

University of Washington Magazine

Still in the Picture

When Jacob Lawrence
Brought His Genius
to the UW







Hazardous Highway

U.S. Highway 97, which runs from Weed, California, to the Canadian border, carves through some of Washington's most remote landscape. Yet, because of a high volume of vehicles and local farming activity, the highway around Toppenish and Union Gap is one of the state's most dangerous stretches of road. More than 430 serious injuries and 24 fatalities occurred here in the past 20 years due to factors including weather, speeding, distracted driving and pedestrians along the highway shoulder.

The Yakama Nation Department of Natural Resources is working with researchers at the UW Smart Transportation Applications &

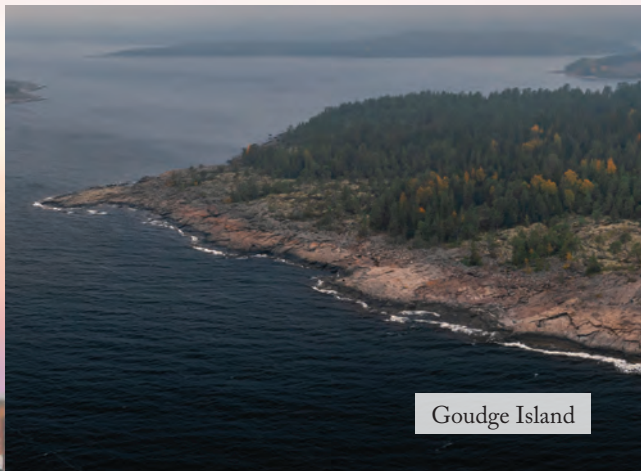
Research Lab and AIWaysion, a UW spinoff company, to study the deadliest intersections with the help of Mobile Unit for Sensing Traffic sensors. The project, funded by the Pacific Northwest Transportation Consortium, sends real-time information like vehicle volume and speed, weather conditions and the presence of pedestrians. For certain events, it can send out a warning and alert traffic engineers. The sensor could also clarify the need for more emergency services and inform traffic safety measures.

The state is planning on installing several roundabouts along Highway 97 this year. *By Hannelore Sudermann. Photo by Mark Stone.*





A Legacy of Dedication and Impact



Goudge Island



San Juan Airlines



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The code we write today will decode the universe tomorrow.

UW astronomy undergrads test their cutting-edge coding skills in the cosmos, interpreting what a revolutionary new telescope will discover in the night sky. Their research helps scientists like Professor Mario Jurić (*far right*) observe present phenomena and unravel the universe's past while launching the students' careers into the future.



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University of Washington Magazine

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SPRING 2025



Artist and collector Demi Raven, '02, tends his archive of works by Brion Gysin and William S. Burroughs. Raven and his wife, Janet Galore, '89, have turned their residence, once a 1920s-era grocery store, into a home for collections, creations and community events.

CHLOE KASINGER

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How two “deep nerds” turned an old grocery building into a home where creativity, fandom and intellectual curiosity collide

By Shin Yu Pai

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Twenty-five years after his death, the noted artist's memory as a UW professor, activist and chronicler of the Black experience lives on

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An new relationship between UW Medicine and Fred Hutch creates the UW's nationally renowned adult cancer program

By Jon Marmor

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After a dazzling career at ESPN, former UW football walk-on Kenny Mayne isn't content to rest on his laurels

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ONLINE

uwmag.online



COURTESY SEATTLE ARCHIVES

JEANETTE'S BRIDGE

She was a City Council member with a deep sense of social justice and a passion for playing violin. Learn which Seattle treasure is named after her.

uwmag.online/bridge



COURTESY AMANDA WOODCOCK

FUNKY, FUNCTIONAL

Amanda Woodcock, '15, doesn't believe in style without substance. That's why her pottery is the first thing you reach for.

uwmag.online/pottery



KRISTADERA

A FOND FAREWELL

The first Burgermaster location is no more, but you can relive your fry-filled memories with these photos from Kris Ladera.

uwmag.online/goodbye



ON THE COVER

“University,” 1977 by Jacob Lawrence. Cantor Center for Visual Arts at Stanford University © Jacob Lawrence / Artists Rights Society (ARS), NY



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Forward

OPINION AND THOUGHT FROM **THE UW FAMILY**



BY **TRICIA SERIO**

The Power of Public Universities

As UW alumni well know, the University of Washington, and public universities like us, exist to advance the public good—to provide educational opportunities and to find solutions to our greatest challenges through research, scholarship and creativity.

Public research universities are among the nation's most important assets, powering innovation, growing our economy and transforming the lives of individuals, our communities and the world.

After World War II, state and federal governments began making significant investments in teaching, research and outreach at colleges and universities. Nearly

a century later, our exceptional ecosystem of public research universities has become vital to our nation's security and future prosperity.

There are many important paths for individuals to contribute to our society. For about one-third of 18- to 24-year-olds, that path is enrollment in a four-year institution. And public colleges and universities make that possible by educating 75% of our nation's students.

Over their lifetimes, college graduates earn over 70% more than those with only high school diplomas, and they report better physical health, mental health and overall

well-being. These personal benefits also have public benefits, including higher contributions to the tax base and lower government expenditures. Moreover, college graduates are more engaged in their communities; they are more likely to vote in elections, and they work to solve problems within their neighborhoods, towns and cities.

In spite of all the good higher education does, public confidence has been on the decline. In 2015, Gallup reported that 57% of Americans had a great deal or quite a lot of confidence in higher education. But by summer 2024, that number dropped to 36%. And while the vast majority of Washington state residents polled last fall hold a favorable opinion of the UW, 57% felt that the University had little or no impact on them or their families. And there is a perception—even among some of our own alumni—that a UW education is expensive and out of reach.

In truth, a Husky education is affordable, accessible and focused on Washington's students. Last fall, we enrolled a record number of state residents—73% of all new UW undergraduates. And 28% of our first-year students are the first in their families to attend college. Nearly two-thirds of our undergraduates receive financial aid. And, thanks to support from donors and state and federal grants, 71% of our students graduate with no known debt. The rest finish college owing, on average, \$20,000.

Our state's economy is stronger because of the nearly \$21 billion in economic activity and 111,950 jobs that the UW supports or sustains. And UW Medicine delivered 2.5 million outpatient visits, \$836 million in uncompensated care and more than 1,000 interventional clinical trials in 2023 alone.

The University has long embraced a holistic pursuit of societal benefit. We're bringing special focus to efforts like fostering a healthy democracy, finding climate solutions, meeting behavioral health demands and designing, building and using AI-enabled technology to accelerate discoveries.

Every day, I visit with inspiring students, staff and faculty who are changing the world through their work at the UW. In the same way, the UW created the foundation for all of the contributions our alumni have made throughout their careers. Your support for and celebration of our work can help us turn the tide of public trust and expand the learning, innovation and problem solving that allow us to tackle our most pressing challenges today and long into the future.

Tricia Serio is provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at the UW.

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MESSAGE FROM THE **EDITOR**

Facing Down COVID-19

By Jon Marmor

Five years ago this winter, the University of Washington became a leader in the local and global response to COVID-19. That infectious disease—which had its first confirmed American case in Washington state—created a worldwide pandemic and altered life for all of us.

Nearly every day, UW doctors and scientists appeared on national TV to help the public understand how this mysterious illness posed a threat to all of us and how we could adapt to life under this cloud.

UW experts became household names as they shared information and reassurance, helped us deal with needing to work from home, wear masks, clean our groceries and wonder when this pandemic would end. This unyielding effort demonstrated how the University fulfills its public mission to serve our community and the rest of the world with the best research, education, health-care information and treatment available.

For some, this public outreach was eye-opening, seeing the UW on the national stage. But the truth is that the UW has always been a pillar in public health, as its record in health-care innovation shows.

The UW is responsible for such innovations as bone-marrow transplants to fight leukemia, the hepatitis B vaccine and the fields of pain medicine and bioengineering.

On Feb. 27, 2020, UW Medicine was responsible for something else monumental: finding the first evidence of community transmission of COVID-19 in the U.S. It turned out that the Seattle Flu Study—led by UW Professor Helen Chu—could also screen for COVID-19.

Not long after that, the UW Virology Lab found a second positive test showing evidence of community transmission. And then the director of the CDC described the Kirkland nursing home that was the first in the U.S. to experience an outbreak as ground zero.

It is five years later. Thankfully, COVID-19 no longer dominates our daily conversation the way it used to. Vaccines—which were developed in part by UW scientists—and other measures such as wearing masks, social distancing and frequently washing hands brought the disease under control. Those relentless efforts enabled life to return to normal. The UW is largely to thank for it.

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W



Dan Evans

Thanks for the article on Dan Evans ("The Life and Times of Daniel J. Evans," Winter 2024). I can't think of anyone in the political arena of Dan Evans' time who was accorded more respect than Evans. Moderate, sensible and devoted to the best interests of the state of Washington, he earned my undying respect. If we only had more like him today!

Ken Johnsen

A Remarkable Man

Dan Evans was a remarkable man. He represented the Republican Party of my father, the one in which I was raised. Unfortunately, those days—along with the compassion Evans showed toward our planet and all humanity—are long gone. Thanks for writing such a thoughtful essay.

Nancy Meadows, '88, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina

Memorable votes

Thank you for the fine article on Daniel J. Evans. My parents, lifelong Democrats, told me that he was the only Republican they had ever voted for, and this has always stood out in my memory.

Stuart Anderson, '82, Physics/engineering instructor, UW Instructional Center, Seattle

Missing Evans' Stature

I used to be proud to call myself a Dan Evans Republican. Nowadays I call myself a Dan Evans Independent. Sadly, it will take a long time before another Republican of Dan Evans' stature comes along.

Pamela A. Okano, '74, '77, Seattle

The Fabulous Fairmont

Great article ("A Grand Hotel History," Winter 2024)! I worked at The Olympic while earning my UW undergrad degree. I fell in love with hospitality and stayed with the hotel, first as a cocktail server, then as concierge. I was there when the hotel changed hands to Fairmont, both great companies. I spent three years working there, and I loved hearing all the great stories about The Olympic and adding my own: I met many celebrities there!

Lorena Gomez-Gallo, '02, New Braunfels, Texas

Danny Sprinkle

The article about Husky Basketball coach Danny Sprinkle ("Puppy Love," Winter

2024) minimizes the contributions of the two returning players from last year. Kudos for the sidebar on the Husky Mascot Dubs II ("Bark for Dubs' Birthday"). It reminds us that dogs can have more tenure than coaches, players and cynical sportswriters.

Robert Thornquist, '78, Mount Vernon

Old, Not Bold

It's been said that there are old pilots and bold pilots, but not old and bold pilots. Roger Fuiten ("High Risk, High Reward," Winter 2024) is an old pilot who lives to tell his story while still flying for others to enjoy his experiences.

Fred Dryer

HUB Memories

I remember those arcade games in the HUB well ("The HUB Turns 75," Fall 2024). And pinball! And pool tables. So many hours playing games downstairs and grabbing espresso upstairs. Thanks for the memories, HUB!

Mark DeLoura, '92, Seattle

Big Ten Benefits

I read the article ("The Big Benefits of the Big Ten," Fall 2024) and I must ask: What about viewing games? I see no point in paying for monthly subscriptions to four or five streaming platforms when their sole use is just to get coverage of all UW games.

Fredrick L. Proctor, '17, '18, Elk Plain

Missing Don Pember

Don Pember was my favorite teacher at UW, bar none. Full of wisdom, wit and personality. He will be missed immensely.

Mike Seely, '96, Seattle

Corrections

Due to an editing error, a paragraph was deleted from the story on Alaska pilot Roger Fuiten. The full story is on our website at uwmag.online/pilot.

The timeline in the story on Daniel J. Evans erroneously stated that Evans was president of The Evergreen State College from 1953 to 1956. In fact, he signed legislation to establish the college in 1967 and served as its president from 1977 to 1983.

University of Washington Magazine regrets the errors.

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NEWS AND RESEARCH FROM THE UW

The Next Top Dawg

Robert Jones, scientist, scholar and academic leader, officially steps into his new role as president in August

By Hannelore Sudermann



MARK STONE

During a February visit, the UW's next president, Dr. Robert Jones, visits with Provost Tricia Serio in Gerberding Hall.

In February, just a few days after being welcomed as the University of Washington's incoming president, Dr. Robert Jones packed his overnight bag and headed to Seattle with his wife, Dr. Lynn Hassan Jones, for a whirlwind visit with students, faculty, staff and the local media. A seasoned university leader with 13 years' experience helping two public research universities, he was prepared for an intense few days of visits, but maybe hadn't bargained on a speedy golf-cart tour of the 703-acre campus in Seattle.

Last fall, Jones announced he was winding down his tenure as chancellor at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign,

a land-grant state university with an undergraduate enrollment (37,000) similar to that of the UW's campus in Seattle (36,000). During his nine years in Illinois, Jones positioned the university for the 21st century by helping launch the new Carle Illinois College of Medicine—the world's first engineering-based medical school. He also helped complete the school's \$2.7 billion philanthropic campaign and grow a new technology and innovation partnership with the University of Chicago.

In announcing the hiring of Jones on Feb. 3, the UW Board of Regents said they were drawn by his background in academia as a research scientist, faculty

member and leader in bridging the divide between university research and community outreach.

"Whatever you do, be the best at it that you can," he recently told U of I students in a video interview. "We are all placed on this planet for a purpose, and I think that purpose is to do a greater good."

Jones grew up in rural Georgia, and his family, who sharecropped, couldn't afford to send him to college. He worked through high school to pay for at least the first two years at Fort Valley State College. He credits his mentors for his professional trajectory, starting with his parents and including a 9th-grade vocational ag teacher who affectionately called him "professor." His college teachers pointed him to graduate school at the University of Georgia, where "two of the best scientists in the world" helped him launch his research career, he said. He went on to the University of Missouri for his Ph.D. Education was a means to an end so Jones could have a life that was better than what his parents experienced, he added.

As a plant physiologist at the University of Minnesota, Jones focused on environmental stresses during seed development in corn. There, after developing a successful research program and becoming a full professor, he shifted into academic administration, holding numerous roles starting in 1987 and culminating in the position of senior vice president for academic administration for the University of Minnesota System. In 2013, he was hired away to be president at the State University of New York at Albany. After four years there, he moved to the University of Illinois.

"His inspiring and barrier-breaking personal journey, highly regarded scholarship and decades of transformative leadership convinced us that Chancellor Jones is the ideal person to build upon President Ana Mari Cauce's legacy," said UW Regent Blaine Tamaki. "I believe he will lead us into our next chapter of providing educational excellence at scale, top-quality health care to all, regardless of need, transformative research and public service to the state of Washington and the world."

Jones says he's "beyond excited" to be joining the UW. "I am so deeply committed to the UW's mission of partnering with communities so that more people can share in the benefits of university research and innovation."

Jones will be the 34th president in the UW's 164-year history.

Swing Shift

At a distance, it looks like a child is swinging on a trapeze in the stairwell of the Bill & Melinda Gates Center for Computer Science & Engineering. But a closer look reveals a newly installed sculpture by Los Angeles-based artist Glenn Kaino. The work, "Not Afraid of Falling," pays homage to an automaton built in the late 1840s by French watch maker and illusionist Jean-Eugène Robert Houdin. And like the original automaton, it's also a feat of engineering. Though the robot appears motionless, he swings a full arc in a week. According to Kaino, the work represents a young boy who will forever swing in the playground of dreams as a reminder for all students who pass through that the spirit of playfulness and creativity is always present. The installation was commissioned for the Allen School through the support of Sylvia Bolton and the Leo Maddox Family. *Photo by Mark Stone.*



Diversity in UW Law's Classes—125 Years Ago

By Hugh Spitzer

In 1901, a photo of 10 of the University of Washington's first law students (below) shows a much more diverse group of people than one might expect at the turn of the century. At the time, Black Americans could not join the American Bar Association, and in many states, married women could not practice law because they could not form contracts without their husbands' consent.

But because of our state's commitment to equal education rights for all residents, a diverse selection of young Washingtonians could study law at the UW. And they excelled. Once they received their degrees, though, the members of this class who weren't white and male encountered substantial challenges in establishing legal careers.

William McDonald Austin, pictured on the lower left, was a native of Barbados and a popular student who was elected class treasurer. His senior thesis focused on the Civil Rights Act of 1866. He became the first African American to earn a UW law degree and passed the Washington Bar with a high score. But unable to find employment in Seattle, in 1902 he left for the American-controlled Philippines.

Takuji Yamashita, on the lower right, was a Japanese citizen and star student who wrote his thesis on the head of the family in Japan. His motto in the 1903 Tyee Yearbook was *Amicus Alienus* (foreign friend). Though he had many friends in the U.S., Yamashita encountered barriers throughout his life. In 1902, Washington's Supreme Court rejected his application to practice because of his Japanese citizenship. State law banned anyone but U.S. citizens from the bar. At the same time, federal law prohibited most Asians, including Japanese, from becoming citizens.

Yamashita turned instead to business. He opened restaurants and hotels and later farmed berries and harvested shellfish—and offered legal advice to friends and neighbors. Sent to an incarceration camp during World War II, he and his family were unable to make payments on their farm in Silverdale and lost it.

In 2001, the state Supreme Court posthumously admitted Yamashita to the Washington State Bar, acknowledging the wrong nearly a century after his UW Law graduation.

Adella Parker, center left, went on to practice law in Seattle, teach civics to high school students, fight for women's suffrage and address corruption in city government by leading a successful campaign to recall the mayor. She served in the state Legislature from 1935 to 1937.

Two other early UW Law alumnae, not in the photo, went on to make history. Bella Weretnikow completed her first year of law school while finishing bachelor's degrees in political science and social science,

with honors in German. She was in the law school's first graduating class in 1901 and became the first Jewish woman lawyer in the state. But she left the practice when she married a lawyer from Tennessee who had read about her law school graduation in the American Israelite newspaper and moved to Seattle to woo her.

Othilia Gertrude Carroll joined her family's law firm. She also edited the Pacific Catholic Journal of Law and served as a local judge during World War I. She later established the first small-claims court in the state. In 1904, Carroll married Walter Beals, one of her UW Law classmates. He became a King County Superior Court judge and chief justice of the Washington State Supreme Court. He also served on the International Military Tribunal in Nuremberg in 1946.

The UW School of Law has maintained its commitment to diversity and worked to reduce the obstacles that some graduates faced 125 years ago. The school has continued to graduate men and women of many backgrounds who have served the state, the country and the global community in a remarkable variety of ways.

Hugh Spitzer is a retired professor from the UW School of Law.

The UW School of Law, which was founded in 1899, is celebrating its 125th academic year.



FDA approves UW periodontal study for anti-aging drug use

By Jon Marmor

Periodontal disease affects more than 70% of adults over 65. And the estimated cost of untreated periodontal disease in the U.S. is estimated at \$154 billion. That's why the work of Dr. Jonathan An, assistant professor of oral health sciences in the UW School of Dentistry, could bring that vulnerable population some needed relief.

An recently received approval from the Food and Drug Administration to lead the first study to evaluate rapamycin in older adults with periodontal disease. Rapamycin is an FDA-approved drug with immune modulating properties and is prominent in anti-aging research.

Researchers have shown that rapamycin can slow the aging process in mice by inhibiting a pathway called

mTOR, which regulates nutrient sensing and cell growth. While studies have used rapamycin on humans, An is the first to have FDA approval to study the drug in the context of oral health and periodontal disease.

"If periodontal disease is age related and rapamycin can target the aging process and improve it, then we want to find out what happens to periodontal disease when rapamycin is used," An says.

"Periodontal disease has been thought to be correlated to heart disease, diabetes and Alzheimer's disease, all of which share the underlying risk factor of age. Impacting periodontal disease with rapamycin could not only change the way we do dentistry, but also positively impact aging globally."



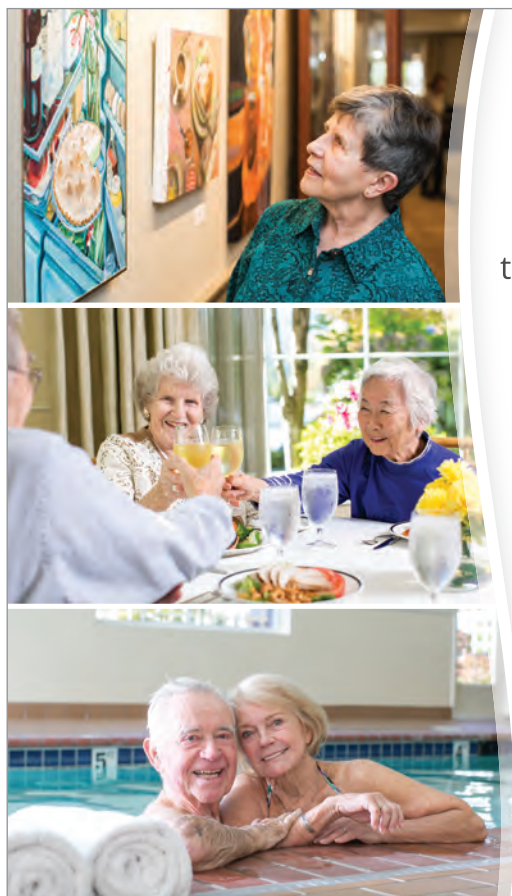
Dr. Jonathan An

Baker On the World Stage



© NOBEL PRIZE OUTREACH PHOTO: NANAKA ADACHI

UW Professor David Baker accepts the Nobel Prize in Chemistry from King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden on Dec. 10 for his work in protein design. His parents, UW Professors Emeriti Marshall Baker and Marcia Bourgin Baker, traveled to Stockholm for the ceremony.



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Checking Out College

UW Libraries' summer internship opens doors for high school students

By Doug Parry

Some of their stories were touching: In the podcast she created last summer, a high school student named Kaylyn described losing her skills with her first language, Vietnamese, and taking classes to help her better communicate with her family. "The language barrier was so difficult that it made me feel unheard and left out of my father's life," she said.

Some were humorous: A teen named Venkat recounted a business venture in which he spent days acquiring a pair of athletic shoes for \$190, finding a buyer and securing a tidy \$130 profit. His takeaway: "I had spent more time staring at the prices and waiting for the shoes than owning them, and I didn't regret that at all."

And some of their stories were what you might expect from a group of high school students using multimedia storytelling and story maps to share their experiences. Lensa talked about her favorite musical genres; Mandy discussed restaurants around the world; and Ayan and

her podcast guests speculated about paranormal activity.

The teenagers were among 10 who were chosen to spend two weeks at the UW over the summer as part of the UW Libraries High School Internship program. Since 2017, University librarians have brought in groups of high school students for mentorship, a paid internship and a crash course on the college experience. The students leave campus with new skills, multimedia stories for their portfolios and a better sense of what life in college might be like.

Lujain Al Ziyad was an intern in 2021. College was on her radar, but she didn't have a clear idea of what it would be like to attend. She had just gotten through the pandemic school year at Seattle's Nathan Hale High School, and the internship put her on a path to the UW. "They show you what it's like to be a student at the U," Al Ziyad says. Though the internship was online that year, the libraries brought in speakers who described student life and offered guidance on the admissions process.

For her project, Al Ziyad built a map of the places she wants to visit in Jordan, where she lived until she was 9. Now hoping to major in Law, Societies & Justice and a student worker with UW Libraries, Al Ziyad credits the internship with helping her submit a stronger application. "It helped with what to really say and write about in your essay," she said. "When I was applying, I kind of had an advantage because I knew what to expect."

Expanding access to higher education is a key goal for Elliott Stevens and Kian Flynn, '16, the UW librarians who created and now lead the program. "For a lot of kids, their dream school is U-Dub," Stevens says. "We should be connecting to these students. A lot of them are first-gen college students. A lot of them are from groups historically underrepresented and excluded from higher education."

Stevens and Flynn, who have worked in high schools, bring their own expertise to the program. As an English studies librarian, Stevens leads graduate students in making podcasts, videos and digital books. Flynn, a geography and global studies librarian, helps students and scholars develop story maps.

The Seattle Public Library, a key partner in the program, contributes funding and provides a \$630 stipend for the interns. Nancy Garrett, '03, a teen services librarian at the Lake City branch of the Seattle Public Library, promotes the internships, especially among teens who would be first-generation college students. "It's always so inspiring, the projects that students come up with," she says. "It's everything from lighthearted and funny to the absolutely poignant and emotional and moving."



RESEARCH



WILDFIRE SMOKE AND DEMENTIA

Wildfire smoke may harm more than our lungs. UW researchers have found that high, long-term exposure to wildfire smoke is associated with a significant increase in dementia diagnoses. Joan Casey, UW associate professor of Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences, says a review of health records of 1.2 million Southern California residents showed that "a few really severe wildfire smoke days ... might translate into increased risk."

MORE RURAL DENTISTS

The need for dentists, hygienists and specialists in rural and underserved areas of Washington is critical. That's why the UW School of Dentistry will establish a regional training center for oral health care in the UW-Gonzaga University Health Partnership facility in Spokane. Thanks to \$2.5 million in funding from the Legislature in 2024, the UW dental school's Regional Initiatives in Dental Education program doubled the number of students from 32 to 64 and added a second year of regional instruction.

A SMARTER RING

UW researchers have developed IRIS, an electronic ring that allows users to control smart devices by aiming the ring's small camera at the device and clicking a button. The prototype Bluetooth ring sends an image of the selected device to the user's phone, which can then control the device. The user can adjust the device with the button by rotating their hand. IRIS, or Interactive Ring for Interfacing with Smart home devices, operates off a charge for 16 to 24 hours.



SMOKE: MALACHI BROOKS, UNSPLASH.

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Take your Husky spirit on the go with a UW license plate. Your purchase supports student scholarships—helping future Huskies on their UW journey.



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Lakes, Links, Legend

Everything former Husky and Seahawk star Jermaine Kearsse touches in life seems to turn into gold

By Mike Seely



When viewed solely through the lens of objective statistical analysis, former Husky wide receiver Jermaine Kearsse, '12, had a rather pedestrian NFL career, catching just 17 touchdown passes in a seven-year span.

But Kearsse had a knack for making catches that proved pivotal to the Seattle Seahawks—with whom he spent his first five seasons in the league—either winning or making Super Bowls in 2013 and 2014.

In any other city on any other team, Kearsse's exploits might be nothing more than a pleasant afterthought. Yet as a local boy who reached his greatest heights just as the Seahawks reached theirs, he is remembered as a franchise legend, an honor the Seahawks team recently bestowed on Kearsse in naming him its 2024 Legend of the Year.

It's Kearsse's off-the-field achievements, however, that really sealed the deal. The Tacoma Lakes High School grad grew up on Joint Base Lewis-McChord (then Fort Lewis) south of Tacoma, and he has launched charitable and community endeavors to enrich the lives of military families and their children.

Kearsse's mother is German, and he spent a few of his formative years in preschool there. It made sense, that Kearsse was tapped to travel to Germany as a Seahawks ambassador, with the NFL now staging games there annually.

"There are tons of Seahawk fans in Germany," he told University of Washington Magazine. "From a lot of conversations I've had with them, football started to pick up in Germany during our run [in 2013 and 2014]. That's when a lot of fans started to get into it."

After his NFL days were over, Kearsse served as a program assistant with UW football in 2020 and 2021. These days Kearsse is involved with the UW's golf program, having taken the sport up in his post-collegiate days. Now it's his career: Kearsse is the co-founder of Evergreen Golf Club, a massive, state-of-the-art indoor training operation with locations in Redmond and Tacoma.

He's a three or four handicap, so there's no telling whether Kearsse could have lettered in two sports at UW had he taken golf up sooner.

Big Mario's
NEW YORK STYLE
PIZZA

**IT'S GOOD
NO MATTER HOW
YA *Slice* IT**

**CAPITOL HILL • QUEEN ANNE
FREMONT • WHITE CENTER**

BURKE MUSEUM

GALAS - RETREATS - CELEBRATIONS - MEETINGS

HOST IT AT THE BURKE MUSEUM

HUSKY PICKS FOR A

SLAM DUNK

L to R: UW staff member Clarita Hinojosa and Huskies Ernest Bolezi, '25, and Emmanuel Oluwatimileyin Adebiyi, '26, jumped at the chance to show their basketball skills and the vintage-inspired UW gear from SLAM.

Sport your favorite retro Huskies look for March Madness! Don't miss this collaboration between College Vault and SLAM, a mainstay of hoops culture for more than 30 years. The apparel and gear in this collection feature throwback UW logos and a vintage look—a perfect fit for action on or off the court.

Explore the retro Huskies hoops collection: slam.ly/washington

📷 RealDawgsWearPurple 📘 WearPurple ✕ UWearPurple

W



How two **“DEEP NERDS,”** Janet Galore and Demi Raven,
turned an old Seattle grocery into a **HOME** where creativity,
fandom and **INTELLECTUAL CURIOSITY** collide



BY **SHIN YU PAI**

PHOTOS BY **CHONA KASINGER**

WHEN ARTISTS Demi Raven, '02, and Janet Galore, '89, went looking for a live-work space, the couple wanted something unconventional, a place where they could be inspired by different ideas and hold big gatherings. A place where they could paint large canvases, edit film, modify toasters and design cool things, a place they could fill with art and books, a place where they could host art exhibitions, workshops and salons. In 2015, they found it: an old grocery store on Seattle's Beacon Hill that they named The Grocery Studios.

Raven, a visual artist and archivist, and Galore, an interdisciplinary artist and designer, are multifaceted polymaths, dedicated collectors and community conveners. Like Ada Lovelace, the 19th century mathematician and writer, Leonardo DaVinci and glass artist Dale Chihuly, '65, a longtime collector of objects like fishing lures and accordions, they revel in the process of learning, collecting, creating and sharing. They join a group of obsessive collectors and people with expertise in things relatively obscure. They know the dopamine rush of finding or creating something particular and are happy to “geek out” with fellow collectors or fans. Some people might call them enthusiasts or aficionados. In local parlance, they're deep nerds.

Galore and Raven embrace the “deep nerd” description. Raven, who studied computer science at the UW, has been driven as a visual artist since adolescence. Galore's studies of pure and applied mathematics at the UW led to a vocation designing and producing virtual reality games as well a myriad of less practical artistic explorations and collections—like her tiny terrariums. While having long professional careers at companies including Google and Amazon, they're devoted to following their unique interests and their collecting and creative adventures.



“It takes effort and work to amass a collection or to complete a project to the end, so being able to look back and say, **‘WOW, I DID ALL THAT!’** can be deeply satisfying.”

DR. DELANCEY WU, SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGIST AND UW ASSISTANT TEACHING PROFESSOR



INFLUENCED BY PUNK ROCK, Dada and the Situationist art movement, Galore wanted her home to shatter norms. “I’m interested in anyone who has decided how they want to live and aren’t just accepting what someone gave to them,” she says. “I was open to being molded by the space. But if we’d chosen a big warehouse, or a church or a boat, we’d have a different life. So many of the living spaces that people are offered are very cookie cutter. It’s assumed that everyone wants to live the same way.”

Raven also liked pushing against conventional ideas of a home. He was invigorated by places he’d lived before, like a laundromat in Loyal Heights and the Diller Hotel, where he was able to customize his space—as long as he paid his rent. Raven enjoys hands-on work, and his fine-arts background allowed him to apply his experience with construction to renovating their new grocery-home—and carving out space for his collecting.

As an undergraduate at the University of Colorado at Boulder, Raven studied photography and oil painting. He lived near the Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics, which frequently hosted William S. Burroughs as a visiting writer. Raven got hooked on Burroughs and other artists associated with the Beat Generation, like Brion Gysin, and started collecting their writing. He focused on Burroughs’ publications in periodicals, which were more affordable, and he eventually amassed nearly 1,300 items. “It’s the largest collection in the world that I know of,” Raven says. Galore notes that her partner has “an interest in completeness.” He approaches his work as an archivist as a sleuth finding answers and seeing connections no one else has noted.

As an independent archivist, Raven has meticulously catalogued and shared his collections online. In October, he co-published a book related to his archive of the writings of Roger Knoebber, who lived among the Beat artists in Paris. “Hysteresis: A Profile of Brion Gysin” involved sorting through roughly 600 individual items from the author’s collections, which were stored in plastic bins in a non-climate-controlled space. “We got to see the family photos and rat-eaten rumpled documents,” says Galore. Raven labored to classify them and put them in plastic sleeves.

Eventually, Raven would like to transfer his collections to an institutional archive where they can benefit more researchers. “I’ve been able to help grad students,” says Raven. “That brings me great joy. The work I do is for free, yet people benefit from it and gain access to materials that would be otherwise hidden.”



THE JOY THIS BRINGS is what Dr. Delancey Wu, an assistant teaching professor at the UW and expert in social psychology, describes as a facet of goal striving. “There’s a theory called self-determination theory that basically says humans are motivated to feel competent, autonomous and connected to others,” she says. “In the case of collecting, it can satisfy the need to feel competent in particular because it takes effort and work to amass a collection or to complete a project to the end, so being able to look back and say ‘Wow, I did all that!’ can be very satisfying, especially if it’s collecting or creating something you (and others) have a passion for.”

The Pacific Northwest is full of deep nerds with UW connections.

“People collect what is meaningful to them,” says Jacob McMurray, ’95, chief collections and exhibitions officer at the Museum of Pop Culture. In his role at MoPOP, McMurray played a part in advancing the vision of Paul Allen, one of Seattle’s most celebrated deep nerds and the founder of the museum.

The Microsoft co-founder and philanthropist—who grew up hanging around the UW campus—had amassed 80,000 individual objects related to American

music and pop culture. These include the guitar Jimi Hendrix played at Woodstock and Captain Kirk’s command chair from “Star Trek,” which he gifted to the museum and made available to fellow music, sci-fi and pop culture fans.

“When we have objects up in the museum, it’s less about looking at something from a temporal remove of hundreds of years,” McMurray says, as pop art, “it has a personal impact on you ... in your recognition of a wider world beyond yourself to now.”

In 2022, Allen’s private art collection sold at auction for more than \$1.6 billion. As with his other passions, Allen’s private collection reflected his wide-ranging interests with paintings from Van Gogh and Cézanne alongside work by contemporary artists Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen, who created the iconic “Typewriter Eraser, Scale X” sculpture that was once on view at the Olympic Sculpture Park.

“To a certain extent, collecting can be kind of a fixation,” says McMurray, a collector in his own right who has described himself as “delightfully eccentric and deeply weird” and whose own interests include designing and printing cards and other ephemera on a *Continued on PG. 52*



Jacob Lawrence 1977

Despite his celebrity, Jacob Lawrence was known as being humble, generous and hardworking—someone who spent time in his studio every day, eagerly visited school classrooms and became involved in the communities in which he lived. Most of his life was spent on the East Coast, mostly in New York, but in 1971, Lawrence received an offer for a tenured professorship from the University of Washington School of Art. At age 54, exactly 30 years after his notable emergence, Lawrence and his wife, fellow artist Gwendolyn Knight Lawrence, left the epicenter of the American art world and headed to the Pacific Northwest.

“Lawrence had started putting out feelers for opportunities and positions pretty quickly after the wake of the 1968 campus protests that led to the formation of many Black Student Unions and the fight for the desegregation of higher education,” says Juliet Sperling, a UW assistant professor of Art History and the Kollar Endowed Chair in American Art. A historian of 19th-century American art, Sperling teaches broadly, she explains, “but my research area is more narrowly focused on art from, and artists that died, before 1900. Jacob Lawrence wasn’t somebody I was researching before I came to UW.”

Sperling arrived on campus in 2020. At the time, Lawrence’s legacy was especially palpable. Three years earlier, the Seattle

Twenty-five years after his death, the noted artist’s impact as a chronicler of the Black experience lives on through the efforts of local institutions.

enough, and he got to the point where he didn’t need to be there—his dealers could handle his work for him. And he liked teaching. He taught me that you can be famous and still be a nice guy.”

In 2020, Walker, who stepped down from his directorship at in June 2024 but still teaches in the School of Art + Art History + Design, suggested that Sperling helm a seminar about Lawrence. In early 2021, “Art and Seattle: Jacob Lawrence” appeared on the course list. “Jamie said, ‘Why don’t you teach a class about him for deep context, along with the promotion of his work?’” Sperling recalls. “I expected to teach a one-off class but ended up finding a secondary area of research.”

According to Sperling—who led her students in the research and writing of a book of essays titled “Jacob Lawrence in Seattle”—the latter half of Lawrence’s career, namely, the time he spent in the Emerald City, has been largely ignored, truncated or dismissed by critics and art historians. It seems that the Seattle years are seen as a footnote to his lionized beginnings in New York.

In 1941, at just 24 years old, Lawrence opened a solo exhibition at Edith Halpert’s Downtown Gallery in New York’s Greenwich Village. A raw and emotionally arresting showcase of 60 painted panels depicting the post-World War I northward relocation of African Americans from the South, “The Migration of the Negro” (now simply known as “The Migration Series”) would catapult

THE NORTHWEST LEGACY OF Jacob Lawrence

Art Museum had shown, for the first time in decades, “The Migration Series” as a whole. A year after Lawrence completed the works, in 1941, they were purchased by New York’s Museum of Modern Art and the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C. Because there was no straightforward way to divide the series, the latter museum took the odd-numbered panels, while the former took the even-numbered ones. In 2017, in a celebration of the 100th anniversary of Lawrence’s birth, the two institutions arranged for the series to be shown in its entirety, and Seattle, as Lawrence’s home for the final 30 years of his life, was an obvious stop. Displayed in Seattle Art Museum’s Gwendolyn Knight & Jacob Lawrence Gallery, the exhibition drew large crowds, and an interest in the artist, and his legacy, was sparked anew.

While Lawrence’s talent and creativity are irrefutable, locally, his legacy is steeped in his hardworking nature, unpretentious attitude and generous spirit.

“Jacob Lawrence was nationally famous following the exhibition of his ‘The Migration Series,’” says Jamie Walker, ’81, a professor and former director of the University of Washington School of Art + Art History + Design. “It would lead him to amazing things, but I don’t think he was someone who loved or needed the limelight. His work was his passion.”

“He’d had enough of New York,” recalls Seattle-based multimedia artist and photographer Preston Wadley, ’75, ’77, who studied under Lawrence during his time at the UW. “Growing up there, he experienced that whole dog-eat-dog scene for long

Lawrence to national stardom. Painted in a cubist style using a selective palette—black and brown, rusty red, marigold yellow, teal green, shades of blue—each scene was captured on a canvas measuring 12 by 18 inches, making them sizable enough to catch a viewer’s eye but also requiring a certain amount of closeness to experience fully.

Already a recognized talent in Harlem, where he had lived and studied for a decade, Lawrence’s showing at Downtown Gallery (known for its dedication to living artists, especially creatives such as women, immigrants and Jews) and its resulting contract made him the first African American artist to be represented by a major commercial gallery in New York. The same month of Lawrence’s opening, “Fortune Magazine” ran a multi-page spread about him featuring photographs of 26 of the series’ panels. It was a pivotal moment that would cement the early-career artist as one of the most promising creative voices of the 20th century, and an honest chronicler of the Black experience in America.

“For a lot of art history, they see [the move to Seattle] as the end of his career,” Sperling says, “but mathematically it’s actually the mid-point—he spent the next 30 years making art until his death [in 2000] at age 82.”

That later work, such as the additions to the “Builders” series and the “Hiroshima” paintings (1983), is just as visually striking as his previous paintings, tinged with a slightly brighter dynamism and sense of softness that seems to come with the passing

by **RACHEL
GALLAHER**

of years. Themes remain consistent and include struggle, hard work, social justice, community and personal freedom. During tenure in Seattle, Lawrence branched out into other creative forms, including public art and children's books. His large-scale, 1979 mural titled "Games" was originally made for the Kingdome sports stadium but was removed upon the arena's demolition in 2000. It is now on display at the Seattle Convention Center. Another piece by Lawrence, "Theater" (1985), hangs in the West Lobby of Meany Hall, in good company with works by glass artist Dale Chihuly and Guy Anderson's "Sacred Pastures" (1978).

Lawrence always saw himself as a New Yorker, but, as noted by colleagues, students and fellow artists, he settled nicely into his Seattle life, embracing his role as an educator and mentor—without any ego.

"From all I've seen in the archives and from talking to people who knew him, he was an incredible man," says Sperling. "He was beloved by students, active in public school visits and involved in the community at large."

"He was very positive and supportive," confirms Wadley, who attended the University of Washington for graduate school based on Lawrence's presence. "I applied to two schools: University of Washington because of Jacob Lawrence, and the Nova Scotia School of Art and Design for Robert Frank. I got into both, and I was already in Oregon, so it was easier to move to Seattle. My respect and admiration for both artists was the same, so I wasn't losing anything by that choice, but it changed my life, of course."

Wadley arrived in Seattle in the early '70s and joined a cohort of talented young artists, including Michael Lucero, Mary Ann Peters, Sherry Markovitz and Barbara Earl Thomas. Lawrence was Wadley's adviser. "My area of focus was painting, but I graduated without actually making a painting," Wadley says with a laugh, noting that he "filters everything through the eye of a photographer." Despite a difference in preferred mediums, Wadley took a lot away from his studies under Lawrence, who, he recounts, was generous with his time and expertise.

"He had a great wealth of art history knowledge, but he wasn't a name-dropper," Wadley says. "If you asked him questions in your history classes, he was open with his answers because he actually lived through those periods he was talking about and he knew the people involved."

For Lawrence, there seems to have been no "before" or "after," no hierarchy of where he spent his life. During the research process for "Jacob Lawrence in Seattle," one of Sperling's colleagues, Morgan Bell, '07, '10, '11, discovered a recording of the previously unpublished 1978 Distinguished Faculty Lecture that Lawrence gave at Kane Hall. (It was made available to the public for the first time through the project.) At the beginning of his lecture, Lawrence presented a new painting, "The Studio," that shows him working in his Seattle atelier, with a tableau of 1940s Harlem just outside the window. "I consider it a strand, all of these things running through my life," he says at one point. "I don't separate them." It's a nod to his approach, his view of his place in the art world and the greater tapestry of history. "You can see where I am in this moment," he said of "The Studio," hinting at the multitudes within him, the recognition of history—not just of great artists, but the average men and women who helped pave a path throughout the decades to make his success possible.

Lawrence taught at the UW until 1986, when he retired. In 1993, the School of Art named its first-floor gallery in honor of his impact on his students and the greater community. Despite its legendary namesake, the Jacob Lawrence Gallery went through some rough patches, with meager budgets and a dated, ramshackle presence.

"It wasn't that dynamic at the time," Walker, the former art school director, recalls of the years after the rebrand. "The programming didn't feel professional, the lighting was bad. ... We received feedback from the Black arts community saying that it was an embarrassment to the legacy of Jacob Lawrence."

"I consider it a strand, all of these things running through my life... I don't separate them."



Previous page: "The Studio," a 1977 self-portrait by Jacob Lawrence, features his Seattle home studio with a window looking out to Harlem.

Above: Lawrence in his Seattle studio in 1989.

Right: "Confrontation at the Bridge" depicts the 1965 Selma to Montgomery marches for voting rights.

When Walker was announced as the next director of the School of Art + Art History + Design in 2013, he put the revitalization of the gallery at the top of his priority list. The school created a director position for the gallery and filled it with noted art historian and Frye Art Museum curator Scott Lawrimore.

"We worked it out that he would take on a space that would honor the legacy of Jacob Lawrence and uphold his values as much possible, while still being student-centered," Walker says. "On a shoestring budget, Scott was able to tidy up the space a bit and put together significant programming that elevated the presence of Lawrence right around the time 'The Migration Series' started to travel."

One of Lawrimore's projects was the launch of the Jacob Lawrence Legacy Residency, which continues today and is open to Black artists from around the country at any stage in their career. The recipient holds residency in January to develop new work, followed by a February exhibition during Black History Month.

Lawrimore headed up the gallery through 2017, then moved on to pursue other projects. His replacement, Emily Zimmerman, continued to evolve the gallery's mission and offerings with a focus on increased support for BIPOC artists, including an annual curatorial fellowship for BIPOC graduate students. She also served as editor of a biannual print journal, titled MONDAY, that aims at rethinking approaches to arts criticism, and extended the potential of the Legacy Residency. The role includes supporting hundreds of undergraduate and graduate students who exhibit in the gallery. Zimmerman left in 2022 for an opportunity with Arthur Ross Gallery in Philadelphia, and in spring 2024, the School of Art + Art History + Design announced Jordan Jones as the gallery's next director and curator.

"I was lucky to inherit the newly renovated Jacob Lawrence Gallery space with the start of my tenure," Jones says. "The new space continues our work to provide a professional-level exhibition space within the School of Art + Art History + Design. It has physically moved from one side of the art building to the other, giving it pride of place and more visibility on the first floor."

Although it took a while—initial fundraising efforts started strong but flagged when the COVID-19 pandemic hit—the renovated Jacob Lawrence Gallery, designed in partnership with local architecture firm Mithun, opened in spring 2023. Funded partly by the Provost's Office and the College of Arts & Sciences Dean's Office (which covered two-thirds of the renovation expenses) and partly by private donors, the new space features bright white walls, original polished concrete flooring, and security

and climate control systems that meet American Alliance of Museums standards, so works from other galleries and museums can be displayed on loan.

"It's been a journey, but the gallery is in place and it's here to stay for a long time," Walker says. As visitors enter, they pass a large, in-wall display that includes an overview of Lawrence's life. "We want people to understand who Jacob Lawrence was, why he was important, and that he chose to spend the last 30 years of his life here."

"[Jacob Lawrence] shaped a generation of artists coming through the BA and MFA programs at the school," says Jones, who is currently developing a Jacob Lawrence Mapping Project to better understand the lasting impact on his work and presence in the community. "This project will mark the key sites throughout UW and Seattle that have connections to Lawrence or are places where you can find his work and will collect oral history interviews with the folks who knew him to capture the lasting impact he has had on individuals in our community. This project comes out of my own experience of constantly bumping into a new Lawrence work or encountering someone with a Lawrence story to share while getting settled in the city."

At the beginning of 2025, Seattle Art Museum closed "Jacob Lawrence: American Storyteller," a focused exhibition that brought together works from SAM and local collections and highlighted the artist's narrative skill (via figurative work) at a time when abstraction ruled the scene. Painted in Lawrence's spatially flattened style, the works—many dating to the second

The fact that Jacob Lawrence chose to remain here until his death feels like a stamp of approval.

half of his career—capture the heart of his practice, which relies on story. Each of his pieces holds hundreds of story threads that culminate into something larger: a visual reckoning of themes, including family, community, history and self-determination. With a single painting, Lawrence is able to capture the viewer's imagination, leading them along different narrative tributaries with roots that extend back hundreds of years. Its figurative nature and simple scenes of daily life—families walking down the street, people gathering or participating in sports—render it more emotionally relatable than, say, an abstract geometric sculpture.

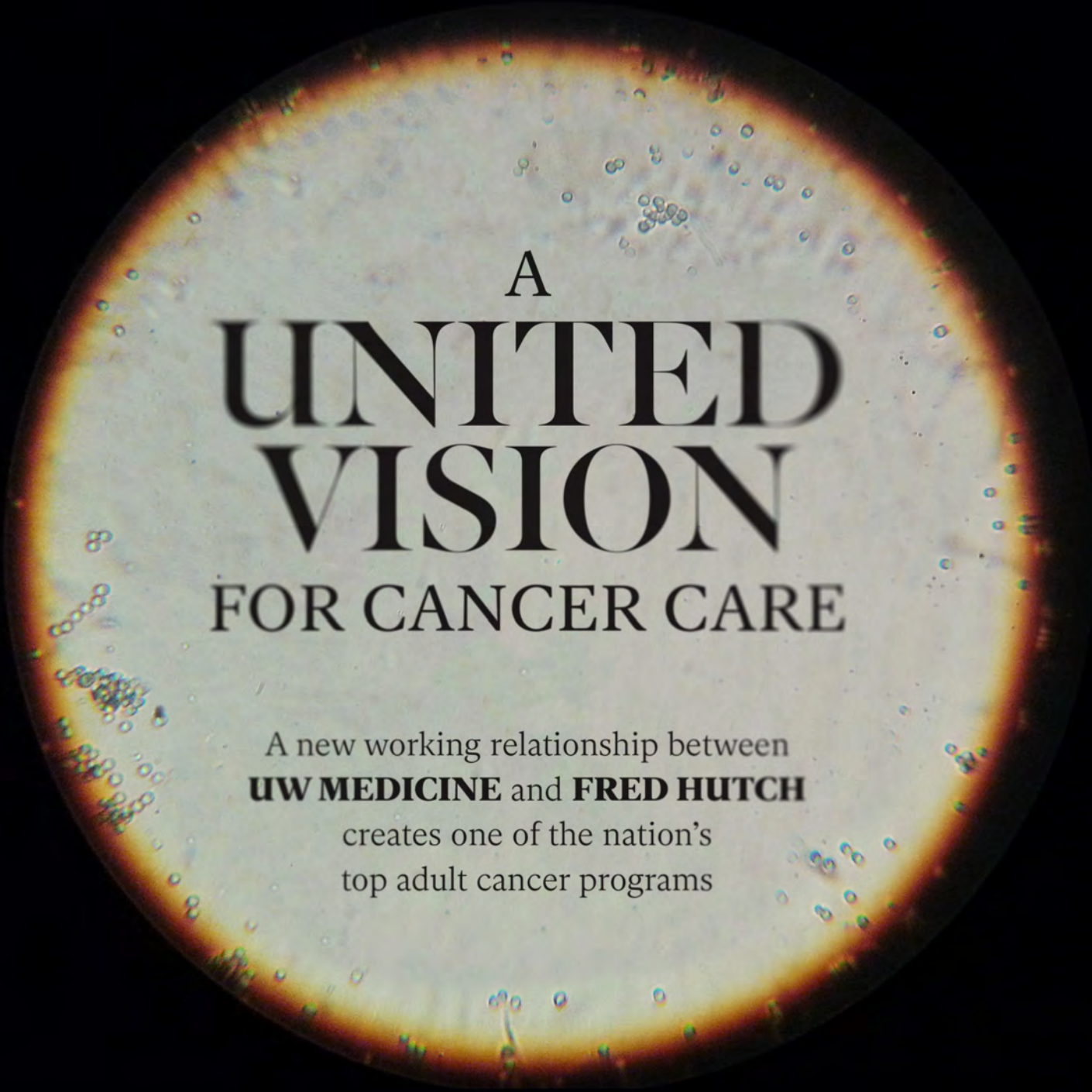
"I think Jacob's Lawrence's work has seen a resurgence in popularity because he was interested in reflecting the realities of the society he lived in in a way that was very direct," says Walker. For Seattle, a relatively young city with a less far-reaching visual arts scene than New York or Los Angeles, that Jacob Lawrence chose to remain here until his death feels like a stamp of approval.

"That has to do with our position in the American art world," Sperling says. "Incredible art has been coming out of the Northwest for millennia, but historically, it hasn't always been recognized by the broader art world. Him choosing Seattle to make work in for the rest of his life says a lot."

For Wadley, Lawrence's appeal has never waned. When asked why he thinks the late artist's catalog still resonates so deeply with people, his answer is simple: "Because it's good," he says. "Look, as Duke Ellington would say, 'There's no new music or old music, only good music,' and it's exactly the same with art."



"CONFRONTATION ON THE BRIDGE," 1975. SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM.
© THE JACOB AND GWENDOLYN KNIGHT LAWRENCE FOUNDATION, SEATTLE / ARTISTS RIGHTS SOCIETY, NY.

A circular frame containing a microscopic image of cells, likely cancer cells, with a bright, glowing orange-yellow border. The cells are small, round, and some are clustered together. The background is dark.


A UNITED VISION FOR CANCER CARE

A new working relationship between
UW MEDICINE and **FRED HUTCH**
creates one of the nation's
top adult cancer programs

BY **JON MARMOR**

PHOTOGRAPHY BY **RICK DAHMS**



A woman with short dark hair, wearing a white sweater, a thick maroon scarf, black leather pants, and black boots, stands on a dark, textured rock in the middle of a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a golden glow and reflecting on the water's surface. The background shows a distant shoreline with trees under a cloudy sky.

“The sense of
urgency, the care,
it was excellent.”

COURTNEY GRIFFITH,
CANCER SURVIVOR

Treated at UW Medicine and
the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center

THE BACKACHES. HEADACHES.

Trouble making decisions. For several years, those mysterious symptoms puzzled Courtney Griffith, a Bainbridge Island mom of two. But in October 2022, things really went haywire. When she would get up from a chair or turn her head there was nothing but black in the middle of her line of vision. She went to her optometrist, who told her to see a retina specialist. The retina specialist ordered an MRI and she was told to go immediately to the emergency room at UW Medical Center-Montlake.

There, Griffith received a frightening diagnosis: stage 3 astrocytoma, a cancerous brain tumor that had grown to the size of a lime. On Nov. 2, 2022, she underwent a nine-hour-long brain surgery at UW Medical Center-Montlake to remove the tumor. Dr. Lynne Taylor, director of the UW Medicine Alvord Brain Tumor Center and Griffith's medical oncologist, guided Griffith's chemotherapy and proton beam radiation therapy, which began Jan. 3, 2023, and lasted for several months.

"She would have died in her sleep if the tumor had not been discovered," says Dr. Taylor. "Courtney's symptoms were very drastic. [When] she lost her vision, that was like a five-alarm fire because the pressure in her brain was so high. Her blood pressure went way down and there was not enough blood going to her retina."

A multidisciplinary team visit helped decide the treatment: a year of the anti-cancer medication Temozolomide in higher doses for 42 days, 33 sessions of proton beam radiation therapy at Fred Hutch Proton Therapy on the UW Medical Center-Northwest campus and 12 more chemo treatments at the highest possible dose. MRIs would be required every six months for the rest of Griffith's life.

Griffith's story is just another example of the top-notch care provided by two renowned health-care organizations, UW Medicine and Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, who have come together to create a clinically integrated adult oncology program dedicated to diagnosing, treating and advancing cures for cancer.



A NEW ADULT CANCER PROGRAM

Two years ago, the founding members of the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (SCCA)—UW Medicine, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and Seattle Children's—announced a restructure of their longtime alliance that had been providing care to adult and pediatric cancer patients since it was formed in 1998. Their collective goal was to more fully integrate clinical and research activities to accelerate the translation of research to patient care. It was determined that Seattle Children's would separately lead the pediatric cancer program while SCCA, Fred Hutch and UW Medicine would restructure their relationship to provide adult oncology services. The adult and pediatric programs would continue to collaborate on innovative cancer research.

The first part of the restructure was for Fred Hutch Cancer Research Center to merge with SCCA to create a new combined patient care and research entity renamed the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center. The new Fred Hutch is a legally separate organization from the UW that also serves as UW Medicine's cancer program.

Fred Hutch provides programmatic oversight for the joint adult oncology program at both Fred Hutch and UW Medical Center, says Margaret Peyton, UW Medicine chief of staff. Fred Hutch continues to maintain an independent and separately licensed inpatient hospital within the walls of UW Medical Center, but the adult oncology services provided at both Fred Hutch and UW Medical Center are "clinically integrated."

What this means is that patients with a cancer diagnosis can still be seen at either of the separate hospitals (UW Medical Center and Fred Hutch) and their care plan may include outpatient visits at either or both. The integrated approach allows closer alignment and coordination across their cancer care. Regardless of location, Fred Hutch oversees the strategies and treatment standards for the adult cancer program.

"We are two separate hospitals, but we are working together to harness the strength of both to cure cancer," Peyton says. "That was our grand vision—to come together as two separate entities with one common goal. The SCCA structure was confusing for patients who were seeking care at Fred Hutch or UW Medicine. With this restructure, we want to make it easier for patients. Together, we can achieve more for more patients."

IMPROVING THE PATIENT EXPERIENCE

Cancer is a scary diagnosis; a patient shouldn't have to worry about what to do next. This is where the clinical partnership has already made a real difference, utilizing patient navigation for people facing a cancer diagnosis. This has been particularly vital to creating a better patient experience, according to Dr. Taylor.

"Before we started working together like this," Dr. Taylor says, "there were backlogs of patients seeking care, and people didn't know who to contact after a cancer diagnosis. The changes are making a huge difference."

A new nursing navigation team manages the "front door" to adult cancer treatment at UW Medical Center and Fred Hutch. Prospective and current patients can talk to nurses who explain how the integrated system works while helping patients schedule appointments and gather information and medical records for their care.

Integrated care also means a patient's journey through screening, diagnosis and determination of care is more coordinated than before.

"Our experience was seamless," Courtney Griffith says. "This was my first experience with UW Medicine and Fred Hutch, and for such a crappy [health] situation, it was the absolute best experience. The sense of urgency, the care, it was excellent."

Another patient who agrees is travel writer Rick Steves. During a routine physical exam this past fall, he was given a

prostate-specific antigen test, which measures how much PSA is in the blood. A high PSA could indicate prostate cancer and Steves was surprised to learn that his was very high even though he never experienced symptoms. He was immediately referred to Fred Hutch, where a prostate cancer diagnosis was confirmed. He spent his first night ever in a hospital at UW Medical Center-Montlake to have surgery to remove his prostate. This jarring time was made much easier by the great care he received, along with the excellent communication from his health-care team. “I was constantly impressed,” Steves recalls. “I’m glad I live in Seattle and have access to care like I got.”

ACCELERATING CANCER RESEARCH

Today, patients with a cancer diagnosis for which there is no approved treatment or only partially effective approved treatments have two options: One, find a clinical trial offering a potential treatment; or two, go without the potentially most effective treatment. Increasing access to lifesaving clinical trials is an important goal of the adult oncology program partnership.

There are more than 750 active clinical trials providing access to promising treatments, some available only through Fred Hutch and UW Medicine. This allows the adult oncology program partnership to drive breakthroughs and develop new treatments to benefit patients.

“The restructuring was really important for cancer care,” says Dr. Nancy Davidson, executive vice president of clinical affairs and the Raisbeck Endowed Chair for Collaborative Research at Fred Hutch.

As a breast cancer specialist who also conducts and oversees research on breast cancer, Dr. Davidson says that clinical trials are “absolutely critical” to advancing treatments, and that these are more easily accessible for patients under the new structure. She adds that this top-of-the-line cancer care extends across inpatients and outpatients. “A distinct difference in treating cancer is that it may involve years of treatment, and we’ve worked hard to make more of the treatment available at our outpatient locations.” She says the new relationship has helped address the consumer confusion that existed in the marketplace. Most importantly, she says, “I hope people will see us as a united team focused on cancer.”

A HISTORY OF INNOVATION

Fred Hutch has been a national research powerhouse since it was created 50 years ago. In 1976, the National Cancer Institute named it a Comprehensive Cancer Center, the highest accreditation for cancer care in the nation. Among its history of innovations are the work of E. Donnall Thomas, who received the 1990 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for bone marrow transplantation and stem cell transplantation to treat leukemia and other blood diseases; the breakthrough discoveries of former Fred Hutch president and director Leland H. Hartwell, who received the 2001 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his discovery of the genes that regulate cell division in all organisms, and the role of “checkpoint” genes that determine if a cell is dividing normally; and Linda Buck, ’75, recipient of the 2004 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for identifying the genes that control odor receptors.

UW Medicine plays a unique and important role in health care in the Pacific Northwest, especially in research. It is the only academic health system in the five-state WWAMI region (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, Idaho) and has one of the largest biomedical research institutes in the country. It grew out of the UW School of Medicine, which opened its doors in 1946 and established a Department of Medicine in 1948.

Today, the school is a recognized leader in research and education. It is home to six Nobel laureates, including David Baker, head of the UW Medicine Institute for Protein Design, who was the recipient of

the 2024 Nobel Prize in Chemistry. As one of the nation’s top federally funded research institutions, UW Medicine is an international leader in translating scientific findings into improved clinical care for cancer patients. Through its collaborative, interdisciplinary research approach, it has contributed to advances in prevention, screening and detection, diagnosis and treatment of a wide range of cancers. Cancer surgery, medical oncology, immunotherapies, radiation oncology and psychological aspects of care are among the cancer patient care areas that have benefited from UW Medicine research.

A GAME-CHANGER FOR CANCER CARE

Brad Simmons, president of UW Medicine Hospitals & Clinics and senior vice president for medical affairs at the UW, says that the UW Medicine/Fred Hutch partnership is a “game-changer” for cancer care in the Pacific Northwest. “Ours is the only true integrated practice in the field, bringing two very recognizable brands together for the benefit of our patients.”

For Courtney Griffith, this was certainly true. “We didn’t know what we were up against when this started,” she recalls. But after her brain surgery and medical oncology treatments, she found that her back problems, headaches and difficulty making decisions had abated. It turned out that everything was related to her brain tumor.

“And like a light switch, I got my wife back,” says Courtney’s husband, Wes. As Dr. Taylor says, “there is no visible sign of the tumor.”

And that is the whole point of the partnership: to bring under one umbrella the specialized focus of a leading cancer center with the comprehensive services of a top-ranked hospital so that people diagnosed with cancer can get the most effective treatment for their disease. “From a patient perspective,” says Dr. Thomas Purcell, vice president and chief medical officer at Fred Hutch, “this restructure was incredibly important to the patient experience. Patients receive better coordination of care and access to facilities.” While he noted that there is always more to be done, Dr. Purcell is excited about how the ability to deliver multidisciplinary care—a gold standard in cancer care—has been maximized. “Our patient satisfaction ratings have never been higher,” he says.

Steves, who resumed his travels not long after his prostate surgery, continues to be grateful for his care. “I trusted the University of Washington Medical system and Fred Hutchinson and I’m feeling pretty thankful.”

TESTIMONIALS

A MORE PERFECT UNION



“Before we started working together like this, there were backlogs of patients seeking care. The changes are making a huge difference.”

DR. LYNNE TAYLOR
Director of the UW Alword
Brain Tumor Center



“I was constantly impressed. I’m glad I live in Seattle and have access to care like I got.”

RICK STEVES
Travel writer,
Cancer survivor

Left: Courtney Griffith joins her son, Hudson, daughter, Kinsley, and husband, Wes, at home.

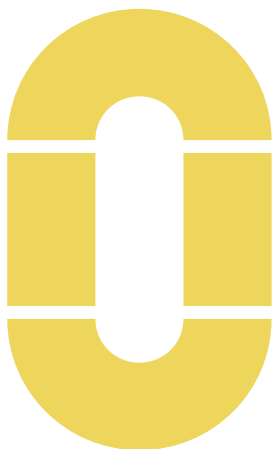


AFTER A DAZZLING
CAREER AT ESPN,
KENT NATIVE AND FORMER
UW FOOTBALL WALK-ON
KENNY MAYNE
ISN'T CONTENT TO
REST ON HIS LAURELS.

NEVER KENOUGH

BY **MIKE SEELY**

ILLUSTRATION BY **NIGEL BUCHANAN**



One of Taelor Scott's earliest memories occurred when she was about 3 years old. Now in her twenties, the daughter of the late, great ESPN broadcaster Stuart Scott was riding along to a Connecticut transfer station with a man she affectionately called "Uncle Kenny."

When they got to the dump, Uncle Kenny disposed of the refuse in the back of his truck and told young Taelor, "You put it in there and it burns at the bottom."

Uncle Kenny—full name: Kenny Mayne III—was no casual observer of trash. When he attended college at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, the Kent, Washington, native worked as a garbage man every summer upon returning home. And when he found himself between broadcast journalism jobs in the late 1980s, the first person he called while looking for work was his old boss with the trash-collecting company.

One problem: By that point in time, there was just one worker assigned to each truck, with automation negating the need for "swampers."

"It was like the industry had passed me by in those intervening times," says Mayne, who'd just finished a seven-year stint with Seattle's KSTW-TV, where he'd started as a production assistant fresh out of UNLV in 1982 and eventually ascended to the role of weekend sports anchor.

Mayne's inquiry to his former employer wasn't all for naught, however. His old boss offered him a job assembling garbage cans.

"I'm like, 'What the f--- did I just do?'" Mayne remembers thinking. "I just quit a TV job that wasn't paying a lot, but relatively speaking, it was. Now I'm working for \$10 an hour making garbage cans in the rain.

"I'm not saying this like I'm above garbage. I was a garbage man. I have great respect for them, right? I just mean it wasn't what I was hoping to do after seven years out of college."

Mere months earlier, Mayne had interviewed for a job with ESPN. He was passed over that first go-round, but the experience gave him the confidence to leave the comforts of his local news gig and shoot for the moon.

Five years and an assortment of odd jobs and freelance assignments later, he finally landed on the lunar surface, joining the Worldwide Leader's off-kilter ESPN2 staff in 1994. By the time he left ESPN in 2021, he was regarded as one of the most unique and formidable talents to have ever graced the SportsCenter desk, the funniest guy in a room filled with quick-witted people who'd summited their profession.

Mayne has stayed busy since leaving ESPN, with numerous projects set to pop—including a vehicle that, if it secures distribution, would feature the University of Washington prominently. If those five years of limbo between 1989 and 1994 taught him anything, it's that good things come to those who hustle.

But there's another side to Mayne, one touched by familial tragedy and a debilitating injury. To a person, friends and former co-workers describe him as extraordinarily charitable and empathetic. The lovable wise ass you've seen on TV? Yeah, he's that guy—and so much more.

GARBAGE CANS & BROKEN ANKLES

Kenny Mayne did not aspire to be a sportscaster as a youngster growing up in South King County.

Every evening, at 6 o'clock, his family would pause to discuss politics and current events. If he was to have a career in broadcasting, he saw himself following in the footsteps of serious newsmen like Walter Cronkite or David Brinkley, not Dan Patrick or Chris Berman.

"I always covered serious things seriously and the rest of it less seriously and I found that most of the rest of it, you know, they're just games," says Mayne. "I know it matters—the fans are passionate and the players' skill level I appreciate and had an admiration for. But as far as calling a highlight, I thought it was supposed to be kind of fun."

Mayne was a good schoolboy athlete, starring as quarterback for Jefferson High School in Federal Way. In assessing his collegiate future in the sport, he tried to walk on at the UW at a time when Warren Moon was the incumbent QB and Tom Flick was waiting in the wings.

Mayne felt he was better than another freshman signal-caller, but since that freshman was on scholarship, Mayne came to the conclusion that he "wasn't gonna get

the look that I hoped to get" and decamped for Wenatchee Valley College, a two-year school that was desirous of his services.

He thrived in Wenatchee and attracted the interest of UNLV. Mayne's father, who attended the UW briefly as an undergrad, worked as a passenger agent at Sea-Tac Airport and had taken his son to Sin City a couple of times after securing steeply discounted airfare. It was a place young Kenny was comfortable with, and he quickly took a liking to his teammates and the style of offense the Runnin' Rebels employed.

After redshirting in 1979, Mayne was backing up starting quarterback Larry Gentry in 1980 when he was inserted late in what would wind up being a blowout loss to Oregon. On the last play of the game, Mayne went back to pass. As he released the ball, a defender barreled into his right ankle, helmet first, shredding its ligaments and snapping a fibula.

His ankle now filled with plates and screws, Mayne returned as a senior to again back up Sam King and graduated with a broadcasting degree in 1982. The Seattle Seahawks, of all teams, gave him a tryout, and Mayne was impressive enough to earn a multiyear contract.

But for everything to be finalized, Mayne would have to pass a physical examination, which scuttled the deal and scared off other suitors.

"I wasn't a big enough star for somebody to overlook the fact that I had this ruined ankle," he says.

As Mayne shifted focus to his career at KSTW, his ankle didn't give him many issues in his twenties. But once he got into his thirties, he began limping a lot and had some bone spurs removed. A dozen surgeries later, Mayne was about 50 when his old injury became, in his words, "a serious disability."

"I'm getting out of bed, a little depressed, like, 'Oh, s---, I gotta step on this thing and go to the bathroom or I gotta fly somewhere the next day and it's gonna blow up on the plane.'"

Mayne considered his options. In the space of a single week, he says he "went to see an amputation guy, a fusion guy and a replacement guy—and it was the amputation guy who kind of changed and saved my life."

That guy encouraged Mayne to get an ankle brace and better therapy rather than lopping it off. Mayne, who spends most of his time nowadays in Connecticut but has a home in Kirkland, was living in the Seattle area at the time and took his daughters swimming. He bumped into one of their middle school physical education teachers, who noticed Mayne limping and offered to connect him with a highly regarded chiropractor by the name of Neno Pribic.

The thing about chiropractors is they're often able to work wonders on parts of the body that aren't a person's back, and Pribic was one such practitioner.

"He worked on it and manipulated it and cracked it and pulled it and did whatever," recalls Mayne. "I just had to trust that it wasn't gonna hurt any more than it already did. And he really did bring it back to life."

Feeling encouraged by his physical condition for the first time in decades, Mayne got connected with a "mad scientist" in Southern California named Marmaduke Loke. He specialized in braces, outfitting Mayne with one that allowed him to play flag football a month later without experiencing any pain.

While that brace was effective, Mayne eventually found one in Gig Harbor that was easier to put on and allowed him to do more things with less pain. This is the brace that Mayne's nonprofit foundation, Run Freely, gives to military veterans with mobility issues.

To raise funds to purchase the braces, Mayne has enlisted a slew of star athletes—including former UW quarterback Michael Penix, who threw passes to fans who generously donated to Run Freely in order to catch his gorgeous spirals at Husky Stadium. Adidas also hired Mayne to do voice-over work for a hype video promoting Penix's Heisman Trophy candidacy.

"He was great to me, helping out my foundation," says Mayne of the Atlanta Falcons rookie.

As for his feelings about the UW, Mayne says, "I went there for five days, but that's still where I'm from. They're the home team and I'm always rooting for their success."

'YOU CAN'T GO TOE-TO-TOE WITH HIM'

Having recently moved on from his garbage can-assembly gig, Mayne was selling prepaid legal insurance in the early '90s when he got a call from a former co-worker at KSTW, Jesse Jones, who by that point had moved on to KIRO-TV.

Jones told Mayne that ESPN's top talent scout, Al Jaffe, was interested in revisiting whether there might be a role for him at ESPN. The network put him to work doing some freelance segments and eventually hired him full time.

"Jaffe comes to us with this guy who's making garbage cans and we look at tape on him," says former ESPN executive Vince Doria. "He's a unique character. His cadence is different from what most people who make successful broadcast careers do. But there was something about

"JAFFE COMES TO US WITH THIS GUY WHO'S MAKING GARBAGE CANS AND WE LOOK AT TAPE ON HIM...HE'S A UNIQUE CHARACTER."

him. He clearly had this dry sense of humor that attracted me.

"Right off the bat, he fit in. He's not full of himself, [he] laughs at himself. We started doing some offbeat pieces with him. He clearly had a knack for doing things from a different perspective."

"He'd talk about the craft-beer crowd and Gen Z, almost making fun of the vehicle that we were on," says ESPN anchor John Bucigross. "I'll always remember that playful side of him, but he definitely took the performance seriously. He wanted to perform mostly in a comedic way."

While he's best-known for his SportsCenter exploits, Mayne did it all at ESPN over the course of his 27-year career, covering horse and auto racing, handling pitchman duties at the network's advertiser upfronts and starring in a web series called Mayne Street that featured an up-and-coming actress named Aubrey Plaza. He also hosted a weekly segment called The Mayne Event, where he once got Buffalo Bills running back Marshawn Lynch to star in a charming bit about the future Seahawks legend's love of Applebee's and other chain restaurants.

"Kenny would come to someone with this idea that made total sense to Kenny but was really half-baked to someone who didn't have his sense of humor," says SportsCenter anchor Scott Van Pelt. "Every once in a while, he'd meet someone who had the vision. Marshawn Lynch had the vision. That's the kind of s--- Kenny would be sitting there with—I'm gonna go to Applebee's with Marshawn Lynch and it's going to be hysterical.' Kenny has an amazing way of giving people who don't have the vision the vision."

"His humor was so esoteric, you had to really pay attention to get it," adds ESPN anchor Stan Verrett. "But when you got it, it was hilarious. His approach was just so unique. It was totally organic. It was him. There've been people who've come along who tried to copy it, but they're not Kenny Mayne."

Another admiring ESPN colleague of Mayne's, Neil Everett, was working for a news station in Hawaii when a cameraman there told him about "this guy in Seattle" who's "gonna be on SportsCenter someday." That guy was Mayne.

"The first time I got to do a show with Kenny, it was a big deal to me," says Everett. "You can't go toe-to-toe with him or you're gonna get knocked out. He got me several times in L.A. where I couldn't speak—on the air."

"He's the only guy I ever worked with where I had to go read his stuff beforehand to prepare myself," says fellow anchor John Anderson. "I'm going to have to bite my lip because that's funny to me."

Delving a bit deeper into the psyche of his longtime friend, Anderson adds, "I don't know that there are as many people with the depth of empathy he has for people, how he cares for other people, what he will do for other people. I don't think people see that all the time because they get distracted by the funny."

"The year before I left to go to the UK, our families had dinner in West Hartford," says Stuart Scott's other daughter, Sydni, who is currently a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford working on her thesis about reparations in a global context. "[Kenny] has been a mainstay in our life in terms of support. After I won the Rhodes Scholarship, he tweeted about it. Somebody came for him—'reparations, it's never gonna happen'—and he was firing back. He's just this fiery contender and we have always felt the fierceness of that love and support."

"I think that's why he and my dad got along so well," adds Taelor. "They understood that."

'HOW COULD ANYTHING BE FUNNY AGAIN WHEN YOU'RE THAT SAD?'

In 1996, Mayne's then-wife, Laura, was pregnant with twin boys. They were on vacation in Maine when she began experiencing extreme discomfort and it became apparent that the twins would have to be delivered prematurely.

One boy, Creighton, was stillborn upon delivery. The other, Connor, fought like hell to stay alive but died six months later.

Now the father of four adult daughters in a blended family *Continued on PG. 57*

Columns

NEWS FROM THE UW COMMUNITY

Writing at Red Lights and Through a Terminal Diagnosis

By Shin Yu Pai



"I've always written poems, so why wouldn't I now?"

Last year, when poet Martha Silano was diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, she turned to writing to make sense of her experience, the way that she has always turned toward her art.

Silano first felt ALS symptoms in early 2023. She had gone paddleboarding in Lake Washington and experienced an intense muscle spasm in her abdomen after lifting her 30-lb board out of the water. She also found swallowing difficult. Intuitively, she Googled ALS and saw that her symptoms were consistent with the disease. But it wasn't until the end of 2023 that she had a definitive diagnosis. Silano has bulbar-onset ALS, which comes with a life expectancy of two to three years.

After she was diagnosed, Silano, '93, wrote exclusively about ALS and her awareness of the disease's progression. "I don't spare the painful mental and physical details in my depiction of the road trip from weird sensations in my abdomen and the increasing inability to eat solid foods, to learning how to meditate daily while lying down, to having my daughter be my personal assistant during her summer break from college," Silano says. Her forthcoming book of poems, "Terminal

Surreal," explores the difficulties of being alive and knowing there's no cure for her disease. Her previous collections include "This One We Call Ours," winner of the 2023 Blue Lynx Prize for Poetry, and "The Little Office of Immaculate Conception," winner of the 2010 Saturnalia Books Poetry Prize and a Washington State Book Award finalist.

From the moment she encountered Emily Dickinson's poetry in the second grade, Silano knew she had found her art. In her 20s, her interests in lyric language led her to a writing course at Portland State University with poet Primus St. John. Later, she studied with Henry Carlile, '67, a student of Theodore Roethke and Elizabeth Bishop, who inspired her to apply to the UW.

At the UW, Silano worked with poets Linda Bierds, '71, and Richard Kenney and took an independent study with Heather McHugh. But David Wagoner had the biggest influence. "He quoted Stanley Kunitz, who said 'a poet must know everything,'" Silano says. "I took this instruction very seriously and tried my best to learn the names of all the birds, flowers, trees and mushrooms in the Pacific Northwest." Wagoner's love

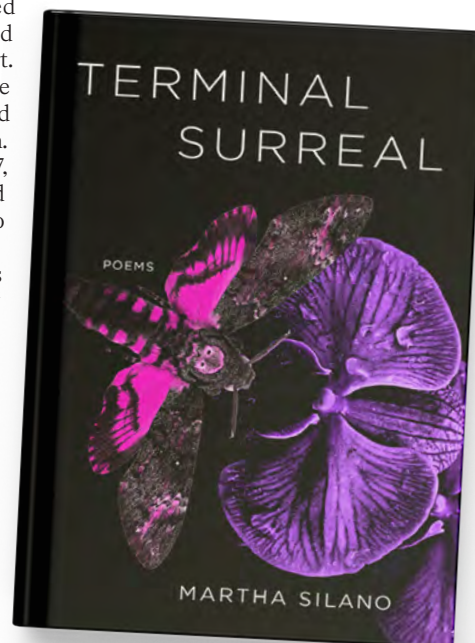
of nature inspired her. "I already loved everything to do with being out there with the bugs, plants and birds, but he made me want to write poems about what I saw, heard and felt."

Equipped with an MFA from the UW, Silano taught composition and creative writing at Bellevue College and other Seattle-area schools for 30 years. She taught while also raising two children with her husband, writer Langdon Cook, '94. "It was never competitive," says Silano. "The joke was that I wrote at red lights, and Lang wrote at the kitchen table while all order of the rumpus of raising children was going on around him. I was always impressed by his ability to write amid chaos. I did sometimes write at red lights, but I also wrote with one hand while pushing one of my kids on a swing at the playground. While they watched the siamangs at the Woodland Park Zoo, and before I went to bed, I scribbled down poems barely legible that I later picked up and revised."

Along with extreme fatigue, Silano feels the nerves in her head vibrate. She uses daily guided meditations to manage the discomfort. Though no longer able to spend long blocks of time on an iPhone or laptop, she is able to occasionally revise unfinished work and submit poems to magazines. She writes gratitude lists longhand in her journal and spends her time with being with family and friends outside where she can gaze "at trees, Lake Washington and the howling coyotes, soaring bald eagles, twittering juncos and squawking coots of Seward Park."

Acre Books will release "Terminal Surreal" in September 2025.

Martha Silano, a poet navigating through ALS, draws inspiration from her natural surroundings.





AUBREY

THEISS, '08

MAMMAL MANAGER,
OCEANOGRAPHER,
AQUARIUM SUPERVISOR

NOW I'M ONE OF THE SUPERVISORS FOR THE BIRD AND MAMMAL TEAM.

I WORK WITH SHOREBIRDS, SEABIRDS, RIVER OTTERS, SEA OTTERS, HARBOR SEALS AND FUR SEALS.

SOME DAYS START AT 5 A.M., WHEN WE PREPARE ALL THE FOOD AND VITAMIN SUPPLEMENTS FOR THE ANIMALS AND FILL ALL THE SEAL BUCKETS.

I ENDED UP GOING TO THE UW KNOWING I WANTED TO DO SOME KIND OF SCIENCE. I HAD SUCH A LOVE FOR MARINE BIOLOGY AND OCEANOGRAPHY. I STUDIED GEOLOGICAL OCEANOGRAPHY BECAUSE I LOVE ROCKS.

DURING MY SENIOR RESEARCH PROJECT, WE WERE UP IN GLACIER BAY, ALASKA. ONE OF MY COLLEAGUES NEEDED HELP RETRIEVING AN INSTRUMENT, WE PUT ON DRY SUITS AND WADED ABOUT 50 FEET. ALL AROUND US THERE WERE SEA OTTERS SWIMMING ON THEIR BACKS AND BLACK OYSTERCATCHERS AND HARBOR SEALS — ALL ANIMALS I WORK WITH NOW.

"WHEN I GRADUATED, THE NEXT STEP WOULD HAVE BEEN AN UNPAID INTERNSHIP. BUT I COULDN'T AFFORD TO DO THAT. I ENDED UP WORKING DIFFERENT JOBS. A FEW YEARS LATER, I ASKED ONE OF MY PROFESSORS, RICK KEIL, HOW I COULD GET BACK INTO THE FIELD. HE SUGGESTED VOLUNTEERING AT THE SEATTLE AQUARIUM."

I SPEND A LOT OF TIME IN RAIN GEAR, WORKING WITH MARINE MAMMALS, YOU'RE BOUND TO GET WET.

I STARTED OUT IN THE TIDEPOL AREA. THEN I VOLUNTEERED WITH BIRDS AND MAMMALS. I WAS TEACHING YOGA AND BARTENDING TO PAY THE BILLS AND SPENDING ALL THE REST OF MY TIME AT THE AQUARIUM. AND I STUDIED WHAT THE STAFF SUGGESTED. IT PAID OFF. TEN YEARS AGO, I WAS HIRED."

HERRING, CAPELIN, SQUID, SARDINES AND ANCHOVY

HOGAN
(HARBOR SEAL)

I HAVE ANOTHER LITTLE 20-POUND MAMMAL AT HOME IN DIAPERS. HER NAME IS FRANKIE.

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Ice Spy

Geology nerd Peter Neff studies ice cores in Antarctica to learn more about climate change

By Chris Quirk

The plan was bold, and unusual for Antarctica. Peter Neff, '09, '12, had to reach a remote location on the West Antarctic shore, Canisteo Peninsula, to obtain the ice cores he needed for his climate research. Because it was inaccessible by land and too perilous to reach by sea, Neff opted for a helicopter airlift from a South Korean icebreaker offshore to ferry him, his team and their gear to their destination. "Helicopters are really powerful pieces of equipment, but they're also really delicate," Neff says. "If the sticker that's labeling your cargo blows off and gets ingested by the helicopter [causing damage to the engine], you're done. Everything's done."

Neff, a polar glaciologist and assistant professor at the University of Minnesota, went to Canisteo in 2024 to drill ice cores that could provide a clearer picture of the history of weather patterns in the region. Currently, meteorological information about the area has to be inferred. Observational equipment you would normally find in places like the renowned McMurdo Station is not available on Canisteo. What makes Neff's chosen spot, near the Thwaites Glacier, so important is that melt retreat could be a harbinger for

a larger glacial melt across West Antarctica: sea levels by as much as 10 meters by 2300. "It would be a slow-motion collapse on the human timescale," Neff explains. "That said, there's a hopeful opportunity here, based on our decisions as a society. If we get our carbon emissions under control relatively quickly, we could prevent some of the high-end collapse scenarios and limit how much and how fast sea level rise comes from Antarctic ice melt."

Before coming to Antarctica, Neff was able to practice helicopter airlifts by conducting ice-core research on British Columbia's Mount Waddington. Working with his UW mentor and former professor, Eric Steig, Neff and University of Minnesota graduate student Julia Andreasen had the opportunity to rehearse their procedures in an only slightly less forbidding theater high up in the Coast Mountains in Canada.

"That project absolutely fed directly into what we were doing six months later in Antarctica," Neff says. "To be operating around the helicopter with that intensity and deliberateness was extremely helpful."

This was Neff's seventh voyage to the coldest continent. "It's always intense doing science in Antarctica," he says. And this trip did not disappoint. After they landed near their research site and unloaded multiple cargo-loads of equipment and gear from the helicopter, a ferocious storm walloped Neff, Andreasen, their engineer, Etienne Gros, and their South Korean teammates, burying Andreasen in her tent for a day and delaying the start of research. Visibility was so bad that Neff couldn't see the safety flag he had placed between his and Andreasen's tents. "I was instantly

panicked, but I texted Julia and she was all right," Neff says. When the storm cleared, Neff's anxiety turned to the work at hand and how much time the storm had cost the team. "We were in limbo for the next 12 or 24 hours and trying to regain ground."

Fortunately, the team's equipment was intact and unburied, and they began work at a furious clip. Neff and Gros manned the ice-core drill, passing off the frozen cylinders they extracted one-by-precious-one to Andreasen, who trimmed, catalogued and packed them into Styrofoam coolers. She readied them for transport to freezers in the icebreaker and eventually to storage facilities in South Korea. The work was frigid and monotonous, but the decent weather held out, and core by core the team was banking decades of climate information on the remote ice dome. It was also loud. "People always ask me how peaceful and quiet Antarctica is," Neff says. "Well, no. We have generators running almost all the time. Sometimes we would shut them off just to enjoy some silence."

After 10 days, Neff and the team pulled up the last core from a depth of 150 meters. "Seeing the layers of time underneath your feet is really remarkable," says Neff. "It's going to take a couple of years to process, but soon we will have confirmation from the ice cores that will provide pretty direct information about the atmosphere."

Neff grew up in Vancouver, Washington, and began his research in geology not long after arriving on campus and spying a flier on a corkboard at a student center. "It said, 'Lab work with possible fieldwork in Greenland and Antarctica.' That's all I needed to hear," Neff recalls. "I was a geology nerd after my first quarter at UW."

Ice coring in Allan Hills, Antarctica



Words and Music

Musician Wes Weddell works with The Bushwick Book Club Seattle to create music inspired by literary works

By Shin Yu Pai



Musician Wes Weddell takes the stage during a meeting of the Bushwick Book Club Seattle.

There's a cliché that songwriters only write about their feelings. You would know that wasn't true if you stepped into a live event organized by the Bushwick Book Club Seattle. The organization's associate director, Wes Weddell, '02, shapes each season's programming by helping curate a selection of titles—like “Charlotte's Web,” “Aesop's Fables” and “Glory”—from which the musicians draw inspiration for their original pieces. The prompt of immediately responding to a book allows the songwriters to jump in without too much introspection, Weddell

says: “The songs become a way to build practice and a process that doesn't center the self.”

As they turn on their amps and tune their instruments, beloved local artists like Alex Guy, Julia Massey and Del Rey chat from the stage about how they were inspired to write a particular song. Over the past decade, Bushwick shows have gained a reputation for showcasing local talent and entertaining a crowd with literary interests. I saw this in action when the club featured one of my books of poetry last December.

The experience is unparalleled in a city known for its music scene.

Weddell joined the Bushwick Book Club Seattle in 2010 when he wrote and performed a song inspired by “Slaughterhouse-Five” for the inaugural event. He took part in several more shows that first season and later taught and developed lesson plans for Bushwick's educational arm. With his production skills, Weddell found himself useful behind the scenes, producing Bushwick events. In 2012, as the club sought to add a new feature to its shows, Weddell came up with a live trivia quiz show based loosely on NPR's show “Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me!” and Ray Bradbury's “Fahrenheit 451.” The quiz “Who said it? Ray Bradbury or Mark Zuckerberg?” was a huge hit. While he still takes the stage as Bushwick's official quizmaster, more recently, Weddell has collaborated with guest curators including DJ Riz Rollins and poet Claudia Castro Luna, plus an advisory team of literary advocates like Grace Rajendran from Seattle Arts & Lectures to select books for upcoming programs.

Weddell's love for music reaches back to a childhood in Pullman and his family's eclectic interests. His mother's uncle, Barney Josephson, ran Café Society in New York, the club where Billie Holiday first sang “Strange Fruit.” Weddell's parents nurtured their son's early interest. When he was 5, they signed him up for a Suzuki music class. “I turned the violin sideways and kept plunking out ‘Louie Louie,’” says Weddell. Later, his folks got him an electric guitar. At 13, Weddell started writing songs, growing more serious about music. He put together a band in high school and the group played original material and covers at dances and coffeehouses.

From 2003 to 2016, Weddell managed and played mandolin for the folk duo Reilly & Maloney. A multi-instrumentalist, he has more recently played with Mike Votava in the Ding Dongs, with Geoff Larson in the bluegrass group By The Way and in Nick Droz's band. He also performs regularly with Alicia Healey and Nancy K. Dillon and produced recordings for Nelson

MARK BLASCO

Wright and Rob Kneisler. When he's not onstage, Weddell teaches private lessons and classes and does occasional residencies at places like Roosevelt High School.

In the late 1990s, Weddell came to the UW to study history. With his adviser James Gregory, he came up with a proposal to travel around Washington, gathering stories and writing songs inspired by those tales. Folk singer Woody Guthrie undertook a similar project for the Bonneville Power Administration in 1941, writing 26 songs in 30 days to promote the construction of dams along the Columbia River.

On what would become a 65-day journey, Weddell booked performances at bookstores and coffee shops because he was too young to play in bars. Three weeks into his road trip, he learned that he'd been awarded the inaugural Venture Fellowship from the Mary Gates Endowment for Students to fund his project, which would become the basis of his first album, "My Northwest Home."

After 20 years of playing the music he enjoys, Weddell is now doing exactly what he wants to do in support of the creative community. "A lot of times, my role is to do things that allow lights to shine on other people," he says. "It's going to shine brighter than it shined on me, and that's OK."

Through Bushwick, Weddell has commissioned songs from more than 400 artists, including Tomo Nakayama, Debbie Miller, No-No Boy, Whiting Tennis, Carrie Wicks, Cyd Smith and the late Linda

Waterfall. But Weddell insists that it's not about the names. "It's about the scene and the community and sustaining an environment where people can create and exist in conversation."

Through Bushwick, Weddell has helped commission songs from more than 400 artists, fostering a creative space where music and literature collide in unexpected ways.

The Bushwick Book Club Seattle is in its 15th season. This year, the focus is on banned books like Octavia Butler's "Parable of the Sower" and Luis Alberto Urrea's "Devil's Highway."



GEOFF LARSON

MEDIA

BOOKS



On the Hippie Trail: Istanbul to Kathmandu and the Making of a Travel Writer

Rick Steves, '78

Hatchette Book Group, Feb. 2025

Renowned travel expert Rick Steves recalls his experience in the 1970s as a 23-year-old along the famed Istanbul-to-Kathmandu trail. Documenting his journey, he had a world-changing

experience that forever broadened his perspective on the world and turned him into one of the most well-known explorers, tour leaders, speakers and TV show hosts in the world.



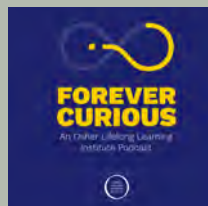
Bingsu for Two

Sujin Witherspoon, '22

Union Square & Co.

This young adult romance delivers a charming coming-of-age tale of enemies who fall for one another while working in a Korean café in Seattle. Witherspoon wrote this novel while she was a student majoring in English at the UW.

PODCAST



Forever Curious: Exploring Untold Histories with Ross Coen

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Feb. 2025

This podcast, brought to you by the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the UW, is for

anyone who loves to learn and is always curious about the world around us. Coen talks about the unique cultural and historical narratives of the Pacific Northwest and Alaska. He also discusses the stories behind his three books and his approach to teaching complex historical events.

MUSIC



Sunday Morning Put-On

By Andrew Bird, Ted Poor and Alan Hampton
2024

Associate Professor Ted Poor, who teaches jazz studies and drums at the UW, rounds out

the Andrew Bird Trio in a fresh interpretation of mid-century jazz standards like "I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face," and "You'd Be So Nice to Come Home To." With their unique, organic style, Poor (on drums) and Hampton (on bass) make space for Bird, also of the Squirrel Nut Zippers, to showcase his voice and violin.



COURTESY SCOTT ASHWORTH

Palm Trees and Par-4s

Lanai golf pro Scott Ashworth is a great teacher and community service leader

By Erin Rowley

Imagine that your “office” is a golf course in Hawaii, the rolling green fairways overlooking the clear, blue Pacific Ocean. That slice of paradise is a reality for Scott Ashworth, ’93, who is the director of Golf at the Four Seasons Resort Lanai and has put together a distinguished 27-year career as a PGA golf professional.

Ashworth’s interest in golf began as a youngster in Spokane. With his father a longtime golf course superintendent and his uncle and cousin also part of the business, he grew up on the golf course.

While they laughingly claim he’s “gone to the dark side” as a golf professional rather than pursuing a career in course maintenance, Ashworth’s passion for teaching is also a family affair. His mother, a professor at Eastern Washington University, spent her career teaching early childhood education.

“My mom said ‘I always knew you’d be a teacher,’” he recalls. “‘I just didn’t know it would be golf.’”

That passion was sparked when Ashworth started working at the University of Washington Driving Range as a

Scott Ashworth ran the New York City Marathon to support PGA Reach, the charitable foundation of PGA America that aims to make golf more accessible.

freshman in 1989. He was asked to fill in for one of the instructors.

“That ignited the fire,” he says. “From then on, I taught at the UW Driving Range. Over the four years, I taught thousands of students. It was great training for me to be a teacher and a golf professional. I love being around people and I love being a mentor. When you see people getting

excited about what it is you’re teaching and they get it, it’s a pretty cool vocation.”

After graduating, Ashworth became an assistant golf professional at McCormick Woods Golf Course in Port Orchard and was quickly promoted to head professional in 1997. Then came the opportunity to depart for Hawaii and become the head golf professional at Ko Olina Golf Club on Oahu in 2001.

Ashworth has remained in Hawaii ever since, also working at courses on Maui and Kauai before accepting his current role at the Four Seasons Resort Lanai in 2014. He has received numerous accolades over the years, including 2008 and 2018 Golf Professional of the Year from the PGA Aloha Section. He is also in his second stint on the PGA Board of Directors, representing members in Hawaii and California.

But Ashworth’s impact on the golf community doesn’t end there.

Last November, he ran his fifth New York City Marathon in support of PGA Reach, the charitable foundation of PGA America that aims to make golf more accessible for youth, military and diverse populations. Ashworth co-captained the 15-person running team of PGA golf professionals that raised more than \$125,000. He’s run the NYC marathon every other year since 2017 to support the foundation, despite having never been a runner before.

“I’ve been so blessed that the PGA has given me so many things in life between my job and where I live, this was really a great way for me to give back to my association and what it’s done for me,” Ashworth says.

He is also proud to support the causes championed by PGA Reach.


“I love all of our pillars, what we stand for and the amazing programs we have,” Ashworth says. “[For example] when you hear life-changing stories of how golf has pulled some of our veterans through dark times, it will bring tears to your eyes.”

“At the UW Driving Range ...
I taught thousands of students.
It was great training for me to be
a teacher and a golf professional.”

— Scott Ashworth



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Nurturing the Whole Child

Researchers at the UW Center for Child & Family Well-Being create practical tools to improve mental health for parents, caregivers and young people

By Malavika Jagannathan

As a doula, Taylor Kaminski supports new mothers in a variety of ways—from holding their hands during childbirth to helping them breastfeed their infants. Often she provides a friendly ear, listening to them vent or share their parenting challenges.

“A lot of moms struggle with postpartum depression—and don’t realize they’re going through it,” says Kaminski, who works for Global Perinatal Services, a nonprofit that serves women from low-income, immigrant and refugee families in King and Pierce counties. In addition to screening her clients for depression, she now shares information about meditation, breathing or journaling—mindfulness techniques she learned through the University of Washington’s Center for Child & Family Well-Being (CCFW).

Kaminski is one of over 1,500 community caregiving providers across western Washington who’ve participated in the center’s Resilient Attitudes & Living for Professionals (REAL Pro) program, which combines mindfulness, self-compassion, neuroscience and cognitive-behavioral coping strategies in weekly sessions. The programs were developed by CCFW researchers with support from the Maritz Family Foundation, and a transformative \$2.6 million gift from the Ballmer Group will help them train more providers like Kaminski, who can then deliver the programs to their clients.

“We trust that they know and have trusted relationships with their community,” says CCFW founder and director Liliana Lengua, the UW’s Maritz Family Foundation Professor of Psychology. “Being able to train people in organizations already

working with families makes those programs more accessible.”

The center’s goal is to help address a global mental health crisis, especially for children and youth. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, each year, one in six U.S. youth aged 6–17 experience a mental health disorder. “We’re seeing elevated rates of mental health problems creeping down to younger ages and don’t have nearly enough

services to meet that need,” Lengua says. The center’s research-based programs are not a substitute for mental health services, but they give families, caregivers and educators tools to help young people regulate emotions, manage stress and strengthen coping skills.

For nearly three decades, Lengua has been thinking about how best to support children and families facing adversity and stress. In her early years she watched how

The “Whole Child” Model

Social and health systems, policies, laws, cultural values and beliefs

Neighborhood safety and resources, school district, mass media

Parent workplace and policies, skilled educators and providers

Home environment, parent mental health, parenting, family relationships

Social, economic and cultural contexts and policies

Neighborhoods and communities

Supportive school, work and religious settings

Parent & family well-being

Child & youth well-being and resilience

Source: UW Center for Child & Family Well-Being




Expand access to preventative mental-health resources.

When you support researchers at the UW's Center for Child & Family Well-Being, you help them bring evidence-based well-being skills to more communities. giving.uw.edu/march-2025

her own parents, who grew up in or near poverty, dedicated themselves to improving her and her sister's lives. Understanding how parental stress and hardship affect a child's development initially drew her into the field—and eventually brought her to the UW, where she's spent her entire career so far.

Lengua's research—and the center's work—is built around a “whole child” framework that considers the many interdependent factors that shape a child's behavioral, social and physical health. “We're not just thinking about the impact parents have on children but about these more complex systems and structures surrounding families,” she says. The program looks at schools, neighborhoods and communities, and how they in turn are affected by broader social and political forces. This nested approach considers the child within the context of everything around them.

Lengua created the Center for Child & Family Well-Being in 2011, bringing together UW researchers from across disciplines who were all working on children's mental health and family well-being. She aimed to speed up delivering research-based information and interventions to the broader community: Typically, it takes 15–20 years for research to make it into practice. Lengua wanted to close that gap.

Today the center accomplishes that in a variety of ways, including public lectures, professional workshops, online resources and facilitated well-being programs for audiences from parents of infants and preschool-age children to college students and academic staff and faculty. (Be REAL, a six-week well-being program for college students, was first implemented at the UW and has since expanded to other universities.) All these programs combine best practices from mindfulness, neuroscience, psychology and self-compassion. A trained facilitator guides participants through skill-based lessons, discussion, activities and contemplative practices like meditation or journaling. The content is easily digestible, adaptable and relevant.

The relevance struck Yael Tellez-Rodriguez when she attended her first Be REAL facilitation training in 2023. She'd signed up in her role at Rainier Scholars, where she supports Seattle families of college-bound students. But as a new mom, Tellez-Rodriguez found useful takeaways for her own life—such as taking a five-minute pause in her day to focus on herself. It improved her well-being so much that she decided to offer a version of Be REAL to the parents she works with.



DENNIS WISE

The center's parent-focused programs show a positive impact on both the parents and children.

It was an instant success. The parents were happy to connect with each other—and “thankful to be equipped with skills they could use moving forward,” Tellez-Rodriguez recalls. She later hosted a second cohort of parents over Zoom, this time offering it entirely in Spanish.

Preliminary studies by CCFW researchers show that the programs are working. For example, the parent-focused programs—implemented by early-learning

centers, doulas and community partners across the Puget Sound—show a positive impact on both the parents and children. Parents learn how to validate their children's feelings, manage their own stress and balance autonomy and structure for their kids. “Parents tell us they feel like better parents,” Lengua says, “and the mindfulness practices help them with their own emotions and well-being.”

The Ballmer Group funding will help the center expand and evaluate its “train the trainer” model. This not only broadens the reach of the prevention programs, but also tests whether they're as effective when delivered by community partners. CCFW researchers also plan to create online asynchronous versions of the programs that are easier for participants to access on their own schedules.

More funding would allow center researchers to expand training opportunities, evaluate online resources, and follow up with parents and children after a year or longer, Lengua says. “We want to see a lasting impact on parents, so that we see it in children's developmental outcomes down the line.”

Above: Center for Child & Family Well-Being founder and director Liliana Lengua, on the steps of Suzzallo Library.

Hard Science and Soft Skills

Astrophysics professor Joey Shapiro Key, “an exemplar of an undergraduate research mentor,” received UW Bothell’s first endowed faculty fellowship

By Chelsea Lin



Associate Professor Joey Shapiro Key, third from left, meets with members of her STEM Public Outreach Team at UW Bothell.

A childhood watching “Star Trek” cultivated a love of astronomy and cosmology in Hannah Preisinger, ’19, ’25. But as a student majoring in culture, literature and the arts at the University of Washington Bothell—and definitely “not a physics kid”—she assumed pursuing this particular interest was off-limits to her. Luckily, Associate Professor of Physics Joey Shapiro Key refuses to see limits in students—or in science.

“Science is for everyone,” says Key, who strives in her classes and the student

programs she leads to make STEM topics appealing and accessible, especially to students from groups commonly under-represented in scientific fields.

Despite being an unconventional scientist, Preisinger excelled in The Cosmos, her first course with Key, in 2017. “It was a chance to explore my interests in a class that didn’t have high-level math prerequisites,” Preisinger says. “The focus was less on solving equations and more on fascinating conceptual topics such as the origin, shape and fate of the universe.”

Her top-notch classwork and obvious interest led to an invitation from Key to join the gravitational wave astronomy research group, which seeks to detect ripples in space-time caused by events like colliding black holes or neutron stars. The group conducts research with collaborations including the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO). It’s one of multiple ways Key helps students develop their scientific and professional skills. She also heads the UW Bothell STEM Public Outreach Team

(SPOT), a group of student ambassadors like Preisinger who visit K–12 schools to get young people excited about STEM opportunities; and the Space Science Computing Academy, funded by NASA's Washington Space Grant, in which Key partners with Heritage University, on the Yakama Nation's homelands in Toppenish, Washington, to bring students to the Bothell campus for STEM courses and professional development.

For many students regardless of major, Key's courses—and her inclusive, passionate mentorship—lead to a deeper appreciation for scientific research and discovery. Her profound commitment to creating a culture of belonging for these undergraduates, and encouraging them to make a positive impact in the world, earned her the inaugural Sr. Chief Ronald G. Gamboa Endowed UW Bothell STEM Faculty Fellowship, awarded last summer. The endowment funds are supporting this year's SPOT ambassadors in their outreach work.

Jennifer McLoud-Mann, professor and dean of the UW Bothell School of STEM, sees Key's work with SPOT as integral to increasing the pipeline of students in STEM disciplines. "Key is an exemplar of an undergraduate research mentor," McLoud-Mann says. "She focuses not only on making research discoveries but also on developing student soft skills."

Key has seen the importance of soft skills—like teamwork, communication,

time management, leadership and critical thinking—in her work with international consortiums such as LIGO and LISA, the Laser Interferometer Space Antenna mission spearheaded by NASA and the European Space Agency. Both have thousands of individuals collaborating across continents and decades on a shared scientific goal. "It's not the same as doing a physics problem or analyzing the data with computers or even mentoring students," Key says. "The way we all figure out how to work together to be able to make these discoveries, to enable this kind of science, to get it funded—it takes a lot of people to figure out how to make this kind of science work."

This big-picture thinking is what fuels Key to build upon the technical skills taught in STEM classes, helping students build the people skills that can be just as crucial in real-world applications, no matter what field they enter after graduating.

Preisinger, who left her "comfy tech job" to now pursue a master's degree in international studies at the UW in Seattle, is considering combining her experiences and education to work in the field of space policy. "Dr. Key showed me that it's not just calculus experts who make meaningful contributions to awe-inspiring scientific research," she says. "It turns out there are all kinds of ways that all kinds of people can contribute to amazing science."

Investing in the Future

Michelle Gamboa's father had only a suitcase and a dream when he left the Philippines for Hawaii as a young man. His unshakable belief in hard work as a catalyst for opportunity is at the heart of the Sr. Chief Ronald G. Gamboa Endowed UW Bothell STEM Faculty Fellowship, which Gamboa, '05, established in her late father's name to support distinguished faculty in mentoring undergraduate research.

A UW alumna in computer science and software engineering and current co-chair of the UW Bothell School of STEM Advisory Board, Gamboa set up the endowment in 2019 and pledged \$100,000 over five years. An anonymous donor grant through UW Bothell brought the amount to \$150,000. Associate Professor Joey Shapiro Key was the inaugural recipient.

This June, at the UW Bothell STEM Symposium Awards, another faculty member will be chosen to receive the annual earnings on the invested total, which will continue to fund undergrad mentorship in perpetuity, supporting UW Bothell's exceptional faculty in further fostering supportive learning environments, broadening access for those from underserved communities, and motivating students to make a positive impact.



Support STEM faculty mentorship and research. When you give to the Sr. Chief Ronald G. Gamboa Endowed UW Bothell STEM Faculty Fellowship, you help faculty members inspire and mentor outstanding undergraduate students. giving.uw.edu/march-2025



CHRIS MCCRIMMON

Investing in the University for Washington

By Ken Denman
Chair, UW Foundation Board

One of the most inspiring things about the University of Washington is our public mission and commitment to improving the lives of all Washingtonians. In 2023, the University's economic impact on the state tallied up to an impressive \$21 billion. But the UW's impact is also about the millions of ways faculty, researchers, staff and students show up for people and communities across Washington. This issue's Impact section speaks to how your generous support can enable and amplify this work.

On the previous spread, read how researchers at the UW's Center for Child & Family Well-Being partner with community organizations to support the mental health of parents and children. UW Professor Liliana Lengua, the Maritz Family Foundation Professor of Psychology, created this interdisciplinary center in 2011 to get research-based solutions to the general public more quickly, helping to address the global mental health crisis. She's now using a transformative gift from the Ballmer Group to expand the center's programs into communities that are often the furthest from mental health resources.

Then, on the opposite page, learn about UW Bothell's first endowed faculty fellowship, awarded last year to Professor Joey Key, an astrophysicist who studies gravitational waves. Key is not only a top-tier researcher who collaborates with NASA but also a stellar mentor to her undergraduate students. Fellowship funds will help Key compensate her team of student ambassadors, who are trained to give science related talks in K–12 settings across the Puget Sound, inspiring the next generation of scientists. This important endowment was established through the generosity of alumna Michelle Gamboa, '05, who studied computer science at UW Bothell.

And on the next page, see how the UW's commitment to sustainability comes to life in the College of Built Environments Furniture Studio program, where students use salvaged wood from felled campus trees to build their final class projects.

With a career in venture capital, I'm often asked to consider what makes a good investment. From my perspective, the UW is one of the best investments—public and private—because it is an investment in our future, our communities and the state of Washington.

Thank you.

Impact

Giving Trees

Landscape architecture student Anna Hatcher, '26, studies the coffee table she's building, identifying the right supporting pieces to steady its retro-futuristic curved legs. This heirloom in the making—which Hatcher has painstakingly built from elm wood felled near Parrington Lawn on the UW campus—is the culminating project of 10 weeks in the Furniture Studio, taught by Steve Withycombe in the Center for Built Environments (CBE).

Prior to the launch of UW Facilities' Salvage Wood Program in 2009, campus trees marked for removal would have become merely wood chips. Over the years, the program has grown: In 2016, Facilities acquired a sawmill and then a solar kiln, both necessary for processing trees into more manageable, usable pieces of lumber. Now, thanks to a \$72,400 grant from the Campus Sustainability Fund, students like Hatcher can use this wood in their furniture design courses.

Rae Moore, '17, director of CBE's Fabrication Lab, says the grant funds have been used to build a corrugated metal shed behind the workshop for storing lumber and will pay Facilities staff for the labor involved in processing and transporting wood for the next couple of years. For students, the program means more than just cheap lumber. "Most people don't get to use wood from the campus—it's so spiritually beautiful and so emblematic of our time as students here," Hatcher says. "It doesn't get more sustainable than this."

*By Chelsea Lin
Photo by Dennis Wise*

Create more hands-on learning experiences.

When you support the Fabrication Labs, you help Huskies like Anna Hatcher learn to apply their design skills in tangible ways.

giving.uw.edu/march-2025



THE BIG PICTURE FURNITURE STUDIO





Columns

Spectacular Sicily, Magic Markets and Amazing Antarctica Await to Dazzle You

Get out your calendar, your passport and your suitcase. It is time to book your travel for the rest of 2025 and even 2026. UW Alumni Tours offers a variety of exciting trips that will blow your mind and fill your tummy. And remember: You don't have to be a UW graduate to travel with UW Alumni Tours!



Flavors of Sicily
September 12-20, 2025
Tour Operator: Orbridge

Explore renowned archaeological and UNESCO World Heritage sites, indulge in delicious cuisine and wine, and partake in hands-on cooking classes with celebrated chefs who share recipes and culinary techniques passed down through generations. This immersive experience promises to engage all of your senses and leave you with memories to last a lifetime. You'll explore the charming coastal towns of Taormina and Siracusa, including a stop at a local outdoor market. And you will visit Benanti, a family-owned boutique winery that has received more than 80 awards since 1994. There's also a stop at Donnafugata winery, followed by a tasting and lunch, and the opportunity to take in such UNESCO Heritage Sites as Villa Romana del Casale and Mount Etna.

 Check out these highlighted trips and more at Washington.edu/alumni/travel



Antarctica Direct: Fly the Drake Passage
February 3-10, 2026
Tour Operator: National Geographic—Lindblad Expeditions

A journey to Antarctica is an expedition like no other, a chance to explore wonderlands of sculpted snow and ice where whales swim, penguins flock and albatross soar. It's the true journey of a lifetime. On this new eight-day itinerary, you'll fly between South America and Antarctica round trip and enjoy five adventure-filled days to explore the otherworldly realm at the bottom of the world. You'll take a Zodiac cruise around enormous icebergs, and hike, kayak and possibly cross-country ski. You'll even have the rare opportunity to peer deep into polar waters from the comfort and safety of the ship via a remotely operated vehicle. Be sure to bring your camera—a National Geographic-certified photo instructor can help you capture incredible images.



Holiday Markets Cruise ~ The Festive Rhine River
December 5-13, 2025
Tour Operator: AHI Travel

Revel in the magic of the holidays in Germany and France on a seven-night Rhine River cruise! Celebrate yuletide traditions in festive, cozy markets aglow with twinkling lights and good cheer and overflowing with handmade treasures. Savor the uplifting sounds of carolers and bells and the scent of fresh pine and roasted chestnuts in the air. Visit Heidelberg's castle and enjoy a special musical performance in the romantic old town. You'll also admire Cologne's spectacular cathedral and stroll through Freiburg, a vibrant university city. In the ports of Breisach, Strasbourg, Rudesheim and Düsseldorf, choose excursions that fit your interests, such as wine tastings, culinary tours or cultural experiences. Aboard your exclusively chartered, first-class ship, take in the scenic beauty of the Rhine Gorge and sip warm, spicy Glühwein.

REAL DAWGS WEAR PURPLE


CRAIG ROMANO, '94, '97
BESTSELLING OUTDOORS AND
GUIDEBOOK AUTHOR


Craig Romano fell in love with Washington state's boundless natural beauty on a cross country biking trip. That journey inspired the avid hiker, biker and trail runner to move from New Hampshire to Seattle and eventually study history at the University of Washington. While there, the double Dawg combined a passion for the outdoors with a gift for writing in his "Go Take a Hike" column in The Daily, the UW student newspaper. That was the first step of his career writing guidebooks that inspire others to get outside and explore — no matter where they live or their level of experience. Today, the proud Husky has his dream job: researching the best Pacific Northwest hiking, biking and running trails for his next book, while raising awareness for environmental conservation.

*Craig Romano
explores the trails
at Deception Pass
State Park on
Whidbey Island.*

W

RealDawgsWearPurple

 WearPurple

 UWearPurple

Continued from PG. 23 1912 Chandler & Price letterpress.

“There’s a huge sense of satisfaction and accomplishment when you feel like you are digging into something that isn’t common knowledge,” he says, “knowledge that isn’t oriented toward anything marketable or sustainable. There’s something about the difficulty of it. The niche aspect of things.”

For him, collecting involves maintenance and curation—which are key to collecting rather than hoarding. “I love going through and every year cleaning out all the stuff that doesn’t speak to me,” he says. “Everything that’s left over feels so much more valuable and impactful. I don’t need this material—everything is a memory. Everything provides a sense of place and cements me in providing comfort and a sense of connectedness to something larger than myself.”

Back at The Grocery Studios, Galore’s aesthetic interests come out of her own eclectic experiences. At the UW, she studied pure and applied mathematics through three years of graduate school. She thinks of herself as an “incurable generalist” with a voracious curiosity. Among her myriad projects, Galore fills her home with glass terrariums that house different mosses,

lichens and ferns, and springtails—tiny arthropods that help break down matter and prevent mold. Her two microscopes allow her to go on “micro safaris.” “You can take any kind of moss and squeeze out the water and view the tardigrades and take video,” she says.

Galore indulges her interests in ceramics, perfume-making, screen printing and sewing. Her art integrates media with physical elements in interactive pieces. Her installation of river rocks at the now-defunct Museum of Museums in Seattle used software to project animated eyes on the rocks that opened when visitors entered the gallery.

Psychologists like Wu look at “nerding out” and nerd culture as often positive and therapeutic, particularly when people create and share their passions with others. A strong sense of social integration arises and has been shown to increase people’s well-being. “It not only feels good to be included by others, but also, neurologically, we’re motivated to do so,” Wu says.

To further their community connections, Galore and Raven have partnered with Seattle Art Fair to produce and host offsite performances and programs at The Grocery.

Two years ago, they brought together painter Jason Puccinelli and Sasha Styles, an AI poet.

The couple also produced a series called “The Academy of Reason and Wonder.” “People would come and talk about an obsessive involvement with something outside of their primary vocation,” Raven says. Artist Jed Dunkerly gave a multimedia presentation on paleontology and dinosaurs. Afterward, the audience had access to a curated library of books drawn from his references. Professor Adrienne Fairhall, an expert in computational neuroscience at the UW, spoke on theories of cognition and intelligence in the microbe world. And Douglas Wacker, associate professor of biology at UW Bothell, shared his perspective on corvid research and language.

Raven revels in gathering wild thinkers together in the intimate space of his home. “The way the communities fan out—it’s like neurons,” he says. “One community attaches to one community that attaches to another. We come one step closer to that distal community,” bringing others further away closer and spreading feelings of engagement and belonging.

To learn more about salons and other events at The Grocery, visit thegrocerystudios.com.

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The Ability to Change a Person's Life

David Bonderman's all-expenses-paid travel fellowships enable UW students to broaden their cultural horizons

By Dr. Kristy Leissle



COURTESY SEATTLE KRAKEN

I do not say this lightly, but David Bonderman changed my life. Were it not for the Bonderman Travel Fellowship, I would not live where I live, do what I do for a living or have the same vision and goals, burning so brightly as they do.

I met Bonderman twice: first, at a reception for new and recently returned travel fellows, and again a year or so later, at a meeting to share feedback on how to make the fellowship more impactful. Both times, I did my best to convey the life-altering nature of his gift, but I'm sure my words were never as elegant as I had hoped.

How does one thank a person for even imagining the Bonderman Fellowship, never mind funding it with absolute generosity and only the slenderest of strings attached: a postcard describing one's travels, sent back to Seattle from wherever, for him to read and enjoy.

I remember a moment in my interview when I knew without anyone saying so that I had won the award. I was describing how I had started my graduate program full of excitement to study globalization, but, a few years in, the spark was gone.

But when I was writing my Bonderman application, the thought of traveling as a cocoa bean did (I'd proposed to follow chocolate, my favorite food, around the world), from port to port, continent to continent, farm to factory, had reignited that

spark. Suddenly, I was energized again!

Those months of Bonderman travels not only reignited my passion, they gave me chance after chance to fling myself at the world, and learn what I was made of.

If I could thank David Bonderman again, I would tell him that in so many ways, I feel like my fellowship never ended. I would say that his imagination and generosity opened a door onto possibility and gave me exactly the right push to walk through. Even today, I'm still on the journey.

Kristy Leissle, '04, '08, a scholar of the global cocoa and chocolate industries, teaches at UW Bothell.

FROM THE TIME DAVID BONDERMAN, a UW alumnus, created the Bonderman Travel Fellowship in 1995, more than 300 University of Washington students have enjoyed the coveted opportunity to independently travel the world and expand their minds. The fellowships are administered by the UW Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs and the Graduate School and cover all expenses for travel.

To ensure that their world adventures are independent, Bonderman fellows may not participate in a program or organization, engage in formal study at a foreign university, conduct research or other academic projects or travel with an organized group. Bonderman Fellowships are intended to introduce students to cultures, peoples and areas of the world with which they are not familiar.

Bonderman, who earned his undergraduate degree in Russian from the UW in 1963, learned firsthand about the impact of international travel when he received a Sheldon Fellowship after graduating from Harvard Law School. It allowed him to travel outside of the U.S. and changed his life. To extend the program's ability to provide these experiences to more UW students, Bonderman created a \$10 million endowment for the program in 2017. Students who have benefited from Bonderman Fellowships come from such disciplines as applied and computational mathematics, environmental and forest sciences, information management and marine affairs. Students from any discipline are encouraged to apply.

Bonderman, an American billionaire businessman who was the co-founder and co-owner of the Seattle Kraken, died Dec. 11 in Los Angeles at the age of 82.—*Jon Marmor*

RECOGNITION



Patrick MacDonald, '70, was a groundbreaking Seattle rock music critic who spent his career at the Seattle P-I and the Seattle Times. One

of the nation's earliest daily rock music writers, he championed the Seattle music scene. He met his first musical star, Fats Domino, at a 1956 gig in downtown Seattle when he was 11. He wrote for and served as managing editor of The Daily. He died Dec. 9 at the age of 79.



Regina Rogers-Wright, '12, starred on the Huskies women's basketball team after leading Chief Sealth High School to two consecutive Class 3A state championships.

The daughter of former Husky football and basketball star Reggie Rogers, she played one year at UCLA before transferring to the UW, where she played for three years. She was named to the All-Pac-12 team as a senior, averaging 16.8 points and 8.6 rebounds. She died Nov. 11 at the age of 35.

In Memory

ALUMNI

RICHARD LOUIS COLOMBINI
'54, Poulsbo, age 91, Jan. 23, 2021

DONALD E. GARRETSON
'54, Littleton, Colorado, age 84, Nov. 28

BETSY GREENWAY
'54, Bellingham, age 91, Oct. 4

FLOYD “BILL” HANCOCK
'54, Bellevue, age 96, Oct. 3

ANNA LEE HENDERSHOT
'54, Lake Oswego, Oregon

STEPHEN P. LICH
'54, Camano Island, age 83, Nov. 13

DOUGLAS B. NEVES
'54, Shoreline, age 80, Oct. 2

SHERI TEAGLE SAYRE
'54, Freeland, age 87, Oct. 20

SCOTT CLIFFORD STOEFFEN
'54, Seattle, age 66, Aug. 27

GAIL E. WAGNER
'54, Columbia, South Carolina, age 98, May 14, 2023

1940s

CATHERINE “CAY” BELL
'44, Mill Creek, age 101, Oct. 4

DONALD R. MULLINEAUX
'47, '49, '50, '61, Centennial, Colorado, age 95, Jan. 23, 2021

NAN ISAKSON JOHNSTON
'49, Everett, age 97, Nov. 24

HAROLD ANDREW KUSULOS
'49, Seattle, age 100, Nov. 26

GLENN M. LIGHT
'49, Redmond, age 98, May 14, 2023

1950s

JOHN FRANKLIN COCKBURN
'50, Seattle, age 96, Sept. 5

THEODORE R. HENDERSHOT
'51, Lake Oswego, Oregon, age 88, Sept. 6, 2018

JOYCE LEVIN ZELDOW
'51, Bellevue, age 94, Dec. 20

BARBARA HENKLE
'52, La Conner, age 93, Oct. 5

GREGORY MICHAEL LAMBERT
'53, '15, Seattle, age 99, Dec. 13

HING W. CHINN
'54, Bellevue, age 94, Oct. 25

MICHAEL RAY FREIDMAN
'54, Seattle, age 92, Sept. 9

JAMES F. MCATEER
'54, Seattle, age 93, Dec. 26

ROBERT GENE MINARD
'54, Nellyford, Virginia, age 93, Nov. 12

RICHARD C. NELSON
'54, Ketchum, Idaho, age 95, Sept. 12

VERLENE VANDERBURG
'54, Shoreline, age 93, Sept. 19

MURRAY ANDREWS
'55, Vashon, age 92, Oct. 24

BARBARA L. COLE
'56, Edmonds

ELIZABETH “BETSY” LOHR
'56, Redmond, age 90, Nov. 9

JEANNE ALLISON BARROS
'57, Hollywood, Florida, age 75, Dec. 4

BRONKO BOROZAN
'57, '61, North Bend, age 89, Oct. 13

FRED L. CARTER
'57, Kent, age 93, Nov. 30

KEITH KING CORNER
'57, Bothell, age 95, Nov. 15

AMY SONNTAG HENDERSON
'57, Silver City, New Mexico, age 90, Nov. 23

GEORGE WILLIAM MATHESON
'57, '63, Lacey, age 89, Oct. 15

JANET MARIE MATHESON
'57, Lacey, age 88, Dec. 15

OSCAR C. SANDBERG JR.
'57, Bellevue, age 94, Nov. 20

WILLIAM THOMPSON
'57, Lake Forest Park, age 96, Nov. 14

SHAUN MCMAHAN
'58, Mountlake Terrace, age 87, Oct. 18

THEODORE F. WIPRUD
'58, Portland, Oregon, age 86, May 20, 2022

LEE DAVID BENEZRA
'59, Seattle, age 87, Nov. 22
GEORGE EDWARD EATON
'59, Mercer Island, age 93, Dec. 2

NOREEN RAYMOND FRINK
'59, Seattle, age 85, Nov. 29

DONALD J. GRAVES
'59, Waukesha, Wisconsin, age 90, June 21

ELIZABETH “LIBBY” PAINE
'59, Redmond, age 87, Dec. 15

JOHN F. PAINE
'59, Port Ludlow, age 86, Nov. 9

WILLIAM R. WOLF
'59, Renton, age 88, Nov. 10

1960s

RICHARD E. PARKS
'60, age 85, Feb. 17, 2024

EVERARDO ESPINOSA
'61, Edmonds, age 95, Nov. 4

BERNARD DECILLIA JR.
'62, Mukilteo, age 87, Sept. 28

BRUCE CHARLES LAING
'62, Bellevue, age 92, Nov. 24

RUFUS A. LITTLEFIELD V
'62, Bellevue, age 91, Aug. 9

APRIL ANN LUNDELL
'62, Issaquah, age 83, Oct. 20

ELIZABETH SJURSEN
'62, Mountlake Terrace, age 84, Oct. 30

EUNICE COLE
'63, Walnut Creek, California, age 90, Sept. 15

K. HALPIN
'63, '65, '78, Seattle, age 92, Sept. 29, 2023

DANIEL RITTER
'63, Lake Stevens, age 87, Oct. 23

ROBERT J. TADLOCK
'63, Bothell, age 86, Oct. 20

WILLIAM B. MITCHELL
'64, '72, Eugene, Oregon, age 88, May 19

JOANN GEORGES NICON
'64, '66, Seattle, age 82, Dec. 20

JAMES HARRISON KRIDER
'65, Everett, age 82, Sept. 19

EDWARD RAMEY
'66, Hansville, age 80, Oct. 29

GORDON DOUGLAS KING
'67, Bainbridge Island, age 80, Oct. 29

JO ANNE BALLARD
'68, '69, Keyport, age 78, Nov. 26

CAROL ROCKAFIELD COLLINS
'68, Renton, age 77, Oct. 25, 2023

GERALD “JERRY” STIFFLER
'68, Edmonds, age 87, Aug. 10

STEPHEN ALAN FINNIGAN
'69, Tacoma, age 77, Dec. 7

LINDA ELIZABETH ORTMAYER
'69, '81, '93, Seattle, age 79, Nov. 15

1970s

JIM AITKEN
'70, Bellevue, age 78, Oct. 24

RONALD RAY BAKER
'70, Woodinville, age 77, Oct. 24

BARBARA GAIL BERTHIAUME
'70, Port Ludlow, age 79, Oct. 18

JEAN CARNEY
'70, Salem, Oregon, age 80, Nov. 2

CARON WILLIAMS CHORLTON
'70, Bellevue, age 98, Nov. 3

VIRGINIA “DEAN” DORGAN
'70, Seattle, age 95, Oct. 9, 2019

RICHARD WAYNE ELLIOTT
'70, '74, Kirkland, age 78, Dec. 21, 2020

GORDON CHARLES HAMILTON
'70, Port Ludlow, age 79, Sept. 20

DENNIS DAYNE HANSEN
'71, '76, '79, Tacoma, age 75, Nov. 30

FRANK VICTOR WESTERLUND
'71, '77, Bellevue, age 79, Dec. 8

GLENN ARTHUR HUGHES
'72, '76, '79, San Antonio, age 72, Nov. 6

THOMAS J. ALLSOPP
'73, Midlothian, Virginia, age 74, Sept. 15

JAMES GEORGE BARNECUT
'73, Seattle, age 73, Dec. 11

PETER NORMANN DENNEHY
'73, Barrington, Rhode Island, age 77, Oct. 24

LESLIE ANNE MILLER
'73, '91, Seattle, age 73, Oct. 18

NOLA KAROLINA BLANES
'74, Kingston, age 91, Sept. 16

ZITA MARIE COOK
'74, '84, Enumclaw, age 87, Nov. 5

JUDITH O'LEARY PAYSENO
'74, Renton, age 83, Oct. 15

NINA WEST
'74, '99, Seattle, age 68, Nov. 26

MICHAEL PATRICK HILTY
'78, Bellingham, age 79, Nov. 9

RUTH K. NAKANO
'78, '84, Olympia, age 89, Nov. 11

KATHLEEN MICHELLE SIDER
'78, Vashon, age 82, Nov. 5

JARED C. KARSTETTER JR.
'79, Edmonds, age 69, Aug. 19

1980s

NANCY TAGLIANI DEBASTE
'80, Seattle, age 95, Aug. 19

PATRICIA ELLEN ROBERTS
'80, Clyde Hill, age 83, Oct. 16

LOIS E. KELLEY
'81, Lacey, age 88, Dec. 20, 2023

PATRICE ANNE PARR
'81, Sacramento, California, age 68, Oct. 11

JOVANKA ANTOVICH
'83, Seattle, age 68, Nov. 12

NELL BOWEN MILLER
'85, Lake Forest Park, age 78, Oct. 9

STEPHEN WILLIAM HADLEY
'86, Seattle, age 66, June 18

TIMOTHY RAY HOEFER
'86, Olympia, age 68, Nov. 29

RICHARD W. PHILLIPS
'86, Salem, Oregon, age 76, Nov. 12

1990s

BRADY CHARLES DAVIS
'92, Solana Beach, California, age 55, Sept. 30

SANDRA LEE GLOVER
'93, '02, Kent, age 73, Oct. 11

JASON M. SMITH, '95

KATHLEEN M. GREENE
'96, Wichita, Kansas, age 74, Oct. 28

GEORGE ALFRED GRANT
'97, Murrells Inlet, South Carolina, age 56, Dec. 15

GERRIE MARGARET COMER
'99, Spokane, age 84, Oct. 11

2000s

GEORGE O. TAMBLYN III
'03, Mercer Island, age 87, July 7

FACULTY AND FRIENDS

MARTIN AFROMOWITZ was a Columbia University-trained electrical engineer who worked on the early development of light-emitting diodes (LEDs) and semiconductor lasers. In 1974, he became a research fellow in the UW Bioengineering Center and two years later, he became a research assistant professor in the UW Department of Electrical Engineering. After 41 years at the UW, he retired as professor emeritus in 2015. His research led to 13 patents and many scholarly articles. He died Nov. 19 at the age of 79.

JAMES AMPHLETT was born in Canada, volunteered for the U.S. Army and served in a MASH unit in the Korean War. After earning his dental degree from Columbia University, he had a Seattle private practice and taught part-time in the UW dental school. He also volunteered with Medical Teams International after he retired. He died Oct. 9 at the age of 97.

JOHN ASCHERL spent 29 years working for UW Medical Center-Montlake and retired in 2019. He died Aug. 10 at the age of 70.

GLORIA BORNSTEIN was a beloved professor in the UW School of Art + Art History + Design. A renowned artist whose work has been collected and displayed at many institutions nationwide, she was known for thought-provoking "activist art" projects. "Gloria was a remarkable and independent artist who was driven by an insatiable intellectual curiosity," says Jamie Walker, professor and former UW art school director. "With all of her work, I am reminded of the intense and far-reaching research that she does before she commits to the actual creation of a work." She died Sept. 16 at the age of 87.

VERONICA ELLEN BUFFINGTON, '67, '81, earned B.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the UW and came back to the UW after a graduate fellowship at the University of Illinois. She conducted and administered research studies into chronic pain and related fields at the UW Medical Center and Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. She died Oct. 7 at the age of 79.

BILL BURTON, '73, grew up in the Rainier Vista public housing project in South Seattle. He went on to become the beloved leader of a Boys & Girls Club in South Seattle. He led a fundraising effort to build the Joel E. Smilow Clubhouse and Teen Center at Rainier Vista, an \$18 million, 40,000-square-foot clubhouse and gym to welcome about 175 neighborhood children. He died in September 2024 at the age of 75.

MELVIN B. DENNIS JR. was professor emeritus and chair of the UW Department of Comparative Medicine. He died Dec. 24 at the age of 87.

RICHARD DONALDSON was a highly regarded Seattle labor law attorney who appeared several times before the Supreme Court. He taught labor relations at the UW and at Seattle University. He died Sept. 22 at the age of 92.

PATRICIA JAN JASON spent her 43-year career working at Seattle Children's as a director, manager, educator and transport manager.

She was a consultant in ambulance design, especially for infant care and transport. She worked with Harborview Medical Center's Dr. Michael Copass and Dr. Dennis Mayock in establishing the Airlift Northwest Transport Program. She died Nov. 8 at the age of 74.

QUINCY JONES, the music industry legend who grew up in the Pacific Northwest, holds an honorary doctor of arts degree from the UW. It was conferred in 2008 when he spoke at graduation. Jones often said that in Seattle, he learned to pay no attention to cultural boundaries. He played an enormous role in the American music scene as producer of Michael Jackson's "Thriller" and Ray Charles' "Modern Sounds in Country and Western Music," among many other albums. He died Nov. 3 at the age of 91.

TERESA ZDENKA KACZYNSKI, the wife of retired UW professor Włodzimierz M. Kaczynski, worked with her husband on a wide range of academic activities and services for international organizations. She was active in his Fulbright mission to Poland, South Africa, China, Chile, Brazil and other locations. She also volunteered at Everett Community College, helping immigrant students with their English studies. She died Nov. 21 at the age of 74.

JIM KIRKPATRICK joined the UW Medicine faculty in 2015 and served as section chief of cardiac imaging and director of the echocardiography laboratory at UW Medical Center-Montlake. Under his leadership, the UW Echo Lab became one of the largest programs in the region, performing more than 12,000 studies per year. One of the few cardiologists with specific training in medical ethics, his academic interests involved ethical issues particularly in patients with cardiac assist devices and the use of echocardiography in the developing world. He died Jan. 1 at the age of 54.

JOYCE KONICK was the wife of legendary UW professor Willis Konick. She taught second grade at Crystal Springs elementary School in Bothell and preschool and early childhood development at Seattle Central College. She later served as director of volunteer services at Virginia Mason Hospital, and in retirement, she worked at University Book Store as a seasonal "buyback lady." She died Dec. 12 at the age of 90.

KENNETH A. KROHN was a longtime UW professor of radiology, chemistry and radiation oncology who joined the UW in 1981 to help with the radiolabeled monoclonal antibody therapy program at Fred Hutch Cancer Center. He helped develop imaging procedures with PET



COURTESY JEREMY JAECH

Keeping Us Safe

JOHN JAECH, '53, was known internationally for developing and applying statistical methods in nuclear materials safeguards. The Tacoma native worked for General Electric on the Hanford Nuclear Reservation and later led the Pacific Northwest National Lab's mathematics department. At GE, he developed special tests to determine the useful life of atomic fuel, saving GE billions of dollars. The father of former UW Regent Jeremy Jaech, '77, '80, he died Jan. 3 at age 95.

and MRI to characterize tumors. His impact on the field of molecular imaging of cancer led to roles on national advisory groups including the Advisory Board for the National Cancer Institute. He died Oct. 23.

JANICE MASAKO KUMASAKA, '59, was the first Asian American woman elected to the Seattle School Board. She also served on the Washington State Human Rights Commission for 10 years and was board president of the International Examiner. Trained as a nurse, she also drove the campaign to create 911 services in King County, one of the first in the nation. She died Oct. 25 at the age of 87.

DANIEL JOSEPH LAFOND, '68, was a UW-educated social worker who went on to create endowments at the UW School of Social Work, Bellevue College and his undergraduate alma mater, Saint Martin's University, to help students achieve their dreams. He taught for 35 years at Bellevue College. He died Oct. 12 at the age of 83.

DONNA MCCAMPBELL, '99, spent her career working on the computer systems at the UW, initially with the School of Oceanography and then in the School of Medicine. She retired in 2001. While working at the School of Medicine, she pursued a master's degree in public administration at the UW's Daniel J. Evans School of Public Policy & Governance. She died Nov. 22 at the age of 78.

MURRAY MCCORY, '70, changed the lives of students when he was a UW student in the 1960s, creating the school backpack through his company, JanSport. An avid outdoorsman, he felt there had to be a better way to make backpacks other than using wooden frames. His innovation was using lightweight, adjustable aluminum to create a nylon pack that featured a pocket for a water bottle. That innovation enabled him to win a national competition sponsored by Alcoa to design a new backpack. He died Oct. 7 at the age of 80.

NANCY MCDANIEL, '88, was a former Husky golfer who founded the women's golf program at Cal and served as the Golden Bears' head coach for 29 years. She led Cal

to the NCAA regionals 23 times and NCAA championships 10 times. She died Oct. 23 at the age of 57.

JOHN W. MEISENBACH believed in the transformative power of education. He co-founded the Costco Scholarship Fund to benefit thousands of underrepresented and minority students at the UW and Seattle University. He helped raise many millions of dollars so students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds could pursue a college education. He founded MCM, one of the Pacific Northwest's leading financial services firms. He died Oct. 7 at the age of 88.

THOMAS E. MORGAN JR., '89, was an Air Force veteran who served at Brooks Medical Center, where he worked in the nascent space program. He later joined the faculty of the UW School of Medicine, where he spent 12 years in biomedical research and academic administration before joining the staff of the Association of American Medical Colleges. A major UW supporter, he died Dec. 9 at the age of 95.

KAREN HAMMERSBURG PETTI-JOHN worked in patient services at the UW Medical Center-Montlake for 35 years, retiring in 2013. She died Oct. 6 at the age of 72.

JACK RAFN, '68, and his wife Marilyn started the Rafn Co. in their garage and grew it into a highly respected general contracting firm. He was active in the UW Department of Construction Management and was inducted into the UW Construction Industry Hall of Fame in 2001. He died Sept. 25 at the age of 84.

AUSTIN REGIER, '21, was a national champion rower for the Huskies. A UW-trained engineer, he also was a member of the American Magic team for the America's Cup. "He defined the character of the team, the work ethic of the team, the mindset and the spirit," UW men's crew coach Michael Callahan told The Seattle Times. Reiger died Nov. 15 at the age of 27.

J. THURSTON ROACH II served with the Marines in during the Vietnam War and was a Stanford-educated businessman who

worked in the family business, Roach Paper Co. He later served on the board of trustees for the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center among many other community organizations. He died Nov. 24 at the age of 83.

DOROTHY SALE played a critical role for UW students who attended the University from 1974 to 1983: She was supervisor of graduations and approved students' credits to graduate. In all, she worked 14 years at the UW, starting as the Selective Service supervisor during the Vietnam War. In retirement, she volunteered at Harborview Medical Center and the Pacific Science Center. She died Oct. 1 at the age of 105.

SCOTT SATTERLEE, '65, earned a degree in business from the UW and played football and rugby. He died Oct. 13 at the age of 82.

FRANCES JEFFERSON TERRY, '81, was the first African American to graduate from the Seattle University School of Nursing and earned a master's in nursing from the UW. She was a longtime member of the Mary Mahoney Professional Nurses Organization, mentoring young nursing students. She died Oct. 6 at the age of 94.

FRANK VICTOR WESTERLUND, '71, '77, served 20 years on the faculty of the UW College of Built Environments. He died Dec. 8 at the age of 79.

ANDREW J. YOUNG, '56, '62, spent a lifetime helping and supporting those seeking equity and opportunity in society and the workplace. An Army veteran, he served on the Seattle branch of the NAACP's Executive Board for 10 years and as president for two years. He was a founding member of the Loren Miller Bar Association, served as an assistant attorney general in Washington and was appointed chair of the Washington State Board of Community College Education by Gov. Dan Evans. He died Nov. 11 at the age of 91.

KAREN YUHAS worked for eight years in the UW's administrative services office and retired in 2014. She died Oct. 4 at the age of 76.

When Locked Lips Were Locked Out

By Doug Parry

Smooching on the UW campus was outlawed back in 1929 when then-UW President Matthew Lyle Spencer saw the display of affection as an affront to the morals of the time.



J. WILLIS SARE, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON LIBRARIES, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, JWS24268

The columns in Sylvan Grove on the University of Washington campus stand for four ideals: loyalty, industry, faith and efficiency. They can also make a romantic backdrop for a canoodle, but one UW president would have none of that.

On a spring evening in 1929, President Matthew Lyle Spencer happened upon a couple “spooning” in the shadows of the

columns, and it was more than his puritan heart could abide. He promptly announced a campuswide ban on kissing.

Spencer “frequently launched crusades to ‘lift the morals’ of the time,” the Seattle Post-Intelligencer reported. That put him at odds with the changing social norms of the Roaring Twenties, when women were leaving the home in greater numbers for

colleges and workplaces. Edwardian gowns gave way to shorter skirts, students listened to jazz and danced the Charleston, and “flappers” scandalized society with their bobbed hair, driving of automobiles, and more casual attitudes toward dating.

All of that must have rankled Spencer, the son of a preacher, who once condemned “drinking and petting” in front of 2,500 students in a talk at Meany Hall. Curiously, his kissing ban was either widely ignored or incredibly effective because no one was ever written up.

Spencer came to the UW in 1919, the same year women won the right to vote. He was hired to lead the University’s School of Journalism after a newspaper career that took him from his native Mississippi to Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

He succeeded Henry Suzzallo as president in 1927, and his tenure was brief but dramatic. Biographer C.E. Lindgren wrote that Spencer spearheaded efforts to raise standards and stiffen admission requirements, then butted heads with high school teachers who argued that he was leaving out students who possessed “merely average ability.” Spencer was not a fan of athletics and once lamented that some student-athletes enjoyed a “four-year holiday at the expense of the taxpayers,” the Post-Intelligencer reported.

After leaving the UW in 1933, Spencer went on to found Syracuse University’s School of Journalism, where he served as dean from 1934-1955. He had some notable accomplishments at the UW, writing influential books on journalism and laying the groundwork for aeronautics and fisheries studies. But after he died in 1969 at age 87, his ban on kissing was the first line of his obituary.

And if you’re planning a trip to campus with your sweetheart, pucker up. The ban is no longer in effect.

Continued from PG. 35 with his current wife, Gretchen, Mayne says he still feels the twin boys' presence "in little ways."

"That's a hugely significant thing in your life," he says of their passing. "I like it when people bring them up because then they're remembered. I don't like that they aren't acknowledged. They were real people. Connor, I knew far better. He lived for six months. Creighton didn't [live] at all. Connor was fighting to get his way out."

"ESPN was very good to me. They gave me as much time as I needed off. It felt good to go back to work because it made things feel more positive. The thought crosses your mind: How could anything be funny again when you're that sad? But I don't think they would want me to go through the rest of my life giving up."

Stephen Panus had thoughts of giving up when his 16-year-old son, Jake, was killed in a drunk-driving accident in 2020.

"In the wake of losing Jake, Kenny Mayne was one of the first people to reach out to me and provide hope amidst a backdrop of complete darkness," Panus says. "Kenny and I knew each other and were friends from horse racing. As a bereaved father himself, Kenny intimately knew the arduous road I now found myself upon, and his support meant the world."

"Nearly four years later, when I announced that I was [going to] launch my own strategic marketing, branding and public relations agency, Kenny texted me immediately and wanted to talk about me representing him. We spoke a few hours later, and Kenny quickly became a client."

Among the many projects Panus and Mayne have in the hopper is a quasi-reality show, Mayne, Image & Likeness (and obvious play on the NIL situation that's changed the face of college sports), which found Mayne shadowing the UW football team throughout the 2023-2024 season.

Another is a 30-minute documentary short that screened at the most recent Seattle International Film Festival. It's centered on Mayne, then a young man working at KSTW, attempting to throw a wiffle ball faster than Ken Griffey Jr. at a Pacific Science Center exhibit, and features a hilarious deadpan cameo from Ken Burns.

The radar gun determined that they threw the plastic ball with equal velocity, but Mayne couldn't get over the fact that he thought he threw the ball faster, going so far as to enlist Duane Storti, a professor of mechanical engineering at UW, to confirm his suspicion.

It would be inappropriate to give away Storti's—and the film's—conclusion in this space. As with anything involving Mayne, you'll have to watch to find out.

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