# Connect!

## Ferguson-Clark Author Lecture: Irish Tenor Ronan Tynan Chosen as 2007 Author

The 2007 featured speaker of the Ferguson-Clark Lecture Series is world-renowned singing sensation and author Ronan Tynan. While many may know Tynan as one of the Irish Tenors, his autobiography, *Halfway Home: My Life 'Til Now*, tells of a man who did not let adversity keep him from living a life that impacts all who hear his story.

Although he was born with a lower limb disability and eventually had his legs amputated at age 20, Tynan has accomplished more in his life than many ever dare to dream. A year after his operation, he was competing in the Paralympic Games in both track and field and as an equestrian. During the 11 years he competed, he won 18 gold medals and set 14 world records, nine of which are still in place today. Tynan was also the first disabled person ever admitted to Ireland's National College of Physical Education and later earned a medical degree from Trinity College in Dublin, where he specialized in orthopedic sports injuries.

At age 33, Tynan began formally studying voice, and within a year he won both the John McCormack Cup for Tenor Voice and the BBC talent show Go For It. The next year, he went on to win the International Operatic Singing Competition. Tynan attributes his accomplishments to his parents and to his faith, and his story proves anyone can triumph over life's obstacles no matter the circumstances.

This year's Ferguson-Clark Lecture will take place on Thursday, November 8, at 7 p.m. in Waco Hall. For more information and tickets, visit www.baylor.edu/ libraryauthorseries.

-Tina Libhart, Library Advancement



World-renowned Irish Tenor Ronan Tynan will discuss his autobiography Halfway Home: My Life 'Til Now at the 2007 Ferguson-Clark Lecture Series on November 8. (Photos courtesy of Royce Carlton, Inc.)

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## Connections with VP/Dean Orr



I have grown very fond of the beautiful Gregory Garden outside my office in Moody Library. The garden is named in memory of Milton T. Gregory, and I look forward to meeting his wife, Mrs. Linda Gregory, along with our other alums and

donors. I'll enjoy telling them all about the good work we are doing and learning about their memories and their vision for Baylor's future. I'm also working toward making the garden more accessible and having nice long chats with faculty, staff and students as they tell me how my division can serve them better.

I taught at Wellesley for many years in the Computer Science Department and listening to students is important to me. I am planning to develop a student advisory group to help us ensure our services match their needs. I cannot wait until August to see them fill our facilities as they utilize our books, electronic network, computers and other resources.

In addition to our students, faculty and alums, I look forward to the opportunity to serve my colleagues in the Baylor Library System. A strong foundation has been developed over the past few years, and I am excited about continuing to build a truly excellent organization.

> —Pattie Orr Dean of Libraries/ VP for Information Technology

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What are you most looking forward to as you begin your new position? I'm looking forward to the opportunity to define this new role as I lead both the University Libraries and Information Technology. As the dean of libraries, I will report to the provost and be part of the Deans' Council. As the first vice president for IT, I will have direct access to the Baylor president. This will allow me to be a strong advocate for both groups in the academic arena as well as at the President's Executive Council. I hope that my participation will make all Baylor departments more aware of the benefit through partnership with IT and the Libraries.

#### Do you foresee any major challenges with fundraising for the Libraries?

Actually, I think fundraising for the Libraries will not be terribly difficult because we have an important story to tell. I really believe in the work that is being done at the Baylor University Libraries, and it will be a pleasure to share our story with alums and other friends of the Libraries. The library is the heart of the campus, and I look forward to helping our donors understand the relevance and need for this vital academic life center.

#### What role will BAIRS play in shaping the future of the Libraries?

Often folks will say, "With all that electronic stuff, why do you need to expand the building?" What donors may not realize is the way students and faculty work today is very collaborative, yet many of our most valuable resources are not available online and need to be housed nearby for easier retrieval. BAIRS is the first step in making that happen. By moving items into this automated on-site storage facility, we will not only have them instantly available for our students and faculty, but also free up much needed space where patrons can access information, collaborate, get research support and access technology critical for the 21st century library.

#### What hobbies do you enjoy?

I love to go to the movies, eat popcorn and enjoy the experience with the crowd. Or at home, I love my Tivo and enjoy recording and watching old movies. I also love baseball and have to admit I am a Red Sox fan, but I'm looking forward to cheering on the Baylor Bears.

What is your favorite flavor of ice cream? Very easy! Häagen Dazs Chocolate Chocolate Chip

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### **Electronic Library Digitizes Collection of Civil War Letters**

They were written in places with names like Mechanicsburg, Okolona, Queens Hill and North Duck River. But today, letters written by a Confederate major from East Texas have found a new home at the Baylor University Electronic Library.

The story of how the letters wound up in the hands of the librarians at Baylor is almost as fascinating as the story of the letter writers themselves. Dr. Douglas Guthrie, a Mexia podiatrist and self-affirmed Civil War buff, was informed by a patient that she and her siblings had dozens of letters written by a Confederate officer and his fiancée over the course of the war. Better yet, she offered to give her share of the letters to Guthrie.

Around the same time, Guthrie was among a group of Lions Club members who heard a presentation from John Wilson, director of development for the Baylor University Libraries. Wilson spoke about the work being undertaken by the Electronic Library in the areas of material digitization, preservation and online access for research. Guthrie was intrigued, and after speaking to Wilson, agreed to loan the letters to Baylor for inclusion in the program.

The majority of the letters were written by Major John N. Coleman, a Confederate soldier who saw action with the Third Texas Cavalry. Coleman's outfit, known informally as "Ross' Brigade" after its leader, General Lawrence Sullivan "Sul" Ross, saw action at several key battles over the course of the war, including Pea Ridge, Ark., the siege of Vicksburg, Miss. and the Atlanta campaign. Coleman, who served as the brigade's commissary officer, was responsible for procuring and distributing food supplies to the Texas troopers. The rest of the letters were written by Adkins, who in 1861 was the teenage daughter of a Marshall, Texas, hotel owner and judge. Before enlisting, Coleman and Adkins entered into a secret betrothal, vowing to become officially married when Coleman returned from the war. Over the course of the war, Adkins wrote Coleman often, but the rigors of war and the dangers of sending letters across the Mississippi River made letter-writing sporadic. This made for several episodes of jealousy on Coleman's part, most of them based on misinformation and rumors.

"I started referring to them as my 'Confederate Days of Our Lives' project," said Eric Ames, the information specialist who scanned, transcribed and uploaded the letters. "When you read them, you really get drawn into the story of who these young people were, what they experienced and how their lives turned out."

Ames' research revealed that Coleman and Adkins were married in August 1865 when Coleman returned to Marshall after receiving a parole from the victorious Union Army. However, John died in 1880. His widow lived until 1932 and even received a Confederate pension from the state of Texas for the final 18 years of her life. In addition to leaving behind six children, their Civil War romance left behind an equally important resource: their letters.

"These letters allow readers to experience the war on a very personal level," Ames said. "When you read them, it's very easy to empathize with John and Jennie. These are very personal items, and they certainly convey a deeper appreciation for just how emotionally devastating the Civil War was for those who lived it."



Dr. Douglas Guthrie of Waco loaned 32 Civil War letters to the Electronic Library, which can now be accessed online at contentdm.baylor.edu.

The Guthrie Civil War Letters Collection is part of an ongoing project at the Electronic Library designed to preserve rare and historic documents and make them available online for research. Currently, the Electronic Library is working to harness the power of technology to become a unique repository for items unavailable elsewhere.

The letters are viewable online at contentdm.baylor.edu. Also included in the Baylor Digital Collections are the Frances G. Spencer Collection of American Sheet Music and the Dawson Institute of Church-State Studies Vertical File.

For more information, contact Tim Logan, director of the Baylor University Electronic Library, at 254.710.6665.

## **BU Libraries Spring Connections**



*Right:* The Honorable Judge Jack Hightower (center) greets longtime friends at the Hightower Reception in the Poage Library on April 1.



Above: Former Texas Lieutenant Governor Ben Barnes and author of **Barn Burning, Barn Building: Tales of a Political Life from LBJ to George W. Bush and Beyond** speaks to a group of students about the political opportunities and challenges of their generation. Barnes was the inaugural speaker for the Poage Library Political Lecture Series that took place on April 23.



Left: Colleen Hightower welcomes guests at the reception held in honor of both her and her husband, former Representative Jack Hightower, on April 1.

Below: Dr. Luke Ferretter, Baylor English professor and guest speaker, talks to guests at ABL's Browning Day reception on May 7.



Above: Students fill one of the quiet study areas of the Jones Library to prepare for final exams given May 3 - 9.







Below: Two new red leather couches were purchased for students with proceeds from the 2006 Ferguson-Clark Lecture Series featuring Bruce Feiler. The seating was placed on the Garden Level of Moody Library in the former government documents area.

*Right:* The Texas Collection held a dedication ceremony on April 14 in Independence for two Texas state historical markers. This marker commemorates the original location of Baylor University.



*Left:* Anthony Tadey works in the sound booth on the Black Gospel Digitization project made possible by Charles Royce.

Below: Rachel Moore, Dr. Andy Moore, Carol Lowe and Phillip Lowe attend the Fano Club dinner at the Carleen Bright Arboretum in Woodway on May 7.





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## Planning for Your Future and the Future of Baylor Libraries

Planning for retirement can be complicated. Some people want to contribute to organizations and programs that have influenced their lives, but they worry about income sources during retirement. For this person, a charitable gift annuity may be just the right fit. With any charitable gift annuity, a donor can contribute to Baylor Libraries, receive immediate and future tax benefits and increase overall retirement income.

Simply stated, a charitable gift annuity benefits donor as well as Baylor. A charitable gift annuity is an agreement between Baylor and a donor in which the donor transfers cash or securities, and in exchange, Baylor agrees to pay a predetermined annual amount for life (the payments are backed by the assets of the university).

A deferred charitable gift annuity is the same, except that the donor delays the start of payments by selecting a date that is at least one year from the original gift. This choice can be particularly beneficial for people preparing for retirement because they can set it up while they are still working, and they can set payments to begin during anticipated retirement. In turn, donors have the benefits of a lower tax bracket when they receive the income and a higher tax bracket when they receive the charitable deduction on the original gift.

The benefits of deferred versus non-deferred are that the donor can make a contribution to Baylor now, but by deferring payments, one receives a greater tax benefit on the original gift and often times larger payments as well (depending on the selected start date). The recommended amount for an annuity is \$10,000 or more.

#### Charitable Gift Annuity at age 60\*

Original Gift	\$100,000
Charitable Deduction	\$34,673
Annuity Rate	5.7 %
Annuity	\$5,700
Tax-free portion	\$2,713.20
Ordinary Income	\$2,986.80

#### Gift Annuity Deferred to age 65\*

(original gift made at	age 60)
Original Gift	\$100,000
Charitable Deduction	\$44,161
Annuity Rate	7.7%
Annuity	\$7,700
Tax-free portion	\$2,802.80
Ordinary income	\$4,897.20

For more information, please contact Larry Smith or Susan Wommack in the Office of Gift Planning at 1-800-BAYLOR-U, option 4, or 254.710.2561.

-Traci Chandler, University Development

\*These calculations are for illustration purposes only and should not be considered legal, accounting, or other professional advice. Your actual benefits may vary depending on the timing of the gift.

#### Upcoming Events Fall 2007

#### October 5:

Libraries' Board of Advisors Meeting

#### October 25:

Poage Library Open House, 2-4 p.m.

#### November 3:

ABL Homecoming Open House, 9 a.m.- 12 noon

#### November 8:

Ferguson-Clark Author Lecture featuring Ronan Tynan at 7 p.m. in Waco Hall

Please visit www.baylor.edu/lib/events for all library events.

**Connect!** is published twice a year by the Baylor University Libraries to highlight contributions to library collections and endowments.

> Pattie Orr Dean of Libraries/ VP Information Technology

John S. Wilson Director, Library Advancement

Tina Libhart, Mary Goolsby Co-editors

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# Gifts & Opportunities

## **Rome Window at ABL Honors Bob and Anna Wright**

On January 5, 2006, the Rome Window was installed in the Cox Reception Hall at the Armstrong Browning Library. The window was donated by the children of Bob and Anna Wright (BA '47, MA '47; BA '47), of Vernon, Texas, both of who were former students of Dr. A. J. Armstrong. The Wrights' children, Cheryl Wright Henry, Gail Wright and Kelly Wright, were involved with the entire process from conception to installation.

"We decided to do this because of my parents' love for the Armstrong Browning Library," Gail Wright said. "It demonstrates their love for Baylor University and their love for education."

The window is also a tribute to the Wrights' own legacy of philanthropy to Baylor and ABL. Because of their generosity, the library was able to purchase the Joseph Milsand Archive in 2005, which is accessible to scholars worldwide.

The Rome Window contains six vignettes including depictions of the famous Roman Coliseum, the Spanish Steps, Trajan's Column and the Via Bocco Di Leone, the street where the Brownings lived during their time in Rome. The center image is that of the ruins of the Temples of Saturn and Vespasian. There are also quotes from both Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Robert Browning.

Designed and installed by Willet Hauser Architectural Glass of Philadelphia, Pa., the window joins the four others that depict Florence, Italy, Venice and Asolo. The sixth and final window for the Cox Reception Hall will be the Vallombrosa Window in memory of former Baylor professor Ann Miller. For further information, please contact Mary Goolsby at Mary\_Goolsby@ baylor.edu or call 254.710.6735.

> - Tina Libhart Library Advancement



🛛 Baylor Book Society (\$500 minimum)	Ann Miller Memorial Window at ABL
Library Fellows (minimum \$1,000/year)	Baylor Collections of Political Materials
Electronic Library Endowment	□ The Texas Collection
I have enclosed my gift of \$	
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