

The Foundation of  
Wayne Community College

# Arts and HUMANITIES

**SPRING 2023**



## THE SHOWBOAT: THE USS NORTH CAROLINA (BB-55)

**Jeff Bockert**

Monday, March 13

5:30 p.m. | Moffatt Auditorium

### *The Kirk Keller Memorial Lecture*

Commissioned in April 1941 shortly before the United States' involvement in World War Two, the USS North Carolina was the first of the modern fast battleships and one of the most powerful warships

in the world. It served in most of the major naval actions in the Pacific during the war, earning fifteen battle stars. Today, the battleship serves as North Carolina's World War Two memorial in her permanent berth in Wilmington, NC. Jeff Bockert will explore the history of the ship and her contribution to World War Two through the eyes and words of the ship's original crew members.

Jeff Bockert has served as the East Region Supervisor for N.C. Division of State Historic Sites since 2011. He directs operations for nine state historic sites in the eastern part of the state. Prior to becoming East Region Supervisor, Jeff served as the Education Specialist for the Division of State Historic Sites, Civil War Specialist for the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Site Manager at the James K. Polk State Historic Site, Associate Curator on board the Battleship North Carolina, and Archives Technician at the National Archives in Washington, DC. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in United States History from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington and a Master of Arts Degree in Modern European History from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

*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.*



3000 Wayne Memorial Drive, Goldsboro, NC 27534  
919-739-7022 | [waynecc.edu](http://waynecc.edu)

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... 2023

March						
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30						

### MONDAY, MARCH 13

**Jeff Bockert**

*The Showboat: The USS North Carolina (BB-55)  
Kirk Keller Memorial Lecture*

### MONDAY, MARCH 20

**Kimberly Van Dyk and Keith Barnes**  
*Whirligig Wonders*

### MONDAY, MARCH 27

**Tommy W. Jarrett**

*The Vice Presidency: From John to Kamala with a  
Few Stops in Between*

### SUNDAY, APRIL 2

**William Ferris**

*Photography and Freedom: The Enduring Legacy  
of Civil Rights Photographs in the American  
South: 1960-1970*

### MONDAY, APRIL 3

**Marcie Cohen Ferris**

*Edible North Carolina: A Journey Across a State  
of Flavor*

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

**A Trek to Wilson's Whirligig Park**

*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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**All lectures are open to the public and will be streamed live. Please note the location of each lecture.**

To watch live, visit [waynecc.edu/foundation](http://waynecc.edu/foundation) at the specified date and time of the lecture.  
**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.

**WHIRLIGIG WONDER**

**Kimberly Van Dyk and Keith Barnes**  
Monday, March 20  
5:30 p.m. | Moffatt Auditorium

North Carolina’s story has captivated the imagination of the country. Rigger and farm machinery repairman, Vollis Simpson, began making gigantic kinetic sculptures at his family farm in Wilson County when he was nearing retirement age. He kept making his “whirligigs”—seven days a week—until about six months before he died at the age of 94. By that time, he was famous. The story of Wilson’s campaign to use the renowned whirligigs to recharge its downtown has catapulted the community into the national spotlight. With a vision as large as Vollis’ whirligigs, and unwavering determination,



Kimberly Van Dyk



Keith Barnes

local stakeholders made the goal of opening one of the most unique public spaces in the world, Vollis Simpson Whirligig Park, a reality. Come learn about the birth of this creative place-making project and how it has changed the face of a community.

Kimberly Van Dyk serves as the director of the Planning and Community Revitalization Department for the City of Wilson, NC. In this role, all aspects of city planning and

center city revitalization fall under her purview. In conjunction, she serves as the in-kind executive director for two non-profit entities, Wilson Downtown Development Corporation and Wilson Downtown Properties Inc. The entities along with the City of Wilson, work in partnership to revitalize Historic Downtown Wilson. Ms. Van Dyk has over twenty-eight years of experience in downtown development, neighborhood business district development, community development, and planning. Recently, one of her major projects, the Vollis Simpson Whirligig Park, was completed. This nationally acclaimed project has leveraged tens of millions in investment in Historic Downtown Wilson and has led the community down an exciting new arts and innovation path. Ms. Van Dyk holds a Master of Public Administration, a Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit and Government Leadership and

Administration, and undergraduate degrees in both Organizational Communications and German, all from Western Michigan University.

Keith Barnes is a lifelong resident of Wilson. He is the author of *Vollis Simpson - Creator of Whirligigs*. Barnes has worked primarily in the publishing and photography field which included twenty years with *Wilson Daily Times* as a reporter, columnist, and photographer. He is the author of two other books; *Whatever Happened to the Milkman* (a compilation of approximately 250 of his columns), and the *World’s Greatest Tobacco Market* (a pictorial and written history of the Wilson Tobacco Market that ran from 1890 - 2000). Barnes also has served on the North Carolina Baseball Museum (Wilson, NC) board of directors for the past 19 years and for the last 10 years as its president.

**PHOTOGRAPHY AND FREEDOM: THE ENDURING LEGACY OF CIVIL RIGHTS PHOTOGRAPHS IN THE AMERICAN SOUTH: 1960-1970**



Photo by Marcie Cohen Ferris

**William Ferris**  
Sunday, April 2  
5:00 p.m.  
Moffatt Auditorium

This presentation will discuss how photography shaped the Civil Rights Movement in the decade of 1960-1970. It will include a PowerPoint presentation

of photographs taken of James Meredith when he integrated the University of Mississippi; the March on Washington; a Ku Klux Klan rally in Salisbury, North Carolina; the March from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama; the Sanitation Workers’ Strike; and the assassination of Reverend Martin Luther King in Memphis, Tennessee.

Dr. William Ferris is the Joel R. Williamson Eminent Professor of History Emeritus at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The former chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities (1997-2001),

Ferris has written or edited 16 books and created 15 documentary films. He co-edited with Charles Wilson the *Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*, which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. His books include *Give My Poor Heart Ease: Voices of the Mississippi Blues*, *The Storied South: Voices of Writers and Artists*, and *The South in Color: A Visual Journal*. A box set of his documentary recordings and films *Voices of Mississippi* received two Grammy Awards for Best Liner Notes and for Best Historical Album. Ferris

**Story continued on panel to the right (top).**

**“Photography and Freedom” continued.**

curated “I Am a Man”: Civil Rights Photographs in the American South—1960-1970, an exhibition that is accompanied by his

latest book “I Am a Man”: *Civil Rights Photographs in the American South—1960-1970*.

His honors include the Charles Frankel Prize in the Humanities, the American Library Association’s

Dartmouth Medal, the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Award, and the W.C. Handy Blues Award. In 1991, Rolling Stone magazine named him among the Top Ten Professors in the United States.



Photo by Baxter Miller

**EDIBLE NORTH CAROLINA: A JOURNEY ACROSS A STATE OF FLAVOR**

**Marcie Cohen Ferris**  
Monday, April 3 | 12:00 p.m. | Walnut 101

Join Marcie Cohen Ferris for a conversation about North Carolina’s vibrant contemporary food movement. This is the focus of *Edible North Carolina: A Journey Across a State of Flavor*, edited by Ferris, including twenty excellent writers featured in this recent publication from UNC Press. Its essays, photographs, interviews, and recipes combine for a beautifully revealing journey across the lands and waters of a state that exemplifies the complexities of American food and identity.

Marcie Cohen Ferris, author of *The Edible South: The Power of Food and the Making of an American Region* and *Matzoh Ball Gumbo: Culinary Tales of the Jewish South*, is professor emerita of American studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Interim Director of UNC’s Center for the Study of the American South. She has a Ph. D. in American Studies from George Washington University and an M.A. in History, from the College of William and Mary. Ferris’s research and teaching interests include southern history and culture—particularly the foodways and material culture of the American South, the history of the Jewish South, and American Jewish identity and culture. In 2007, Ferris received the University of North Carolina’s Tanner Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Education. From 2006-2008, Ferris served as president of the board of directors of the Southern Foodways Alliance. Ferris has extensive experience in the field of public history as a museum educator/administrator at various museums including Plimoth Plantation in Massachusetts and the Museum of the Southern Jewish Experience in Jackson, MS.

**A TREK TO WILSON'S WHIRLIGIG PARK**  
Wednesday, April 12  
\$15 per person

Visit the park in downtown Wilson where Vollis Simpson's famous Whirligigs have been restored and stand proudly. Attendees will travel together from Wayne Community College to the Whirligig Park. There they will be led through the towering pieces by Henry Walston, former chairman of the park. The group will have lunch afterward at Parker’s Barbecue. Each participant will be responsible for their lunch. Parker’s accepts cash and checks only.

Our Presenter, Henry Walston has been a volunteer in Historic Downtown Wilson

for the past 40 years. He has served as a board member and president of the Wilson Chamber of Commerce, Wilson Downtown Development Corporation, and Wilson Downtown Properties. Most recently he served as chairman of The Vollis Simpson Whirligig Park and Museum from 2008-2018 and still serves on the board of directors. He and his wife Betty Lou are also volunteers for Eyes On Main Street, an annual outdoor photography festival, featuring photographers from all over the world and includes an ongoing monthly artist-in-residency program. In 2018 he retired from his family auto parts business, Barnes Motor & Parts Co.

**Contact the Foundation office at 919-739-7017 to register and for more information. SPACE IS LIMITED.**