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Important Dates and Upcoming Events

- March 15– April 15
Adverse – A photography exhibit by Brian Culbertson
- April 20 – July 15
Princeville Educators Exhibit
- May 9 @5pm
Friends of Joyner Library Annual Meeting

The Stacks

Friends of the Library Newsletter

East Carolina University®

Spring 2023

Friends Banquet Returns in 2023

By Mike Taylor

After a pandemic-forced hiatus of three years, the Friends of Joyner Library (FOJL) Spring banquet is back March 28 with N.C. writer Wiley Cash as the featured speaker. Cash was born in Fayetteville, raised in Gastonia and now resides in Wilmington (his bio is available in another story in this issue of The Stacks).

The Spring banquet, which kickoffs with a social hour/cash bar at 5:30pm before the program begins with dinner at 6:30pm, will be held at the Hilton Greenville. Tickets are \$75 each plus sales tax.

In addition to a presentation by Wiley Cash, FOJL will present the lifetime membership award to Johnnee Rice. A silent auction will also be conducted during the evening with winning bids announced at the end of the program.

The FOJL Spring banquet has been a staple of the Friends for a number of years. The last event held was in 2019. Since this is a library event, prominent authors are the featured speakers. Wiley Cash continues that trend. Natalie Baszile, author of *Queen Sugar*, which was the book the TV series was based on, was the 2016 speaker while Lenoir County native and award-winning chef and author Vivian Howard spoke at the 2017 FOJL banquet. In 2018, ECU® alumna and author Kristy Woodson Harvey was the featured speaker. At the last banquet before the pandemic forced a break, best-selling author Margaret Maron was the speaker.

Funds raised by the banquet (ticket sales and silent auction) go to boost efforts by the FOJL to support Joyner Library. Friends funds are used by the library staff to provide services not supported by state funding including awards for student recognition including writing and art, staff development, staff semester kick-offs, holiday luncheons, and the purchase of award-winning student art, which is displayed in Joyner.

For more information visit library.edu.edu/giving/friends or contact Charlotte Fitz Daniels at 252-328-0287 or fitzdaniels16@ecu.edu

Thoughts From the Friends President



Friends president Al Jones

Over the years, along with my rewarding career in library science and even now, I participate whenever possible in organizations that value community outreach and allow participants to gain personal fulfillment while giving back to the community that sponsors each organization.

After joining the Friends of the Joyner Library as a member, and then as a Board member and now serving as President, I realize that the Friends is a way to share my love for libraries with the Greenville community. I have also realized that each individual member pays a critical role in the accomplishment of the FOJL's mission to serve the needs of the library and its users in furtherance of East Carolina's mission to serve (Servire) the university community at large. I am thoroughly enjoying my tenure not just as the President, but as the leader of a talented team that works to fulfill the mission and goals of the Joyner Library and the ECU community at large.

After a two-year hiatus, I am looking forward to the Spring Banquet 2023 featuring guest speaker, North Carolina's own, Wiley Cash. Making this a memorable event will depend on how well the FOJL Board works together as an enthusiastic team. My reward as President will be to share with the Friends of the Library a wonderful literary event, a fabulous silent auction, delicious food, and a chance to meet old friends and make new ones.

I would like to recognize the hard work of the current Board especially officers Kaye Dotson, Vice President, and Mike Taylor, Past President and Secretary/Treasurer, and Rejeanor Scott, a second Past President. Special recognition is given to the current members of the Events Committee who are busy planning the banquet, including Chairs Johnnee Rice and Laura Mangum, new Board member Carol Adamec Brown, and student representative Kristen Daniel.

The special contributions of Jan Lewis, Joyner Library Director, Charlotte Fitz Daniels, Program and Events Coordinator, and Heather White, Assistant Director for Engagement and Outreach, are numerous. These talented women make the FOJL function effectively and efficiently.

I'd like to finish my report with a call for members to also consider a two-year commitment on the Board and for a further committee to serve as officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Don't be bashful and don't worry about having a long resume of experiences, you will learn the ropes quickly and enjoy the satisfaction of making a difference with the university community, especially the talented Joyner Library staff and ECU students.

-Al Jones

The Friends Welcome Wiley Cash

Written by Carol A. Brown



Wiley Cash, the author of four award-winning novels, will speak at the Friends of the Library Banquet on March 28. In addition to his novels, Cash's short stories and essays have appeared in *Garden & Gun*, *Our State Magazine*, and other publications. He has taught creative writing and literature at University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina-Asheville, and several other institutions.

In a 2018 interview, he described how he loves his home state of North Carolina. Born in Fayetteville but growing up in Gastonia, he set three of his four novels in the northwest region of the state. He is a graduate of UNC Asheville and UNC Greensboro. He completed a PhD in American Literature from UL-Lafayette. It was during his graduate studies in Louisiana that he realized how much he missed his home-state and longed to return. Now back home in North Carolina, he lives with his wife (creative photographer Mallory Cash) and their two children.

Cash shares his interests and expertise in numerous ways. He is a contributing editor for *The Assembly*, a digital literary magazine that publishes deep reporting on power and place in North Carolina. He is founder of *This is Working*, an online writing community that instructs and mentors writers and storytellers at all levels (wileycash.com/this-is-working). His popular book club the "Open Canon Book Club" can be accessed through Facebook (www.facebook.com/opencanon/). Best of all is his careful attention to home life with his wife and two daughters. Currently, he is remodeling a small vintage home in Wilmington. Besides his family, his two favorite things are books and art, which cover the walls and floors of his home.

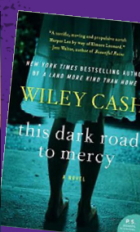
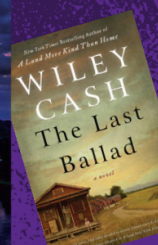
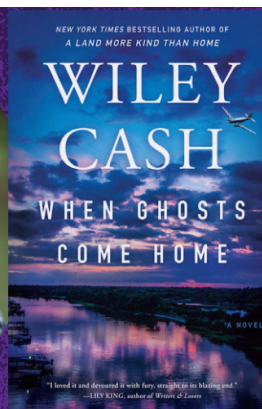
If you scan the Events link on his homepage (wileycash.com) you can follow the trail of dozens of workshops, interviews, and book signings across the state and region. Wiley loves North Carolina but his readers love his writing style with multi-voiced narrators, enriched portrayal of characters in the southern literature genre along with enticing elements of mystery. His most recent book, *When Ghosts Come Home* is a national bestseller, including Amazon's top 20 books of the year. To read more about his work and multiple literary awards, see www.wileycash.com.

AN EVENING WITH WILEY CASH

Tuesday, March 28, 2023

The Friends of Joyner Library Spring Banquet

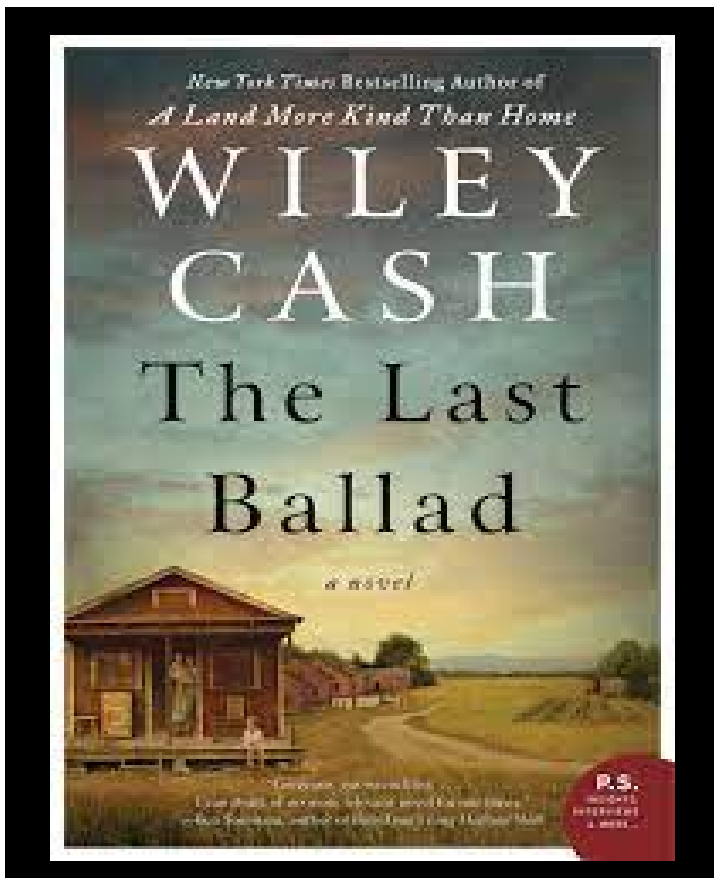
library.ecu.edu/giving/friends



ADA Accommodation: 252-737-1018 |
ada-coordinator@ecu.edu

A review of The Last Ballad

By Laura Mangum



Beautifully written, this historical fiction novel takes the reader on a journey through the life of mill town worker turned union leader, Ella May Wiggins. The novel takes place in Gaston County in western North Carolina during the summer of 1929. During this time period, mill strikes were being organized in Gaston County to demand better working conditions. Ella May Wiggins visits a strike out of curiosity and is soon whisked into it wholeheartedly when she is asked to sing on stage for the strikers. She is an instant hit as her songs speak truthfully about her struggles, to which many strikers relate. Soon, Ella May is recruited as a strike leader based on her ability to connect with mill workers. She also works to integrate the union to include the African American mill workers. The novel holds the reader's interest as chapters introduce different characters and their perspectives and experiences of the mill strike events of 1929.

Intrigue is built as each new character plays a pivotal role either in Ella May's life or in the events surrounding the 1929 mill strike, which all culminate through the novel's gripping ending. This novel is highly recommended for enthusiasts of historical fiction.

Kirkus Reviews states, "It's refreshing that Cash highlights the struggles of often forgotten heroes and shows how crucial women and African-Americans were in the fight for workers' rights." <https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/wiley-cash/the-last-ballad-cash/>

Publisher's Weekly states, "This suspenseful, moving novel is a story of struggle and personal sacrifice for the greater good that will resonate with readers of John Steinbeck or Ron Rash." <https://www.publishersweekly.com/978-0-06-267073-1>

Student: The Sensory Space is 'so fun'

By Ronnie Woodward

Various students are enjoying the sensory-safe space inside the East Carolina University main campus library.

The space, located on the second floor in room 2803 and established in 2022, was made possible thanks to funding by the Friends of Joyner Library. Funding for the space supports neurodivergent students and anyone seeking to engage their senses, improve focus, or de-stress.

Positioned behind the Janice Hardison Faulkner Gallery with two entrance doors, the space is open weekdays from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on a drop-in basis. It features fidget toys, adjustable lighting, an array of seating options, a unique tactile wall, bubble tube, 55-inch monitor and other colorful, calming accessories.



It didn't take long for students to provide feedback on the positive addition to the library's study options.

"Students are super engaged with the sensory space," library director Jan Lewis said. "They use the whiteboard in the room to leave feedback and suggestions. Two popular additions – adjustable lighting and a rainstick – were suggested by students. Comments like, 'This room is so fun' and, 'Such a cool concept' help us know we're on the right track. We're appreciative that the Friends of the Library provided initial funding for the sensory space. Next up for us is creating a family study space, as we try to make the library more inclusive and foster a sense of belonging for all our students."

Student initiative helped greatly for the introduction of this sensory space.

Honors College students Izzy Colberg and Maelee Becton were instrumental in the process. Another strong advocate was former library administrative services student employee Jaylyn Johnson, in working with Academic Library Services assistant director for public services Mark Sanders, for the curation of the ongoing asset to Academic Library Services and ECU students, staff and faculty.

“I wanted to see a sensory-safe space somewhere on campus because I know what it’s like to be a neurodivergent student with a lack of resources,” Becton said. “It can also be extremely nerve-racking for people to have a resource that requires them to reach out to get a key or special access, so I liked the idea that a study room would be fair use. Joyner was a central location on campus, but it also created the potential for more accessibility that normal study rooms might not always have.”





March 22 is Pirate Nation Gives for the university's seventh annual day of giving and a great way to publicly support our students, faculty and staff. Numerous activities are planned for March 22 on campus and there will be plenty of buzz online for this "All Hands on Deck" campaign and celebration.

Giving to the Joyner Library Priority Fund supports our textbook affordability program, sustainable scholarship efforts and many other areas that directly support student and faculty success. A Friends of The Library challenge this year as part of Pirate Nation Gives includes a goal for at least 20 donors to support the library. A quick link to library funds is available via http://give.ecu.edu/PNG_Joyner.

Thank you for all the ways you support Academic Library Services and Pirate Nation Gives!

Friends of the Library Membership Application

Personal Information:

Name: _____
 Spouse: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____
 Zip: _____
 Cell Phone: _____
 Email Address: _____

Membership Levels:

<input type="checkbox"/> Patron's Wall	\$1,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Platinum Sponsor	\$750
<input type="checkbox"/> Gold Sponsor	\$500
<input type="checkbox"/> Silver Sponsor	\$250
<input type="checkbox"/> Bronze Sponsor	\$150
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Sponsor	\$35
<input type="checkbox"/> ECU Faculty, Staff, and Students	\$25

Where To Mail:

Friends of the Library
 2400 Joyner Library, Mail Stop 516
 East Carolina University, NC 27858-4353

Join Online: library.ecu.edu/giving/friends