

The 7th Annual E. Maynard Adams
SYMPOSIUM
for the HUMANITIES

Building Democracies in Times
of Populism and Polarization

A Public Event with
Professor Cristina Lafont

Presented by Carolina Public Humanities,
College of Arts and Sciences, UNC-Chapel Hill

Agenda

- Friday, April 19 Kenan Conference Center, Kenan-Flagler Business School
and Live Stream on Zoom
- 5:30–5:45 pm Welcome and Introductions
Lloyd Kramer, *Director, Carolina Public Humanities and
Professor of History*
Lee H. Roberts, *Interim Chancellor, UNC-Chapel Hill*
- 5:45–7:00 Keynote Lecture and Discussion: **Rescuing Democracy from Populism
and Technocracy**
Cristina Lafont, *Harold H. and Virginia Anderson Professor of Philosophy,
Northwestern University*
- 7:00–8:00 Public Reception
- Saturday, April 20 Kenan Conference Center, Kenan-Flagler Business School
and Live Stream on Zoom
- 9:00–9:15 am Coffee
- 9:15–9:30 Welcome, Introductions, and Brief Comments on the ideas of Maynard Adams
Max Owre, *Executive Director, Carolina Public Humanities and
Teaching Assistant Professor of History*
Jill Adams, *Professor of Law Emerita, Southern Illinois University*

Thank you for joining us!

Agenda (continued)

9:30–10:30 am

Panel One: Reflections and Dialogues in Response to Professor Lafont's Views of Participatory Democracy in Polarized Political Culture
Max Owre, Moderator

Meredith Sheeks, Maynard Adams Fellow for the Public Humanities and PhD Candidate in Philosophy

Marc Hetherington, Raymond Dawson Distinguished Bicentennial Professor of Political Science

Diane Robertson, the past political action chair of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro NAACP and Member, Board of Directors, Democracy North Carolina

10:30–10:45

Break

10:45–11:45

Panel Two: Reflections and Dialogues in Response to Professor Lafont's Views of Participatory Democracy in Polarized Political Cultures

Joanna Sierks Flynn, Moderator

Associate Director for State Outreach and Strategic Partnerships, Carolina Public Humanities

Simone Gubler, Assistant Professor of Philosophy

Natasha Miller, Second Career Educator, STEM Early College NC A&T, Guilford County Schools

James Leloudis, Professor of History, Peter T. Grauer Associate Dean for Honors Carolina

11:45–12:30

Dialogue with Professor Lafont: **Why Are There No Shortcuts to Democracy?**
Lloyd Kramer, Moderator

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Plan to join us for the eighth annual Maynard Adams Symposium for the Humanities on April 4–5, 2025, with keynote speaker Alexander Nehamas, Edmund N. Carpenter II Class of 1943 Professor in the Humanities and Professor of Philosophy and Comparative Literature, Emeritus, Princeton University.

Carolina Public Humanities thanks the Taylor Charitable Trust, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Philosophy Department for generously supporting the 2024 Maynard Adams Symposium.

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Maynard Adams Fellows for the Public Humanities in 2023–2024:

Cayla Colclasure (Anthropology), **Shilpa Darivemula** (Epidemiology), **Zachary Ferguson** (Philosophy), **Spencer George** (Folklore), **Lyric Grimes** (Library Science), **Will Kanwischer** (Philosophy), **Kari Lindquist** (Musicology), **Hannah Skjellum-Salmon** (English and Comparative Literature), **Hooper Schultz** (History), and **Meredith Sheeks** (Philosophy); Senior Adams Fellow from Philosophy, **Logan Mitchell**, (Philosophy); Center for Middle East and Islamic Studies Public Fellow, **Abdul Basith Basheer** (History); Uhlman Fellow in Public Humanities, Center for Jewish Studies, **Oskar Czendze** (History).