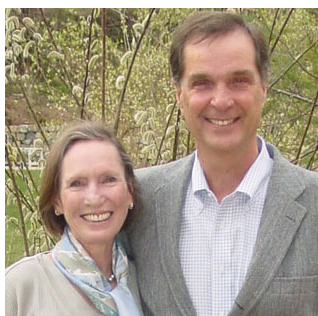


Hollins News Flash - June 2008

Campus



\$5 Million Gift for Creative Writing

Susan Gager Jackson '68 and her husband, John Jackson, have pledged \$5 million to create the Jackson Center for Creative Writing at Hollins. The \$5 million endowment will sustain the following initiatives:

The Susan Gager Jackson Endowed Chair in Creative Writing, which will recognize the accomplishments of gifted scholars and writers on the Hollins faculty. The new chair could be rotated among tenured faculty who teach creative writing or awarded to a new faculty member.

The Jackson Fellowship in Creative Writing, designated for students who are completing the [master of fine arts \(MFA\) program in creative writing](#). The fellowship will provide full or partial tuition assistance and could also support stipends for summer research and writing, conference attendance, and other scholarly activities associated with pursuing the MFA.

The Susan Gager Jackson Scholarship, which will honor outstanding undergraduate students who are pursuing a [degree in English and creative writing](#).

The Jackson Fund for Creative Writing, a permanent endowment supporting publicity and other activities to heighten visibility of the undergraduate and graduate programs comprising the Jackson Center for Creative Writing. "We envision using this endowment to raise awareness of both new and existing programs," said President Gray, including the [Louis D. Rubin, Jr., Writer-in-Residence](#), the university's [annual Literary Festival](#), the Jackson Poetry Readings, and the recently created Dee Hull Everist Visiting Speakers Series.

At Hollins, the Jackson Poetry Endowment brings acclaimed authors to campus to read from their works. On a national level, the Jacksons launched the Jackson Poetry Award in 2007 to recognize exceptional but largely unheralded writers. Susan Jackson is herself a poet and is the author of *Through a Gate of Trees: Poems*, published last year.



Commencement 08: Welcome New Alumnae

Philanthropist, civic leader, and higher education advocate **Jane Parke Batten '58** urged the 176 bachelor's degree and 69 master's degree candidates to "aim high and make Hollins proud" during the [166th Commencement Exercises](#) on May 18. Batten is pictured with Kate Sayers Martin '08, a member of the Batten

Today is your last chance!

[Make your gift to the 2007-2008 Hollins Fund](#) today - June 30th is your last chance!

In This Issue

[Commencement News](#)

[Reunion 2008](#)

[Dancer Honored at National Festival](#)

[Save the Dates](#)

Quick Hitters

[Buy Reunion 08 Photos Online](#)

[Campus Photos in Online Photo Store](#)

[Commencement Slideshow](#)

[The Case for a Women's College: article by high school senior](#)



Quad Quote

"Other classes will be glad to know I am not going to

Leadership Institute.

Prior to the conferring of degrees, President Gray announced a graduate fellowship in creative writing has been established by an anonymous donor in honor of **Professor of English Richard Dillard**.

Also announced was the inaugural presentation of the **Hollins University Teaching Award**, made possible by **Mary Bernhardt Wolfe Decker '58** and her husband, **James DeWitt Decker**. The award recognizes secondary school educators who have devoted their lives to preparing students to achieve and excel in a higher education setting, and Hollins seniors are invited to nominate the teachers who inspired them or contributed significantly to their intellectual and personal growth. The first recipient of the award is Susan Vincent, an earth science and marine biology teacher at the Young Women's Leadership School in East Harlem, New York. Vincent was nominated by Alicia Crosby '08 and received a \$2,000 cash prize.

- [Batten's commencement address](#) (PDF)

- [Slideshow of commencement photos](#)

Alumnae/i

Reunion 2008

More than 450 alumnae and friends returned to campus for a weekend of fun and remembrance.

[Attendees](#)

[Photo Gallery](#)

[Buy Reunion Photos Online](#)

[Class Gift Totals](#)

The Honor Class remarks by Wyndham Robertson '58 and Anne Galvin '83 were a huge hit. Read their speeches here:

[50th Reunion remarks by Wyndham Robertson '58](#) (PDF)

[25th Reunion remarks by Anne Helm Galvin '83](#) (PDF)



[Other Reunion Highlights:](#)

Hollins Women Save History: a presentation by four alumnae who are pillars of the historic preservation movement (from left): Boyce Ansley '68, regent of the Mount Vernon Ladies

name all the other wonders of the Class of 1958. It was not my assignment to prove we are the finest class in the 166-year history of Hollins, though of course I could. It is just my job to let you know that our theme - still stirring - has plenty of meaning, and that we are going to be stirring for many years to come. Levavi Oculos? Means eye-lifts. We'll be around, still stirring and looking even younger."

- Wyndham Robertson '58 in her 50th Reunion remarks

Links

[Alumnae Web site](#)

[Online Update Form](#)

[Online Alumnae/i Directory](#)

[Send class news](#)

[Give a gift online](#)

[Send Hollins E-Card](#)

[Archives of News Flash](#)

Association; Brandy Culp '98, curator of the Historic Charleston Foundation in South Carolina; Stuart Smith '58, vice president of Stratford Hall, birthplace of Robert E. Lee; and Nancy Campbell '58, former chair of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Six alumnae were inducted into the [Athletic Hall of Fame](#): (from left) Christie Laming '98 - fencing, Mary Cheek McCullough '58 - tennis, Justine Ringlien Lynch '58 - multiple sports, Tris Berryman Casillas '88 - soccer. Not pictured: Serena N. Beedie '93 - basketball, and Marcy Grill '73 - lacrosse (posthumous).



Taisie Berkeley '70, photographer, Fulbright Scholar, and great-great-granddaughter of Hollins' founder Charles Lewis Cocke, gave a talk and slideshow of her work with India's poorest women. Her photographs are on display in the [Eleanor D. Wilson Museum](#).

The Distinguished Alumnae Award was presented to four alumnae: Jane Bassett Spilman '53, Nancy Nash Campbell '58, Elizabeth Vann Hobbs '58, and Boyce Lineberger Ansley '68.

Kitty Clark Stroud '58 received the **Pat Thomas Bain Award** and Wyndham Robertson '58 received the **Rath Award**.

Reunion included a celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the [Jamaica Service Project](#) with a discussion by Ruth Claytor '96 and Kelley McElmurray Pruitt '93, a slideshow covering the last 20 years, and a reception.

Agnes Gant Harrison '38 returned for her 70th Reunion, along with her daughter, **Lalla Harrison Saleeby '68**, here for her 40th!



Mary Garber '38 Inducted Into National Sportscasters Hall of Fame

Mary Garber '38 was recently inducted into the Hall of Fame of the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association, as a pioneer among female sportswriters. Garber was the first recipient of Hollins' Distinguished Alumnae



Riders Place at Nationals

Four Hollins riders placed in competition at the 2008 Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) National Championship Show, held May 8 - 11 in Los Angeles.

Abby Gonzalez '10 was Reserve Champion in Individual Novice Equitation over Fences, while **Mandy Lynch '08** captured ninth place in Individual Intermediate Equitation over

Fences and **Stephanie Ostericher '08** took tenth in Individual Walk-Trot Equitation. **Katie Furches '10** (pictured with coach Sandy Gerald) contended for the Cacchione Cup, awarded each year to the National Champion Rider, and finished 13th out of 31 riders.

Thanks to the generosity of Hollins friend Tom Kenan, the four riders were able to travel to L.A. for nationals. Kenan and his family have supported the riding program over many years.

More exciting news from our riding program: **Riding Center Director Nancy Peterson** has been inducted into the Virginia Horse Center Hall of Fame, honoring her remarkable contributions to the horse show industry and to the community at large.



Congratulations to **Vicki Kasza '09**, who competed in the NCAA Division III National Women's Golf Championships, May 13-16 at Centennial Oaks Golf Club in Waverly, Iowa. She finished in a three-way tie for 16th. In recognition of her outstanding season, Kasza was named to the National Golf Coaches Association's All-Region Team/East Region for Division III Women's Collegiate Golf.

Faculty News

Promotions to full professor for **Juergen Fleck, economics**, and **Daniel Murphy, Spanish**, effective July 1. Wayne Markert has been named University Professor for a period of three years beginning July 1, 2008.

Assistant Professor of Communication Studies Vladimir Bratic spoke at the Global Media Forum in Bonn, Germany, and was interviewed by the German international broadcasting service Deutsche Welle. The article can be found at:

<http://www.dwworld.de/dw/article/0,2144,3383454,00.html>

Susan Thomas, associate professor of political science and women's studies, organized two panels for World Prout Assembly's "Building A New World Conference," in Radford, Virginia. She moderated a panel on domestic violence, presented her paper "Animal Rights and the American Left," and participated in a panel on animal rights. For more information, please visit the conference website <http://www.wpaconference.org/>.

John P. Wheeler Professor of Political Science Jong Ra chaired a panel entitled "Diagnosis of South Korean New Democracy" at the 2008 International Studies Association Convention, San Francisco.



Sculptress and ceramics instructor Donna Polseno recently returned from Italy, where she was one of six participants in an international exhibition of ceramic sculpture in Tuscany. She spent two months living and working in Rome to create pieces for the exhibition, entitled "Conveta, Sculture Ceramiche," which is being shown in Certaldo, an historic hill town near Florence. The show

attracted hundreds of art appreciators, critics, and news media.

Funding

Recent Major Gifts

- The Farrar Fund for Faculty Development has been created by **Lynn Farrar '78**, who describes it as a way "to give something back to the faculty who are such an inherent part of the Hollins experience, far beyond the classroom."
- **Kelly Moul Morrison '03** has helped establish a fund in honor of outgoing provost L. Wayne Markert, which will provide stipends for faculty research, collaborations with students, travel to attend or present at conferences, new course development, and other endeavors. Markert is stepping down as provost this summer to focus on teaching and has been named University Professor, a title he will carry for the next three years.
- **Tifi Webb Bierley '60 and her husband, Jack**, have given Hollins a gift of \$500,000 to establish an international professorship that will bring a visiting professor from a university in Asia, Latin America, Africa, or Eastern Europe to campus. The Jack and Tifi Webb Bierley International Professorship will further Hollins' goal of ensuring that global studies remain and grow as an integral part of the curriculum.
- **The Suzanne McKnight Reno Scholarship for International Students** will offer a full tuition scholarship to one outstanding international student or partial scholarship support for several deserving [international students](#). This is Hollins' first full tuition scholarship for [international students](#), established by **Suzanne McKnight Reno '64 and her husband John** with a gift of \$500,000.

Upcoming Events

Save these Important Dates:

November 1, 2008 - Kickoff on campus for the Hollins Campaign for Women Who Are Going Places

November 14-16, 2008 - 1842 Society Weekend in Washington, D.C.

[- Make your 1842 Society gift today!](#)

**Plan now for Reunion
2009: May 29-31!**

- [Alumnae event photos](#)
- [Online Photo Store](#)

Campus Events

- [Exhibits in the Wilson
Museum](#)

