



**Humanities Council Little Lectures go virtual for the rest of the year,
including this Sunday**

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Charleston, WV — The West Virginia Humanities Council’s next three Little Lectures will be broadcast virtually on YouTube, Facebook, and the Council’s website, wvhumanities.org, instead of being held at the historic MacFarland-Hubbard House in Charleston. This includes the upcoming lecture, “The West Virginia Mine Wars and Memory,” which premieres this Sunday, July 19, at 2:00p.m.

“We’ve enjoyed the great response to our previous two virtual Little Lectures,” says Council Program Officer Kyle Warmack. “While we miss holding these events in person, and definitely look forward to returning to the traditional format, this has been such a great opportunity to bring these beloved Little Lectures to folks in every county. We plan to continue online distribution even after we return to live audiences next year.”

This Sunday’s lecture is given by Mackenzie New Walker, and will focus on the evolving legacy of southern West Virginia’s bitter conflicts between coal operators and miners struggling for better labor conditions in the first two decades of the 20th century. Walker is the Executive Director of the West Virginia Mine Wars Museum in Matewan, which since 2015 has focused on telling a “people’s history” of the struggles, skirmishes, and strikes that marked this period of turmoil. A graduate of Marshall University, Mrs. Walker is a fourth-generation card-carrying member of the United Mine Workers of America whose grandfather fought in the Mine Wars.

The lecture was taped earlier this week at the Humanities Council’s Charleston offices. Mrs. Walker will be available during this Sunday’s premiere to answer questions live in the comments and chat on Facebook and YouTube.

Rounding out the 2020 Little Lectures Series will be Aaron Carey of Bethany College presenting “The Role of Ancestry, Heritage, and Nature in Appalachian Black Metal Music” on August 23, followed by Dr. Cicero Fain’s lecture on “Black Huntington and the Rise of the African American Middle Class” on September 20. Both events will be presented virtually.

For more information visit www.wvhumanities.org or contact Kyle Warmack at 304-346-8500 or warmack@wvhumanities.org.

The West Virginia Humanities Council, an independent nonpartisan nonprofit, is the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Council is supported by the NEH, the State of West Virginia, and contributions from the private sector. The purposes of the West Virginia Humanities Council are educational, and its mission is to support a vigorous program in the humanities statewide in West Virginia.