

The William Friday Teachers Retreat
Carolina Voices: Enriching the Mind, Rejuvenating the Spirit

Mon. June 27 – Wed. June 29
The Rizzo Center | Chapel Hill

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

Held in honor of Howard N. Lee

Monday June 27

1:00 – 1:30

Welcome & Introductions

Christie Norris, [Carolina K-12 at UNC-Chapel Hill](#)

1:30 - 3:00

Rhythmically Reframing & Reclaiming Relationships w/Students

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

After two exceptionally challenging years in the classroom, how can we reconnect, reframe and reclaim our connections and classroom communities, whether in terms of our relationships with students or in terms of our own passion for the profession itself? Acclaimed performer Dr. Sonny Kelly will lead us in considering how simple performative techniques can provide inspiration for students to tell their own stories, can help build the critical foundation of a classroom community, and can be used to build 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!

- ❖ See Carolina K-12's [Tips & Tricks for Discussing Sensitive History & Current Events](#) for additional considerations & strategies.

3:00 – 3:15

Break

3:15 – 4:15

Freedom Songs: From Slavery to Civil Rights

[Mary D. Williams](#) | Performer & Adjunct Professor, Duke Center for Documentary Studies

Vocalist Mary D. Williams will help us understand the role music played from enslavement through the Civil Rights Movement, illustrating how music provides an effective entry point for uniting us as we examine history. (*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.

4:15 – 5:15

Break & Check In for overnight guests

Evening Events

- Please plan to arrive at [Morehead Planetarium](#) (250 E Franklin St., Chapel Hill – approximately 12 minutes away) no later than 5:20.
- Parking is available in the lot in front of Morehead (carpooling is encouraged for those driving.) Or, meet in the lobby at 5:00 for a shuttle van. The van will bring you to dinner and back to the hotel after dinner.
- After the film, those driving will want to then drive further down Franklin St. to dinner at [411 West](#) (411 W Franklin St, Chapel Hill; parking is available in the adjacent municipal lot.)

5:20 – 6:30 **Private Showing of Tales from the American South at Morehead Planetarium**

Featuring a discussion with the film's creator, [Dr. Bill Ferris](#) | Professor Emeritus, UNC-Chapel Hill, Author, & Film Documentarian

What does it mean to be from, to live in, and/or teach about the American South today? The region is a geographical entity, an expanse of complicated history, a place in the imagination, and the homeland of diverse and distinct people and cultures. The American South is often shrouded in romance and myth, and its historical and modern-day realities are intriguing, complex and even controversial. We will end our day exploring these themes with a private screening of the 22-minute full-dome film "Tales from the American South," a cinematic tour of the American South. We are honored to be joined by the film's creator, Dr. Bill Ferris, for a discussion after the showing. (Read a feature on Dr. Ferris from [The Bitter Southerner](#) and view his TED Talk "[Memory & Place in the American South.](#)")

- ❖ See Carolina K-12's accompanying curricular website, [Teaching the American South](#), for lesson plans and resources.

6:45 – 8:30 **Teacher Appreciation Dinner at [411 West](#)**

Let the stress and difficulties of the past two years slide off your shoulders - tonight is about enjoying great food and great company, as we *celebrate each of you* for all your hard work in the classroom.

- Welcome – *Christie Norris, Director, [Carolina K-12](#)*
- *Remarks from our event honoree, [Mr. Howard N. Lee](#)*
- Teach the Darkness Away – *[Dr. Jim Clark](#), President, [North Caroliniana Society](#)*

Tuesday June 28

9:00 – 9:30 Reflections

9:30 – 11:00 **American Indians 101**

[Jesalyn Keziah, MSW](#) | Community Engagement Program Officer at UNC's American Indian Center & member of the Lumbee Tribe

North Carolina is home to 8 tribes and 4 urban Indian organizations, and the state's past and present is rich with indigenous histories & cultures. As educators, how can we ensure we are providing accurate, culturally-relevant information in our classrooms, in a way that facilitates knowledgeable, informed, and responsive students? In this session, we will work to gain a richer understanding of contemporary American Indian communities around the state, work to dispel stereotypes about American Indian people, and form an awareness that can better serve both Native and non-Native students and families in the future. You'll also receive lots of excellent resources for use directly in your classrooms.

11:00 – 11:15 Break

11:15 – 12:15 **Talkin’ Tar Heel: How Our Voices Tell the Story of North Carolina**
[Dr. Walt Wolfram](#) | Professor, NC State University & Co-Author of *Talkin’ Tar Heel*

Do you know what a “dingbatter” is? If someone tells you a poster on your classroom wall is a little “sigogglin,” what do they mean? Dr. Wolfram, co-author of the book [Talkin’ Tar Heel](#), will lead us in an exploration of North Carolina history by discussing how language & dialect provide a window into our state’s rich & diverse cultural & historical heritage. Participants will receive a copy of the book that Dr. Wolfram will be happy to sign at the end of his session.

❖ Access ready-to-implement lesson plans for integrating excerpts of the book in your classroom [here](#).

12:15 – 1:00 Lunch

An Afternoon Reconnecting & Rejuvenating

This afternoon is about giving you time and space to breathe, to think, and to reconnect. Dress comfortably – for your own relaxation, and also because you will be moving and then painting.

1:00 – 2:20 **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 you make in countless lives.

2:20 – 2:30 Break

2:30 – 4:00 **Tapping into Your Own Creativity: Art “Therapy” with Karen Lynch Harley**
[Karen Lynch Harley](#) | Artist & member of the [Haliwa-Saponi](#)

Karen Lynch Harley is an artist who pulls from her own Native American roots to create drawings, paintings and sculpture, inspired by her love of life and culture, often expressing the beliefs and values of Southeastern Native Americans through her art. In this hands-on, creative session, participants will have the chance to explore their own artistic potential and creativity while also learning about the rich history, culture & lifestyle of the Haliwa Saponi.

4:00 – 4:30 Closing/Reflections

Enjoy your evening free! Rest in your room, take a walk or a swim, and let us treat you to Teacher Night at the Movies at Chapel Hill’s upscale theatre, [SilverSpot Cinema](#)!

Wednesday June 29

9:00 – 9:20 Reflections & Resource Exploration

9:20 – 10:30 **A Day of Blood: An Overview of the 1898 Coup**
[LeRae Umfleet](#) | NCDNCR & author of [A Day of Blood: The 1898 Wilmington Race Riot](#)

Wilmington, NC in the 1890s was an outlier in the post-Reconstruction American South, with members of Wilmington’s Black community holding leadership roles in the political, economic, and social realms of a thriving and diverse city. Yet, the strategic violence that occurred on and leading up to November 10, 1898, when White supremacists staged a successful coup d’état of

Wilmington's government, would forever change the prospering core of Wilmington's Black community. Author LeRae Umfleet will provide an overview of the events of the 1898 coup, discussing how the violent stage was set, as well as the impact of the upheaval that resonates still today.

- ❖ For additional resources, see Carolina K-12's lesson plans on teaching about Wilmington 1898, as well as using the young adult children's novel CROW, [here](#). Review LeRae Umfleet's lecture via these virtual program recordings:
 - [Wilmington 1898: The Hidden History of An American Coup D'État](#)
 - Accompanying resource list for further study is available [here](#).
 - [Democracy on the Line: Hope, Hostility & Lasting Legacies of 1898 Wilmington](#)
 - Accompanying resource list for further study is available [here](#).

10:30 – 10:45 Discussion & Break

10:45 – 12:00 **Where Do You Stand Within the “Continuum of Change”?**

Michael Williams | Curator of the [Continuum of Change](#) exhibit, Founder of the [Black On Black Project](#), Partner and Consultant in [Initiative 1897](#)

John Lewis wrote in *Across That Bridge* that “It is only through examining history that you become aware of where you stand within the continuum of change.” Join educator, curator, & consultant Michael Williams as he discusses [Continuum of Change](#), which uses artwork and community dialogue to examine the centuries-long inequities that communities of color have faced, while elevating the stories of Black men and women who have, despite adversity, ushered in change throughout North Carolina's history.

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch & Check Out (for overnight guests who have not yet vacated rooms)

1:00 – 2:30 **Hearts & Minds: Integrating History & Literature to Enhance Learning & Connections**

Dr. Wiley Cash | NY Times bestselling author and Writer in Residence, UNC-Asheville

From revolution and resistance to struggle and triumph, North Carolina's history is full of themes that can engage any student. Integrating literature and utilizing the power of story in your history course is one strategy to help engage your students in exciting explorations of the past, while cultivating historical empathy, wonder and connection. In this session with *NY Times* bestselling author Dr. Wiley Cash, we will explore a few stories of compelling people and events from North Carolina's rich and diverse history, through the lens of some of Dr. Cash's literary recommendations. Teachers will also receive a copy of [The Last Ballad](#), Cash's own novel that brings to life the heartbreak and bravery of the often-forgotten labor movement of the early twentieth-century, including one of its most fearless NC leaders, Ella May.

2:30 – 2:45 Break & Book Signing

2:45 – 4:15 **Engaging Students in Hard 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.

4:15 – 5:00 Closing