

# friends

of the Egan Library

A NETWORK OF THE UAS

ALUMNI & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION.

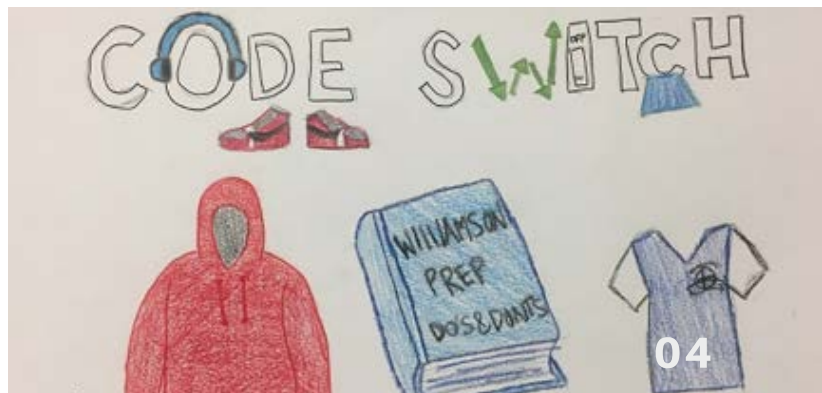
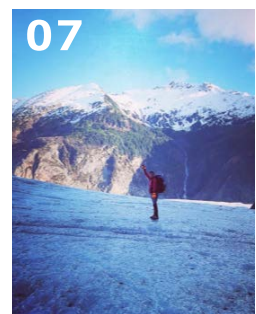
Spring 2020



The Horrors of the Anthropocene  
Photo credit: David Cox

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Issue 05

**From Sherry Taber,  
President of the Friends of the Egan Library:**

**friends**

Having been lucky enough to serve as a librarian at UAS during the planning and early design stages for Egan Library, then luckier still to return in 1994 as Egan Library Director for 4 years, it is now very special to come home to Juneau in retirement and have the pleasure of belonging to Friends of Egan Library and serving as President!

The Covid-19 virus brings unexpected challenges to organizations such as ours and I look forward to working with you and Library Dean Elise to find new ways to keep the Friends of Egan vital and interesting. Let's begin a conversation with suggestions for enriching Friends of Egan Library membership benefits going forward. I look forward to hearing your ideas!

Sherry Taber  
staber@gci.net

**Benefits of  
Membership:**

- A commemorative Friends of the Egan Library lapel pin.
- Invitation to the annual UAS Authors' Reception and other events throughout the year.
- FRIENDS' newsletter highlighting library news and initiatives.
- One time 25% discount on select of University of Alaska Press titles (details at <http://uas.alaska.edu/library/give.html>)
- Invitations to review and select materials withdrawn from the collection.
- Recognition in the annual Honor Roll of Friends

**We love our endowment funds!**



Many elements around the library now have related endowment funds which are collecting donations! Find out more at <http://www.uas.alaska.edu/library/give.html>

- Friends of the Egan Library/Evening @ Egan fund
- Egan Library Children's Alaskana Collection fund
- CELT Program Support fund
- UAS Learning Center General Support fund
- UAS Writing Center Support Endowment fund

Additionally, a number of scholarship funds and student support funds are available for donations. You can find these at <http://www.uas.alaska.edu/development/give-now.html>. The UAS Student Emergency Support fund was created as part of the current emergency situation, if you are looking for a way to help students.

Photo credit: David Cox

**friends** <http://www.facebook.com/eganlibrary>  
of the Egan Library | University of Alaska Southeast  
11066 Auke Lake Way (BE1), Juneau, AK 99801





# COVID-19

## Current Services & Resources

Things have been changing rapidly but we have been keeping the information about the changes up to date in a few places.

-For information on available services (at the Egan Library and across UAS), see here:

<https://sites.google.com/alaska.edu/coronavirus/uas/uas-egan-library-information>

-For information on additional resources available in the short-term while hunkering down, and for some links to public health information, see here:

<https://uas.alaska.libguides.com/covid19/expanded-library>

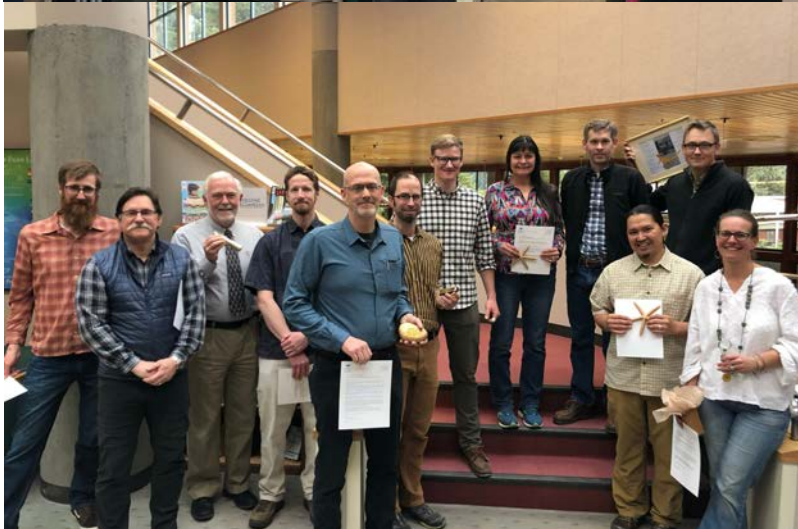
-We have been posting regularly on our social media accounts about these details

Important details: you can still get access to library materials by contacting the circulation desk at 907-796-6300, you can get help from a librarian Monday-Friday 9-5, and many of the resources are also available statewide through SLED: <https://lam.alaska.gov/sled>.

Stay safe, stay inside!

## FIFTH ANNUAL

## Authors' Reception



We don't know when we'll be able to be together in person again, but our hope is to be able to reschedule the Author's Reception for this Fall. Keep a lookout for further details! You can find faculty publication citations here: <http://www.uas.alaska.edu/research/faculty/index.html>



Photos from the 2019 Authors' Reception  
Photo credits: UAS Development Office

# Great Stories Club

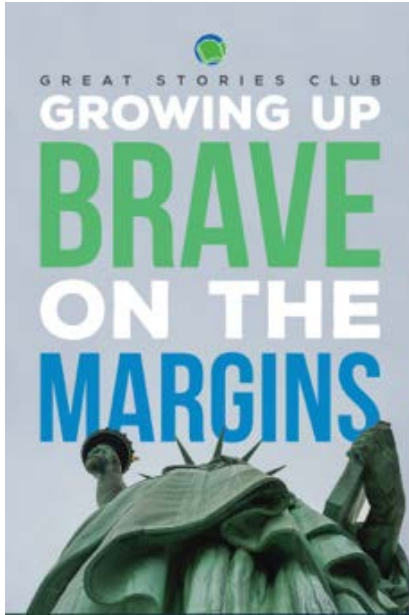
The Egan Library is excited to be the recipient of a grant from the American Library Association. This project brings books and librarians from the Egan Library into Juneau middle and high school classrooms. Jennifer Ward, the Principle Investigator, has a few things to say about this project.

## The Background

“The Great Stories Club is a library-led book club model that gives underserved youth facing significant challenges the opportunity to read, reflect, and share ideas on topics that resonate with them”

(<https://apply.ala.org/greatstories/about-gsc>)

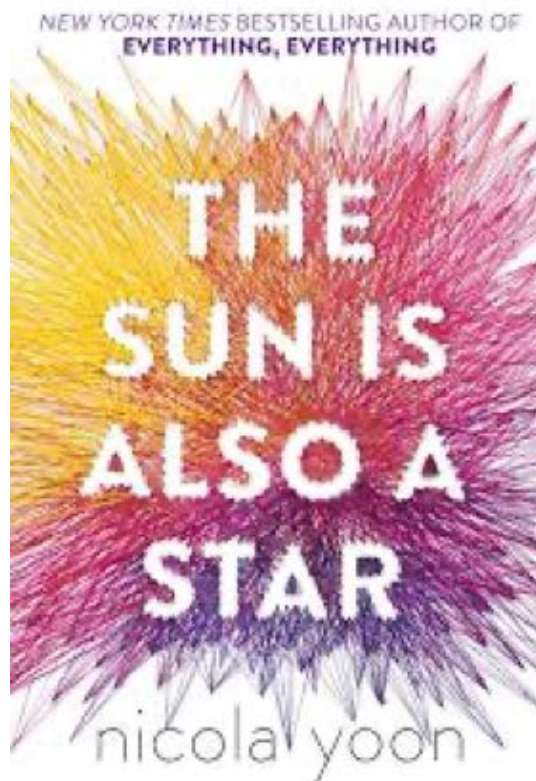
This American Library Association initiative first created in 2006 has since received funding from Oprah’s Angel Network, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Ford Foundation, and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.



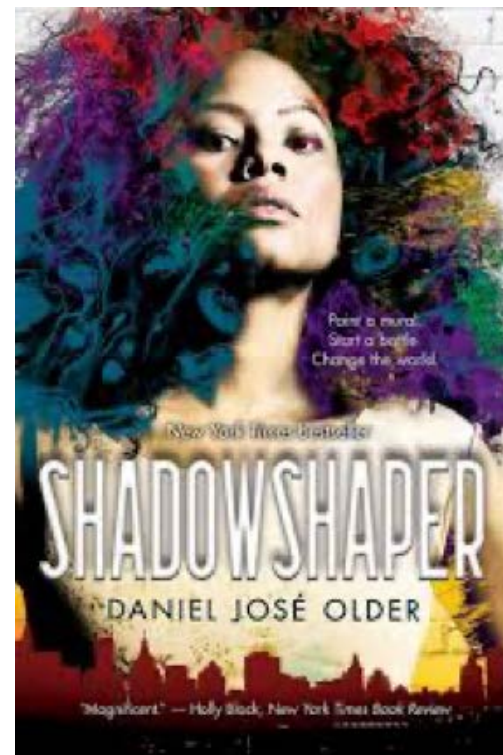
The books we chose to feature for the theme of Growing up Brave were:



The Hate U Give,  
by Angie Thomas



The Sun is Also a Star,  
by Nicola Yoon



Shadowshaper,  
by Daniel José Older



# a.k.a. Growing up brave in Juneau, Alaska!

## Addressing Racial Inequities and the Collaboration on T.H.U.G

In fall 2019, Jennifer visited the classroom of Naomi Love, a high school teacher at Yaakoosgé Daakahidi High School. We created a book club with an afterschool component that students could take for high school language-arts credit.

We called the club T.H.U.G. because we read *The Hate U Give*; this acronym is also a nod to the problem of systemic racism as identified by former rapper Tupac Shakur. Students quickly got invested into the story and the characters.

We met two times a week to read and listen to the audiobook, have discussion circles, and thematic art projects. An integral component to this ALA initiative is in providing youth with books featuring strong lead characters of color dealing with very real societal problems. In *The Hate U Give*, a white police officer shoots a black youth (Starr's best friend) and much of the story is about how Starr Carter handles the pressures and pains of being a young black woman living in two very different worlds.

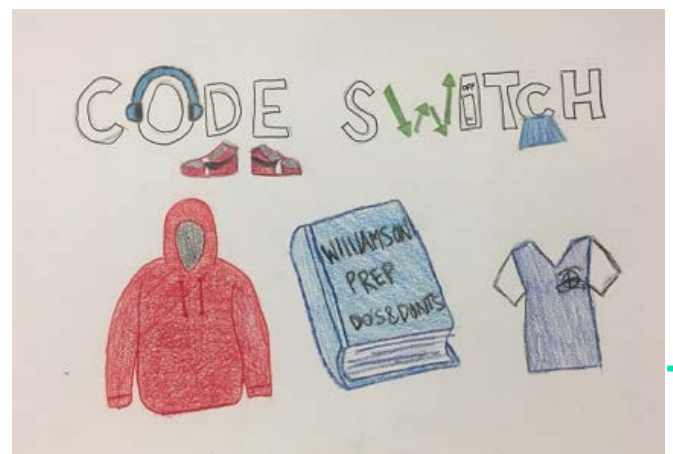
In our discussion circles we talked about the Black Lives Matter movement. Tupac Shakur, and other civil rights messages. Codeswitching. We explored the themes and our discussions of the book through art projects. In our final session we watched the movie with snacks and popcorn.



### The Student Art

The Two Sides of Starr and Codeswitching

One of the fun parts of this book club I have found is that there were so many ways to discuss and explore the themes in the book. Contrary to popular belief, not all librarians talk about stories non-stop! Yes, we deal in books but this project allowed me to get out of my office and connect on important life issues with high school students. I was blown away by their insights on code switching (we all experience this, but there was more to this when we looked at Starr and her challenges as a young black girl living in inner city and going to a privileged prep school academy).



To the right is some of the art the students produced.

continued on the next page!

# Great Stories Club

continued

## Blackout Poems

Another fun activity we did related to the book was an afternoon of blackout poetry. Here is one a student did:



African American  
endemic police violence  
a network across  
geometry and across time  
Black lives  
are important  
lives are affected  
for months and years to come.  
Communities of color  
raise awareness.

## Racial Healing Circles and Practitioners

Another component of the Great Stories Club is funding for youth to be a part of a healing circle with a racial healing practitioner. Juneau Public Library (JPL) is also a recipient of this grant and have their own outreach book clubs. We are hoping to work together with JPL to coordinate a racial healing session for our youth in the program.

## Future Projects

I am looking forward to my upcoming collaborations with teacher Electra Gardinier at Dzantik'i Heeni Middle School and with the local BAM after school program. One piece of feedback I have for ALA is **we want to work with some books that have American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian protagonists!**



Jennifer Ward  
Photo credit: M.J. Grande

# PEOPLE

## Staffing Changes

### Mary Graves



Mary came to UAS in January, joining a great team of collaborative and experienced librarians here at the William A. Egan Library. Her primary focus is managing interlibrary loan services as well as outreach for library events. You may also see her staffing the reference desk during week. Be sure to say hello and ask her any of your burning library reference questions!

Mary moved back to Juneau from Thorne Bay, Alaska where she was living a more remote life as the Postmaster. While living in Juneau formerly, Mary worked as a relief librarian assistant in circulation and reference at Juneau Public Libraries for over two years. Mary began her life in Alaska working as a river ranger intern in Yakutat on the Situk River. She has since explored a few more adventurous career fields, including

dispatching at Ward Air and becoming the coordinator of the Yakutat Tern Festival. The adventure and outdoor exploration that Alaska boasts brought Mary here, but the complimentary balance of quiet and intellectual inspiration is what she loves about the William A. Egan Library at UAS.

### Other relevant changes

- The Testing Center has hired Gabe Wechter as the new testing specialist.
- The Writing Center will be hiring a new Writing Specialist, as Allison Neeland is moving this summer.
- The Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching is hiring for a new Instructional Designer for the Juneau Campus.
- Chancellor Caulfield is retiring effective the end of June, and the recruitment process is ongoing.



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# egan library STAT=SNAP

SPRING 2019

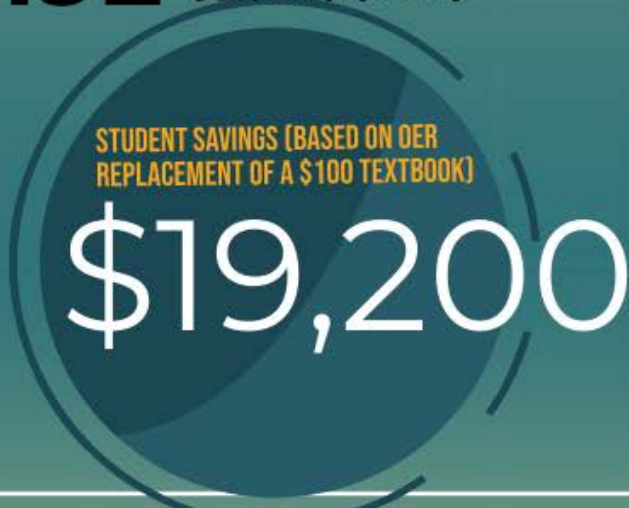
31,788 1,987/ avg week  
Library Visits



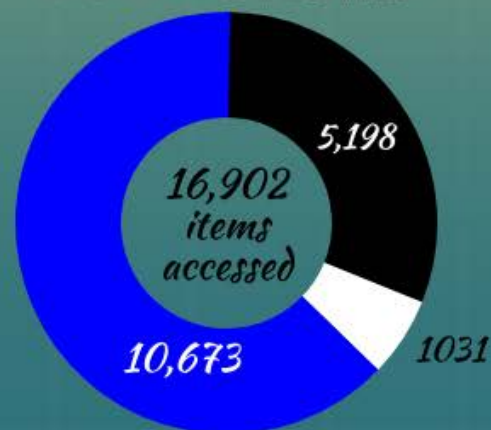
## IMPACT Information Literacy

Egan Library's information literacy program empowers students to critically use and evaluate library and other information resources and to grow as independent critical thinkers and lifelong learners.

**6** *course sections using OER*  
**192** *student enrollment in OER course sections*



### USE OF LIBRARY COLLECTIONS



Print (31%) Reserves (6%) Digital (63%)

**Print** circulation of UAS owned items + items from other Alaska Catalog Libraries (ALC) checked out by UAS users.  
**Digital** includes full-text downloads/views of journal articles and ebooks.