# BOOKENDS

## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO 2021

FALL



## PULITZER PRIZE WINNING BIO OF MALCOM X LEADS OFF LECTURE SERIES

Leading off the new Charles Martell series of author lectures sponsored by the Friends of the Sacramento State Library is Tamara Payne, who with her late father, Les Payne, co-authored The Dead Are Arising: The Life of Malcolm X, a highly praised work that won the 2021 Pulitzer Prize in Biography. The presentation was held on September 16 via Zoom. For those

who were not able to participate on the 16<sup>th</sup>, the recorded version is available for viewing using this link:

Les Payne spent some 30 years working on the book. After his death in 2018. his daughter Tamara Payne, who was the principal researcher for the book, completed the manuscript. In addition to the Pulitzer, the Paynes also won the 2020 National Book Award for Nonfiction. The book also was selected one of Best Books of 2020 by NPR, The Washington Post and The New York Times. Les Payne was a nationally recognized editor and columnist at Newsday in addition to having been part of an earlier Pulitzer Prize-winning reporting team. In his appraisal of the book, A New York Times reviewer wrote, "Malcolm's presence is beautifully rendered...(and) it reconstructs the conditions and key moments of Malcolm's life, thanks to hundreds of original interviews with his family, friends, colleagues, and adversaries. Nobody has written a more poetic account." The book is an important corrective to the numerous misconceptions about who Malcolm X was and his contributions to American life. The lecture was co-sponsored by the Sacramento Observer, one of the nation's leading African American newspapers.

Recordings of the ZOOM presentations of our Charles Martell Author Lecture Series are available for viewing here:

https://library.csus.edu/author-lecture-series#author-lectures

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#### FOL GIVES BACK ON GIVE SAC STATE DAY

Sacramento State's third annual **Give Sac State Day**, a 36-hour digital event that unifies and inspires giving within the Hornet community, was a resounding success. Our members and partners donated \$2,425 to the Friends of the Library, which will support Library collections, grants, programs, and more.

Linda Goff, Vice President of the Friends of the Library and retired Sacramento State Instruction Librarian, offered a \$1,000 challenge to encourage 10 or more donors to give to any Library fund, including Friends of the Library, on Give Sac State Day. Linda's challenge was matched dollar-for-dollar by faculty emerita and Friends of the Library Board member Jean Torcom. Donors quickly rose to the challenge and met the goal within hours of Give Sac State Day's launch.

A total of \$7,270 in donations were made directly to the Library to support enhancing collections and the Library's new MakerSpace.

Dean Amy Kautzman expressed her gratitude to those who donated to the Library and the Friends. "Donations of any size to the Library allow us to serve our students and support their academic success at Sac State," Kautzman said. "Every gift means we can do more for our students, and I am always honored and grateful when donors choose to invest in our Library." During Give Sac State Day, the University raised nearly \$340,000 from generous contributions by

alumni, faculty, staff, students, friends and other community members to the Sac State cause of their choice. This year's total raised is a significant increase from the \$211,512 raised in 2020. These donations help keep higher education at Sac State accessible, relevant, inclusive, and student-centered.

To learn more about Give Sac State Day, challenges, or how you can donate, contact Lora Hollingsworth in University Development at (916) 278-6115 or <u>lora.hollingsworth@csus.edu</u>. Thank you to our members, supporters, and friends!

- Lora Hollingsworth, Director of Planned Giving

#### PRESERVING THE HISTORY OF POPULAR MUSIC IN SACRAMENTO

In 2018, The Donald & Beverly Gerth Special Collections & University Archives at Sacramento State University acquired a collection of music concert posters from Sacramento and the surrounding region that promoted bands and clubs from the 1960s to the 2000s. The posters offer historical examples of the art and music that occurred in Sacramento. The Sacramento rock scene was a product of local bands, promoters, graphic artists, and music venues. The poster collection is a gift from Dennis Newhall, a DJ at early free-form and progressive rock radio stations in Sacramento, and formerly curator of the Sacramento Rock and Radio Museum. The content of the collection and the story around its bequest illustrate part of the historical development of popular music, especially rock and roll, outside of epicenters like San Francisco. An in-depth look at the posters, the poster artists, the promoters, the venues, and the local bands can reveal how popular and cultural history developed in one American city. The 3,500-piece collection documents the majority of the venues in Sacramento and the surrounding areas, not simply a single venue in one city or multiple venues during a narrow time period. Interestingly and unfortunately, very little has been written or filmed about the artists who created these posters and equally important very little has been documented about the venues, the club owners, the promoters, and the bands in Sacramento. For example, how many



among us know that the great Western swing musician and bandleader Bob Wills made his home in Sacramento for many years, and when he moved here, so did his band members? Or how many know that Sacramento was on the Chitlin' Circuit? Ike and Tina Turner played at the Coconut Grove on Franklin Boulevard in 1957. To appreciate and preserve the music history of Sacramento, first-hand video history interviews with the agents who created our music world are required. Video histories are the preferred technology because we are a visual culture and videos can be more engaging for the general public. In addition, it is anticipated that clips from these interviews could be used in larger projects about the history of Sacramento music. For these projects video is vastly more in demand than oral recordings.

(left) Jimi Hendrix, Sac State Men's Gym, Sacramento, February 8, 1968. Artist: Jim Ford

It is especially important to gather these interviews for the period of 1960 to 1990 because many of the principal artists and promoters from

this period are aging. Quite literally, this living history is slipping away from us. We need to act now. Thus, the Gerth Special Collections & University Archives has launched a project to produce these video interviews. We invite you to follow our progress on our webpages.

- James Fox, Head of Special Collections & University Archives

For a brief video interview with James Fox go to: https://csus.mediasite.com/Mediasite/Play/10602bf24da04a8397cff4eccd62e6101d

#### **2021-2022 AUTHOR LECTURE SERIES SET**



After the Tamara Payne lecture on September 16, the remainder of the Charles Martell Author Lecture series will continue via Zoom until further notice. All lectures held at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom. Registration is required to attend. Invitations to the Zoom events will be emailed.

Pam Houston is the series' second speaker on Tuesday, October 26. An author of widely praised short stories, novels, and essays. Ms. Houston will be discussing her memoir, Deep Creek: Finding Hope in the High Country, which one admirer, author Cheryl Strayed, has called a "book for all of us, right now," perhaps an allusion to the need in tumultuous times for a calming perspective. Her work has been included in Best American Short Stories, Best American Short Stories of the Century, and she is a winner of the O. Henry

Award and the Pushcart Prize. One description of the work she'll be discussing reads, "On her 120-acre homestead high in the Colorado Rockies, beloved writer Pam Houston learns what it means to care for a piece of land and the creatures on it."

Kim Stanley Robinson will be the first speaker in 2022 on Thursday, February 3. According to a New Yorker article, Robinson is "generally acknowledged as one of the greatest living science-fiction writers," while The Atlantic magazine described him as "the gold-standard of realistic, and highly literary, science-fiction writing." He will be discussing his disturbingly timely novel, The Ministry for the Future, which has been described as is a masterpiece of the imagination that uses fictional eyewitness accounts to tell the story of how climate change will affect us all not in a post-apocalyptic world, but rather a future that is almost upon us. Barack Obama chose the novel as one of his favorite books of the year. Robinson has authored nineteen novels, and he has won numerous awards, including the Hugo Award for Best Novel, the Nebula Award for Best Novel, and the World Fantasy Award.





The FOL lecture series' final presentation on April 14, 2022, will be by Nancy Econome who will discuss her debut novel, *The Classic Grill*— *A Tale of Greek Gods and Immigrant Heroes*. The book is a family drama at the opening of WWII centered around The Classic Grill, a successful Vallejo Greek restaurant, and the tensions that arise when a favored son makes clear he has no intention of entering the family business but is bent instead on performing as an actor of ancient Greek drama. As a Greek American, Ms. Econome enjoyed creating this fictional world that honors the past but reflects current events. Her background includes work as a reporter, screenplay writer, and administrative positions in the wine industry.

Each presentation will include an opportunity for audience members to join in a questionand-answer session. To request reasonable accommodations such as ASL interpretation or captioning, please contact Maria Ramirez, Library Support Coordinator, at (916) 278-6230 or by email at maria.ramirez@csus.edu at least five (5) business days in advance of the event or as soon as possible.



## TORCOM HANDS OVER BOOK BIN REINS

Jean Torcom joined the Friends' Board of Directors in 2002 and has since played many roles, including as a two-term president, but none more important than serving as the coordinator of the Friends' Book Bin, the primary source of fundraising for FOL projects and financial assistance to the Library. At the FOL Board's August meeting, she asked

to step down from the Book Bin position she's held for nearly fifteen years. She will however, remain on the Board. The Book Bin is staffed by FOL volunteers and sells used copies of a wide range of books at bargain prices, many of them from the collections of retired faculty members.

Sally Hitchcock, who recently retired as the Library's Coordinator of Community Outreach, has volunteered to serve as the Book Bin's interim coordinator and she is intimately familiar with its operation.

"In my view, the Library is central to the success of any university, and Sacramento State is no exception," Jean said. "After spending my teaching career here, I wanted to retain some sort of close connection to the campus and serving on the Board of the Friends of the Library offered me that opportunity. I've never regretted it for a moment." Her work as coordinator of the Book Bin involved handling volunteer scheduling and other administrative matters in addition to filling in at the sales desk if necessary. Of her time as coordinator, Jean said she especially enjoyed spending time with the volunteers who worked in the Bin in sales and the like. "The fact that the Bin generates the bulk of the revenue that the Friends can provide the Library each year is also an enormous source of satisfaction," she said.

FOL President Bill Dorman praised Torcom for her tireless efforts on behalf of the Friends and the Library. "She's been among our hardest working volunteers for years and while she's handing over responsibility for the Book Bin, we're extremely pleased she'll remain on our Board.

Ms. Torcom joined Sacramento State's Government (now Political Science) Department in 1970 and served as its Chair for thirteen years before her retirement in 2002.

The Book Bin Is located on the Lower Level of the Library. New days and hours of operation will be announced as soon as the Library gives us the go ahead and volunteers can be brought back to staff the book sales (see Book Bin Volunteer article below).

#### SALLY HITCHCOCK RETIRES

Sally Hitchcock, who officially retired on August 31<sup>st</sup> as the Library's Coordinator of Community Outreach, joined me for brunch last week and we talked about her years at CSUS and at the University Library. She has been an invaluable source of help to the Friends over the years and we all know her gracious and cheerful willingness to help us in our goal to serve the Library. Sally worked for five separate Library deans during the past 16 years as well as the many Presidents of the Friends of the CSUS Library.

She came to Sacramento in 1976 from Chicago when her husband Phil was hired as Chairman of the Art Department. Both were



originally from the Pacific Northwest, and they were delighted to come to Sacramento to work and to raise their young family.

In 2005 after campus fund raising was centralized and the staff were no longer embedded in the Colleges, Sally was hired to take on the Community Outreach part of the position vacated by Kim Keunlen. As then Dean Terry Webb told her, she would be "a Friend raiser, rather than a Fund raiser." Sally immediately began events and fund raisers for the FOL, (including bus trips to SF to attend the opera, etc.), JAAC events, the Art Afternoon program, One Book events, in the early days, Faculty Wives, and luncheons and receptions of all varieties. Sally told me that she "always loved her job and the wonderful people that she has been so privileged to work with."

In addition to her work with the Friends of the Library since 2007 Sally has been responsible for the Sokiku Nakatani Tea Room and Garden, scheduling and arranging for all the tea gatherings and related class tours, dignitary visits and celebrations. She also worked with the Library Exhibits and Sunshine Committees for a variety of staff and student events. She fielded requests from both campus and community groups and was go-to person for anything that needed her special finesse.

The Friends best know her as our liaison with the Library Administration, especially with all things connected to running the complex processes of the Book Bin, FOL Board, processing our Grant procedures and doing the publicity and arrangements for the Author Lecture series.

For the lectures she reserved the spaces, took care of preparing and printing and distributing all the brochures and posters, made sure the campus bookstore had copies to sell at the presentations, dealt with parking permits, arranged for receptions when necessary, and even set up the chairs!

Each month Sally opened The Book Bin for volunteers, processed deposits, facilitated book donations, often driving to pick boxes of books up after work, and wrote thank you notes to donors. She is leaving, but as you read above, we are lucky that she will be taking over as interim coordinator of the Book Bin volunteers from Jean Torcom, so Sally will be wearing a different hat but will still be with us.

-Linda Goff

## LOVE BOOKS? LIKE TO VOLUNTEER? THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY NEED YOU!

The Friends of the Library is seeking volunteers to staff the Book Bin. As the main source of revenue for the Friends, funds raised through Book Bin sales provide monetary donations to the Library, fund grants awarded to library faculty and staff, and cover costs associated with the Charles Martell Author Lecture Series.

Volunteer duties include welcoming customers, explaining book pricing, straightening shelves, and handling cash. Shifts are 2 or 3 hours in length and as a volunteer, parking will be provided on the days/times one volunteers.

The Book Bin is located on the lower level of the University Library. Hours of operation are 10:00 am – 3:00 pm on the first and third consecutive Wednesday and Thursday of each month. For the time being, the Book Bin will no longer be open on Fridays

If you are interested in volunteering or have questions, please contact Sally Hitchcock, interim Book Bin Coordinator at: hitchcocks@library.csus.edu.

#### What is the Maker Movement?

...applied, experiential learning/problem-solving and solutions-focused/social learning and shared knowledge/ technology-forward/innovationdriven...

A makerspace provides open access to technology, tools, equipment and materials in a social environment to encourage creativity, experimentation and innovation.

#### WHAT IS THE MAKERSPACE?



The University Library is designed to inspire creation and innovation. It's where students from across campus gather to explore ideas and create their most fantastic future. We're re-making the Library by exploding the idea of research and invention. The University Library is making the 2 SOUTH wing into a student creative space. This is why the Friends of the Library made an early investment in the vision for the MakerSpace, pledging \$10,000 toward building this transformative space for our students.

Sacramento State's new MakerSpace will be a hands-on, collaborative learning environment where students of all backgrounds can engage in *making*. More than a science lab, design or art room, or workshop, this is the ultimate versatile space with a shared goal: to make things happen.

The MakerSpace will encourage students to explore new ideas, solve complex problems, and discover real-world solutions for our future. This is how we will prepare our students for the rapidly changing work of the 21st century.

The MakerSpace is adjacent to Sac State's Carlsen Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, forming a unique learning ecosystem that supports entrepreneurialism at Sac State. And what better place to have such a space than within the University Library—the intellectual center of campus. Just like libraries, the MakerSpace sparks curiosity, an exploration of ideas, and critical thinking. The Library is the natural place for collaboration across campus—where anyone can make the future.

Sacramento State's College of Continuing Education offers a new Certificate in Maker Education for K-12 teachers. Launched in Fall 2020, the program teaches educators the theories behind maker education, how to develop lesson plans, and how to create maker spaces in their classrooms. By taking maker education into the K-12 classrooms, students learn critical problem-solving skills for the future.

- Lora L. Hollingsworth, Director of Planned Giving