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OXFORD
TWENTY-EIGHTH
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OXFORD CONFERENCE



for the Book

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022

- 5:00 p.m. An OCB Warm-up Event**
Sam Pink (*The Ice Cream Man and Other Stories*), Big Bruiser Dope Boy (*Something Gross*), with guest musician Thomas Dollbaum
The End of All Music
- 6:30 p.m. The Future of the South Lecture**
Imani Perry (*South to America*), with Derrick Harriell
Nutt Auditorium
- 7:30 p.m. Book Conference Authors Party**
Memory House
406 University Ave.
(Advance Ticket Required)

- 1:00 p.m. Remediating Region: New Media and the US South**
Gina Caison, Austin Svedjan, Sherita Johnson, and Margaret T. McGehee, with Kathryn McKee introducing session
Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics
- 2:30 p.m. National Book Foundation Presents**
Robert Jones Jr. (*The Prophets*) and Jason Mott (*Hell of a Book*), with Ralph Eubanks moderating
Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics
- 4:30 p.m. Poetry in the Gallery**
Charlotte Pense (*Code*), Joshua Nguyen (*Come Clean*), and Marcela Sulak (*City of Skypapers*), with Beth Ann Fennelly introducing session
Southside Gallery on the Oxford Square
- 6:00 p.m. Thacker Mountain Radio**
Poet Kendra Allen (*The Collection Plate: Poems*), authors Jason Mott (*Hell of a Book*) and Nathan Harris (*The Sweetness of Water*), and musician Thomas Dollbaum
Harrison's 1810 (1210 Harrison Ave.)

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2022

- 9:30 a.m. The Fight for Freedom: Fannie Lou Hamer**
Kate Clifford Larson (*Walk with Me: A Biography of Fannie Lou Hamer*), in conversation with Ted Ownby
Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics
- 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
(Lunch is free, but registration appreciated)
- 11:30 a.m. Mississippi Humanities Council Presents "Reflecting Mississippi"**
Ralph Eubanks (*A Place Like Mississippi: A Journey through a Real and Imagined Literary Landscape*), welcome by Jennifer Ford
Archives and Special Collections
J. D. Williams Library

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2022

- 10:30 a.m. "Each Unhappy Family": Memoir and Memory**
Liz Scheier (*Never Simple: A Memoir*) and Maud Newton (*Ancestor Trouble: A Reckoning and a Reconciliation*)
Old Armory Pavilion
- 12:00 p.m. Poetry Talk and Lunch**
Marcela Sulak (*City of Skypapers*)
Lafayette County and Oxford Public Library
(Lunch is free, but registration appreciated)

1:30 p.m. Writing from the Southwest Review
Sam Pink (*The Ice Cream Man and Other Stories*), Kendra Allen (*The Collection Plate: Poems*), and William Boyle (*Shoot the Moonlight Out*), with Bobby Rea moderating
Old Armory Pavilion

2:45 p.m. Reading and Conversation
Raven Leilani (*Luster*), with introduction by Christy Conner and Q&A with Ser Álida
Old Armory Pavilion

4:00 p.m. The Presentation of the Willie Morris Awards in Southern Writing
Monica Weatherly ("If I Had My Grandmama's Praise"), introduction by Susan Kinsolving and in conversation with Derrick Harriell, and Nathan Harris (*The Sweetness of Water*), introduction by Jonathan Haupt and in conversation with Amber Nichols-Buckley
Off Square Books on the Oxford Square

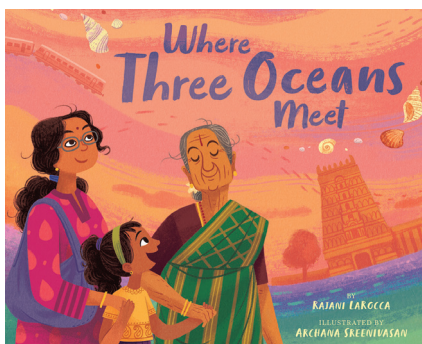
5:15 p.m. A Willie Morris Awards and Oxford Conference for the Book Celebration
Reception and Book Signing
Hosted by the Willie Morris Awards in Southern Writing
Off Square Books on the Oxford Square



Children's Book Festival

The 2022 Children's Book Festival will be held Thursday, March 31, at the Ford Center for Performing Arts. The festival serves more than 1,200 first- and fifth-graders from schools in Lafayette County and Oxford. Committees made up of local school librarians, teachers, and representatives from the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, the Lafayette County Literacy Council (sponsor of the first grade), Junior Auxiliary (sponsor of the fifth grade), and Square Books, Jr. choose the books each year. The Oxford Conference for the Book then invites those authors to present programs at the Ford Center to each grade.

The author for both grades this year is Rajani LaRocca. LaRocca will speak to area first-graders at 9:00 a.m. about her book *Where Three Oceans Meet* and area fifth-graders at 11:00 a.m. about her book *Midsummer's Mayhem*.



Special Events

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

Book Conference Authors Party Wednesday, March 30, at 7:30 p.m.

Held at the historic Memory House on the University of Mississippi campus (406 University Ave.), this much-loved opening reception is a lively fundraiser with wonderful food, drinks, and conversation between fellow conference attendees and conference authors. This is a ticketed event.

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

Welcome Lunch Thursday, March 31, at 11:00 a.m.

Paired with Ralph Eubanks's "Reflecting Mississippi" lecture this year, this box lunch in the J. D. Williams Library's Archives and Special Collections is hosted by the Friends of the University of Mississippi Library.

Free, but advance registration appreciated.



Thacker Mountain Radio Thursday, March 31, at 6:00 p.m.

Thacker Mountain Radio will have a special OCB show at Harrison's 1810 (1210 Harrison Ave., just off the Square).

Free, no registration necessary.



Poetry Talk and Lunch Friday, April 1, at noon

Hosted by the Lafayette County and Oxford Public Library (401 Barnlett Blvd.), this lunch includes a talk on craft by poet Marcela Sulak.

Free, but advance registration appreciated.



The Participants



Ser Álida

Ser Álida is a Queer Black Dominican writer and educator. Her work dissects ideas of identity—Blackness, queerness, womanhood, Dominicanidad, and language. Ser is a lover of Black people and malecón sunsets, and when she's not teaching, she's most commonly found daydreaming about Sunday. You can find her most recent publication in the 2021 summer issue of the *Southern Humanities Review* (vol. 54.2). She is a 2021–24 MFA Candidate in Fiction at the University of Mississippi.

Friday, 2:45 p.m., Old Armory Pavilion (on corner of Bramlett Blvd. and University Ave.)



CHIARA LEE ALLEN

Kendra Allen

The Collection Plate: Poems

Kendra Allen was born and raised in Dallas, Texas. She is the recipient of the 2018 Iowa Prize for Literary Nonfiction for her essay collection, *When You Learn the Alphabet*. She has been featured on C-SPAN, interviewed in *The Rumpus* and in *Poets & Writers*, and her work has been taught by *New York Times* bestselling author Jason Reynolds alongside that of Jamaica Kincaid and Eve Ewing, among other distinctions. She is the author of *The Collection Plate* and forthcoming memoir *Fruit Punch*.

Thursday, 6:00 p.m., Harrison's 1810 (1210 Harrison Ave.), *Thacker Mountain Radio*

Friday, 1:30 p.m., Old Armory Pavilion (on corner of Bramlett Blvd. and University Ave.)



KATIE FARRELL BOYLE

William Boyle

Shoot the Moonlight Out

William Boyle is from Brooklyn, New York. His books include *Gravesend*, which was nominated for the Grand Prix de Littérature Policière and shortlisted for the John Creasey (New Blood) Dagger; *The Lonely Witness*, which was nominated for the Hammett Prize and the Grand Prix de Littérature Policière; *A Friend Is a Gift You Give Yourself*, an Amazon Best Book in 2019 and winner of the Prix Transfuge du meilleur polar étrange; *City of Margins*, a *Washington Post* Best Thriller and Mystery Book of 2020; and most recently *Shoot the Moonlight Out*. He lives in Oxford, Mississippi.

Friday, 1:30 p.m., Old Armory Pavilion (on corner of Bramlett Blvd. and University Ave.)



Gina Caison

Remediating Region: New Media and the US South

Gina Caison is an associate professor of English at Georgia State University where she teaches courses in southern literatures, Native American literatures, and documentary practices. Her first book, *Red States: Indigeneity, Settler Colonialism, and Southern Studies*, won the 2019 C. Hugh Holman Award for the best book in southern literary studies. Along with Lisa Hinrichsen and Stephanie Rountree, she is coeditor of *Small-Screen Souths: Region, Identity, and the Cultural Politics of Television* and *Remediating Region: New Media and the US South*. She has just returned to Atlanta following a year as a fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study in Budapest, where she composed the manuscript for her current book project, "Erosion: American Literature and the Anxiety of Disappearance."

Thursday, 1:00 p.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics



Christy Conner

Christy Conner is a writer from southern Louisiana. She has volunteered for many literary events and projects, including the National Black Book Festival in Houston, the New Orleans Film Festival, and is a part of the reader/editor team at her last university's creative writing journal, where she was twice published. She received her BA degree in English from the University of Louisiana in Lafayette and is a first-year MFA fiction student at the University of Mississippi.

Friday, 2:45 p.m., Old Armory Pavilion (on corner of Bramlett Blvd. and University Ave.)



W. Ralph Eubanks

A Place Like Mississippi: A Journey through a Real and Imagined Literary Landscape

W. Ralph Eubanks is the author of *A Place Like Mississippi*, which takes readers on a complete tour of the real and imagined landscapes that have inspired generations of authors. This is a book that honors and explores the landscape of Mississippi—and the Magnolia State's history—and reveals the many ways this landscape has informed the work of some of America's most treasured authors. Eubanks is a visiting professor of Southern Studies, English, and honors at the University of Mississippi, and he is currently the Carl and Lily Pforzheimer Foundation Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University.

Thursday, 11:30 a.m., Archives and Special Collections, J. D. Williams Library

Thursday, 2:30 p.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics



MIKE STANTON

Beth Ann Fennelly

Beth Ann Fennelly, a 2020 Academy of American Poets Laureate Fellow, was the poet laureate of Mississippi from 2016 to 2021 and teaches in the MFA Program at the University of Mississippi. She's won grants and awards from the NEA, the United States Artists, a Pushcart, and a Fulbright to Brazil. Fennelly has published three books of poetry and three of prose, most recently, *Heating & Cooling: 52 Micro-Memoirs*, which was a Goodreads Favorite and an *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* Best Book. She lives with her husband, Tom Franklin, and their three children in Oxford, Mississippi.

Thursday, 4:30 p.m., Southside Gallery on the Oxford Square



CHARLES DAY

Natalie Green

Natalie Green is the senior manager of public programs at the National Book Foundation. Previously, Natalie was the manager of Los Angeles Programs at PEN America. She holds a BA in English and creative writing from UCLA, is a Brooklyn Book Festival Bookends committee member, and organizes with North Brooklyn Mutual Aid.

Thursday, 2:30 p.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics



Derrick Harriell

Derrick Harriell is the Otilie Schillig Associate Professor of English, African American Studies, and Creative Writing at the University of Mississippi. He holds a PhD in English from the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee and an MFA in creative writing from Chicago State University. A two-time Pushcart Prize Nominee, he is the author of three collections of poetry and was the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters 2014 poetry award winner for his collection *Ropes*. His essays and book reviews have been published widely.

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Nutt Auditorium

Friday, 4:00 p.m., Off Square Books on the Oxford Square



Nathan Harris

The Sweetness of Water

Nathan Harris holds an MFA from the Michener Center at the University of Texas. *The Sweetness of Water*, his first novel, was a selection of Oprah's Book Club, was longlisted for the Man Booker Prize, won the Ernest J. Gaines Award for Literary Excellence, and is the winner of this year's Willie Morris Award for fiction. Harris was a National Book Foundation 5 Under 35 honoree in 2021. He lives in Seattle, Washington.

Thursday, 6:00 p.m., Harrison's 1810 (1210 Harrison Ave.), *Thacker Mountain Radio*

Friday, 4:00 p.m., Off Square Books on the Oxford Square



Jonathan Haupt

Jonathan Haupt is the executive director of the Pat Conroy Literary Center and the former director of the University of South Carolina Press, where he created the Story River Books fiction imprint with Pat Conroy. He has served as a fiction judge for the Willie Morris Awards for Southern Writing.

Friday, 4:00 p.m., Off Square Books on the Oxford Square



Sherita L. Johnson

Remediating Region: New Media and the US South

Sherita L. Johnson, an associate professor in the English program at the University of Southern Mississippi, concentrates on nineteenth-century African American literature, southern literature, and cultural studies. The author of *Black Women in New South Literature and Culture*, her current projects include tracking Frederick Douglass's activism in the Colored Conventions Movement and examining the works of Frances Harper and other African American writers as witnesses to Reconstruction. Since 2011 Johnson has served as the director of the Center for Black Studies at the University of Southern Mississippi. She is a contributor to the edited collection *Remediating Region: New Media and the US South*.

Thursday, 1:00 p.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics



Robert Jones Jr.

The Prophets

Robert Jones Jr. is the *New York Times*-bestselling author of *The Prophets*, which is a finalist for the 2021 National Book Award for Fiction. He has written for numerous publications, including the *New York Times*, *Essence*, and *The Paris Review*. He is the creator and curator of the social-justice, social-media community Son of Baldwin, which has over 288,000 followers across platforms.

Thursday, 2:30 p.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics



Susan Kinsolving

Susan Kinsolving is a poet whose four books have received critical acclaim from the *New Yorker*, the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and *Poetry*, among others. She is the recipient of five international fellowships. Her poems and libretti have been presented in numerous venues nationally and abroad.

Friday, 4:00 p.m., Off Square Books on the Oxford Square



Kate Clifford Larson

Walk with Me: A Biography of Fannie Lou Hamer

Kate Clifford Larson is the author of a number of books, including *Bound for the Promised Land: Harriet Tubman, Portrait of an American Hero* and *Rosemary: The Hidden Kennedy Daughter*, which was a *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal* bestseller. Her latest book is *Walk with Me: A Biography of Fannie Lou Hamer* (Oxford University Press). Larson has consulted on feature film scripts, documentaries, museum exhibits, public history initiatives, and numerous publications. She is currently a scholar at the Brandeis Women's Studies Research Center.

Thursday, 9:30 a.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics



Raven Leilani

Luster

Raven Leilani's work has been published in *Granta*, the *Yale Review*, *McSweeney's Quarterly Concern*, *Conjunctions*, *The Cut*, and *New England Review*, among other publications. Leilani received her MFA from NYU and was an Axinn Foundation Writer-in-Residence. *Luster* is her first novel. The book won the Center for Fiction First Novel Prize. She is the current John and Renee Grisham Writer in Residence at the University of Mississippi.

Friday, 2:45 p.m., Old Armory Pavilion (on corner of Bramlett Blvd. and University Ave.)



Margaret T. McGehee

Remediating Region: New Media and the US South

Margaret T. McGehee is associate dean for faculty development and directs the Oxford Center for Teaching and Scholarship at Oxford College of Emory University, where she is also associate professor of English and American studies. McGehee's current book project (under contract with LSU Press), *Atlanta Fictions: Women Writers' Urban Imaginaries*, focuses on the Atlanta imaginary in modern and contemporary fiction. Her scholarly work has appeared in the *Southern Quarterly*, *Cinema Journal*, *Studies in American Culture*, *Southern Spaces*, *North Carolina Literary Review*, and in Tison Pugh's edited volume *Queering the South on Screen*.

Thursday, 1:00 p.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics



Kathryn McKee

Kathryn McKee is the director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture and McMullan Professor of Southern Studies and Professor of English at the University of Mississippi. She is coeditor, with Deborah Barker, of *American Cinema and the Southern Imaginary*, and her articles have appeared in various journals, including *American Literature*, *Legacy*, *Southern Literary Journal*, and *Mississippi Quarterly*. She has a PhD in American Literature from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Thursday, 1:00 p.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics



Stephen Monroe

Stephen Monroe is chair and assistant professor in the Department of Writing and Rhetoric at the University of Mississippi. He is an affiliated faculty member in the Center for the Study of Southern Culture and a steering committee member at the Sarah Isom Center for Women and Gender Studies. Monroe serves as director of the Willie Morris Awards for Southern Writing. He is the author of *Heritage and Hate: Old South Words and Symbols at Southern Universities*.

Friday, 4:00 p.m., Off Square Books on the Oxford Square



Jason Mott

Hell of a Book

Jason Mott has published four novels. His first novel, *The Returned*, was a *New York Times* bestseller and was turned into a TV series that ran for two seasons. He has a BFA in fiction and an MFA in poetry, both from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. His poetry and fiction have appeared in various literary journals, and his most recent novel, *Hell of a Book*, was named the winner of the National Book Award for Fiction, 2021.

Thursday, 2:30 p.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics

Thursday, 6:00 p.m., Harrison's 1810 (1210 Harrison Ave.), *Thacker Mountain Radio*



Maud Newton

Ancestor Trouble: A Reckoning and a Reconciliation

Maud Newton has written for the *New York Times Magazine*, *Harper's*, the *New York Times Book Review*, and the *Oxford American*. She grew up in Miami and graduated from the University of Florida with degrees in English and law.

Friday, 10:30 a.m., Old Armory Pavilion (on corner of Bramlett Blvd. and University Ave.)



Joshua Nguyen

Come Clean

Joshua Nguyen is a Vietnamese American writer, a collegiate national poetry slam champion (CUPSI), and a native Houstonian. He is the author of the chapbook, *American Lục Bát for My Mother*, and has received fellowships from Kundiman, Tin House, Sundress Academy for the Arts, and the Vermont Studio Center. He has been published in the *Offing*, *Wildness*, *American Poetry Review*, the *Texas Review*, *Auburn Avenue*, *Crab Orchard Review*, and *Gulf Coast*. He is a bubble tea connoisseur and works in a kitchen. His debut poetry collection, *Come Clean*, was the winner of the 2021 Felix Pollak Prize in Poetry. He is a PhD student at the University of Mississippi, where he also received his MFA.

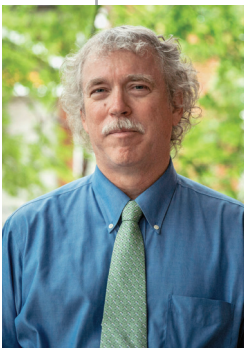
Thursday, 4:30 p.m., Southside Gallery on the Oxford Square



Susan Nicholas

Susan Nicholas is an instructor of composition and rhetoric at the University of Mississippi, where she gets to teach writing to her favorite group of people—first-year college students. She also coordinates the Willie Morris Awards for Southern Writing.

Friday, 4:00 p.m., Off Square Books on the Oxford Square



Ted Ownby

Ted Ownby is William Winter Professor of History and Southern Studies at the University of Mississippi. He is coeditor of the *Mississippi Encyclopedia* and author of *Hurtin' Words*, *American Dreams in Mississippi*, and *Subduing Satan*.

Thursday, 9:30 a.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics



Charlotte Pence

Code

Charlotte Pence's new book of poems, *Code*, received the 2020 Book of the Year award from Alabama Poetry Society and was a Foreword Reviews Indie Poetry Book finalist in 2020. *Code* details not only the life cycle of birth and death but also the means of this cycle: DNA itself. Her first book of poems, *Many Small Fires*, won Foreword Reviews' silver medal award in poetry. Both poetry books weave together personal experience and scientific exploration. A graduate of Emerson College (MFA) and the University of Tennessee (PhD), she is now the director of the Stokes Center for Creative Writing at University of South Alabama.

Thursday, 4:30 p.m., Southside Gallery on the Oxford Square



SAMBER KIAN

Imani Perry

South to America: A Journey Below the Mason-Dixon to Understand the Soul of a Nation

Imani Perry is the Hughes-Rogers Professor of African American Studies at Princeton University and a faculty associate with the programs in law and public affairs, gender and sexuality studies, and jazz studies. She is the author of six books, including *Looking for Lorraine: The Radiant and Radical Life of Lorraine Hansberry*, *May We Forever Stand: A History of the Black National Anthem*, and *Breathe: A Letter to My Sons*. Her most recent book is *South to America: A Journey Below the Mason-Dixon to Understand the Soul of a Nation*. A native of Birmingham, Alabama, Perry grew up in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Chicago, lives outside Philadelphia with her two sons.

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Nutt Auditorium



Sam Pink

The Ice Cream Man and Other Stories

Sam Pink's books include *Person*, *The No Hellos Diet*, *Hurt Others*, *Rontel*, *Witch Piss*, and *The Garbage Times/White Ibis*. His writing has been published widely in print and on the internet and translated into other languages. He currently lives in Michigan and sells paintings from [instagram.com/sam_pink_art](https://www.instagram.com/sam_pink_art). His latest book is *The Ice Cream Man and Other Stories*.

Wednesday, 5:00 p.m., The End of All Music

Friday, 1:30 p.m., Old Armory Pavilion (on corner of Bramlett Blvd. and University Ave.)



Bobby Rea

Bobby Rea is the deputy editor and web editor for *Southwest Review*.

Friday, 1:30 p.m., Old Armory Pavilion (on corner of Bramlett Blvd. and University Ave.)



Liz Scheier

Never Simple: A Memoir

Liz Scheier is a former Penguin Random House editor who worked in publishing and content development for many years, including at Barnes & Noble.com and Amazon. She writes book reviews and feature articles for *Publishers Weekly*. She is now a product developer living in Washington, DC, with her husband, two small children, and an ill-behaved cat. *Never Simple* is her first book.

Friday, 10:30 a.m., Old Armory Pavilion (on corner of Bramlett Blvd. and University Ave.)



Marcela Sulak

City of Skypapers

Marcela Sulak has published three poetry collections, *City of Skypapers*, *Decency*, and *Immigrant*, and her lyric memoir, *Mouth Full of Seeds*, with Black Lawrence Press. She's coedited with Jacqueline Kolosov *Family Resemblance: An Anthology and Exploration of 8 Hybrid Literary Genres*. Sulak, who translates from the Hebrew, Czech, and French, is a 2019 NEA Translation Fellow, and her fourth book-length translation of poetry, *Twenty Girls to Envy Me: Selected Poems of Orit Gidali*, was nominated for the 2017 PEN Award for Poetry in Translation. She directs the poetry track of the Shaindy Rudoff Graduate Program in Creative Writing at Bar-Ilan University, where she is an associate professor in American literature, and is managing editor of *The Ilanot Review*.

Thursday, 4:30 p.m., Southside Gallery on the Oxford Square

Friday, 12:00 p.m., Old Armory Pavilion (on corner of Bramlett Blvd. and University Ave.)



Austin Svedjan

Remediating Region: New Media and the US South

Austin Svedjan is a doctoral student in the Department of English at Louisiana State University, where he studies and teaches queer theory and post-1945 American literature. Austin's writing appears or is forthcoming in *South Atlantic Review*, the *Southern Quarterly*, *ASAP/Journal*, and elsewhere. His current research examines the everyday experience of "bad sex."

Thursday, 1:00 p.m., Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics



Monica Weatherly

"If I Had My Grandmama's Praise"

Monica Weatherly is a poet, writer, and professor of English at Georgia State University's Perimeter College. Born in Kansas City, Missouri, Weatherly is a graduate of Langston University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in broadcast journalism. She later attended Clark Atlanta University, where she earned a masters in English and a doctor of arts in humanities. She has published articles in popular magazines and poetry in a variety of literary journals, including *Tulane Review*, *Plainsongs*, and *Auburn Avenue*, a bi-annual publication showcasing the intellectual and creative voices of people of color. She is a member of the Georgia Writers Association and is listed in the Georgia Writers Registry. Weatherly is the winner of this year's Willie Morris Award in poetry. She lives and writes in a small suburb outside of Atlanta.

Friday, 4:00 p.m., Off Square Books on the Oxford Square

The Places

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.

The End of All Music—Opened in 2012, the End of All Music is located on the Square in downtown Oxford, Mississippi, upstairs in the historic Duvall's building. The store stocks mainly new and used vinyl, filling up three rooms and separated into rock, blues, soul, R&B, gospel, jazz, and country, as well as a large collection of 45 singles. Alongside the racks of used vinyl are all new and reissued records, as well as new releases in both CD and LP format. In 2016, *USA Today* ranked the End of All Music as one of ten great music stores in the country.

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.

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 the library strong for students and faculty.

Memory House—The first buildings on this site may have dated to 1837, but the Memory House dates back to the 1850s, shortly after the University of Mississippi formally opened its doors in 1848. It has had several owners since then, including John Falkner (brother to William Faulkner). Today, the Memory House is the home and offices of the University of Mississippi Foundation.

The Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics—The mission of the Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics 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.

The Old Armory Pavilion—The pavilion, on the corner of Bramlett Blvd. and University Ave., was once the site of the National Guard Armory, which was slated for demolition in early 2015. Demolition was halted, however, when city engineer, Bart Robinson, noticed that the building's frame would work as a pavilion.

Square Books—Square Books is an independent bookstore in four 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, 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. The newest store, Rare Square Books, features collectible, vintage, and first-edition books.

Thacker Mountain Radio—The *Thacker Mountain Radio Hour* is a live, weekly radio show that features author readings and a wide array of musical performances. The live show is free and is recorded every Thursday in the spring and fall, in Oxford, Mississippi. It is broadcast on air and online on public radio stations throughout Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee.



The Willie Morris Awards for Southern Writing—The celebrated Willie Morris Awards for Southern Writing have come home to the University of Mississippi. Originally from Yazoo City, Morris served as writer-in-residence at the University of Mississippi from 1980 to 1991. As the youngest-ever editor-in-chief at *Harper's* magazine in New York, Morris inspired great writers and helped shape careers. As writer-in-residence, Morris mentored students and aspiring writers, stimulating both their creativity and their passion for the written word. The Willie Morris Awards continue that legacy.

The awards come with cash prizes: \$10,000 for fiction and \$2,500 for a single unpublished poem. A national panel of judges reviewed hundreds of nominated novels and poems looking for works that ask readers to engage with the complexities of the American South. This year's winners are Nathan Harris for his novel, *Sweetness of Water*, and Monica Weatherly for her poem, "If I Had My Grandmama's Praise." Next year's contest will include a category for nonfiction.

Center for the Study of Southern Culture Institutes



Southern Documentary Project

The Southern Documentary Project, SouthDocs for short, produces works of documentary storytelling from the perspective of studying the American South. SouthDocs teaches classes in Southern Studies, provides internships and multimedia workshops, and helps to drive the Center's MFA in Documentary Expression program.

SouthDocs filmmakers have created dozens of films of all lengths. While the primary focus is documentary, some filmmakers also specialize in narrative film storytelling. Southern Studies students, especially those in the master's program and the MFA in Documentary Expression program, work with SouthDocs filmmakers on projects throughout the year.



**Southern
Foodways
Alliance**

Southern Foodways Alliance

On July 22, 1999, in Birmingham, Alabama, author and activist John Egerton convened a two-day meeting of fifty people who lent their names to a nonprofit organization dedicated to the documentation and celebration of the diverse food cultures of the American South.

Three-fifths of the founding members attended the organizational meeting wherein a mission was set and a name adopted: The Southern Foodways Alliance. The Center agreed to act as the incubator of the SFA and provided start-up capital, earned from sale of the Center-researched and written cookbook, *A Gracious Plenty: Recipes and Recollections from the American South*. In May of 1998, the Center staged the first Southern Foodways Symposium, organized by John T. Edge, then a graduate student.

At that July of 1999 meeting, the founders elected a board of directors and agreed to hire John T. Edge as director of the SFA. He remained the sole employee until Mary Beth Lasseter was hired as associate director in 2004. Today, Mary Beth Lasseter and Melissa Hall lead the SFA as interim co-directors.

Living Blues

Living Blues Magazine

Living Blues magazine, America's first blues publication, was founded in Chicago in 1970 by Jim O'Neal and Amy van Singel. From its inception, the magazine has aimed to document and preserve the African American blues tradition. *Living Blues* was acquired by the University of Mississippi in 1983 and is published bimonthly by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture. *Living Blues* shares the Center's mission to promote scholarship and documentary work. Center graduate students frequently serve as interns and contributors for the magazine. With in-depth features on blues icons like Howlin' Wolf, Muddy Waters, and B. B. King, as well as more obscure artists and rising stars, *Living Blues* has provided the best in blues journalism and photography for over forty years. In 2009 *Living Blues* was honored by the state of Mississippi with a Mississippi Blues Trail historical marker, located outside of Barnard Observatory. *Living Blues* is also a past recipient of the Blues Foundation's prestigious Keeping the Blues Alive Award.

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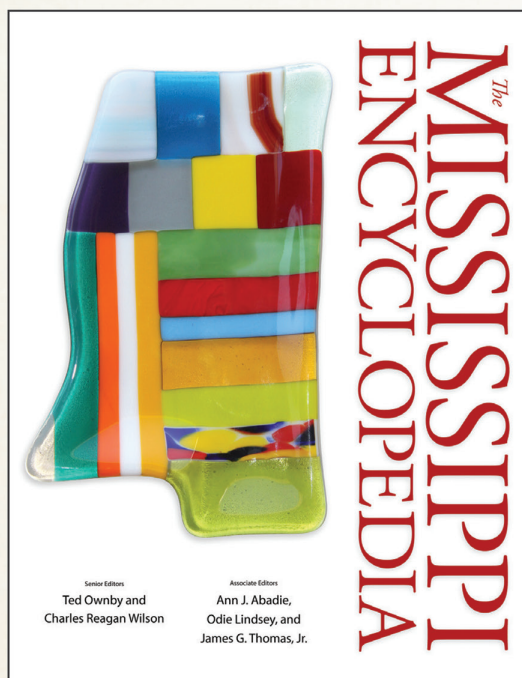
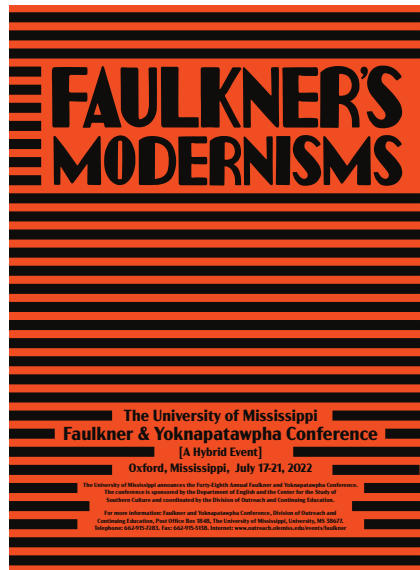
"Faulkner's Modernisms," July 17–21, 2022

This summer's Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha conference on "Faulkner's Modernisms" (July 17–21) will feature five keynoters, plus forty panelists selected through a call for papers. "Faulkner's Modernisms" will take up the bracing task of rethinking the *who, what, where, when,* and *how* of literary modernism, with the life and work of Mississippi's most celebrated modernist writer as Exhibit A. Five days of lectures, panels, discussions, exhibits, and tours will assess Faulkner's legacy as an imaginative chronicler and critic of modernity and of the various forms of the modernization process at work in his world.

The second annual Ann J. Abadie Lecture in Southern Studies will be presented by Percival Everett (*The Trees*, 2021) on the opening night of the conference, and among the invited keynoters is Julian Murphet, Jury Chair of English Language and Literature at Adelaide University. Murphet is author of *Faulkner's Media Romance*.

Other events scheduled for the conference include the popular "Teaching Faulkner" sessions and the annual update from the Digital Yoknapatawpha project at the University of Virginia. Bookseller Seth Berner will lead a presentation on "Collecting Faulkner," the John Davis 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 exhibit. Optional daylong guided tours will visit Faulkner-related locations in Oxford, northeast Mississippi, and the Mississippi Delta.

For more information about keynote speakers and conference registration, please visit the conference website at www.outreach.olemiss.edu/events/faulkner. Contact Mary Leach at mleach@olemiss.edu for details. For other inquiries, contact Jay Watson, director, at jwatson@olemiss.edu.



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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. For questions, contact conference director, James G. Thomas Jr., at jgthomas@olemiss.edu.

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 oxfordconference-forthebook.com for information about 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, 406 University Ave., Oxford, MS 38655. Checks should specify that they are in support of the OCB Endowment.

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The Twenty-Eighth Oxford Conference for the Book

Center for the Study of Southern Culture • Oxford, Mississippi

The Twenty-Eighth Oxford Conference for the Book is sponsored by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, Square Books, the College of Liberal Arts, the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College, the Department of English, the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, the Department of History, the Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics, the African American Studies Program, the Sherman L. Muths Jr. Lecture Series in Law Endowment, the Center for Inclusion and Cross-Cultural Engagement, the Sarah Isom Center for Women and Gender Studies, the Department of Writing and Rhetoric, Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, and *Thacker Mountain Radio*.

The conference is partially funded by the University of Mississippi, the Willie Morris Awards for Southern Writing, the National Book Foundation, the R&B Feder Charitable Foundation for the Beaux Arts, the Phil Hardin Foundation, and a grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council.



For more information concerning the conference, contact:
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