2018 Friends of Fondren Library Gala

Honoring Molly and Jim Crownover ’65
and recognizing
Woodson Research Center’s 50th Anniversary
The Friends of Fondren Library
cordially invites you to join us in honoring

Molly and Jim Crownover ’65

at our 38th Annual Gala Dinner and Auction

Friday, March 23, 2018

Cocktails at 7 p.m.
Dinner at 8 p.m.

River Oaks Country Club
Houston, Texas

Black Tie                                                                 Valet Parking
Gala Underwriters*

**Fondren Circle**

Molly and Jim Crownover
Georgiana and Robert Ladd

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Liz and Steve Crowell / Melinda Snell and David Elder / Barbara and David Gibbs / Julie and David Itz / Bess and Matt Wareing / Geraldina and Scott Wise
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*At time of printing*
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  Mary Ellen Wilson
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Ex Officio

Marie Lynn Miranda, Ph.D., Provost
  Sara Lowman, Vice Provost and University Librarian
  Fred Oswald, Ph.D., Chairman, University Committee on the Library
  Mary Lowery, Executive Director
Jim Crownover was raised in Norman, Okla. When it came time for college, he visited Rice with his parents in 1960 and fell in love with both Rice and Houston. He remembers Rice as being so hard it made his eyes water, but also as a place that fostered rigor, valued hard work and inspired possibilities. He graduated cum laude with a B.S. in chemical engineering in 1966.

After receiving an MBA at Stanford Graduate School of Business, he joined McKinsey & Company in San Francisco, where he began a 30-year career, the last two-thirds of which were spent in Houston. He led the firm’s Texas practice, co-led the worldwide energy practice and served on McKinsey’s board of directors for eight years. During this period and later, he dedicated much time toward the advancement of Houston. His principal roles were as a trustee of St. John’s School; a leader of the United Way, where he was twice named Volunteer of the Year and headed an annual Houston campaign; an adviser to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo during its renewal in the late 1980s; and as one of the leaders in establishing a plan for addressing homelessness and for Houston Professional Sports facilities in the 1990s.

His proudest time in Houston was as a trustee of Rice University. His most cherished roles were chairing the Presidential Search Committee that brought David and Ping to Houston, chairing the board during
a period of growth and achievement, serving with an exceptional group of board members, and building memorable relationships with faculty and administrative leaders. He served as chairman through Rice’s Centennial Celebration and Capital Campaign and later received the Association of Rice Alumni’s Gold Medal. During this time, Jim also served on the boards of four NYSE companies and more recently became chairman of the Houston Grand Opera. He also received the John W. Gardner Volunteer Leadership Award at Stanford. He was honored as a Houston Man of Distinction and by the Jewish Community Center, both in 2013.

Perhaps more significant is his 41-year marriage to Molly Suich Crownover and 30-year fathership to daughter Corwin. Molly was raised in San Marino, Calif. She attended UT Austin for two years, studied her junior year at St. Clare’s in Oxford, England, receiving her B.A. degree from USC in French and art history. Molly and Jim met and married in San Francisco and soon after moved to Houston.

Molly has been active in the community with various organizations, particularly those in the arts. She is involved with the Houston Ballet, having served on the executive committee and the board of trustees, in addition to chairing the Ballet Ball. She serves on the HGO Studio Committee and Special Events Committee. Molly, along with Jim, has long been involved with HGO’s Concert of Arias, having together served as chairmen as well as honorees. She has co-chaired the symphony’s opening gala, is a lifetime member of the Symphony Society and has served on the Bayou Bend Committee, and the boards of Zoo Friends, Theta Charity Antiques Show and the Junior League.

In addition to supporting numerous Rice programs, Molly has been involved for many years with the Shepherd School of Music Governing Council and currently serves as its president. She was a founding member of Ladies for Literacy and serves on the Barbara Bush Celebration of Reading Committee. She also is on the board of TUTS, is a past co-chair of the UNICEF Gala and co-chaired the 2015 Brookwood Community Gala. Molly and Jim were honored with the Joseph Jaworski American Leadership Award in 2007, named as Houston Treasures in 2013 and were honored by the American Heart Association in 2016.

They enjoy living in Houston, their family and friends, and travel, with Molly specializing in collecting art and antiques and Jim reading and golf.
Ranked among the 20 most impressive university special collections, the Woodson Research Center is the special collections department of Rice University's Fondren Library. Founded in 1968, it contains the university archives and the library's rare books. The Woodson also collects books, manuscripts and recordings to preserve the university's history and to support institutional research, both locally and for long-distance study and teaching.
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Live Auction Highlights

Nantucket Home

Spend a week in this dramatic shingle-style home, built in 2004, near the end of Cliff Road in beautiful Nantucket. It features eight bedrooms in the main house and an additional bedroom in the garage apartment. Comfortably decorated by nationally known Houston interior designer Ginger Barber, the house has been featured in Country Homes and Coastal Living magazines.

There are two master bedrooms, one on the first floor and one on the second floor, which have beautiful ocean views and spa bathrooms with Jacuzzi tubs and large showers that share the same view. The house features a kitchen suited for gourmet meals and has a finished basement with a game room, bar area, wine cellar and home theater. The back porches and terraces overlook an infinity pool, hot tub, pond and the ocean. The house is surrounded by large hydrangea bushes and climbing roses and features a charming garden in the back. Located just minutes from town, with great restaurants, art galleries and quaint shops, the house is also within walking distance to calm Dionis Beach and a short drive to the south shore beaches with their giant waves and surfing.

Use of bicycles included. Date to be mutually agreed on with availability May 1–June 15, 2018, and Sept. 7–Oct. 31, 2018.

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

Donated by Phoebe and Bobby Tudor ’82
Paris Experience

Picture Paris: For one week your home is at the foot of the Eiffel Tower in a lovely and well-appointed two-bedroom, two-bath apartment. And how lucky for you!

Indulge in the sumptuous life of Paris with its many options for entertainment. Have coffee at Les Deux Magots, where Hemingway was a frequent patron. Enjoy a cooking class in the city that defines fine cuisine. Roam the Louvre, D’Orsay, Rodin, Musée Nissim de Camando and more. Wander Opera Garnier, linger over a glass of champagne at any one of the sidewalk bistros or simply enjoy life in the City of Light.

You will be in walking distance of all of these attractions and so many more. Paris awaits you with open arms. Dates to be mutually agreed upon.

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

Donated by Anne ’05 and Albert Chao
Imagine an elegant dinner for eight in your home, prepared by the incomparable City Kitchen Catering. Plan your menu with their events team and sit back to watch their magic happen 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 on. Excludes holidays and the month of December. Buyer provides rentals and beverages.

Donated by City Kitchen
Bring Your Posse to the Historic Pierce Ranch

Visit this historic, legendary Texas cattleman’s estate and working ranch in Pierce, Texas, just 60 miles south of Houston. Enjoy a relaxing weekend with your book club, extended family or closest cowboys and cowgirls and take a walk back in time. The Pierce Ranch was founded by Abel Head “Shanghai” Pierce in the late 1800s. It remains in the original family and is passionately run by his great-great-grandchildren. The Pierce Ranch and its grounds are open to the public as an elegant, welcoming venue for hunters, business groups and family events.

The main house is nestled among century-old oaks and has generous common areas and six lovely bedrooms with en suite baths. Croquet, archery, tennis and swimming are available and guests can take advantage of the party house or the outdoor open-air pavilion. Dates to be mutually agreed upon.

Not included: Ground transportation, activities, meals, beverages and tips

Donated by Brooks Diesel ’90 and Pierce Ranch House
Mark your calendar for Oct. 27 through Nov. 3, 2018, for a delightful week celebrating the Dia de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebration of life at Casa Burrell.

Witness life on the Jardin, wander the Mercado des Artisans, enjoy the sumptuous meals offered at many extraordinary restaurants and shop the wonderful art galleries that populate San Miguel de Allende. San Miguel is the best — a sanctuary for the heart — a place to live, laugh, learn and enjoy life.

Your home away from home is an architecturally appointed two-bedroom, three-bath home, which comfortably accommodates four guests. Each bedroom is spacious; one has a king-size bed and the other has two twin beds. The bedrooms, living room and den feature gas-fueled cantera fireplaces for warmth on cool mornings and chilly evenings.

The panoramic view from the third-floor terrace is spectacular with views of the Parroquia, other churches, the hills around San Miguel de Allende and the most incredible sunsets. You will fall in love again and again.

Dates: Oct. 27–Nov. 3, 2018

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

Donated by Amy and Robert Taylor ’74
The rise of super pathogens resistant to our most powerful antibiotics is one of the great medical problems of this century. As bacteria become resistant to more and more antibiotics, we may enter into a “post-antibiotic” era in which all modern medicine would be threatened. No surgery would be possible in such an environment, even an infection from the prick of a rose thorn could return to being a life-threatening event. How did we get to the point where our magic bullets have started to fail us and what can we do about it?

Hosted by Y. Ping Sun and David Leebron
Date: Thursday, April 12, 2018
“Reading Buildings/Writing Architecture”
Sarah Whiting
Dean, School of Architecture, and William Ward Watkin Professor of Architecture

This talk will “read” several examples of innovative library buildings, designed over the past few decades. Looking carefully at these projects, and sharing other critics’ readings of them, Sarah Whiting will show how architectural design can influence how libraries perform symbolically as well as functionally.

Hosted by Laura Bellows and Jack Pendergrast and Marian ’64 and Harry Tindall
Date: Tuesday, May 1, 2018

“Contemporary Cuban Art and Its Engagement With Politics”
Luis Duno-Gottberg
Associate Professor, Baker College Magister, and Department Chair — Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies

Cuba, the only communist nation in the Western Hemisphere, exerts great fascination around the world. Nevertheless, images of the country tend to be overly polarized and stereotypical: a tropical paradise, a tyrannical dictatorship, a racially integrated island, a landscape of ruins, a socialist utopia or a Caribbean gulag. This talk provides an overview of contemporary Cuba through recent expressions of visual culture.

Hosted by Kristine and Stephen Wallace ’68
Date: Thursday, April 26, 2018

Antonio Merlo
Dean, School of Social Sciences, and George A. Peterkin Professor of Economics

Dramatic advances in automation technologies, robotics and artificial intelligence are changing the future of the workforce at an unprecedented pace. How are markets and human ingenuity responding to the changes? What is the role of “real intelligence?”

Hosted by Barbara ’73 and David Gibbs ’71
Date: Wednesday, May 2, 2018

“Do Human Rights Have a History?”

Lora Wildenthal
Professor of History

This presentation seeks to show the value of the discipline of history for understanding claims that are intended to be timeless: human rights claims. Lora Wildenthal is the author of “The Language of Human Rights in West Germany” (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2012) and co-editor with Jean Quataert (Binghamton University) of the “Routledge History of Human Rights,” a collection of 40 essays by historians, lawyers, anthropologists and others.

Hosted by Julie ’72 and David Itz ’72
Date: Tuesday, May 8, 2018
Special Occasion Events

“Dancing in the Dark … the 2017 (and 2024) Total Eclipses”

Patricia Reiff
Associate Director of Outreach Programs, Rice Space Institute, and Professor of Physics and Astronomy

What is the big deal about eclipses? Why do folks travel thousands of miles for a few seconds in the dark? Join Patricia Reiff (veteran of 16 trips to the center line) as she shows images and videos of the recent eclipse. Find out why millions of Americans are now “umbraphiles,” and where best to go for the 2024 Texas eclipse.

Hosted by Amy Sutton and Gary Chiles ’86
Date: Thursday, May 10, 2018

“The Renaissance of Classical Architecture: An Institutional Vision and Purpose on Today’s University Campuses”

Allan Greenberg
Architect of Rice’s Humanities Building and Rice University Music and Performing Arts Center

Enjoy a delightful evening with Allan Greenberg, the architect for Rice University’s Music and Performing Arts Center and the Humanities Building, as he discusses the re-imagination of classical architecture purposed for today’s use and enjoyment. Then indulge in an elegant dinner at the 100 year-old home of Amy and Robert Taylor.

Hosted by Amy and Robert Taylor ’74
Date: Wednesday, Oct. 3, 2018
The young women who attended the infant institute were a special breed. Bold and energetic, they came to Rice and immediately began to help shape student life and institutions. Many were among the finest scholars on campus and went on to scholarly accomplishments after graduation. Others became politically active. All are worthy of our attention and respect.

Hosted by Shelley and Art Gottschalk 
Date: Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018

Peter Rodriguez will discuss the past and future of economic growth in the United States and the challenges of economic measurement and progress in the digital age. He also will explore the implications of this topic for the idea of global economic leadership.

Hosted by Sarah and Doug Foshee ’92
Date: Tuesday, Oct. 16, 2018
Special Occasion Events

“The Arabian Nights Through the Ages”

Paula Sanders

Professor of History, and Interim Director, Boniuk Institute

What does the Arabian Nights (or 1001 Nights) evoke for you? Is it Scheherazade the storyteller? The adventurers Aladdin, Ali Baba and Sindbad? Over time, the Arabian Nights has existed in many different forms and with a variety of different stories. Paula Sanders will tell the story of this complex collection of tales originating in the Middle Ages and explain how the “nights” tradition developed over many centuries into the form that we know in modern times.

Hosted by Liz ’76 and Steve Crowell

Date: Tuesday, Oct. 23, 2018

Silent Auction Highlights

A complete list of auction items will be available March 16, 2018, on the Friends of Fondren Library website at http://library.rice.edu/gala.

Exquisite Treasures Await

Shop until you drop at the fall antiques shows in Round Top and Warrington from your home base in La Grange, Texas. This one-bedroom home is available Oct. 1–6, 2018.

Donated by Susie ’62 and Mel Glasscock ’61

Value: $1,500

The Inside Scoop on Owls Football

Do you have a few questions for Mike Bloomgren, Rice’s new football coach? Join him for lunch at Cohen House and learn about his game plan. Lunch for four guests will be scheduled at a mutually agreeable date. The value of lunch is $100; the value of chatting with the new coach is priceless.

Donated by Rice Athletics

Value: $100
Silent Auction Highlights

**Finest Dining**

Enjoy the beauty of the Rice campus as pictured on these commemorative Wedgwood plates commissioned for the Rice Institute in the early 1960s. Each plate features a unique image: Lovett Hall, the Campanile, the Chemistry Building and Fondren Library.

Donated by the Woodson Research Center
Value: $250

**Breathtaking Views in Spain**

Discover Frigiliana, one of the most beautiful villages in the province of Málaga, Spain, while spending eight days in a restored villa just five miles north of the Mediterranean in Andalusia. Two bedrooms with a queen-size bed and a shower bath. The living room, dining room, kitchen and terrace have breathtaking views of the Sierras de Tejada, Almijara and Alahama Natural Park, and openings to ancient caves.

Donated by Barbara Byrd
Value: $1,500

**Go ’Stros**

Watch the World Series champs from premium Diamond Club seats. This item includes four Astros tickets and two parking passes at a game to be agreed upon.

Donated by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP
Value: $1,900

**See Red With the Houston Rockets**

Cheer for the Rockets when they play the OKC Thunder April 7, 2018, then remember the game with your own James Harden signed jersey. This package includes two game tickets, two Lexus Lounge Suite passes and a parking permit.

Donated by NRG/Reliant
Value: $750
For more information, please call 713-348-5157, email mary.lowery@rice.edu or go to http://library.rice.edu/friends.