

Our author for 2006:

Timothy B. Tyson



Timothy B. Tyson, a native of eastern North Carolina, is the John Hope Franklin Senior Fellow at the National Humanities Center and professor of Afro-American Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. This year he is visiting faculty at Duke University.

Tyson's latest book, ***Blood Done Sign My Name***, was published in May 2004 by Crown, a division of Random House. It recounts a racial murder committed in his hometown of Oxford, North Carolina in 1970 by the father of a childhood friend, and the African American uprising that followed in the wake of the murder. ***Blood Done Sign My Name*** represents his best effort at what South Africans have called "Truth and Reconciliation." His previous book, ***Radio Free Dixie: Robert F. Williams And The Roots of Black Power*** won the 2000 James Rawley Prize and was co-winner of the 2000 Frederick Jackson Turner Prize.

Tyson worked with the Documentary Institute at the University of Florida to create "**Negroes with Guns: Rob Williams and Black Power**," a documentary film which premiered in March 2004 at Lincoln Center in New York City and will air on PBS in the spring of 2005. Tyson is co-editor with David S. Cecelski of ***Democracy Betrayed: The Wilmington Race Riot of 1898 And Its Legacy***, which won the 1999 Outstanding Book Award from the Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Human Rights.

His next book is called ***Deep River: African American Freedom Movements in the 20th Century South***, and he is also working on a historical novel tentatively entitled ***Fallen Angels Fly***.