

The Foundation

The Alachua County Library District Foundation

providing long-term support to the Alachua County Library District through major gifts and bequests since 1989

April 2023

2022 Annual Katherine's Tree Award Ceremony

On Sunday, March 12th, the Foundation held its ninth annual reception to recognize the 2021 and 2022 Katherine's Tree leaf recipients. It was an especially enjoyable event, with more in attendance than previous years, as the pandemic had prevented holding the 2021 and 2022 receptions.



Hudspeth Award Recipients: Guy Hudspeth, Phillis Filer, Patricia Carr, Guylene Morris Resue, and Melanie Aultman

Librarian Patricia Carr received the sixteenth annual Guy Hudspeth Award (named for retired librarian and its first recipient in 2007, Guy Hudspeth) for her work with the District's Conversational English Program. The fourteenth and fifteenth Awardees were also recognized: Otto Pleil for his invaluable leadership of the eBranch during the pandemic, and Guylene Morris Resue for working to ensure that the Hawthorne Branch is integrated into the community. The Award, sponsored by the Kosman Foundation, honors an outstanding Library District employee annually.

Each year the Friends of the Library honors some of its outstanding volunteers by placing leaves on the tree. The 2021 Honorees were Stephanie and Mark Olson, Ellen Bridges Hulslander, and Hope and Tony White, while the 2022 Honorees were Jonathan van Blokland and Oebm Bendrah.

Friends and families were recognized for having funded ten additional leaves on the Tree. The Foundation Board provided a leaf in memory of Julia Barth Reiskind, wife of past Foundation Chair Jon Reiskind. Board member Mitzi Austin and husband Wayne Smith gave three leaves to honor son J. Victor Austin and grandchildren Reece C. and Matilda Austin in memory of their grandmother/great-grandmother Matilda Cockrell. They gave a fourth leaf in honor of their daughter-in-law Jessica Giuli Austin. Board Treasurer Brian Gendreau and his wife Linda gave a leaf in memory of his mother Jean Gendreau. Board member and past chair Pushpa Kalra and family members gave a leaf in memory of her husband Satya Paul Kalra. Tony White gave a leaf in honor of his daughter Skye and husband John Maze. Jane Brockman, with family friends, gave two leaves in memory of her husband Tom Rider, who was the Foundation's first chairperson.

These eighteen leaves represent gifts of \$36,000 to the Foundation to help advance its support of our outstanding Library District.