



**2022-2023
FLORIDA
LECTURE
SERIES**

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

FLORIDA LECTURE SERIES



FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE®



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THE 2022–2023 FLORIDA LECTURE SERIES IS
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SEPTEMBER 15

JACK E. DAVIS

Writer, University of Florida

The Bald Eagle: The Improbable Journey of America's Bird

Branscomb Auditorium



Since the founding of our nation, the American Bald Eagle has symbolized America's strength, courage, and spirit. In this year's opening lecture, Pulitzer Prize winning historian Jack E. Davis will explore the history and significance of this American icon, and along the way include stories of the founding fathers, rapacious hunters, heroic bird rescuers, and the lives of the animals themselves. Davis's talk emerges from his latest book *The Bald Eagle: The Improbable Journey of America's Bird*, (2022). The Rothman Family Chair in the Humanities at the University of Florida, specializing in environmental history and sustainability studies, Davis has published or edited 10 books, including his Pulitzer Prize-winning *The Gulf: The Making of an American Sea* (2018). He is also the author of *An Everglades Providence: Marjory Stoneman Douglas* and the *American Environmental Century* (2009), which earned him the Florida Book Awards gold medal. A frequent commentator on NPR and other media, Davis's work has been featured in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Forbes*, and *Atlantic Magazine*.

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

OCTOBER 6

DR. RAYMOND VICKERS

Attorney/Professor, Florida State University

**Panic in Paradise: The Florida
Banking Crash of 1926**

Branscomb Auditorium



As a lawyer, entrepreneur, and professor Raymond Vickers has a long history of studying and understanding the economic ebb and flow of Florida's and the world's financial systems. Vickers served as the Assistant Comptroller of Florida for four years and has represented more than 100 financial institutions including community, regional, Wall Street, and international banks. Vickers will discuss Florida's Banking Crash of 1926, a pivotal national catastrophe connected to the Florida land boom of the 1920s that contributed to the New York Stock Market Crash of 1929. Vickers's book *Panic in Paradise* (1994) is the product of long-term research and successful lawsuits designed to force the disclosure of sealed records. He is also the author of *Panic in the Loop: Chicago's Banking Crisis of 1932* (2011). Currently, Vickers is the Entrepreneur-in-Residence and the Director of the Institute for the Prevention of Financial Fraud at the College of Criminology & Criminal Justice at Florida State University.

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 17

DAVID L. POWELL

Writer, Tallahassee

Ninety Miles and a Lifetime Away: Memories of Early Cuban Exiles

Branscomb Auditorium



A graduate of the University of Texas at Austin and the Columbia Journalism School, David Powell began his professional life as a reporter for the Associated Press in New York, Miami, and Tallahassee.

After earning a law degree from Florida State University, he practiced law for 30 years. In his work and through civic organizations, he met many Cuban Americans and was moved by the stories of their lives. Powell began recording interviews about their memories in 2016, first in Florida, and then elsewhere. *Ninety Miles and a Lifetime Away: Memories of Early Cuban Exiles* (2022) sets the scene for the story of the 600,000 Cubans who came to this country in the fifteen years after Fidel Castro assumed power in 1959. It offers historical background that illuminates a pivotal period in the context of the Cold War and shows how the US government's Cuban Refugee Assistance Program had far-reaching effects on refugee policy, bilingual education, and child welfare programs. David and his wife Vicki live in Tallahassee.

JANUARY 26

CLAIRE STROM

Professor, Rollins College

Violence in the Rural South: Murder, Ticks and Cows

Hollis Room



In the remote rural sections of the South, resistance to mandatory tick eradication treatment of cattle was unusually strong and sometimes violent. Cattle farmers perceived a double threat in tick eradication mandates. In addition to their added costs, eradication schemes, with their top-down imposition of government expertise, were anathema to the yeomanry's notions of liberty. Claire Strom examines this vexing history while uncovering the human drama in this story. A specialist in agricultural history, the American South, the Progressive Era, and public health, Strom is the Rapetti-Trunzo Chair of History at Rollins College, where for many years she served as editor of *Agricultural History*. She is the winner of the Gladys L. Baker Lifetime Achievement Award from the Agricultural History Society. She is the author of many books and essays, including *Making Catfish Bait Out of Government Boys: The Fight Against Cattle Ticks and the Transformation of the Yeoman South* (2010) and *Profiting from the Plain: The Great Northern Railway and Corporate Development of the American West* (2007). Currently, she is writing about the global history of cattle.

THIS LECTURE IS GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY
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FEBRUARY 16

RICK NORCROSS

Musician/Journalist, Burlington, Vermont

“From Florida Southern College to London to Janis Joplin, Elvis Presley, Elton John & Mick Jagger”: An Evening of Songs, Stories & “Up Close” Rock & Roll Photographs

Branscomb Auditorium



It's been nearly 60 years since Rick Norcross first stepped foot on the campus of Florida Southern College as a freshman from East Hardwick, Vermont. It's been a wild ride ever since. Within weeks after coming to FSC, Norcross won the “Hootenanny Contest” at the Polk Theater in Downtown Lakeland and within another year, he opened a Greenwich Village-style coffeehouse (The Other Room) just off the Florida Southern campus. After playing the folk clubs of England in 1965, Norcross returned to Florida to study journalism at the University of South Florida and was soon covering the music scene for The Tampa Times during Tampa's Golden Age of Music (1969 to 1974). Norcross interviewed and photographed such stars as Elvis Presley, Janis Joplin, Johnny Cash, the Byrds, Leon Russell, Merle Haggard, Elton John, The Rolling Stones, Eric Clapton, and hundreds of others. In 1974, he left the area to resume playing music full time. Today, Norcross works out of Burlington, Vermont, where he fronts his award winning seven-piece western swing band, Rick & The All-Star Ramblers. He has been a touring musician for 58 years, has recorded 12 albums, and has won many awards. Norcross' long career and multitude of experiences make for an exciting and entertaining night of music and stories.

MARCH 16

BOB KEALING

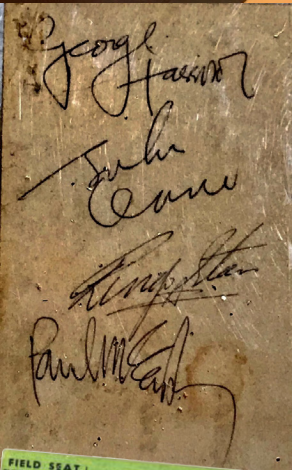
Writer, Orlando

Good Day Sunshine State How the Beatles Rocked Florida

Branscomb Auditorium



Author Bob Kealing uncovers a little-known nexus between the Beatles, MLK, and civil rights activism in Northeast Florida. With dozens of new interviews and access to rare, primary source documents and letters from the Beatles and their entourage, Kealing examines their nearly two weeks spent in Florida during their watershed year, 1964. The Fab Four evolved from wide-eyed tourist newcomers, to young Florida Rock and Roll Hall of Famers to be, and finally to outspoken advocates for equality who opposed the Vietnam War and insisted on integration at their historic Gator Bowl concert on September 11, 1964. Bob Kealing was an Edward R. Murrow and five-time Emmy award-winning reporter for WESH-TV in Orlando. Kealing is the author of five books on Florida culture and history, including his most recent *The Beatles, Good Day Sunshine State: Innocence, Influence and Activism in 1964 Florida*. Kealing is also the author of *Elvis Ignited: The Rise of an Icon in Florida* (2017) and *Calling Me Home: Gram Parsons and the Roots of Country Rock* (2015). Kealing currently serves as Public Information Officer for the Seminole County Sheriff's Office.



Pictured are some of Kealing's favorite mementos, including a handwritten letter from Paul McCartney to The Beatles' bodyguard in Miami Beach circa 1964.



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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COVER ART

Photograph courtesy of Jack E. Davis and the Preston Cook Collection

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MARCH 16

BOB KEALING

*“Good Day Sunshine State: How the Beatles
Rocked Florida”*

BRANSCOMB AUDITORIUM

ALL LECTURES BEGIN AT 7:00 PM

AND ARE IN THE LOCATIONS DESIGNATED ABOVE.

ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.



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