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August 2025 Spotlight



Faye Williams

The Saga of Sisterspace in Community

Faye Williams made her own way by speaking up and through sheer determination. She became a lesbian feminist as her values guided her to fulfill her dream of owning a bookstore, one that was embedded in community, support going both ways.



You will discover the intriguing story of how she managed to attend Georgetown University as an adult, with no money to spend on her education.

Faye was born in Gainesville, Florida, in Porters Quarters, a segregated neighborhood, and she returned to her roots after her bookstore had to close. Her career took her to Tallahassee and Washington, D.C., where she established Sisterspace. It was the perfect time and place to host many of our best writers, from Nikki Giovanni to bell hooks to Toni Morrison.

Her struggle with the bookstore's landlord foreshadowed the challenges she is taking on now, to preserve her neighborhood from development for the University of Florida. Faye William's interview is warm and honest, and you will be the wiser for reading her story.

Spotlight on Faye Williams

Want to Get Involved?

WE NEED EDITORS!

The SLFAHP website team has been publishing at least one interview a month on the website, but this is about as much as our team can manage. We could publish more interviews if we had more editors. With that in mind, we are planning a Zoom tutorial about editing for the web. It's all about writing and editing, not web techie stuff. Watch for a date in your September newsletter!

Maybe you'd just like to see what steps we follow to go from an oral interview to the content you see on our [website](#). See how you fit with the project according to your interests and time or just satisfy your curiosity.

Feel free to jump in. Just [contact SLFAHP](#) if you're interested. We'd love to have you join us!

You are invited to participate

Remembering our lesbian activist friends who have died

NEW:

See our drop-down menu on the [Home page](#) under the **Showcase tab**. We added a new page there: [Remembering Lesbians: She Who Will Be Remembered](#)

NOTE:

Merril Mushroom is in charge of this project. If you would like to write a remembrance, use our Contact form: [Contact SLFAHP](#).

The Southern Lesbian Feminist Activist Herstory Project

We collect, archive, and celebrate oral and written stories of unsung, Southern, lesbian-feminist activists during the second half of the twentieth century. We are proud of our contributions to lesbian culture, strengthened by our collective voices.

Many of us recognized that the lesbian-feminist voices of Southern lesbians had been omitted or marginalized in mainstream literature of the LGBTQ movement as well as from feminist history. We are the antidote to this omission. We worked with Duke University to set up archives, did interviews all over the south, and eventually collaborated with Julie Enszer to publish 6 issues of Sinister Wisdom, full of all our stories. Now we maintain our website and update it monthly, as you hear about through this newsletter. We are still gathering more Southern lesbian stories, interviewing, writing, editing, tracking, and networking.

We are always ready to welcome new collaborators! If you would like to join the SLFAHP group, email us at SLFAHerstoryProject@gmail.com.

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