## For Immediate Release

Press Contact: Cherel Henderson, Director 865-215-8823 | 865-335-0888 <u>cherel@eastTNhistory.org</u> <u>www.eastTNhistory.org</u>

April 5, 2016

## "Knoxville's WNOX-Radio: The Cradle of Country Music" A Brown Bag Lecture by Bradley Reeves

PROGRAM:	<i>Knoxville's WNOX-Radio: The Cradle of Country Music,</i> A Brown Bag Lecture by Bradley Reeves
DATE:	Noon, Wednesday, April 13, 2016
LOCATION:	East Tennessee History Center 601 South Gay Street Knoxville, TN 37902
ADMISSION:	FREE   Attendees are encouraged to bring a "brown bag" lunch

(Knoxville, TN) WNOX-Radio began broadcasting in 1922 as the eighth radio station in the nation. Almost immediately, the station began drawing from an immense pool of local music talent to fill airtime, culminating in the historic Brunswick-Vocalion recording sessions of 1929 and 1930. The Knoxville Sessions, held at the Hotel St. James WNOX studios, captured seminal old time, gospel, blues, and jazz performances by some of East Tennessee's (and beyond) most popular musicians. In a Brown Bag Lecture on Wednesday, April 13, Bradley Reeves will share insights and rare archival film clips from the Tennessee Archive of Moving Image and Sound vaults, including classic country music performances by Chet Atkins, Roy Acuff, and Carl Smith, amateur home movies shot on the set of the Mid-Day-Merry-Go-Round, and vintage audio recordings of long-lost WNOX radio programs from the 1940s.

The lecture is held in conjunction with a new exhibition, *Come to Make Records: Knoxville's Contributions to American Popular Music*, on display at the Museum of East Tennessee History through October 30, 2016. The exhibition will open to the public on Friday, April 15, beginning at 5:30 p.m. with a ribbon cutting and followed by live musical performances and vintage film clips at 6:00 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

Bradley Reeves is the director of the Tennessee Archive of Moving Image and Sound (TAMIS), founded in 2005 by Reeves and Louisa Trott. Now a part of the McClung Historical Collection of the Knox County Public Library, TAMIS is dedicated to locating, preserving, and providing access to the moving image and recorded sound heritage of Tennessee. Reeves is a Knoxville native and graduate of the L. Jeffrey Selznick School of Film Preservation at the George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film in Rochester, New York.

## Making history personal





The program is sponsored by the Harriet Z. Albers Memorial and is free and open to the public. The lecture will begin at noon at the East Tennessee History Center, 601 S. Gay Street, Knoxville. Guests are invited to bring a "Brown Bag" lunch and enjoy the lecture. Soft drinks will be available. For more information on the lecture, exhibitions, or museum hours, call 865-215-8824 or visit the website at <u>www.EastTNHistory.org</u>.

**End Release**