



Thank You

Chuck Barber

Kathleen Carter

Christopher Manganiello

Mary L. Miller

Jill R. Severn

Department of History

Willson Center for Humanities and Arts

Mellon Foundation

Stemming the Tide

Environmental History
and the Future of the Georgia Coast

Funded by the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts
“Blue and Green Humanities” Initiative

May 5, 2022

Room 271

Richard B. Russell Libraries

300 South Hull Street

8:30-9:00 Coffee & Pastries

9:00-10:00 Keynote Address

“Power, Truth, Persistence: Advancing a Natural & Cultural History of Advocacy”

Christopher Manganiello, Water Policy Director, Chattahoochee Riverkeeper

10:00-11:00 Panel One: Forgotten Voices of the Georgia Coast

Shelby McWhirter “Listen to Your Archaic Elders: Rising Sea Levels Threaten Georgia’s Indigenous Heritage Sites”

Mary Shaw “Of Rice and Women: Georgia’s Forgotten Slaves, Forgotten Crop, and Forgotten Promise”

Hattie Wiesbrook “Enslaved Songs of the Coast: How Georgia’s Sea Islands Influenced Black Folk Music”

Anna Manley “Women of the Georgia Coast: Stewards of the Environment”

11:00-12:00 Panel Two: The History of Coastal Conservation in Georgia

Kade Greeson “Commodification, Conservation, and Wealth: The Impact of Private Ownership on the History of Cumberland Island”

Wyatt Huggins “Shielding the Seaboard: An Examination of Georgia’s Coastal Marshlands and How They Are Protected”

McLain Meriam “Sea Turtles: Charismatic Megafauna of the Georgia Coast”

Michael Dolor “The Debate for Cumberland Island”

12:00-1:00 Lunch Break

1:00-2:15 Panel Three: Industries and Their Impacts on Coastal Georgia

Zacharias Lind “Charles Herty: How Small Inventions Can Foster Big Change”

Matthew Haverland “The History of the Kings Bay Subbase and Its Effects on the Environment”

Kendall Floyd “Adapt and Readapt: The Continual Evolution of Savannah’s Tourism Industry”

Hayden Spichal “Georgia Power: Power Plant Pollution and Health Risks for the Georgia Coast”

John Webb “Savannah Under Threat: Civil War Fortifications of the Past Face Crisis in the Present”

2:15-3:15 Panel Four: Storms and Erosion on the Georgia Coast

Ashleigh Dial “Hurricane or Act of God: What the 1893 Hurricane Suggests About Hurricanes Today”

Zachary Ginac “Georgia’s Barrier Islands and Coastal Erosion”

Carynlee Berry “Save Our Sand and Other False Promises: The Failure of Beach Renourishment on St. Simons Island”

3:15-4:15 Panel Five: The Particularities of Place

Gavin Garner “Surviving Sapelo”

Mackenna Simpson “Feeling Swamped: Managing Mining and Climate Control in the Okefenokee”

Madeline Long “Who Are the Golden Isles For?”

4:15-4:30 Closing Remarks

4:30-5:00 Closing Reception