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Award-winning Author Sharyn McCrumb to Speak on Tom Dooley Legend on Nov. 3

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Award-winning Author Sharyn McCrumb to Speak on Tom Dooley Legend on Nov. 3

Quick Facts

- This latest novel is a part of McCrumb's famous series of Appalachian "Ballad" novels, which are set in the North Carolina/Tennessee mountains and weave together Appalachian legends, natural wonders and contemporary issues.
- Her presentation will take place at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 3 in the Tuttle Dining Room, McBryde Hall.



Sharyn McCrumb

ROCK HILL, S.C. - [Sharyn McCrumb](#), an award-winning and New York Times bestselling author, will speak on Appalachia and her latest book, "[The Ballad of Tom Dooley](#)," on the Winthrop University campus on Nov. 3.

Her presentation will take place at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 3 in the Tuttle Dining Room, [McBryde Hall](#). Sponsored by the [Friends of the Dacus Library](#), the event is free and open to the public.

This latest novel is a part of McCrumb's famous series of **Appalachian "Ballad" novels**, which are set in the North Carolina/Tennessee mountains and weave together Appalachian legends, natural wonders and contemporary issues. Other books in the series include "If Ever I Return Pretty Peggy-O," "The Hangman's Beautiful Daughter," "She Walks These Hills," "The Rosewood Casket," "The Ballad of Frankie Silver," "The Ghost Riders" and "The Devil Amongst the Lawyers."

Most persons are familiar with the folk song made famous by the Kingston Trio in the 1950s, "Hang Down Your Head, Tom Dooley." This song is based upon a true incident that occurred in the North Carolina mountains in 1866.

McCrumb relates the basic elements of the story on her website: "Laura Foster, a simple country girl, was murdered and buried in a shallow grave on a mountain side, and her lover Tom Dula [Dooley] was hanged for the crime. The sensational elements in the case attracted national attention: a man and his beautiful married lover accused of murdering the other woman; the former governor of North Carolina [Zeb Vance] spear-heading the defense; and a noble gesture from the prisoner on the eve of his execution, saving the woman he really loved."

McCrumb's novel is historical fiction, but as with her earlier "Ballad" books, she did considerable historical research on her subject, unearthing new information on the case. Hence, she maintains that her new novel, "**tells the true story behind the celebrated folk song.**"

On Nov. 3, **McCrumb** will speak on her novel, take questions from the audience and autograph copies of her books which will be for sale at the event.

For more information, contact **Ronnie W. Faulkner**, [Dacus Library](#) at 803/323-2262, or e-mail him at faulknerr@winthrop.edu.

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