friends of the Egan Library
A NETWORK OF THE UAS ALUMNI & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION.

ALASKA STATE WRITER LAUREATE
ERNESTINE HAYES

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Photo credit: Seanna O’Sullivan

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**Love the library? Looking to serve?** The Friends of the Egan Library is looking for members interested in serving on the board! Activities include the annual Authors' Reception, and continuing work on the fundraising efforts of the Friends. Those interested, please contact Elise Tomlinson, emtomlinson@alaska.edu.

**Benefits of Membership:**

- A commemorative Friends of the Egan Library lapel pin.
- Invitation to the annual UAS Authors' Reception and other events throughout the year.
- FRIENDS' newsletter highlighting library news and initiatives.
- One time 25% discount on select of University of Alaska Press titles (details at http://uas.alaska.edu/library/give.html)
- Invitations to review and select materials withdrawn from the Egan Library collection.
- Lifetime members and endowment donors will be recognized in the Honor Roll of Friends (webpage, digital signage in library).
SECOND ANNUAL
Authors' Reception

The Friends of the Egan Library will host the second annual reception recognizing members of the UAS community publishing scholarly and creative work in 2016. Featuring remarks by Chancellor Rick Caulfield, Regional Library Director Elise Tomlinson, invited UAS Author Kevin Maier, and recognition of Ernestine Hayes as Alaska State Writer Laureate. Join us for conversation, drinks, and appetizers, and an opportunity to learn more about the Friends of the Egan Library, UAS Alumni & Friends, and ScholarWorks@UA, an open access online showcase of the intellectual output of UAS. This is a 21 and over event.

We hope those attending will also consider heading down to the Egan Lecture Hall at 7pm, for a Native Jazz performance by Ed Littlefield, with Christian Fabian and Reuel Lubag (sponsored by Sealaska Heritage and the UAS PITAAS program).
Q&A with Ernestine Hayes
ALASKA WRITER LAUREATE

What issues are you most interested in bringing into the spotlight during your tenure as State Writer Laureate?

EH: Because this is the first year that the Alaska State Council on the Arts and the Alaska Humanities Forum have joined their efforts to support the Alaska Writer Laureate program, I hope to craft a project that allows participants to write and perform their own creative work and to explore and perform another's work. Everyone has a story. We learn about ourselves when we learn about others.

As State Writer Laureate is there a project that you are required to lead?

EH: With the help of Megan Zlatos, Director of Specific Projects for the Alaska Humanities Forum, and Andrea Noble-Pelant, Executive Director of Alaska State Council on the Arts, I'm exploring ways to transform the vision I mention above into a workable design that reaches Alaskans. My son, Robert Stephenson, has been helping me formulate concepts and find ways to articulate ideas. I'm not unmindful that author Frank Soos was the architect of the Alaska Reads project during his tenure as Alaska State Writer, which resulted in the selection of my first book, Blonde Indian, for that program, so his project will certainly be a hard act to follow.
What's on your nightstand, (ie what are you currently reading?)

EH: I read and re-read for current classes, so Sherman Alexie and Leslie Silko are close at hand, as is Sun Tzu and N. Scott Momaday. In preparation for my Fall classes, I will be reading Edna Lewis's cookbook, an anthology titled *Family Resemblance*, and other texts. I plan to read Eva Saulitis again this summer, and I'm looking forward to Ishmael Hope's new book, *Rock Piles Along the Eddy*, which he will introduce at Kindred Post in April.

Despite your position of literary distinction you frequently set that aside to focus your teaching efforts on serving the needs of students struggling to enter college level composition classes. Can you speak to your advocacy for students who come to UAS unprepared?

EH: Students who are considered unprepared for college level classes are for the most part under-served, and it's our responsibility not to perpetuate that disservice. First year students who come to us under-served are too often students of poverty, rural students, students of color, Alaska Native students, first generation students, and students of immigration. We fail such students when we insist that that they perform according to arbitrary standards that were developed decades ago in the service of privilege. Many students are trying to change their lives, and when we encourage and strengthen their efforts, the impact will resonate throughout their generations. This is how it seems to me.

Is there an area or program here at UAS that you would encourage UASAA/Friends of the Egan Library Network members to consider making a charitable gift?

EH: The energy and generosity of Friends of the Egan Library and the many UAS alumni are already widely acknowledged. I can only encourage everyone to make a charitable gift to the program that they find most compelling, that they relate to, or that they would like to see grow. Or all three! Important new programs and areas of study are invigorated by lively interest, and it would be wonderful indeed to know that we are all part of those efforts.
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"They are my inner strength"
Creating an Indigenous Knowledge Center

In March 2017 Egan Library Director Elise Tomlinson and library faculty Jonas Lamb collaborated with Lance Twitchell, Alaska Native Languages and Studies faculty, to author a proposal for a Department of Education,"Strengthening Institutions Program" grant. The project would, (1) Create an Indigenous Knowledge Center within Egan Library that is a safe indigenous space to centralize and promote the quality and value of Alaska Native/Indigenous knowledge, facilitate healing, and increase the self-esteem and academic success of American Indian & Alaska Native students. (2) Develop an Elders and Indigenous Scholars in Residence program. (3) Enhance access and delivery of hybrid courses in AK Native Languages to preserve the continuity of endangered indigenous languages. The Cyril George Indigenous Knowledge Center conceptual design explores the model of a ‘clan house’ within the existing structure of the Egan Library (approx. 2000 sf) which holds stacks for the primary book and media collections, and serves as a flexible space for study, conversation, and events.

The project intends to improve student retention, increase interest and enrollment in ANLS course and programs and increase persistence through the 3 year Alaska Native Languages course sequence. The Department of Education will announce funded projects in the Fall. Conceptual drawings and other project documents are available at uas.alaska.edu/library/sip

Conceptual 3D rendering of the Cyril George Indigenous Knowledge Center by MRV Architects
Megan comes to Juneau by way of Seattle, where she most recently served as Education Librarian at the University of Washington Bothell and Cascadia College. A native Washingtonian, she spent many years in the Midwest as well, earning degrees from Oberlin College, Northwestern University, and Indiana University. Her professional interests include critical librarianship, Open Access and scholarly communication, and the scholarship of teaching and learning. She’s worked in academic libraries of all shapes and sizes for approximately 15 years, though for many of those early years, it served as a day job while she pursued a classical music career. She continues to perform on the clarinet whenever/wherever the opportunity presents itself and spends the rest of her free time running long distances, hiking, and cooking. If you get a chance, stop by and say hi to welcome Megan to the Egan Library team!

Megan Watson

David has been at UAS since November 2013, serving the library as the Serials and Electronic Resource assistant. He moved to Juneau in 2008 from Denver, where he grew up and where he also received an undergraduate degree in history from the University of Denver. He received his MSLIS at distance from Syracuse University, while in Juneau. His professional interests include information architecture, social media, repositories and digital libraries, and the ever-changing world of publishing and copyright. This is David’s first faculty librarian position, and he looks forward to getting to know everyone better. Outside of librarianship, David’s life is ruled by his 2 year old daughter, and he creates and contributes online about pop culture.

David Cox
Use of Library Materials

30,675
Library Visits

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Print circulation of UAS owned items + items from other JLC libraries checked out by UAS users. Digital includes full-text downloads/views of journal articles and ebooks.

Library Faculty Impact

Library faculty provide course integrated information literacy instruction, teach a credit bearing course, lead faculty development workshops, provide student orientation activities, plan events and serve on and lead university committees.

17
Events held in library

10 course-integrated instruction sessions
445 reference/research interactions