

The University Library Diversity Committee invites you to attend  
*an afternoon of music and storytelling with*  
*Miss Connie “B” Steadman*

Monday, March 28, 2011, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Pleasants Family Assembly Room, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Combining the warmth and tradition of old-fashioned storytelling that utilizes audience involvement and music that blends the excitement of jubilee with the stateliness of older hymns and spiritual traditions, Miss Connie “B” invites her listeners to share and preserve the precious tradition of African American performance.

Miss Connie “B” learned her masterful a cappella style of delivering music and message from her father, Cortelyou Badgett, who passed down traditional African American gospel singing when he formed The Badgett Family. The group later became The Badgett Sisters, featuring Connie and her sisters Cleonia and Celester. The Badgett Sisters became a mainstay of North Carolina’s popular Black Folk Heritage Tour, which showcased the traditional performing arts of the state’s African American heritage. In 1990 they received a N.C. Arts Council Folk Heritage Award. They have recorded memorable collections such as *Give Me Wings*, *Just a Little While to Stay Here*, and *The Voice that Refused to Die*.

Connie now carries on the family tradition in an inspiring solo act that captivates audiences with interactive performances of traditional songs. While telling stories about such animals as “Brer Rabbit” and “Brer Fox,” she shares terms that may be unfamiliar to her audiences, and incorporates feedback from them on topics mentioned in the stories.



This one-hour program is part of the Library series **Exploring Diversity Through the Cultural and Performing Arts**, sponsored by the University’s Performing Arts and Special Activities Fund. The event is free and open to the public.



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