September 28
THE POWER of STORYTELLING in TEXTS and TEXTILES WITH CPH’S NEW DIRECTOR

October 26
AMERICA DIVIDED: LESSONS FROM HISTORICAL ELECTIONS

FLYLEAF MUSIC SERIES: LIVE MUSIC and CONVERSATION
This is my first official greeting as director of Carolina Public Humanities. I am thrilled to join an organization that serves the entire state of North Carolina by fostering classroom curricula, conversations, and curiosity about the world through the work of the humanities. The more I learn about how CPH meets this ambitious mission, the more enthusiastic—and daunted—I am to step into this role. ( Mostly, I’m enthusiastic.)

I want to thank the mastermind behind many of CPH’s contributions: Professor Lloyd Kramer, who has just retired from CPH and the Department of History. I thank him for his generosity, infectious enthusiasm, and creativity. I look forward to his author talk this November, marking the publication of his most recent book, Traveling to Unknown Places.

This fall, CPH continues to foster critical thinking and productive conversations through Weekend Seminars, Great Books reading groups, musical events, and Humanities in Action lectures that address the burning issues of our time.

We invite you to explore live music and the stories behind the songs on the Flyleaf Books stage, the art of conversation at the Ackland Museum, and UNC’s historical architecture in a stroll across campus. Our Weekend Seminar topics and themes include American entrepreneurship past and present, and a historical view of contentious elections in the U.S. I’m excited to lead a seminar with my colleague Tanya Shields, bringing together our work on texts (Professor Shields, a literary scholar) and textiles (me, an art historian) to explore how storytelling shapes our perceptions—and misperceptions—of histories.

CPH has long worked to make its programming accessible to as many people as possible; our goal is to share the insights of the humanities without barriers to participation. This fall, we’re offering a reduced registration fee for two of our key series. Admission for Humanities in Action lectures have been reduced by 50% and Weekend Seminars by $10. And my Weekend Seminar with Dr. Shields in September is free—please come join us! These are just our first steps toward a future of still more accessible CPH programming.

In addition to these public programs, CPH continues to provide engaging programs for K-12 educators and community college audiences. Our reach extends across the state, and we hope to see you at our events in Chapel Hill or elsewhere.

Victoria L. Rovine
Director, Carolina Public Humanities
WEEKEND SEMINARS

Join us this fall for weekend Dialogues seminars. These half-day programs feature UNC faculty in conversation with each other and their subject matter. Spend a morning immersed in rich scholarship on diverse topics that resonate through history and spark a deeper understanding of the present. We’re reducing the price of in-person seminars by $10 and, as always, multiple-seminar, first-timer, and Carolina Alumni Membership discounts are available.

A DIALOGUES SEMINAR

The Power of Storytelling in Texts and Textiles

SEPTEMBER 28
9:00 am–12:30 pm

This special free seminar will explore a topic that lies at the heart of the humanities: How do stories shape our perceptions of histories, cultures, and ourselves? How do we modify or create stories in service of different agendas? How can telling stories empower people?

Featuring literary scholar Tanya Shields and art historian Victoria Rovine in her first program as CPH director, this seminar will incorporate examples from Africa, the Caribbean, and the American South to examine the complex ways we use storytelling to understand and mold reality—through literature, theatre, and oral tradition, as well as through dress, clothing, and textiles.

TOPICS & SPEAKERS

Storytelling and the Blurred Histories of Plantations in the Caribbean and American South
Tanya Shields, Associate Chair and Associate Professor of Women’s and Gender Studies

“Reading” Clothing: Dress Stories in West Africa
Victoria Rovine, Director, Carolina Public Humanities and Professor of Art and Art History

How do stories shape the way we relate to each other, to our memories, to events? How do stories help us understand our world?
Small group conversation for in-person participants. A new format for this seminar only.

America Divided: Lessons from Historical Elections

OCTOBER 26
9:00 am–12:30 pm

This year’s election seems unlike any other in U.S. history—and indeed, it is! It’s not, however, the first election that has divided America. This seminar will offer a glimpse into other moments in our nation’s past when elections polarized citizens and the republic felt threatened. We will examine the ways Americans moved on from divisive elections as well as continuities between past and present with significance—both hopeful and concerning—for today.

TOPICS & SPEAKERS

Five Choices, No Parties: The Election of 1824
Harry L. Watson, Atlanta Distinguished Professor of Southern Culture Emeritus, Department of History

And We Thought That Was Bad? The Roots of Polarization and the Election of 2000
Suzanne Globetti, Teaching Associate Professor of Political Science

Why is Doing Democracy so Divisive?
A panel discussion with our speakers

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The Past, Present, and Future of the American Entrepreneur

NOVEMBER 9
9:00 am–12:30 pm

Wouldn’t it be great to be your own boss? Since America’s founding, the idea of overseeing one’s own labor has fueled a national ethos of self-sufficiency, initiative, and risk taking. The result has been millions of productive small businesses in our nation’s history and—unfortunately for many—also millions of failed enterprises. This seminar explores our nation’s history of entrepreneurism, including its promises and pitfalls, and the current climate for self-made businesses in America. We will also learn how Carolina is preparing students to face the challenges and opportunities of self-employment as it trains entrepreneurs for an uncertain future.

TOPICS & SPEAKERS
How Working for Yourself Became the New American Dream
Benjamin C. Waterhouse, Professor of History

What Will Entrepreneurs Need to Thrive in the 21st Century?
Bernard Bell, Professor of the Practice in Economics and Executive Director of the Shuford Program in Entrepreneurship

What is the Role of Small Business on a Corporate Planet?
A panel discussion with our speakers

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The Evolution and Impact of the Supreme Court
in collaboration with Chapel Hill Public Library

September 19
6:00–7:45 pm

In advance of the November election and in light of the monumental decisions handed down by the U.S. Supreme Court in recent months and years, CPH invites you to a free panel discussion and community conversation on the court, its history, and the details and implications of recent rulings. UNC scholars in law and political science will explore the evolving role of the Supreme Court in the American constitutional landscape. How has the role of the court changed? What is the significance of recent rulings and how might they impact our daily lives? Join us and add your questions and insights to this important public conversation. Panelists include Michael J. Gerhardt, Burton Craige Distinguished Professor of Jurisprudence; Kevin McGuire, Professor of Political Science; and Isaac Unah, Associate Professor of Political Science.

“...This was an interesting and fun approach to refining my knowledge of American history, including much I lived through.”

—Seminar Participant
**Tar Heel Architectural Walking Tour**  
**September 28, 2:30 pm**  
(Rain date: October 26)

Join art historian JJ Bauer on a stroll through UNC’s campus and history. On this two-hour tour, participants will explore buildings and campus landmarks from many eras. We’ll also learn the rich and sometimes surprising stories of these buildings’ construction, use, and place in the evolving life of the university.

**Post-Play Conversation: Copenhagen**  
**October 20, 4:00 pm**  
Murphey School Auditorium, Raleigh

This fall, Raleigh’s Burning Coal Theatre Company will present Michael Frayn’s award-winning play, *Copenhagen*, based on a real-life meeting between physicists Niels Bohr and Werner Heisenberg in 1941 and its implications for the development of the atom bomb. CPH is partnering with Burning Coal and the UNC Department of Physics and Astronomy to present a post-play discussion about the science, history, and big questions addressed in the performance. Presenters include Laurie McNeil, Bernard Gray Distinguished Professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy; Garrett McKinnon, assistant teaching professor of history at NC State University; and Jerome Davis, artistic director for Burning Coal Theatre Company. Join us after the matinee performance for what promises to be a fascinating conversation!

**The Art of Conversation**  
**November 7, 3:30–5:30 pm**

CPH is heading to the Ackland Art Museum for an interactive workshop focused on observing, describing, questioning, and celebrating diverse perspectives on art. Ackland experts will highlight pieces from the permanent collection in hands-on activities designed to spark vibrant dialogue and an exchange of ideas. Immerse yourself in an engaging experience of art, conversation, community, and snacks!

**Traveling to Unknown Places**  
**Book Signing and Author Talk with Lloyd Kramer**  
**November 12, 5:30 pm signing & 6:00 pm talk**

Former CPH director Lloyd Kramer will appear at Flyleaf Books to discuss his latest book, *Traveling to Unknown Places*, which presents a compelling, incisive analysis of how French and American writers reshaped their personal and collective identities as they traveled in foreign countries after the social upheavals of the 18th century Atlantic revolutions. Learn more about how these cross-cultural encounters pushed writers to redefine their views of nationality, language, race, slavery, gender, religion, science, and political ideologies.

**Academic Freedom, Free Speech, and the Law**  
**November 13, 4:30–6:00 pm**

In this free panel discussion at Flyleaf Books, three of the nation’s preeminent experts on academic freedom will discuss the reasons for, use of, and limits of free speech on American campuses.  

**Moderator:** Mary-Rose Papandrea, Samuel Ashe Distinguished Professor of Constitutional Law  

**Panelists:**  
Keith Whittington, David Boies Professor of Law, Yale University  
David M. Rabban, Dahr Jamail, Randall Hage Jamail, and Robert Lee Jamail Regents Chair in Law, University of Texas
FLYLEAF MUSIC SERIES
Live Music and Conversation

Our FLYLEAF Music Series gives participants the opportunity to combine listening and learning in an intimate environment with some of the Triangle’s most talented musicians. More than a concert, these events will introduce you to the ideas behind the art, while filling your ears with great sounds!

**An Introduction to “ChamberSoul” with Shana Tucker**
September 4
6:00–7:30 pm

Hot off the release of her second album, *Hiding in the Light*, cellist, bandleader, and singer-songwriter Shana Tucker is bringing her innovative blend of music known as ChamberSoul to the Flyleaf Stage. Blending elements of jazz, soul, acoustic pop, and folk music into a “harmonious blend of sonic bliss,” Tucker’s music has something for everyone.

**Music, Storytelling, and the Art of Inclusivity with Kamara Thomas**
October 2
6:00–7:30 pm

Kamara Thomas is a multidisciplinary artist who brings her talents in music, film, and storytelling to works that challenge us to see the world in a new light. Lately she’s been focusing on the role of the storyteller in society and the need for reinvention of communal rituals in creative practices and culture work. Kamara is also a founder and leader of Country Soul Songbook, an artist-driven media platform with a mission to amplify BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ voices in American roots music.

**Music of Hope and Healing with Rahsaan Barber**
November 6
6:00–7:30 pm

We know this upcoming election is going to be stressful for many, but we have the cure—the beauty and power of jazz saxophone. Rahsaan Barber, Assistant Professor of Music, will present a selection of songs designed to ease our worries and divert our attention. We’ll learn about his approach to his instrument, the songs he plays, and discuss why jazz is a great medium for social healing.
Humans in Action returns this fall at a new, lower price: just $10 per lecture or $50 for the six-part Series Pass. Learn more about the context of contemporary issues that are too often reduced to sound bites. Join us at Flyleaf Books or virtually on Zoom on select Wednesdays from 4:30–6:00 pm.

September 11
From Extraterrestrials to Taylor Swift: Women, Queer People, and the Allure of Conspiracy Theories
Yvonne M. Eadon, Assistant Professor, School of Information Science, University of Kentucky

If you thought online conspiracies were predominantly male phenomena, this presentation will shed light on “feminized conspiracy theories” to show the connection between conspiratorial thinking and identity, emotion, and embodiment.

September 18
Eating to Win: From Brie to Bean Dip, Political Candidates Cook Up Their Images
Kelly Alexander, Assistant Professor of American Studies

From campaign stops to policies, this presentation will delve into the relationship between those seeking U.S. political office and the food they consume for the camera, and their approach to the complicated politics of food in America.

September 25
“It’s Always Been Boundaries, Boundaries”: Refugee Resettlement Volunteering in North Carolina
Banu Gökarıksel, Chair, Curriculum in Global Studies and Professor of Geography and Environment
Sophia Nissler, PhD student in Geography and Environment
Hannah Berhane, Undergraduate student and Global Studies major

Foreign refugees in the U.S. rely on the tireless work of volunteers to get them to self-sufficiency. This presentation, based on groundbreaking recent research, looks at the difficulties volunteers must overcome to provide humanitarian assistance to new community members.

October 9
A Few Things on the Minds of Military Voters
Jay Price, Military and Veterans Affairs Reporter, WUNC North Carolina Public Radio

The U.S. is preparing to elect its next commander-in-chief, and longtime reporter Jay Price will highlight the concerns of members of the armed forces and their families as they head to the polls.

October 23
Women’s Health Activism in America, Yesterday and Today
Jillian M. Hinderliter, Assistant Professor of Women’s and Gender Studies and Moses M. and Hannah L. Malkin Fellow in Jewish History and Culture.

From the 1970s classic Our Bodies, Ourselves to today’s post-Dobbs climate, this talk will trace women’s health activism and the fight for bodily autonomy across generations to highlight continuities in the movement.

October 30
2024 Election Preview
Jason Roberts, Professor of Political Science

CPH continues its popular tradition of presenting the themes, trends, and possible outcomes of the upcoming election, with a focus on the presidential and congressional races across the country.
“You think your pain and your heartbreak are unprecedented in the history of the world, but then you read. It was books that taught me that the things that tormented me most were the very things that connected me with all the people who were alive, who had ever been alive.” —James Baldwin

Connect with fellow readers this fall in lively explorations of diverse texts facilitated by UNC scholars. Reading groups gather at Flyleaf Books on successive Tuesdays or Wednesdays from 10 am to 12 pm. We also offer a limited number of virtual seats for those who prefer to participate from home. Every participant will receive a copy of the book before the first discussion. Space is limited, so sign up early to reserve your spot!

Tuesdays, September 17 and 24
*Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Brontë
Sarah Ficke, Teaching Assistant Professor of English and Comparative Literature

Wednesdays, October 2 and 9
*The Iliad* by Homer, translated by Emily Wilson
Al Duncan, Assistant Professor of Classics

Tuesdays, October 22 and 29
*An American Marriage* by Tayari Jones
Alexandra Odom, African American Studies Librarian

Tuesdays, November 5 and 12
*This Isn’t Going to End Well: The True Story of a Man I Thought I Knew* by Daniel Wallace
Henry Veggian, Teaching Professor of English and Comparative Literature

Tuesday, November 19
*Utopia* by Thomas More
H.M. Cushman, Assistant Professor of English and Comparative Literature

Tuesdays, December 3, 10, and 17*
*Midwinter Day* by Bernadette Mayer
Gabrielle Calvocoressi, Walker Percy Fellow and Assistant Professor of English and Comparative Literature

* For the December 17 session, CPH will host an optional potluck event where participants will be able to read much of Bernadette Mayer’s poem aloud. Location TBA.
STATEWIDE OUTREACH

This fall the CPH team is excited to reach diverse communities through these statewide outreach programs:

• Our continuing partnership with the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources to facilitate updates to state historic sites, focusing this year on Morrow Mountain State Park, Edenton, and Tryon Palace

• Semester-long conversations on community college campuses through our “Portraits of Climate Change” initiative (a collaboration with our friends at Southern Cultures, and a project generously supported by the North Caroliniana Society)

• Humanities on the Road programs, which bring UNC’s most engaging scholars to present their research at community colleges across the state

Check out the following Humanities on the Road events—all free and open to the public—and stay tuned as we announce more programs throughout the fall!

HUMANITIES on the ROAD

**Eurovision Calling! Pop Music and the Serious Politics of Europe**
with Andrea Bohlman, Associate Professor of Music
Wednesday, October 9, 12:00 pm
Cape Fear Community College, Wilmington

In this lively presentation, participants will learn about the deeper contexts behind a decades-old, iconic, international song competition and its significance in the world today. Whether you follow the annual Eurovision Song Contest closely or have never seen it, don’t miss this chance to engage with its history, music, and spectacular performances—and to learn about the cultural and political dynamics that animate the contest from within.

**How Baseball Became as American as Apple Pie**
with Matt Andrews, Teaching Professor of History
Monday, October 21, 5:30 pm
Wayne Community College, Goldsboro

Baseball was one of the most popular sports in the United States throughout much of the 20th century, and it was also entangled with wider issues in American history, including rituals of nationalism, racial and class hierarchies, images of masculine celebrity, and the emergence of new media and advertising. Join UNC’s award-winning professor of sports history, Matt Andrews, for an insightful historical commentary on baseball’s influential role in modern American mythologies and new perspectives on “America’s pastime.”

**Art of the Islamic World**
with Esra Bayraktar, Lecturer in Turkish, and Hatice Erbas Sorkunlu, Artist
Friday, November 22, 12:00 pm
Guilford Technical Community College, Jamestown

What role has art played in the history of the Islamic world? How have practices around “Islamic art” transformed as the religion has crisscrossed cultures and times? This dynamic program will begin with a presentation introducing audiences to Islamic art followed by a workshop in which participants can get hands-on experience with ebru, or Turkish paper marbling—a centuries-old art form that has evolved alongside religious traditions of calligraphy and bookmaking.
# FALL 2024 CALENDAR

For details, event venues, discounts, and registration, visit our website at humanities.unc.edu or call us at 919.962.1544.

- WEEKEND SEMINARS
- HUMANITIES IN ACTION LECTURES
- GREAT BOOKS READING GROUPS
- SPECIAL EVENTS

## September

- **September 4**
  - Music at Flyleaf – Shana Tucker
    6:00 – 7:30 pm
    $10

- **September 11**
  - From Extraterrestrials to Taylor Swift: Women, Queer People, and the Allure of Conspiracy Theories
    4:30 – 6:00 pm
    $10, in person or virtual viewing

- **September 17 and 24**
  - Jane Eyre by Charlotte Brontë
    10:00 am – 12:00 pm
    $40, in person with limited virtual seats

- **September 18**
  - Eating to Win: From Brie to Bean Dip, Political Candidates Cook Up Their Images
    4:30 – 6:00 pm
    $10, in person or virtual viewing

- **September 19**
  - The Evolution and Impact of the Supreme Court – Panel Discussion
    6:00 – 7:45 pm
    Free Admission

- **September 25**
  - “It’s Always Been Boundaries, Boundaries”: Refugee Resettlement Volunteering in North Carolina
    4:30 – 6:00 pm
    $10, in person or virtual viewing

- **September 28**
  - The Power of Storytelling in Texts and Textiles
    9:00 am – 12:30 pm
    Special FREE Weekend Seminar!

- **September 28**
  - Tar Heel Architectural Walking Tour
    2:30 – 4:30 pm
    Free Admission, advance registration required
  * Rain Date: October 26

## October

- **October 2**
  - Music at Flyleaf – Kamara Thomas
    6:00 – 7:30 pm
    $10

- **October 2 and 9**
  - The Iliad by Homer, Translated by Emily Wilson
    10:00 am – 12:00 pm
    $40, in person with limited virtual seats

- **October 9**
  - A Few Things on the Minds of Military Voters
    4:30 – 6:00 pm
    $10, in person or virtual viewing

- **October 20**
  - Post-Play Conversation: Copenhagen
    4:00 pm
    Free Admission

- **October 22 and 29**
  - An American Marriage by Tayari Jones
    10:00 am – 12:00 pm
    $40, in person with limited virtual seats

- **October 23**
  - Women’s Health Activism in America, Yesterday and Today
    4:30 – 6:00 pm
    $10, in person or virtual viewing

- **October 26**
  - America Divided: Lessons from Historical Elections
    9:00 am – 12:30 pm
    $55 in person; $30 virtual viewing

## November

- **November 5 and 12**
  - This Isn’t Going to End Well by Daniel Wallace
    10:00 am – 12:00 pm
    $40, in person with limited virtual seats

- **November 6**
  - Music at Flyleaf – Rahsaan Barber
    6:00 – 7:30 pm
    $10

- **November 7**
  - The Art of Conversation
    3:30 – 5:30 pm
    $20

- **November 9**
  - The Past, Present, and Future of the American Entrepreneur
    9:00 am – 12:30 pm
    $55 in person; $30 virtual viewing

- **November 12**
  - Traveling to Unknown Places – Book Signing and Author Talk with Lloyd Kramer
    5:30 pm Book Signing
    6:00 pm Author Talk
    Free Admission

- **November 13**
  - Academic Freedom, Free Speech, and the Law – Panel Discussion
    4:30 – 6:00 pm
    Free Admission

- **November 19**
  - Utopia by Thomas More
    10:00 am – 12:00 pm
    $25, in person with limited virtual seats

## December

- **December 3, 10, and 17**
  - Midwinter Day by Bernadette Mayer
    10:00 am – 2:00 pm
    $50, in person with limited virtual seats

Program speakers may change based on extenuating circumstances. For updated program information, visit humanities.unc.edu.
CAROLINA K-12
MORE THAN 40 EDUCATORS RECOGNIZED AT THE WILLIAM FRIDAY TEACHER RETREAT

In June, Carolina K-12 hosted 42 teachers from across the state at the annual William Friday Teacher Retreat in Beaufort, where attendees were treated to three days full of learning and fun. Highlights included a powerful performance from singer and educator Mary D. Williams, a visit to the NC Maritime Museum and Bonehenge Whale Center, a double-decker bus tour, and a day on Harkers Island and Cape Lookout learning about history “Down East.” The teachers left with a renewed love of their craft and full of ideas for their classrooms this year. Special thanks to the North Caroliniana Society, Friends of Wayne County Public Education, and NC Department of Natural & Cultural Resources for their generous support.

What teachers are saying about Carolina K-12

This training was so valuable. I learned a great deal about my own state and was able to reflect and rejuvenate after a long year in school. It’s so important to lift up our professional teachers and give them a pat on the back. This retreat certainly did that and more! What a treat!

—Cumberland County teacher

Wow, what can I say! It was a truly amazing experience meeting other teachers from across the state and knowing we all shared a common goal—doing our best to teach the children of tomorrow. These are our future leaders. I felt on this retreat that I was truly cared about and I was not in this alone.

—Wayne County teacher

From the bottom of my heart, thank you. We’re told ‘we see you, we hear you, we know what you’re going through’ all the time, but no one acts on it—not like this! These three days renewed my faith in the belief that there are people out there who still feel that my work is valued and important. This is especially important right now when good teachers are leaving the profession in droves. Happy, valued educators are more likely to remain positive in the classroom, which is ultimately better for the students.

—Cabarrus County teacher

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! It means so much to have free professional development and to be appreciated as a teacher. These are the kinds of experiences that can keep teachers in the profession, remind them of their power, and recharge their battery for the next school year and hopefully more years to come.

—Harnett County teacher

Participants broke through boundaries AND boards at this year’s William Friday Teacher Retreat.
At Carolina Public Humanities, our goal is to foster stronger democratic societies and a more humane world.

We do this by connecting the scholarship and resources of UNC-Chapel Hill with communities locally and throughout the state in a broad constellation of programs in the humanities that encourage dialogue and enable people to better understand the challenges and opportunities of private and public life. We depend on your contributions to help us continue this work. Gifts of all sizes are welcome! To make a donation, visit humanities.unc.edu or use your smartphone to scan the QR code on this page.