

A large, multi-story building with a prominent portico and columns, identified as the Fondren Library. The image is a faded, blue-tinted photograph of the building, serving as the background for the text.

2023 FRIENDS OF FONDREN LIBRARY GALA

Honoring Melissa Fitzsimons Kean '96, '00





THE FRIENDS OF FONDREN LIBRARY
CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO JOIN US IN HONORING

MELISSA FITZSIMONS KEAN '96, '00

AT OUR 41ST GALA DINNER AND AUCTION

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 2023

COCKTAILS AT 7 P.M.
DINNER AT 8 P.M.

RIVER OAKS COUNTRY CLUB
HOUSTON, TEXAS

Cocktail Attire | Valet Parking

For event and auction updates, please visit library.rice.edu/friends.

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Proceeds from the 2023 Friends of Fondren Library Gala will benefit physical improvements to Fondren Library.

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MELISSA FITZSIMONS KEAN '96, '00

Melissa Fitzsimons Kean is Rice's recently retired centennial historian and author of "Desegregating Private Higher Education in the South," as well as histories of Rice's Glasscock School of Continuing Studies and the Jones Graduate School of Business. Melissa holds a Rice Ph.D., Rice and Creighton University master's degrees, and an Iowa State bachelor's degree in addition to a J.D. from the University of Iowa. Her dissertation received the John W. Gardner Award for the best dissertation in the humanities and social sciences — and later was published as a book. In the midnineties, she was the graduate student representative to the university's Strategic Planning Committee.

Melissa was named university historian in 2005 and appointed centennial historian leading up to the university's 100th anniversary. Her tireless and significant contributions to the success of this celebration led to her 2013 Meritorious Service Award from the Association of Rice Alumni.

In 2010, Melissa launched Rice History Corner (<https://ricehistorycorner.com>), a delightful blog highlighting photos, documents and stories from our archives. Though retired, Melissa continues to inform through the blog — with some 2,500 entries to date.

Melissa is known for her dedication to the people of Rice's past, speaking about them as though they were her friends, and gathering pieces of the university's history together as if assembling a jigsaw puzzle. Her patience and determination have unearthed troves of memorabilia now safely residing in Fondren's Woodson Research Center. She also strengthened Rice's place in the broader community when, after Hurricane Harvey flooded synagogues and businesses, she and her colleagues rescued countless, important records, many of which were later donated to the Houston Jewish History Archives in the Woodson.



The 2023 Friends of Fondren Library Gala proceeds will assist with physical improvements to Fondren Library.

Fondren Library recently acquired a replica of William Blake's wooden rolling press from Christ Church Library in Oxford, England. Printmaker Michael Phillips used this press to produce replicas of Blake's work, and the replicas are in the Fondren Library

Collection. The Woodson Research Center team will house the rolling press in their center and host public demonstrations of it from time to time. Gala proceeds will assist with the installation of the press and staff training to operate it.

Additionally, gala proceeds will support enhanced user experiences in the library, including additional seating, better access to charging stations and other building updates.

We greatly appreciate your support of our auctions offered at the gala. Our live auction items are listed on the next pages for your planning purposes. Please visit our website for details about our very popular Special Occasion Dinners and other items in our silent auction. The Special Occasion Dinners are intimate events where a small group of library donors enjoy a short talk by a Rice administrator or faculty member and discussion over dinner. Your fixed-price bid secures one seat at the dinner, so check your calendar with friends or colleagues now and plan to attend a dinner together.

LIVE AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS

On the Road With Owls Football

Hop aboard the team charter for an exclusive Rice away game trip for two during the 2023 football season (game subject to mutual availability). The charter (bus or plane) will leave Rice University the day before the game and return immediately after. This special package includes two tickets to the game, a night in the team hotel and ground transportation. You also will enjoy a meal with Rice Athletics staff the night before the game. To remember your adventure, you will receive a Rice Owls “swag pack,” with department issued gear, including a hat, shirt and pullover.

Not included: Other activities, meals, beverages and tips

Donated by Rice Athletics



LIVE AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS

Utah Mountain Retreat

Enjoy a week at this modern, luxurious and light-filled townhouse at Deer Valley Resort in Utah, located in Little Belle, a midmountain, 20 townhouse community. Just a five-minute walk to Silver Lake Village, which features skiing, shopping and great restaurants, this townhouse is directly adjacent to Stein Eriksen Lodge, a five-star rated hotel and spa. During the winter, you can take advantage of Deer Valley's free ski storage services, and walking from the house to the lifts is a breeze. During other times of the year, it is a great base for



hiking, golf, fly fishing and mountain biking. This townhouse is less than four miles from Park City's Main Street, and the free Park City bus stops at Little Belle's driveway to take you to town for additional shops, dining and entertainment.



This spacious 3,200-square-foot townhouse was fully remodeled last year and has breathtaking views of the mountains and ski slopes.

It has a wood-burning fireplace in the living room, a gourmet kitchen, a hot tub on the back deck and high-speed wireless internet throughout the house. Its three levels include a master suite on the third floor with a bedroom with a king bed, bathroom and sitting room and three additional bedrooms with attached baths, consisting of one bedroom with a king bed, one with a queen bed and another with two twin beds. This end unit townhouse provides ample parking and a one-car garage.



For the hardcore skier who likes variety, there are five other world-class ski resorts within 45 minutes of Deer Valley. Date to be mutually agreed on with availability for the next 12 months, including peak skiing times such as Christmas to New Year's Day. Excludes three weeks around July 4th.

Not included: Airfare, ground transportation, car rental, activities, meals, beverages and tips

Please note: Smoking, vaping and pets are not permitted in the home or on the grounds.

Donated by Catherine and Brian James '78

LIVE AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS

San Miguel de Allende at Casa Tecolote

Pack your bags for this quaint, historical village just a short two-hour flight from Houston. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, San Miguel is near the town of Delores where Mexico first initiated the fight for its independence from Spain and where the patriots who spearheaded the revolution, including Miguel de Allende, lost their lives, immortalizing San Miguel de Allende. Dating back to 1542, the town is in the very heart of Mexico and sits 6,000 feet above sea level in the Sierra Madre mountain range. In the last two decades, it has successfully beckoned chefs from all over the world, becoming a food mecca where visitors can experience just about every type of cuisine.

Your home away from home is Casa Tecolote (Owl House), a 150-year-old traditional colonial Mexican home located in the Centro Historico district of San Miguel, which is the original old town. The central Jardin (garden) is a mere four blocks away and the Mercado de Artesanias is a short, picturesque three-block walk.

Upon entering Casa Tecolote, you are ushered into a capilla (little chapel), complete with a hand painted, vaulted ceiling. From there, you step into the central courtyard, where the living

room, dining room and master bedroom all open on to the courtyard, which features an outdoor fireplace and built-in gas grill. There is a beautiful, well-equipped kitchen that is open to both the living and the dining room and is complemented by a small separate catering kitchen.

The first-floor master suite has a king bed. On the second level, there is another bedroom with a king-size bed and private bath. Adjoining that bedroom and bath is a cozy reading room. This room opens onto a lanai with chaise lounges — a perfect place to while away an afternoon with a good book. There is also a study on this level to complete all the creature comforts and needs of home.

A roof top terrace features a hot tub that has a stunning vista up the mountain side to the east and a beautiful view of four of the seven churches in San Miguel to the west.



Dates to be mutually agreed upon August 2023 through mid-October 2023 or for a date negotiable in 2024.

Not included: Airfare, ground transportation, car rental, activities, meals, beverages and tips

Please note: Smoking, vaping and pets are not permitted in the home or on the grounds.

Donated by Amy and Robert Taylor '74



LIVE AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS



Villa in Spain

Discover Frigiliana, the most beautiful village in Spain, while spending seven days in a restored villa just five miles north of the Mediterranean in Andalusia. There are two bedrooms each with a queen-size bed and two shower baths. The living room, dining room, kitchen and terrace have breathtaking views of the Sierras de Tejeda, Almirajara and Alhama Natural Park and openings to ancient caves. Dates for your one-week visit to be mutually agreed upon.

Not included: Airfare, ground transportation, car rental, activities, meals, beverages and tips

Donated by Barbara Byrd



City Kitchen In-Home Dinner for 8

Imagine an elegant dinner for eight in your home, prepared by the incomparable City Kitchen Catering. Plan your three-course menu with their events team and sit back to watch true culinary artistry as they create an unparalleled dining experience, selecting the best seasonal ingredients and crafting creative new offerings that showcase exceptional flavors and contemporary presentations.

Date to be mutually agreed upon within one year of purchase date, excluding holidays and the month of December. This item is for food and staff only. Buyer provides rentals and beverages.

Donated by City Kitchen







For more information, please call 713-348-5157,
email mary.lowery@rice.edu or go to <http://library.rice.edu/friends>.

Auction and event updates will be available online in advance of the event.

