Florida Humanities Speakers Bureau

Browse this list of Florida Humanities speakers and their current programs to host a Florida Talks event in your community. Programs are available in-person and virtually and are updated regularly. Go to FloridaHumanities.org/FloridaTalks to learn more about each presentation and the application process to book a speaker. To contact a speaker, visit the program directory.

James Abraham
Editor and Publisher
- Bloody Streets and Crooked Lines: 100 Years of Voter Suppression in Florida
- The Fighting Baileys: Florida’s Black Military Experience

Vincent Adejumo
Senior Lecturer of African American Studies, University of Florida
- The Destruction of Rosewood
- The Ocoee Florida Massacre

Carrie Sue Ayvar
Storyteller
- Stories of Florida—Con Sabor!
- More Than Orange Blossoms: Feisty, Fabulous Females of Florida
- Walking the Florida Lands and Sands: Meeting Florida Folk through Their Tales and Lore

Uzi Baram
Professor of Anthropology, New College of Florida
- Seeing Florida Heritage Through Archaeology
- What Kind of Ancestors Do You Want to Be?: Sea Level Rise and Heritage Sites in Florida

Cynthia Barnett
Environmental Author and Journalist, University of Florida
- Rain: A History for Stormy Times
- State of Water, State of Mind
- The Sound of the Sea: Seashells and the Fate of Oceans

Holly Lynn Baumgartner
Dean and Professor, NSU
- Banyan Trees and Blue Balloons: A South Florida Childhood

Martha Bireda
Director, Blanchard House Museum
- The Little Town that Unity Built
- Making a Way Out of No Way

J. Michael Butler
Kenan Distinguished Professor of History, Flagler College
- The Civil Rights Movement in Florida
- The Magnificent Drama: Martin Luther King in Saint Augustine
- St. Augustine’s Confederate Monument: Myth, Memory, and Contextualization

John Capouya
Author and Professor
- Florida’s Got Soul!
- Respect: Soul Music and the Civil Rights Movement

Mario Cartaya
Author and Retired Architect
- Across the Florida Straits to Cuba—A Living History of the Buildings Left Behind

To book a Florida Talks speaker, contact April Myerscough, Grants Coordinator:
727-873-2001 amyerscough@flahum.org floridahumanities.org
Florida Humanities Speakers Bureau

Jim Clark
Senior Lecturer, University of Central Florida
- The Hidden History of Florida
- Presidents in Florida
- Writers in Paradise

Cori Convertito
Lead Historian, Florida Keys History Center
- Key West Hand Print Fabrics: An Island Industry
- Henry Flagler: Florida Visionary
- Key West’s Black History

Annette Fromm
Consulting Curator
- Seminole Portraits: Reflections Across Time
- Charles Deering: Artist, Collector, Patron, Preservationist

David Head
Historian and Author, University of Central Florida
- Pirates, Privateers, and the Fall of Spain’s Empire: How Spanish American Independence Brought Florida to the United States
- Britain’s Loyal Colonies Lost: The American Revolution in Florida

Tameka Hobbs
Historian and Antiracist Educator
- Strange Fruit in Florida: Racial Violence in the Sunshine State

Chris Kahl
Florida Folk Singer and Storyteller
- A Musical Journey Through Florida

Bob Kealing
Author and Historic Preservationist
- Good Day Sunshine State: How the Beatles Rocked Florida

Rodney Kite-Powell
Historian, Tampa Bay History Center
- Charting the Land of Flowers: 500 Years of Florida Maps
- Outpost to Statehood: The Florida Territory

Eliot Kleinberg
Author and Journalist
- Weird Florida
- War in Paradise: World War II in Florida
- Hurricane!

Magdalena Lamarre
Educator and Scholar
- Afro-Caribbean Migration to Florida
- Southern Road to Freedom: Florida’s Underground Railroad
- Female Superheroes: What Are Their Real Powers?

Panayotis League
Assistant Professor of Ethnomusicology, Florida State University
- Zora Neale Hurston: The Founding Mother of American Musicology
- Golden Harvest: The Music and Traditions of the Greek Spongers of Tarpon Springs

Victoria Machado
Scholar and Educator, Rollins College
- Sacred Waters: Exploring the Protection of Florida’s Fluid Landscapes

Gary McKechnie
Speaker, Travel Writer and Author
- Sunshine State Soundtrack: The Famous Musicians of Florida
- What in the World? How Walt Created Disney World

Gary Mormino
Historian, University of South Florida
- Florida’s Turbulent Decade, 2000-2010
- Ten Foods That Define Florida

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Steve Noll  
Master Lecturer, University of Florida  
Department of History  
- Ditch of Dreams: The Cross Florida Barge Canal  
- Planes, Trains, and Automobiles: Florida’s Transportation History  
- Florida and Water: A Historical Perspective

Caren Neile  
Educator and Storyteller, Florida Atlantic University  
- Florida Lore  
- Only in Florida: Our Stories, Our Selves  
- Fabulous Fictional Florida

David Morton  
Film Historian, University of Central Florida  
- A Motion Picture Paradise! A History of Florida’s Film and Television Industry

Craig Pittman  
Writer and Author  
- Cat Tale: The Wild, Weird Battle to Save the Florida Panther  
- Oh, Florida! How America’s Weirdest State Influences the Rest of the Country  
- The State You’re In: Florida Men, Florida Women, and Other Wildlife

David Powell  
Author  
- The Early Cuban Exiles: Memories of Loss, Struggle, and Rebirth

Bob Stone  
Folklorist, Photographer and Author  
- Florida Cattle Ranching: Five Centuries of Tradition

Marcia Zerivitz  
Founding Executive Director of the Jewish Museum of Florida, Florida International University  
- Jews of Florida: Centuries of Stories  
- The Roots of Antisemitism

Lu Vickers  
Scholar and Author  
- Cypress Gardens: America’s Tropical Wonderland  
- Remembering Paradise Park  
- Weeki Wachee, City of Mermaids

Kimberly Voss  
Full Professor, University of Central Florida  
- Women Politicking Politely: Breaking Boundaries in the Workplace and the Home  
- Florida Women, Advice & Social Change

Keri Watson  
Associate Professor of Art History, University of Central Florida  
- The Art of Walt Disney  
- Picturing Paradise: From James Audubon to the Florida Highway Men  
- The Barefoot Mailman and Florida’s Post Office Murals

Wayne Wood  
Author and Historian  
- Frank Lloyd Wright and His Surprising Influence in Florida  
- The Amazing Architecture of Northeast Florida

Betty Jean Steinshouer  
Literary Historian  
- Marjory Stoneman Douglas and Rachel Carson: Their Books Changed the World  
- Scribbling Women in Florida

Michael Tougias  
New York Times Bestselling Author  
- Florida and the Untold Story of the Cuban Missile Crisis

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