

Media

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“Lizzie” was a WEDDING PRESENT — scolded, beaten, distrusted. Her story, from SLAVERY to the WHITE HOUSE



RALEIGH, N.C. — “Behind the Scenes”: A Conversation Between Anna Burwell and Elizabeth Keckley (1818-1907), Sunday, May 7, 2-4 p.m. Come to the N.C. Museum of History to hear an imaginary, but plausible, conversation into a window of Elizabeth Keckley’s (sometimes spelled Keckly) life.

This program is free and recommended for adults only.

Dr. Sheila Smith McKoy, Editor, “The Elizabeth Keckley Reader” Series

Dr. Maureen Quilligan, Playwright and Producer

Jane Holding, Brenda Stephens, Sara Stephens, Lilly Nelson, Actors

Join us for the FREE staged reading of Dr. Maureen Quilligan and Michael Malone’s innovative play. The play features a conversation between Anna Burwell, headmistress of the famed Burwell School in Hillsborough, and Keckley, an enslaved servant and seamstress at the school who later bought her freedom and went on to become the couturier and close friend of Mary Todd Lincoln.

A Q&A session, discussion with scholars and cast, and book signing follow the presentation.

Dr. Sheila Smith McKoy will be signing Vol. 1 and 2 of her books, “The Elizabeth Keckley Reader” series, inspired by Elizabeth Keckley’s original book — “Behind the Scenes, or, Thirty Years a Slave, And Four Years in the White House.”

The autobiography traces Elizabeth Keckley’s life from her enslavement in Virginia and North Carolina to her time as seamstress to Mary Todd Lincoln in the White House during Abraham Lincoln’s administration. The book marked the end of her friendship with Mary Todd Lincoln and was controversial at the time of its release.

This program is FREE, as is parking on Sundays.

For information about the N.C. Museum of History, call [919-807-7900](tel:919-807-7900) or access ncmuseumofhistory.org or follow on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Google+ or YouTube.

IMAGES Dropbox link, caption and credit

Link: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ymp6x70qcaw1osp/AABIT8sVSdM8RHYPEFGT5Uz5a?dl=0>

Image – Elizabeth Keckley

Elizabeth Hobbs Keckley. Courtesy of Eno Publishers.

Image – Anna Burwell

Anna Burwell. Courtesy of Burwell School Historic Site.

Image – Roadway Marker

Elizabeth Keckley’s N.C. State Highway marker, Hillsborough, NC.

Image – Mrs. Lincoln

Mary Todd Lincoln by Matthew Brady, 1861. Courtesy of the Ostendorf Collection.



This project is made possible, in part, by funding from the North Carolina Humanities Council, a statewide nonprofit and affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

About the N.C. Museum of History, a Smithsonian Affiliate

The N.C. Museum of History is located at 5 E. Edenton Street in downtown Raleigh. Hours are Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. The museum collects and preserves artifacts of North Carolina history and educates the public on the history of the state and the nation through exhibits and educational programs. Each year more than 400,000 people visit the museum to see some of the 150,000 artifacts in the museum collection. The Museum of History, within the Division of State History Museums, is part of the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

About the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

The N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (NCDNCR) is the state agency with a vision to be the leader in using the state's natural and cultural resources to build the social, cultural, educational and economic future of North Carolina. NCDNCR's mission is to improve the quality of life in our state by creating opportunities to experience excellence in the arts, history, libraries and nature in North Carolina by stimulating learning, inspiring creativity, preserving the state's history, conserving the state's natural heritage, encouraging recreation and cultural tourism, and promoting economic development.

NCDNCR includes 27 historic sites, seven history museums, two art museums, two science museums, three aquariums and Jennette's Pier, 39 state parks and recreation areas, the N.C. Zoo, the nation's first state-supported Symphony Orchestra, the State Library, the State Archives, the N.C. Arts Council, State Preservation Office and the Office of State Archaeology, along with the Division of Land and Water Stewardship. For more information, please call 919-807-7300 or visit www.ncdcr.gov.

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