

The William Friday Teachers Retreat

Carolina Voices: Exploring the Tar Heel State through History, Culture & Rejuvenation

July 27 – 29, 2021

The Colonial Inn | Downtown Hillsborough

Generously sponsored by the [North Caroliniana Society](#)

Held in remembrance & honor of Durham high school teacher Jeanne Hopkins Lucas, who became the first African-American woman elected to serve in North Carolina's state Senate

Tuesday July 27

11:45 – 12:30 **Lunch & Registration**

Enjoy lunch, meet your colleagues who you will be spending the next three days with, and know that with every bite, we are here to celebrate YOU!

12:30 – 1:00 **Welcome & Introductions**

Christie Norris, [Carolina K-12](#)

Elise Tyler, [The Colonial Inn](#)

1:00 – 2:30 **The Power of Our Shared History**

Mike Wiley, [Mike Wiley Productions](#)

After a year like no other for most students and teachers alike, how can we reconnect, reframe and reclaim our classrooms, whether in terms of our relationships with students, our own passion for the profession itself, and the subject areas we teach? And given the continued politicization of K-12 education in our state and nation, how do we engage our students in an effective and comprehensive understanding of our shared history, without being accused of “bias”? In this opening session, acclaimed actor and playwright Mike Wiley will lead us in considering how the integration of diverse factual history and simple performative techniques can build classroom community; breathe life into history, ELA and other humanities courses; and foster a sense of discovery rather than lead to accusations of “indoctrination.”

2:30 – 2:45 Break

2:45 – 3:50 **Stealing a Little Freedom**

Dr. Freddie Parker | Professor Emeritus of History, NCCU | Author of *Running for Freedom: Slave Runaways in NC* & *Stealing a Little Freedom: Advertisements for Slave Runaways in NC*

Students often have the misconception that those enslaved were passive beings who accepted all that was dealt to them, from harsh punishment to cruel restrictions. In this session, Dr. Parker will discuss the various ways enslaved people in North Carolina, through their own agency, sought their freedom.

❖ See Carolina K-12's accompanying lessons on freedom seeking in North Carolina and beyond [here](#).

3:50 – 4:05 Snack Break

- 4:05 – 5:15 **From Slavery to Civil Rights, an Aural History Tour**
[Mary D. Williams](#) | Performer & Adjunct Professor, Duke Center for Documentary Studies
- A combination of spirituals, protest songs, and inspiring gospel, this performance will take you on an aural history tour from the time of slavery through the Civil Rights Movement. (Listen to Mrs. Williams on [NPR](#) or read about her work in this [Walter Magazine](#) feature.) Teachers will receive a free copy of Mrs. Williams's CD, [Blood Done Sign My Name](#), for use in the classroom!
- ❖ See Carolina K-12's accompanying lesson plan, [Freedom Music: From Spirituals to Protest Songs](#), as well as our lessons on [slavery](#) and [civil rights](#) available in our database.
- 5:15 – 5:30 Reflections
- 5:30 – 6:25 Room Check In & Break
- 6:30 – 8:30 **Teacher Appreciation Dinner at [Antonia's Hillsborough](#)**
- It has been a challenging year for many, especially K-12 teachers. Tonight is about enjoying great food and great company, as we celebrate each of you for all your hard work this past year, and always.
- Welcome and Acknowledgements – *Christie Norris, Director, [Carolina K-12](#)*
 - A Toast to Teachers in Memory of Jeanne Hopkins Lucas – *Willis (Bill) Whichard, [North Caroliniana Society](#)*
 - Teach the Darkness Away – *Dr. Jim Clark, President, [North Caroliniana Society](#)*
 - Closing Remarks – *Dr. Max Owre, Executive Director [Carolina Public Humanities](#)*

Wednesday July 28

- 8:15 – 9:00 Breakfast
- 9:00 – 10:30 **Elevating Indigenous History in Your Classroom, Modeled Through the Local Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation**
Trevia ("Tree-va") Woods, former teacher and founder of Many Trees Lifeway
Vickie Jeffries, Tribal Administrator, Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation
- The [Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation](#) is a small indigenous community located primarily in the old settlement of Little Texas, Pleasant Grove Township, Alamance County, North Carolina. We will visit a local Occaneechi [replica palisade](#) as we learn about some of the deep and rich history of the area's "First People." Using this information, we will further explore how to more consistently integrate indigenous history and current events into your classes, with a focus on your own community's indigenous people.
- 10:30 – 11:00 Break
- 11:00 – 12:15 **"Our Story is Told Through Our Plates": Southern Foodways**
[KC Hysmith](#), Writer, Food Historian, and PhD candidate in American Studies at UNC-CH
- While food is important for health and life, it is also intricately tied to history, culture and memory. In fact, diverse cultural combinations and people throughout history to present have served as the backbone for the South's assorted cuisines. Food has also played a role in everything from protests to transformations throughout Southern history. This session will examine the richness of southern foodways, while also giving you the opportunity to leave with a little something for your very own plate!
- ❖ See Carolina K-12's accompanying lesson plan on Southern foodways [here](#).
- 12:15 – 1:00 Lunch

- 1:00 – 2:15 **North Carolina’s Hidden Voices**
[Christie Norris](#), Director, [Carolina K-12](#)
- Our state is rich with stories of ordinary North Carolinians doing extraordinary things, yet many of these important people and narratives are less known. In this session, we will elevate the stories of people and events such as Abraham Galloway, Elizabeth Keckly, Ella May, Pauli Murray, the Lumbee Battle of Hayes Pond, and more. To help you integrate our discussions back into your classroom, accompanying lesson plans for each highlighted person/event will be provided.
- 2:15 – 2:30 Snack Break
- 2:30 – 4:00 **Teaching North Carolina Literature**
[Margaret Bauer](#), East Carolina University | Rives Chair of Southern Literature in the Department of English, a Distinguished Professor of Harriot College of Arts and Science, & editor of the North Carolina Literary Review
- In this session, Dr. Margaret Bauer will lead us through several works by North Carolina writers that she finds work well in the classroom, showing how historical fiction can provide a fresh (and less discomfoting) perspective on the present. Other works show the students that their own sometimes small hometowns have inspired literary works enjoyed all over the country.

Enjoy the Evening on Your Own!

Thursday July 29

- 8:45 – 9:30 Breakfast
- 9:30 – 10:30 **North Carolina’s Regulator Movement**
[Jeremiah DeGennaro](#) | Historic Site Manager, [Alamance Battleground](#)
- Extreme anger over government actions, fury over high taxes and embezzlement, and collusion between creditors and public officials – this might sound like an article out of today’s Wall Street Journal, but in actuality, it is what led to a 1771 rebellion of Orange County farmers against royal Governor William Tryon and his militia. During a walking tour around town, we will learn about this escalating struggle that sent shockwaves through North Carolina and Colonial America, creating tensions that would reignite during the American War for Independence.
- ❖ See Carolina K-12’s accompanying lesson plan [here](#).
 - ❖ For related content from this period, see also [Missing Pieces of the Puzzle: African Americans in Revolutionary Times](#)
- 10:30 – 11:00 Check Out & Break
- 11:00 – 12:15 **North Carolina’s Textile and Labor History**
[Dr. David Zonderman](#), NC State University
- The lives of North Carolina’s textile and other industrial workers weren’t easy. Even in good times, wages were low, hours long, and working conditions hazardous. In this session, we will examine the rich labor history of the South, including a look at the history of labor organizing and how it played out in events such as Gastonia’s Loray Mill strike of 1929.
- ❖ See Carolina K-12’s accompanying lesson plan [here](#).
- 12:15 – 1:00 Lunch

1:00 – 2:30 **Engaging Students in History & Literature with Quality Discussion**

[Dr. Brian Gibbs, UNC-Chapel Hill School of Education](#)

From history to current events, literature to art, discussion in the classroom can result in some of the most memorable teaching and learning moments – both good and bad. It can be monumental when students engage in critical thinking and respectful dialogue, but catastrophic when a discussion gets out of control and anger ensues. Dr. Gibbs will lead us in strategies for engaging in safe and structured critical conversation and deliberation in the K-12 classroom.

2:30 – 2:45 Snack Break

2:45 – 3:45 **The Power of Poetry: Readings & Reflections by Poet Tyree Daye**

[Tyree Daye | Poet & Teaching Assistant Professor at UNC-CH](#)

Tyree Daye is an award-winning poet from Youngsville, North Carolina and teaches at UNC-Chapel Hill. He is the author of two poetry collections *River Hymns* (the Honickman First Book Prize winner) and most recently, *Cardinal*, named one of the best books of poetry by the NY Times in 2020. In this session, he will introduce us to his acclaimed poems as well as share his thoughts for integrating poetry into your own classrooms. Each teacher will leave with a copy of one of his books (provided by the North Carolina Society!) and his session will be followed by a book signing.

3:45 – 4:00 **Closing & Evaluations**



Thank you to the [North Carolina Society](#) for providing the funding for this event, for understanding that teachers need and deserve access to free and quality professional development opportunities, and for their ongoing appreciation of the crucial role North Carolina educators serve in our state.

Thank you also to the [Colonial Inn](#) for hosting us and for their appreciation of teachers.

