

# Florida Humanities Speakers Directory



Engaging Speakers



Compelling Topics



Thought-provoking  
Discussions



## Peggy Macdonald Historian, Author

Dr. Peggy Macdonald is a public historian and adjunct professor at Stetson University and Indian River State College. A native Floridian, Dr. Macdonald gives presentations on a variety of topics in Florida history. She has written about local and Florida history for FORUM Magazine, Gainesville Magazine, Our Town Magazine and Senior Times. Dr. Macdonald's first book, *Marjorie Harris Carr: Defender of Florida's Environment*, was published by the University Press of Florida in 2014. She is currently working on a book about Florida's female pioneers. Dr. Macdonald is an alumna of the University of Florida, where she received a Ph.D. in American history. She served as Executive Director of the Matheson History Museum in Gainesville from 2015 – 2019.

### Programs Available

#### Contact Information:

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#### Program Format:

- In-person
- Virtual

#### 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 Betty Mae Tiger Jumper, the first and only female Florida Seminole Tribal Chair and the first elected female tribal chair of any federally recognized American Indian tribe in the nation.

#### Florida Women's Fight for Suffrage

Traces Florida's suffrage movement from its origins to early successes when Fay Gibson Moulton Bridges became the first Florida woman to vote after the 19th Amendment passed. Former Florida First Lady May Mann Jennings galvanized the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs to fight for equal suffrage and cofounded the Florida chapter of the League of Women Voters. Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune helped black men and women exercise their right to vote by offering classes to help students pass the literacy test and fundraising for a poll tax fund.

#### 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.

Need to reach Florida Humanities? For Grants, contact Lindsey Morrison at [lmorrison@flahum.org](mailto:lmorrison@flahum.org), for Florida Talks, contact Lisa Lennox at [lennox@flahum.org](mailto:lennox@flahum.org). For more information about the Florida Humanities Speakers Directory, visit <https://floridahumanities.org/speakers>.

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