

Vol. 2, No. 2  
Fall 2023

[library.ecu.edu/giving/friends/](http://library.ecu.edu/giving/friends/)

# The Stacks

Friends of the Library Newsletter

East Carolina University

## Inside this ISSUE

Welcoming our new Friends of the library President

Friends hold annual meeting, celebration

Thoughts from the Friends President

Friends of the Library Purchase Award

2023 Friends of the Library Spring Banquet

Award honors Rice's love, support of libraries

Janice Steed Lewis Lifetime Achievement Award

From the ALS Director!

No Quarter exhibit

"I'm at the Library!"

Support our Fall Membership Drive



### Welcoming our new Friends of the Library President

*Dr. Mike Taylor, Secretary & Treasurer, Friends of Joyner Library Board of Directors*

Dr. Kaye Dotson, an Associate Professor Emerita, and Past Program Director of the Library Science Graduate Program at East Carolina University\*, was elected President of Friends of Joyner Library (FOJL) at the annual meeting in May. She succeeds Dr. Al Jones, another ECU professor, who led the FOJL for two years.

Dr. Dotson brings a wealth of experience from the library field to her new role as FOJL president. Dr. Dotson, who holds a Bachelor (BA) and Master of Library Science (MLS) from ECU, began her career in education in neighboring Martin County. She served more than 20 years as a practicing school librarian, all in the Martin County School system. Her first assignment was in Jamesville's full kindergarten through 12th grade school, where as librarian she served all grade levels. Later, the school was split into a typical K-8 and 9-12 configuration and at various times she worked in either the K-8 school or the high school. During part of this time, she also enjoyed serving in a part-time capacity as evening librarian at both Beaufort Community College and Martin Community College, and serving as an adjunct teaching instructor at ECU.

These varied experiences supported her contributions to professional research, presentations at conferences, and published articles about the multifaceted role of librarians. Seeking new challenges and experiences, Dotson joined the Library Science faculty at ECU in 2008, an opportunity she considered a gift from above. Her work and joy in the profession continues, in volunteering service, teaching graduate students, and publishing, both books and articles and of course, serving for the next two years as president of FOJL.

### *Welcoming our new Friends of the Library President continued...*

Contributing to professional literature and inspired by her belief that teaching and learning can be fun, Dotson's latest books are her favorites. These titles are *The Value of Games: Putting Play Back into Practice for Children*, and more recently *Banana I Am* and *Always Will Be: As Decided by You and Decided by Me*. She was recently honored as a recipient of the Ray Moore Award, and has also been recognized for her work with the Faculty Author Book Awards, the Leadership Legacy of Beta Upsilon Presidents and the North Carolina Society of Historians Award of Excellence.

Kaye believes that service through the Friends of Joyner Library provides the perfect opportunity to mesh her past work/research with current experiences through collaboration and interaction with the library and the community at large. She is grateful to be a part of a group that seeks to raise public awareness of the library, its resources, events, and wonderful staff, and to continue to contribute to the profession through this interaction.

## **Friends hold annual meeting, celebration**

*Ronnie Woodward, Public Communication Specialist,  
Academic Library Services*

The Friends of the Library annual meeting and Patrons Wall celebration was May 9.

This wine & cheese reception welcomed all guests to reflect on our year, honor our 2022-23 Patrons Wall donors Kaye and Mitchell Dotson and celebrate the accomplishments of the Friends of the Library.

After honoring Kaye and Mitchell Dotson, the library held formal room dedications. A study room was named for donors Dr. Michael and Alice Taylor. The second-floor sensory space, which was supported from initial funding by the Friends of the Library, was named for the Friends. Reception guests then toured the sensory room.



*Michael and Alice Taylor pictured at the study room dedicated to them.*

The featured program was the "We can do Better" documentary film, which was supported by a 2022-23 Institute of Museum and Library Services-funded Library Services and Technology Act grant. Collaboration among ECU Special Collections, the Phoenix Historical Society, and producer Frederick Murphy with A1 Day1 Productions in Charlotte culminated in the 34-minute film. Kelly Spring, project principal investigator and Head of Manuscripts & Digital Curation, made remarks to introduce the film.



*Interviews for the "We can do Better" documentary. "We Can Do Better" was the 1995-96 slogan used by the Citizens for Responsible Zoning during a public campaign that prevented Iowa Beef Processors, Inc., from installing a hog-processing plant in Kingsboro, a predominantly Black community between Rocky Mount and Tarboro. To learn more and view the film visit: [library.ecu.edu/kingsboro/](http://library.ecu.edu/kingsboro/)*

## Thoughts from the Friends President

Hello Friends of Joyner Library,

As incoming President of the Friends of Joyner Library, I want to share a few of the gifts of life I have experienced and enjoyed. Education is one of these gifts. I am an alum of East Carolina University, and longtime supporter and proponent of the university, especially of the library, library staff, and resources. I earned my undergraduate degree (BA) here at ECU in 1976, followed by a Master's in Library Science (MLS) in 1987. I worked 20 years in public schools as a school librarian, later earning an EdD (2007) in Educational Leadership with a concentration in Librarianship from ECU. After many wonderful years as a school librarian, and later earning my doctorate, I was granted the honor and pleasure of serving and teaching in the Library Science graduate program here at ECU, where I continue to serve.

These gifts have enriched my life is so many ways.



I genuinely enjoy my work and profession, but I have always believed one must balance that passion and commitment with a different focus for a fully satisfying life. My other focus is the spiritual side of life (truly a gift), and the gift of my family and our lives together. My husband Mitchell, and I have three grandsons with whom we spend as much time as their schedules allow. They, our two daughters and their partners, center our lives. We are fortunate to live most of the time on the Pamlico River, where we can enjoy daily sightings of boats, birds, and fish. Pamlico water views, sunrises, and sunsets are gifts of nature that brighten our lives with friends and family.

You, Friends of Joyner Library, are a gift to me and to so many others as well. We have a renewed opportunity this upcoming year to spread that gift even further. As we serve to bring the attention of the public to our outstanding library through programs and fundraisers supporting the library's mission, we also have an opportunity for our own growth. This year, let us make it a focus to increase our membership and grow to represent the community that we serve even more. We are ready and willing to support. We are ready and willing to grow to be better able to meet needs of the library by drawing from a deep well of experience of the community of members who represent the backgrounds of those we serve.

As President of the Friends, I pledge to continue to support the educational activities, events, and programs happening in the coming year in full collaboration with the dedicated director of the ECU Main Campus Library, Jan Lewis, along with her talented staff. Together we can accomplish our goals and strengthen the Friends of Joyner Library. It is with delight that I also look forward to this gift, this coming year of service to the Friends of Joyner Library with the present friends, and those much-anticipated future, friends.



*Kaye Dotson*

President

Friends of Joyner Library

## Friends of the Library Purchase Award

*Ronnie Woodward, Public Communication Specialist,  
Academic Library Services*

A major part of the 15th annual School of Art and Design Graduate Student Art Exhibition occurred Feb. 23 in the Janice Hardison Faulkner Gallery with a reception and awards ceremony for the participating artists from the ECU School of Art and Design.

Juror Jordan Krutsch, an art instructor at Pitt Community College, lauded the variety and details in the artworks in the exhibition.

"There's a lot of great work here that I have seen, and a pretty good array of work, too," Krutsch said. "You had everything from paintings to very figurative works and abstract works. I spent a long time walking around in here looking at everything."

The ceremony featured the announcement of Joogab Kim as the Friends of the Library Purchase Award winner.

Remarks came from Krutsch, library director Jan Lewis, School of Art and Design director Kate Bukoski and Linda Kean, dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communication. Bukoski thanked the graduate students for engaging in the annual exhibit. "I know it takes time and energy to put together your application," Bukoski said. "I appreciate your willingness to put yourself out there."



*Friends of the Library Purchase Award: A Starry Night,  
by Joogab Kim. Red clay, color stains.*



*The 18 participating artists were: Sina Bennett, Emily Booker, Tamia Boone, Parker Estes, Michael Gaines, Kidd Graves, Nick Hesson, Joogab Kim, Haley McElroy, Anthony Naimo, Thaddeus Prevette, Loi Scalamoni, Chase Shorton, Haleigh Stanley, Katelyn Stanley, Lindsay Swan, Lee Turner and Morgan Zichettella.*



## 2023 Friends of Joyner Library Spring Banquet

New York Times best-selling author Wiley Cash was the headliner for the Friends of Joyner Library spring banquet held March 28 at the Hilton Greenville. Days after the event, there was no shortage of appreciation and compliments about Cash's delivery and insight as keynote speaker.

The event was deemed "An Evening with Wiley Cash" with support from the friends group in conjunction with East Carolina University Academic Library Services to welcome the North Carolina native to Greenville.

Cash is the author of four award-winning novels and he has taught creative writing and literature, including at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and the University of North Carolina-Asheville. He received a bachelor of arts in literature from UNC-Asheville and a master of arts in English from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro along with a doctorate in American literature from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.



*Guests learn more about the Friends of the Library.*



The novel "When Ghosts Come Home" was a national bestseller in 2021, winning the Southern Book Prize and named one of Amazon's top-20 books of the year. The 2017 novel "The Last Ballad" was an American Library Association Book of the Year and earned Chicago Public Library Best Book. Cash's second novel, "This Dark Road to Mercy," was a national bestseller, and his debut, "A Land More Kind Than Home," also won the Southern Book Prize, Thomas Wolfe Book Prize and other awards.

The annual Friends of Joyner Library spring banquet event supports operations at Joyner Library.



## Award honors Rice's love, support of libraries

*Ronnie Woodward, Public Communication Specialist, Academic Library Services*

Johnnee Rice's dedication and allegiance to East Carolina University libraries was publicly lauded when Rice was presented the lifetime membership award by the Friends of Joyner Library, a main support group of ECU's main campus library.

Rice, who has lived in Kinston since graduating from ECU in 1975, was honored during the Friends of the Library spring banquet in late March. The Friends also held their annual meeting and celebration May 9, officially naming Rice as board of directors vice president for 2023-24.

"Creating a new generation of library fans, I just like being part of that," Rice said.

Rice said her student experience at ECU was mainly focused at the music library. She majored in music therapy and music education.

Now, she has a broader perspective of the main campus library thanks to roles she has held with the Friends of the Library, including as events committee chair. She also has served on the Joyner Library advancement council.



*Johnnee Rice with her lifetime membership award plaque. (Contributed photo)*

"What I remember of Joyner is nothing like I see today," she said. "We are growing and expanding and doing things I would have never dreamed. I've loved going to see the North Carolina Collection and upstairs wearing gloves when handling some really priceless pieces. That had not been part of my library experience as a student, because most of my experience was in the music library and not in Joyner.

"So many neat things are in the Teaching Resources Center. I wish I would have had that when I was teaching, and with the exhibits that are brought in, it's easy to be really impressed by the library."

Rice worked in music therapy before realizing her passion for education and teaching middle-school aged children when settling into an eventual long-term career at Woodington Middle School in Kinston. At Spilman Baptist Church in Kinston, she has served as organist, choir director and leader in handbell and children/youth choirs.

Her connection to Vivian Howard, a chef, author and owner of restaurant Chef & the Farmer, has provided one of Rice's favorite memories as a member of the Friends of the Library.

"A big favorite is the spring banquet (in 2017) when we had Vivian as guest speaker," Rice said. "She was a student of mine at Woodington Middle School and we've remained friends as she has branched out with her career. A cookbook is a book. That is when I mentioned to several other friends if we think Vivian could come speak, and I said she would draw a crowd. That was the biggest banquet I could remember. ... We've had a really good time planning those events."

Rice was presented her award by fellow Friends of the Library board member Mike Taylor.

"Mike and Alice Taylor have been friends with Danny (husband) and me for a long time," Rice said. "That made it extra special. He has done really well as a board member and excels in all areas of what we do. It was a special night. Just to be recognized by good friends means a lot.

"I plan to stay active in the life of East Carolina University as long as I am active. I love spending time there, between the library, ball games and concerts."

## Janice Steed Lewis Lifetime Achievement Award

*Dr. Mike Taylor, Secretary & Treasurer, Friends of Joyner Library Board of Directors*

The Friends of Joyner Library (FOJL) voted at their September meeting to re-name the group's annual award for outstanding service by a board member in honor of Jan Lewis, who serves as Director of Academic Library Services at East Carolina University. The award had been named the Lifetime Member Award but will henceforth be called the Jan Steed Lewis Award. The award will still recognize service by a board member," according to Kaye Dotson, Friends President, "but it will now recognize the outstanding service Jan has given to ECU, our library and the FOJL board."

Jan has just completed her 24th year of service at ECU. She began her career as a "Pirate" on July 1, 1999, as Coordinator of Instruction for Academic Library Services. She filled several other roles at Joyner before being named Interim Dean of Academic Library Services on August 1, 2012. She was named Director of Academic Library Services on May 1, 2015, after a university re-organization changed the title. The title may have changed, but Jan's commitment to Joyner, the students, faculty, staff, community and Friends remained strong.

While Jan's career at ECU has been library centered for almost a quarter of a century, it did not start out that way. Jan, who holds a law degree from the University of Virginia, a Juris Doctor, worked as a staff attorney for the Virginia Supreme Court in Richmond, Virginia, from 1980-1981. She followed that work with 12 years at the Association of Trial Lawyers of America in Washington, DC.

Jan, who earned her Masters of Library Science from Catholic University of America, in Washington, D.C., began her library career at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. She worked in several library roles at VCU from September 1993 until she joined ECU on July 1, 1999.

Jan also holds a BA in Economics from the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va.

Here at ECU, her leadership has guided Joyner through a period of rapid expansion, necessary to service a growing student enrollment, which means the need for more student services. She also had the responsibility of guiding the library during a pandemic, when so much student support shifted to online.

At ECU, she has served on numerous committees while also making presentations on campus and outside the university as well. She has written numerous journal articles, served as President of the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries, and won a number of honors. One that means the most to her is a leadership award given by library colleagues in 2022. Her library commitment extends beyond the campus as she is a strong supporter of Sheppard Library in Greenville.

On the personal side, Jan is a native of our northern border state, having been raised on a farm outside Alberta, Virginia. Jan and Evan, who recently celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary, live on the Pamlico River near Washington. Their daughter Kathryn and her husband Cliff live in Washington as well with their daughter Camilla. Needless to say, Jan spends as much time as possible with Camilla!



*Jan Lewis speaks at the dedication of the Ann B. Laliotes Reading Room in September 2022.*

"Our Friends Board could not think of a more deserving person to honor than Jan, while also recognizing the service of one of our board members. Placing Jan's name on the award surely kicks it up several notches," Dotson added.

The first Jan Steed Lewis Award will be presented at the Friends annual meeting next May.

## From the ALS Director

*Jan S. Lewis, Director, Academic Library Services*

The start of a new academic year is always filled with promise and possibilities. First-year students moving into dorms, parents sharing smiles and tears, and new faculty expressing their excitement about teaching and research plans are hallmarks of the start of fall semester that remind us of the importance and value of higher education. The new academic year marks the start of the football season, too. This year the library is a big part of the kickoff, with the No Quarter: The History of East Carolina Football and Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium exhibit in the Janice Hardison Faulkner Gallery. It includes items from our University Archives as well as memorabilia – rings, programs, jerseys, helmets, and more – on loan from loyal Pirates. On August 6, it was my pleasure to welcome Coach Houston, the coaching staff, and the football team to the library for a special viewing. They looked ready to win and along with Pirate Nation, I look forward to an exciting season! When you come to the library to view this exhibit, be sure to explore our new alternative study rooms on the far side of the gallery and the new family study room on the second floor near the elevator. I can't wait to see how our students use these spaces!

ECU's refreshed strategic plan for 2023-2028 is named Future-Focused. Innovation-Driven. It contains a roadmap for us to fulfill our promise and realize our possibilities. Next steps include the library and other planning units formulating strategic alignment plans to support the ECU plan. Student success, public service, and regional transformation remain the pillars of the plan. Vision priorities include social and economic mobility, workforce success, and rural health and well-being.

I want to share with you how deeply grateful I am that the Friends Board voted to rename the group's annual award for outstanding service by a board member in my honor. It never crossed my mind that an award would ever be named for me, and I am still trying to get used to it. This action by the Board fills me with gratitude. It reminds me that during my tenure as director, our Friends have been 100% supportive of my colleagues and me. Even when we tried (successfully, I might add) slightly off-the-wall ideas like goat therapy and programming that some might consider controversial, they were always encouraging in their words and by their presence. Please be assured that I will do everything in my power to always merit the trust you've shown by naming the award for me.

In closing, let me express again my deep appreciation for your commitment to the Main Campus Library. The academic journey is made richer and more meaningful through our continued partnership. I am excited to see the transformative impact we will achieve together in the coming year.

With gratitude and enthusiasm,

Jan



*Academic Library Services director Jan Lewis at the Ronnie Barnes Collection on the first floor of the library.*



## No Quarter: The History of East Carolina Football and Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium

*Library exhibit will be displayed into November of this semester; Official reception was Sept. 7*

Explore the rich history of Pirate football and passion of Pirate Nation with "No Quarter: The History of East Carolina Football and Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium." The exhibit featured in the ECU main campus library on the second and third floors opened Aug. 1 and will remain into November.

About the exhibit:

There is no shortage of facts and artifacts to enjoy about ECU football in Academic Library Services' exhibition "No Quarter: The History of East Carolina Football and Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium."

Panels filled with photos and facts detail ECU football's history. Items on display include the 1963 Eastern Bowl trophy, from the Pirates' first bowl win, and a 1964 preseason playbook that featured plays to memorize preceded by a list of wide-ranging player expectations from coach Clarence Stasavich. Also, as recent as a coach Mike Houston-signed game ticket from the Pirates' 53-29 win over Coastal Carolina at the Birmingham Bowl on Dec. 27, 2022, is highlighted. One of the interactive components is game video from the 1970 ECU-Marshall matchup in Greenville.

More bowl trophies, championship rings, helmets, jerseys, game programs from the 1930s and 1940s, items from the 1992 Peach Bowl and more are available in a comprehensive display of ECU football memories and memorabilia.

Manuscripts curator Patrick Cash is lead on the project and first got the idea in 2020 while working in university archives researching ECU football. Targeting this year was appropriate as ECU approaches the 60-year anniversary of the dedication of James Skinner Ficklen Memorial Stadium on Sept. 21, 1963.

"This will be the largest exhibit special collections has done in recent years, and most likely will be the largest one we will be doing going forward," Cash said. "There's a lot of individuals working behind the scenes and it takes a lot of us to get it up and running. I always enjoy having the chance to put our best foot forward with events and exhibits and programs. I think this is going to be a really great opportunity for people from the community to come in and not only see the football exhibit, but also see everything else we have to offer and hopefully fall in love with it."



## "I'm at the Library!"

*Dede Carney, Friends of Joyner Library Board Member*

It was almost a running joke with me and my Dad when I was in college and whenever he called and couldn't reach me, he'd say "You must have been in the Library when I called earlier." I never was - I honestly don't have many (any?!) memories of hanging out in the Library, but that was over 50+ years ago and not in Greenville, N.C. Since then, I have been reintroduced to the Joyner Library at East Carolina University and I must admit from entering the front door and being greeted by spaces featuring people I actually have met (Max Joyner, Janice Faulkner), to all the cool, private study rooms with whiteboards to share with classmates - complete with the "Pirates helping Pirates" signs, the colorful bulletin boards, and my newest favorite - the sensory room with its comfy coziness. Yep, libraries sure have changed!

But despite all these things I love about Joyner Library, there is a memory about its first African American student, Laura Leary, who never set foot in Joyner during her entire college career at ECU. I'm not sure exactly why, but I have my suspicions (maybe didn't feel comfortable there as the only Black person on campus; maybe was never encouraged to go there; probably didn't have any other friends to go there with; or maybe was just not welcomed there?). Although I still feel sad for her, I am so much more encouraged about all the recent programming and wonderful staff there who act as caretakers of rare collections from people like D.D. Garrett, a fellow "first" African American realtor in Greenville. He was head of the local NAACP from the moment I arrived in Greenville in the late 70s until his recent death. Joyner Library also opened my eyes to the complete "Downtown" story with its full collection of oral histories from all of the folks who I have since met and consider friends. This exhibit particularly hit home for me, as my old neighborhood in Charlottesville, Virginia, was "ground zero" for the big "urban renewal" project there and I still can recollect how I had best friends to play with one day who lived across the street who all of a sudden vanished along with their homes obliterated.

I do however love the fact that all who enter Joyner Library can now learn about many topics that I find interesting, like:

- 1) the lives of people and Black businesses that once thrived at what is now the Town Common area;
- 2) the Green Book, which aided families like mine to safely travel across the country and have "safe & clean" places to stay, eat, and buy gasoline from during the early '50s & '60s;
- 3) the interesting lives of African American students, professors & local citizens while meeting kindred spirits who also share these same interests; and
- 4) the City/County African American Cultural Trail, which will ultimately enlighten many more about the lives and loves that came before us and contributed so much to the fabric of this community.

I am proud to be a member of the Friends of Joyner Library and as such, suggest that we ALL get to know our local Joyner Library a lot better and partake in and create more collections, exhibits, and stories for the Library to compile and complete in the years to come.



*ECU Special Collections materials encased on the first floor of the library. East Carolina University's main campus library was honored to host the traveling exhibition, "Navigating Jim Crow: The Green Book and Oasis Spaces in North Carolina" during Black History Month and through March 27.*

# Support our Fall 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

## 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](http://library.ecu.edu/giving/friends)