

*2019*

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS LIBRARIES

***ANNUAL  
REVIEW***

*2020*



**KU  
LIBRARIES**

The University of Kansas

# KU LIBRARIES

The University of Kansas

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Photos show KU before the COVID-19 pandemic. For information about how Jayhawks are living, studying, and working on KU campuses this semester, visit [protect.ku.edu](https://protect.ku.edu).



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## A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

I suspect we would all agree that our world looks remarkably different today than it did just one year ago. For decades, academic libraries have been honing their agility, continually responding to the evolving needs of students and researchers. The flexibility of libraries — and of those who work here — has never been more essential than this year, as the global coronavirus pandemic unfolded.

Reflecting on our adaptability during this time of uncertainty and rapid change, it is clear to me that our consistent shared purpose and a deep-rooted belief in our mission have been essential anchors in KU Libraries' steadfast navigation. We began 2020 on the cusp of implementing a new strategic plan — having centered ourselves around a unified direction and goals. Though COVID-19 caused our focus to shift, we have persisted in making progress toward our vision, while also responding to the ever-changing present.

When classes suddenly transitioned online last March and beloved campus buildings closed their doors, the demand for library resources and services remained. Fortunately, KU Libraries already had a significant



collection of digital resources and electronic services in place. In addition, a small group of dedicated library staff continued working on campus throughout the spring and summer to ensure we could meet the essential needs of students, faculty, and researchers in Kansas and across the world. Many other employees advanced efforts from afar, propelling vital research and instructional support for Jayhawk scholars.

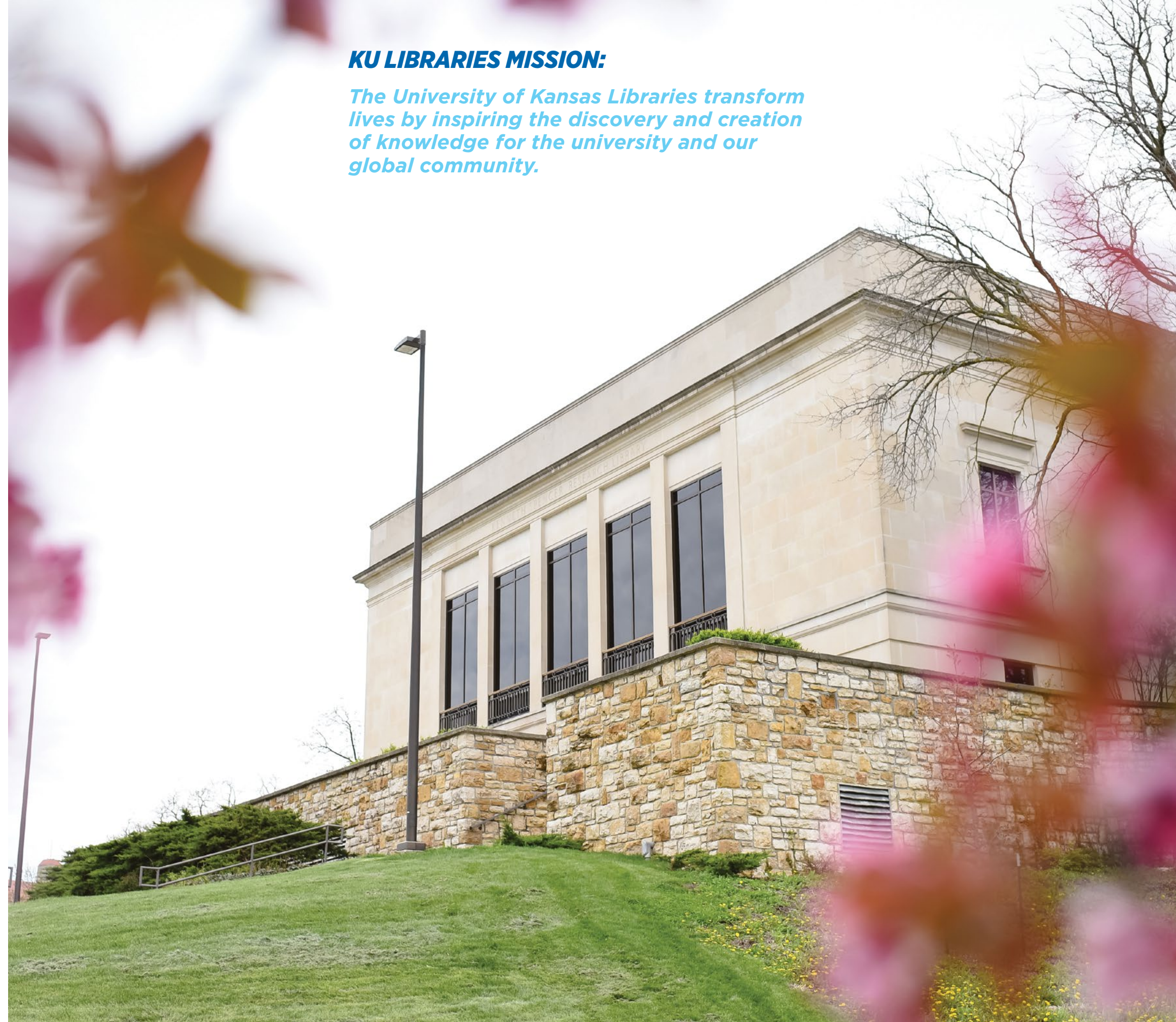
The coming pages will highlight just a few successes from this extraordinary year. From creative student engagement to innovative research expertise and enriching partnerships, our employees astound me with a tenacious adaptability to unforeseen conditions — all while striving to uphold our standard of excellence. We will continue to harness this resilient energy as we move forward together in fluid circumstances.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin L. Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kevin L. Smith,  
Dean of KU Libraries

## KU LIBRARIES MISSION:

*The University of Kansas Libraries transform lives by inspiring the discovery and creation of knowledge for the university and our global community.*





“ Sewing masks is a small but tangible way I could help our community during a tumultuous time. I feel more connected to people knowing something I have made is part of their everyday life. ”

— Roberta Woodrick, assistant conservator



Roberta Woodrick, assistant conservator, and Jules Woodrick, collection maintenance supervisor, pose outside their home in Lawrence, KS, where they've provided more than 100 free masks to members of the community.



Director of Public Operations Jeremy Horkman retrieves materials from the Watson stacks.



# JAYHAWKS RISE TO THE CHALLENGE



No matter where you are, KU Libraries are there for you. Never have those words been truer than during the unexpected novel coronavirus pandemic. During our public closure, the libraries continued providing mission-critical resources to students, faculty, and scholars.

While employees worked diligently — on the Hill and from their homes — some committed to selflessly giving back during a difficult time that found many in great need. Even though we were surrounded by uncertainty, a group of passionate faculty and staff members spent their time and money crafting face coverings and offering them for free to their colleagues and members of the Lawrence community. ■

# HELPING STUDENTS SHINE

Ensuring student success through resources, services, and expertise

## ASK THE EXPERTS

During the 2019-20 academic year, KU Libraries supported students through various modes and methods.

433



instruction sessions held by KU librarians and staff



143

workshops offered to Jayhawk scholars

More than

6,000

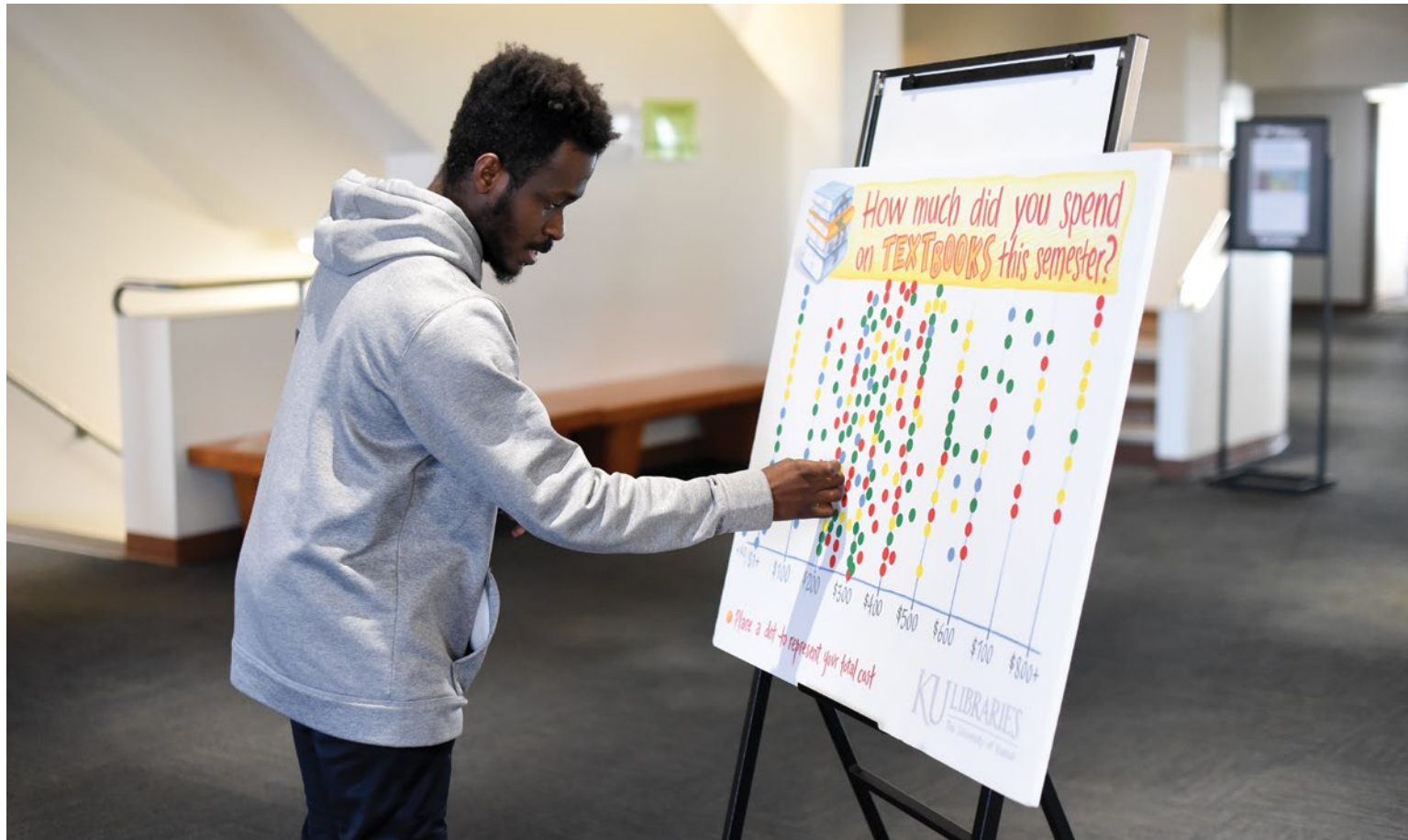


in-person and online research help questions fielded by library faculty and staff

↑ 26%

increase in research help over the previous year





## PARTY PEOPLE

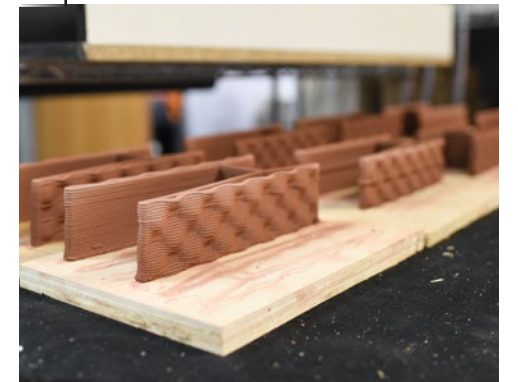
The libraries love to welcome students to a new academic year. To kick off the fall 2019 semester, we threw a silent disco in Anschutz Library during Hawk Week. With headsets playing tunes from '80s hits to Top 40 jams, students danced around the library and got acquainted with all the popular study spots.

## AMPLIFYING STUDENT VOICES

No one knows better than students how great the burden of textbook costs can be. We asked students to share their experiences to help illustrate the impact of rising textbook costs. Through these conversations in the libraries, we captured information straight from students and discovered how important it is to them that KU Libraries continue to champion low- and no-cost materials in KU classrooms.



The renovated study carrels on the third and fourth floors of Watson Library are a favorite study spot of Jayhawk scholars. Students from the Arc/D classes leading the redesign efforts had access to unique robotic machinery for their projects (far right).



## A LOCATION FOR INSPIRATION

Upgraded study carrels in Watson Library, designed and installed by architecture & design students at KU, offer cozy, comfortable, and quiet solutions to meet our patrons' study needs. The new carrels allowed Arc/D students the opportunity to work on a real-world project that will benefit Jayhawks for generations to come. In 2019, students from the ARCH 509 class responsible for renovating the third-floor carrels received an award from the American Institute of Architects in Kansas recognizing their impressive redesign. Jayhawk alumni and friends continue to support KU Libraries and our students by dedicating a study carrel.

*If you are interested in making a gift to name a carrel, contact **Christy McWard**, [cmward@ku.edu](mailto:cmward@ku.edu), for more information.*

# BUILD <sup>it</sup> BETTER

*How Jamene Brooks-Kieffer continues to grow KU's popular Software Carpentry program*

**C**ongratulations were in order for Jamene Brooks-Kieffer, data services librarian, who was selected for the Big XII Faculty Fellowship Program in August 2019. The program offers KU faculty members an opportunity to visit and collaborate with academic institutions within the Big 12 Athletic Conference.

To support and strengthen KU Libraries' existing Software Carpentry program, Brooks-Kieffer traveled to the University of Oklahoma to exchange ideas and research with colleagues.

*Continued on next page*

## SOFTWARE CARPENTRY

Between January 2018 and January 2019, Software Carpentry at KU grew by leaps and bounds.



3 Certified Software Carpentries instructors



4 Software Carpentry workshops and a Library Carpentry workshop



136 learners from nearly 50 distinct departments, schools, or research units



71 Participants from different institutions

An estimated



1 day a week can be saved with these skills

*Continued from previous page*

Software Carpentry teaches fundamental skills that can increase productivity and improve the quality and reproducibility of research projects.

Brooks-Kieffer was scheduled to visit OU for two weeks in March, though due to the developing spread of COVID-19, her visit was reduced by one week. During the shortened time frame, however, she had the opportunity to conduct nearly all of the formal conversations that she had planned.

“A Big XII Faculty Fellowship visit is supposed to benefit the host as well as the visitor, and I knew that OU had robust Carpentries activities,” Brooks-Kieffer said. “I was able to have conversations that explored my own research interests and OU’s assessment needs. That one week was intense, yet extremely productive.”

In 2019, KU Libraries partnered with KU’s Office of Research and KU Information Technology to fund a membership in The Carpentries — an umbrella organization that includes Software Carpentry and teaches foundational coding and data science skills to researchers worldwide. Brooks-Kieffer, a certified Carpentries instructor, has organized and hosted Software Carpentry workshops for KU faculty, staff, and students since 2016.

**“ While the libraries engage with the campus in research and teaching, our work is more effective and resilient when we partner with others. ”**

**— Jamene Brooks-Kieffer,  
data services librarian**

“KU’s membership in The Carpentries creates an opportunity to form a community of Carpentries teachers who regularly offer inclusive workshops on essential tools and skills that are not often taught in degree programs,” Brooks-Kieffer said. “While the libraries engage with the campus in research and teaching, our work is more effective and resilient when we partner with others.” ■







# EXPERTISE IN ACTION

## Welcoming N. Kivilcim Yavuz as the first Ann Hyde Postdoctoral Researcher

From growing up in Turkey to studying in the United Kingdom and Denmark, N. Kivilcim Yavuz forged a fascinating path before landing in Lawrence, Kansas. Arriving at Kenneth Spencer Research Library in September 2019, Yavuz began her role as the first ever Ann Hyde Postdoctoral Researcher.

Ann Hyde was a well-known and invaluable employee of KU Libraries for decades. Serving as the manuscripts librarian at Spencer until retiring in 2000, Hyde's contributions were integral in raising the profile of Spencer among the world's special collections libraries. Spencer's first-ever librarian, Alexandra "Sandy" Mason, who passed away in 2011, bequeathed an estate gift endowing the Ann Hyde Fellowship in honor of her lifetime friend. Hyde passed away in 2014.

"As the first Ann Hyde Postdoctoral Researcher, I've become very aware not only of the collection's long and distinguished tradition, but also — and in particular — of the role of Ann Hyde and Sandy Mason in the creation of that tradition," Yavuz said. "Their influence is everywhere, ranging from the great expansion of the manuscript and rare book collection during their time here,

to their notes about manuscript purchases and manuscript contents — which are tremendously useful in understanding the history of the collection."

Yavuz holds a master's degree and a doctoral degree in medieval studies, both from the University of Leeds in England. Her education and experience have led to a deep appreciation of manuscripts, collection development, and conservation practices.

By conducting research, creating detailed cataloging records, and sharing those details on her popular social media accounts, Yavuz strives to make Spencer's manuscripts accessible to the wider scholarly community and the public. With more than 1,300 followers on social media, she hopes to encourage scholars to explore all the incredible items that Spencer has to offer.

"As we give more visibility to our collections of medieval and early modern manuscripts and rare books, we can only enhance the visibility and exposure of all the elements of our KU Libraries," Yavuz said. "When visiting Spencer, keep an open mind, and you never know what unexpected things you will find!"

## SOCIAL SPOTLIGHT

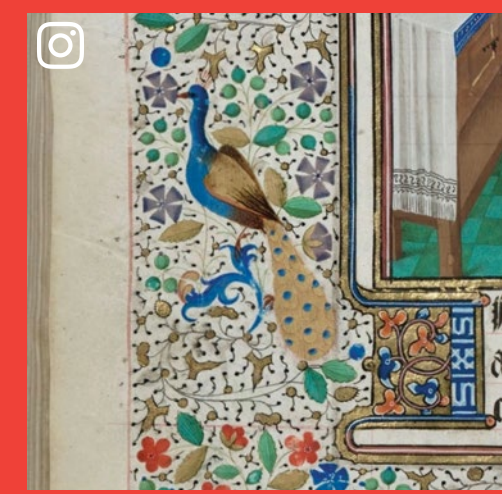
@manuscriptsetc | 3/16/20

As @kulibraries closed to public as of today, at least until 29 March, I'll be posting about a manuscript from the collections of the Kenneth Spencer Research Library every day. #onemanuscriptaday #librarytwitter #academictwitter



95 likes | 3/5/20

**manuscriptsetc** This amazing book of hours dated to 1505 (Summerfield C65) is printed on parchment and then rubricated and illustrated by hand. The spread here features three saints: Margaret, Barbara, and Apollonia. Much to discover on manuscript and print culture in one book!



98 likes | 8/15/20

**manuscriptsetc** The borders of this late fifteenth-century book of hours (Pryce MS C1) are full of flora and fauna. Seen here is one of the more easily identifiable animals, a peacock.

# ENGAGING with OPEN



Panelists included Dr. Meggie Mapes, introductory course director for the Department of Communication Studies; Briana Gabriel, KU student majoring in journalism and minoring in Italian; and Margie Sheppard, donor and chair of KU Libraries' Board of Advocates. The panel was moderated by Josh Bolick, scholarly communication librarian.

In March 2020, the libraries presented "Engaging with Open: KU Libraries Support Student Success Through Open Educational Resources," an event focused on exploring how the cost of educational materials impacts KU students.

Hosting a panel of faculty, students, and donors who have taken action to advocate for low-cost resources and textbook affordability, the libraries exemplified an unwavering commitment to ensure these essential materials are available for all Jayhawks.

"It's important for the libraries to introduce our audiences to the ongoing textbook affordability crisis," said Josh Bolick, scholarly communication librarian. "KU Libraries' direct support for the use of open textbooks saves KU students almost \$1 million per academic year."

Through the OER Grant Initiative — consisting of contributions from the Office of Scholarly Communication & Copyright and private gifts from KU Libraries' Parents' Campaign — the libraries have distributed nearly \$88,000 to 26 projects across disciplines and departments at the university, saving KU students an estimated \$920,000 annually.

**“ Now more than ever, creating openly accessible and low-cost resources is essential to the success of students at KU and beyond. ”**

— Kevin L. Smith, dean of libraries

Two of the panel presenters, Margie Sheppard and Meggie Mapes, were named as members of the spring 2020 Textbook Heroes cohort. Marsha McCartney, teaching specialist in the Department of Psychology, completes the newest trio of Textbook Heroes. ■

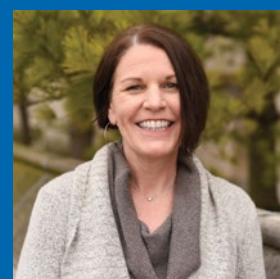
*Make a difference in the lives of current and future generations of Jayhawks. Give today: [lib.ku.edu/AR20](http://lib.ku.edu/AR20)*

## TEXTBOOK HEROES

Textbook Heroes are selected among those who have adapted, adopted, created, or championed open educational resources (OER) and other low-cost materials for use in classrooms at KU.



**Drew Vartia**  
Assistant teaching professor of chemistry



**Amy Rossomondo**  
Associate professor of Spanish & Portuguese



**Peter Bobkowski**  
Associate professor of journalism



**Noah Ries**  
2018-19 KU Student Body President



**Abbey Dvorak**  
Associate professor of music therapy



**Ingrid Peterson**  
Director of the Kansas Algebra Program, mathematics



**Meggie Mapes**  
Introductory course director, communication studies



**Marsha McCartney**  
Teaching specialist in psychology



**Margie Sheppard**  
Donor & chair, KU Libraries Board of Advocates



# INVESTING IN EDUCATION

## *Supporting faculty and student success through the Margie and Mike Sheppard Open Educational Resources Fund*

**M**argie and Mike Sheppard share a passion for education and equity. Both attended KU, and their Jayhawk lineage is long — with parents, siblings, and even one of their sons attending the university.

As the Sheppards began to look for ways to give back to their alma mater, they discovered a unit whose mission was perfect for them.

“I have always considered KU Libraries a place that all students need to utilize to become successful in their educational pursuits,” Margie said. “Each library is unique, so it is clear that there is something for everyone at KU Libraries.”

After donating to KU Libraries’ annual Parents’ Campaign, the Sheppards came to tour the libraries, and they were impressed by how much things had changed — with spaces having truly transformed into hubs for students to gather and study. Something else had changed, too, during their time away: the cost of higher education.

“Over the years, higher education costs have increased so quickly that many people who dream of a KU degree can be left out,” Margie said. “When you factor in the cost of textbooks, that can sometimes add an additional \$500 to \$1,000

each semester. It is difficult for many students to come up with those textbook fees.”

Margie and Mike learned about KU Libraries’ dedication to open education resources (OER), and they knew immediately that this would be a cause they could champion. As OER are free and universally available, their advantages are far-reaching — impacting the faculty who create and share them, the students who access them, as well as the greater research community.

A \$25,000 gift from the Sheppards established the Margie and Mike Sheppard Open Educational Resources Fund. Their support complements the OER Grant Initiative, which allows KU Libraries to partner with faculty members who are interested in adopting, adapting, or creating OER and lessening the burdensome textbook costs for their students. Through their generous gift, Jayhawk scholars will benefit for years to come.

Margie works at Dykes Library at the KU Medical Campus in Kansas City, Kan., as the outreach and technology coordinator for the Network of the National Libraries of Medicine for the MidContinental Region. Mike is a retired nurse anesthetist. Margie has been a longtime member of the library’s Board of Advocates and most recently served as chair of the

**“ From the resources to the spaces and the special collections, KU Libraries play an important part in the lives of students, faculty, and the community. It is our hope that KU Libraries continue to grow and thrive. ”**

— Margie Sheppard, donor

board until July 2020. The Sheppards are active and engaged members in communities across the state of Kansas. ■

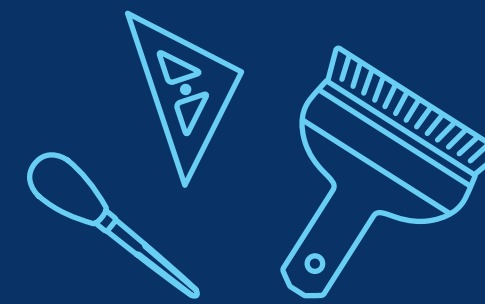
To support OER and low- and no-cost resources for students, make a gift to KU Libraries: [lib.ku.edu/AR20](http://lib.ku.edu/AR20)

# SHOWCASING SCHOLARSHIP & SPECIALTIES

*Looking back on a year of captivating exhibitions*



Jacinta Johnson, associate paper conservator, discusses exhibit materials with event attendees.



## UNSEEN HANDS

“Unseen Hands: Care and Preservation of KU Libraries’ Collections” provided a rare look at the essential work of KU Libraries’ Conservation Services unit. The expert conservation services team is responsible for preserving collections at all seven library locations.



Eleanor Woodyard, KU Libraries Board of Advocates member, browses exhibition materials featuring her late husband, George Woodyard, professor of Spanish.

## STRONG FOUNDATIONS

In 2019, KU celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. In honor of this milestone, “Strong Foundations: 100 Years of Hispanism at the University of Kansas” featured interdisciplinary scholarship, collections, and creative works representing the rich, century-long legacy of the department.



Kansas State Representative Barbara Ballard moderated the panel discussion for “Rightfully Yours.”

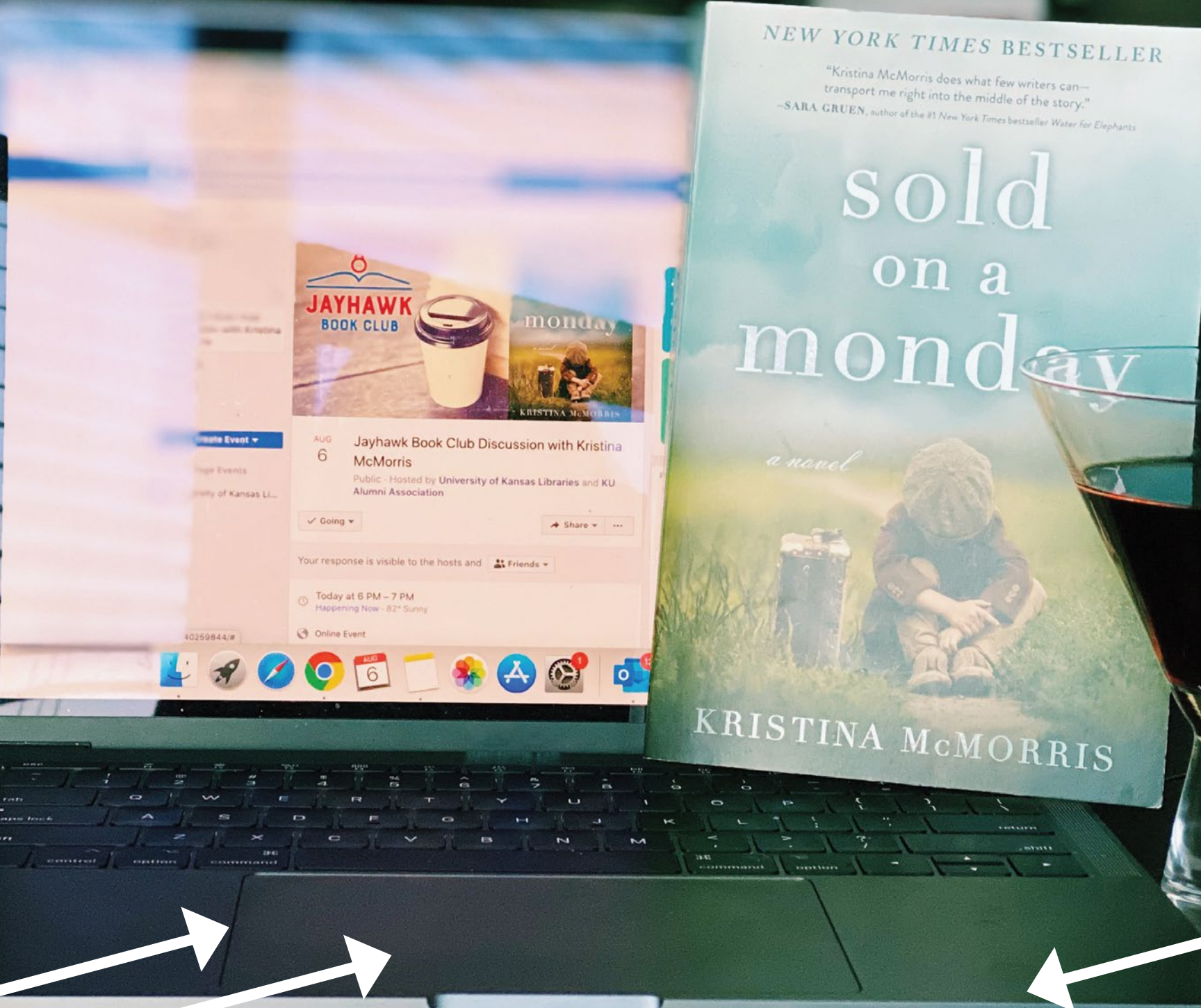
## RIGHTFULLY YOURS

In February 2020, KU Libraries joined the university’s centennial celebration of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment by unveiling “Rightfully Yours: KU Campus and Community Scholars Consider U.S. Voting Rights,” an exhibition exploring the Constitutional amendments and federal laws that granted voting rights to all citizens.



## IMAGINED WORLDS

Fantasy, horror, and science fiction. All of these literary genres and more were explored through “Imagined Worlds: Writers and the Process of Speculative Fiction,” an exhibition focused on the history and writing processes of authors in science and speculative fiction.



# WHEN JAYHAWKS FLOCK TOGETHER

Partnering with campus and the community

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

"Kristina McMorris does what few writers can—transport me right into the middle of the story."  
—SARA GRUEN, author of the #1 New York Times bestseller *Water for Elephants*

**sold on a monday**

*a novel*

KRISTINA McMORRIS



**JAYHAWK BOOK CLUB**

monday

KRISTINA McMORRIS

AUG 6 Jayhawk Book Club Discussion with Kristina McMorris

Public - Hosted by University of Kansas Libraries and KU Alumni Association

Going

Today at 6 PM - 7 PM  
Happening Now - 82° Sunny

Online Event



KU graduates peacefully protest the Vietnam War at commencement, 1970. Photo courtesy of University Archives.

## GOLD MEDAL CLUB

Each year, the KU Alumni Association hosts alumni to honor the 50<sup>th</sup> year of their graduation. For this year's honorees — the Class of 1970 — archival staff at Kenneth Spencer Research Library created a digital exhibition of memorabilia from the University Archives. The online exhibit aimed to transport alums back in time to remember their years on the Hill.

See the exhibit at [rockcha.ik/GMC](http://rockcha.ik/GMC).



## JAYHAWK BOOK CLUB

This summer, members of the Jayhawk Book Club finished their sixth read together. The club, a partnership between KU Libraries and the KU Alumni Association, allows Jayhawks across the world to connect through a shared love of reading. In response to the COVID-19 crisis, Jayhawk Book Club leaders arranged for the authors of the spring and summer selections to join virtual book discussions with the group. Both John Marrs, author of "The One," and Kristina McMorris, author of "Sold on a Monday," regaled book club members with personal anecdotes and insight into how they researched and wrote their novels.

Learn more and join at [rockcha.ik/JBC](http://rockcha.ik/JBC).

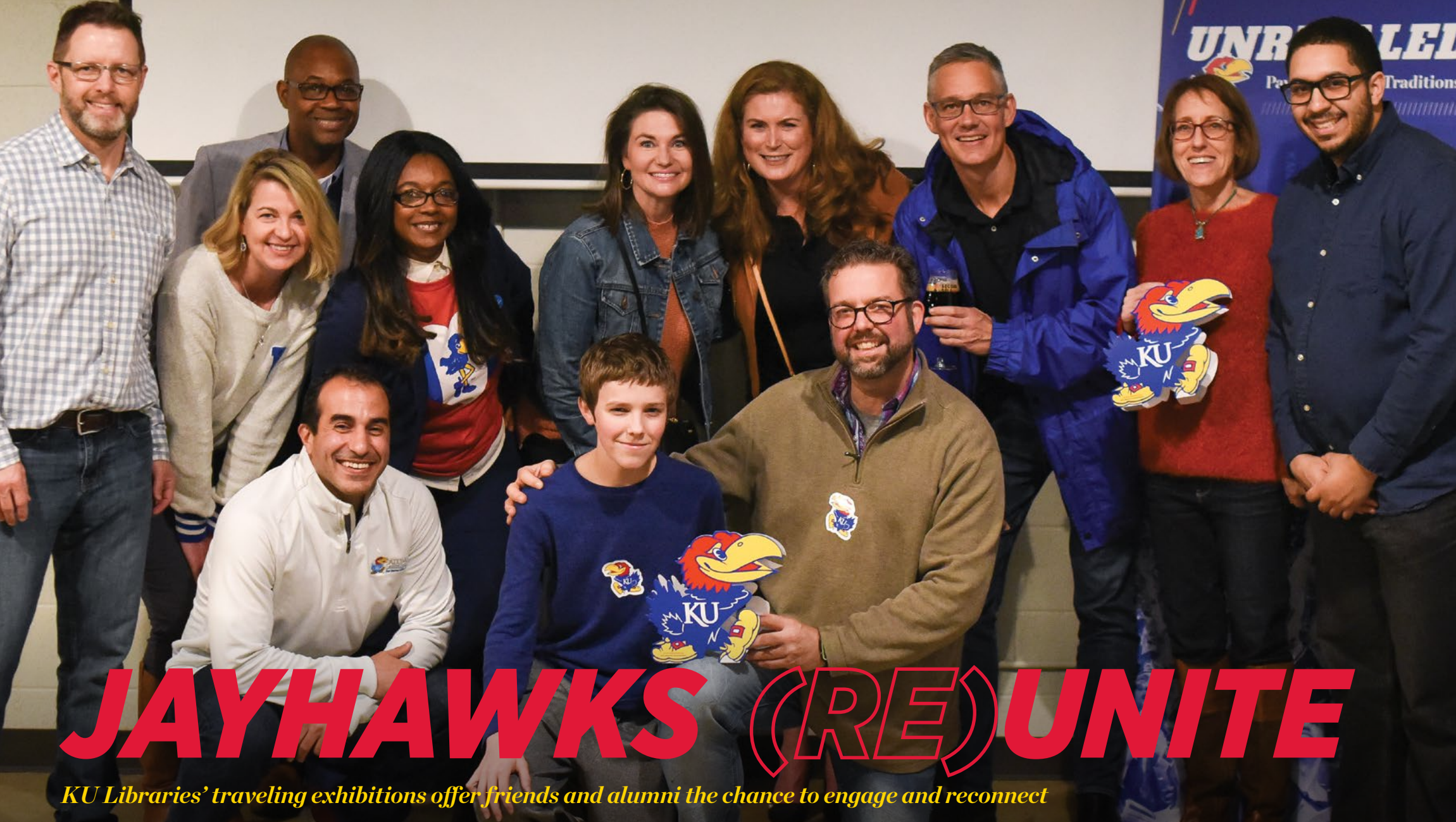


Jayhawk Book Club members engage in a discussion with bestselling author Kristina McMorris (middle).

## READ ACROSS LAWRENCE

KU Libraries partnered with the Lawrence Public Library for Read Across Lawrence 2020. "The Round House" by Louise Erdrich was the selection for adults. Erdrich came to Haskell Indian Nations University in March for a discussion and book signing.





# JAYHAWKS (RE)UNITE

*KU Libraries' traveling exhibitions offer friends and alumni the chance to engage and reconnect*



“ *The exhibits brought back such fond memories of being a Jayhawk. I was amazed to have access to these jewels of KU history.* ”

— Tonya Cole, KU alumna and co-leader of the Atlanta Jayhawks

The 2019-20 traveling exhibition from KU Libraries, “Unrivaled: Pay Heed to KU Traditions” offered an immersive look at unique Jayhawk traditions. From the university’s founding in 1865 to the present day, rich traditions keep KU’s legacy strong on the Hill and beyond. Alumni and friends from across the country joined us, along with our partners at the KU Alumni Association, to view rare and historic materials from decades past — including iconic memorabilia and never-before-seen photographs.

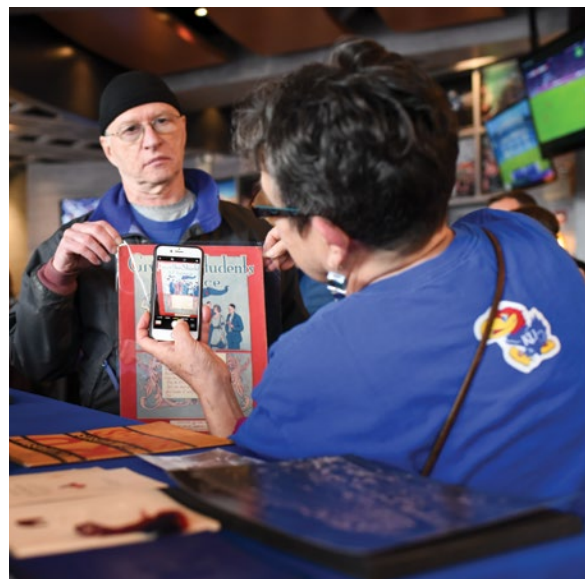
Tonya Cole, KU alumna and co-leader of the Atlanta Jayhawks alumni group, never misses an opportunity to view the libraries’ traveling archives.

“The timeless photographs, newspaper clippings, video clips, and artifacts help to preserve and retell our experiences. It is humbling to know that our time at the university, while brief, is not only important to KU history, but to Kansas history,” Cole said.

Cole graduated from KU in 1995 with a degree in biology. During her time on campus, living in Watkins Scholarship Hall, she spent hours studying in Watson Library. She remembers her daily walks past Watson and how its reassuring presence on the Hill offered comfort and support during her college years.

After visiting the “Commemorate the Gr8s” traveling exhibit in 2017, Cole was compelled to become more involved with KU Libraries as a new donor.

“I was intrigued by the lasting role KU Libraries play not only while attending the university, but long after you become alumni,” Cole said. “KU Libraries — and donations to their work — matter because our future can only inherit the places, artifacts, and memories we choose to save.”





## **LIBRARY LOYALTY**

The KU Libraries Board of Advocates serves to advise the dean, providing the necessary resources to promote and achieve the mission and vision of KU Libraries.

Members help to develop strategies that increase a sense of pride, loyalty, and connection with KU Libraries. They also support communication strategies to share information about the quality of our programs and services with those beyond the university community.

*Become a friend of KU Libraries:*  
[lib.ku.edu/AR20](http://lib.ku.edu/AR20)



WILSON LIBRARY

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