Kentucky Humanities Council Catalog 1995-1996

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Welcome to the tenth edition of the Kentucky Humanities Council Speakers Bureau catalog!

In these pages you’ll find the usual vast array of topics and speakers to choose from. In our Featured Speakers section, the new faces include historians Berry Craig, Carol Crowe-Carraco, and Aloma Dew, plus Kentucky literature expert Jim Wayne Miller and folk art expert Adrian Swain. Among the new topics are the quest for women’s suffrage, Kentucky’s many remarkable folk artists, the benefits of keeping a journal, and the presidency of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, plus profiles of several fascinating Civil War-era Kentuckians. But the big news this year is Kentucky Chautauqua II, which brings you five new impersonations of compelling figures from Kentucky’s past. From the struggles of Aunt Clara Brown to the jokes of Irvin S. Cobb, we guarantee you’ll be enthralled.

We hope you enjoy this catalog, and thank you for making the KHC Speakers Bureau a greater success than we ever dreamed possible.

Important points to remember about the Speakers Bureau:

► The Speakers Bureau is available, FREE, to nonprofit 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 two free Speakers Bureau programs, including one free Chautauqua performance, each year (August through July). Admission to Speakers Bureau programs must be free. (You may charge admission to Chautauqua performances your group has purchased through KHC.)

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

► All Featured Speakers and Chautauqua performers 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.
Featured Speakers

**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.

**Voices of Vision, Voices of Reason**

In the 19th century, America’s national debate over slavery and freedom included some powerful African American voices. In this talk, Badejo presents examples of their moral and constitutional perspectives.

Podium and microphone.

**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.

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**A cure 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.

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Erika Brady
Assistant Professor of Folk Studies
Western Kentucky University
Programs in Folk Studies
IWFAC 251
Western Kentucky University
Bowling Green, KY 42101
Office: 502-745-5902
FAX 502-745-5734

1995–1996 KHC Speakers Bureau
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: Still in Perfect Harmony
This is an updated, expanded version of Claypool’s previous talk on Kentucky music. It will trace the story of Kentucky music from its origins up to modern times, using the work of many different composers and performers to show how Kentucky became and remains the cradle of America’s musical heritage. The program includes recordings and pictures from the speaker’s personal collection.
Lectern; electrical outlets for audio and video equipment; table for display.

Civil War bluffs and bluster

“Stovepipe” Johnson and the Great Newburgh Raid of 1862
It must have been the Civil War’s biggest bluff. Confederate raider Adam Rankin Johnson of Henderson, Kentucky, had his heart set on a big cache of Yankee rifles. Problem was, they were across the Ohio River in Newburgh, Indiana. Craig tells the tale of how the ingenious Johnson, using a stovepipe and other props, hoodwinked Newburgh’s defenders into surrendering the rifles, and the town, without firing a shot.
Lectern.

Len G. Faxon: Kentucky’s “Rebelest” Editor
Some Kentuckians had doubts about which side to support in the Civil War, but not Len G. Faxon. Faxon, editor of the Columbus Crescent, was rebel to the core, and in the columns of his newspaper he let everyone know it. His verbal broadsides against “bow-legged, wooden-shoed, sauerkraut stinking, bologna sausage eating, hen roost robbing” Yankees were, says Craig, as withering as any published during the war.
Lectern.
**Fighting for the vote**

**Kentucky Women and Suffrage: Three Quests**
This talk gives an overview of Kentucky’s role in the suffrage movement which culminated in the 19th amendment to the Constitution. Crowe-Carraco looks at women’s campaign to win the vote through sketches of three key Kentucky reformers: Lida Obenchain, Laura Clay, and Madeline McDowell Breckinridge.

**Images of Kentucky: Foreign Travellers View the Bluegrass State**
Kentucky life, including foodways, politics, and religion, as seen through the eyes of 19th- and 20th-century visitors to the Commonwealth. The speaker will try to tailor this talk to the areas in which it is given.

**The Home Front: The Frontier Nursing Service during World War II**
Mary Breckinridge founded the Frontier Nursing Service to provide health care to women and children in the eastern Kentucky mountains. It was never easy. During World War II, shortages of everything, from nurses to diapers to horse-shoes, made it even harder.

**Thinking for themselves**

**Pettit of the Monitor: Editor and Reformer**
Tom Pettit, Civil War editor of the Owensboro Monitor, exemplified the contradictions many Kentuckians felt during the war. Pettit was pro-union, pro-slavery, and anti-Lincoln. His loyalty to the Union was fierce, but so were his attacks on President Lincoln. The military governor of Kentucky banished him to the Confederacy. Pettit returned to Kentucky after a presidential pardon and went on to a political career during which he supported such reforms as women’s suffrage and the secret ballot. He ran for governor in 1895.

**Yours for liberty and justice, Josephine K. Henry**
Dew traces the career of Josephine Henry — dynamic speaker, prolific writer, and early, strong voice for women’s rights in Kentucky. She worked closely with better known leaders like Laura Clay for women’s suffrage and property rights, and was the first woman to run for statewide office in Kentucky. Henry’s outspoken views on religion, marriage, and divorce eventually caused a split between her and other women’s leaders. She died in obscurity in 1928.
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.

Keeping a Journal for Yourself and for Posterity
The benefits of keeping a journal are many, says Dick. And if you use his “closing the gap” technique of journal-keeping, it’s easy too.
Lectern with microphone; overhead projector (optional).

Coming Home, Finding Peace
This talk is based on two of Dick’s books — The View from Plum Lick and Peace at the Center. It celebrates the joys of returning to your roots, which Dick did after a career as a globetrotting reporter, and explores an approach to life that Dick believes can lead to inner contentment and strength.
Lectern with microphone.

A nest of singing birds

Kentucky: A Writerly State
During the past quarter century, Kentucky has produced so many writers that literary historian Cratis Williams once referred to the state as a “nest of singing birds.” But Kentucky’s writing traditions extend all the way back to the frontier, and in this talk Jim Wayne Miller, a poet and novelist himself, will start at the beginning. He will pay special attention to the “native voices” of the early 20th century, and to the generation of authors which has emerged in recent years.
Lectern; overhead projector.

Beaucoons of Words: Kentucky’s Legacy of Language
Where does the distinctive folk speech of Kentucky fit into the larger pattern of speech variations nationwide? This talk will answer that question while also dispelling myths and stereotypes about the relationship of dialects and folk speech to what is regarded as standard English.
Lectern; overhead projector.
Changing everything: WW II

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.

FDR and Presidential Greatness
Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who led America out of the Depression and through most of World War II, looms as a towering figure in the history of this century. In this talk, Share will examine Roosevelt’s leadership and assess his enduring legacy.

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.

Kentucky’s fascinating folk art

Records and Reflections: Expressive Folk Art in Kentucky
Kentucky is rich with self-taught artists who create remarkable works of expressive folk art. Their sculptures, paintings, carvings, walking sticks, and other works are highly individual in style, subject, and technique. Swain explores the lives and works of several eastern Kentucky artists, asking what compelled them, without any artistic training, to probe the limits of their creative potential, producing art which speaks directly to universal human concerns.

Carousel slide projector with remote control, screen.

Charley and Noah Kinney: Folk Art as a Record of Change
Born in 1906 and 1912, Charley and Noah Kinney lived all their lives on their remote family farm in Lewis County. Starting out in the age of the mule, they lived well into the age of the microchip (both died in 1991). The Kinney brothers used their artistic talents to make sense of the turbulent 20th century. In this talk, Swain shows how their art reflects a changing world that is leaving behind the time-tested way of life they grew up with.

Carousel slide projector with remote control, screen.
Kentucky Chautauqua II
Bringing History to Life

The Kentucky Humanities Council is proud to present Kentucky Chautauqua II, featuring historically accurate impersonations of five fascinating characters from Kentucky history. A unique combination of education and entertainment, Kentucky Chautauqua II performances are available through the 1995-1996 Speakers Bureau. Please read the following instructions very carefully!

- The Speakers Bureau is offering a total of 50 free Kentucky Chautauqua II performances — ten by each character — in 1995-1996. First come, first served.
- A sponsor is limited to one free Kentucky Chautauqua II program during the year. No exceptions.
- A sponsor who applies too late or desires additional Chautauqua II performances can purchase them at our cost — $350 per program. You may charge admission to performances your group has purchased.
- All Kentucky Chautauqua II performances, whether free or paid, will be scheduled through the usual Speakers Bureau application process.
- Please remember, you must contact the performer and confirm arrangements for free or paid programs before submitting an application. If you don't, your program will not take place as you planned.
- Questions or problems? Please call Beth Church at KHC, 606-257-5932.

Portrayed by:
Kemba Webb
Living History Presenter
Gage Catfish Farm
1123 Wickliffe Road
La Center, KY 42056
Home: 502-876-7661
Requirements: 10' x 10' playing area

Aunt Clara Brown
Black Pioneer
1800–1885

It took Clara Brown 55 years to win her freedom, but when she did she knew what to do with it. Brought to Logan County as a slave in 1809, she was a pioneer on the Kentucky frontier. She married and had four children, but the family was broken up on the auction block in 1835. Brown’s new owner freed her in his will in 1855. She headed west and prospered as a grubstaker during the Colorado gold rush. In 1866, she was able to return to Logan County and take 15 impoverished young blacks back to Colorado, settling them on land she owned.

Brown’s great dream was to find her youngest daughter, who had been sold away in 1835. Forty-seven years later, she finally found her Liza Jane in Iowa. After she died, the Colorado Society of Pioneers eulogized Clara Brown as “a noble woman [who] won our sympathy and commanded our respect.”
Henry Clay
Kentucky’s Great Statesman
1777–1852

Above all, Henry Clay wanted to be president of the United States. Despite never quite making it—he came very close—Clay made an indelible mark on the history of his country, which he served as a Senator, as Speaker of the House, and as Secretary of State. Born and educated in Virginia, Clay moved to Kentucky and set up a law practice in Lexington in 1797. Elected to the state legislature in 1803, he won a seat in the U.S. House in 1811. For the next forty years, he was a major player on the national political scene. Slavery posed a great political and personal quandary for Clay. A slaveholder himself, he advocated gradual emancipation and colonization in Africa. In Congress, he opposed extension of slavery into the new western states.

Married to Lucretia Hart in 1799, Henry Clay fathered eleven children. He died in Washington and is buried in Lexington Cemetery.

Laura Clay
Voice of Change
1849–1941

Laura Clay’s lifelong commitment to women’s rights was the product of her parents’ bitter separation and divorce, which showed her how poorly the legal and property rights of women were protected. Born in Madison County, Kentucky, the daughter of the controversial emancipationist Cassius M. Clay, she saw plenty of controversy herself as a leader in the women’s rights movement. In 1888, Clay founded the Kentucky Equal Rights Association, which won several legislative and educational victories for women. In the 1890s, as an officer of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, she became a nationally known advocate for women’s right to vote.

Laura Clay remained active in politics into the 1930s. Never married, she supported herself and financed her public career by managing a 300-acre farm in Madison County.
Irvin S. Cobb
Celebrated Reporter and Humorist
1876–1944

Irvin S. Cobb, a native of Paducah, was one of the best-known Kentuckians of the first half of this century. Cobb got his start writing for Kentucky newspapers, then headed for New York in 1904. He soon became one of the city’s star journalists. In 1914, he joined The Saturday Evening Post, where his work, including his coverage of World War I, made him one of the most widely read, influential, and highly paid writers of the day. Cobb’s greatest gift was humor, and he won fame for his many books of humorous fiction, usually featuring settings and characters from his youth in Paducah. He also wrote and acted in movies, had his own radio show, lectured widely, met with presidents, and was a prominent advocate of racial tolerance.

But success did not erode Irvin Cobb’s affection for Paducah. His tombstone there says, contentedly, “Back Home.”

Dr. J. J. Polk
Civil War Physician
1802–1881

Dr. Jefferson J. Polk was not famous, just fascinating. We know the life of this native of Scott County from the autobiography he published in 1867. Married in 1823, Polk followed many professions to support a growing family: newspaper editor, circuit-riding Methodist preacher, bookstore owner, and pharmacist. In 1839, at age 37, he enrolled in Transylvania College’s medical school and realized a long-standing ambition to become a doctor. He set up practice in Boyle County, and he was still there in 1862 when the Battle of Perryville deposited more than 8,000 casualties not far from his front door. A strong Union sympathizer, he ministered to the wounded of both sides.

After the war, J. J. Polk became the postmaster of Perryville, as well as the claims agent for Union veterans. He lived out his years quietly and was survived by eight children.
MORE
Speakers

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 phone number is listed first.

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

BANNING, LANCE, History Department, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0027. Travel: Statewide. 606/257-4338; 606/223-8236.

- Jefferson, Madison, and Bills of Rights
- The Earth Belongs to the Living

CARMAN, KELLI, Dept. of Anthropology, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY 40475. Travel: Statewide. 606/622-1366.

- Kings and Queens of the Ancient Maya
- Sayil: Life in an Ancient Maya City


- Abraham Lincoln's Kentucky Connections
- Ethical Issues in Organizations

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

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

GIFORD, JAMES M., 2434 Boone Street, Ashland, KY 41102. Travel: Statewide. 606/329-5232.

- Appalachian Humor
- Jesse Stuart: The Man and His Books

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

- Irvin S. Cobb: An Assessment Fifty Years After His Death
- Irvin S. Cobb's Judge Priest and the Civil War
MORE Speakers

  • Favorite Stories from the South
  • Cradle, Root, Tomb: The Rites of Manhood

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

HAY, MELBA PORTER, 126 Buckwood Drive, Richmond, KY 40475. Travel: Statewide. 502/564-3016; 606/624-2760.
  • Henry Clay: Kentucky's Greatest Statesman
  • Madeline McDowell Breckinridge: Kentucky Suffragist and Reformer

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

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

MATHIS, GILBERT, Dept. of Economics, Murray State University, Murray, KY 42071-0009. Travel: Statewide. 502/762-4283; 502/753-8106.
  • The Role of Government in Financing Public Goods and Services
  • Dump & Burn to PIK & ROLL: 60 Years of American Farm Policy

MOORE, ROY L., School of Journalism, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0042. Travel: Statewide. 606/257-2786; 606/223-3152.
  • Media Ethics: Drawing the Line
  • From Reality to Virtual Reality: Mass Media and Mass Culture

PLATTNER, 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

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
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?
- The Pros and Cons of Critical Thinking

WILLIAMS, MICHAEL ANN, Folk Studies, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY 42101. Travel: Statewide. 502/745-5898; 502/842-5984.

- Foodways in Kentucky
- Homeplace: Reconstructing Life in a Log House
1. Contact your selected speaker at least four weeks before your program date to find out if he or she is free to talk to your group. You must contact your speaker before applying to KHC. If you don't, your program will not take place as you planned.

2. Apply for KHC funding by completing one of the application forms in this catalog and returning it to the KHC office. Send the application to KHC at least two weeks before your scheduled program. KHC-approved speakers not listed in this catalog may be funded through the Speakers Bureau. Call the KHC office for more information.

3. Await notification from KHC that your program has been approved.

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

5. Send a confirmation form to your speaker. KHC will pay the speaker's honorarium, mileage, and meals. Sponsors are responsible for lodging, if needed.

**Tips for a successful Speakers Bureau program:**

- Publicize your program effectively. Feel free to duplicate any part of this catalog for use in your publicity efforts. (Kentucky Chautauqua II programs will include a publicity kit.) 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.

- Confirm again. One week before your program, call the speaker to review all arrangements.

- Remember, the speaker may have a long drive, so please put the talk before the business part of your agenda, especially at evening events.

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

- Immediately after your program takes place, send in the evaluation form. KHC will pay the speaker directly.
KHC

Speakers Bureau Application

Nonprofit community group requesting speaker:

Name of Program Coordinator:

Address:

Phone:

Signature:

Speaker Requested: (Check if paid Chautauqua)

Speaker’s Topic:

Date, Time, Street Address or Building, and Town:

IMPORTANT — PLEASE NOTE: Have you confirmed these arrangements with your speaker? If not, you must do so before applying to KHC!

LIMIT: A total of two (2) free speakers, including no more than one (1) Chautauqua character, per sponsor per year. Speakers in this catalog may be scheduled through July 31, 1996.

Return this form to:
KHC Speakers Bureau
206 East Maxwell Street
Lexington, KY 40508-2613

KHC

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