

# Coleman receives I Love My Librarian Award



Tara Coleman, programming services coordinator, was selected as a recipient of the 2023 American Library Association's I Love My Librarian Award.

This national award recognizes just 10 academic, public and school librarians nominated by patrons in recognition of their dedication and impact on their community. Honorees received a cash prize and were recognized at an award ceremony during the association's LibLearnX event in New Orleans.

Coleman was nominated for her work in spearheading K-State's campuswide reading initiative, K-State First Book. The program has enhanced K-State culture since its start in 2010 and has grown to include events such as author talks, panel discussions and awards.



Coleman also helps lead programming efforts for the Sunderland Foundation Innovation Lab and the Dow Center for Multicultural and Community Studies. Her efforts have helped teach youth and community members about the impact of new technologies and she has facilitated discussions about important topics, such as multicultural art, underserved populations and gender resilience.

## JAN WATERHOUSE Associate dean for collections, discovery and information technology

Jan Waterhouse joined K-State Libraries in fall 2022 as the new associate dean for collections, discovery and information technology. In this role, Waterhouse oversees the Libraries' content development, acquisitions and resource management, and information technology departments. She has experience in project management, vendor and contract negotiations, staff development and fiscal management.

Waterhouse previously served as the director of technical services and library systems at the University at Albany SUNY. She received an undergraduate degree in computer science and a master's in library and information science from the University of Iowa. She earned a second master's degree in IT management and leadership from the University of Illinois, Springfield, where she also completed a graduate certificate in human resource management.



## LAUREL LITRELL Interim associate dean for research, education and engagement

In summer 2023, Laurel Littrell was chosen to serve as the interim associate dean for research, education and engagement at K-State Libraries. Littrell oversees the academic services and special collections and university archives departments.

Littrell previously served as the planning and assessment librarian at K-State Libraries. She received a bachelor's degree in music and a master's in composition from K-State. She earned her doctorate in composition from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and a master's in library science from Emporia State University.

In 2022, Laurel released her musical composition "Hale! Hale! Hale!" in recognition of the 2018 Hale Library fire and subsequent renovation. It was performed by the K-State Faculty Brass Quintet at the first concert of the 2022-2023 Hale Library Concert Series, an annual event organized by the Friends of the K-State Libraries. The title is a play on words of the K-State Alma Mater, composed by H.W. Jones in 1888.





# ABOVE & BEYOND

**K-State Libraries honored several employees at its annual recognition ceremony in 2023.**

THE AWARDS ARE FUNDED BY THE FRIENDS OF THE K-STATE LIBRARIES.

### **BRICE G. HOBROCK DISTINGUISHED FACULTY AWARD**

**Michelle Turvey-Welch**, content development department head, received the Hobrock Distinguished Faculty Award. The award recognizes outstanding librarianship and superior accomplishments among the K-State Libraries faculty. Turvey-Welch received the award for her vital work in managing the logistics, storage, cleaning and successful return of the collections following the 2018 fire.

### **LORI GOETSCH PROFESSIONAL STAFF AWARD**

**Tom Misilo**, systems administrator, received the Lori Goetsch Professional Staff Award. The award recognizes a non-tenure-track professional's contributions to K-State Libraries. Misilo was recognized for his work to revamp the call number display system on over 1,000 shelving ranges in Hale Library, making it easier for patrons to find books.

### **SUPPORT STAFF OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**Pat Fine**, copy cataloger/serialist, received the Support Staff of the Year award. The award recognizes a support staff employee's special contribution. Fine was recognized for helping her department get caught up after the fire and for doing whatever needed to be done to move projects forward.

## THE MORSE SCHOLARSHIP

The Richard L. D. and Marjorie J. Morse Family and Community Public Policy Scholarship awards \$5,000 to an undergraduate project that encourages the development of public policy that improves the quality of family and community life. The 2023 winner was sophomore Grace Stanton, majoring in political science. Stanton used the award to intern with the Northwest Kansas Economic Innovation Center to help coordinate the organization's first childcare provider conference.

## THE KIRMSER UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS

The Kirmsier Undergraduate Research Awards, made possible through a gift from the Phillip and Jeune Kirmsier estate, recognize students who have used library resources to complete a research project for a K-State course during the current academic year. Each grand prize winner received \$1,500, and their work was uploaded to the K-State Research Exchange.

Winners in the group research category were Kenzie Davis, sophomore in environmental science; Mikaela Jackson, senior in fisheries, wildlife, conservation and environmental biology; Natalie Miller, senior in fisheries, wildlife, conservation and environmental biology; and Madeline Willson, junior in mass

communications. Their project was titled, "Declining Population Trends of the Lesser Prairie-Chicken in the Southern Great Plains."

The winner of the individual nonfreshman category was Sydney Tumberger, senior in biological systems engineering, natural resources and environmental science, whose project was titled, "Feasibility Study of Replacing Soy and Alfalfa Protein with Spirulina Protein to Develop a More Sustainable and Nutrient Rich Horse Feed."

The winner of the individual freshman category was Catherine Torkelson, freshman in English and Spanish, whose project was titled, "The Sandy Hook Conspiracy Theories: A Case Study."

