

THE KentuckyHistoricalSociety PRESENTS

# LEADERSHIP & LEGACY IN KENTUCKY HISTORY

## CORA WILSON STEWART | 1875-1858



*A Moonlight School classroom. (Cora Wilson Stewart Collection. University Archives. University of Kentucky Libraries.)*

**ADULT LITERACY** – Rowan County farmers, merchants, ministers, laborers, their wives and adult children flocked to the new nighttime schools Superintendent Cora Wilson Stewart started in 1911. Stewart saw literacy as a way out of poverty for people of all ages and races. Others agreed. By 1915, just four years later, an estimated 40,000 people had learned to read and write at Moonlight Schools all over the commonwealth. By 1916, 18 other states had similar programs.

**Learn more:** Cora Wilson Stewart Oral History Project, Pass the Word, a project of the Kentucky Oral History Commission administered by the Kentucky Historical Society.



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