



**Humanities Council Little Lectures Wrap Up for 2018
With Talk on WVU Mountaineer Mascot**

*For Immediate Release
June 4, 2018*

*Contact: Mark Payne, 304-346-8500
payne@wvhumanities.org*

Charleston, WV — The West Virginia Humanities Council’s Little Lecture Series offers the final installment for 2018 on June 24, at 2:00 p.m. with folklorist Rosemary Hathaway presenting “Hillbilly or Frontiersman? A Brief Cultural History of the WVU Mountaineer Mascot.” The program is presented at the council’s headquarters, the MacFarland-Hubbard House in Charleston. Admission is \$10.

Hathaway is an associate professor of English at West Virginia University. Her areas of specialty are folklore, American literature, young-adult literature, and English education. She is particularly interested in the ways that folklore is deployed in literature, and has published articles about the use of folklore in texts ranging from Zora Neale Hurston’s *Their Eyes Were Watching God* and Ralph Ellison’s *Invisible Man* to Art Spiegelman’s *Maus* and Gene Luen Yang’s *American Born Chinese*.

The daughter of two West Virginia natives, Hathaway grew up in central Ohio hearing her parents’ stories about mountaineers—both as the term applies to West Virginians in general, and as it describes WVU’s mascot. When she began working at WVU in 2007, she became fascinated by the complexity of the figure of the mountaineer, and by how deeply the idea of the mountaineer resonates with West Virginians. This fascination grew into a research project that has expanded into a book-length study of the Mountaineer, which she is currently completing.

Little Lectures are presented on Sunday afternoons at 2:00 p.m. at the MacFarland-Hubbard House, 1310 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston. Admission to the lecture is \$10 and includes refreshments after the program. Seating is limited and those interested in attending should RSVP by noon on June 21.

For more information visit www.wvhumanities.org or contact program officer Mark Payne at 304-346-8500 or payne@wvhumanities.org.
