank of the Miami River illustrates how and why ancient and early-modern peoples profoundly shaped the development of Florida long before Henry Flagler, Julia Tuttle and other so-called Miami pioneers. Explore the stories of Tequesta and Seminole Indians, Spanish missionaries, African slaves and white slaveholders, Bahamian wreckers, outlaws, runaways, and American soldiers.

Making Chief Osceola: The Abolitionists and the Rise of an American Myth

Anti-war and abolitionist activists helped promote an enduring series of myths and fabrications about Chief Osceola, who played a pivotal role in the Second Seminole War and died in U.S. military captivity in 1838. Osceola was a focus of debates over Indian wars, Indian removal, and their connections to American slavery.

Modern by Tradition: Innovation and the Transformation of Seminole Culture

Between 1700 and today, the culture of the Florida Seminoles has remained remarkably connected to its roots while also innovating in dramatic fashion, becoming both modern and traditional and reflected in their origin stories, dress, cuisine, housing, ceremonies, and family life.

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Janie Gould

Writer

Author

Floridays: Stories From Under the Sun, Vols. 1 and 2 (2011)

Food for Floridays: Stories and Recipes.

When Manatees Were Sea Cows: How Floridians Coped When Times Were Hard

The inventive ways Floridians put food on the table and survived during the Great Depression and its aftermath, focusing on one woman's memories of how her unemployed father kept his family afloat by collecting Spanish moss and selling it for mattress stuffing.

Global Events That Touched Florida: Great Depression through Cold War

Excerpts from radio interviews of Floridians recalling U-boat attacks, German POWs, the Cuban Missile Crisis and other history-changing events. One man recalls his father's poker game rattled by a submarine blast 15 miles off Jupiter Island. Another about his first visit to the state—as a German POW. An African-American soldier remembers segregation during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

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772-321-6705



Arlo Haskell

Historian

Executive director, Key West Literary Seminar

Author

The Jews of Key West: Smugglers, Cigar Makers, and Revolutionaries (1823-1969)

Gold medal, 2017 Florida Book Award for nonfiction

President's Medal, Florida Authors and Publishers Association



Tameka Hobbs

Historian, Author

Associate Professor of History and Coordinator of the African American History Program, Valdosta State University

Founding president, South Florida Branch of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History

Curriculum designer, South Florida People of Color

The Jewish Underground: Smuggling Refugees from Cuba to Key West

The little-known story of thousands of Jewish immigrants who became refugees in Cuba in the 1920s when they were barred from entering the United States. Cuban authorities looked the other way as smugglers transported them to Key West, pitting them against powerful local officials who belonged to the Ku Klux Klan and inspiring Ernest Hemingway's novel *To Have and Have Not*.

Vengeance Against Spain: Jewish Immigrants who fought for Cuban Independence

A clandestine cell of Eastern European Jewish immigrants in Key West in the 1890s delivered weapons to the Cuban revolutionary rebels who chased the Spanish Empire out of the Americas. Jews in Key West and Tampa were drawn to the revolutionary movement led by José Martí and paralleled the Zionist cause that led to the creation of Israel.

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Strange Fruit in Florida

Florida's painful history of racial violence, highlighted by civil rights activist Harry T. Moore's fight against lynching and the Ku Klux Klan that led to his death in a bombing of his home. "Strange Fruit" refers to a song made famous by Billie Holiday about the lynching of African Americans in the South.

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305-912-5332



Sharon Koskoff

Mural artist, preservationist, educator and designer

Founded the Art Deco Society of the Palm Beaches (ADSPB) in 1987

Author, *Art Deco of the Palm Beaches* (2007) and *Murals of the Palm Beaches* (2018)

Winner, Ellen Liman Award of Excellence in Education by the Cultural Council of Palm Beach County (2014)

Art Deco Architecture of the Palm Beaches

Learn about Art Deco style and architecture found in South Florida. Dozens of Art Deco architectural treasures have been discovered and identified in Palm Beach County. Learn about history, culture and understand how reflection of the past can help us move into the future.

Confessions of a Public Mural

Artist: WPA-21st Century

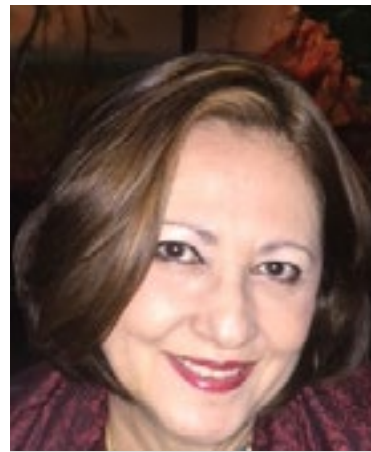
Sharon Koskoff has painted over 350 murals in Palm Beach County Public Schools. Sharon's mural passion will teach about historical 20th Century WPA Post Office artists. Learn from the past up to the recent graffiti styled "street art" murals including the Body Graphix Murals painted in Belle Glade.

Habana Deco: Art and Architecture of Cuba

Compare our South Florida architecture and society to that of our closest neighbor, Cuba. Take a virtual tour of the art, architecture and culture of Havana, Cuba, and compare our South Florida architecture and society to that of our closest international neighbor.

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(561) 699-7899



Magdalena Lamarre

Scholar

Retired professor, Miami Dade College

M.A. in History, Stony Brook University

B.A. in history and secondary education, Hunter College

Co-producer, *Surviving Hurricane Maria: Puerto Rican Student Voices*

Female Superheroes: What are Their Real Powers?

An examination of the perceptions of women in popular culture through comic books and how this culture has changed over time.

Afro-Caribbean Migration to Florida

An examination of the migration and settlement patterns of the varied Afro-Caribbean peoples who have made Florida their home and helped create the culture of today.

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Peggy Macdonald

Historian, author

History instructor, Stetson University, Indian River State College and Southern New Hampshire University

Author, *Marjorie Harris Carr: Defender of Florida's Environment* (2014)

Honorable Mention, Foreword Review 2014
INDIEFAB Book of the Year Award in Women's Studies.

Writer, *Gainesville Magazine*, *Our Town Magazine* and *Senior Times Magazine*

Member, Alachua County Historical Commission.
Ph.D., University of Florida



Pedro Medina

Author

Tomorrow I will not see you in Miami (2013)

Tour: a return to the popular culture of Miami (2018)

Warsaw (2017)

Marginal (2018)

Lado B

Florida's Female Pioneers

Examining some of the women who have shaped Florida, including Dr. Esther Hill Hawks, a physician who ran the first racially integrated free school in Florida; Harriet Beecher Stowe, famous for writing *Uncle Tom's Cabin* who kick-started Florida's tourism industry with her 1873 book, *Palmetto Leaves*; and May Mann Jennings, a suffragist and conservationist who helped establish Royal Palm State Park, which formed the nucleus of Everglades National Park.

Florida's First Ladies

The fascinating stories of some of Florida's most memorable First Ladies, from the territorial period to today, and their impact on the Sunshine State. Meet women such as Rachel Donelson, who moved with her second husband, Andrew Jackson, to territorial Florida in 1821; and Martha Starke Peay Perry, who witnessed the rise of secession at the dawn of the Civil War.

Marjorie Harris Carr: Defender of Florida's Environment

Raised by naturalist parents in rural Southwest Florida, Marjorie Carr used the power of the pen and grassroots activism to celebrate Old Florida and protect Florida's wildlife and wild places, preserving many of north central Florida's ecological treasures.

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Our Man in Miami

The East Coast Railway, the railroad of Henry M. Flagler, opened Miami to the rest of the world. Before that, the land south of Palm Beach was inhospitable. Built between 1906 and 1912, the railway was called the eighth wonder of the world.

The Vice of Miami during the 80's

Miami in the early '80s had the highest murder rate in the country and was the center of drug cartels populated by immigrants from Latin America's lowest strata, no longer the peaceful old-age spa. But on September 28, 1984, Miami Vice debuted on national television and reinvented the city in popular imagination.

Celebrities Who Leave a Legacy: Jim Morrison, Bob Marley & Cassius Clay

Miami's connection to some of America's biggest celebrities and pop culture icons: the beginning of the end of the band The Doors was in Coconut Grove; Bob Marley's transcendental relationship with the city; the Miami Beach monument dedicated to an African American was for Muhammad Ali.

Books & Libros: The Great Novel of Miami

The reality of Miami told through fiction and the debate over the "great novel of Miami," focused on works in English and Spanish: *8th Street* by Douglas Fairbairn, *Miami Blues* by Charles Willeford, *Continental Drift* by Russell Banks; *Miami [UN] Plugged* and *Viaje One Way: Snow in Miami* by Juan Carlos Castillón, and *Extremo Occidente* by Juan Carlos Castillón.

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305-263-0112



Peter Meinke

Poet

Professor Emeritus, Eckerd College

Poet Laureate of Florida

Former Poet Laureate of St. Petersburg

Winner, 1986 Flannery O'Connor Award for short story fiction for *The Piano Tuner*

Winner, St. Petersburg's First Sunlit Festival Lifetime Achievement Award (2015)

His work has appeared in the *Atlantic*, *The New Yorker*, *The Nation* and scores of other publications

Winner of a Fulbright, two NEA Fellowships, and three prizes from the Poetry Society of America

A Reading with Peter Meinke

A generous selection of readings by Florida's Poet Laureate, whose work has been called witty, dark, and formally assured, exploring family, daily life, and politics. Includes a discussion about the works and about writing.

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Barbara Mennel

Scholar

Rothman Chair and Director of the Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere, University of Florida

Associate Professor of Film Studies and German Studies, University of Florida

The City on Screen

An examination of the development of cities on screen. Silent films depicted cities as incarnations of modernity. With the invention of light-weight cameras, films in the mid-century entered the streets of Rome, Paris, and Berlin showing movement through the avenues of the metropolis. At the turn of the 21st century, images of megacities, such as Mumbai and Rio de Janeiro, circulated on the global film market as crime-ridden dystopian visions.

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Gary Monroe

Author

The Highwaymen: Florida's African-American Landscape Painters (2001)

Extraordinary Interpretations: Self-taught Florida Artists (2003)

Silver Springs: The Underwater Photographs of Bruce Mozart (2008)

Cassadaga: Speaking of the Dead

A visual presentation on the people, place and practices of Cassadaga, a quaint Victorian village in Central Florida that is the oldest continuously active center of Spiritualism in the South, dedicated to the principle that the dead commune with the living. Explore the community's distinctive architecture, ritual life, core beliefs, séances, and healing work through photos made possible by unfettered access to its residents.

Florida's Self-taught Renegade Artists

A look at Florida's Outsider artists, whose work is distinguished by their idiosyncrasies and wild visions that fly in the face of traditional art making and is guaranteed to shake long-standing foundations. Outsider art has been co-opted into the museum culture, altering our views about the nature of art and aesthetics. Discover 12 remarkable self-taught Florida artists and the ideas which led to their renegade creations.

The Highwaymen: Florida's African-American Landscape Painters

The formerly obscure, now widely acclaimed artists, who taught themselves to paint idyllic versions of the Florida landscape and sell their creations door to door and along highways during the height of the Civil Rights Movement. Their paintings have become the measure of indigenous Florida art and are now celebrated and widely collected. Based on the seminal book that introduced the Highwaymen to the world and helped usher them into the Florida Artists Hall of Fame.

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Gary Mormino

Historian, author

Frank E. Duckwall Florida Professor of History Emeritus, USF St. Petersburg

Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Author

Land of Sunshine, State of Dreams: A Social History of Modern Florida (2005)

The Immigrant World of Ybor City (1987)

Winner, 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award for Writing, Florida Humanities Council

Florida and World War II

Florida was never the same after World War II, transformed from the South's least populous state by an influx of 2 million servicemen and women, and igniting a modern civil rights movement, new roles for women, and the dawn of the Florida Dream.

Ten Foods that define Florida

What foods define the Sunshine State? Caldo gallego, gazpacho, or black bean soup? Key Lime or sweet potato pie? Was the Cuban sandwich invented in Tampa but perfected in Miami? How does one explain the rise of the grouper sandwich? What has happened to our once vaunted oyster industry? Did Georgia, the Carolinas, and Texas simply export its barbecue here or does Florida have its own BBQ heritage? All these questions and more form the basis of a lively discussion on Florida Foodways.

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Caren Neile

Storyteller, educator

Instructor and Artist-in-Residence,
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Director, South Florida Storytelling Project
Producer, host, *The Public Storyteller* (WLRN-FM)
Co-founding editor, *Storytelling* journal
Winner, 2005 Oracle Award for Regional
Leadership and Service
Ph.D., Florida Atlantic University

Our Stories, Ourselves

Real-life, old-Florida stories of adults and children, rascals and heroes: everyone is a vital part of living Florida history, not something that just happens to other people.

Short Takes: A Grab Bag of Old Florida Stories

From the Barefoot Mailman to Addison Mizner and the Ashley Gang, old Florida history is brimming with fascinating characters and memorable events. Enjoy lively interpretations of some of the better-known Florida tales, as well as others you might not have encountered.

The Sweetheart State:

Entertaining and educational legends that focus on couples, criminal and heroic, familiar and exotic. Meet the Wakulla Pocahantas and the soldier she saved. Find out what a Pahokee housewife saw in a backwoods gangster. Learn the romance behind the Devil's Millhopper.

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Steve Noll

Historian, writer

Master lecturer in history, University of Florida
Ph.D., University of Florida
Author
Feeble-Minded in our Midst (1995)
Mental Retardation in America (2004);
Ditch of Dreams: The Cross-Florida Barge Canal and the Struggle for Florida's Future (2009).

Ditch of Dreams: The Cross Florida Barge Canal & the Struggle for Florida's Future

The long and convoluted history of an effort to cross the Florida peninsula by cutting a waterway from the Atlantic to the Gulf of Mexico, starting with the Ocklawaha River in the 19th century and the first attempted ship canal in the 1930s. An environmental movement stopped the canal before it was completed and eventually turned it into a greenway.

Florida Water Stories

Florida's long and difficult relationship with water, its attempts to turn land into water and water into land, and the contentious issues involving the Everglades, the Ocklawaha River, political battles with Alabama and Georgia, and the potential impact of sea-level rise.

Hometown Teams: Florida Sports History

The history of sports in Florida in the context of racial and gender issues, the influence of big business, and personal identities Floridians have with their local teams. It's serious but it's also fun.

Florida Transportation History: Planes, Trains, & Automobiles (& Steamboats too!)

Florida's history told through the myriad methods of transportation designed to move people and goods to and within Florida, which transformed from a backwoods frontier to one of the most important states in the union. From Bellamy Road of the 1820s to the modern transportation issues facing the Florida in the 21st century.

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Ersula Knox-Odom

Actress, storyteller, motivational speaker

Member, African American Historical & Genealogical Society

B.A., Eckerd College

Florida Humanities Council Viva La Florida performer as Mary McLeod Bethun.



Kitty Oliver

Author, oral historian, singer

Master of Fine Arts in creative writing, Ph.D. in race and ethnicity, Florida Atlantic University

Founder, "Race and Change" archive of oral histories on cross-cultural race and ethnic relations.

Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Comes to Life

Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune (1875-1955) was the founder of Bethune-Cookman University. She served as a New Deal government official—in one of the 20 highest-level offices held by women in the administration, and the highest held by an African American woman; was founder of FDR's "black cabinet;" served as president of the National Association of Colored Women; and founded and served as president of the National Council of Negro Women.

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Race and Change: Women's Stories

How women deal with race, ethnicity, and gender in their everyday lives, told through video, radio programs, literary readings, and oral histories.

Race and Change Across Cultures and Generations: Florida Stories

How far we've come and how progress can be made that inspires our youth, drawing on an archive of over 125 oral histories of blacks, whites, Hispanics, Asians and Caribbeans from a variety of heritages.

An Evening of Jazz and Multi-colored Memories

A cabaret performance of inspirational jazz vocals and stories tracing the common journey of native-born Americans and immigrants adapting to life in a diverse society and social change. Note: Additional charge for musical accompanist.

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Gordon Patterson

Scholar

Professor of history, Florida Tech
Vector Historian, Rutgers University Center for
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Ph.D., University of California
B.S., Northwestern University

Waging War on the Mosquito Menace

How Florida overcame the challenge of mosquitos, perhaps the most vexing struggle humans encountered in the past two centuries. As vectors of diseases such as malaria, yellow fever, and dengue, mosquitoes and our species' effort to institute mosquito control played a crucial role in Florida history.

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Craig Pittman

Journalist, author

Environmental reporter, *Tampa Bay Times*

Author

Oh, Florida! How America's Weirdest State Influences the Rest of the Country (2016)

Manatee Insanity: Inside the War Over Florida's Most Famous Endangered Species (2010),

The Scent of Scandal: Greed, Betrayal, and the World's Most Beautiful Orchid (2012)

How Florida contracted Manatee Insanity

How manatees wound up on the endangered species list and why they remain there today, a story featuring such characters as Jacques Cousteau and Jimmy Buffett and stretching back to the early settler days when manatee was part of their diets. These ungainly creatures have cast such a spell on Floridians they appear on everything from license plates to coffee cups.

The Scent of Scandal: Inside the Wild World of Orchid-Smuggling

Truly one of the weirdest "weird Florida" stories ever: The discovery of a spectacular new orchid from South America leads to \$10,000 a plan black market sales in Miami and a grand jury investigation that ensnares one of the state's beloved tourist attractions. And it's all true.

Oh, Florida!

To some, it's a paradise. To others, it's a punchline. It's actually both, as you'll learn from the author of the *New York Times* best-selling *Oh, Florida! How America's Weirdest State Influences the Rest of the Country*.

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Ashley Preston

Scholar

Lecturer, University of Florida

Research interests include black women's global activism, black museums and historic homes, and African American women's activism during World War II.

Author, *Mary McLeod Bethune in Florida: Bringing Social Justice to the Sunshine State* (2015)

Mary McLeod Bethune in the Sunshine State

At the turn of the 20th century, Mary McLeod Bethune arrived in Daytona Beach with \$1.50, looking to start a school. She overcame institutionalized racism, Ku Klux Klan threats and the ills of segregation to establish what is now Bethune-Cookman University, changing the course of Florida history with relentless faith and dedication to equality.

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Diane Roberts

Professor of literature and writing, Florida State University

Visiting Fellow in Creative Writing, University of Northumbria

Ph.D., Oxford University

Author,

Tribal (2015), exploring the culture of college football

Dream State: Eight Generations of Swamp Lawyers, Conquistadors, Confederate Daughters, Banana Republicans, and Other Florida Wildlife (2004)

Clean, Old-Fashioned Hatred: The College Football Tribes of Florida

The cultural importance of football in Florida, from the aftermath of the Civil War to the multi-million dollar machine which shapes higher education in the state. Why do so many of us care so much about a bunch of refrigerator-sized boys knocking into each other on a green field? In Florida, as in most of the South and Midwest, college football has never been "only a game."

Dream State

How each new wave of Florida settlers, from the mounds of the First Peoples to modern golf courses and artificial lakes, has reinvented the state to suit themselves. We live in a state of dreams, a paradise of sun and sea breezes. We pronounce it paradise then "improve" it: mermaids at Weeki Wachee or castles in Orange County or "islands" built on fill dirt dumped into our waters.

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Michael Scheibach

Author

Ph.D., University of Kansas

Author

In Case Atom Bombs Fall: An Anthology of Governmental Explanations, Instructions and Warnings from the 1940s to the 1960s (2015)

Atomics in the Classroom: Teaching the Bomb in the Early Postwar Era (2015)

Atomic Narratives and American Youth: Coming of Age with the Atom, 1945-1955 (2003)

Living with the Atomic Bomb: 1945-1965

An examination of the impact of "The Bomb" on American society from the 1940s to the 1960s, including the impact on the family, particularly women and children; government and politics; and popular culture.

Protecting the Home Front

A close-up look at women's contributions to the nation's defense, and its impact on so-called traditional roles for women, during an era when the threat of an atomic attack by the Soviet Union was very real.

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Rick Smith

TV producer

Son of the late Patrick D. Smith, author of the beloved Florida novel, *A Land Remembered*

Patrick Smith's Florida is a Land Remembered

The story of one of Florida's most beloved works of literature, as told by the author's son through visual storytelling featuring over 50 video clips, special visual and sound effects, music and more. How Patrick Smith researched *A Land Remembered* for over two years before he could write it, and his thoughts about the "real" Florida.

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Sandra Starr

Researcher, storyteller

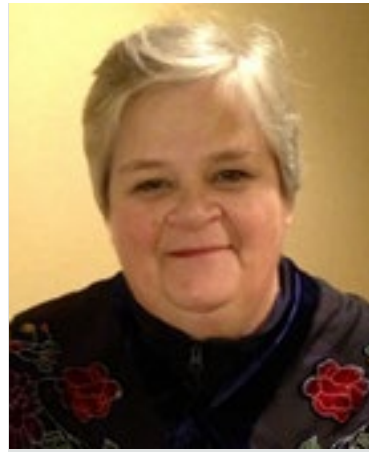
Masters in Museology, University of Florida

Her interest in the history of Florida, and the art and history of the American Indians of the Western Hemisphere, led her to the Smithsonian Institution where she assisted in planning the grand opening of the National Museum of the American Indian.

Indians at the Post Office: Murals as Public Art

In 1934, during the era of the New Deal, the Treasury Department established a "48 States" art competition to commission artists to create public art in post offices. While some mural images succeeded in capturing the importance of Native peoples in the American historic tableau, others were based on rumor, legend, and stereotype resulting in dramatic and sometimes bizarre inaccuracies.

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Betty Jean Steinshouer

Author, historian, actress

Florida Studies fellow, USF St. Petersburg.

Author, *The Florida Journeys*

Thirty-year Chautauqua Circuit veteran

NEH and NEA nationally touring speaker

Scribbling Women in Florida

A dozen women authors who put Florida on the map. From Harriet Beecher Stowe and Constance Fenimore Woolson to Laura Ingalls Wilder, Marjory Stoneman Douglas, Zora Neale Hurston and Marjorie Stoneman Douglas, they all gravitated to the Land of Flowers.

Florida's great rivers as portrayed in the "Rivers of America" Series

The stories of the authors behind the fascinating stories of Florida rivers in the *Rivers of America* series: Marjory Stoneman Douglas (*The Everglades: River of Grass*), Gloria Jahoda (*The Hillsborough: River of the Golden Ibis*), Cecile Hulse Matschat (*The Suwannee: Strange Green Land*) and James Branch Cabell and A.J. Hanna (*The St. Johns: A Parade of Diversities*).

Boston Marriages gone South

The lives of four same-sex couples who travelled to Florida together in the 19th and 20th centuries, long before marriage equality: Sarah Orne Jewett and Annie Fields; Katharine Loring and Alice James; Marjory Stoneman Douglas and Carolyn Percy Cole; and Elizabeth Bishop and Louise Crane.

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Bob Stone

Photographer, folklorist

Traveling exhibition co-curator, *Florida Cattle Ranching: Five Centuries of Tradition*

Winner, Florida Folk Heritage Award

Photography has appeared in numerous exhibitions and published in Newsweek, The New York Times, Forum, Wooden Boat

Florida Cattle Ranching: Five Centuries of Tradition

Exploring and celebrating the history and culture of the nation's oldest cattle ranching state. Few realize that cattle first came to the United States through Florida, introduced by Juan Ponce de Leon in 1521. See and hear all aspects of Florida cattle ranching traditions, including Cracker cow-whips and unique ranch gate designs, swamp cabbage and other foodways, cowboy church and Cracker cowboy funerals, Seminole ranching past and present, occupational skills such as roping and branding, the vibrant rodeo culture, side-splitting cowboy poetry, feisty cow-dogs, and much more.

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Michael Tougias

Author, motivational speaker

Co-author

The Finest Hours: The True Story of the U.S. Coast Guard's Most Daring Sea Rescue (2009)

So Close to Home: A True Story of an American Family's Fight for Survival During World War II (2016)

Above & Beyond: JFK and the U-2 Pilots During the Cuban Missile Crisis (2014)

Above & Beyond: JFK and the Florida U-2 pilots During the Cuban Missile Crisis

The little-known story of U-2 pilots who flew from Orlando to Cuba to secure the photographic proof that the Soviets were installing nuclear missiles on Cuba, sparking an international crisis that brought U.S. and the Soviet Union to the brink of war. One pilot was fatally shot down by the Soviets, in an incident that was covered up and later revealed by U-2 pilot Jerry McIlmoyle of Venice, Florida.

U-Boats So Close to Home: An American Family's World War II Story of Survival and the U-boat that Attacked Them

The attack, the survivors, and the rescue of the first U-boat to enter the Gulf of Mexico, in May 1942, as it stalked its prey 30 miles off New Orleans.

The Finest Hours: The Coast Guard's Most Daring Rescue & the Disney Movie

The true story of how two separate oil tankers split in half in a 1952 Nor'easter off Cape Cod and how the Disney movie about the disaster was made. The hero of this story was Bernie Webber of Melbourne, Florida.

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Lu Vickers

Author, historian

Winner, National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship

Ph.D., creative writing, Florida State University

Author

Weeki Wachee, City of Mermaids (2012)

Cypress Gardens: America's Tropical Wonderland (2010)

Remembering Paradise Park: Tourism and Segregation at Silver Springs (2015)

Cypress Gardens: America's Tropical Wonderland

Vintage photographs illustrate the story of Cypress Gardens, the world-famous tourist attraction that Dick Pope created out of swampland in Winter Haven that cemented Florida's reputation as the land of sun and fun from the 1930s to 2009 when it was sold to Legoland. The flamboyant Pope, known as the "man who invented Florida," combined a water ski show, tropical Gardens, and iconic Southern Belles to create an enduring symbol of Florida.

Remembering Paradise Park

In 1949, during the Jim Crow era, Silver Springs' owners Carl Ray and Shorty Davidson did something unique: they created a place for African-Americans tourists. Located downriver, they dubbed their creation "Paradise Park for Colored People" and put Eddie Vereen in charge. From 1949 to 1969, the former Silver Springs boat captain ran one of the most popular places for African Americans to visit.

Weeki Wachee: City of Mermaids

The fascinating history of Weeki Wachee Springs told through vintage photographs of the mermaids from their earliest days performing silent ballets to the heyday when ABC built them a million-dollar theater. When Newt Perry sank a theater into the edge of the spring in 1947, he had no idea his mermaids would become world famous Florida icons.

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Kimberly Voss

Scholar

Associate Professor and Journalism Program Coordinator, University of Central Florida

Author

The Food Section: Newspaper Women and the Culinary Community (2014)

Co-author

Mad Men & Working Women: Feminist Perspectives on Historical Power, Resistance and Otherness (2014)

Winner, 2014 Carol DeMasters Service to Food Journalism Award, Association of Food Journalists

A featured speaker for the Society of Professional Journalists' Excellence in Journalism program, the Association of Food Journalists and the College English Association.

Celebrating Soft News: Reevaluating Women's Page Journalism

The stories of significant women's page journalists who contributed to their Florida communities, from promoting women's clubs to sharing recipes. These women were smart, feisty and ahead of their time, integrating their sections and encouraging social change through so-called soft news.

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