Academic Library Services values its partnership with the ECU School of Art and Design. All library guests are encouraged to enjoy this year's exhibition!

Participating artists for the 16th annual School of Art and Design Graduate Student Art Exhibition are: Emily Booker, Katelyn Davis, Paul Edwards, Michael Gaines, Joogab Kim, Haley McElroy, Lori Scalamoni, Chase Shotton, Haleigh Lennox Brewer, Katelyn Lux Brewer, Lee Turner and Chris Zidek.

The annual School of Art and Design Graduate Student Exhibition - sponsored by the Friends of Joyner Library

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Celebrating the Centennial of Ragsdale Hall

Dr. Kaye Dotson, Friends of Joyner Library President

The Friends of Joyner Library have been on the move during the fall of 2023 in more ways than one! While the committees have been busy, and events numerous, efforts were made to be involved out in the general public as well. The Friends of Joyner Library were well represented at the fall open house centennial celebration of the historic Ragsdale Building on the ECU campus that was constructed in 1923. Friends Kaye Dotson and Al Jones hosted a table at the centennial, sharing information about the Friends and Joyner Library. They were supported by Heather White and Laura Mangum and visited by guests and alumni.

The Ragsdale building enjoys a noteworthy history of some significance to librarians and historical archivist, that deserves to be highlighted in these times when so many things are brushed aside and simply forgotten. Notable for Ragsdale, is that in 1962, when ECU desegregated, Laura Marie Leary (https://digital.lib.ecu.edu/10270) became the first and only full-time Black student in that fall semester. She lived in Ragsdale dormitory and became the first Black undergraduate student to graduate from ECU in 1966, paving the way for so many to come.

Ragsdale later served as the first School of Medicine, (https://library.ecu.edu/specialcollections/archives/building-histories/#anchor59) laying the groundwork for what would become the current thriving and innovative ECU Brody School of Medicine. (https://digital.lib.ecu.edu/22946)

Among the many areas of special interests, was the acknowledgement that a critical member of the team was the librarian who researched, located, and provided resources and data for the doctors and staff of the first School of Medicine, essentially serving as the first librarian for the school. This fact was of special significance to the Friends who hosted the information table at the Ragsdale Open House.

The lovely, historic building is now home to the Graduate School and Sponsored Programs. The Master of Library Science Program resides in Ragsdale within the Department of Interdisciplinary Professions and continues today to prepare library professionals to use new and emerging technologies to serve in the profession. It was especially meaningful for the Friends to support the centennial celebration of this historic building. Ragsdale continues to be a building of beginnings, and a place to grow, especially for the future librarians in the graduate Library Science Program located there today.

References

Thanks to generous support from the Friends of the Library, December 2023 included another great experience for many people in the Janice Hardison Faulkner Gallery for the annual ALS Holiday Luncheon.

Friends of Joyner Library had a table display as part of the centennial celebration for the historic Ragsdale Building on the ECU campus this past fall. Attending the event and standing in from the FOJL table display were (from the left) Dr. Elaine Yontz, Dr. Kaye Dotson, president of the Friends of Joyner Library, and Dr. John Harer. Dr. Yontz and Dr. Harer are retired professors from the Library Science program at ECU.

Several members of the Friends Board and their spouses enjoyed the December luncheon for members of the Leo Jenkins Society. From the left, Danny and Johnnee Rice and Alice and Mike Taylor. Johnnee and Mike are longtime members of the Friends board.

The Friends support ALS Lego Challenge events, which have seen steady student involvement and excitement during the 2023-24 academic year. This scene — “A Chaotic Christmas” — was created by student Tremayne Phillips as a fall semester Lego Challenge winner.
I was informed by Joseph Thomas, ALS assistant director of collection management and scholarly communication and Editor of North Carolina Libraries (NCL), the state journal of the North Carolina Library Association (NCLA), on behalf of the NCL Editorial Board, that I won the Ray Moore Award for the best article about public libraries published in NCL during the 2021-23 biennium. The 2022 article was “The American Public Library as a Multicultural Force: A Half-Century of Federal Funding to Promote Multiculturalism in Public Libraries, 1956-2006.” North Carolina Libraries, 80(1), 5-16. Here is the link to the article: http://www.ncl.ecu.edu/index.php/NCL/article/view/5401

The Ray Moore Award was established by NCLA in memory of Ray Nichols Moore, 1914-1975, African American public librarian in Durham, serving as director of the Stanford L. Warren Library for 22 years. She was also active in statewide library affairs, first as a member of the North Carolina Negro Library Association, then after 1954 as a member of NCLA. At the time of her death, she was assistant director of the Durham County Public Library; public library editor of North Carolina Libraries; and chair of the Intellectual Freedom Committee of both NCLA and the Southeastern Library Association (SELA).

I am particularly proud of receiving the Ray Moore Award because my article was selected by colleagues on the NCL Editorial Board and because of its association with Ray Moore, a mover and shaker in NCLA and champion of authors who write on public libraries. Not only have I as your Past President of the Friends of the Joyner Library, but also your current President, Dr. Kaye Dotson, have been Ray Moore Award authors. Kaye and I were co-authors of our 2018 article, which was selected as the winning article for the 2019-2021 biennium: “Public Libraries and School Libraries: Partnerships to Support Truth in History.” Here is the link to the article: http://www.ncl.ecu.edu/index.php/NCL/article/view/5345

Related to these research interests, you should know that my 1991 Ph.D. dissertation for the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill won the first Phyllis S. Dain Award for best dissertation given by the American Library Association (ALA). The ALA Library History Round Table (LHRT) named the award in memory of Dr. Phyllis S. Dain (1929-2018), who was chair of the LHRT during the 1970s, to recognize outstanding English-language dissertations in the general area of library history. Here is the citation to the dissertation:


For a list of other Phyllis S. Dain Library History Dissertation Award winners, see: https://www.ala.org/aboutala/offices./ors/orsawards/dainphyllis/dainwinners

I love researching and writing on library history topics. I am currently working on an article “Andrew Carnegie and His Philanthropy for Public and Academic Libraries in North Carolina.” My research interests are public libraries, library services to immigrants and minorities, and multiculturalism.
Board member Eric Walker is a professor of English emeritus at Florida State University, where he was department chair, president of the faculty senate, and a university distinguished teaching professor. He sat down with The Stacks to explain his connection to ECU and Joyner Library.

“My wife, Joi Walker, joined the faculty in the ECU chemistry department in 2015 and I joined her here in Greenville at my retirement a few years later. Although we had been in Florida a long time, I wasn’t a stranger to this neck of the woods, having been born and raised in Roanoke Rapids, where most of my middle and high school teachers were ECC and ECU grads. Although many of my classmates headed to ECU, I went west of 95, as they say, to Davidson for college (E. H. Little Library) and Chapel Hill for graduate school (Wilson Library and Davis Library). My memories of Greenville were frozen in 1971 (a trip with the basketball team to Minges gym for a conference tournament), so it was a big surprise to see the place anew, forty-five years later.

As Joi and I toured the campus in 2015, something clicked in my head when we stood before Robert Wright Auditorium. I had been poking around in family history, and when I leafed through the file back in Tallahassee, there it was: President Wright was my grandmother’s second cousin. The chemist in my household then had to endure me explaining in High Southern Style the significance of a second-cousin-twice-removed relationship. Cousin Bob (as I now think of him) and I are both grandsons of William Cromartie, who emigrated from the Orkney islands in Scotland to the Cape Fear valley in 1758.

And speaking of genealogy: I’m excited about the workshops planned by the board for spring 2024. Retired from teaching and administration, I’ve continued to research and write in the field of kinship studies, especially in the subfield of adoption studies. I’m pleased to say that in April 2024, the Ohio State University Press will publish my new book, Haphazard Families: Romanticism, Nation, and the Prehistory of Modern Adoption, which includes a thank-you shout-out to Joyner Library, which sustained my work during the pandemic. Here’s a link for the curious: https://ohiostatepress.org/books/titles/9780814215661.html

Perhaps we’ll meet at a genealogy workshop!”

PIRATE NATION GIVES

Pirate Nation Gives 2024 is upcoming as the university’s annual day of giving to celebrate past, current and future generations of proud Pirates. Stay tuned on social media and visit give.ecu.edu/PNG for the latest information.
All of us love to read a good story in which the protagonist looks like, sounds like, and acts like us. “Yes”, we say, “I know just how that feels because I have the same experiences.” It is especially important for young people and children to be able to relate to the heroes in their books. From outlandish Pippi Longstocking (Astrid, 1945) who was truly a 20th century liberated female girl, to Unhei, the little Korean girl unsure of her given name (The Name Jar, 2001) to the little enslaved boy in Henry’s Freedom Box (Levine, 2008). These popular book characters portray children who depart from traditional norms of blue-eyed, middle-class homes, supposedly with resources leading to the good life in America.

Having taught many years in the College of Education at East Carolina University, I can give testimony to the excellent resources in the Teaching Resources Center (TRC) in Joyner Library. These include education databases for research, a production room for K12 teaching resources, STEM search resources, and instructional sessions to sharpen library and informational literacy skills for ECU students.

There is one particular TRC resource that I am most pleased to explore—the rich collection of fiction books related to lives of children. Realistic fiction is a literary genre that best explores the emotional outcomes in the lives of others. A good story leads the reader to see two things: mirrored reflections of themselves, or a window into the hurts, pain, and joys of others. Both perspectives are useful for maturing the mind of the reader. Children are comforted when they read a story about someone who is just like them (Bishop, R., 1990). At the same time, they gain empathy through the life of suffering in another child. Realistic fiction provides an accurate reflection of life as it could be lived. But there is another viewpoint: when children see themselves in a story (a mirror book), a stronger sense of self-worth and personal value emerges. The reader sees themselves in the life of another child who perseveres, solves problems, and overcomes. Realistic fiction has changed dramatically in recent years. Publishers have become aware of the need to recruit, encourage, and publish the works of African American, Latinx, Asian, as well as LGBTQ+ authors. We all need to explore the viewpoints of others. The TRC in Joyner Library provides resources for educators in all professions to see life from a diverse and inclusive perspective.

I love to walk through the TRC and see special displays of books themed to seasons, holidays, and commemorations of the season. I am pleased to know that my students in Education can preview and read books from all life situations and perspectives.

Reference.
How well do you know your ancestors? Join us at Joyner Library as Jennifer Daugherty, Head of North Carolina Collection, leads these dynamic genealogy workshops. Attend all three, or just one or two. Cost is $25 per session plus tax - https://epay-banner.ecu.edu/C20694_ustores/web/store_main.jsp?STOREID=143&SINGLESTORE=true.

Guests will learn how to research their family history and stories, as well as dig deep into family roots. Questions? Email Daugherty at daughertyj18@ecu.edu.

**Tuesday, March 12, 5:30pm-7:00pm**
**Getting Started with Genealogy**
This class will guide you through the initial steps of beginning your family history research. Essential records for beginners will be covered along with helpful websites. There will be time at the end to practice what you learn. Max attendance 20.

**Tuesday, March 26th, 5:30pm-7:00pm**
**Advanced Genealogy Skills**
This session delves deeper into how to expand your family history research. More complex topics like finding immigration records, how to use DNA for genealogy, and unexpected places to look for information will be covered. Time at the end will be reserved for practice. Max attendance 20.

**Tuesday, April 9th, 5:30pm-7:00pm**
**Preserving Voices: A Guide to Telling Family Stories Through Oral History**
Family history stories bring genealogy to life. Learn the skills to conduct interviews with family members to effectively capture their unique story. A brief review of the technical aspects of recording interviews will be covered. Participants will have a chance to practice their interviewing skills. Max attendance 20.
From the ALS Director

Jan S. Lewis, Director, Academic Library Services

Last winter, I began a three-year term as President of the Friends of Sheppard Memorial Library, a multi-branch public library in Greenville that serves both the city and Pitt County. The role reversal has led me to reflect on the similarities of the two Friends groups as well as their differences, and what each might learn from the other. Similarities that contribute to the success of both Friends group include commitment to the library’s mission, effective and honest communication between Board leadership and library leadership, clear delineation of roles, and Friends’ activities in which members can actively participate and contribute.

The Friends of Sheppard Memorial Library organize and run a large annual book sale as well as an ongoing sale in the main library. A small group of Friends works year-round on the ongoing sale and to sort, price, and box books for the annual sale. A much larger number work during the five-day annual sale, with the Friends Volunteer Coordinator in charge of recruiting and scheduling. However, the Sheppard Friends need additional volunteers to make the sale a success and I am happy to say that Joyner Library employees and members of the Friends of Joyner Library Board have generously volunteered at the sale throughout the years. In addition to being the primary fundraiser for the Sheppard Friends, an important purpose of the sale is getting used books into the hands of new readers at affordable prices. We use the books that do not sell to stock Little Free Libraries in Pitt County and the free book kiosk at ECU. We also give some to other nonprofits. To complete the circle, some donations to Joyner Library that it does not need for its collection are donated to the Sheppard sale. The cooperative relationship between Joyner Library and the Sheppard Friends works to benefit the entire community.

Several weeks ago, a Joyner Library faculty member presented a request to the Sheppard Friends Board to partner on a grant application to establish StoryWalks in Greenville. The Board enthusiastically agreed to do so, noting that StoryWalks will help the Sheppard Friends meet its goals to stimulate use of library resources and services and develop new services for the community. Once the StoryWalks are installed, we look forward to working with Sheppard Children’s Librarians on story times and other programs at StoryWalk locations. I hope that this partnership will lead to other collaborative programming that will advance the missions of both organizations and benefit the community, of which ECU is an important part. There are so many possibilities including community archiving, speakers and events, cross-promotions, and recruiting school-age individuals to the library profession. Together, Friends are strong and successful!
PeeDee in the library!

Ronnie Woodward

A purple-and-gold, well-known mascot in eastern North Carolina is in the library. Come by for a photo or a selfie and tag us @joynerlibrary!

A PeeDee the Pirate statue was donated by author and East Carolina University alum Ralph A. Finch Jr., ’67, for display in the ECU main campus library. The fixture stands 83 inches tall, 53 inches wide and 33 inches deep. A collaborative effort by Academic Library Services and the School of Art and Design led to retrieving the statue in Virginia, upgrades and installation.

It is located on the first floor near the main stairwell across from the magnet wall.

Circulation student employee and art major Roselyn Venegas applied a fresh coat of paint to the statue. Jeb Hedgecock, a School of Art and Design woodshop technician, built the base under PeeDee’s feet. Matthew Clark and Ronnie Williams represented Academic Library Services building operations in performing more improvements for stability and sustainability, and led the installation process.

Mark Sanders, assistant director for public services, and Floyd Conner, head of building operations, with Academic Library Services also contributed and oversaw the project.

Tom Campbell, who for over 50 years has been an observer and commentor on politics and public policy in North Carolina, will be the featured speaker at the Friends of Joyner Library (FOJL) annual meeting. The meeting will be held on May 7th, starting at 5 PM, in Joyner’s Faulkner Gallery and is open and free to the public.
Campbell grew up in Greenville and is a graduate of J.H. Rose High School, class of 1963. Campbell may best be known as the moderator of NC Spin, a syndicated television show he created and produced for two-plus decades. Currently, he writes a weekly column that is published in newspapers across the state.

Campbell’s roots run deep in eastern North Carolina. His great-great grandfather founded Campbell University in 1887. His father Hartwell started WNCT-TV in Greenville, the first television station east of Raleigh. Campbell worked with his family business for over two decades before serving as Assistant Treasurer for the State of North Carolina. He is the owner of Carolina Broadcasting and Publishing Company, which produces two radio programs. Campbell co-authored one book and is the author of another, which is a compilation of his newspaper columns.

In 2011, Campbell was inducted into the North Carolina Association of Broadcasters. He has also been honored for his service to the state with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine. Campbell and his wife Lib, a Methodist minister, have two children and four grandchildren.
Support our Membership Drive!
Consider joining or renewing your membership today!

The Friends of Joyner Library

Student Engagement  ECU Engagement  Community Programming  Library Staff Development  Informational & Advocacy Materials

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Where To Mail:
Friends of the Library
2400 Joyner Library, Mail Stop 516
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