Kentucky Humanities Council

Speakers Bureau 1994-1995

Still free in all 120 counties!

Nancy Sherburne as Mary Todd Lincoln
(See page 6)

Photo by Ron Garrison
Lexington Herald-Leader
Welcome to the ninth edition of the Kentucky Humanities Council Speakers Bureau catalog!

In these pages you'll find 46 speakers and more than 100 topics to choose from. In our Featured Speakers section there are eight new faces (along with plenty of old favorites): historian Lance Banning, folklorist Erika Brady, anthropologist Kelli Carmean, former CBS News correspondent David Dick, economist Gilbert Mathis, media expert Roy Moore, author David Searles, and living history presenter Kemba Webb. Major new topics in this year’s catalog include Kentucky folk medicine, Maya royalty, the exciting times (and calm reflections) of a network newsman, media ethics, the legendary educator Alice Lloyd, underground railroad leader Harriet Tubman, and conversations between those two brilliant Virginians, Jefferson and Madison.

The KHC Speakers Bureau offers enlightening and entertaining programs for almost any need. We hope you enjoy this catalog and we look forward to hearing from you.

Important points to remember about the Speakers Bureau:

▶ The Speakers Bureau is available, FREE, to nonprofit, out-of-school adult community groups anywhere in Kentucky. An audience of at least 20 adults is preferred.

▶ The Speakers Bureau is not available for classroom or student programs or to college sponsors.

▶ An organization is limited to three Speakers Bureau programs a year (August through July). Admission to Speakers Bureau programs must be free, although donations may be requested.

▶ KHC pays each speaker’s honorarium and travel directly. Sponsors are responsible for overnight accommodations, if needed.

▶ All speakers in the Featured Speakers section will travel statewide. Those listed under More Speakers may, as noted in the listings, restrict their travel to certain regions.

▶ Speakers Bureau funding runs out quickly, usually by January 1. Please apply early, even for programs late in the funding period. Application instructions and forms are at the back of this catalog.

▶ If you have questions or problems, please call Beth Church at the Kentucky Humanities Council, 606/257-5932.
Racing's African American Pioneers

Winners: The African American Tradition in Thoroughbred Racing

African Americans played an instrumental role in the early development of the Thoroughbred industry. Badejo (Bad-uh-joe) offers exciting new information from her own research about the role of African Americans in the sport of kings.

Microphone; carousel slide projector with remote control, screen.

Culture and Continuity: An African World Example

This talk, illustrated with slides, emphasizes the dynamic nature of African culture, both at home and as it has branched out into the Caribbean and the United States. Badejo highlights the arts, world views, and sports.

Microphone; carousel slide projector with remote control, screen.

Poetry from the African World: A Reading and Creative Workshop

During this lecture-performance, Badejo introduces and gives dramatic interpretations of poetry and oral literature from the African world in America, the Caribbean, and continental Africa. She also invites audience members to read their own works and talk about creative writing.

Microphone.

Conversations from the Founding

Jefferson, Madison, and Bills of Rights

A bill of rights has uses and limitations in a liberal republic. In this talk, Banning uses their letters to recount the conversation between Thomas Jefferson and James Madison over the advisability of adding a Bill of Rights to the newly ratified American constitution.

Lectern (with microphone for large gatherings).

The Earth Belongs to the Living

Beginning with Jefferson's famous letter on the rights of living generations, and Madison's reply, Banning examines the views of the Virginia founders on issues we are still grappling with — national debts, the proper distribution of property in a republic, and relationships between generations.

Lectern (with microphone for large gatherings).

Public Spirit

What are the requirements of citizenship and statesmanship in a republic? To Jefferson, Madison, and other founding fathers, this was an important question and they discussed it often. Banning reports on some of their answers.

Lectern (with microphone for large gatherings).
ACURE FOR WHAT AILS YOU

For Every Ill, A Cure: Kentucky Folk Medicine, Yesterday and Today

Folk medicine is not a relic of the past. It’s still very much with us, even in this age of modern medical miracles. Many folk cures have proven scientific validity, and those that don’t can still tell us a great deal about a community’s attitude toward sickness and health. Brady will talk about the cultural aspects of folk medicine, with emphasis on past and present practices in Kentucky.

Lectern with microphone; table to display folk medicine items (optional).

The Fruit of the Family Tree: Harvesting Your Family Folklore

Just as every community or culture has folklore and folkways reflecting its history and values, so too does every family! In this talk, Brady will explore the meaning and importance of family folklore and suggest ways audience members can evaluate and document their own families’ folklore.

Lectern with microphone.

PALACE LIFE: PRIVILEGE AND PAIN

Kings and Queens of the Ancient Maya

Like royalty in any culture, the kings and queens of the ancient Maya were pampered: luxurious palaces, special foods, and many other privileges. But along with the pampering came pain. To keep the gods happy, Maya royalty had to periodically supply their own blood as a sacrifice. Relying in part on her own work at archaeological sites in Mexico, Carmean gives a vivid account, illustrated with slides, of life in a Maya palace.

Carousel slide projector with remote control, screen.

Sayil: Life in an Ancient Maya City

From 800 to 1,000 AD, Sayil was a thriving Maya city with nearly 10,000 inhabitants. Carmean, who has studied Sayil’s impressive ruins on Mexico’s Yucatan Peninsula, describes how residents worked and played in a city where rainfall supplied the only water and most people scratched out a living growing corn. Illustrated with slides.

Carousel slide projector with remote control, screen.
Hallmarks of Kentucky Culture

The Derby: A Celebration of Kentucky and its Heritage
Claypool traces the origins and development of the Kentucky Derby, the world’s most famous horse race and a strong influence on Kentucky society and culture. He will use memorabilia collected during his 40-year passion for the race.
Lectern; half-inch VCR with monitor (speaker can supply if necessary).

Kentucky and Music: In Perfect Harmony
From John Jacob Niles to the Everly Brothers, Kentuckians are recognized worldwide for their contributions in music. Claypool will use recorded songs and interviews to explore the variety and depth of Kentucky’s musical heritage. This program can be tailored to fit the tastes of groups with a special interest in certain performers or types of music.
Lectern; electrical outlets for audio and video equipment.

FOLLOWING THE STORM...COMING HOME

Follow the Storm: Jonestown and Other Close Calls
David Dick, inducted into the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame in 1987, escaped death at Jonestown by arriving one day late. The 1978 tragedy, which took more than 900 lives, is just one of the fascinating stories Dick will reflect on in this talk covering his Emmy-winning career as a CBS News correspondent.
Lectern with microphone; half-inch VCR with monitor.

The View from Plum Lick
It’s been said you can’t go home again, but after a globetrotting career as a reporter, David Dick did it. In this talk based on his first book, The View from Plum Lick, Dick celebrates the land and people of his native Bluegrass.
Lectern with microphone.

Peace at the Center
This talk is based on Peace at the Center, Dick’s latest book. The title is a Quaker expression meaning inner contentment and individual strength. It can be found, Dick believes, in an approach to life he calls “modern agrarianism.”
Lectern with microphone.
YOUR MONEY: HOW THEY SPEND IT

The Role of Government in Financing Public Goods and Services

The joke says that nobody should see sausages or laws being made. Mathis ignores the warning as he gives his audience a close look at the origin and development of public finance — the often messy mechanism government uses to turn your tax dollars into the goods and services citizens need. In a clear and entertaining way, he examines the federal budget and the major philosophies that shape it, plus the balanced budget amendment, the line item veto, and other proposals for changing the way the government taxes and spends.

Lectern; tripod for charts.

From Dump & Burn to PIK & ROLL: 60 Years of American Farm Policy

In this talk Mathis reviews the dizzying parade of American farm policies over the past sixty years and how they have affected farmers, consumers, and taxpayers. He will also discuss the international role of agricultural policy in the post-Cold War era.

Lectern; tripod for charts.

FOLK TALES: THE STORIES WE LIVE BY

Kentucky Ghosts

Any ghosts here? Could be, because Kentucky folklore is full of stories about the return of the dead as ghosts. Montell tells Kentucky ghost stories and examines common beliefs and changes in attitudes toward ghosts.

Lectern with microphone.

Sense of Place in Kentucky

Current residents of Kentucky, as well as Kentuckians who have moved away from the state, have an especially strong sense of place. Montell says they maintain this sense through the repeated telling of stories and legends about the state, their families, and old home communities. In this talk, he uses numerous examples to reveal how narratives nurture generational continuity and sense of place among Kentuckians, wherever they may be.

Lectern with microphone.
THE MEDIA: DO THEY GO TOO FAR?

Media Ethics: Drawing the Line
A reporter fabricates a story...a magazine publishes a doctored photo...a television news program passes off a rigged event as spontaneous news...what used to be called gossip fills the front pages and the airwaves. Are these flukes, or have the ethical standards of the news media slipped? Roy Moore explores this question, and considers whether better codes of ethics would help.
Half-inch VCR with monitor; overhead projector (optional).

From Reality to Virtual Reality: Mass Media and Mass Culture
In this talk, Moore examines the new reality created by the mass media. How does this new reality affect our cultural norms and values? Does TV violence cause real-life violence? Will new forms of mass communication make museums and live performances obsolete? Where, in short, does the information highway lead, and will we like it when we get there?
Half-inch VCR with monitor; overhead projector (optional).

ALICE LLOYD: A LASTING LEGACY

Alice Lloyd and Her College in Appalachia
Alice Lloyd College in Pippa Passes is still educating Appalachian youth more than 70 years after Alice Lloyd founded it. Searles, whose book on Alice Lloyd will be published in 1995 by the University Press of Kentucky, tells the inspiring story of the determined social reformer from New England who arrived in Kentucky early in the 20th century and never left. He also defends Lloyd and other reformers against the charge that they created more problems than they solved.
Lectern with microphone.

Three Decades of the Peace Corps
Since its founding in 1961, the Peace Corps has profoundly affected the lives of the 150,000 Americans who served in it, as well as the lives of the millions of people they have helped in the Third World. Searles, who served as deputy director of the Peace Corps in the mid-70s, tells the story of an institution whose appeal and staying power are remarkable.
Lectern with microphone.
HEALTH CARE: AN HISTORICAL DIAGNOSIS

In Critical Condition: Historical Origins of Our Health Care Crisis
The contemporary crisis in health care did not develop overnight. In this talk, Share examines the historical roots of the problem and reviews the changes that have revolutionized medicine and health care over the past century.
Lectern.

V was for Victory: World War II's Impact on American Society
The fiftieth anniversary of the culmination of World War II has prompted much reflection about this world-shaking event. Share reviews the extraordinary impact World War II had on American society — it changed so much.
Lectern.

Back to the Future: Visions of the 1990s from People of the 1890s
In the early 1890s, prominent Americans were asked to predict what life would be like in the 1990s. Share places their predictions — occasionally accurate, often amusing — in the context of the incredible changes that have transformed American life during the past 100 years.
Lectern.

WOMEN OF GREAT REPUTE

True and Honorable Wife: Mary Todd Lincoln's Story
Confined in a sanitarium by her son, Robert, less than ten years after her husband's assassination, Mary Todd Lincoln relives the critical events in her life and marriage to Abraham Lincoln. Nancy Sherburne portrays Mary Todd Lincoln in this one-woman play by novelist James Sherburne. An audience discussion with the actress and the playwright follows this Kentucky Chautauqua presentation.
Playing area ten feet wide by eight feet deep; folding chair; changing room.

A House by the Side of the Road: Belle Brezing's Story
Belle Brezing, the madam of Lexington's finest disorderly house, was said to be the prototype for Belle Watling in Gone with the Wind. In this one-woman play by James Sherburne, Nancy Sherburne portrays Brezing in retirement, looking back on the triumphs and tragedies of her life. An audience discussion with the actress and the playwright follows this Kentucky Chautauqua presentation.
Playing area ten feet wide by eight feet deep; folding chair; changing room.
THE QUESTION OF EVIL

Wrestling the Whirlwind: Recent Perspectives on the Problem of Evil

Attempting to reconcile the coexistence of divine power and human suffering is one of the oldest dilemmas in philosophy. In this non-technical talk, Shields surveys, and critiques, the “solutions” that have dominated recent philosophical discussions of the problem of the compatibility of God and evil.

God and Recent Cosmology

Recent theories about the origins and nature of the universe have intriguing implications for time-honored questions about the meaning of human existence, human destiny, and the nature and existence of God. Using an approach that is non-technical, non-doctrinaire, and critical, Shields will review the latest developments in physical cosmology.

WOMEN STRONG AND BLACK

Harriet Tubman: The Moses of Her People

Born into slavery, Harriet Tubman escaped to the north and became a legendary conductor on the underground railroad. She secretly returned to the South many times, leading hundreds of slaves to freedom, and worked tirelessly for abolition. Webb’s dramatic portrayal of Tubman features full costume and spirituals.

Mary McLeod Bethune: Education is the Key

Convinced that education is the difference between the haves and have-nots, Mary Bethune devoted her life to educating African Americans. She founded what is now Bethune-Cookman College, and served as an adviser to President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The photo at right shows Kemba Webb as Bethune.

Sojourner Truth: “And Ain’t I A Woman?”

A former slave named Isabella renamed herself Sojourner Truth in 1843 and soon won fame as a traveling orator. Her riveting speeches — “And Ain’t I a Woman?” was one of the most famous — combined religion, abolitionism, and feminism. Webb’s portrayal is spiced with singing.
Speakers on these pages are also available through the Speakers Bureau. For those whose travel is regional, please see the map on page 11.

When you call these speakers, be sure to ask about equipment they may need, such as a lectern, microphone, slide projector, or VCR. Daytime telephone number is listed first.

ADAMS, BRUCE F., Department of History, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY 40292. Travel: Statewide. 502/852-6817.

- Joking Your Way Through Soviet History
- Russia Today: Daily Life and Politics

BAIRD, NANCY, Kentucky Library, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY 42101. Travel: Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8. 502/745-6263.

- Enid Yandell: Kentucky Sculptor
- Kentucky Women Remembered: Vignettes of Kentucky Women

BERGMAN, CHRISTOPHER A., 3D/Environmental, 781 Neeb Road, Cincinnati, OH 45233. Travel: Region 5. 513/922-8199.

- Early Archery: A Technological and Functional Perspective

CLARK, THOMAS D., 248 Tahoma Road, Lexington, KY 40503. Travel: Regions 1, 2, 3, 4. 606/277-5303.

- Kentuckians Who Made a Difference in the State and Nation
- Kentucky Looks Back on the Twentieth Century

COMBS, JOHN R., English Department, Kentucky Wesleyan College, Owensboro, KY 42302-1039. Travel: Statewide. 502/926-3111; 502/685-3093.

- Comic Strip Theology
- Humor in Healing

CRAIG, BERRY F., Paducah Community College, PO Box 7380, Paducah, KY 42002-7380. Travel: Regions 1, 2, 3, 4. 502/554-9200, Ext. 177.

- Len G. Faxon, Kentucky’s “Rebelest” Editor
- Stovepipe Johnson and the Great Newburgh Raid of 1862

CROWE-CARRACO, CAROL, History Department, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY 42101. Travel: Statewide. 502/745-5728; 502/842-8804.

- Images of Kentucky: Foreign Travellers View the Bluegrass State
- Mary Breckinridge: Angel on Horseback (Kentucky Chautauqua)

DEW, LEE A., History Department, Kentucky Wesleyan College, Owensboro, KY 42302. Travel: Statewide. 502/926-3111; 502/685-2034.

- The Ohio River: Highway to the West
- Kentucky Courthouses: Keys to Our Past

EADES, RONALD W., School of Law, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY 40292. Travel: Region 3. 502/852-5563.

- Church and State in the United States
- Freedom of Speech in the United States

GIFFORD, JAMES M., 2434 Boone Street, Ashland, KY 41114. Travel: Statewide. 606/329-5232.

- Appalachian Humor
HALFORD, B. ANDREW, Paducah Community College, Box 7380, Paducah, KY 42002-7380. Travel: Regions 1, 2, 3, 6. 502/554-6279; 502/444-6065.

- Jesse Stuart: The Man and His Books
- Irvin S. Cobb: Fifty Years After His Death in 1944
- Last Will & Testament: What Irvin Cobb’s Wishes Revealed About Him

HARDIN, JOHN A., Department of History, Western Kentucky University, 1 Big Red Way, Bowling Green, KY 42101. Travel: Regions 3, 4, 6. 502/745-6522.

- Black Private Colleges in Kentucky
- Kentucky’s African-American Leaders in the Twentieth Century

HARKLESS, NECIA D., 731 West Main Street, Lexington, KY 40508. Travel: Statewide. 606/255-0931.

- African Meeting House: From Slave to Abolitionist, Militia Man, & Senator
- Nubian Queens and the Black Madonna


- The Civil War in Kentucky
- Kentucky: The Road to Statehood


- Dispelling the Myth: Indian Life in Kentucky, 1600–1800
- The Village Near the Ford: Life in the Kentucky River Valley in 1407


- Belles of the Bluegrass: Duty vs. Ambition
- A Debate: Slavery and Anti-Slavery Voices in Kentucky, 1833

HOOD, J. LARRY, 188 Timberlane Court, Nicholasville, KY 40356. Travel: Statewide. 502/564-4790; 606/223-9825.

- What is a Kentuckian?
- Kentucky’s Other Grand Sport: Politics


- Appalachian Kentucky Architecture
- The Appalachian Settlement Houses: Class, Gender, and Architecture

KREMER, PEM, University of Kentucky Honors Program, 1153 Patterson Office Tower, Lexington, KY 40506-0027. Travel: Statewide. 606/257-8452; 606/254-7606.

- Mystery, She Wrote: The Female Detective
- But Battles are Ugly When Women Fight: C. S. Lewis’ View of Women

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When you call these speakers, be sure to ask about equipment they may need, such as a lectern, microphone, slide projector, or VCR. Daytime telephone number is listed first.

LOWE, JAMES M., 650 Matthews Mill Road, Glasgow, KY 42141. Travel: Regions 2, 3, 4, 6. 502/678-4003.

- Yours Respectfully, Jesse Stuart (Kentucky Chautauqua presentation)

MacLAREN, BRUCE, 505 Allen Drive, Richmond, KY 40475. Travel: Statewide. 606/622-2319; 606/623-6994.

- The Nuclear Weapons Industry: Its History and Geography
- Scientists at War: 1939–1960


- Elijah Craig, Pioneer Preacher (Kentucky Chautauqua presentation)


- Appalachian Poetry: Appalachian Values
- Janice’s Legacy: Janice Holt Giles

MILLER, JIM WAYNE, 258 IWFAC, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY 42101. Travel: Statewide. 502/745-5904; 502/842-0049.

- Kentucky: A Writerly State
- The Mechanical Muse: Science & Technology in Literature Past & Present

NICKELL, JOE, 568 N. Broadway #16, Lexington, KY 40508. Travel: Statewide. 606/252-4129; 606/743-3550.

- Becoming a Genealogical and Historical Detective (Investigation I)
- Historical Investigation II

PEN, RON, 105 Fine Arts Building, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0022. Travel: Regions 6, 8. 606/257-8181; 606/257-8183.

- Circles, Squares, Triangles, and Diamonds: A Shape Note Singing School
- Traditional Music of Kentucky

PLATTTNER, ELISSA MAY, Route 1, Camp Springs, KY 41059. Travel: Statewide. 502/695-2300; 606/635-9555.

- The Greatest Game: Kentucky Politics
- Voices from the Hill Country: My Grandmother’s Story

SANDIFER, D. WAYNE, Box 27, Kentucky Wesleyan College, Owensboro 42302-1039. Travel: Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 6. 502/926-3111; 502/683-0840.

- Economics, Religion, and Freedom in the Former Soviet Union
- The Land of the Bible, Past and Present

TOFTELAND, CURT L., 5802 Bonfire Drive, Louisville, KY 40207. Travel: Statewide. 502/583-8738; 502/897-2787.

- Overcoming “ShakesFear”
- Shakespeare’s Clowns: A Fool’s Guide to Shakespeare

10 1994–1995 KHC Speakers Bureau
TYLER, BRUCE, 783 Frederick Stamm Court #5, Louisville, KY 40217. Travel: Region 3. 502/634-8166.

- Louisville’s African-American Firefighters, 1923–1990
- Before Rodney King: A Historical Perspective

WEISSBACH, LEE SHAI, History Department, University of Louisville, Louisville KY 40292. Travel: Statewide. 502/852-6817; 502/452-9119.

- Kentucky Synagogues Past and Present
- American Judaism Today

WESTON, WILLIAM J., Anthropology and Sociology, Centre College, 600 W. Walnut St., Danville, KY 40422. Travel: Statewide. 606/238-5256; 606/238-7580.

- What are All These Denominations Anyway?
- Why Does Abortion Divide So Much?

Speakers Bureau Regional Travel Map

1994–1995 KHC Speakers Bureau 11
How to apply for a speaker

1. Select a topic and a speaker at least four weeks before your program date. Contact the speaker directly to see if he or she can address your group at the desired date and time.

2. Apply for KHC funding by completing one of the application coupons in this catalog and returning it to the KHC office. We must receive the application at least two weeks before your scheduled program. Speakers not listed in this catalog may be funded through the Speakers Bureau, subject to KHC approval. In such cases, please submit your application early and include the speaker's vita and a summary of the proposed talk.

3. Await notification from KHC that your program has been approved. Do not publicize the event until you receive your confirmation letter.

4. Sign and return the confirmation form to the KHC within two weeks of receipt. This is your contract with the KHC.

5. Once you receive notification of KHC funding, confirm arrangements with your speaker using the confirmation form in your packet. The speaker must receive this form because it shows that KHC has funded the talk. Be sure to specify the date, time, and location, and clarify equipment needs or other special requirements, such as accommodations. KHC will pay the speaker's honorarium, mileage, and meals. Sponsors are responsible for lodging, if needed.

6. Complete arrangements for your program, then publicize it to the largest possible audience. Feel free to duplicate any part of this catalog for use in your publicity efforts. A few publicity suggestions:
   - Send news releases to newspapers and radio and television stations
   - Send a newsletter announcing the program to members of your group
   - Post flyers in prominent community locations
   - Send notices to any mailing lists you can get
   - Arrange a telephone publicity campaign

Sponsors of Speakers Bureau talks must acknowledge KHC support in all publicity materials and event programs. Printed credits should read, "This program was funded in part by the Kentucky Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities." We will supply camera-ready copies of the KHC logo.

7. Confirm again. One week before your program, call the speaker to review all arrangements. Remember, the speaker may have a long drive, so put the talk before the business part of your agenda, especially at evening events.

8. When you introduce your speaker, be sure to acknowledge the support of the Kentucky Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

9. Within two days of the program, while it is still fresh in your mind, complete and return the brief evaluation form that was sent with the confirmation letter. KHC will pay the speaker directly.

Reminder

Apply early!
Speakers Bureau funds usually run out by January 1.
KHC Speakers Bureau Application

Name of nonprofit, out-of-school adult group requesting speaker:

Name of Program Coordinator:

Address: 

Phone:

Signature:

Speaker Requested:

Speaker's Topic:

Specific Location, Date, and Time:

Limit: Three KHC speakers per group per funding period. Speakers in this catalog may be scheduled through July 31, 1995 only.

Return this form to:
KHC Speakers Bureau
417 Clifton Avenue
Lexington, KY 40508-3406