

The 2021 Wayne County Teachers' Retreat

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

Tuesday August 10 – Thursday August 12, 2021

The Colonial Inn | Downtown Hillsborough

Generously sponsored by the Wayne County Friends of Public Education

Tuesday, August 10

11:45 – 12:20 **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!

12:20 – 1:00 **Welcome & Introductions**

*Christie Norris, [Carolina K-12](#)
Elise Tyler, The Colonial Inn*

1:00 – 2:30 **Rhythmically Reframing & Reclaiming Relationships w/Students**

[Dr. Sonny Kelly](#) | Performer & Scholar

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 or in terms of our own passion for the profession itself? Dr. Kelly will lead us in considering how simple performative techniques can provide inspiration for students to tell their own stories, for building classroom community, and for developing a courageous classroom culture for discussing challenging past and present issues and events. Along the way, you just might find yourself re-energized as well!

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 – 4:00 Break

4:00 – 5:00 **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. William'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.

5:00 – 5:30 Reflections

5:30 – 6:15 Break & Room Check In

6:15 – 7:15 **Teacher Appreciation Reception – Colonial Inn**

It has been a challenging year for many, especially K-12 teachers. Join us for some tasty appetizers and spirits, as we celebrate each of you for all your hard work this past year, and always. **Starting at 6:45 pm, please gather around for a few messages of appreciation from:**

- Reception Welcome & Introductions – *Christie Norris, Carolina K-12*
- Toasts to Teachers
 - *Dr. Elizabeth Engelhardt, Senior Associate Dean for Fine Arts & Humanities, College of Arts & Sciences at UNC-CH*
 - *Joe Ritok, Board Chair, Carolina Public Humanities External Advisory Board*
- The Importance of History, Humanities, & K-12 Education – *Dr. Lloyd Kramer, [Carolina Public Humanities](#)*

Wednesday August 11

9:00 – 10:40 **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.

10:40 – 11:05 Journey back to Colonial Inn & Break

11:05 – 12:15 **"Our Story is Told Through Our Plates": Southern Foodways**

Joanna Sierks-Smith | Carolina Public Humanities

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 create and leave with a little something for your very own plate!

- ❖ See Carolina K-12's accompanying lesson plan on Southern foodways [here](#).

12:15 – 12:55 Lunch

12:55 – 1:15 Reflections & Processing

1:15 - 2:20 **Engaging Students in History & Literature with Quality Discussion, Part I**

[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. In part I of Dr. Gibb’s two-part workshop, we will explore what meaningful discussion looks like, the impact it can make in the classroom, as well as the real-world challenges and fears teachers face when engaging in controversial issues discussions in today’s politicized educational climate.

2:20 – 2:33 Break

2:35 – 3:45 **Breaking Through Barriers**

Corinne Smith, Senior Associate Director, [GEAR UP](#) at Appalachian State University

We know the challenges of teaching have never been greater. Those who have never taught cannot begin to imagine the level of skill, knowledge, energy, flexibility, and patience it takes to do what you do every day. In this active session, we will explore the art of teaching and reconnect with why you chose this profession. We will also consider the vast challenges that face you, but more importantly, how you can work to break through them and continue cultivating the tangible differences in you make in countless lives.

3:45 – 4:00 **Reflections**

Enjoy the Evening on Your Own!

Thursday August 12

It’s check-out day. :(Please note that all personal items must be removed from your room by 11 am. (You can place your luggage in the trunk of your car or bring it a store it in our seminar room before our 9:30 am start, or during our morning break.)

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](#).

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 & Book Signing

- 1:00 – 1:45 **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 Wayne County Friends of Public Education!) and his session will be followed by a book signing.
- 1:45 – 2:00 Break
- 2:00 – 3:30 **Engaging Students in History & Literature with Quality Discussion, Part II**
[Dr. Brian Gibbs, UNC-Chapel Hill School of Education](#)
 We've explored the why, today we'll explore the how! Dr. Gibbs will lead us in a modeled Socratic Seminar, an excellent format for engaging students in a safe and structured format for critical conversation, as well as lead us in a discussion to consider other ways to set students up for success before engaging in dialogue and deliberation.
- 3:30 – 4:00 **Closing & Evaluations**

Thank you to the Wayne County Friends of Public Education 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 deep appreciation of the crucial role teachers serve in Wayne County. This generous group of sponsors includes:

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We also have deep gratitude for the Retreat's planning team, particularly Phil Baddour's leadership, vision, and guidance in planning this event, as well as Margaret Baddour, Adrienne Northington, and Kay Cook.