

Leslie Meadows

2021 Yates Mill Henry Marshall Volunteer Award Recipient



Since 1995, Yates Mill Associates has presented the Henry Marshall Award to an individual who has provided outstanding contributions to the restoration, promotion and demonstration of historic Yates Mill. This year, that award goes to the very well deserving Leslie Meadows.

Leslie currently serves as Secretary of Yates Mill Associates. In that capacity she prepares for, attends and documents activities at Yates Mill Associates Executive Committee and Board meetings. She also supports the organization in numerous ways, always volunteering for additional activities to promote Yates Mill Associates. Her activities in the past year have been particularly admirable as she achieved all this while facing the COVID-19 challenges of teaching high school, both online and in-person, as well as caring for her family including two young daughters. Leslie's enthusiasm and organizational skills are greatly appreciated and admired.

In addition to her recent work with Yates Mill Associates, Leslie has a long history with Yates Mill and Historic Yates Mill County Park. Leslie served as a Park Aide at Historic Yates Mill County Park from 2006 to 2010, where she conducted historical research for the park related to the historic gristmill, designed and assisted in the delivery of park programming, and worked with park volunteers, training them to

host historic mill tours and costumed interpretation. During her tenure as a park aide, she completed her Masters of Arts in History from North Carolina State University in 2008 and published her thesis entitled "I am history, don't destroy please: Three gristmills and their communities in Wake County, North Carolina." Her thesis is [available online](#) and includes information about Yates Mill. She also was instrumental in the preparation of the Yates Mill Cornmeal Cookbook.

Leslie also volunteers at Yates Mill, where she conducts tours of the historic Yates Mill, serves as a certified waterwheel operator and participates in costumed interpretation. She is often joined by her daughter Kara, who serves as a terrific bell ringer to signify the start of a mill tour.

Congratulations and many thanks to Leslie for all she does to serve Yates Mill and our organization!