

**Spring 2021**  
VIRTUAL EDITION



The Foundation of Wayne Community College

**Arts & HUMANITIES**

SPRING 2021

# ALL LECTURES WILL BE STREAMED LIVE!

There will be no on-campus lectures. To watch live, visit [www.waynecc.edu/foundation](http://www.waynecc.edu/foundation) at the specified date and time of the lecture. There will be a time for virtual attendees to ask questions.

**Can't join us live? Don't fret!** After the live session has concluded you will be able to access the lecture in its entirety at the link mentioned above.

## **"A PLAGUE O' BOTH YOUR HOUSES": CAUSATION AND CONTAGION IN *ROMEO AND JULIET***



**Mary Floyd-Wilson**

**Monday, March 1, 2021 | 5:30 p.m.**

***Presented by The Carolina Public Humanities and  
The Foundation of Wayne Community College***

Although pestilence, as an epidemic, may only haunt the borders of *Romeo and Juliet*, plague discourse and its conspiracy of causes shapes the play's tragic story. In this lecture, Dr. Mary Floyd-Wilson argues that Renaissance habits of thought regarding plague transmission profoundly influenced Shakespeare's representation of how the lovers and their community interpret their experience of time, knowledge, and death, and how contagion—whether of love, hate, or disease—collapses differences.

Dr. Mary Floyd-Wilson is the Bowman and Gordan Gray Distinguished Term Professor of English and Comparative Literature at UNC-Chapel Hill. She works in the field of early modern English literature, primarily drama placed in cultural, social, and intellectual contexts. Past projects have included readings of Shakespeare's *Othello*, *Cymbeline*, *Macbeth*, Ben Jonson's *Masque of Blackness*, and Christopher Marlowe's *Tamburlaine* in relation to the period's understanding of ethnological differences—a discourse she identifies as "geohumoralism." Her subsequent research has focused on the sympathies and antipathies (as central to a history of

emotion), occult knowledge, and the construction of science in the period. She is currently writing a book titled *The Tempter or the Tempted: Demonic Causality on the Shakespearean Stage* about the distinct influence of the Protestant devil in early modern culture.

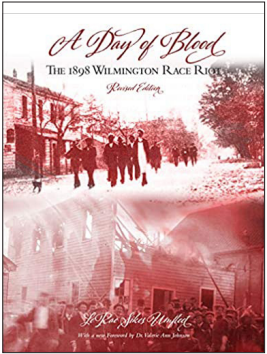
## A DAY OF BLOOD AT WILMINGTON: NOVEMBER 10, 1898



**LeRae Umfleet**  
**Monday, March 8, 2021 | 5:30 p.m.**

In this presentation, Umfleet will explain her findings from years of research to explore the causes and effects of the violence that unfolded in Wilmington, North Carolina. Neither isolated or spontaneous, the multiple tragedies on November 10th were the result of an effort by white leaders to regain control of government on both local and state levels. As the state’s largest city led by a bi-racial coalition, Wilmington became the focus of a successful statewide white supremacy campaign to force African American voices out of political and economic life. In addition to murder in the streets, Wilmington experienced the United States’ only successful coup de ‘etat and a full change in the lives of African American residents in ways that researchers are still trying to quantify a full ten years after Umfleet’s groundbreaking work was published.

LeRae Umfleet currently works with the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources to develop outreach and specialty programming projects on behalf of the Secretary’s office. Throughout her career in public history, she has worked with a multitude of sites in a variety of capacities, including the Office of Archives and History and the North Carolina Collection and Davis Library in Chapel Hill. Originally from Bath, North Carolina, Umfleet graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill in 1991 with a Bachelor’s Degree in History. She then attended East Carolina University where she graduated with a Master’s Degree in 1998. Reflecting her personal interest in plantation slavery, her thesis was entitled “Slavery in Microcosm: Bertie County, North Carolina 1790-1810.” She also published *A Day of Blood: The 1898 Wilmington Race Riot*, based on research for which she was awarded the American Association of State and Local History Award of Merit and their prestigious WOW Award.



## DESTINED FOR THE NEON LIGHTS: A CONVERSATION WITH KATE MCMILLAN



**Kate McMillan**  
**Monday, March 15, 2021 | 5:30 p.m.**

Join us for a conversation with Kate McMillan, a Goldsboro native, who will share her love of the stage with her hometown and beyond. Miss McMillan has stories and perspectives as an actor and choreographer from her days in Stagestruck with talent and persistence all the way to the Big Apple. She also enjoys encouraging many aspiring young performers by providing her knowledge and expertise of

the theatre. In these unprecedented times when most theatres are closed, she will explain how the “show must go on” with the prospect of creating art and telling stories remotely, building up the theatrical community, and breaching our current geographical divide. As an added bonus, viewers will have a wonderful opportunity to see her perform two of her favorite show tunes.

Kate McMillan holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from the University of Cincinnati’s College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) and lives and works in New York as a proud member of Actor’s Equity and professional actor and choreographer. She originated the role of “Cricket” in the World Premier of the new musical, *Moonshine - That Hee Haw Musical* at the Dallas Theatre Center (2017 Regional Theatre Tony Award-Winner) in Dallas, TX. Other favorite credits include *Les Miserables* (The MUNY), *Smokey Joe’s Café* (Theatre Raleigh), “Joanne” in the Regional Premier of *Vanities -the Musical*, and “Mona Kent” in *Dames at Sea*, among others. Most recently, Miss McMillan choreographed StageStruck: The Young People’s Own Theatre’s production of *White Christmas* in Goldsboro, NC where she has also led their “DramaWorks” summer program, five years running. Other choreographic credits include three plays at Gaston Day School. McMillan also directed/choreographed Actor Conservatory Theatre’s production of *Phantom of the Opera* and later served as the Associate Choreographer for Theatre Raleigh’s production of *The Rocky Horror Show* with Broadway’s own director/choreographer/performer, Abbey O’Brien.

## LEGS JOHNSON: ONE SOLDIER’S STORY FROM THE GREATEST GENERATION



**Mary Susan Heath**  
**Monday, March 22, 2021 | 5:30 p.m.**

What were the factors and influences of growing up during the Great Depression that created the Greatest Generation? What motivated those men who traded in their overalls for a military uniform—whose loyalties lay with God, country, and family? Lieutenant Colonel Lehman H. (Legs) Johnson spent a decade sharing his life’s story with his beloved niece, Mary Susan Heath. In her book, she documented stories from his childhood in Johnston County, his participation in the Philippine Campaign in World War II, his role after the war in executing Nazi war criminals at Landsberg Prison, Germany, and his service during the Korean War. Join the Foundation in an interview with Ms. Heath as she takes us through his fascinating life journey.

Mary Susan Heath, Wayne County educator, is the author of *Legs Astride the World*. Ms. Heath is a retired journalism teacher who was certified twice as a National Board Teacher. She holds a Master’s degree in English from N.C. State University, and her thesis is published in the *CLA Journal* and the *Journal of Modern Literature*. Currently, she serves as the volunteer Education and History Consultant for the Wayne County Historical Society. In this capacity, she has partnered with Wayne County Public Schools to write two plays, *Home Grown in Goldsboro*, *Dorothy Cotton (1930 - 2018)* and *Lady Liberty*, for a newly launched traveling trunks exhibition. Ms. Heath is an active member of the Goldsboro Writers’ Group and resides in Goldsboro and in Little River, South Carolina.



# NEW SOUTH INDIANS: TRIBAL ECONOMICS AND THE EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY



**Christopher Oakley**  
Monday, March 29, 2021 | 5:30 p.m.

## *The Kirk Keller Memorial Lecture*

The Eastern Band's struggle for economic autonomy and financial stability throughout the twentieth century was an integral part of the history of western North Carolina. The Eastern Band formally incorporated under North Carolina law in the 1880s, and their economic policies evolved as the country experienced Jim Crow segregation, the Great Depression, World War II, and the civil rights movement. During the twentieth century, members of the Eastern Band embraced tourism and much later casino gaming. Their story is one of adaptation to advance the well-being of their nation's economy and community.

Dr. Christopher Oakley is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of History at East Carolina University. Dr. Oakley specializes in North Carolina History and Native American History. He received his Ph.D. in History from the University of Tennessee in 2002 and has published scholarly articles in *The North Carolina Historical Review*, *Mississippi Quarterly*, *The Native South*, and *Southern Cultures* and two books: *Keeping the Circle: American Indian Identity in Eastern North Carolina 1885-2004* and *New South Indians: Tribal Economics and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in the Twentieth Century*.

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*If you are unable to attend our live virtual lectures please visit our website, [waynecc.edu/foundation](http://waynecc.edu/foundation) where you will find recordings of all Arts and Humanities lectures.*



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The Foundation of Wayne Community College encourages persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing accommodation or have questions about access, please contact the Foundation at 919-739-7022 or [esbyrd@waynecc.edu](mailto:esbyrd@waynecc.edu). Please allow sufficient time to arrange accommodation.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

2021

MARCH						
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**MONDAY, MARCH 1**  
Mary Floyd-Wilson  
"A Plague o' Both Your Houses": Causation  
and Contagion in *Romeo and Juliet*

**MONDAY, MARCH 8**  
LeRae Umfleet  
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November 10, 1898

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A Conversation with Kate McMillan

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the Greatest Generation

**MONDAY, MARCH 29**  
Christopher Oakley  
New South Indians: Tribal Economics  
and the Eastern Band of Cherokee in  
the Twentieth Century

*All programs are free and do not require registration unless stated in the brochure.  
For programs which require registration, the fee is non-refundable.*

CONTACT INFORMATION

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