

The 2022 Wayne County Teachers' Retreat

Enriching the Mind and Rejuvenating the Spirit with a Journey Through the Tar Heel State

Mon. July 25 – Wed. July 27

The Rizzo Center Chapel Hill | McLean Hall, Room 340

Generously sponsored by the Wayne County Friends of Public Education

Monday July 25

- 1:00 – 1:30 **Welcome & Introductions**
Christie Norris, [Carolina K-12 at UNC-CH](#)
- 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 & Hotel Check In

Evening Events

- Please plan to arrive at [Morehead Planetarium](#) (250 E Franklin St., Chapel Hill – approximately 12 minutes away) between 5:00 - 5:15 pm. We will enter the theatre via the double doors at the middle of the building (facing the parking lot.)

- *Parking is available in the lot in front of Morehead (carpooling is encouraged for those driving.) Or, **meet in the lobby for a prompt 5:00 pm departure if you signed up for the shuttle.** (Remember that the shuttle will bring you to Morehead, to dinner and back to the hotel after dinner.)*
- *After the film, those driving will drive 1 mile further down Franklin St. to dinner at [411 West](#) (411 W Franklin St, Chapel Hill; parking is available in the adjacent municipal lot.)*

5:15 – 6:30 **Private Showing of Tales from the American South at Morehead Planetarium**

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’ll also be treated to a classic “star show” from Morehead for additional fun.

- ❖ 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.

Tuesday July 26

Included with your room is a full breakfast available in the Meadowmont Grill, starting at 6:30 am. Continental breakfast items and beverages will be provided outside of our seminar area, Room 340 in McLean Hall.

9:00 – 9:15 Reflections

9:15 – 10:45 **NC Native Communities 101: Meet your NC Native Communities and Discover Native Educational Resources**

[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 Native American 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.

10:45 – 11:00 Break

11:00 - Noon **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](#).

Noon – 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 – 2:30 **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.

2:30 – 2:45 Break

2:45 – 4:15 **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.

4:15 – 4:30 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 July 27

A full breakfast is available in the Meadowmont Grill starting at 6:30 am. Continental breakfast items and beverages will be provided outside of Room 340 in McLean Hall. Hotel guests will want to vacate rooms in the morning, at the morning break, or at Noon (before having lunch.) Luggage can be stored with the front desk, to the side of our seminar room, or locked in your trunk.

9:15 – 9:30 Reflections/Resources

- 9:30 – 11:00 **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. Ultimately, we’ll explore how art and discourse can bring us together to examine our past, understand our present, and create the future we want.
- 11:00 – 11:15 Break
- 11:15 – Noon **Engaging Students in Hard 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. Dr. Gibbs will lead us in strategies for engaging in safe and structured critical conversation and deliberation in the K-12 classroom.
- Noon – 1:15 Break/Check Out of Hotel
- 1:15 – 2:15 **Engaging Students in Hard History & Literature with Quality Discussion – Part II**
- 2:15 – 2:30 Break
- 2:30 – 3:30 **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.
- 3:30 – 3:50 Discussion and Book Signing
- 3:50 – 4:30 Closing & Reflections

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.