

THE FREEDOM TO TEACH:

CONFRONTING COMPLEX THEMES *in contested spaces*

2023 FALL CONFERENCE

hosted by:

FLAGLER COLLEGE

St. Augustine, Florida

Thursday
SEPTEMBER 28

through

Sunday
OCTOBER 1

Co-sponsored by:

DUKE UNIVERSITY
HISTORY DEPARTMENT

FLORIDA HUMANITIES

GILDER LEHRMAN CENTER
FOR THE STUDY OF SLAVERY, RESISTANCE,
AND ABOLITION - YALE UNIVERSITY

THE INSTITUTE FOR
COMMON POWER

NATIONAL COUNCIL
FOR HISTORY EDUCATION

NATIONAL
HUMANITIES CENTER

“The Freedom to Teach: Confronting Complex Themes in Contested Spaces” is a non-partisan conference that seeks to bring history and civics educators from a variety of different backgrounds (including but not limited to higher education, K-12 public education, education administration, libraries, and museums), along with college students, to share their perspectives on and experiences with teaching difficult topics. The event’s objective is to build bridges between these different constituencies, outline common challenges, share best practices, and develop solutions to teaching complicated themes that are based on our shared educational mission. That mission is based on the common values of a liberal arts education and the related pursuit of empirically grounded academic truth, whose validity transcends political boundaries.



SCAN FOR MORE CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Thursday, September 28

LEWIS AUDITORIUM, FLAGLER COLLEGE - 14 Granada St, St. Augustine, FL 32084

6:00pm - 7:30pm

KICK-OFF CONVERSATION

TAMMIE FIELDS - President, Central Florida Association of Black Journalists, Spectrum News 13 evening anchor

IN CONVERSATION WITH

R. DEREK BLACK - Doctoral candidate in History at the University of Chicago and alumnus of New College of Florida, whose story is told in *Rising Out of Hatred: The Awakening of a Former White Nationalist*

Friday, September 29

LEWIS AUDITORIUM, FLAGLER COLLEGE - 14 Granada St, St. Augustine, FL 32084

8:00am - 9:00am

REGISTRATION & COFFEE

9:00am - 9:30am

WELCOME

J. MICHAEL BUTLER - Kenan Distinguished Professor of History, Flagler College

DAVID W. BLIGHT - Director, Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition; Sterling Professor of History, Yale University

9:30am - 10:45am

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

NANCY MACLEAN - William H. Chafe Distinguished Professor of History and Public Policy, Duke University

10:45am - 11:00am

COFFEE BREAK

Sponsored by the Center for Media and Democracy

11:00am - 12:30pm

PANEL 1 - FLORIDA UNIVERSITY FACULTY UNDER FIRE

MODERATOR:

JULIE BUCKNER ARMSTRONG - Professor of English, Florida Studies Program, University of South Florida

SPEAKERS:

DAVID A. CANTON – Director of African American Studies Program and Associate Professor of History, University of Florida

ROBERT CASSANELLO – Associate Professor of History, University of Central Florida

ADRIANA NOVOA – Associate Professor of Latin American History, University of South Florida

DARIUS YOUNG – Associate Professor of History, Florida A&M University

12:30pm – 1:15pm

LUNCH

Sponsored by the Network for Public Education

1:15pm – 2:30pm

PANEL 2 – REPORTING ON THE GROUND: JOURNALISTS ON THE STATE OF EDUCATION IN FLORIDA

MODERATOR:

TAMMIE FIELDS – President, Central Florida Association of Black Journalists, Spectrum News 13 evening anchor

SPEAKERS:

KATHRYN JOYCE – Investigative reporter

KYLE SPENCER – Investigative reporter

2:30pm – 4:00pm

PANEL 3 – RESISTING THE ATTACK ON PUBLIC EDUCATION: FOLLOW THE MONEY AND FIGHT BACK

MODERATOR:

ELLEN SCHRECKER – Professor of History, Emerita, Yeshiva University

SPEAKERS:

ISAAC KAMOLA – Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Trinity College

VALERIE C. JOHNSON – Associate Professor of Political Science, Grace School of Applied Diplomacy, Critical Ethnic Studies, DePaul University

KATIE RAINWATER – Assistant Teaching Professor, Global and Sociocultural Studies, Florida International University

4:15pm - 5:30pm

**PANEL 4 – TEACHING THE TRUTH IN CONTESTED TIMES:
WHAT ARE EDUCATORS EXPERIENCING?**

MODERATOR:

LARRY PASKA – Executive Director, National Council for the Social Studies

SPEAKERS:

KATHLEEN GATES – K-5 Global teacher, Brooksville Elementary School, Hernando County, FL, retired

HAYLEY MCCULLOCH – U.S. History teacher, Gateway High School, Lee County, FL

SARA PIERCE – Assistant Principal, Hollywood Hills High School, FL

BRANDT ROBINSON – History teacher, Dunedin High School, FL

5:30pm - 6:00pm

REFRESHMENT BREAK

6:00pm - 7:00pm

PLENARY SPEAKER

KENNETH C. DAVIS – author of *Don't Know Much About® History* (Harper, 2012)

Sponsored by the National Council for History Education

Saturday, September 30

RINGHAVER STUDENT CENTER, FLAGLER COLLEGE – 50 Sevilla St, St. Augustine, FL 32084

Saturday's events are sponsored by: The Labor and Working-Class History Association (LAWCHA) and the St. Augustine Historical Society

8:30am - 9:00am

REGISTRATION & COFFEE

9:00am - 10:30am

**PLENARY SESSION – TEACHING UNCOMFORTABLE HISTORY
IN FLORIDA AND THE NATION, PAST AND PRESENT**

MODERATOR:

KEITHA NELSON – Anchor/Reporter, First Coast News, Jacksonville

SPEAKERS IN CONVERSATION:

DAVID W. BLIGHT – Yale University

J. MICHAEL BUTLER – Flagler College

10:30am – 10:45am

COFFEE BREAK

Sponsored by the Wisconsin Education Association Council

10:45am – 12:15pm

PANEL 5 – PUBLIC HISTORY: CHALLENGES AND RESPONSES BEYOND THE SCHOOLS

MODERATOR:

JEREMY YOUNG – Program Director, Freedom to Learn, PEN America

SPEAKERS:

BRADEN PAYNTER – International Coalition of Sites of Conscience

REGINA GAYLE PHILLIPS – Director, Lincolnville Museum and Cultural Center

URSULA SZCZEPINSKA – Director of Education & Research, The Florida Holocaust Museum

GORDON WAREHAM – Director, the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum of the Seminole Tribe of Florida

12:15pm – 1:30pm

LUNCH

Sponsored by the American Association of University Professors (AAUP)

RESOURCE SHARING AND CONNECTOR SPACES – See Event Partners on back cover for list of participating groups

1:30pm – 3:00pm

PANEL 6 – HOW THE HUMANITIES CAN HELP US NAVIGATE TURBULENT TIMES

MODERATOR:

MIKE WILLIAMS – Director of Education Programs, National Humanities Center, *IN CONVERSATION WITH* teacher fellows from the NHC Teaching African American Studies Institute:

CHANGA BEY – History teacher, Mary Institute and Saint Louis Country Day School, St. Louis, MO; Member of NHC Teacher Advisory Council

CASSIE OWENS MOORE – South Carolina Association of School Librarians and the South Carolina Education Association

SARAH WISEMAN – Teacher, Liberty High School, Frisco, TX; Member of NHC Teacher Advisory Council

3:00pm - 3:30pm

COFFEE BREAK

3:30pm - 5:00pm

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION – STRATEGIES FOR DEFENDING THE FREEDOM TO TEACH COMPLEX THEMES

MODERATOR:

JENNIFER BERKSHIRE – Bloch lecturer in Education Journalism, Lecturer in Education Studies, Yale University, and creator of the education policy podcast *Have You Heard*

SPEAKERS:

REGINALD K. ELLIS – Associate Professor of History and Assistant Dean in the School of Graduate Studies and Research, Florida A&M University

JAMES GROSSMAN – Executive Director, American Historical Association

JULIAN VASQUEZ HEILIG – Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Western Michigan University, and Board of Directors, Network for Public Education

CHRISTINE MARSH – 2016 Arizona Teacher of the Year, State Senator LD#4

PAUL ORTIZ – Professor of History and Director of the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program, University of Florida, and President, United Faculty of Florida, NEA/AFT

Sunday, October 1

LEWIS AUDITORIUM, FLAGLER COLLEGE – 14 Granada St, St. Augustine, FL 32084

9:30am - 10:30am

DISCUSSION – STUDENTS SPEAK OUT: WHY WE READ, WHAT WE NEED!

MODERATOR:

PATRICIA OKKER – Former President, New College of Florida; Dean emeritus and Professor of English emeritus of the University of Missouri, *IN CONVERSATION WITH* college students about the vital necessity of reading broadly and critically for the health of a democratic society.

PARTICIPATING STUDENTS:

GRACE ANNE CASTELIN - University of Central Florida, '24

BIANCA HÜLS - German Fulbright Teaching Assistant,
Flagler College

ADREANNE L. MARTINEZ - University of Florida

JOSHUA MAST - Flagler College, '23

10:30am - 12:00pm

**CONCLUDING SESSION - BRINGING IT ALL HOME:
WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?**

Attendees participate in facilitated small groups and networking to share reflections on the freedom to teach, read, and learn and how to protect these vital freedoms in our home communities and states.

NOTES:

EVENT PARTNERS:

ACADEMIC FREEDOM ALLIANCE
AH-TAH-THI-KI MUSEUM, SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS-
HIGHER EDUCATION
AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
CENTER FOR MEDIA AND DEMOCRACY
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE
AND RESEARCH LIBRARIES
FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF HISTORIANS
FLORIDA COUNCIL FOR HISTORY EDUCATION
FLORIDA COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES
FLORIDA FREEDOM TO READ PROJECT
FORT MOSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
THE INSTITUTE FOR COMMON POWER
INTERNATIONAL COALITION OF SITES OF CONSCIENCE
LABOR AND WORKING-CLASS HISTORY
ASSOCIATION (LAWCHA)
LINCOLNVILLE MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER
NATIONAL COALITION AGAINST CENSORSHIP
NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR HISTORY EDUCATION
NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES
NATIONAL HUMANITIES CENTER
NETWORK FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN HISTORIANS
PEN AMERICA
PINELLAS REMEMBERS
RED, WINE & BLUE
ST. AUGUSTINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SUPPORT OUR SCHOOLS
WISCONSIN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION COUNCIL
ZINN EDUCATION PROJECT



Yale MACMILLAN CENTER

*Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study
of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition*



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