



The Lawton M. Chiles, Jr., Center for Florida History presents the

2023–2024

FLORIDA LECTURE SERIES



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THE 2023–2024 FLORIDA LECTURE SERIES IS
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2023–2024

SERIES SCHEDULE

Lectures begin at 7 p.m. and are held in Branscomb Auditorium unless otherwise noted. All programs are free and open to the public.

SEPTEMBER 14

ANN McCUTCHAN

The Life She Wished to Live: A Biography of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, Author of The Yearling

OCTOBER 5

CLAY HENDERSON

Forces of Nature: A History of Florida Land Conservation

NOVEMBER 16

JEFF BAKER

Frank Lloyd Wright and the Florida Southern College Campus — Past, Present, and Future

ANNIE PFEIFFER CHAPEL

JANUARY 18

CHRISTOPHE J. BOUCHER

The Fort Caroline Experience: French Colonial Ambitions in La Florida

HOLLIS ROOM

FEBRUARY 8

ANDY HUSE

The Cuban Sandwich: A History in Layers

MARCH 28

DOUGLAS BRINKLEY

Silent Spring Revolution: John F. Kennedy, Rachel Carson, Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, and the Great Environmental Awakening

SEPTEMBER 14

ANN McCUTCHAN

Writer, Fairview, N.C.

The Life She Wished to Live: A Biography of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, Author of *The Yearling*

Branscomb Auditorium



Ann McCutchan is an accomplished author, lyricist, and librettist who grew up on the Atlantic coast of Florida. After studying music at Florida State University, McCutchan

pursued a career as a professional musician, and eventually became a professor of music history, English, and creative writing. The recipient of numerous grants and awards, in 2014, with the support of the Bartlett Foundation, McCutchan began the research and writing of *The Life She Wished to Live: A Biography of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, Author of The Yearling* (2021). The story of a tough, passionate, and independent woman who refused the early 20th-century conventions of her upbringing, Rawlings found her voice in the remote hardscrabble life of Cross Creek, Fla. Between hunting alligators and managing an orange grove, Rawlings employed her sensitive eye and philosophical spirit to bring to life an unknown corner of America in vivid, tender detail — a feat that earned her the Pulitzer Prize in 1939 for *The Yearling*. *The Life She Wished to Live* paints a lively portrait of Rawlings, the Florida landscape, and people who inspired her.

OCTOBER 5

CLAY HENDERSON

Writer, Faber, Va.

Forces of Nature: A History of Florida Land Conservation

Branscomb Auditorium



A New Smyrna Beach native and sixth-generation Floridian, Clay Henderson has had a long career as an environmental lawyer, educator, historian, and writer. Henderson is known for drafting or sponsoring many of the environmental provisions in the Florida Constitution, including the creation of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Everglades Trust Fund. His book *Forces of Nature: A History of Florida Land Conservation* (2022) tells the tale of Florida's place at the beginning of the American conservation movement and celebrates the individuals and organizations that made the Sunshine State a leader in conservation and preservation. Beginning with William Bartram and John Muir, who inspired the movement to create national parks and protect the country's wilderness, Henderson also describes the efforts of Marjory Stoneman Douglas and May Mann Jennings and introduces lesser-known champions like Frank Chapman, who helped convince former President Theodore Roosevelt to establish the first U.S. national wildlife refuge at Pelican Island near the coastal community of Sebastian, Fla.

The Robert and Rose Stahl Criminal Justice Lecture honors the memories of Robert and Rose Stahl. Mr. Stahl served more than 30 years as a police officer, including his years as chief of police in North Miami Beach. The family of Robert and Rose Stahl has generously made these lectures available to Florida Southern College.

NOVEMBER 16

JEFF BAKER
Architect, Albany, N.Y.

Frank Lloyd Wright and the Florida Southern College Campus — Past, Present, and Future

Annie Pfeiffer Chapel



Jeff Baker has led the restoration efforts of the Frank Lloyd Wright campus at Florida Southern College since 2007. He has overseen the full realization of the Waterdome based on Wright's original design, and performed meticulous restoration of the Esplanades, Annie Pfeiffer Chapel, and the Planetarium. The Usonian House, the Carole and Marcus Weinstein Computer Sciences Center, and the currently under construction Adams Athletic Performance Center are only a few of the buildings Baker and his firm Mesick, Cohen, Wilson & Baker, have helped erect in accord with Wright's design for Florida Southern. Baker has also performed restorations on dozens of other significant American landmark buildings, including Thomas Jefferson's home, Monticello; James Madison's home, Montpelier; and the President's House at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va. He also has helped restore numerous state capitals, including New York, Tennessee, and Maryland. A member of the American Institute of Architects, the Society of Architectural Historians, and the Association for Preservation Technology, Baker holds a Bachelor of Architecture from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

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JANUARY 18

CHRISTOPHE J. BOUCHER

*Associate Professor of History, College of Charleston
(S.C.)*

The Fort Caroline Experience: French Colonial Ambitions in La Florida

Hollis Room



History records that St. Augustine (founded in 1565) is the oldest continuously inhabited European settlement in North America.

However, few know that the “Ancient City” was founded in response to a French Huguenot settlement on the St. Johns River within the present-day city limits of Jacksonville. In the brief period before the Spanish destroyed Fort Caroline and massacred its inhabitants, the French sent some of the first detailed images of Native Americans in their daily pursuits to Europe. Christophe Boucher, associate professor of history at the College of Charleston, will provide details of the colony’s founding, its significance as a focal point of encounters between European and Native American cultures, and its role in the struggle for empire in the Atlantic world. A native of St. Nazaire, France, Boucher received his Ph.D. from the University of Kansas. He is a specialist in Native American History, Atlantic World History, and French Colonial America. His research is centered on the French colonial efforts in the Southeast, and he has received research grants from the American Philosophical Society and the Newberry Library.

THIS LECTURE IS GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY
PROFESSOR WALTER W. MANLEY II, FSC ALUMNUS.

FEBRUARY 8

ANDY HUSE

Special Collections Librarian, University of South Florida

The Cuban Sandwich: A History in Layers

Branscomb Auditorium



Andy Huse invites everyone to not only dig into his new book *The Cuban Sandwich: A History in Layers* (2022), written with Jeff Houck and Barbara C. Cruz, but also into the history of Tampa. A specialist in Tampa's culinary history, Huse is also the author of *From Saloons to Steakhouses: A History of Tampa* (2020) and *The Columbia Restaurant: Celebrating a Century of History, Culture and Cuisine* (2009). Huse's latest book on the "Cubano," draws on interviews with well-respected bakers, chefs, meat packers, and owners of renowned Cuban bakeries, sandwich shops, and restaurants. The final result is a fine social history behind how this delicacy became a lunch-counter staple in the U.S. and beyond. Huse researches, writes, and lectures about Florida food and foodways. As a food historian, he understands that the way people eat, prepare, preserve, and present food are important markers of folk traditions and cultural identity. He is curator of Florida Studies at the University of South Florida (USF) Libraries and has been working at USF's Tampa Library for more than 20 years. He also teaches courses at the USF Honors College and the Florida Studies Program in St. Petersburg.

MARCH 28

DOUGLAS BRINKLEY

Katherine Tsanoff Brown Chair in Humanities and a Professor of History at Rice University (Houston)

Silent Spring Revolution: John F. Kennedy, Rachel Carson, Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, and the Great Environmental Awakening

Branscomb Auditorium



One of America's premier historians, public intellectuals, and commentators, Douglas Brinkley, returns to FSC to present the Florida aspects of this latest book, *Silent Spring Revolution: John F. Kennedy, Rachel*

Carson, Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, and the Great Environmental Awakening (2022), the third installment of his environmental history of America series. *Silent Spring Revolution* chronicles the rise of environmental activism during the Long Sixties (1960-73), telling the story of an indomitable generation that saved the natural world under the leadership of John F. Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, and Richard Nixon. Brinkley is the Katherine Tsanoff Brown chair in humanities and a professor of history at Rice University. He is a frequent commentator on CNN, CBS, MSNBC, NPR, and other news outlets. He is also a *New York Times* bestselling author. Before *Silent Spring Revolution*, Brinkley wrote two other works on America's environmental movement: *Wilderness Warrior: Theodore Roosevelt and the Crusade for America* (2010) and *Rightful Heritage: Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Land of America* (2017). His more than 30 books have covered such subjects as the D-Day Invasion, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, the Nixon Tapes, Hurricane Katrina, Rosa Parks, Walter Cronkite, and JFK and the Space Race.

THE LAWTON M. CHILES, JR., CENTER FOR FLORIDA HISTORY

Founded in 2001, the Lawton M. Chiles, Jr., Center for Florida History strives to enhance the teaching, studying, and writing of Florida history. The center seeks to preserve the state's past through cooperative efforts with historical societies, preservation groups, museums, public programs, media, and interested persons. This unique center, housed in the Sarah D. and L. Kirk McKay, Jr., Archives Center, is a source of continuing information created to increase appreciation for Florida history.

ABOUT THE LECTURE SERIES

The Lawton M. Chiles, Jr., Florida Lecture Series is a forum that brings speakers to the Florida Southern College campus to explore Florida life and culture from a wide range of disciplines, including history, public affairs, law, sociology, criminology, anthropology, literature, and art. The overall objective of the series is to bring members of the community, the faculty, and the student body together to interact with and learn from leading scholars in their fields.

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