

# WINDOWS

The Official Newsletter of the Mary Coutts Burnett Library | Spring 2025

**TCU**

**100**

• • • **YEARS** • • •

**MARY COUTTS  
BURNETT LIBRARY**

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**ESTABLISHED  
1925**

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In 1963, students demonstrated for opening the library on Sundays.

TCU Mary Couts Burnett Library

## WINDOWS

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The cataloguing department, 1973

*“All roads lead to the library, for it holds the past to the present, and the present to the future.”*

—Chancellor William Tucker



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# Letter from the dean

Dear Friends,

As we turn the page on an extraordinary year, I am honored to share with you some of the many milestones that have made this one of the most memorable chapters in our library's history.

This year marked the 100th anniversary of our beloved library—a century of service, scholarship, and community. We commemorated this remarkable milestone with a series of joyful and enriching events, including a 1920s themed student dance, a panel discussion which brought together the library's current and past leaders, and a successful fundraiser that brought together alumni, faculty, students, and supporters. Each gathering was a testament to the enduring impact the library has had—and continues to have—on our campus and beyond.

We were also proud to host the induction of seven remarkable authors into the Texas Literary Hall of Fame this past fall. Their voices have enriched the literary landscape of Texas and beyond, and we are honored to celebrate their contributions within our very walls.

Additionally, we are thrilled to announce that we have received the archives of famed sportswriter and author, Dan Jenkins. The collection was donated by Dan's widow, June Jenkins and is available for researchers to use in Special Collections.

As I reflect on these celebrations and achievements, I am filled with gratitude for the community that has made these achievements possible. Thank you for being a part of our ongoing story. Here's to the next 100 years of discovery, dialogue and inspiration.

Warm wishes,

Tracy L. Hull  
Dean of the TCU Library



# Elevating Student Research Knowledge

LIBRARY WORKSHOP SERIES GIVES UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS A SOLID FOUNDATION FOR A SUCCESSFUL ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE



The Library Workshop Series equips students with the knowledge and skills necessary to conduct high-quality academic research with confidence.

The TCU Library is dedicated to empowering Horned Frogs by helping them better understand the components of conducting research for class projects, writing papers and more. Many undergraduate students arriving on campus often face a common challenge as they embark on their academic journey: how to start their research, evaluate credible sources, paraphrase properly or understand the importance of academic integrity.

Recognizing this need, Diana Boerner, TCU's business librarian, took the initiative in 2021. With her deep understanding of the library's value across all disciplines, Boerner proposed an idea to the dean: a series of workshops designed to give students the tools they need for scholarly success. That idea became, The Library Workshop Series, now in its fourth year and continuing to make an impact.

The Library Workshop Series offers students three core workshops: *Research Skills for Success*, *Evaluating the Credibility of Resources* and *Understanding and Avoiding Plagiarism*. Each workshop is designed to equip students with essential academic tools—like how to formulate effective research questions, evaluate the reliability of sources and navigate the complexities of plagiarism and proper citation.

Since its inception, the series has served more than 2,800 students. Nicole Bettinger, a fashion merchandising professor praises the program: “The research skills-focused workshops offered to our undergraduate students are exceptional in terms of content, availability, frequency and subject matter. The direct result from the workshops can be proven through an improvement in research and writing skills.”

The workshop series has become a cornerstone of the undergraduate experience at TCU, with strong support from faculty who encourage attendance and even offer extra credit to help students develop their research skills and boost their confidence.

One student shared their experience with the *Understanding and Avoiding Plagiarism* workshop: “I learned more about plagiarism in a way that cleared up some gray areas for me. I’ve always been overly cautious when citing my sources, and this workshop helped me better understand when citation is necessary and when it’s not.” It’s testimonials like this that highlight the workshop series’ real impact, reinforcing student confidence and integrity.

In addition to building essential academic skills, the workshops connect students directly with the subject librarians who are available for continued support throughout their academic journey. These relationships help reinforce the idea that the library is more than just a resource—it’s a partner in their success.

The Library Workshop Series has also gained recognition beyond TCU. In 2024, the librarians leading the initiative presented the program at the Texas Library Association conference, where it was honored with the Library Instruction Round Table Program of the Year Award for innovative and creative library instruction—a meaningful acknowledgment on its impact on student learning and engagement.



# New Special Collections Acquisitions

The Cuneiform Tablet Receipt details specific transaction of 30 sheep.



## Cuneiform Tablet Receipt

This clay tablet from the Ur III Dynasty (ca. 2200–2000 BC) records the receipt of 30 sheep in Sumerian cuneiform. The inscription reads: Front: “30 sheep (which) Abital (acting for) Abba-shagga has receipt from Dugirrura” Back: “Month of Akiti | the year Urbillum and Ki Mashki were overthrown” (Urbillum corresponds to modern-day Erbil in Kurdistan, and Ki Mashki is traditionally associated with Damascus.)

## Mittanian Cylinder Seal (Hematite)

Originating from northern Mesopotamia (ca. 1600–1400 BC), this hematite seal features a celestial scene: four figures beneath a crescent moon, solar disk and a rabbit. The Mittanian culture, located in what is now Syria, played a pivotal role in Bronze Age diplomacy and cultural exchange across the Near East.

## Medieval Vellum Leaf with Binding Structure (Germany, 14th Century)

This partial antiphonary leaf, still attached to its original binding boards, offers a rare opportunity to examine the reuse of manuscripts in bookbinding. It includes seven lines of Latin text and music on four-line red staves, along with two red initials. The binding also incorporates fragments from a 16th-century printed leaf, a later Dutch-language document and two 17th-century spine labels—one referencing Johann Ferus (1495–1554), a prolific post-Reformation theologian.

## Two Leaves from a 12th-Century Italian Missal

These two-music manuscript leaves once formed part of a large Missal used in the celebration of Mass. Later repurposed as binding material, they bear signs of wear, fading, trimming and wormholes. Written in a rounded Gothic hand, the leaves are organized in double columns with rubrics and musical staves in red and yellow—early examples of diastematic neumes, a key stage in the evolution of Western music notation. The text commemorates the “invention” (discovery) of the relics of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. These leaves reflect the transition from adiastematic neumes (used mainly as memory aids) to a more structured notation system using horizontal lines—leading to the invention of the modern music staff. The red and yellow lines represent the pitches “F” and “C,” respectively, marking a major development in Medieval music theory and practice.

*In celebration of the library’s 100th anniversary, Special Collections is proud to announce the addition of several remarkable acquisitions. Ranging from ancient Mesopotamian artifacts to rare Medieval manuscripts, these new items reflect our ongoing commitment to supporting academic research and enriching teaching resources. The collection includes four ancient objects and three rare Medieval works, each offering unique insights into the cultures and histories they represent.*

## Proto-cuneiform Tablet

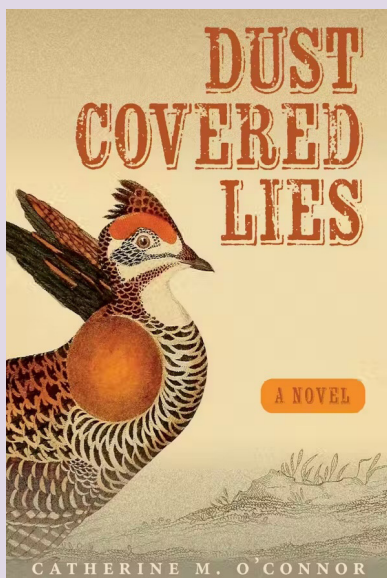
Dating to ca. 3100–3000 BC, this ancient Mesopotamian clay tablet is inscribed with proto-cuneiform pictographs arranged in six registers. Among the inscriptions are symbols representing a vessel and water, likely related to resource accounting. Of particular note is a rare depiction of an equine figure on the reverse—an early and unusual representation of a horse-like animal.

## Sumerian Cylinder Seal (Marble)

Carved from white marble, this seal depicts three kneeling women gathering fruit from trees—an intimate scene from daily life during the Jemdet Nasr Period (ca. 3500–2900 BC). The site of Jemdet Nasr in northern Mesopotamia was a major administrative and cultural center, representing a key phase in the Urban Revolution, when cities, metallurgy and written history emerged. These cylinder seals served as a mark of ownership or identification.

# Achievements and Exciting New Releases

There is plenty to celebrate — from award-winning authors, to highly anticipated book releases and titles so popular they're flying off the shelves. Latest highlights from the TCU Press we think you'll love.



## AUTHOR WINS TWO SPUR AWARDS

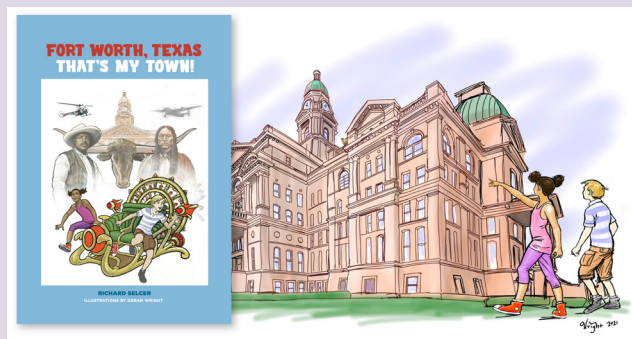
Author Catherine M. O'Connor earned two prestigious Spur Awards from the Western Writers of America—Best First Novel and Best Western Historical Fiction—for her debut novel, *Dust Covered Lies*. This dual recognition is an exceptionally rare achievement for a debut author and places O'Connor among the star talents of Western literature.

Set in Texas in the 1870s and the 1930s, *Dust Covered Lies* follows the journey of Frances Abbott, known as Frannie, an orphaned teenage immigrant and champion markswoman. Alongside her autistic and artistically gifted brother, Juan Esteban, Frannie embarks on a scientific hunting expedition led by a dangerous con man posing as a French zoologist. When a murder occurs and Juan Esteban's life is threatened, Frannie makes a fateful decision to lie and protect her brother. The siblings then flee to the dust-covered Texas Panhandle, desperately trying to outrun their past and the one person who could expose their secret.

In addition to O'Connor, fellow TCU Press author Patrick Dearen was named as a finalist for a Spur Award for Best Western Fiction for his novel, *The Big Dry*, further showcasing the press's growing reputation for excellence in Western storytelling.

## WILL ROGERS MEDALLION AWARD

*Fort Worth, Texas, That's My Town!* by Richard F. Selcer, with stunning illustrations by Deran Wright, won the prestigious 2024 Will Rogers Medallion Award! This remarkable book is the first of its kind since 1967 written for school-age students about Fort Worth. It offers a rich exploration of the city's history, weaving together stories from all its cultures in a way that's both engaging and informative. The captivating illustrations are not just an addition—they're an essential part of the narrative.



## ELMER KELTON AWARD

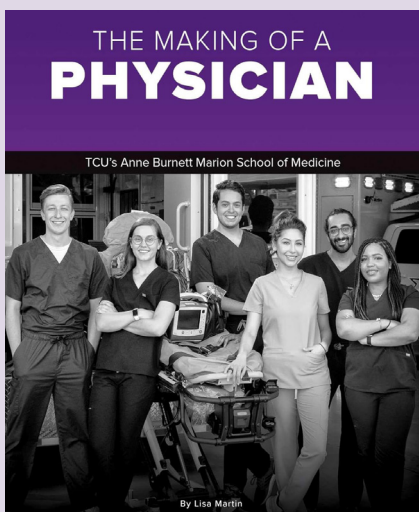
Travis Burkett's novel, *An American Band*, was recently honored with the prestigious Elmer Kelton Award, recognizing it as the best creative work set in West Texas. The award celebrates outstanding storytelling that captures the spirit, landscape and culture of the region—something Burkett's vivid narrative does with striking authenticity and heart.

## TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL

In November 2024, author Avrel Seale made his debut at the Texas Book Festival, where he presented his book *The River Nuts: Down the Nueces with One Stroke*. This memoir is a powerful study in perseverance and problem-solving, set against the backdrop of the often-overlooked Nueces River. Through Seale's compelling narrative, readers are invited to explore both the challenges and triumphs of a journey down this underappreciated river.



## NEW RELEASES



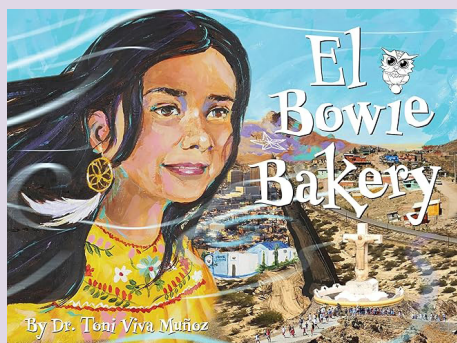
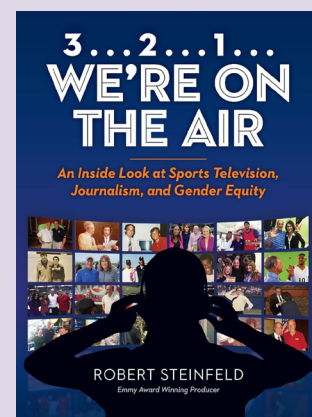
### *The Making of a Physician: TCU's Anne Burnett School of Medicine Teaches Empathy Alongside Scholarship*

The Anne Burnett School of Medicine at Texas Christian University opened its doors in July 2019, becoming the first new medical school in Fort Worth in 50 years. The inaugural class of 60 students' hails from across the country, drawn by the promise of a new standard in medical education that emphasizes the whole person. From day one, TCU's MD students have learned both the art and science of medicine as Empathetic Scholars®.

To better understand the medical school and its innovative vision for patient care, *TCU Magazine* followed six of the inaugural students through their four-year journeys. Writer Lisa Martin spent hundreds of hours conducting interviews and observing all six both in the classroom and in clinical settings as they not only faced the typical challenges of medical school, but also unique ones born out of the Covid-19 pandemic that struck during the students' first year.

### *3...2...1... We're on The Air!*

Imagine what it's like to make hundreds of decisions in just two hours on "live" network television with your work seen by millions of people. That's what a sports television producer does each time they sit in "the big chair." Emmy Award Winning Producer Robert Steinfeld takes readers inside the world of sports television, sharing some of the biggest sporting events, including the Summer Olympics, the NBA and WNBA, the MLB, and the FIFA World Cup. Along the way he crossed paths with athletic stars like Cal Ripken, Alex Rodriguez, Nolan Ryan, Nancy Lieberman, Tim Duncan, David Robinson, Bill Walton and announcers Bob Costas, Jim Nantz and Robin Roberts. Join Robert Steinfeld on his path from eager, ambitious teenage journalist to ultimately realizing his dream producing major sporting events.



### *El Bowie Bakery*

Written by Dr. Toni Viva Muñoz, this charming story for young adults offers a glimpse into the life of growing up on the U.S./Mexico border. Through this multi-generational nonfiction tale, Toni retells her abuelos' love story while sharing the history of the area and its Latinx people. From start to finish, this story is the embodiment of a Mexican American, double hybridized population. It is among the many stories of people still thriving and not forgotten along the US-Mexico Border.

## TWO NEW SERIES JOIN TCU PRESS'S PUBLISHING LINEUP

TCU Press is proud to announce the launch of two exciting new series that expand our commitment to preserving and celebrating Texas's rich cultural legacy—through both its storytellers and its music.

The **Texas Writers Series** will spotlight influential voices and literary contributions from renowned Texas writers who have dedicated their lives to the craft of storytelling. Featured authors include Sandra Brown, Jeff Guinn, Sean Mitchell, Dave Parsons, Emmy Perez, Ron Rozelle, Bob Ray Sanders, Jan Seale, Carlton Stowers, Tom Zigal and the republication of Elmer Kelton's *Living and Writing in West Texas*. This spring, the series continues with two new titles: *Storyteller: A Handbook for Writers* by Carlton Stowers and *Austin Relativity: Coming of Age in the '60s* by Dave Parsons

The **Texas Music History Series** explores the rich and diverse musical heritage that has shaped Texas culture. The series debuts with a book by the late, legendary music journalist Michael Corcoran: *Austin Music Is a Scene, Not a Sound*. This work captures pivotal stories from Austin's iconic music—including Willie Nelson at the Armadillo World Headquarters, pioneering Black radio DJs Lavada Durst and Tony Von, the rise of Stevie Ray Vaughan and the cultural significance of Sixth and Red River Streets. Future contributors to the series include Gene Fowler, William Williams and Jan Reid.

# Celebrating 100 Years of the Mary Coutts Burnett Library

THIS YEAR, THE BELOVED MARY COUTTS BURNETT LIBRARY CELEBRATES ITS CENTENNIAL AS A CORNERSTONE OF THE TCU COMMUNITY

So much has changed in the world of information over the past century and the Mary Coutts Burnett Library has stood at the heart of TCU's academic journey through it all. Since its founding, the library has not only been a repository of knowledge, but a sanctuary for learning and a vibrant hub for creativity and a focal point for community engagement at TCU. As we celebrate the library's 100-year legacy, we reflect on the rich history and transformative role it has played in the intellectual and personal growth of countless students, faculty and staff.

## A LEGACY OF VISIONARY PHILANTHROPY

The story of the Mary Coutts Burnett Library begins with a visionary gift from Mary Coutts Burnett, a philanthropist whose legacy continues to shape TCU. After the death of her husband, Samuel Burk Burnett, in 1922, Mary inherited a significant portion of his \$6 million fortune. With a deep commitment to community service, Coutts Burnett sought to make a lasting impact through education. On December 2, 1923, she contacted TCU President E.M. Waits and Board of Trustees President Van Zandt Jarvis to announce her intention to bequeath \$3 million to the university in a trust, with the stipulation that a portion of the funds, \$150,000, be used for a building that would bear her name. President Waits immediately designated the funds for a new library.

Though various myths have circulated about why Burnett chose TCU—including the supposed influence of her husband, who had been famously opposed to supporting educational or religious institutions—Burnett's decision was, in fact, profoundly personal. While some, like her close friend Dr. Harris, claimed to have steered her toward TCU,

Burnett herself set the record straight in an interview with *The Weatherford Daily Herald*. After the heartbreaking loss of her only son, Burk Burnett Jr., she explained, she longed to give Texas children what she could no longer give her own: an education. Burnett stated, "I decided that the greatest good I could possibly accomplish would be to help the boys and girls of Texas to gain one asset which cannot be taken from them—an education."



Sadly, Coutts Burnett passed away in December 1924, before she could see the completion of the library. Yet, her legacy lived on as the Mary Coutts Burnett Library opened its doors on Wednesday, February 25, 1925, to much excitement and anticipation.

## A CENTURY OF GROWTH AND INNOVATION

Originally designed to serve between 500 to 1,000 students, the library's capacity was quickly surpassed and by the 1950s, the growing need for space led to multiple expansions in the 1950s, 1980s, and most recently 2015. From its modest beginning with a collection of 32,000 books, the library collection now boasts more than 2 million items, offering a wealth of academic resources to support TCU's students, faculty and researchers.

The library has not only evolved in its physical space, but it has also kept pace with the ever-changing landscape of technology and education. Its expansion into digital resources, databases and multi-media collections ensures it remains an indispensable asset in the academic success of the TCU community. The dedicated library staff continue to play a vital role in guiding research, fostering innovation and empowering students to achieve their goals.



## A CAMPUS ICON

Standing proudly against a backdrop of blooming tulips, the Mary Couts Burnett Library is more than just a building; it's a symbol of TCU's commitment to intellectual growth, community and lifelong learning. As we reflect on the past century, we are reminded of the library's profound impact on the university's academic environment and its role as a central gathering place for those who seek knowledge.

For 100 years, the library has been the heart of TCU, supporting generations of students and faculty as they come together to learn, explore and grow. The library has truly become a sanctuary for inquiry and a beacon of hope and opportunity for all who walk through its doors.

## LOOKING AHEAD

As we celebrate this incredible milestone, we look forward to the next chapter of the Mary Couts Burnett Library's story. The library remains as dedicated as ever to fostering a culture of discovery, inquiry and intellectual exploration. As we honor a century of service, we embrace the promise of continued growth and innovation, ensuring the Mary Couts Burnett Library will remain an essential hub for learning and discovery at TCU for generations to come.



*"Enter the open door  
often and all around  
the room your silent  
servants wait. Your  
friends in every season,  
bright and dim. The  
library staff greets you and awaits your  
visits with happy anticipation."*

—Message to freshmen in *The Skiff* from head librarian Bertie Hall Mothershead

# Centennial Celebrations

TCU's Mary Couts Burnett Library marked its 100th anniversary with a series of exciting events, inviting the campus and the greater TCU community to join in the celebration.

## BOOK DRIVE

Throughout the month of February, the library partnered with Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services (PCHAS) to host a book drive benefiting foster children across Texas, Louisiana and Missouri from preschool to high school. The goal was to inspire a love of reading, and thanks to the generosity of the TCU community, we collected an impressive 268 books!

## LET'S CELEBRATE WITH CAKE!

On February 5, the campus was invited to join in the 100th anniversary festivities with a slice of cake and a special 100th anniversary swag item. It was a sweet way to celebrate a century of service to the TCU community.

## WHAT I LOVE ABOUT THE LIBRARY

During Valentine's week, students, faculty, staff and alumni were encouraged to share their thoughts on what they love most about the Mary Couts Burnett Library. The heartfelt responses showcased the library's importance to all who use it.

## FUNDRAISER EVENT

On February 27, exactly one hundred years after the dedication of the Mary Couts Burnett Library, the library celebrated its 100th anniversary with *An Evening of Great Conversation*. The event offered guests an evening of fine dining and engaging conversation, all while raising vital funds that directly support the continued growth and excellence of the library. It was a memorable night celebrating the library's rich history and its bright future.

## STUDENT DANCE

Students were invited to step back in time and attend a 1920s-themed dance, embracing the spirit of the library's founding era. It was an evening of fun, music and celebration, capturing the essence of the library's rich history and the vibrant student life today.

## PANEL DISCUSSION

On April 14, the library hosted a captivating panel discussion titled, "The Past, Present and Future of the Mary Couts Burnett Library." Moderated by Chancellor Victor Boschini, the panel featured three distinguished experts—former deans Bob Seal and June Koelker, along with current dean Tracy Hull.

**1925**

**1,098**  
TCU Students

**Library Hours**  
8 am - 6 pm  
daily except  
Sunday

**Staff of 6**  
plus  
students

**32,000**  
books

**67**  
serials

**2025**

**12,938**  
TCU Students

**Library Hours**  
24 hours a day  
except Friday &  
Saturday nights

**Staff of 54**  
plus  
students

**1,371,324**  
books

**12,577**  
serials

**1,599,125**  
digital books

**644**  
digital databases

**202,439**  
digital media

**252,435**  
digital serials

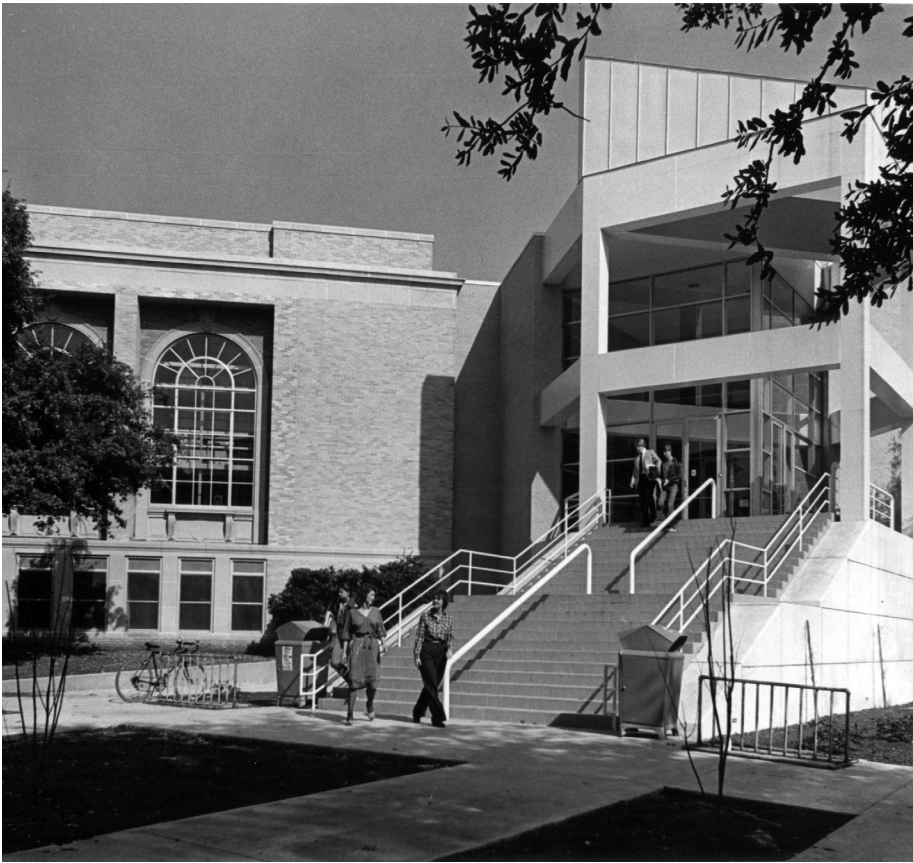
## THE NEXT CENTURY

The future of TCU's Mary Couts Burnett Library promises transformative advancements in both technology and the ways we interact with information. As more content becomes widely accessible online, the hallmark of a truly impactful library will increasingly lie in its Special Collections. As a cornerstone of intellectual growth and historical preservation, Special Collections will play a pivotal role in ensuring that future generations have access to invaluable primary sources, rare texts and cultural artifacts that tell the story of TCU and its surrounding communities.

In the years ahead, innovations such as artificial intelligence, virtual reality and advanced digitization techniques will open new doors for the library. Interactive platforms—including immersive virtual tours and augmented reality experiences—could revolutionize how patrons engage with the collections, allowing them to explore historical contexts and interact with objects in ways not possible with physical materials alone. AI-driven research tools will help users uncover hidden connections within the library's holdings, offering new insights into the past and driving new avenues of scholarship. Enhanced metadata and discovery systems will further ensure that the treasures within the library—both physical and digital—remain accessible and discoverable for year to come.

Over the past century, the Mary Couts Burnett Library has continually evolved to meet changing needs for space and services. Today, it is home to more than 2 million items and continues to expand its world-class collections as TCU advances its mission as a premier research institution. With a dedicated team of librarians and expert staff, the library is poised to remain a vital resource for the TCU community—nurturing a culture of learning, innovation and academic excellence.







# A Night to Remember



## CELEBRATING 100 YEARS WITH AN EVENING OF GREAT CONVERSATION

There's no denying it—everyone loves a good party. On February 27, 2025, that's exactly what we had the pleasure of experiencing. We gathered to celebrate a truly monumental occasion—the 100th anniversary of the Mary Coats Burnett Library with *An Evening of Great Conversation*. And in fact, exactly 100 years ago to the day, on February 27, 1925, the library celebrated its opening!

For a century, this remarkable institution has served as the intellectual heart and cornerstone of Texas Christian University. Its rich history and dedication to knowledge have impacted generations of students, faculty and staff. The evening was filled with engaging conversations, shared laughter and a sense of community, all with one common purpose—raise funds to ensure the continued success of our students and support the evolving needs of our researchers and the entire Frog Family for the next 100 years.

Mary Coats Burnett, an illustrious friend and benefactor of TCU, gave the university its largest single gift, a portion of which was used to construct the library that bears her name and still functions as an intellectual hub. Her legacy of devotion to education and service to the community is nothing short of awe-inspiring and it's this legacy that we strive to secure for the future.

This evening also marked the fourth fundraising event in honor of Mary Coats Burnett's incredible impact. To celebrate her enduring influence, we were joined by a group of distinguished and influential women who have made their mark in various fields:

### **Rose Alvarez '89**

Volunteer Director, Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo

### **Beverley Bass '74**

First Female Captain, American Airlines Commercial Plane

### **Judy Bernas**

Senior Associate Dean and Chief Strategy and Communication Officer, Burnett School of Medicine at TCU; Chair of the Fiesta Bowl Board of Directors

### **Tiffany Collins Blackmon '87**

*My So-Called Fabulous* Podcast Host; Influencer, Author and Chef

### **Krys Boyd '92**

Host and Managing Editor, *Think*, KERA

### **Sandra Brown '08**

*New York Times* Bestselling Author



**Julie Butner '88**

President and CEO, Tarrant Area Food Bank

**Brenda Cline '82**

CEO, Treasurer and Secretary, Kimbell Art Foundation

**Jo Ellard**

Owner, Bowie House

**The Honorable Macy Hill '02**

President of Macy Hill and Company; Fort Worth City Council Member

**Melissa Ice**

Founder and Executive Director, The Net; Co-Founder of The Worthy Company

**Dione Kennedy**

President and CEO, Performing Arts Fort Worth, Inc.

**Sainty Nelsen**

Actress and Producer, *Gabby's Dollhouse* on Netflix;  
*Glamour and Grit* Podcast

**Kristen Saarloos**

First Lady of TCU Baseball

**Tracy Renee Williams '04**

Leadership Development Facilitator, Speaker and Coach;  
Founder of TraComm Development Group

The evening began with a lively cocktail reception to connect and converse, where guests had the opportunity to explore a Special Collections exhibit. The display highlighted the rich and storied history of the library and TCU, offering a glimpse into the university's treasured archives.

Once everyone made it to their seats for the main program, TCU President Daniel W. Pullin took to the stage, delivering insightful remarks that emphasized the library's profound effect on the university. "It's a place where our students might



Table host Beverley Bass mingles with Joy Rich during the pre-dinner reception.

make lifelong friends, study, discover new ideas and knowledge," said Pullin, setting the tone for the evening ahead.

Guests then enjoyed a delicious dinner paired with vibrant conversations, creating an atmosphere of community and shared excitement. The evening's true highlight came when TCU student Garrett Robinson took the stage to share his personal experiences with the library. Garrett spoke passionately about how the library has been a pivotal part of his academic journey, from accessing cutting-edge research materials to receiving invaluable guidance from expert librarians. His heartfelt testimony resonated deeply with the audience, captivating everyone in the room. More than just a place to study, Garrett's story showcased the library as a space that nurtures personal and academic growth.

Following Garrett's presentation, guests watched a moving video that paid tribute to the library's journey from its inception to its present-day significance. The video highlighted key moments in the library's history, underscoring its importance as a central hub for students, faculty and the entire TCU community.

To close the evening, Library Dean Tracy Hull, delivered a powerful reflection on the mission that has guided the Mary Coats Burnett Library for the past century. "For 100 years, the Mary Coats Burnett Library has fulfilled its mission to organize and provide access to quality information resources that inspire curiosity, creativity and innovation throughout the TCU community," said Hull. She stressed that the library is a place where ideas flourish, where innovation thrives and where learning takes place—values that will continue to shape the future for generations to come.

The evening was a poignant reminder of the power of education and the importance of preserving our past while looking toward the future. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and supporters, we are confident that the legacy of the Mary Coats Burnett Library will continue to inspire and empower future generations of Horned Frogs. Here's to the next 100 years!



President Pullin addresses guests, highlighting the profound impact and enduring legacy of the Mary Coats Burnett Library.

## THE LEGACY OF KTCU

FM debut launched in 1964—  
KTCU broadcasts  
live, bringing music  
and news to the airwaves

### *KTCU — “The Choice” — Radio with the student in mind*

**The story of KTCU begins in the fall of 1948, when the station first hit the airwaves as a closed-circuit radio broadcast, reaching students in residence halls across Texas Christian University.** This milestone followed the Department of Speech and Drama’s approval of a major in radio, laying the foundation for student-led broadcasting at TCU.

#### **EXPANDING REACH AND IMPACT**

KTCU officially stepped into the world of regulated radio in 1957, broadcasting on 1025 AM. On Oct. 6, 1964, the station made a quantum leap to the FM dial at 89.1, improving audio quality and expanding its programming variety. Shortly thereafter, it found its long-term home at 88.7 FM, earning the moniker “The Choice.” In anticipation

of the station’s growth, TCU erected a 600-foot tower atop Ed Landerth Auditorium in 1965, solidifying KTCU’s presence across the Fort Worth airwaves.

In its early years, KTCU’s programming featured opera, orchestra performances and 30-minute news updates. The station also aired varsity baseball play-by-play coverage. Over time, KTCU experimented with a range of formats—from heavy rock to jazz and public affairs. Today, it remains a trusted source for educational content, sports talk and an eclectic mix of music for listeners throughout Fort Worth.

#### **A LAUNCH PAD FOR STUDENTS**

Since its FM debut in 1964, KTCU has served as a springboard for aspiring

media professionals. While its format has evolved, its mission remains unchanged: to provide students with hands-on broadcasting experience in a setting that mirrors a major-market commercial radio station.

Notable alumni include Luther Adkins (director at WBAP-TV, WBAP and *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*), Russ Bloxom (news anchor at WBAP/KXAS-TV, 1967-79), Jerry Park (co-host of WFAA’s *News 8 ETC* morning show, early 1970s), John Moncrief (newscaster for TSN), Clem Candelaria (management at KTVT-TV), Mike Marshall (Houston radio) and Sandra McQuerry (co-host of KTVT’s *Reveille*.) These and many other graduates have carried the spirit of KTCU into professional broadcasting careers across the nation.





The KTCU crew in 1958. Broadcast on 1025 AM, this student-built radio station was designed with one goal in mind—bringing the best listening experience to campus.

## A LEGACY OF SOUND AND SERVICE

KTCU's history is a testament to TCU's commitment to public service, education and innovation. From its pioneering origins to its role in shaping the next generation of broadcasters, KTCU has been a vital part of the university's legacy. As "The Choice" for college radio, it remains poised for many decades of success.

Tune in. Stay inspired. KTCU-88.7 FM, your home for college radio!



KTCU FM 88.7 Crew — "The Choice"  
Bringing you the best in music and TCU sports, today and everyday!



KTCU—Fashion News was reported by Maralyn Boysen, 1955.

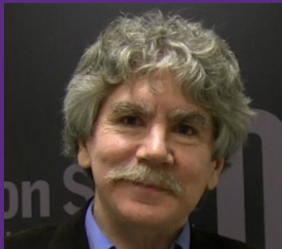


The Special Collections department collects and preserves rare and unique materials including rare books, oral histories, university archives historical manuscripts, maps, photographs, art and artifacts. TCU Tales are compiled from photos, papers, memorabilia and documents in the University Archives.



# Texas Literary Hall of Fame Honors New Inductees

*Celebrating Texas' Rich Literary Heritage and its Esteemed Authors*



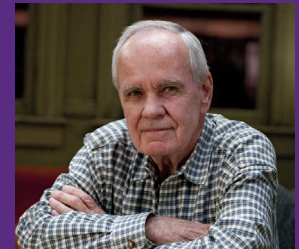
Tracy Daugherty



Molly Ivins



Stephen Graham Jones



Cormac McCarthy



Jan Seale



Cynthia Leitich Smith



Sergio Troncoso

**The Texas Literary Hall of Fame is a prestigious honor that celebrates the writers whose works have profoundly impacted both the literary world and the culture and identity of Texas.** Every two years, a select group of distinguished authors is inducted into this esteemed institution, recognizing their contributions to Texas' literary heritage.

On Oct. 29, 2024, the Texas Literary Hall of Fame honored its most recent inductees: Tracy Daugherty, Molly Ivins, Stephen Graham Jones, Cormac McCarthy, Jan Seale, Cynthia Leitich Smith, and Sergio Troncoso. "This year's inductees represent a rich diversity of voices that have helped define the literary landscape of Texas and beyond, and we couldn't be more thrilled to welcome them into the Hall of Fame," said Tracy Hull, Dean of the Library.

The induction ceremony took place on the Texas Christian University campus at the Dee J. Kelly Alumni & Visitor Center. The Master of Ceremonies for the evening was Reshonda Tate, a 2022 Texas Literary Hall of Fame Inductee. Guests were moved by the personal comments and stories each author shared about their writing journey. Afterward, they had the opportunity to engage with the authors in more

depth as the inductees signed books, further cementing their bond between Texas' literary community and its readers.

Previous inductees include Elmer Kelton, Larry McMurtry, Laura Bush, Red Steagall, Dan Jenkins, Jeff Guinn, Sandra Brown, and Martha Wells. Each author's unique perspective—whether rooted in historical fact, imaginative fiction, or poetic realism—serves to honor the literary history of Texas and its people.



Dean of AddRan College of Liberal Arts Sonja Watson, inductee Stephen Graham Jones and library dean Tracy Hull



# Friends of the TCU Library

One of the University library system's most valuable assets is our network of passionate advocates—the Friends of the TCU Library. Since 1972, this dedicated group has championed a strong library system, enabling the expansion of resources, services and facilities. Their generosity has contributed over \$1,000,000 to library materials and services, ensuring excellence for generations to come.

The Friends' mission is to promote awareness of the library's vital role in the University's growth and development. Members enjoy exclusive benefits, including:

- Borrowing privileges
- Invitations to special events
- A subscription to the library's newsletter

Additional benefits, such as access to select databases, vary by membership level. Becoming a Friend means making a lasting impact on the library's future. To learn more about the Friends, visit [library.tcu.edu/friends](http://library.tcu.edu/friends).

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Sterling Lauer  
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# The Dan Jenkins Collection



We are thrilled to announce that the Special Collections department has been gifted the personal collection of Fort Worth native, TCU alumus, author and award-winning sportswriter Dan Jenkins.

Jenkins began his journalism career at the *Fort Worth Press* before making a lasting impact at *Sports Illustrated*, where he worked from the 1960s through the 1980s. Known for his sharp wit and deep understanding of sports culture, Jenkins became a beloved figure among readers. His coverage of major golf tournaments and college football helped established him as one of the most influential sportswriters of his generation.

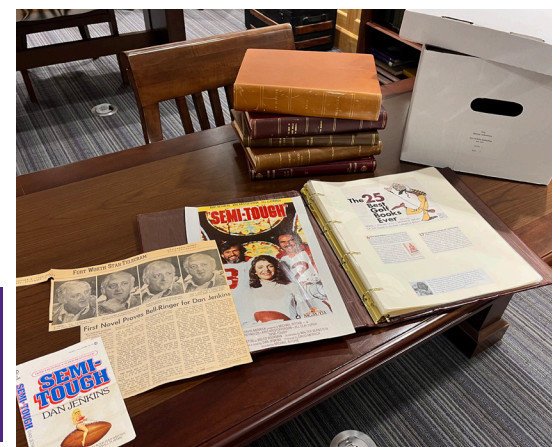
Beyond journalism, Jenkins authored numerous books, including the widely celebrated *Semi-Tough* (1972), a satirical take on professional football that was later adapted into a feature film. Other notable book titles such as *Dead Solid Perfect* and *Baja Oklahoma* showcased his signature blend of humor and storytelling rooted in the world of sports. His work stood out for its authenticity, comedic edge and clear passion for the games he covered.

The Dan Jenkins Collection spans 25.25 linear feet and offers a remarkable window into his prolific career. It includes bound manuscripts, annotated galleys, screenplays,

scrapbooks, photographs and clippings, with material dating from the 1940s through 2017. The bulk of the content covers Jenkins' most active years, from 1966 to 2017, capturing the essence of his enduring contributions to both sports journalism and fiction writing.

"This extraordinary collection not only documents the professional achievements of one of the great voices in American sports writing but also provides a deeply personal glimpse into Jenkins' life through his scrapbooks and photographs," said Tracy Hull, library dean. "It will serve as a vital resource for researchers, students and fans of sports history and literature."

A selection  
of materials  
from the  
Dan Jenkins  
Collection





# AT A GLANCE





*Friends of the*  
**TCU** LIBRARY

