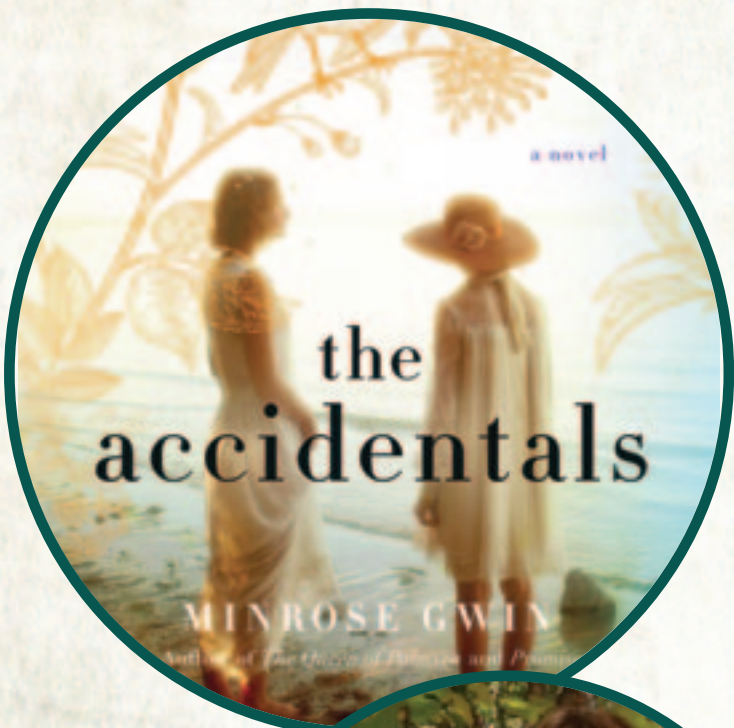


# Flannery O'Connor and Families



## CONFERENCE TALK/READING FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

### "'Where you come from is gone': What Flannery O'Connor Taught Me about Mothers"

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: MINROSE GWIN

**Minrose Gwin** is the author of the novels *The Queen of Palmyra*, a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers pick and finalist for the John Gardner Fiction Book Award; *Promise*, which was shortlisted for the Willie Morris Award in Southern Literature; and *The Accidentals*, which received the Mississippi Institute for Arts and Letters Award in Fiction in 2020 and from which she will read at the conference. She has also published a memoir, *Wishing for Snow*, about the collision of poetry and psychosis in her mother's life, and four books of literary and cultural criticism, most recently *Remembering Medgar Evers: Writing the Long Civil Rights Movement*. She is coeditor of *The Literature of the American South*, a Norton anthology.

She began her writing career as a journalist and later taught at universities across the country, most recently the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Like the characters in her novel *Promise*, she grew up in Tupelo, Mississippi.

5 P.M., FRIDAY, JUNE 18, 2021

DeSOTO HOTEL • HARBORVIEW ROOM

The Symposium will also offer presentations on other topics, especially how—in various courses, for various sorts of students—to teach O'Connor's works. There will also be a panel on the topic of "Flannery O'Connor and Race." The variety of topics should provide for a lively weekend of literary exploration and good conversation.

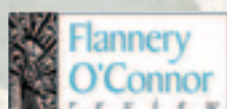
The DeSoto Hotel offers excellent rates and is perfectly located near the Flannery O'Connor Childhood Home in the historic downtown of Savannah, Georgia. Single and double rooms are \$174 a night plus taxes. Discounted valet parking is available for \$26 per night.

Flannery O'Connor was a great and complex writer on the subject of family dynamics. What do we find when we examine the relationships between members of the metaphorical and biological families to which O'Connor's characters belong? How does O'Connor regard childhood? How do issues and themes of family life relate to O'Connor's other themes?

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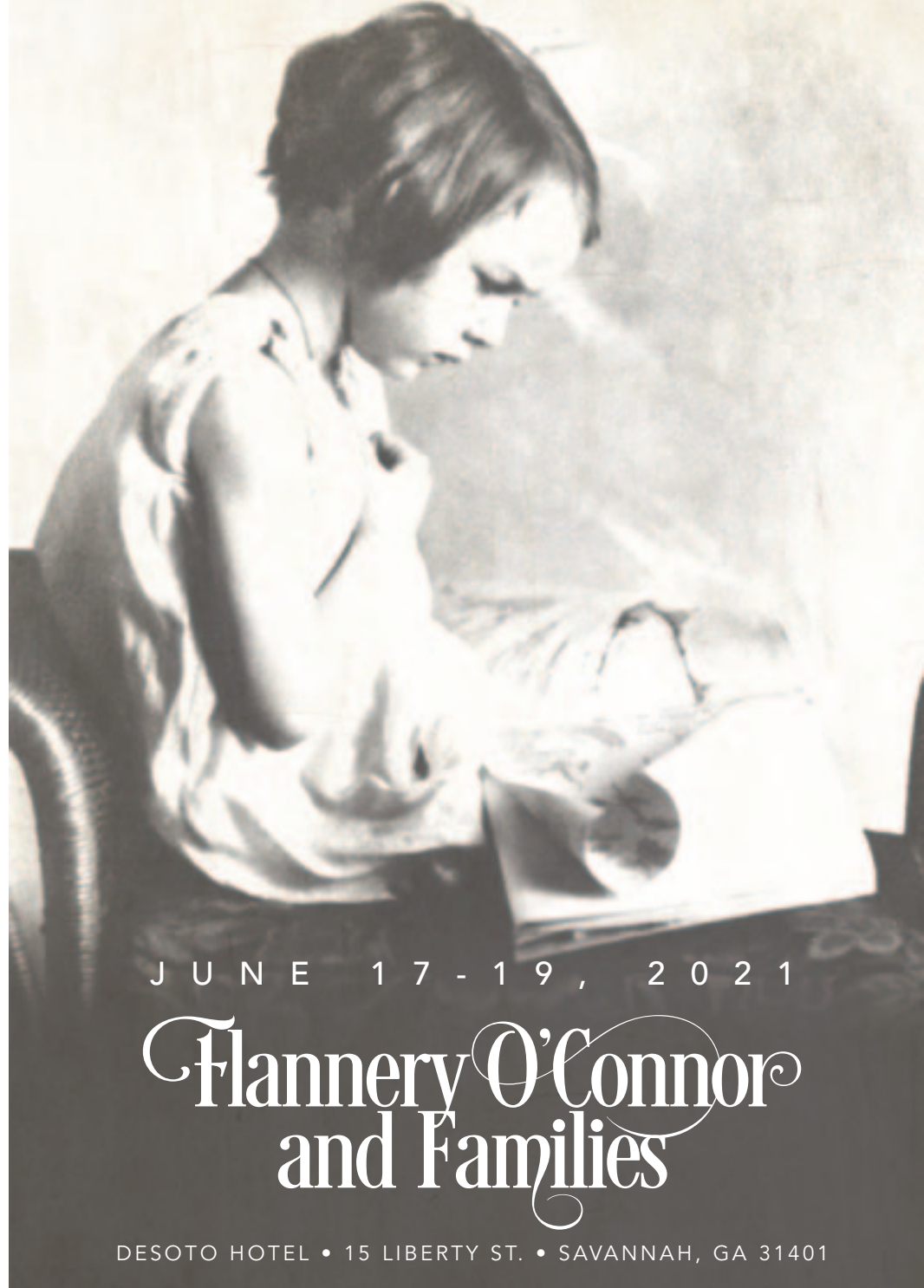
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J U N E 1 7 - 1 9 , 2 0 2 1

**Flannery O'Connor  
 and Families**

DESOTO HOTEL • 15 LIBERTY ST. • SAVANNAH, GA 31401



Handmade Flannery O'Connor-themed facemasks will be provided to the first 40 registered participants staying at the Desoto Hotel.

**Get to know the "family" of  
 O'Connor enthusiasts, such as**

- Amy Alznauer
- Meghan Anderson
- Irene Burgess
- Jean W. Cash
- Jordan Cofe
- Matt Davis
- Robert Donahoo
- Thomas Haddox
- Carole K. Harris
- Bruce Henderson
- Avis Hewitt
- Monica Carol Miller
- William Monroe
- Brian Abel Ragen
- Carol Loeb Shloss
- Roger Stanley

**Conference Details:** The conference fee of \$175 covers the cost of the conference. We require all those who are on the program to pre-register by June 1. Go to the American Literature Association website at [americanliteratureassociation.org](http://americanliteratureassociation.org) and look for "Flannery O'Connor and Families." You will find there a link for conference registration. We welcome registration and attendance by people who are not presenting. If you wish to pay by check, you may find the mail-in registration form on our website. The conference fee is \$175 for all participants. We regret that we are unable to offer a lower rate for graduate students and independent scholars. If you have a question or concern regarding registration, please contact Olivia Carr Edenfield, Director of the ALA, at [carr@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:carr@georgiasouthern.edu).

When you register for the conference, you will also find a link for making a room reservation at the Desoto Hotel. Participants are asked to make their hotel reservations immediately and to pay the conference fee by pre-registering online by June 1. A program will be placed on the ALA website prior to our meeting, and printed programs will be available at the Symposium. Sessions at "Flannery O'Connor and Families" run Friday and Saturday, June 18 and 19, 2021. There will be an opening event, a walking tour, and a welcoming reception on Thursday afternoon and evening, June 17. The Conference Fee of \$175 includes a luncheon as well as receptions.

**ALA Membership:** Membership in the ALA is not required in order to attend the Symposium or present a paper. In fact, technically the members of the American Literature Association are the various author societies. Individuals may keep informed about the activities of the ALA, including our symposia and conferences, by checking our website. Please note that the American Literature Association maintains the lowest conference fees of any major scholarly organization because it operates without a paid staff. If you have any questions that are not answered by this announcement, please contact the Conference Director, Marshall Bruce Gentry, at [bruce.gentry@gcsu.edu](mailto:bruce.gentry@gcsu.edu).

*Thank you for your interest and your support of the American Literature Association.*

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