

Florida Humanities Speakers Directory



Engaging Speakers



Compelling Topics



Thought-provoking
Discussions



David Head

Historian

David Head is a historian, author, and associate lecturer of history at the University of Central Florida. David grew up in Western New York, where he received his B.A. in history from Niagara University and his Ph.D. from the University at Buffalo. An expert on pirates and privateers as well as on George Washington and the American Revolution, he is the author, most recently, of *A Crisis of Peace: George Washington, the Newburgh Conspiracy, and the Fate of the American Revolution*. In addition to his scholarly publications, David's work has appeared in USA Today, the Orlando Sentinel, the Washington Examiner, and the Bulwark.

Programs Available

The Spanish American Pirates and Privateers Who Tried to Conquer Florida

Two hundred years ago, in the summer of 1817, a group of pirates and privateers invaded Amelia Island, Florida, then still a Spanish colony, in hopes of striking a blow for the Spanish American Revolutions. The presentation will tell the stories of these revolutionary rogues and their leaders, how they planned to free Florida from Spanish rule, and how the United States intervened to stop them.

The Siege of Pensacola and the Gulf Coast Campaign in the American Revolution

In the spring of 1781, British Pensacola fell to a force of Spanish, Irish, Native American, and black Cuban soldiers led by Bernardo de Galvez, the Spanish governor of Louisiana—and the colony of British West Florida, once loyal to the king, slipped out of George III's hands, dealing a new blow in the international war known as the American Revolution. The presentation tells the dramatic story of the American Revolution in Florida when Spain helped the American cause by waging war along the Gulf Coast.

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Program Format:

- In-person
- Virtual

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