

The Gravy Infusion

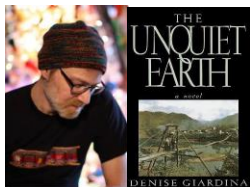
News, activities, and doings from the Loyal Jones Appalachian Center



Photo by Libby Falk Jones

Weatherford Award 50 Years of the Best Books in Appalachia

For the past 50 years we've been celebrating novels, poetry, and nonfiction that best illuminate the challenges, personalities, and unique qualities of the Appalachian South. To commemorate this occasion we picked out our own personal favorites from this impressive [list](#).

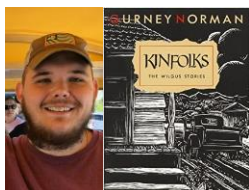
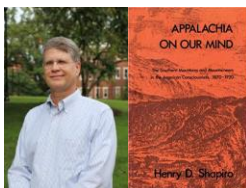


Chris Green: *Unquiet Earth*

"I have taught, learned from, and regularly refer to many of these books, but I will never forget the day I found myself weeping almost uncontrollably on the banks of the Ohio in Huntington, WV, as I finished this book before teaching it later that day."

Christopher Miller: *Appalachia on Our Mind*

"This book set me on my Appalachian Studies journey realizing that regions are not just areas on a map or sections of earth; regions are social constructions with a geophysical root, different to different people and ever changing. Learning that made all the difference."

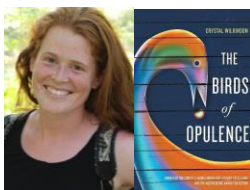


Rick Childers –*Kinfolks: The Wilgus Stories*

"For much of my life I've known that my experience in Appalachia was different than my parents and grandparents, for me Gurney Norman's "Kinfolks" felt like a glimpse into that part of my family that I was disconnected from."

Heather Dent – *Birds of Opulence*

"I love this book because it addresses the mental illness within Black communities and Appalachia, a topic that often goes overlooked. Her story is compelling, and Wilkinson paints unforgettable scenes that impacted me deeply."



Night Falls on the Mountain

Now is that time of evening
When pink wisps shade
Unmoving clouds.
The half-moon hangs
Like an empty basket.
A whippoorwill calls,
An owl murmurs.
The crow of the afternoon
Is silent, but the creek
Tumbles on. I can hear it,
Faintly, like my mother's
Voice. Now it is time
To go within,
Lower the shades,
Turn up the heat.

Libby Falk Jones

Opportunity for Artists



Our friends at South Arts are celebrating the rich traditions of Central Appalachia with Folk & Traditional Arts Master Artist Fellowships of \$12,000 each. These awards – open to lifelong tradition bearers in @ARC.gov counties across NC, KY, and TN – support continued learning, research, and dedication to craft for artists and practitioners who are preserving our sense of community. Applications are open through January 29. Apply [HERE!](#)

Save the Date!

 A historical black and white photograph of a woman sitting on a horse-drawn cart. The cart is pulled by a white horse. The background shows a street with buildings.

Photograph from Fain's book *Black Huntington: An Appalachian Story*.

February 24
12:00-1:00pm

Dinner on the Grounds

We've Always Been Here
Refuting the Myth of Black Invisibility in Central Appalachia

Event open and free to the public

Zoom Link <https://berea.zoom.us/j/92083919720>



Cicero M. Fain III

is a native of West Virginia. He received his Ph. D. in history from The Ohio State University. His first book, *Black Huntington: An Appalachian Story*, was published in May 2019 by the University of Illinois Press. He is a Professor of History at the College of Southern Maryland.



During such times of political tension and unrest, the responsibility of rural journalists is more important than ever! See what Al Cross, director at the University of Kentucky's Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues, has to say about it [here](#).

