

NEWS RELEASE

East Carolina University News Services

For immediate release

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JOYNER LIBRARY AWARDED \$12,408 FROM the N.C. ARTS COUNCIL

Greenville, N.C. – Sept. 15, 2009—Joyner Library at East Carolina University has been awarded \$12, 408 from the N.C. Arts Council to support the Eastern North Carolina Literary Homecoming.

The funds will be used to bring artists originally from the area back home to meet with people of the region, allowing both artists and residents the opportunity to appreciate eastern North Carolina's rich history of culture and talent. This event is free, except for the author luncheon, and is open to the public.

"The Eastern North Carolina Literary Homecoming celebrates the rich literary traditions of Eastern North Carolina, says Larry Boyer, Dean of Academic Library and Learning Resources. "It brings together both artists and community members to discuss the impact of the culture on writing and share ideas for new literary inspiration."

Last year, Joyner Library provided programming for more than 500 participants. A highlight of our programming is to provide an enriched environment for scholarship, collaboration, and community engagement. Joyner Library strives to give students, faculty, and the community another opportunity to experience art, culture, history, and connection.

"The support of our grants program by the General Assembly during these economically challenging times demonstrates the role the arts play in our economy and our quality of life," said Mary B. Regan, executive director of the N.C. Arts Council. "Nonprofit arts organizations employ workers, stimulate commerce, generate tax revenues and help communities retain their vibrancy."

More than 13.6 million people participated in N.C. Arts Council-funded projects last year in schools, senior centers, museums, concert halls and community centers. Nearly 4.3 million of these were children and youth.

The N.C. Arts Council awards grant money each year to provide diverse arts experiences for citizens in all 100 counties of North Carolina. In fiscal year 2009-10, the Arts Council is expected to distribute \$7.4 million in state and federal grant funds to arts organizations, schools and other nonprofit organizations that sponsor arts programs.

Joyner Library, along with its Music Library branch, is the largest library east of Raleigh and serves ECU students and faculty and the community at large. For more information about our services, resources, and collections, visit www.ecu.edu/lib or call 252-328-4090.

The N.C. Arts Council is a division of the Department of Cultural Resources, the state agency dedicated to the promotion and protection of North Carolina's arts, history and culture. www.ncculture.com.