



# The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Sponsored by  
Copiah-Lincoln Community College  
Natchez National Historical Park  
Mississippi Department of Archives and History  
Mississippi Public Broadcasting

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Natchez, MS 39121-1307  
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Website [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc)

February 25, 2004

To: All Speakers, Lecture Chairmen, Award Winners, and Other VIPs at the 2004 NLCC  
From: Carolyn Vance Smith, Copiah-Lincoln Community College; home phone: 445-5955  
Re: Welcome to Natchez!

We are so glad you are with us to help make the 15<sup>th</sup> annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration another event to remember. Thank you for all you are doing to help us. Here are a few notes that may be helpful.

- Please look at the enclosed copy of the information you sent us, telling us which meals and other events you wish to attend. We gave the hosts/hostesses and caterers the number determined from your replies. We encourage you to attend the events you indicated since your local hosts/hostesses are eager to meet you and serve you.
- If you want a ride to meals or a ride to events away from the Convention Center, simply look for a Copiah-Lincoln van, which will be available from the Convention Center beginning Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 25. The van will be available at noon on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Feb. 26-28, and after the Awards Ceremony on Saturday evening, Feb. 28. If you need a ride at other times, look for me or call me at above numbers.
- You may certainly follow the map in the program booklet and take your own car to any of the sites involved. Parking is always free.
- If you are a member of the NLCC Advisory Board, remember the breakfast meeting is at 7:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 27, at the Garden Center behind Monmouth, corner of Melrose Avenue and John Quitman Boulevard. At the entrance to Monmouth, turn left and circle all the way to the rear of the property.
- Please complete and return your evaluation form. We like to hear from you!
- Please enjoy your enclosed complimentary copy of *The Writer* magazine. The publisher of this magazine sends hundreds of copies to the NLCC as an indication of the esteem the company has of the NLCC.

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EVALUATION OF THE PROGRAM  
THE 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NATCHEZ LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION  
"SCOUNDRELS TO STATESMEN: POLITICS IN THE DEEP SOUTH"

FEB. 25-29, 2004

1. Name facets of the NLCC you most enjoyed:

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2. What do you wish were different about the NLCC?

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3. Evaluate the physical arrangements of the event by circling your response:

Convention Center	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	N/A
Tour Sites	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	N/A
Copiah-Lincoln	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	N/A
Other Sites (Carriage House, NAPAC Museum, Other)	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	N/A

4. Have you attended an NLCC before? (Circle answer.) Yes No If Yes, how many? \_\_\_\_\_

5. What do you wish could be added to future Celebrations?

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6. How did you learn about the 2004 NLCC?

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7. Please use the bottom and back of this sheet for questions, compliments, complaints, comments, and names and addresses of people to be added to the NLCC mailing list. Thank you.

Literature, Lore,  
and Lyrics  
on the Mighty Mississippi

Eight days:

Tues., April 6 - Tues., April 13, 2004



The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual NATCHEZ  
LITERARY AND CINEMA  
CELEBRATION

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI  
FEBRUARY 25-29, 2004

PRESENTS

SCOUNDRELS TO STATESMEN:  
POLITICS IN THE DEEP SOUTH



Headquarters  
Natchez Convention Center • 211 Main Street  
Natchez, Mississippi

*Unless otherwise noted, all events are free.  
Locations change for certain events.*

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## ROSE HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

607 1/2 Madison Street  
Natchez, Mississippi 39120



Welcome to Natchez, and to Historic Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church. Perhaps you are here as a visitor, a past or prospective member, a relative of a member or as a friend, whatever the circumstance, this Church family bid you welcome. Our pastor, officers, and members will be happy to be of service to you. Please feel free to call upon us at any time.

Kenneth E. Stanton, Pastor

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# AYER HALL

*Phase I of Restoration  
1997*

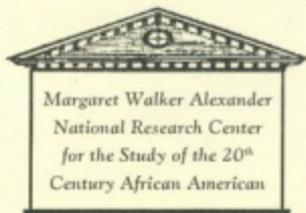


*The Oldest Building  
on the Campus*

*of*

**JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Jackson, Mississippi 39217

---



Jackson State University  
1400 John R. Lynch Street  
P. O. Box 17008  
Jackson, MS 39217-0108

Phone: (601) 979-2055 Fax: (601) 979-5929

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Margaret Walker Alexander never tired of promoting her vision of a more inclusive society and she knew African American history and culture had much to offer it. Her first published poem, "Daydream," (also known as "I Want to Write") published in W.E.B. DuBois' Crisis magazine in 1934, was autobiographically prophetic:



I want to write.  
 I want to write the songs of [my] people.  
 I want to hear them singing melodies in the dark.  
 I want to catch that lost floating strains  
 From their sob-stricken throats.  
 I want to frame their dreams into words,  
 Their souls into notes.  
 I want to catch their sunshine laughter in a bowl;  
 Fling dark hands to darker sky  
 And fill them full of stars.  
 Then crush and mix such lights till they become  
 A mirrored pool of brilliance in the dawn.

The Crisis, 1934



The Margaret Walker Alexander National Research Center is located in  
 Ayers Hall on the Jackson State University campus.  
 PO Box 17008, Jackson, Mississippi 39217  
 Telephone 601-979-2055.

# Margaret Walker Alexander



*"Under the Hat,  
 Out of Her Heart"*

The exhibit and this brochure are made possible with funds from the  
 National Endowment for the Humanities through the  
 Mississippi Humanities Council and the  
 Margaret Walker Alexander NIH Endowment

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Workshop: READING, TEACHING, AND STUDYING RICHARD WRIGHT (1908-1960)

Reading the Primary Works	Teaching the Art and Social Criticism	Studying the Values
<i>Black Boy's Children</i> (1938)	short story/race relations/folk character	documenting sources of American unrest
<i>Native Son</i> (1940)	urban novel/ naturalism + social realism	minors
<i>The Outsider</i> (1953)	urban novel	existentialism, crime and punishment
<i>Savage Holiday</i> (1954)	psychoanalytic fictions	Fred's criminality
<i>The Long Dream</i> (1958)	Southern novel	fathers and sons
<i>Eight Men</i> (1951)	short stories	representative types
<i>Land Too Good</i> ! (c. 1935, pub. 1963)	modernism/folklore	Jones' Joyce and time
<i>Rate of Passage</i> (1994)	novella of revision	Rethinking <i>Native Son</i>
<i>Under This Other War!</i> (1995)	poetry	Non-Western poetic form/ American sensibility
<i>Twelve Million Black Voices</i> (1941)	photo documentary/ folk history	the visual voice anthropology
<i>Black Boy</i> (1945)	autobiography	representative lives (South to North) language
<i>Black Power</i> (1954)	travelogue/ extended essay	African liberation / colonialism
<i>The Color Curtain</i> (1956)	travelogue	Third World Politics
<i>Pagan Spain</i> (1957)	travelogue myth	Catholicism/pagan roots of Spanish fascism
<i>White Man, Listen!</i> (1957)	political essays	productivity/prophecy
<i>American Hunger</i> (1977)	autobiography	Exposing mythology

Question-provoking words: history, naturalism, realism, art and propaganda, Cold War, colonialism and post-colonialism, slavery and peonage, violence, the blues and jazz, folkife, folklore, vernacular traditions, Socialism and communism, the left, imperialism, the West Culture (Southern, African American, New World, African, Asian, European) Oppression, domination, alienation; Existentialism, Dread, literature and literacy; Dream, gender (mothers and sons, fatherly and sons, men and women) American politics/Faulkner, Welty, Ellison, Baldwin, Hughes, Sartre, Camus, Dostoyevsky

## DILLARD UNIVERSITY

*Excellence & Heritage*

2501 Gentilly Boulevard  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70172  
Office: (504) 816-4502  
Fax: (504) 816-4381  
E-mail: jerryward1@hotmail.com

Jerry W. Ward, Jr.  
Distinguished Scholar/  
Professor of English  
Division of the Humanities

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# Phi Theta Kappa and You: Good as Gold

Phi Theta Kappa International  
Honor Society of the Two-Year College ... You Belong!

## RECOGNITION of your academic excellence and **SCHOLARSHIPS TOTALING \$35 MILLION!**

### Golden Key Membership Pin

When you wear the Golden Key of Phi Theta Kappa, you will be immediately recognized as a member of the Society that has symbolized academic excellence in community colleges for 86 years.

### Golden Honors Stole and Tassel, Honor Cord and Key Medallion

Wearing the Golden monogrammed Honors Stole and Tassel, Honor Cord and Key Medallion at your Commencement will make you stand out in the crowd and identify you as an honor student and campus scholar.\*

### All-State Academic Team Recognition

Programs in 36 states recognize Phi Theta Kappa members nominated for the All-USA Academic Team, through presentation of scholarships, stipends and media coverage.

### National Dean's List

As a member of Phi Theta Kappa, you will be automatically nominated for the prestigious National Dean's List publication. By completing the data forms, you will become eligible for a total of \$7,500 in scholarships awarded to 30 members annually.

### Transfer Database

Senior colleges and universities want you — and Phi Theta Kappa makes it easy for them to find you. With permission, names of members are entered into the Phi Theta Kappa Transfer Database, the first step for senior institutions interested in recruiting high ability community college students.

### \$35 Million in Scholarships for Members Only

As a member you will be eligible to apply for Phi Theta Kappa Transfer Scholarships offered by

inloma Seal

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# How to start a writers group that works

A good critique group needs commitment, planning and focus to succeed

BY D.M. ROSNER

**O**FTEN, WRITERS ARE their own worst critics. As a member of a writers group for more than 10 years, I've found that participation in a good critique group not only helps me keep perspective and polish my writing, but also brings me inspiration during those inevitable dry spells. Experience has also taught me, however, that there are a number of pitfalls any new writers group should avoid. The following suggestions will help you get off to a good start.

## Forming your group

All you really need to start your writers group are other writers and a place to meet with them. Here are some ideas:

- ▶ Ask any writers you know if they would like to form a group. If you don't know any other writers, try visiting a local college campus (evening writing classes draw writers of all ages and abilities) or writers conferences. You'll find listings in most writers magazines.
- ▶ Try to keep the group small. Having more than six or eight members limits the ability of the group to critique one another's work. If you have a larger group, you may need to limit critiques to a few members' works per meeting.
- ▶ At the initial meeting, decide how often, when, where and how long you



will meet. For instance, our group meets at 7 p.m. every other Monday, at members' homes or at coffee bars, for approximately two hours.

- ▶ Decide what type of writing you want to be the focus of your group. My group concentrates on fiction; others stick to romance or poetry. Some cover a wide range of genres.
- ▶ Discuss how much material each author can submit for critique at each meeting. Ten pages per person per meeting is generally a good place to start.
- ▶ Set up a system for critiques. Do members prefer to read the work at home beforehand and bring their comments to the meeting, or to have authors read their work aloud at the meeting and invite comments? Reading aloud helps catch errors and sound out dialogue.
- ▶ Set your ground rules, including

how to choose a leader or mediator. Clearly establish the group's expectations of new members either through bylaws or informally.

- ▶ Decide if members should report what they have accomplished since the previous meeting, and, if so, select someone to keep a record of this information.

## A word about critiques

The purpose of a critique is to provide honest comments on members' work. If your members are new to the art of constructive criticism, you may want to create guidelines for critiquing. These could be helpful in reminding participants to share positive opinions, point out areas that need work and provide reasons for each criticism.

- Here are some tips for critiquing:
  - ▶ Don't forget that many writers—new writers in particular—have frag-

## A writer's Bill of Rights

The right of the author to accept, reject or incorporate the full and respectful opinions of others regarding his or her manuscript shall not be violated.

—WritersX4, an Oregon writers group (Richard Boich, Betty Heeshaw, Marlene King, Lucia Smith)

Writer  
the

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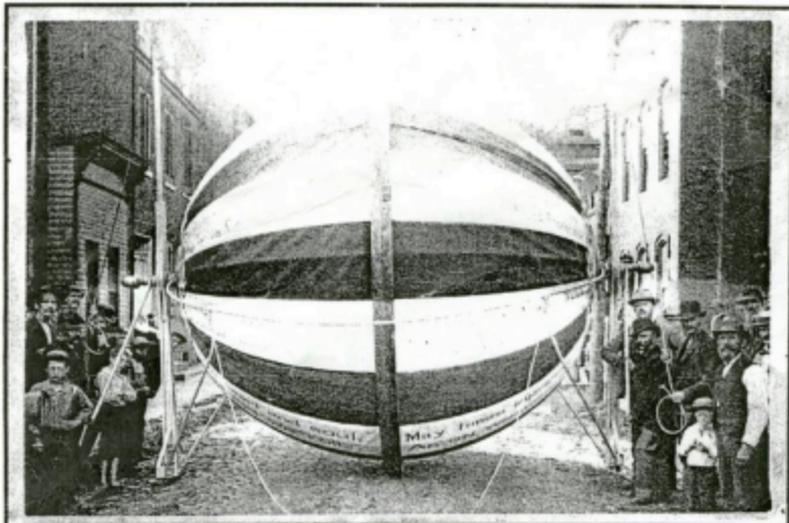


National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Natchez National Historical  
Park

640 South Canal Street  
Box E  
Natchez, Mississippi 39120

601-442-7047 phone  
601-442-8845 fax



## *Keep the Ball A'Rollin'!*

In conjunction with the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, the National Park Service will present a FREE living history program on February 29, 2004 at the historic Melrose estate.

The program, "Politics on Parade," features costumed characters discussing politics in Natchez during the nineteenth-century. Performances will be held at 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 pm.

Please call 446-5790 for more information.

#### EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

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**M**

embers are requested to provide to Phi Theta Kappa their anticipated graduation date, academic major and current email address. This information allows senior colleges and universities to notify you about more than \$35 million in transfer scholarships available exclusively to Phi Theta Kappa members. An estimated 20 percent of members are not eligible because their information is not complete. Don't miss this opportunity - visit [getconnected.ptk.org](http://getconnected.ptk.org) and complete and update this information.

## Your Guide to Membership Benefits

- **Scholarships Exceeding \$15 Million** Available to Members Annually (see pages 4-15)
- **The Golden Key Membership Pin** — Included in your Benefit Packet
- **The Certificate of Membership and Membership Identification Card** — Included in your Benefit Packet or presented at your Induction Ceremony
- **Wearing the Honor Stole, Tassel, Double Honor Cord and Key Medallion** at your 100-day college commencement, commencement regalia available for purchase from the Recognition Services Department
- **Automatic inclusion in The National Dean's List publication of college honor scholars** — Biographical Pages will be mailed annually from The National Dean's List
- **Gold Diploma Seal** extending membership — available FREE from the Recognition Services Department
- **Membership Verification on College Transcripts**
- **Opportunity to be published in *Most Likely***, the only internationally circulated community college literary anthology — for information: [www.ptk.org/public](http://www.ptk.org/public)
- **FREE access to cutting-edge Online Benefits** to aid you in the classroom and the workforce — Get Connected to a special member-only section of the Phi Theta Kappa web site at [getconnected.ptk.org](http://getconnected.ptk.org) (see pages 12-15)
- **FREE access to The Transfer Database**, used by hundreds of senior colleges and universities to recruit Phi Theta Kappa transfer students
- **Free release announcing your membership pin** automatically is e-mailed if you attend — visit [getconnected.ptk.org](http://getconnected.ptk.org) (for members only) or see pages 12-13)
- **Letter of recommendation** to a college, admissions or scholarship official — get connected to Online Benefits at [getconnected.ptk.org](http://getconnected.ptk.org) (for members only) or see pages 12-13)
- **Letter Of Recommendation** to a potential employer — get connected to Online Benefits at [getconnected.ptk.org](http://getconnected.ptk.org) (for members only) or see pages 12-13)



Recent members celebrate their induction into Phi Theta Kappa!

Phi Theta Kappa

# Membership Benefits & Scholarship Guide



PHI THETA KAPPA

**Good as Gold**

PHI THETA KAPPA, INC. 1000 N. UNIVERSITY AVENUE, SUITE 1000, CHICAGO, IL 60607-1000

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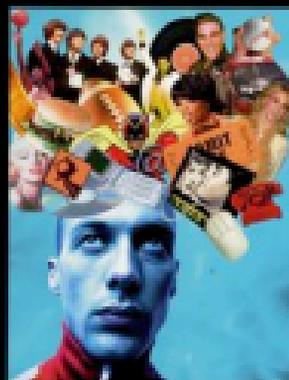
# topics & sites

## of Phi Theta Kappa's International Honors Institutes

Established in 1968, Phi Theta Kappa's Honors Institute launches the study of the Honors Study Topic. The Honors Institute is a six-day intensive exploration of the topic, featuring internationally recognized speakers, small group seminars, educational field trips and student presentations. The following is a list of past Honors Study Topics and Honors Institute dates and locations.

- 1968 Our Cultural Heritage (1880-1888)  
Eastern College, Beverly, Massachusetts
- 1969 The Changing Nature of American Society & Challenge to Government  
Perryman College of Virginia, Arlington, Virginia
- 1970 A Study of Twentieth-Century Drama  
Sonoma College, Healdsburg, New York
- 1971 Man, A Part of Nature? Man, Apart from Nature?  
Fort Lewis College, Durango, Colorado
- 1972 The State of Our Union  
Toward Responsible Citizenship  
Olemississippi University, Washington, D.C.
- 1973 Values of Human Experiences, I  
Eastern College, Beverly, Massachusetts
- 1974 Values of Human Experiences, II  
Eastern College, Fairfax, Virginia
- 1975 Friends and Influences: Agents in '74  
University of Richmond, Richmond, Virginia
- 1976 William Faulkner: The Man, His Land, His Legend  
University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi
- 1977 Music: The Listener's View  
Cumberland College, Lebanon, Tennessee
- 1978 Man Alive: Can We Survive?  
Fort Lewis College, Durango, Colorado
- 1979 The Brilliant Future of Man: Problems Solving Time  
East Carolina College, Warren, West Virginia
- 1980 A Time for Truth  
Remembered: Moral for Governmental Remembrance  
Eastern College, Beverly, Massachusetts
- 1981 Man in Crisis: A Quest for Values  
State University of New York, Purchase, New York
- 1982 The Black Story: Mirror of Humanity  
University of Southern Mississippi, Long Beach, Mississippi
- 1983 Sighed by the Phoenix  
Old West College, Long Island, Greenville, New York
- 1984 America: A World-Class Citizen Image and Reality  
University of Southern Mississippi, Long Beach, Mississippi
- 1985 Ethics and Today's Media: An Endangered Milewide  
Fort Lewis College, Durango, Colorado
- 1986 The American Dream: Past, Present, and Future  
Texas University, San Antonio, Texas
- 1987 The U.S. Constitution  
Assuring Continuity Through Customary  
University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia
- 1988 The Character and Climate of Leadership  
Old Dominion and New Frontiers  
Western Washington University, Bellingham, Washington
- 1989 The American Dream: Neighbors Building Bridges  
University of Ontario, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
- 1990 Civilization at Risk: Challenge of the 90s  
Kutztown University, Long Island, New York
- 1991 The Paradox of Freedom: A Global Overview  
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- 1992 1492-1992: The Demos of Democracy  
College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts
- 1993 Our Complex World: Balancing Unity and Diversity  
Bobst Institute, College, Easton, Pennsylvania
- 1994 Science, Humanity and Technology  
Shaping a New Creation  
Siena College, University, Spotswood, Michigan
- 1995 Rights, Privileges and Responsibilities  
An Individual's Balance  
Oxnard University, Oxnard, California
- 1996 The Arts: Landscapes of Our Time  
Bryant College, Smithfield, Rhode Island
- 1997 Evelyn Waugh: Reception and Reality  
Western Washington University, Bellingham, Washington
- 1998 The Pursuit of Happiness  
Conflicting Values and Values  
The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia
- 1999 The New Millennium: The Past As Prologue  
The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.
- 2000 In the Wake of Water: Origin and Destiny of Life  
The University of San Diego, San Diego, California
- 2001 Customs, Traditions and Celebrations  
The Human Drive for Community  
Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia
- 2002 Dimensions and Directions of Health  
Orients in the Future  
Florida University, Gainesville, South Carolina
- 2003 Dimensions and Directions of Health  
Orients in the Past  
The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.
- 2004 Popular Culture: Shaping and Reflecting Who We Are  
University of California in Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California
- 2005 Popular Culture: Shaping and Reflecting Who We Are  
Institute site to be announced

## Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society 2004-06 Program Guide



**Popular Culture:**  
Shaping and Reflecting Who We Are

Honors Study Topic



**Conquering Cancer:**  
Continuing the Fight

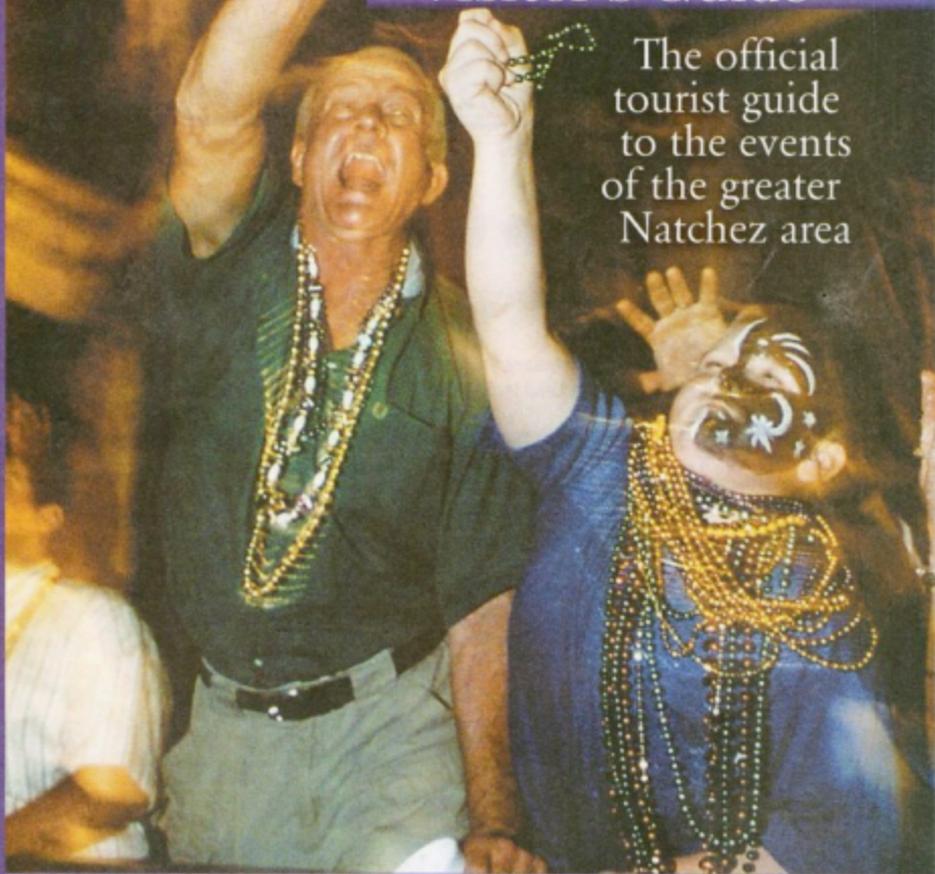
International Service Program

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# Historic *Natchez* on the Mississippi

## Visitor's Guide

The official  
tourist guide  
to the events  
of the greater  
Natchez area



Endorsed by the Natchez Convention & Visitors Bureau, Natchez Pilgrimage Tours and The Natchez Chamber of Commerce  
For your free Visitors Guide call 1-800-647-6724

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## The Renaissance Rolls On

Since the first issue of the *Redstick Renaissance* was published in June, we have seen the Irene W. Pennington Planetarium open to the public, the Centropolis Convention Center and the Blue Center reach for the sky, a thousand state employees leave the Department of Environmental Quality and the Public Service Commission relocate into downtown buildings on Third, Main and Lafayette streets transforming into sophisticated urban residences and parks suitable for a waterfront park and a reimagined Capitol Square Plaza.

So fast, we think, for four months' work.

So if the easiest thing, for this second issue of the *Redstick Renaissance*, was coming up with subject matter, the hardest thing has been making it all fit. Because while there is plenty to say about the new attractions, amenities and services that have come online since June, more projects are emerging monthly. October will bring ballet. Broadway musicals, the opening of Baton Rouge's third Brazilian consulate, and the return of the Louisiana Renaissance open-house tour series to downtown. November brings the Louisiana Book Festival and Downtown Spectacular. December is lit with holiday events, parties and the return of the Art After Dark of discovery tour. In the near future, we will see the implosion of the old Department of Education and Natural Resources buildings to make way for the final pieces in the Capitol Park puzzle.

2004 promises much, much more.

There's a lot to say, there's a lot to do; we have endeavored to make it all fit into the pages that follow. So read us come down, see what's developing. If you haven't been downtown in a while, you might be surprised. ♦

—Susan Fox Smith, Editor  
susanfox@redstickmag.com

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A comprehensive guide to downtown's shops, services and amenities

### On the Cover

Leave Your Shoes at the Door  
photography by Brian Baisemore

Interior designer Ray Hedges has found what was once part of a third floor office store into a nine finished-square-foot urban lofthouse on three levels, with creatively handling from every roof and ceiling. Hedges' work handcrafted the apartment's floor from wooden office crates left behind. See Hedges' drawings and other inspired urban living arrangements during the Downtown Development District's 2004 Renaissance Open House tour, October 16. See page 24 for details.

# REDSTICK Renaissance

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Louisiana

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Walking in

Huey's Footsteps



Downtown Resources for Creative Lifestyles

The  
Country Roads  
Publication



# the **Writer**

March 2004

# 110

**AGENTS  
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WRITERS**

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## **6** secrets of successful authors

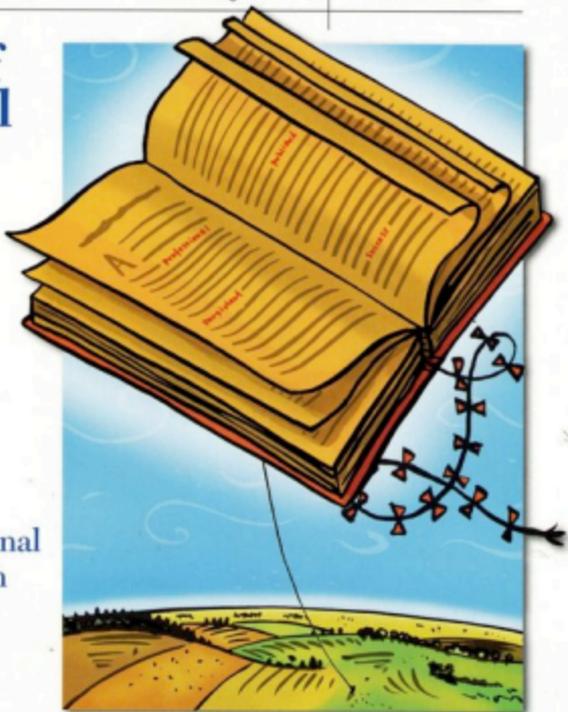
Hook an agent  
with the perfect pitch

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you how

**Journaling** for personal  
and professional growth

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*Tips from an expert*



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10 easy ways to get story ideas

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Fantasy phenom Christopher Paolini

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2003/04

PHI THETA KAPPA'S  
VISIONARY

## Dimensions and Directions of Health:

*Choices in the Maze*

### The Skin Deep Dilemma:

*Do Our Bodies Define Who We Are?*

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### From Time to Time:

*A Look at Leadership and Temporal Intelligence*

### Distance Learning Goes the Distance:

*Honors Satellite Seminar Series*



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The University of Mississippi  
invites you to attend an informal reception  
to promote  
The Center for the Study of Southern Culture

Natchez Convention Center  
211 Main Street  
Natchez, Mississippi  
Saturday, February 28, 2004  
4:45pm-6:30pm

Featuring a display of photographs  
by documentary photographer David Wharton  
and music by  
Nashville singer-songwriter Tricia Walker

Refreshments will be served.  
RSVP (662) 915-1546 or altobelli@olemiss.edu

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**PLEASE HELP WITH A NEW INTER-DISCIPLINARY DOCUMENTARY  
CALLED "HOME," FEATURING TRICIA WALKER!**

The project is under the direction of students and professors at Utah Valley State College, Orem, Utah. Students are Keith Lutz, producer; Jason Spencer, director; Travis Begay, director of photography; Jared Nelson, camera; and Tony Hadlock, assistant director. Professors accompanying the students are Michael Stemkoski and Melinda Bender.

**BE A PART OF THE DOCUMENTARY!**

**Interviews by appointment, Thurs.-Sun., Feb. 26-29, 2004,  
during the 15<sup>th</sup> annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration**

***COMMENTS ARE INVITED ON THE SUBJECT "LIFE IN THE SOUTH."***

**ABOUT THE DOCUMENTARY...**

A documentary tracing the memories and music of singer/songwriter Tricia Walker, formerly of Fayette, Miss., and now of Nashville, Tenn., is in progress. The documentary, about Tricia's South, relates the personal to the universal and explores the irony in the everyday richness of the culture that reveals reasons why people who leave decide to return again and again. The food, music, politics, religion, and land in the South are traced through the memories of Ms. Walker's present "home" in Nashville to Memphis, down Route 61 into the Delta, and then in Natchez and Fayette. Comments from others about the South are needed for the documentary.

A sign-up sheet for interviews will be at the registration desk in the Convention Center lobby. The 30-minute interviews will take place on the second floor of the Convention Center.

"When Tricia told us about the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, we looked it up on the Internet," Stemkoski said. "We are extremely impressed with the top quality of the program. We have read books by and about the speakers this year, and we have studied the history of the Natchez area. We are convinced that we need to film the conference and add that to the Tricia Walker documentary," he said.

"We hope to have a cross-section of people to interview, whether they are from the South or just visiting the South," Stemkoski said. "This is the most fascinating area of our country. We hope to capture some of its beauty, charm, and richness in this documentary."

Tricia Walker will perform at 5 p.m., Sat., Feb. 28, at the Natchez Convention Center during a free reception, 4:45-6:15 p.m., hosted by the NLCC and the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at The University of Mississippi. The party honors three award-winning authors, Greg Iles, William Scarborough, and Gail Gilchrist, who will be present to sign books and DVDs.

**ABOUT UTAH VALLEY STATE COLLEGE**

UVSC, recently named one of the top five comprehensive public four-year colleges in the West by *U.S. News & World Report*, has more than 24,000 students majoring in a wide range of subjects. The UVSC documentary, "Home," will be released in 2005.

# N-Sights

The campus newspaper of Copeiah-Lincoln Community College Natchez

February 2004

Vol. 31, No. 4

## Headed for Europe

Sitaniel Johnson  
selected for  
unique  
overseas  
study  
program.  
Story on Page 7



Natchez Literary and Cinema  
Celebration is around the corner

Stories, photos, Pages 9-11



Charlie  
Blanton



Natalie  
Siles

Student of the  
month

Story on Page 18

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Viewpoint

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Club

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Sports

Pages 18-19

Black History

Month

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A unique career  
Story, Page 19

2004 part 3  
page 19

**"Using Primary Sources for Fact or  
Fiction"  
Workshop Evaluation  
2/29/04**

- 1. Identify a need that this workshop fulfilled.**
  
- 2. What were the most useful or most valuable aspects of the workshop to you?**
  
- 3. After attending this workshop, what did you learn that you will apply to your own work?**
  
- 4. Did this workshop keep you interested and involved in the subject?**

**Weapons of Mass Destruction and  
Other Myths: Using  
Primary Sources  
for Fact or Fiction**

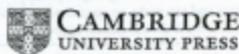


**15<sup>th</sup> Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema  
Celebration  
Natchez, Mississippi  
February 29, 2004  
James P. Mesker**

CAMBRIDGE  
COMPANION TO  
THE AFRICAN  
AMERICAN NOVEL

EDITED BY  
MARYEMMA GRAHAM

*University of Kansas*



## 5

ASHRAF H. A. RUSHDY

## The neo-slave narrative

The publication of Margaret Walker's *Jubilee* in 1966 defined a subject of representation that would come to predominate in the African American novel for the rest of the twentieth century. Literally dozens of novels about slaves and slavery appeared in the wake of *Jubilee*. Although it would take five more years for the second novel in this tradition to appear (Ernest Gaines's *Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman*), and four more for the third (Gayl Jones's *Corregidora*), an African American novel about slavery would become almost annual fare thereafter. Given the paucity of novels about slavery before *Jubilee* and the enduring pervasiveness since, it is natural to inquire about the reasons for this development. What historical or social or cultural events permitted and sustained this new impetus in African American fiction? Since these contemporary narratives of slavery are both formally diverse and yet intellectually indebted to the first form of representation for people of African descent in the New World, the slave narrative itself, it is also worth asking questions about the formal features of this body of work. What is the meaning of the particular aesthetic choices made by authors who were mediating between a nineteenth-century Ur-textual form and a late-twentieth-century period of textual and formal play in American writing? Finally, we must ask, what is the political significance of this body of American fiction? What are we to make of this novel development in American culture at the end of the twentieth century?

The neo-slave narrative may be seen not as an abrupt appearance but rather as a logical continuity in African American writing. Like the first novel published by an African American, William Wells Brown's *Clotel* (1853), Walker's *Jubilee* also draws on the actual life experiences of enslaved Americans and also marks its indebtedness to the oral tales of slave life told to its author. *Clotel* marked its lineage from and indebtedness to the earliest form of black American writing by beginning with a slave narrative, Brown's own, and concluding with a statement that many of the episodes recorded in the novel came from interviews with former slaves. Like Brown, who

## 6

CLAUDINE RAYNAUD

Coming of age in the African  
American novel

Coming of age – reaching the age of “maturity” or “discretion”<sup>2</sup> – is variously a process, a moment, or a scene akin to the structural “scenes of instruction” inherent in African American narratives described by Dexter Fisher (1990).<sup>3</sup> The discovery of American society’s racism is the major event in the protagonist’s development and in his “education.” Emphasis is placed upon being an African American in America, where ownership, belonging, and their negation, and dispossession, are central to the notion of identity. How can one own one’s destiny – be self-determined – when one does not own oneself and faces an irrevocable loss? The recognition of belonging takes place within the narrower circles of the family and of the black community, while society as a whole is often viewed as a threat, if not as the enemy. For the black adolescent, “The Man,” slang for the white man, translates the contradiction set up by racism between maturation and manhood. Indeed the characters’ acquisition of a sense of belonging and its opposite, independence, leads to various questions: What are the major events in the protagonist’s growth from individual self into social being? Who and what functions as the “educator” in the African American novel? One’s “identity” – as process/trial rather than monolithic category – is at the core of “coming of age.” What is the process of becoming of the African American “hero” or central character: self-acceptance as opposed to self-hatred or self-denial? Does the narrative depict the emergence of a stronger individual, better integrated, better self-integrated, both or neither?

Coming of age implies a progress from childhood to manhood or womanhood, a journey towards maturity. Childhood can be either the moment for a happiness never to be retrieved, an age of innocence, or a time already plagued by the torments inherent in the condition of being black in America, as if the protagonist had always already been immersed in experience. Such an opposition helps, for instance, to contrast Langston Hughes’s *Not Without Laughter* (1930) with James Baldwin’s *Go Tell It on the Mountain* (1953).<sup>3</sup> Overall, the narrators are either adults who recall their

## 7

STEVEN C. TRACY

## The blues novel

For many commentators, some of the most distinctively African American elements that readers encounter in African American novels are reflections of the blues tradition. However, the phrase "blues novel" might seem to some to be so incongruous as to approach the level of oxymoron. After all, the two terms comprise widely different genres stylistically. The novel as we know it today, though it has roots in the XIIIth Dynasty Middle Kingdom Egyptian prose fiction and appeared in embryonic form in Boccaccio's *Decameron* and *The Arabian Entertainments*, emerged most forcefully in the English literary tradition in the eighteenth century with the work of Samuel Richardson, Henry Fielding, and Laurence Sterne. Novels are traditionally extended written prose narratives with some amount of plot and character development, though the genre has proven very pliable over the years.

The blues as a musical genre, though it has its roots in African modalities that are centuries old, first emerged in America during the period following Reconstruction in the late nineteenth century. The term was applied to the songs of itinerant and frequently illiterate singers whose work was noted and transcribed by folklorists and commentators from outside the tradition in which they were generated until the first blues were recorded in 1920. The blues are traditionally pithy oral lyric works using a variety of loosely fixed structures into which are poured the subject matter of an individual experience that reflects communal interests. The notion that a lengthy, written, narrative work in the European tradition is based upon a brief oral lyric one from the African American tradition thus raises a number of aesthetic, social, and political issues regarding the mixing of these genres that need addressing.

First, we must establish the characteristics of the blues tradition, and then determine in what ways the strategies, styles, and purposes of the blues may be reflected in a written narrative. Since the term "blues" refers to an emotion, a technique, a musical form, and a song lyric, its influence can be

IO

JERRY W. WARD JR.

Everybody's protest novel: the era of Richard Wright

In the early years of the 21st century, a discussion of the American protest novel or of Richard Wright as a protest novelist is an exercise in retrospection. It seems from certain angles of critical thought that literary history demands a deliberate, not always happy, effort to remember things past. The glance back privileges the claims of history over the speculations of aesthetics. It is especially necessary to let history speak in the case of Wright and the African American novel. Our postmodern sense of aesthetics can betray us and muddle our understanding of the necessity for protesting social policies and cultural beliefs through the mechanism of the novel. Looking backward helps us to remember at least two points. The African American novel originated in the nineteenth century as the use of literacy and writing more for purposes of enlightenment than for the pleasures of entertainment. Richard Wright stands in a special relationship to the form he sought to develop, because he did not abandon the original purposes of the black novel for the sake of being modern. He stuck to the purpose of using fiction to illuminate conditions and possibilities as they affected blacks and whites in America, particularly in matters of social psychology. The novel, for Wright, was a weapon against culturally sponsored ignorance as well as a medium for expressing his intellectual and artistic vision.

Contemporary criticism of fiction can still find some salience in examining the problem novel, the sociological novel, or the novel grounded in social realism. To understand Richard Wright historically, we must deal with artistic uses of language that have special targets. It would be rare to find any fictions, especially those from former imperial domains, described simply as works of protest or complaint. They are more commonly considered as instances of writing back, a gesture involving more parity than does the asymmetrical power relation implicit in the very notion of protest. Wright was indeed writing back. In twentieth-century literary usage, "protest," a word inextricably associated with "race," might be taken as a pure product of America. Protest was a pejorative code word for work of inferior artistic

Public Ed of the Civil War Recan structure AP-essay one benefits

learn to love it -  
to over it!!  
create you too away in class room  
speaking  
I've already  
calm down  
every thing on the web  
don't have to leave home  
love it, hate it, go  
rage in corp. out  
white power  
Merison  
accept strategy  
read slowly  
take notes

Not either or but Both And  
Longdon Hughes, Lytle Without Laughter  
Don't be pro-white  
start "Merida"  
Screen play not same as Novel  
page to stage, read back first  
AM & different text

## 13

MARILYN MOBLEY MCKENZIE

### Spaces for readers: the novels of Toni Morrison

These visions are traditional. I knew them by heart as did the rest of the congregation, but it was exciting to see how the converts would handle them. Some of them made up details. Some of them would forget a part and improvise clumsily or fill up the gap with shouting. The audience knew, but everybody acted as if every word of it was new.

— Zora Neale Hurston, *Dust Tracks on a Road*

Every literary work *faces outward away from itself*, toward the listener-reader, and to a certain extent thus anticipates possible reactions to itself.

— Mikhail Bakhtin, "Discourse in the Novel"

I have to provide the places and spaces so that the reader can participate.

— Toni Morrison, "Rootedness: The Ancestor as Foundation"

In the introduction to one of Toni Morrison's often-cited interviews, critic Claudia Tate observed that "while her stories seem to unfold with natural ease, the reader can discern the great care Morrison has taken in constructing them."<sup>1</sup> Over the span of nearly thirty years, from *The Bluest Eye* in 1970 to *Paradise* in 1998, the Nobel Laureate has not only continued to take great care in the construction of each novel, but she has also commented on the role of the reader in the construction of meaning. In fact, in one interview, Morrison says, "[r]e make the story appear oral, meandering, effortless, spoken — to have the reader *feel* the narrator without *identifying* that narrator, or hearing him or her knock about, and to have the reader work with the author in the construction of the book — is what's important. What is left out is as important as what is there."<sup>2</sup> Indeed, as readers have attempted to explicate, analyze, critique, and evaluate Toni Morrison's writing, some have lamented about the challenges her novels pose for the reader, while others take pride in filling in the hermeneutic gaps with the historical, cultural, and political meanings they believe her stories invoke. To assess the significance of Morrison's novels, it is critical to interrogate how her narrative aesthetic

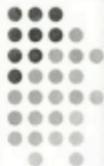
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# Mississippi MUD: Muses Under Development



Copiah-Lincoln Community College  
Natchez

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# The Connection



*& California  
State University  
Northridge &  
Natchez*

The 2004 Biennial Historic Natchez Conference is pleased to welcome New York Life Insurance Company as the sole corporate sponsor of the conference. This new aspect of the conference is rooted in the special connection between New York Life, California State University-Northridge, and the Natchez Community.

Professor Ronald L. F. Davis of CSUN introduced the rich historic resources of Natchez to New York Life in support of its two prize-winning educational web sites on the history of Slavery ([www.slaveryinamerica.org](http://www.slaveryinamerica.org)) and the history of Jim Crow. ([www.jimcrowhistory.org](http://www.jimcrowhistory.org)) These web sites, which are aimed at enhancing and extending the teaching about slavery and the Jim Crow era in schools nationwide, are the most complete set of educational resources on these important topics available on line to educators and the public. Created by Tim Hallinan and Kathy Honda (the education consultants employed by NYLife), in collaboration with Professor Davis, the web sites offer a wide array of teaching materials and innovative educational resources, including interactive experiences, lesson plans, maps, literature and art components, and in-depth historical essays.

These web sites complement two amazing documentaries also underwritten by New York Life. The first program is a four part Thirteen/WNET New York series, entitled *The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow*, that was broadcast in 2002-2003 on PBS. The second series, called *Slavery in America*, is now in production and is scheduled to be shown on PBS in fall 2004.

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# LOUISIANA MUD PAINTING



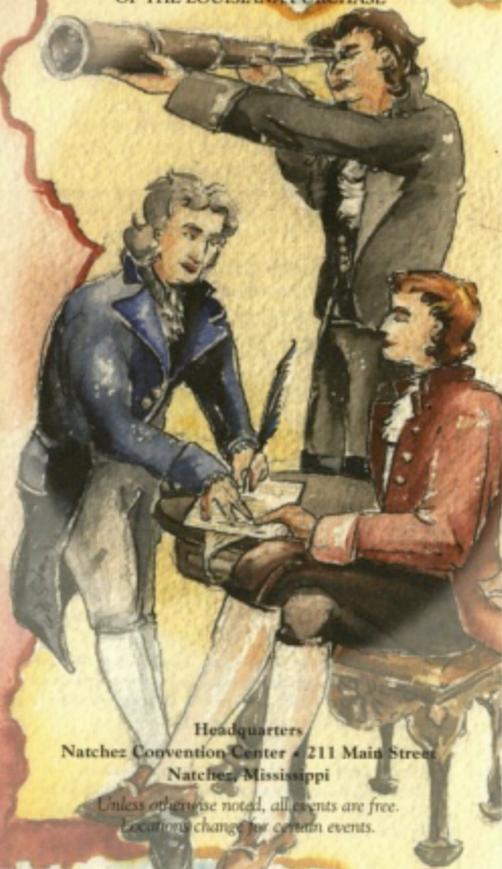
J. K. ...  
LOUISIANA MUD PAINTING  
NE 206 ©

The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual NATCHEZ  
LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION  
NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI  
FEBRUARY 19-23, 2003

PRESENTS

## EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY THEN AND NOW

SALUTING THE BICENTENNIAL  
OF THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE

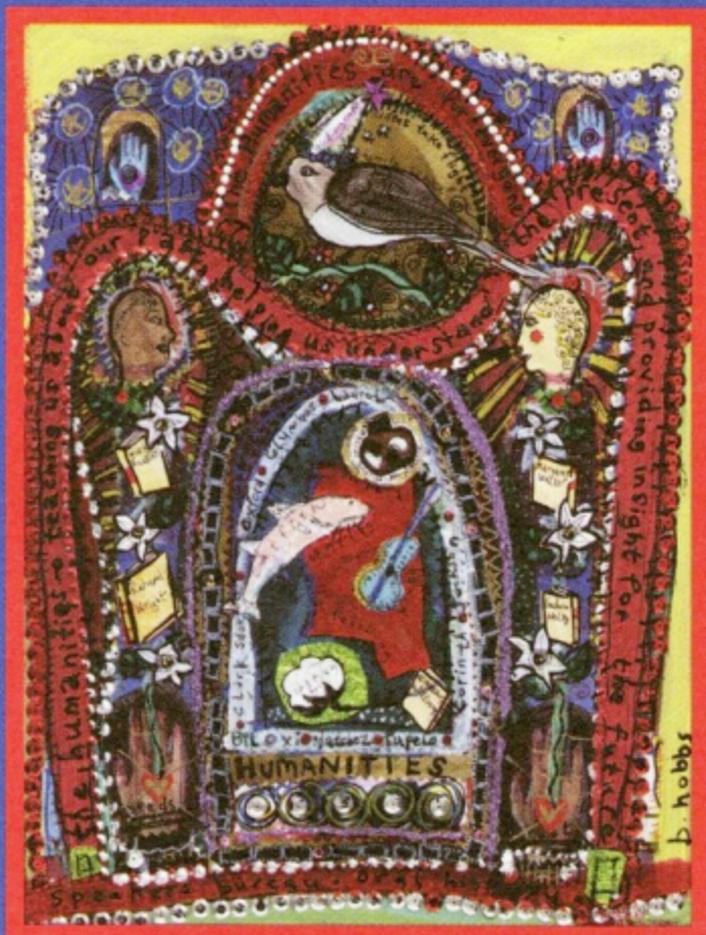


Headquarters  
Natchez Convention Center • 211 Main Street  
Natchez, Mississippi

Unless otherwise noted, all events are free.  
Locations change for certain events.

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# Mississippi Humanities Council



## 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

For its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Mississippi Humanities Council is planning a year-long celebration beginning in May, 2002.

☀ Visit our new web page!  
[www.ihl.state.ms.us/mhc/index.html](http://www.ihl.state.ms.us/mhc/index.html)

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## TO CHARLOTTE OSGOOD MASON

43 W. 66<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York City  
June 4, 1931.

Darling Godmother,

Sitting here at work, I turned a phrase or two that pleased me and I naturally began to think that you were here with me, pulling for me and hurrying me on.

Miss Grace Mott Johnson, who is a minor sculptress, has invited me to spend a week up state with her.<sup>1</sup> It is very quiet there at Pleasantville she says and she also has a place at Bedford Hills. It sounds pleasant to me, for I want to do some most intensive work in the next month and they are tearing up 66<sup>th</sup> street and the noise is awful. Besides, other things make New York unpleasant to me at times, so that I am truly disorganized for short periods.

I don't see, really, how this month I can make the \$100.00 do. I think by July 1<sup>st</sup> I can make some arrangements that will help tide me over. I fully appreciate the present economic situation. You have been most magnificent and generous to me in every way. Please don't think I shall feel, now that things are such that you must curtail, that I shall forget your absolute spontaneity in giving me. Personally, I feel that it has all been to good purpose and that I shall succeed. Even if you feel that you can do nothing for me anymore in a material way, I shall know that you are behind me, and taking me on your wings when you soar with the High Gods in Space; that your love is sustaining me.

Most devotedly your  
Zora.

<sup>1</sup>Sculptor and civil rights activist; see glossary.

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## JUDITH SARGENT MURRAY

Judith Sargent Murray (1751-1820) is considered America's first public champion of women's equality, female education, and economic independence. A largely self-educated writer of considerable skill, her literary career included essays, poetry and plays on these and other subjects.

Writing under assumed names so her ideas would be considered and not dismissed, Judith Sargent Murray's work appeared in the "popular prints" in Massachusetts. Her plays were performed in Boston's Federal Street Theatre, making Judith the first American to be so honored. She published her landmark book, "The Gleaner," in 1798, selling advance subscriptions to such leading citizens as George Washington, John Adams, Henry Knox, and Mercy Otis Warren. "The Gleaner" secured her place among early American writers and advocates for women's rights.

Like her father, Winthrop Sargent, Judith Sargent Murray from a very young age embraced the Universalist interpretation of scripture. Throughout her life, Judith Sargent Murray's faith played a central, defining role in her character and her work.

In 1817, Judith accompanied her daughter to Natchez and settled on Oak Point Plantation (what is now the site of Copiah-Lincoln Community College). She no doubt enjoyed the proximity to her brother, Winthrop (who had been Mississippi Territorial Governor), and the Sargent children she had helped raise who were now settled in Natchez. But her health deteriorated.

On June 9, 1820, Judith Sargent Murray died in Natchez and was buried in the Bingham family plot at Fatherland. Julia Maria engraved on her mother's grave stone, "Dear Spirit, the monumental stone can never speak thy worth."

— The Judith Sargent Murray Society

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### Cover Portrait

John Singleton Copley

Portrait of Mrs. John Stevens (Judith Sargent, later Mrs. John Murray) 1770 - 1772 oil on canvas 50 x 40 inches Terra Foundation for the Arts, Daniel J. Terra Art Acquisition Endowment Fund 2000.6 Photography courtesy of Terra Foundation for the Arts

COPIAH-LINCOLN  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI  
FEBRUARY 19, 2003

WELCOME

**DR. RONALD E. NETTLES**

DEAN, NATCHEZ CAMPUS

COMMENTS

**DR. HOWELL C. GARNER**

PRESIDENT, COPIAH-LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

REMARKS AND DEDICATION

**MR. JIM WIGGINS**

INSTRUCTOR, COPIAH-LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

CLOSING COMMENTS

**DR. RONALD E. NETTLES**

NATCHEZ CAMPUS DEAN

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## WORKSHOP: Exploring and Rediscovering Richard Wright (1908-1960)

**Reading the Primary Works**Uncle Tom's Children (1938)Native Son (1940)The Outsider (1953)Savage Holiday (1954)The Long Dream (1958)Eight Men (1961)Lawd Today! (c.1935; pub 1963)Rite of Passage (1994)Haiku: This Other World (1998)Twelve Million Black Voices (1941)Black Boy (1945)Black Power (1954)The Color Curtain (1956)Pagan Spain (1957)White Man, Listen! (1957)American Hunger (1977)**Teaching the Art and Social Criticism**short story/ folk psychology  
20<sup>th</sup> century South

urban novel/ naturalism

urban novel/social realism \*

psychoanalytic fictions

Southern novel

short stories

modernism/folklore

novella and revisions

poetry

photo documentary

autobiography

travelogue

travelogue

travelogue

political essays

autobiography

**Studying the Lessons**documentation of American  
unrest

the urban matrix

existentialism/crime and  
psychological disorders

Freud/criminality

fathers and sons

representative types

James Joyce and time

gangs

Eastern poetic form

uses of history

location of the self

colonialism / independence

Third World politics

Catholicism/fascism/  
pagan rootsprophecy/terrible costs  
of not listening

critique of myth

Rediscovering Richard Wright engenders rediscovery of history, modes of artistic representation, the nature of propaganda, violence, aesthetics of blues and jazz, folklife and folklore, vernacular traditions, displacement of communism with rampant struggles for power, alienation, nihilism, literature and literacy, refusal to engage the existential questions in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, family and society, and our indebtedness to other writers Faulkner, Ellison, Welty, Baldwin, Sartre, Hughes, Dostoyevsky, Joyce, Camus, Plato

## CATALOG

### Rare Maps and Books Documenting the Early History of the Lower Mississippi River Valley and Natchez Region.

From the Collection of Joseph B. Stone

Wednesday, February 19, 2003  
4:30 - 7:30 pm

Joseph Newman Stone House  
804 Washington Street  
Natchez, MS 39120

(601) 445-7466

Email: [josephstone@earthlink.net](mailto:josephstone@earthlink.net)

Announcer of Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration  
"EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY THEN AND NOW"  
Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase  
[www.colts.edu/nlcc](http://www.colts.edu/nlcc)

## ENTRY HALL

1. **Montanus, Petrus / Ogilby, John.** *America. American, 1671.* This copperplate engraved title page is from the 1671 edition of Montanus-Ogilby's *De Minore an Orbemunde* *World*.
2. **Münster, Sebastian.** *Novae Tabulae. East, 1667/1671.* First appearing in 1540, this wood block print is the first map of much significance dedicated to the Western Hemisphere, clearly showing it as a separate land mass, with continuity between the northern and southern continents. The Yucatan is shown as an island, and Japan (Jipangu) is located not very far off the west coast of North America. *Mare Pacificum* appears for the first time on a printed map, with a depiction of Magellan's ship in it. Exploration had been more focused on South America at the time this map was first issued, which helps account for the inaccurate shape of the North American continent as seen here. This map also contributed to the permanency of labeling the two continents 'America', as it was reissued numerous times for over sixty years. This specimen is the thirteenth state, from a Latin edition of Münster's *Geographia*. Latin text on verso. MS: BOSTON, THE MAPS OF NORTH AMERICA (1606-1670); THE MAPS OF AMERICA.
3. **Le Page du Pratz, Antoine.** *HISTOIRE DE LA LOUISIANE.* Paris, Chez De Bure, La Vierge Delaguettes, Lambert, 1733. First edition. Three volumes. Du Pratz arrived at the Gulf of Mexico in 1718, reached New Orleans by 1719, and moved to Natchez around 1721, where he resided for eight years during the very first period of settlement by the French, bearing witness to the history that led to the assimilation of the Natchez tribe by the French. His observations were astute and thorough, covering the climate and soils of the region, animal and plant life, natives' dress, customs, and even speculating on their origins. This was the first comprehensive study of lower Louisiana, although the first edition was not printed until 1733. Du Pratz takes credit for the two maps and the plans of New Orleans. The first map, being the largest one, is by the author of the *History of this province* and is dated 1737. However, by this late date, more accurate maps of this region had been issued, particularly in France by Guillaume de l'Isle, whose map *Carte de la Louisiane et de la Course du Mississippi* first issued in 1718, set a new standard for the mapping of the entire Mississippi River basin. MS: MANLEY P. ARTHUR, POSSESSOR FROM THE OFFICE OF GOVERNOR (After United States printing (1841) of de Pratz.); DUDLEY, THE MAPS OF AMERICA.
4. **Monsieu, Edouard de.** *Vue d'un village a six milles des Natchez.* Paris, 1811. Drawn and lithographed by Montale (Deseo, et litho, par Fil du Montale), this charming depiction of Natchez Under the Hill was published in 1821 in *Voyage en Amérique, en Italie, en Sicile et en Egypte, pendant les Années 1816, 1817, 1818, et 1819* by Montale. It was in 1817 that Montale visited Natchez, the year that Mississippi gained statehood. Montale wrote: *The city of Natchez is a mile in the interior, and behind an eminence, I was going to my mountain, as elevated all this locality of about one hundred feet appear to me, after the low country of Southern Louisiana. Having ascended the Spanish fort, a more expanded and superb prospect presented itself, on account of the varied windings which the Mississippi presented to my view. I then visited the city, consisting about three hundred houses; it is as yet in its infancy, but buildings are crowding in all directions. It is as well arranged as the inequality of the soil upon which it stands will admit since it occupies the summits of several small hills, which give it a very picturesque effect. The population consists for the most part of Anglo-Americans, although some Germans and French are to be found.* MS: MAP, CIVILS OF THE MISSISSIPPI.
5. **Perry, Frederick.** *Natchez.* Copperpl. 1865. Drawn by Frederick Perry, engraved by Charles Fenn, this steel engraving of the Malls of Natchez is extracted from *Route from*

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See photo  
With the help of a few volunteers, it was a clean sweep for the downtown streets of Natchez Tuesday. Volunteers, from left, Anne Shavers Rademeyer, John Goodrich and James Goodrich help city and shaping the footage along Main Street in preparation for visitors to the Literary and Cinema Celebration.



# Literary, Cinema Celebration covers new ground

By NITA MCCANN 2-19-03  
The Natchez Democrat

**NATCHEZ** — From appearances by actor, screenwriter, producer and director Billy Bob Thornton to the premiere of a film on blues great B.B. King, Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration is covering new ground this year.

Thornton will be in Natchez Saturday to accept the Horton Poole Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing for, among other films, the Academy Award-winning "Sling Blade."

The 6 p.m. awards ceremony will be

## Natchez

### Inside

• Look for a pull-out guide to this year's Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration inside today's edition.

held at the Natchez Convention Center. A showing of "Sling Blade" — and a panel discussion, to be led by Thornton, following the film — will then be held at the Natchez Community Center.

Both events are free and open to the public.

Others to be honored at the ceremony

will include authors T.R. Hummer of Athens, Ga., and Clifton Taulbert of Tulsa, Okla., this year's recipients of the Richard Wright Literary Awards.

Hummer is the author of "Useless Virtues," "Wah Whittman in Hell," "The 18,000-Ton Olympic Dream," "Lower-Class Hermy" and other books of poetry and serves as editor of the Georgia Review.

Taulbert is the author of "Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored," "The Last Train North," "The Journey Home," "Eight Habits of the Heart"

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## Literary

2-19-03

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and "Separate but Equal," among other books.

Hundreds are expected to attend the 14th annual celebration, "and they'll see a lot that's new this year," said Carolyn Vance Smith, one of the event's co-organizers. "Every year, we make it as fresh as we can."

Perhaps that's appropriate, given the event's theme — "Exploration and Discovery Then and Now: Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase."

New highlights include the location, the Natchez Convention Center, "a beautiful location, and state-of-the-art," Smith said.

Also this year, the celebration will name its writing workshop in honor of Ellen Douglas — actually the pen name of author Josephine Haxton of Natchez and Jackson.

A naming ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, which has been proclaimed Ellen Douglas Day in Natchez. That will be followed by a presentation and book signing by Douglas herself.

The workshops themselves will be held Sunday. For only the second time in the event's history — the first being Nat. cc native and author Richard Wright — historic markers will be unveiled in honor of two important figures in Natchez history.

Those to be honored include writer and women's rights organizer Judith Sargent Murray and Round

Flowing Byrnes, who spearheaded efforts to create the Natchez Trace Parkway.

On Friday — William Winter Day in Natchez — the former governor and NLCC supporter will be honored with an 80th birthday party at 9 p.m. at the convention center.

That will follow the 8 p.m. premiere of the documentary "B.B. King Homecoming," also at the convention center.

Other highlights will include:

- A pre-conference seminar on Southern authors starting at 8:15 a.m. today at Copiah-Lincoln Community College's Natchez campus. The cost is \$25.
  - A special preview of the film "Louisiana — A History," at 8 p.m. today.
  - A reception honoring NLCC speakers from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Thursday at the Natchez Museum of Afro-American History and Culture. The cost is \$10.
  - "Music at the Time of the Louisiana Purchase," a concert by the St. Joseph Orchestra Ensemble, at 8 p.m. Thursday.
  - Special panel discussions at Natchez High School and, for the first time, at Co-Lin, for students only.
- All events are free and are being held at the convention center, unless otherwise stated.

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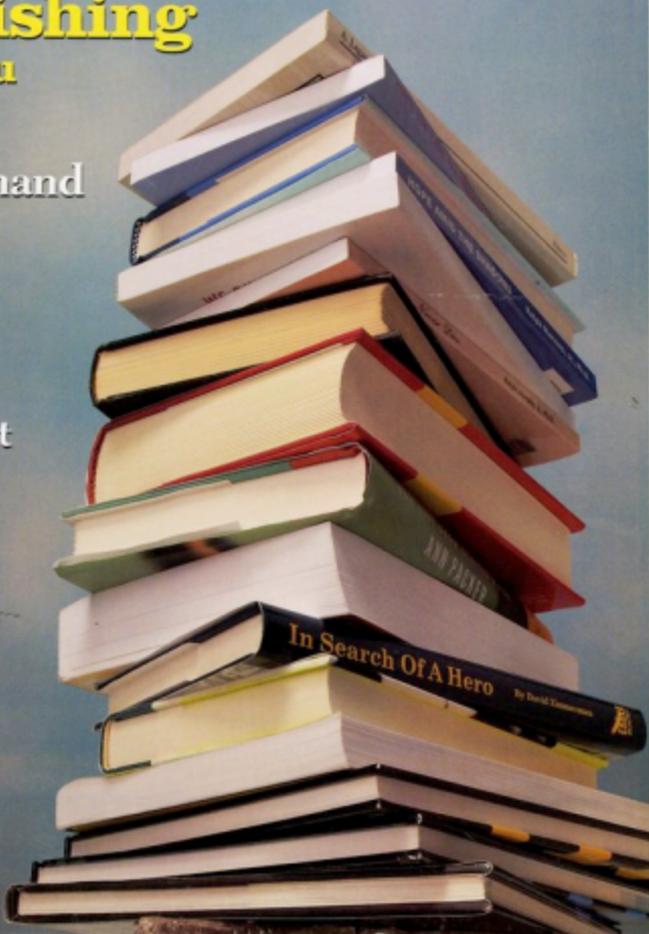
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# Mississippi History NEWSLETTER

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February 2003

## Rare Elvis Photographs at Old Capitol Museum

Visitors to the Old Capitol Museum will have a chance to see never-before-exhibited photographs of Elvis Presley when

his swaggering prime here, and this would be the last time he would ever be filmed singing this aggressively and audaciously," writes critic Brad Laidman about the film. "Everyone says that *King Creole* was Elvis Presley's best film..."

In addition, every Saturday in February and March a video documentary, *Elvis '56*,

will be shown at 1:30 p.m. This 61-minute documentary spotlights Elvis's rise to stardom in 1956 and features footage from his appearance on the Ed Sullivan Show and other rare footage.

Jackson is the first stop for *ELVIS! Grace and Grit*, a traveling exhibit circulated by ARTVision Exhibitions, a company providing photographic exhibitions to museums worldwide. The exhibit runs through March 30, 2003. For more information, call the Old Capitol at 601/359-6920.

*ELVIS! Grace and Grit* opens Saturday, February 1. The twenty-nine candid and on-the-air photographs taken from the CBS archives document the young Elvis of the late 50s and early 60s.

A special preview party with light refreshments will be held on Friday, January 31, at 6:00 p.m. At 7:00 p.m. the Old Capitol Museum and Crossroads Film Society invite the public to a showing of *King Creole*, an Elvis movie of roughly the same vintage as the photos. "Elvis was in

## Pulitzer Prize Winner To Address MHS on "Power of Capitalism"

Mississippi Historical Society president David R. Bowen of Jackson announces that Corinth native **Thomas K. McCraw**, Pulitzer Prize winner and distinguished professor at the Harvard University Graduate School of Business, will be the Friday night banquet speaker at the Society's annual meeting in Jackson February 27-March 1. The title of his address is "Creative Destruction and the Power of Capitalism, 1900-1920."

The luncheon speaker will be **William C. Allen**, architectural historian of the United States Capitol. Allen, who started his career as an architectural historian at MDAH, will discuss the influence of the nation's capitol building on Mississippi's capitol. Participants will later tour the state capitol, guided by state capitol architectural historian Alison Hopton Davis, and then the newly restored War Memorial Building, guided by Hap Owen of CommArts, Jackson, designer of new exhibits for the

building, and Brig. Gen. Luke Goodwin, executive director, Mississippi National Guard Association.

Other speakers at the 2003 annual meeting will examine the political and social history of the early decades of the twentieth century: Chester "Bo" Morgan, Delta State University; Stephen Cresswell, West Virginia Wesleyan College; Corey T. Lesseig, Waycross College, Waycross, Georgia; and Connie T. Lester, Mississippi State University. In addition, John R. Neff, University of Mississippi, will speak on the topic of Franklin L. Riley, the Ole Miss professor responsible for the revitalization of the Society at the turn of the century.

A welcoming reception at the Governor's Mansion, the President's Reception, Awards Brunch, and more await those who attend the MHS annual meeting. To register, visit [mdah.state.ms.us](http://mdah.state.ms.us) or call 601/359-6850.

## Black History Month Programs

First- and fourth-grade classes from local and regional schools will travel to **Historic Jefferson College, Washington**, to learn about African American craftsman Nathan Bennett and the slave Ibrahima on Saturday, February 1, through Friday, February 28. Sessions are free. For more information call 601/442-2901.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, February 4 through 27, from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. to noon, fourth- through ninth-grade students can take advantage of Black History programs at the **Old Capitol Museum of Mississippi History, Jackson**. Reservations are required. For information, call 601/359-6920.

The 80th birthday of William F. Winter will be celebrated in events on February 20 at the Old Capitol: "The Future of Race in America" symposium at 2:30 p.m. and reception following at 4:00 p.m. The public is cordially invited.

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## Exploration and Discovery Then and Now

Solving the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase

Wednesday, February 29, 2003

### COPYLAND-LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

#### PRE-CONFERENCE SEMINAR, 8:15-10 p.m. (EST)

- "Exploring Frances Matthews' Authors"
- "Key Note (Historian)," Lillian Jones, Auburn State University, Lorman, Miss.
- "Historians of 'Common,'" Kelly Gerald, Mississippi Humanities Council, Jackson
- "Richard Wright," James Balkin, Auburn State University, Lorman, Miss.

#### SPECIAL EVENT 11:45 a.m.

Unveiling of Historic Marker (Honoring Judith Sargent Murray (1751-1820), with Remarks by James "Whiggin, Jr., Copyland-Lincoln Community College

#### MOCKEE CONVENTION CENTER

"Exploring and Discovering New Lands, 1803"

- 8 p.m. Conference Opening Ceremonies and Receptionists: Harold Gatten, Clinton Betsworth, J.L. "Hank" Smith III, Carolyn Vance Smith, Jackie Serrano, Jim Barnett, Ralph Patten, William Walter Scholten, NCCC Advisory Board Members, William and Marlene Vance Fellowship Recipients, and William F. White, NCCC, Director of Programming
- 1:15 p.m. "Theories on the Louisiana Purchase: Then and Now," Jim Riddie, A Historian to Interview: The Louisiana Purchase and the Death of America (Endorsing) and A Guide to the Piperno Stone Column (Napoleon's Profit for the Colony of Louisiana, and Director, French House Historical Foundation, Rockville, Md.
- 2:00 p.m. "Women Chosen Legation: The Louisiana Years," Alfred Lammiman, and "Charting the Louisiana Purchase," James White, The Historic New Orleans Collection
- 3:00 p.m. "The Empress Expedition: The Voyage of William Douglas and George Hunter into the Southern Louisiana Purchase," Larry Foley, University of Arkansas, with the Empress Expedition, a Documentary Film
- 8 p.m. "Before the Louisiana Purchase and Beyond," A Grand Review of Louisiana...A History, a Louisiana Public Broadcasting Documentary Film, with Commentaries by The Louisiana and All Oaking Co-Producers, and Charles Richard, Newspaper Writer Baton Rouge

Thursday, February 20, 2003

"Discovering through Fiction, Non-Fiction, Compendiums, and More"

- 9 a.m. "The Louisiana Purchase and the South," Elliot West, University of Arkansas, "New Orleans in 1803," John Lawrence, The Historic New Orleans Collection, "Wachos in 1803," Jack Elliott, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Nashville
- 11 a.m. "Creating Boundaries: Judith Sargent Murray and the Rights of Women," Stella Stamp, Judith Sargent Murray: A Brief Biography, The University of Mississippi
- 12:00 p.m. "An Affiliated Journey: Being a Black Country Girl," with Documentary Film, Carol Black, Moore, Copeland Williams, Carnegie Center, Louisiana, Mo.
- 2:45 p.m. Ceremony to Announce the Naming of the NCCC Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops, followed by "Read and Imagine: Places, Numbers, for Example," Ellen Douglas (Judith's House), Book, Five Stars, One Family Oil, Southerly 101 and A Family's Rights, Number and Jackson, Miss.
- 5:00-7 p.m. NATCHES MUSEUM OF AGRICULTURAL HISTORY AND CULTURE Reception Honoring NCCC Speakers (11)
- 8 p.m. "Mindy at the Time of the Louisiana Purchase," A Concert by The St. Joseph Band Orchestra, Natchez (11)

Friday, February 21, 2003

"Exploring and Discovering through Film, Fiction, Books, Architecture, and More"

- 9 a.m. "Exploration and Discovery Film That Appeal to All Ages," Susan Margolis, Emmy Award Winning Country for Women, with Showings of the Film, Salt Water Moon, Natchez, Miss.
- 10:15 a.m. "William Faulkner: Re-creating Southern Fiction," Donald Kestigian, University of Mississippi, with Readings from Faulkner's Works by Anna Gerald McRae, Los Angeles
- 12:00 p.m. CAMBRIDGE HOUSE AT STANFORD HALL (103) A Luncheon followed by "Deep Southern Follies," "Diane Williams, Aunt May jumps over the Moon, Mississippi Intermountain Guild, Madison, Miss.
- 8 p.m. "Meet Rex Reed," An Interview of Rex Reed, The New York Observer Film Critic, New York, by Robert Ross, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro

1-3:00 p.m. "Historical of Documental Movies," A Guided Walking Tour Celebrating the Bicentennial of Number's Incorporation in 1801 (140) with View of Gloucester Harbor House in 1794, King's Tavern in 1794, South (Pine Island) 1970) with the Film The Market South Experience, and Exhibitions and Exhibits on Judge George W. Armstrong Library

8 p.m. "B.B. King Remembering," A Premier Showing of a Documentary Film by Mississippi Educational Broadcasting with Remarks by Marie Annan, MEB Executive Director, Jackson

Saturday, February 22, 2003

"Exploring and Discovering Fact, Film, and Poetry"

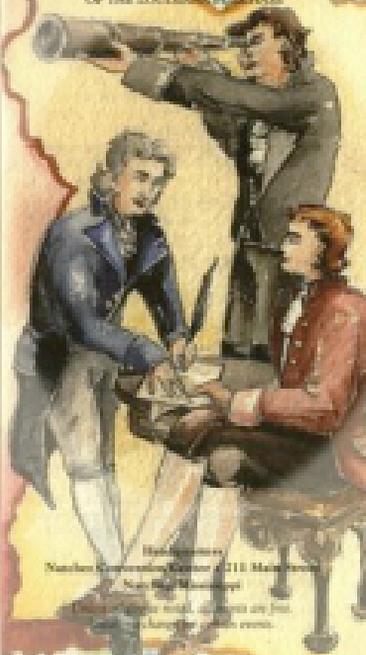
- 9 a.m. "Hank of the Love House: An Obedient's Story," Edward Cohen, The Obedient's Chronicle: Growing Up Jewish in Mississippi and The Market South Experience, Natchez, Miss.
- 10:15 a.m. "John Ford Goes to War: A Documentary Film," Thomas Thomson, Florence, Louisiana, La.
- 1 p.m. "Don't They 'March' wither Ladies: An American Hero," Clay S. Jenkins, Five Stars Intergroup and Cultural Communications, Baton Rouge
- Post-Show "March wither Ladies: March or Stride?" Clay S. Jenkins and John-Fred Gates, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg
- 8 p.m. "Home-Finding Borneo's Legacy: The Market South Parkway," Stella Patten, Stone-Finding Street: A Biography, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
- 8 p.m. "The Evening with the Stars," An Award Ceremony Co-chaired by William F. White, Donald McHenry, and David L. Seating, University of Mississippi
- Richard Wright Literary Excellence Awards
- T.R. Shannon, Golden Moon, Still Whispers in Still Poems, The 10,000-Is-Gone/ Dream Poems, Lower Class Hero, Atlanta, Ga.
  - Clifton Ruffner, Clay's Love: A True When It Was Colored, The Last Time, Natchez, The Journey Home, Eight Colors of the Heart, McRae/Mail, The Letter's Poems, Tulsa, Okla.
- Harris Crow Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing
- Billy Bob Thornton, They Shook, One Film Miss., A Family Thing, Hot Springs, Ark., and Los Angeles

The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual NATCHES LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION NATCHES, MISSISSIPPI FEBRUARY 19-21, 2003

PRESENTS

## EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY THEN AND NOW

SOLVING THE BICENTENNIAL  
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