



STORIES OF AMERICAN FREEDOM

COME AND HEAR THE STORY OF
AMERICA FROM THE FOUNDING TO TODAY,
AS TOLD BY EXPERT HISTORIANS AND
PROLIFIC AUTHORS

The 2026 NLCC will weave a diverse tapestry of the stories that make us who we are as Americans today. These are stories of hope and resilience, stories of perseverance and bravery, stories of ordinary people who took a stand and fought hard for the freedoms that we enjoy today.

DONATE TODAY!

By mail:
P.O. Box 649, Wesson, MS 39191

Online: <https://www.colin.edu/alumni-foundation/foundation/ways-to-give/>

It is thanks to generous donations like yours that we can continue our important work each year. Thank you for your support!



February 26-28, 2026
Natchez Convention Center



Visit Our Website

<https://www.colin.edu/community/natchez-literary-cinema-celebration/>

Gloria J. Browne Marshall



A Protest History of the United States

Dr. Browne-Marshall is a professor of constitutional law, a civil rights attorney, an author, a playwright, and a legal commentator who has appeared on CNN, NPR, BBC, MSNBC, CBS, and WVON.

Our Authors



Dr. Cynthia Kierner
The Tory's Wife



Jim Miller
King of the Gunrunners



Dennard Dayle
How to Dodge a Cannonball



Dr. Miki Pfeffer
Southern Ladies and Suffragists



Brian Altobello
Whiskey, Women, and War



Dr. Bobby Smith
Food Power Politics



Dr. William Meadows
The First Code Talkers



Dr. Erin Grayson Sapp
Moving the Chains



Alison Pelegrin
Our Lady of Bewilderment

About Our Authors



Dr. Cynthia Kierner

Dr. Cynthia Kierner is a Professor of History at George Mason University. *The Tory's Wife* tells the story of Jane Welborn Spurgin, a patriot who welcomed General Nathanael Greene to her home and aided Continental forces while her loyalist husband was fighting for the king as an officer in the Tory militia.

James W. Miller

Mr. Miller retired from UNO as the athletics director. Prior to his tenure there, he spent eleven years as a reporter and twenty-one years in the NFL. *King of the Gunrunners* is the untold story of a forgotten American whose adventures paved the way for the United States' emergence as an international power.



Dennard Dayle

Dennard Dayle is an Adjunct Professor of Writing at Columbia University, and a New York-based author, specializing in writing and comedy. *How to Dodge a Cannonball* follows Anders, a teenage idealist living in the Civil War who enlists and reenlists to shape the American Future—as soon as he figures out what that is, who it includes, and why everyone wants him to die for it.

Dr. Miki Pfeffer

Dr. Pfeffer is an independent scholar who studies women's literary and social history. *Southern Ladies and Suffragists* tells the story of the Cotton Centennial Exposition's Woman's Department, where cultures clashed but where women from across the country exchanged views on propriety, jobs, education, and suffrage.



Brian Altobello

Mr. Altobello is an educational consultant in New Orleans-area schools and a lecturer on the American Queen Steamboat Cruise Line. *Whiskey, Women, and War* is about New Orleans in WWI, and how a burst of patriotism collided with civil liberties related to women, race, and prohibition.

Dr. Bobby Smith II

Dr. Smith is an Associate Professor in the Department of African American Studies at the University of Illinois. *Food Power Politics* unearths a food story buried deep within the soil of the Mississippi civil rights movement, where activists expanded the meaning of civil rights to address food as integral to sociopolitical and economic conditions.



Dr. William C. Meadows

Dr. Meadows is a Professor of Anthropology and Native American Studies at Missouri State University. Drawing on nearly thirty years of research, *The First Code Talkers* explores the origins, use, and legacy of the Native American code talkers in World War I and World War II.

Dr. Erin Grayson Sapp

Dr. Sapp holds a PhD in English and American History from Tulane University, and has served as a scholar-in-residence for the Historic New Orleans Collection. *Moving the Chains* tells the story of the athlete protest that necessitated a backroom deal, as New Orleans scrambled to respond to a very public repudiation of its racist policies.



Alison Pelegrin

2023–2025 Louisiana Poet Laureate Alison Pelegrin is the recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Foundation for Louisiana, and the Academy of American Poets, who awarded her a Poets Laureate Fellowship to support the Lifelines Poetry Project, which bring poetry workshops to Louisiana Prisons and Communities. Alison's most recent poetry collection is *Our Lady of Bewilderment*.

Dr. Gloria J. Browne-Marshall

Dr. Browne-Marshall is a professor of constitutional law, a civil rights attorney, an author, a playwright, and a legal commentator. *A Protest History of the United States* explores 500 years of protest and resistance in US history—and what the unsung heroes of social movements past can teach us about navigating our chaotic world.

