

All Hallow's Eve, 30" x 24" (1994), oil on canvas
by Lincoln Perry

The Twenty-Fifth
Oxford Conference for the Book
The University of Mississippi • Oxford, Mississippi
March 21–23, 2018

OXFORD
CONFERENCE 
for the Book

TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2018

- 5:00 p.m. **Pre-conference Warm-Up**
Michael Farris Smith reads from *The Fighter*
Off Square Books on the Oxford Square

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 2018

Wednesday's luncheon program takes place at the J. D. Williams Library on the University campus; two program sessions on Wednesday afternoon take place at the Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics, located on the University campus, and the final reading for the day takes place at Off Square Books on the Oxford Square. The authors' party is at the Barksdale-Isom House, 1003 Jefferson Ave.

- 11:00 a.m. **Welcome Lunch at Archives and Special Collections**
Hosted by the Friends of the Library
Archives and Special Collections
J. D. Williams Library
- 11:30 a.m. **The Desegregation of Public Libraries in the Jim Crow South**
Wayne A. Wiegand and Shirley Wiegand
Archives and Special Collections
J. D. Williams Library
- 1:30 p.m. **Fannye Cook: Mississippi's Pioneering Conservationist**
Cathy Shropshire portrays Fannye Cook in a one-woman show based on Dorothy Shawhan's *Fannye Cook: Mississippi's Pioneering Conservationist*, with comments by editors Libby Hartfield and Marion Barnwell
Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics
- 3:00 p.m. **Writing US Political History**
Curtis Wilkie, Tom Oliphant, Ellen Meacham, John A. Farrell
Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics
- 5:00 p.m. **Reading and Conversation**
Jonathan Miles, in conversation with Jim Dees
Off Square Books on the Oxford Square
- 6:30 p.m. **Book Conference Authors Party**
Co-hosted by the Friends of the Library
Barksdale-Isom House
1003 Jefferson Ave.
(Advance Ticket Required)

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2018

Thursday's sessions take place at the Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics on the University campus and at Southside Gallery, 150 Courthouse Square. *Thacker Mountain Radio* will be held at Lyric Theater on the Oxford Square. A book signing for Thursday's authors will be held at Square Books immediately following *Thacker Mountain Radio*.

- 9:30 a.m. **Writing on the Southern Latino Experience**
Simone Delorme, Leon Fink, Daniel Connolly, and Angela Stuesse
Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics
- 11:00 a.m. **Southern Bohemianism: The Countercultural South**
Shawn Chandler Bingham and Lindsey A. Freeman, Zandria Robinson, Scott Barretta, Chris Offutt, and Jaime Cantrell
Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics
- Lunch on Your Own**
- 12:00 p.m. **"Could Publishing Be in My Future?" Publishing as a Career**
A campus visit by University Press of Mississippi
Barnard Observatory Conference, Room 108
- 1:15 p.m. **The Tennessee Fight for Women's Suffrage**
Elaine Weiss, in conversation with Jessica Wilkerson
Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics
- 2:30 p.m. **A Summons to Oxford**
Ann Beattie on *Peter Taylor: The Complete Stories*
Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics
- 4:30 p.m. **Poetry and Prose on the Square**
Beth Ann Fennelly, Marcus Wicker, Jenny Browne, and Jennifer Tseng
Southside Gallery on the Oxford Square
150 Courthouse Square
- 6:00 p.m. **Thacker Mountain Radio**
Guest author Martin Amis
Guest musicians Larkin Poe
and Sarah Shook & the Disarmers
Lyric Theater on the Oxford Square
1006 Van Buren Ave.

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2018

Friday's sessions take place at the Lafayette County Courthouse on the Oxford Square, at the Lafayette County and Oxford Public Library, and at Off Square Books on the Oxford Square.

- 10:30 a.m. Radical Foodways**
John T. Edge and Jonathan Kauffman
Lafayette County Courthouse on the Oxford Square
- 12:00 p.m. Poetry Talk and Lunch**
Jenny Browne, speaker/poet
Lafayette County and Oxford Public Library
401 Bramlett Blvd.
Sponsored by the Lafayette County and Oxford Public Library
(Advance Registration Appreciated)
- 1:15 p.m. Reading and Conversation**
Martin Amis
Lafayette County Courthouse on the Oxford Square
- 2:30 p.m. Affrilachian Poets and Their Legacy**
Julian Randall, Frank X Walker, Kelly Norman Ellis, and Ricardo Nazario y Colon
Lafayette County Courthouse on the Oxford Square
- 3:45 p.m. Reading and Conversation**
Ann Beattie, in conversation with Jane Hill
Lafayette County Courthouse on the Oxford Square
- 5:00 p.m. Twenty-Five and Counting**
Closing Reception and Book Signing
Off Square Books on the Oxford Square

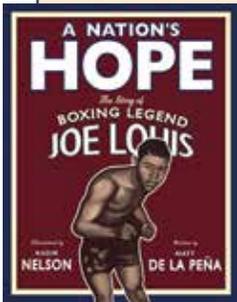
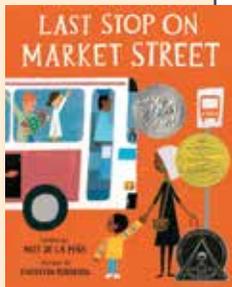
The Children's Book Festival

The 2018 Children's Book Festival, held in conjunction with the Oxford Conference for the Book, will be held at the Ford Center for Performing Arts on Thursday, March 22, with more than 1,200 first graders and fifth graders from the schools of Lafayette County and Oxford in attendance. Author Matt

de la Peña will present his book *Last Stop on Market Street* at 9:00 a.m. for the first graders and *A Nation's Hope: The Story of Boxing Legend Joe Louis* at 10:30 a.m. for the fifth graders.

The Lafayette County Literacy Council sponsors the first-grade program and the Junior Auxiliary

of Oxford sponsors the fifth-grade program. All 1,200 children will receive their own copy of the books.



Special Events

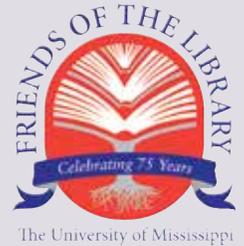
Register for events online at
www.oxfordconferenceforthebook.com/attend.

Welcome Lunch

Wednesday, March 21, at 11:00 a.m.

Hosted by the Friends of the Library, this lunch in the J.D. Williams Library's Archives and Special Collections is a wonderful kick-off event.

Free, but registration is appreciated



Book Conference Authors Party

Wednesday, March 21, at 6:30 p.m.

Co-hosted by the Friends of the Library and held at the historic Barksdale-Isom House (1003 Jefferson Ave.), this much-loved opening reception is a lively fundraiser with wonderful food, drinks, and conversation between fellow conference attendees and guest writers.

Reservations required. Tickets \$50. Purchase tickets through the conference website. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door.

"Could Publishing Be in My Future?" Publishing as a Career

Thursday, March 22, at 12:00 p.m.

A campus visit by University Press of Mississippi for students and scholars interested in university presses, scholarly publishing, and internships and opportunities available at UPM. Barnard Observatory Conference Room

Free, no advance registration necessary

Thacker Mountain Radio

Thursday, March 22, at 6:00 p.m.

Thacker Mountain Radio will host a special OCB show at the Lyric Theater on the Oxford Square (1006 Van Buren Avenue).

Free, no advance registration necessary



Poetry Talk and Lunch

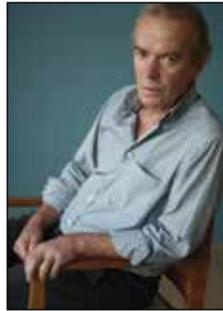
Friday, March 23, at 12:00 p.m.

Hosted by the Lafayette County and Oxford Public Library (401 Bramlett Blvd.), this lunch includes a talk on craft by poet Jenny Browne.

Free, advance registration appreciated

The Participants

Martin Amis is the author of fourteen novels, including *London Fields* and *The Zone of Interest*, the memoir *Experience*, two collections of stories, and six previous nonfiction books. He lives in Brooklyn.



Social Critique: Painting Mirrors of Social Life, and coauthor, with Sara Green, of *Seriously Funny: Disability and the Paradoxical Power of Humor*. His most recent book is *The Bohemian South: Creating Countercultures, from Poe to Punk*, coedited with Lindsey A. Freeman.



AMY HARROUN



Marion Barnwell is professor emerita of English at Delta State University. She is an editor, with Libby Hartfield, of *Fannye Cook: Mississippi's Pioneering Conservationist*, written by Dorothy Shawn.



Jenny Browne is the current poet laureate of Texas and author of three collections of poems, *At Once*, *The Second Reason*, and *Dear Stranger*, and two chapbooks, *Welcome to Freetown* and *Texas, Being*. A former James Michener Fellow at the University of Texas, she worked for many years as a poet-in-the-schools through the Texas Commission

Scott Barretta is an instructor of sociology at the University of Mississippi and a writer-researcher for the Mississippi Blues Trail. He is the editor of *Conscience of the Folk Revival: The Writings of Israel "Izzy" Young*, a contributor to *The Bohemian South: Creating Countercultures, from Poe to Punk*, and former editor of the magazines *Living Blues* and *Jefferson*.



JAMES PATTERSON

on the Arts and is currently a professor of English at Trinity University where she teaches courses in creative writing, women and gender studies, and environmental literature. Her poems and essays have appeared in numerous publications, including *American Poetry Review*, *Boston Review*, *Garden and Gun*, *Oxford American*, the *New York Times*, and *Tin House*. She lives in downtown San Antonio, Texas, with her husband, photographer Scott Martin, and their daughters, Lyda and Harriet.



SIGRID ESTRADA

Ann Beattie has been included in four O. Henry Award Collections, in John Updike's *The Best American Short Stories of the Century*, and in Jennifer Egan's *The Best American Short Stories 2014*. In 2000 she received the PEN/Malamud Award for achievement in the short story. In 2005 she received the Rea Award for the Short Story. She was the Edgar Allan Poe Professor of Literature and Creative

Writing at the University of Virginia and is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Her latest book of fiction is a collection of short stories, *The Accomplished Guest*, and she recently edited *Peter Taylor: The Collected Stories* for the Library of America. She and her husband, Lincoln Perry, live in Maine and Key West, Florida.

Jaime Cantrell serves as the LGBT Program Coordinator at the Center for Inclusion and Cross Cultural Engagement and is a faculty affiliate at the Sarah Isom Center for Women and Gender Studies. She is the coeditor, with Amy Stone, of *Out of the Closet, into the Archive: Researching Sexual Histories*, a Lambda Literary Award finalist for LGBT Anthology. Cantrell has published essays and reviews in the *Journal of Lesbian Studies*, the *Journal of Homosexuality*, *Study the South*, and *Feminist Formations*. She is presently at work on a book project titled "Southern Sapphisms: Sexuality and Sociality in Literary Productions, 1969–1997."



Shawn Chandler Bingham is an assistant professor of sociology at the University of South Florida and assistant dean of the USF Honors College. He is the author of *Thoreau and the Sociological Imagination: The Wilds of Society*, editor of *The Art of*



Daniel Connolly is a Memphis-based journalist and the author of *The Book of Isaias: A Child of Hispanic Immigrants Seeks His Own America*. He uses rigorous reporting to tell true stories about immigration, economics, and globalization in the South. A fluent speaker of Spanish and German, he was born in Memphis, graduated from Kenyon College in Ohio,

and completed a postgraduate Fulbright teaching fellowship in Germany. He moved to Alabama in 2002 to work at the former *Birmingham Post-Herald* newspaper, where he completed a major project on Mexican immigration. He moved to Little Rock, Arkansas, and covered immigration for the Associated Press before returning to Memphis in 2006 to join the staff of the *Commercial Appeal* newspaper, where he still works.

Jim Dees is the author of *The Statue and the Fury*, which won the 2017 Independent Publishers Association's Bronze award for best nonfiction in the South. The book was also nominated for a Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Nonfiction Award. Since the fall of 2000, Dees has been the host of the *Thacker Mountain Radio*, a music and literature program heard weekly on Mississippi Public Broadcasting. He lives in Oxford, Mississippi.



Simone Delorme spent her childhood in a Puerto Rican-concentrated enclave in Harlem, New York, and later moved to a suburb of Wilmington, Delaware. She developed an interest in Latin American and Caribbean studies while studying abroad in Havana, Cuba, and Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula. In the fall of 2013, she joined the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, and the Center for the

Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi. She specializes in the anthropology of the contemporary United States with interests in migration, critical race theory, language ideologies, social class inequalities, and suburbanization. Her new ethnographic research project examines Latino migration to Memphis, Tennessee, and North Mississippi.

John T. Edge directs the Southern Foodways Alliance, an institute of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture. He has written or edited more than a dozen books, including his recent *The Potlikker Papers: A Food History of the Modern South*. Edge is editor of the *Foodways* volume of *The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*, and he is series editor of Southern Foodways Alliance Studies in Culture, People, and Place, published by the University of Georgia Press. A columnist for the *Oxford American* and a contributing writer for *Garden and Gun*, Edge is an editor in residence at the Rivendell Writers' Colony, and he serves on the faculty of the MFA in Narrative Nonfiction program at the Grady College of the University of Georgia.



JASON THRASHER



Kelly Norman Ellis is the author of *Tougaloo Blues* and *Offerings of Desire*. Her poetry has appeared in *Sisterfire: Black Womanist Fiction and Poetry*, *Spirit and Flame*, *Role Call: A Generational Anthology of Social and Political Black Literature and Art*, *Boomer Girls*, *Essence Magazine*, *Obsidian*, *Calyx*, and *Cornbread Nation*. She is a recipient of a Kentucky

Foundation for Women writer's grant and is a Cave Canem fellow and founding member of the Affrilachian Poets. Ellis is an associate professor of English and creative writing and chairperson for the Department of English, Foreign Languages, and Literatures at Chicago State University.

John A. Farrell is the author of *Clarence Darrow: Attorney for the Damned*, which won the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize for Biography, and *Tip O'Neill and the Democratic Century*. A longtime journalist, has worked at the *Denver Post* and at the *Boston Globe*, where he served as White House correspondent and on the vaunted Spotlight team.



MIKE STANTON

Beth Ann Fennelly, poet laureate of Mississippi, teaches in the MFA Program at the University of Mississippi, where she was named Outstanding Teacher of the Year in 2011. Fennelly has published three poetry books: *Open House*, *Tender Hooks*, and *Unmentionables*. Her poetry has appeared in over fifty anthologies, including Best American Poetry 1996, 2005, and 2006. In 2013, Beth Ann

and her husband, Tom Franklin, coauthored a novel, *The Tilted World*, set during the 1927 flood of the Mississippi River. Fennelly's newest book is *Heating & Cooling: 52 Micro-Memoirs*. A contributing editor to the *Oxford American*, she also writes freelance on travel, culture, and design for many magazines. She lives with her husband and their three children, Anna Claire, Thomas, and Nolan, in Oxford.

Leon Fink, a specialist in American labor, immigration history, and the Gilded Age/Progressive Era, serves as interim director of the PhD concentration in the History of Work, Race, and Gender in the Urban World at the University of Illinois-Chicago and edits the journal *Labor: Studies in Working Class History of the Americas*. In 2003 he traced the transnational experience of recent Latino immigrants in *The Maya of Morganton: Work and Community in the Nuevo New South*. Other works include *Progressive*



GRANT DERLENE

Intellectuals and the Dilemmas of Democratic Commitment, In Search of the Working Class: Essays in American Labor History and Political Culture, and Workingmen's Democracy: The Knights of Labor and American Politics, among others.



Lindsey A. Freeman is a sociologist who teaches, writes, and thinks about cities, memory, art, and sometimes James Agee. She is an assistant professor in the sociology and anthropology department at Simon Fraser University and is the author of *Longing for the Bomb: Oak Ridge and Atomic Nostalgia* and coeditor, with Rachel Daniell and Benjamin Nienass, of *Silence, Screen, and Spectacle:*

Rethinking Memory in the Age of Information. Her work has also appeared in *Space and Culture, Memory Studies,* and the *International Journal of Politics, Culture, and Society.* Her most recent book is *The Bohemian South: Creating Countercultures, from Poe to Punk,* coedited with Shawn Chandler Bingham.

Libby Hartfield is director emerita of the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science. She is an editor, with Marion Barnwell, of *Fannye Cook: Mississippi's Pioneering Conservationist,* written by Dorothy Shawn.



Jane Hill recently retired as professor and chair of English at Marshall University. She is the author of two books, *Gail Godwin* and *Cobb County: At the Heart of Change,* as well as the editor of four anthologies of contemporary literature. She has published critical essays on Ann

Beattie, David Bottoms, James Dickey, Gail Godwin, Mary Lee Settle, and other contemporary authors. Occasionally, she has written on television and movies as well. She now lives in Westminster, South Carolina, with her husband, Bob, and their dogs, Byron, Lena, and Spangle (named for characters in Faulkner's *Light in August* and Beattie's *Falling in Place*), where she is working on a book about Beattie's work and a creative nonfiction project about her years in the academy.

A line cook turned journalist, **Jonathan Kauffman** is an International Association of Culinary Professionals and James Beard Award-winning staff writer at the *San Francisco Chronicle.* He served as the restaurant critic at the *East Bay Express, Seattle Weekly,* and *SF Weekly* for more than a decade, and has contributed



regularly to *San Francisco* magazine, *Lucky Peach,* and *Wine & Spirits.* His articles have also been anthologized in several editions of *Best Food Writing.* A native of Indiana, he now lives in San Francisco. *Hippie Food* is his first book.



Ellen Meacham is a Tennessee native, longtime resident of Mississippi, and a career journalist and journalism instructor at her alma mater, the University of Mississippi, where she teaches news reporting and editing. She is the author of *Delta Epiphany: Robert F. Kennedy in Mississippi* and has been a working journalist for more than twenty years. Uniquely positioned to write *Delta*

Epiphany, Meacham's experience as a newspaper reporter has provided her with extensive contacts within the state's political and journalistic circles. In addition, her master's degree in Southern Studies from the University of Mississippi undergirds her understanding of the culture and the people of the Mississippi Delta. She lives outside of Oxford, in Taylor, with her family.

Jonathan Miles, an erstwhile Oxford resident, is the author of the novels *Anatomy of a Miracle, Dear American Airlines,* and *Want Not,* the latter both *New York Times* Notable Books. He is a former columnist for the *New York Times,* has served as a contributing editor to magazines ranging from *Details* to *Field and Stream,* and his journalism has been frequently anthologized in *Best American Sports Writing* and *Best American Crime Writing.* He is also the author of a book on fish and game cookery, *The Wild Chef,* and competed in the Dakar Rally, an off-road race through Africa.



CALLIE MILES



Ricardo Nazario y Colón attended Jesus T. Piñero primary school in Carruzos, Puerto Rico, and Lou Gehrig I.S. 151 in the South Bronx. In 1992 he completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Kentucky in Latin American Studies and Spanish Literature. As a student at the University of Kentucky, Nazario y Colón became a cofounder of the Affrilachian Poets.

For the last twenty years Nazario y Colón has been traveling the Appalachian Region and other parts of the United States consulting on diversity and leadership development, and working with community groups and universities. As a member of the Affrilachian Poets he is particularly engaged in the fight against mountaintop removal mining and works to educate individuals outside the Appalachian region. He is currently chief diversity officer at Western Carolina University.

Chris Offutt is an award-winning author and screenwriter. He worked on the HBO drama *True Blood* and the Showtime series *Weeds*. His books include *Kentucky Straight*, *The Same River Twice*, *The Good Brother*, *Out of the Woods*, and *My Father, the Pornographer*. His work has appeared in *The Best American Essays*, *The Best American Short Stories*, and many other anthologies. His next novel, *Country Dark*, will be published in April. He lives near Oxford, Mississippi.



SANDRAL DAVIS

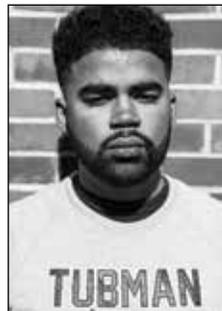


SUSAN SPENCER

Thomas Oliphant was born in Brooklyn, New York. He graduated from Harvard University in 1967, and he joined the *Boston Globe* in 1968. During his career with the newspaper, he served as its Washington correspondent and reported on ten presidential campaigns. He was one of three editors who managed the *Globe's* coverage of school desegregation in Boston, work that won a 1975 Pulitzer Prize. He

has also received a writing award from the American Society of Newspaper Editors. Oliphant has been a frequent guest on television news programs, including *Nightline*, *The NewsHour* with Jim Lehrer on PBS, *Face the Nation*, and *CBS This Morning*. Oliphant is the author of four books, the latest, coauthored with Curtis Wilkie, is *The Road to Camelot: Inside JFK's Five-Year Campaign*.

Julian Randall is a Living Queer Black poet from Chicago. He has received fellowships from *Callaloo*, *BOAAT*, and the *Watering Hole*, and was the 2015 National College Slam (CUPSI) Best Poet. Randall is the curator of *Winter Tangerine Review's* Lineage of Mirrors. His work has appeared or is forthcoming in publications such as the *New York Times Magazine*, *Prairie Schooner*, and *The Adroit Journal*, and in the anthologies *Portrait in Blues*, *Nepantla*, and *New Poetry from the Midwest*. He is a candidate for an MFA in poetry at the University of Mississippi. His first book, *Refuse*, is the winner of the 2017 Cave Canem Poetry prize and will be published by University of Pittsburgh Press in Fall 2018.



AUDRIA RICHMOND

Zandria F. Robinson's work covers African American experiences at the intersection of identity, inequality, and culture in the post-civil rights South. She earned her BA and MA at the University of Memphis, and a PhD in sociology from Northwestern University. She is author of *This Ain't Chicago: Race, Class, and Regional Identity in the Post-Soul South*, and coeditor, with Sandra L. Barnes and Earl Wright II, of

Re-Positioning Race: Prophetic Research in a Post-Racial Obama

Age. Her work has appeared in *Issues in Race and Society*, *The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*, the *Annual Review of Sociology*, with Marcus Anthony Hunter, and *Rolling Stone*.

Cathy Shropshire is retired from the Mississippi Department of Wildlife Fisheries and Parks and served for ten years as director of the Mississippi Wildlife Federation. She is now the theatrical incarnation of Miss Fanny Cook. While Cathy was working in the Game Division at the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, she learned about Cook's work and her enormous contributions to conservation in Mississippi. Shropshire's portrayal is intended to both entertain and educate.



CHRIS JENKINS

Michael Farris Smith is the author of *Desperation Road*, *Rivers*, *The Hands of Strangers*, and his new novel *The Fighter*. *Rivers* was named in numerous Best Books of the Year lists, and garnered the 2014 Mississippi Author Award for Fiction. His short fiction has twice been nominated for a Pushcart Prize and his essays have appeared with *The New York Times*, *Catfish Alley*, *Writer's Bone*, and more. He lives in

Oxford, Mississippi, with his wife and daughters.

Angela Stuesse is assistant professor of anthropology at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. She is broadly interested in social inequality, and she studies and teaches about globalization, structural racism, migration, labor, human rights, social movements, and activist research. Her book, *Scratching Out a Living: Latinos, Race, and Work in the Deep South*, explores how Latinos' labor migration has transformed the South and impacted efforts to organize for workplace justice. It is based on six years of collaboration with a poultry workers' center in Mississippi, as well as interviews with poultry industry executives, workers and their supporters, and community members of diverse backgrounds.



Jennifer Tseng is the author of two award-winning poetry books *The Man with My Face* and *Red Flower, White Flower*, which features Chinese translations by Mengying Han and Aaron Crippen. Her debut novel, *Mayumi and the Sea of Happiness*, was a finalist for the New England Book Award and the PEN Robert W. Bingham Award for Debut Fiction. She currently teaches for the

Fine Arts Work Center's summer program; FAWC's online writing program, 24PearlSt; and the Martha's Vineyard Institute

of Creative Writing. Her latest chapbook, *The Passion of Woo and Isolde*, won the Rose Metal Press Short Story Chapbook Contest.

Frank X Walker is a native of Danville, Kentucky, and a graduate of the University of Kentucky. He completed an MFA in writing at Spalding University in May 2003. Poet laureate of Kentucky from 2013 to 2015, he is the editor of *America! What's My Name? The "Other" Poets Unfurl the Flag* and *Eclipsing a Nappy New Millennium*, and the author of eight poetry collections, including *Affrilachian Sonnets*, *When Winter Come: The Ascension of York*, *Black Box*, *Buffalo Dance: The Journey of York*, and the forthcoming *Ink Stains & Watermarks: New and Uncollected Poems*.



NINA SUBIN

Elaine Weiss's feature writing for magazines has been recognized with prizes from the Society of Professional Journalists, and her byline has appeared in the *Atlantic*, *Harper's*, the *New York Times*, the *Boston Globe*, and the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, as well as for reports and documentaries for National Public Radio and Voice of America. Her first book, *Fruits of Victory: The Woman's Land Army*

in the Great War, was excerpted in *Smithsonian* magazine online and featured on C-Span and on public radio stations nationwide. Weiss has worked as a Washington correspondent, congressional aide and speechwriter, magazine editor, and university journalism instructor. She lives in Baltimore, Maryland, with her husband, Julian Krolik. They have two grown children. When not working at her desk, she can be found paddling her kayak on the Chesapeake Bay. And she votes in every election. Her new book is *The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote*, which is about the fight in Tennessee to ratify the 19th Amendment.

Marcus Wicker is the recipient of a Ruth Lilly Fellowship from the Poetry Foundation, a Pushcart Prize, *The Missouri Review's* Miller Audio Prize, as well as fellowships from Cave Canem and the Fine Arts Work Center. His first collection *Maybe the Saddest Thing*, a National Poetry Series winner, was a finalist for an NAACP Image Award. Wicker's poems have appeared in the *Nation*, *Poetry*, *American Poetry Review*, *Oxford American*, and *Boston Review*. *Silencer* is his second book. Wicker teaches in the MFA program at the University of Memphis, and he is the poetry editor of *Southern Indiana Review*. He is a member of the Affrilachian Poets.



JIL HOON HEO

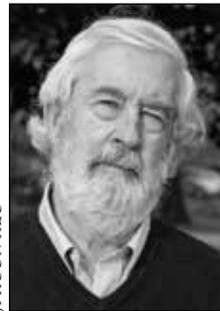
Shirley Wiegand retired as professor emerita from Marquette University Law School, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 2011. She began her legal career as an attorney in Lexington, Kentucky, then became a professor of law at the University of Oklahoma in 1988, where she earned tenure. Thereafter, she served as professor and associate dean at Marquette University Law School and visiting professor at American University and Florida A&M University Law School. She is the author of numerous legal articles and three books, including *The Desegregation of Public Libraries in the Jim Crow South: Civil Rights and Local Activism*, which she coauthored with Wayne Wiegand. **Wayne A. Wiegand**, often referred to as the "Dean of American Library Historians," is F. William Summers Professor of Library and Information Studies Emeritus at Florida State University. He is the author of numerous books on public libraries, including *The Desegregation of Public Libraries in the Jim Crow South: Civil Rights and Local Activism*, which he coauthored with Shirley Wiegand. He was founder and a codirector of the Center for the History of Print Culture in Modern America, a joint program of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the Wisconsin Historical Society, established in 1992.



Jessica Wilkerson is an assistant professor of history and Southern Studies at the University of Mississippi. Her research interests include southern and Appalachian history, US women's and gender history, labor and working-class history, twentieth-century social movements, and oral history. She earned her MA from Sarah Lawrence College and her PhD from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is currently completing her first book, *To Live Here You Have to Fight: Antipoverty, Labor, and Feminist Activism in the Appalachian South*. The book traces the alliances forged and the grassroots movements led by women in the Appalachian South in the 1960s and 1970s.



Curtis Wilkie was a reporter for the *Clarksdale Press Register* in his home state of Mississippi during the 1960s and then served as a national and foreign correspondent for the *Boston Globe* for twenty-six years. He is coauthor, with Jim McDougal, of *Arkansas Mischief: The Birth of a National Scandal* and author of *Dixie: A Personal Odyssey through Events That Shaped the Modern South*, *The Fall of the House of Zeus: The Rise and Ruin of America's Most Powerful Trial Lawyer*, and *Assassins, Eccentrics, Politicians, and Other Persons of Interest: Fifty Pieces from the Road*. Wilkie holds the Kelly Gene Cook Chair of Journalism at the University of Mississippi. His latest book, with Thomas Oliphant, is *The Road to Camelot: Inside JFK's Five-Year Campaign*.



Affrilachia and the Affrilachian Poets

Poet Frank X Walker originally coined the term “Affrilachia.” In reference to the region of Appalachia, a mountain range stretching over thirteen states along the East Coast of the US from Mississippi to New York, Affrilachia is an ever-evolving cultural landscape poised to render the invisible visible. Affrilachia embraces a multicultural influence, a spectrum of people who consider Appalachia home and/or identify strongly with the trials and triumphs of being of this region. Since 1991, the Affrilachian Poets have been writing together, defying the persistent stereotype of a racially homogenized rural region. Through their writing and the very existence of their enclave, the Affrilachian Poets continue to reveal relationships that link identity to familial roots, socioeconomic stratification and cultural influence, and an inherent connection to the land.

Barksdale-Isom House—The old Isom Place (circa 1835) is one of Oxford’s oldest and most historic houses. Built by Dr. Thomas Isom, it was his home, office, and apothecary. The house was expanded in 1840 and again in 1862. The charter of the University of Mississippi was signed in its dining room, which also served as the University’s first boardroom. Since 2000 the building has housed the Barksdale Reading Institute.

Center for the Study of Southern Culture—The Center for the Study of Southern Culture, founded in the mid-1970s, is an educational institute at the University of Mississippi in Oxford, Mississippi, and the first regional studies center in the country. The Center’s mission is to investigate, document, interpret, and teach about the American South through academic inquiry and publications, documentary studies of film, photography, and oral history, and public outreach programs. The interdisciplinary Southern Studies faculty and the undergraduate and graduate degree programs are the core of the Center’s work.

The Center’s undergraduate and graduate curricula incorporate traditional disciplines of the arts, humanities, and social sciences to form an interdisciplinary framework for studying the South. The Center promotes research on the South’s varied cultures by supporting the work of its faculty, staff, students, alumni, and visiting scholars. It offers opportunities for increasing understanding of southern culture through publications, conferences, lectures, and documentary media. Because of its location, the Center focuses much of its work on Mississippi and the Deep South, while at the same time exploring the region as a whole, both in its American and global contexts. Interests of Center faculty, staff, and students are always changing, and particular emphases include documentary studies, literature, history, religion, foodways, music, race and ethnicity, and globalization and identity.

Over the last quarter century the Center has become a focal

point for innovative education and research on the American South, strengthening the University’s instructional program in the humanities, promoting scholarship on many aspects of southern culture, and encouraging public understanding of the South as a diverse and complex space.

Children’s Book Festival—The 2018 Children’s Book Festival will be held on Thursday, March 22, at the Ford Center for Performing Arts. The festival serves more than 1,200 first graders and fifth graders from schools in Lafayette County and Oxford. Committees made up of local school librarians, teachers, and representatives from the Lafayette County Literacy Council (sponsor of the first grade), Junior Auxiliary (sponsor of the fifth grade), and Square Books, Jr. choose the book each year. The Conference then invites those authors to present programs to each grade. Matt de la Peña, this year’s author for both grades, will sign books at Square Books, Jr. that afternoon.

Friends of the Library—Founded in 1940, the Friends of the Library provides vital support to the J. D. Williams Library. Membership dues support new acquisitions, thus keeping our library strong for our students and faculty.

University of Mississippi Libraries’ Department of Archives and Special Collections—Located on the third floor of the J. D. Williams Library, the Department of Archives and Special Collections houses important collections of Mississippiana. Since 1975, the primary purpose of Archives and Special Collections has been to acquire, conserve, and make accessible rare books, manuscripts, maps, visual and audio materials, and ephemera related to the University of Mississippi, the state of Mississippi, and the blues. To accompany Wayne A. and Shirley Wiegand’s Wednesday lecture, the UM Department of Archives and Special Collections will feature a small exhibit of collections relating to the desegregation of public buildings in Mississippi and the South, as well as the larger collaborative exhibit with the University Museum dedicated to Mississippi artists and rare art pieces.

Lafayette County Courthouse—The Lafayette County Courthouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It was constructed in 1872 to replace an earlier building burned during the Civil War. The courthouse currently houses several judicial courtrooms and related offices. The courthouse also plays a significant role in William Faulkner’s fictional Yoknapatawpha County. The courthouse appears in multiple works, including stories featuring the lawyer Gavin Stevens, in the dramatic ending to *The Sound and the Fury*, and in *Go Down, Moses*.

The Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics—The Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics’ mission is to create better understanding of the media, politicians, and the role of the First Amendment in our democracy. The center is funded through a \$5 million grant from the Freedom Forum, a foundation dedicated to educating people about the importance of a free press and the First Amendment.

Southside Gallery—Southside Gallery has exhibited work by artists predominantly from the Southeast since it was established in 1993. It is a vital part of Oxford's art community committed to promoting the arts through its program of monthly exhibitions, frequent artist receptions, and other public events.

Square Books—Square Books is a general independent bookstore in three separate buildings (about one hundred feet apart) on the historic town square of Oxford, Mississippi, home of the University of Mississippi and many great writers, including William Faulkner, Barry Hannah, Larry Brown, and, for a time, both Willie Morris and John Grisham. Square Books is known for its strong selection of literary fiction, books on the American South and by southern writers, a large inventory of reduced-price remainders, and its emphasis on books for children. The store hosts the popular *Thacker Mountain Radio* show and more than one hundred and fifty author events a year. The main store, Square Books, is in a two-story building with a cafe and balcony on the second floor. Off Square Books is a few doors down from the main store and has lifestyle sections such as gardening and cookbooks, and Square Books, Jr., the children's bookstore, is in a building on the east side of the square.

Thacker Mountain Radio—*Thacker Mountain Radio* is a live radio show featuring weekly author readings and a wide array of musical performances from the Square in Oxford, Mississippi. The free show is taped and broadcast every Thursday at 6:00 p.m. during the fall and spring and rebroadcast every Saturday night on Mississippi Public Radio.

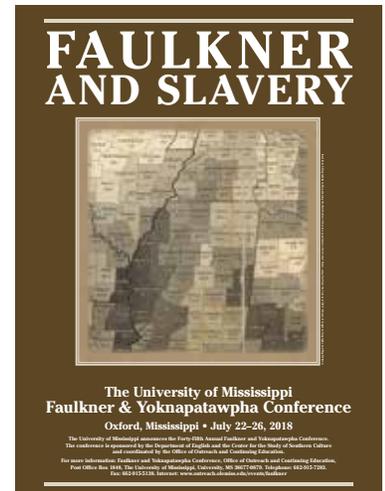
UM Masters of Fine Arts in Creative Writing Program—Currently celebrating its seventeenth year, the UM MFA program has been ranked one of the *Atlantic Monthly's* "Top Five Up and Coming Programs" and is listed among the Top Fifty MFA Programs by *Poets & Writers*. The *Poets & Writers* MFA rankings "measure sixteen distinct program features for each of the 148 full-residency programs." Features include funding, cost of living, selectivity, teaching load, curricular structure, and placement of graduates. The MFA program specializes in fiction and poetry, and supplements specialties with creative nonfiction, screen writing, and eco-writing. Students benefit from the well-endowed readings series and interactions with the John and Renée Grisham Writer-in-Residence, a yearly appointment for an emerging writer. A student-run readings series and literary magazine, *The Yalobusha Review*, are just some of the opportunities for the MFA students.

Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference

"Faulkner and Slavery" July 22–26, 2018

August 20, 2019, will mark the four hundredth anniversary of African slavery in British North America. At the University of Mississippi, a thirteen-month-long series of events hosted by numerous departments and programs will invite commentary and reflection on that historical milestone throughout the anniversary year, beginning July 22–26, 2018, with the forty-fifth annual Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference, sponsored by the UM Department of English, dedicated to the subject of "Faulkner and Slavery." A distinguished roster of panelists and keynote speakers will explore the meaning of slavery in the personal history, cultural milieu, and literary career of William Faulkner. Special sessions will explore slavery in north Mississippi, at the University of Mississippi, and at the Robert Sheegog residence, the antebellum Oxford town home now known to Faulkner aficionados as Rowan Oak.

Other conference events include the popular "Teaching Faulkner" sessions led by James Carothers, Brian McDonald, Charles Peek, Terrell Tebbetts, and Theresa Towner. Collaborators on Digital Yoknapatawpha, a digital humanities project at the University of Virginia, will present an update on project work at a lunchtime session. Bookseller Seth Berner will lead a presentation on "Collecting Faulkner," the J. D. Williams Library will exhibit rare Faulkner materials and sponsor a "Library Lecture" on a topic of interest to Faulkner buffs, and the University Museum will welcome conference registrants to a special exhibition. Optional daylong guided tours will visit Faulkner-related locations in Oxford, northeast Mississippi, and the Mississippi Delta. Moreover, this year's tour options will include a first for Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha: a "Behind the Big House" tour of Holly Springs, which turns to documentary, architectural, and archaeological evidence to reconstruct the lives and dwellings of the town's enslaved population.



This year's conference is dedicated to Ann Abadie, cofounder of the Oxford Conference for the Book, for her tireless work and devotion to the written word in Mississippi.

Support the Conference

Friends of the conference may choose to support either by making a gift to the conference's general fund or by directing their contribution to the conference's endowment fund.

General Fund

We are proud that the conference is free and open to the public. This does, however, require fundraising in support of author travel, stipends, venue rental, and the many other things necessary for planning a three-day-long event. Any amount helps in our mission to bring celebrated writers to Oxford.

If you do wish to support the conference, visit oxfordconferenceforthebook.com for information on online giving. If you prefer to send a check, you may mail it to the following address: The University of Mississippi Foundation – OCB General Support, P.O. Box 249, University, MS 38677-1848.

The Abadie Endowment

An endowment, started in the summer of 2011, honors retired Center associate director Ann Abadie. Past and present members of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture's Advisory Committee started the fund, and with encouragement from the Center's partners at Square Books, many past participants in the conference made contributions as well.

Contributions to the endowment are very much welcome. Anyone interested in making a contribution can mail it to The University of Mississippi Foundation – Abadie Endowment, P.O. Box 249, University, MS 38677-1848. Checks should specify that they are in support of the OCB Endowment.

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The Twenty-Fifth Oxford Conference for the Book



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The conference is partially funded by the University of Mississippi, a contribution from the R&B Feder Foundation for the Beaux Arts, a grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council, and promotional support from Visit Oxford.



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Founded in 1940, the Friends of the Library provides vital support to the J. D. Williams Library. 100% of our membership dues support new acquisitions, thus keeping our library strong for our students and faculty.



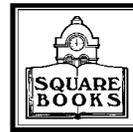
MISSISSIPPI HUMANITIES COUNCIL

This program is financially assisted by the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council. MHC's purpose is to provide public programs in traditional liberal arts disciplines to serve nonprofit groups in Mississippi.



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