



Press Release

For Immediate Release

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ARCHITREATS: FOOD FOR THOUGHT
WHILE THE WORLD WATCHED: A BIRMINGHAM BOMBING SURVIVOR REMEMBERS
PRESENTED BY CAROLYN M. MCKINSTRY

ArchiTreats: Food for Thought continues another year of interesting and informative talks on Alabama history at the Alabama Department of Archives and History. Join us at **noon** on Thursday, **September 19th**, as Carolyn McKinstry presents *While the World Watched: A Birmingham Bombing Survivor Remembers*. This presentation is in conjunction with the statewide Becoming Alabama initiative.

Fifty years ago on September 15, 1963, Carolyn McKinstry was present at the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham when it was bombed by Ku Klux Klan members. Four of McKinstry's young friends were killed that day. As a teenager, McKinstry was an active participant in the struggle for civil rights. She was one of hundreds hosed by firemen in the 1963 marches and survived a second bomb explosion in 1964 that destroyed a large portion of her home. These haunting experiences inspired McKinstry to author *While the World Watched*, published in 2010. This book details her childhood and involvement in the Birmingham civil rights movement of the 1960s.

A native of Birmingham, Carolyn McKinstry is a graduate of Fisk University in Nashville and received her Master of Divinity Degree from Samford University's Beeson Divinity School. She is currently a second year Doctorate of Ministry student at New York Theological Seminary. McKinstry is passionate about community service and is a member of many organizations that encourage the growth of strong communities. She spends much of her time speaking to young people, educators, and institutions about her experiences and their relevance to the world today.

This ArchiTreats presentation is made possible by the Friends of the Alabama Archives and a grant from the Alabama Humanities Foundation, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The public is invited to bring a sack lunch and enjoy a bit of Alabama history.

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