ALSO IN THIS ISSUE
Senior Guests Welcomed to Libraries
Constitution Day
Map It!
More than 100 people, including Friends of the Library members, students, faculty and staff, gathered last October to recognize the 2016 University Libraries’ Legacy Scholarship recipients.

The celebratory event, held in Kent State University’s elegantly set Student Center ballroom, focused on the scholarship recipients and the positive impact the Library had on their lives as Kent State students. According to Karen Hillman, director of library development and donor relations, the Legacy Scholarship Dinner reflects the University Libraries’ goal to leave a legacy through the growth of a fund that supports students for years to come.

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Following the recognition of the student recipients by University Libraries Dean Jim Bracken, Ph.D., the audience enjoyed theatre, opera, jazz, piano and dance performances by students from Kent State’s College of the Arts’ School of Music and School of Theatre and Dance.

“A one-time gift to the University Libraries’ Student Scholarship Fund is truly a gift that keeps on giving,” says Hillman. “We save it, using the interest only to fund scholarships.”

On average, $25,000 in the endowment account funds one $1,000 scholarship. “Our goal is to raise $125,000 by the year 2020, so we can award five $1,000 scholarships each year,” says Hillman. “So far, we’ve raised $80,000.”

In 2014, the first year the University Libraries’ Student Scholarship Fund was awarded, one student received a $1,000 scholarship. In 2015, the Fund increased so two students received scholarships. In 2016, four well-deserving students each received $1,000 scholarships. University Libraries will soon provide four more students with scholarships in 2017.

For more information about the University Libraries’ Student Scholarship Fund or to contribute, contact Karen Hillman at khillma1@kent.edu or 330-672-1886.
MEET THE 2016 LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Christiana Ford // journalism major

Ford fondly recalls frequent visits to her hometown library when she was a little girl, fueling a love for reading. Now a college student, Ford sees the library also as a place for community, learning and academic advancement.

“The library is a lifeline,” says Ford. “From the Multimedia Studio’s availability of Adobe Suite to the free computer workshops to the Writing Commons for those times when my writing needs to be polished, the library is available to help me succeed.”

Ford is grateful to be a scholarship recipient, particularly as an out-of-state student.

“The scholarship made me feel more connected to campus,” says Ford. “Knowing that Kent has things like this for students shows they really care. Being out-of-state, my tuition costs are higher. With only one parent contributing toward that, it’s incredibly challenging to come up with the money. This scholarship has helped me tremendously, because every bit truly counts.”

Leah Nelson // digital media productions major

In addition to being a scholarship recipient, Nelson works at University Libraries’ Student Multimedia Studio. She sums up the library in one word: home.

“Home is not just a building you live in, it is where you’re happy, and the University Library is where I’m the happiest,” says Nelson. “I realize the library isn’t just my home, but home to everyone I see there. It’s home to the co-worker I sit next to, the older man I see using the scanners and the mom filing paperwork on the eighth floor.”

Nelson, who works two part-time jobs while attending Kent State, is greatly appreciative of the scholarship and the support it offers.

“The scholarship made a tremendous difference in my school year,” says Nelson. “It has given me more time to focus on my education, prevented me from having to withdraw from classes again, take another loan or work a third job.”

Larry Staats // fine arts major

When Staats needed to use the library’s resources for a class research project, he realized books provide a depth of knowledge and information he couldn’t find online.

“Books contain more specific and detailed information,” says Staats. “I had a research paper for a class that required three sources. I was so excited to get information that’s nearly impossible to find on the internet. I far surpassed my three sources.”

The scholarship is already making a difference to Staats as he plans for his senior year at Kent State.

“The scholarship has made a huge difference in my school life this year and it will make a huge impact on next semester, as well,” says Staats. “With the financial help, I’ve made some purchases for my art I probably wouldn’t have been able to make. I hope to go on the Poland spring break trip and the scholarship will help a great deal.”

Kiana Duncan // broadcast journalism major

One of Duncan’s earliest experiences with University Libraries was during the Provost Leadership Academy. Students were introduced to Dean Bracken and invited to share ideas about how to improve access to the library.

“I’ve never heard a student’s opinion valued so highly,” recalls Duncan. “We discussed many ideas and at the end of the session, I felt stronger as a student. There’s no other place on campus where the staff cares so deeply about catering to students’ access to learning.”

Receiving the scholarship allowed Duncan to realize her dream of studying abroad at the Kent State campus in Florence, Italy.

“Being selected for the University Libraries’ Student Scholarship shows how Kent State supports its students in ways that truly matter,” says Duncan. “Studying abroad can be expensive, but instead of focusing on the financial aspects, I’m able to focus on academic goals and traveling. It allows me more opportunities to expand my world view.”

Become a Friend of University Libraries! Join today at www.library.kent.edu/Friends.
Kent State University and the business community have a long-standing, mutually beneficial relationship. Each year, University Libraries strengthens this bond by hosting a Business After Hours event in conjunction with local chambers of commerce. The most recent event, held in November, was the perfect opportunity for community leaders to see Kent State’s new building, the Center of Architecture and Environmental Design.

Nearly 75 people enjoyed food, networking and tours, provided by University Libraries, the College of Architecture and Environmental Design and the Kent, Streetsboro and Aurora chambers of commerce.

Bill Willoughby, associate dean of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, led tours through the 117,000-square-foot structure, pointing out high-tech labs, digital fabrication equipment, modern-design classrooms, 3D printers and other notable features.

Located in the impressive new building is the Joseph F. Morbito Architecture Library. The Architecture Library serves as a vast academic resource for the college’s undergraduate and graduate students, as well as students enrolled at the university’s Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative.

The branch library, which overlooks the Lefton Esplanade’s welcoming archway, is managed by Thomas Gates head of the Architecture Library. He and Marsha Cole, architecture librarian, enjoy working with Architecture and Environmental Design College students and faculty.

“We’re grateful for the support of the Kent State University Libraries and their willingness to host this event,” says Lori Wemhoff, Kent Area Chamber of Commerce executive director. “Our members enjoy these events and learn more about the services the libraries provide the business community.”

Mark your calendar to join us for the Sixth Annual Business After Hours event, planned for Sept. 21, 2017.
University Libraries’ annual Constitution Day Celebration brings together the Kent State University community and surrounding area to commemorate our country’s founding document and recognize those who have become United States citizens.

Organized by the University Libraries’ Diversity Committee for the past five years, the event features an outdoor, public reading of the Constitution by volunteer participants. Students, faculty and staff, as well as Kent State ROTC members, local legislators, police officers and alumni, from diverse nationalities and backgrounds have stepped up to the microphone at Risman Plaza. They proudly read excerpts of the Constitution and the 27 amendments to all who were in attendance and passing.

“Constitution Day is a day to remember our ideals, of what we hold dear in this country,” said Kent State President Beverly Warren to the crowd. “And it is important that today’s students, who are the leaders of tomorrow, really uphold these ideals as they think about their contribution for the future.”

Join us for the 2017 Constitution Day Celebration on September 18!

Following the 2016 Constitution Day Celebration, the first pieces of cake were cut by Ohio Congressman Tim Ryan and KSU President Beverly Warren.
What does a library in Kent, Ohio, have to do with Dar es Salaam, Tanzania?

To answer that question, head to Room 410 in McGilvery Hall where you’ll find Michael Hawkins, interim head of Kent State University’s Map Library and creator of the university’s Map It! program.

Hawkins created the program to help a faculty member locate reliable sources of water in drought-stricken Africa. Now Map It! is offered as a free service for Kent State students and the community.

“The program provides mapped data, typically covering specific, small areas for research or community betterment,” says Hawkins. He developed Map It! when a colleague was writing an article on water availability and reliability in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, where water is often scarce.

“We mapped the water tables and their size in the surrounding area,” says Hawkins.

Closer to home, the program is being used to create an in-depth map illustrating the area’s potential for prospective companies.

“We are partnering with East Liverpool to develop a map of the parcels located in the east end of the city. The map visualizes which parcels are available for development. We also will code the physical condition of buildings or structures located on the parcels,” says Hawkins.

Recently, the City of Kent began taking advantage of the program’s potential. Hawkins and city administrators are identifying Main Street Kent map points for several businesses. Map It! markers include a description and a photo of the business to facilitate wayfinding, as well as provide valuable information to prospective customers. As this initiative progresses, more companies will be added.

More university personnel and community members are becoming aware of the program and Hawkins looks forward to discovering more uses for it.

“There are so many different possibilities,” he says. “I’m excited to see the ideas other people have. I would love to expand its use to different types of data visualization in addition to maps.”

Kent State’s Map Library is the university’s chief cartographic and geospatial resource center for maps, atlases, GIS data, place name literature and cartographic reference materials in paper and electronic formats. Housing 270,000 maps, 2,000 atlases, 350 gazetteers and more, the library is familiar to many architecture and geology students, as well as community members searching for specific maps.

If you’re interested in learning how a personalized mapping project can help your business or research project, Hawkins can assist you.

“We don’t just make a map. If you have a data visualization question, we’ll sit down and find the best Map It! option for you,” he says.

For more information about Map It! or the Map Library, contact Michael Hawkins at mhawki11@kent.edu or 330-672-2017.
JOIN KENT STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES FOR THESE SPRING EVENTS

MINI MAKER FAIRE
Friday, April 14 | noon – 4 p.m. | Garden Room
Experience a family-friendly showcase of invention and creativity.

AN EVENING OF JAZZ
Friday, April 21 | 7 – 8:30 p.m. | Garden Room
Enjoy an evening with the Kent State University Jazz Orchestra and Nova Jazz Singers.

SPRING EMBRACE RECOGNITION LUNCHEON
Tuesday, April 25 | 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. | Garden Room
We welcome you to join us as we recognize Library volunteers, graduating student employees, retirees and the Champion of the Library.

Each event takes place in the first-floor Garden Room in University Library, 1125 Risman Drive in Kent Ohio.

LEARN MORE ABOUT KENT STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
WWW.LIBRARY.KENT.EDU