

North Carolina: Our State, Our Time.
"North Carolina Women and their Contributions"

Dr. Kevin Kehrberg

Kevin Kehrberg is Chair of the Department of Music at Warren Wilson College, where he teaches courses in global music and the music of Appalachia. He has presented papers nationally and internationally at meetings of the American Musicological Society, the Society for Ethnomusicology, and the International Association for the Study of Popular Music. His articles have appeared in the *New Grove Dictionary of American Music*, 2d. ed. (Oxford, 2013), *Music in American Life* (Greenwood, 2013), and *The Changing World Religion Map* (Springer, 2015). He is also active as a professional musician in jazz, bluegrass, and old-time music.

Banjo-Pickin' Girls and Other Music Women of the Western North Carolina Region

Dr. Kehrberg will be discussing where women fit within the history and development of vernacular music in Appalachia. This talk will explore some of the lesser known female performers and their music that have helped shape traditional music in this region in addition to artists that achieved more popularity. The contributions of such women have been crucial in forming the musical legacy of North Carolina and its Appalachian neighbors, a legacy that has become a critical component of the state's identity and pride.

Dr. Lucinda MacKethan

Dr. Lucinda MacKethan is Alumni Distinguished Professor of English Emerita at NC State University, where for almost 40 years she taught courses in Writing, Southern literature, and African American literature. She also served terms as Director of Creative Writing and Director of the English teaching major program. She is the author or editor of six books, including *Daughters of Time: Creating Women's Voice in Southern Story* and the co-edited *Companion to Southern Literature*, named a "Best Reference Work" by the American Library Association. She currently leads online webinars for the National Humanities Center and is a "Road Scholar" lecturer for the NC Humanities Council. Since 1992, she has been senior consultant for the award winning website, Scribblingwomen.org, which features radio plays adapted from stories by American women writers. She was a fellow at the National Humanities Center and received NCSU's highest teaching honor, the Holladay Medal.

Worse for Women: North Carolina Women of Color in Slavery Times

Dr. MacKethan's presentation will focus on North Carolina slave women and "free women of color" as they were known. Long before the Civil War ended, these North Carolina women fought for their own and their families' freedom against overwhelming odds. She will discuss the hurdles these women as a group faced by looking at antebellum North Carolina laws and practices, and 'meet them in person' through a variety of writings including wills, runaway ads, letters, and slave narratives. She will conclude by discussing how their stories might be used today to encourage North Carolina women in their current struggles for freedom.

Time: 10:10

Laura Boosinger

Laura Boosinger serves as the Executive Director of the Madison County Arts Council. For the last 30 years she has also been an established traditional musician focusing on the music and culture of the Southern Appalachian Mountains. Boosinger's relationship with traditional musicians in the region has made her keenly aware of the fragile traditional music environment. As Executive Director of The Madison County Arts Council, she revived the Junior Appalachian Musician's program. Her leadership at MCAC has brought more recognition to the organization placing it as one of the top music venues in the region.

Laura Boosinger is also an award-winning performer and recording artist whose primary focus is the interpretation of traditional music from the Southern Appalachian region. Her touring career has taken her to eight countries and throughout the United States. Her performances have included The Tennessee Homecoming at The Museum of Appalachia, MERLEFEST, The Smithsonian Folklife Festival, Asheville's "Mountain Dance and Folk Festival, and was invited to perform at Scotland's *Celtic Connections* festival where she shared the stage with the legendary Peggy Seeger. She has also performed with Bluegrass legend and North Carolina Heritage Award winner, the late George Shuffler.

The Songbirds of Southern Appalachia: women and music

Boosinger will discuss the music and stories of women in Appalachia whose musical impact defined traditional music in the region.

Time 11:15

12:00 – 1:00

- Poster Sessions: Research poster session (list of Researchers and Titles will be posted February 15th 2015).
- Lunch with presenters and invited guests.

Dr. Jessie Swigger

Dr. Swigger is the Director of the History Department's Public History Program. She earned her MA and PhD in American Studies from the University of Texas at Austin. In addition to presenting at numerous regional and national conferences, her work has appeared in *The Encyclopedia of Culture Wars* and *The 1980s: A Critical and Transitional Decade*. In 2013, she received the North Carolina Museums Council Award of Special Recognition. Her book, "*History is Bunk*": *Assembling the Past at Henry Ford's Greenfield Village*, was published by the University of Massachusetts Press in 2014.

The Appalachian Women's Museum Project

Dr. Swigger will discuss the concept and logistics of the Appalachian Women's Museum Project. The mission of the Appalachian Women's Museum is to gather, preserve and share the stories of women of southern Appalachia. The museum is located in Dillsboro N.C. on the site of the Monteith farmstead.

Time: 1:25

Kathleen Beebe Balogh

Ms. Balogh's educational background is in Family and Child Development with a specialty in Developmental Disabilities. Kathleen Balogh is the Western Region Director for the North Carolina Council for Women, and state liaison to 25 Western NC counties. She is also the Manager of Batterer Intervention Programs for North Carolina. She has been involved in state, regional and local groups focusing on voting rights, prevention of violence, mediation and leadership issues related to women (e.g., NC Providers of Abuser Treatment Coalition, Liaison from NC State Government 30th Judicial Alliance Board member). She has also won awards for her leadership and volunteerism for women and children across the state of NC.

Women: If we are not at the table, we may be on the table!

What is this table and why would women be on it. This discussion is a snapshot of women's impact on Politics, Policy, and Programs, and the untapped potential of NC women.

Time 2:30