



Heath Hardage Lee

Topics

Culture and Society, Historians, Women's Interests

Travels From

Virginia

Bio

Heath Hardage Lee is an author, independent historian, and curator who comes from a museum education, preservation, and program background. She started her museum career at the Levine Museum of the New South in Charlotte, North Carolina, as the Director of Education and Programs. Heath has since worked as a museum consultant for museums across the U.S. She was the 2017 Robert J. Dole Curatorial Fellow, and her exhibition entitled *The League of Wives: Vietnam POW MIA Advocates & Allies* about Vietnam POW MIA wives premiered at the Dole Institute of Politics in May of 2017. The exhibit is currently traveling through 2020 to museum venues all over the country including the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum, the Virginia Museum of History and Culture, Coronado Historical Association, and The Nixon Museum and Library. Potomac Books, a division of the University of Nebraska Press, published Heath Hardage Lee's first book, *Winnie Davis: Daughter of the Lost Cause*, in 2014. This biography about the youngest daughter of Confederate President Jefferson Davis won the 2015 Colonial Dames of America Annual Book Award as well as a Gold Medal for

Nonfiction writing from the Independent Publisher 2015 Book Awards. Heath taught professionally for many years and has run two Museum Speaker Series. When her first book, *Winnie Davis: Daughter of the Lost Cause* was published in 2014, Heath spoke about that book at more than fifty venues, including The Great Lives Biography Series at the University of Mary Washington, Virginia Historical Society in Richmond, The Gettysburg Sacred Trust, and The Museum of the Confederacy. The Museum of the Confederacy talk was filmed by C-Span. Heath Hardage Lee's new nonfiction book is *The League of Wives: The Untold Story of the Women Who Took on the U.S. Government to Bring Their Husbands Home from Vietnam* about the courageous wives of aviators who were Prisoners of War or Missing in Action during the Vietnam War. She has promoted both the *League of Wives* exhibition and the *League of Wives* book on radio shows. In November 2018, Fox 2000 and Reese Witherspoon acquired the film rights to *The League of Wives*. She holds a B.A. in History with Honors from Davidson College, and an M.A. in French Language and Literature from the University of Virginia. Follow Heath on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

SPEECHES

The League of Wives: The Untold Story of the Women Who Took on the U.S. Government to Bring Their Husbands Home from Vietnam Heath tells the story of how the wives of American POWs and MIAs from the Vietnam War, told to “Keep Quiet” under the Johnson administration, went public with their husbands' stories of torture by the North Vietnamese in an effort to bring them home. This “League of Wives” founded by Sybil Stockdale became a powerful humanitarian lobby helping to facilitate the POWs' eventual return and the accounting of the missing in action.

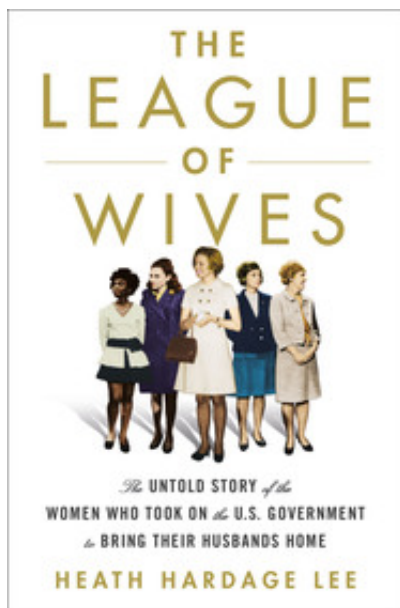
Winnie Davis: Daughter of the Lost Cause Heath recounts the unlikely story of Varina Anne “Winnie” Davis, the youngest daughter of Jefferson Davis. Educated in a German convent and sheltered from her family history, Winnie was an unlikely candidate for her honorary “Daughter of the Confederacy” title. She had a forbidden romance with the grandson of a famous abolitionist, became a well-regarded author, and moved to New York City post-war, ultimately becoming a cultural bridge between North and South.

BOOKS

[The League of Wives](#) The Untold Story of the Women Who Took on the U.S. Government to Bring Their Husbands Home

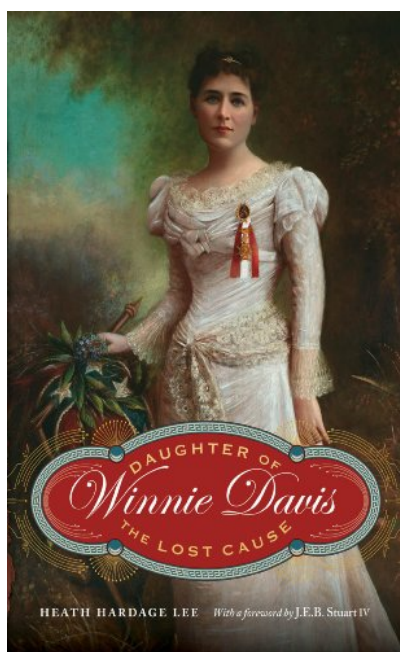
St. Martin's Press

The true story of the fierce band of women who



battled Washington—and Hanoi—to bring their husbands home from the jungles of Vietnam.

Hardcover



Hardcover