

## Service to Community ([/news/service](#))

# Center for family literacy founded to continue work of longtime UAB researcher

by Meghan Davis ([/news/service/itemlist/user/96-meghandavis](#))

November 07, 2014 | [Print \(\[/news/service/item/5521-center-for-family-literacy-founded-to-continue-work-of-longtime-uab-researcher?tmpl=component&print=1\]\(#\)\)](#) | [Email \(\[/news/component/mailto/?tmpl=component&template=uab5.0&link=af82720f7d7d3ac0aac3f044415788734f0a7331\]\(#\)\)](#)

### Maryann Manning was a renowned expert in reading and writing instruction and integrated curriculum.

A center for literacy will honor and continue the work of renowned literacy expert and longtime University of Alabama at Birmingham (<http://www.uab.edu/home/>) faculty member Maryann Manning, Ed.D.

The University of Alabama System Board of Trustees approved the creation of the Maryann Manning Family Literacy Center (<http://www.uab.edu/education/ci/mmflc>) during its meeting Friday, Nov. 7.

The Manning Family Center, housed in the UAB School of Education (<http://www.uab.edu/education/home/>), will bring together expertise from many areas of literacy to provide services for children and families in the Birmingham community, Alabama, regionally and globally. It will serve as a coordination point for research and foster initiatives at UAB and through community partners.

“Building on the 40-year enduring legacy of Dr. Maryann Manning’s work in literacy, the Manning Family Center will provide a community hub of services to promote a heightened level of health and literacy for families,” said Lynn Kirkland, Ed.D., chair of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction (<http://www.uab.edu/education/ci/>). “The pivotal location and accessibility of resources at UAB position the Maryann Manning Family Literacy Center to better serve families, schools and nonprofit organizations and provide leadership in the region for literacy work.”

Manning began her career at age 19 as a high school English and music teacher. She joined the UAB faculty in 1972 and served 35 years, finishing her UAB career as distinguished professor emerita. She was the inaugural recipient of the Ellen Gregg Ingalls/UAB National Alumni Society Award for Lifetime Achievement in Teaching in 2002.

Manning wrote more than 10 books and was an active member of the International Reading Association, which has named a volunteer service award in her honor.

“Literacy is key to success in life,” said Dean Deborah L. Voltz, Ed.D., of the UAB School of Education. “The Maryann Manning Family Literacy Center will make an important difference in enhancing literacy outcomes for our community, and in facilitating the national discussion on what works in literacy instruction. It is very fitting that this center be named for Dr. Maryann Manning, who worked tirelessly to advance literacy instruction, thereby earning the love and respect of the literacy professional community, both locally and nationally. Consistent with the vision of the UAB School of Education, the Maryann Manning Family Literacy Center will transform lives to optimize human potential.”



“Building on the 40-year enduring legacy of Dr. Maryann Manning’s work in literacy, the Manning Family Center will provide a community hub of services to promote a heightened level of health and literacy for families. The pivotal location and accessibility of resources at UAB position the Maryann Manning Family Literacy Center to better serve families, schools and nonprofit organizations and provide leadership in the region for literacy work.”

The Manning Family Center structure will provide a streamlined approach to UAB’s current literacy work in the community and create innovative approaches to improving literacy rates. UAB President Ray L. Watts, M.D., Alabama State Department of Education Superintendent Tommy Bice, Ph.D., Birmingham City Schools, the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham and the Literacy Council of Central Alabama submitted letters of support to the board.

The Manning Family Center’s definition of literacy encompasses comprehension of languages, mathematics, arts and sciences, and finances. Initial goals for the center include addressing literacy and health-related needs for families, researching current issues in literacy, and working to enhance the literacy level of diverse populations.

Several components of the center are currently in place throughout the School of Education, including the Innovative Learning Collaborative partnership between the School and Birmingham City Schools, Children’s Creative Learning Center, the Young Authors’ Conference, the MidSouth Reading/Writing Institute, and the Red Mountain Writing Project.

The Manning Family Center will offer a literacy clinic for children, which will also offer tutoring experience to UAB students, family literacy programs that could offer interdisciplinary collaboration opportunities across UAB schools, and a reading assessment clinic. The Manning Family Center will publish an online literary journal, The MidSouth Literacy Journal, to promote and enhance literary research, and host public events to promote reading.

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Alys Stephens Center offers free GlobalFest adventures and an outdoor evening of dance and music with Tiempo Libre [\(/news/experiencing-the-arts/item/7619-allys-stephens-center-offers-free-globalfest-adventures-and-an-outdoor-evening-of-dance-and-music-with-tiempo-libre\)](#)

Alys Stephens Center’s GlobalFest offers free lectures at noon daily Oct. 3-5, and free Latin dance lessons and an outdoor concert and dance party with Tiempo Libre on Oct. 6.

**Event Date** October 3

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[\(/news/faculty/item/7614-uab-s-yakov-kasman-to-perform-one-of-world-s-most-demanding-piano-works-as-soloist-](#)

[with-russian-orchestra\)](#) Faculty Excellence [\(/news/faculty\)](#)

UAB’s Yakov Kasman to perform one of world’s most demanding piano works as soloist with Russian orchestra [\(/news/faculty/item/7614-uab-s-yakov-kasman-to-perform-one-of-world-s-most-demanding-piano-works-as-soloist-with-russian-orchestra\)](#)

The Saratov Philharmonic Orchestra has invited Yakov Kasman to perform Prokofiev’s Piano Concerto No. 2 as a soloist to open its 70th concert season.

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(/news/student-experience/item/7597-uab-lecture-series-to-host-jamie-tworkowski-of-to-write-love-on-her-arms)

Student Experience (/news/student-experience)

UAB Lecture Series with Jamie Tworkowski of To Write Love on Her Arms rescheduled for Sept. 26 (/news/student-experience/item/7597-uab-lecture-series-to-host-jamie-tworkowski-of-to-write-love-on-her-arms)

Tworkowski founded To Write Love on Her Arms in 2006 as a nonprofit group dedicated to helping those who suffer from depression, addiction, self-injury and suicidal tendencies.

**Event Date** September 26

posted 8 days ago 1925 views |



(/news/service/item/7596-uab-comprehensive-cancer-center-ranked-among-the-best-in-the-nation) Service to

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UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center ranked among the best in the nation (/news/service/item/7596-uab-comprehensive-cancer-center-ranked-among-the-best-in-the-nation)

Becker's Hospital Review ranks the UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center as one of 100 Hospitals and Health Systems with great oncology programs in America.

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(/news/service/item/7595-uab-partners-with-local-organizations-to-launch-parks-prescription-program-in-

birmingham) Service to Community (/news/service)

UAB partners with local organizations to launch Parks Prescription program in Birmingham (/news/service/item/7595-uab-partners-with-local-organizations-to-launch-parks-prescription-program-in-birmingham)

Exercise is a key to better health, and UAB is teaming up with local partners to encourage people to get outside and be active in their local parks.

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(/news/faculty/item/7590-uab-professor-receives-award-for-commitment-to-birmingham-community) Faculty

Excellence (/news/faculty)

UAB professor receives award for commitment to Birmingham community (/news/faculty/item/7590-uab-professor-receives-award-for-commitment-to-birmingham-community)

The Vulcan Awards recognize Henna Budhwani, Ph.D., for her ongoing efforts to improve health outcomes in the United States and internationally.

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New program donates wheelchair to deserving recipient (/news/service/item/7588-new-program-donates-wheelchair-to-deserving-recipient)

UAB and local businesses honor a late, inspiring wheelchair user by donating a custom wheelchair in his name to a deserving recipient.

posted 13 days ago 2375 views |



(/news/student-experience/item/7584-uab-art-students-introduce-arts-interdisciplinary-salon-events-to-uab-campus-

and-community) Student Experience (/news/student-experience)

UAB Art students introduce “Arts&” interdisciplinary salon events to UAB campus and community (/news/student-experience/item/7584-uab-art-students-introduce-arts-interdisciplinary-salon-events-to-uab-campus-and-community)

The second of the three salons will be held from 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 12, in the UAB Department of Art and Art History’s Project Space. The theme is “Arts & the Public Sphere.”

**Event Date**

October 12

posted 14 days ago 1217 views |



(/news/experiencing-the-arts/item/7583-aly-stephens-center-celebrates-20-years-with-free-aerial-performance-by-

bandaloop-sept-21-and-23) Experiencing the Arts (/news/experiencing-the-arts)

Alys Stephens Center celebrates 20 years with free aerial performance by BANDALOOP, Sept. 21 and 23 (/news/experiencing-the-arts/item/7583-aly-stephens-center-celebrates-20-years-with-free-aerial-performance-by-bandaloop-sept-21-and-23)

In celebration of its 20th anniversary, UAB’s Alys Stephens Center presents powerful and provocative BANDALOOP in residence for a free inside/outside performance.

**Event Date**

September 23

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(/news/service/item/7581-uab-partners-with-iag-to-help-public-service-officers-safely-interact-with-people-with-

special-needs) Service to Community (/news/service)

UAB partners with IAG to help public service officers safely interact with people with special needs (/news/service/item/7581-uab-partners-with-iag-to-help-public-service-officers-safely-interact-with-people-with-special-needs)

A new partnership between the UAB School of Health Professions and the Interaction Advisory Group provides curriculum and training for law enforcement, first responders and more to interact with people who have special needs.

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(/news/youcanuse/item/7579-overscheduling-activities-can-cause-burn-out-for-children-and-parents) News You Can

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Overscheduling activities can cause burn-out for children and parents (/news/youcanuse/item/7579-overscheduling-activities-can-cause-burn-out-for-children-and-parents)

UAB clinical psychologist Josh Klapow, Ph.D., discusses the importance of evaluating activities and setting ground rules to keep from getting overbooked.

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(/news/service/item/7578-birmingham-101-to-celebrate-the-legacies-of-birmingham-neighborhoods-and-ties-to-uab)

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Birmingham 101 to celebrate the legacies of Birmingham neighborhoods and ties to UAB (/news/service/item/7578-birmingham-101-to-celebrate-the-legacies-of-birmingham-neighborhoods-and-ties-to-uab)

The Birmingham 101 series will focus on the history and significance of area neighborhoods through the lens of local high schools, their graduates and – for many – their ties to UAB.

**Event Date**

September 13

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(/news/experiencing-the-arts/item/7571-uab-music-announces-fall-2016-season-of-free-recitals-and-concerts-

opera-gospel-and-choral-performance) Experiencing the Arts (/news/experiencing-the-arts)

UAB Music announces fall 2016 season of free recitals and concerts, opera, gospel and choral performance (/news/experiencing-the-arts/item/7571-uab-music-announces-fall-2016-season-of-free-recitals-and-concerts-opera-gospel-and-choral-performance)

The UAB Department of Music presents student and faculty performances, the UAB Piano Series with Eric Zuber, UAB Gospel Choir, Chamber Music @ AEIVA, UAB Opera and more.

**Event Date**

October 12

posted 22 days ago 3590 views



(/news/service/item/7570-johnston-global-surgery-program) Service to Community (/news/service)

Global Surgery Program links UAB and Children's neurosurgeons with counterparts in Vietnam ([/news/service/item/7570-johnston-global-surgery-program](#))

UAB-developed technology supports a globe-spanning partnership that links pediatric neurosurgeons at UAB and Children's of Alabama with those in Vietnam to enhance epilepsy care for Vietnamese children.

posted 22 days ago 1386 views |



([/news/focus-on-patient-care/item/7569-cancer-community-network-grows-transforms-cancer-care-in-region](#)) Focus

on Patient Care ([/news/focus-on-patient-care](#))

Cancer Community Network grows, transforms cancer care in region ([/news/focus-on-patient-care/item/7569-cancer-community-network-grows-transforms-cancer-care-in-region](#))

With 12 associates, the UAB Health System Cancer Community Network integrates patients, collaboration and community to change the way cancer care is delivered in the region.

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([/news/service/item/7568-nsf-approves-uab-center-for-health-organization-transformation](#)) Service to Community

([/news/service](#))

NSF approves UAB Center for Health Organization Transformation ([/news/service/item/7568-nsf-approves-uab-center-for-health-organization-transformation](#))

UAB is one of only two universities approved for 2016 by the National Science Foundation as an official Center for Health Organization Transformation site, and is one of only six CHOT University Sites in the United States.

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## ACADEMICS

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## OUTREACH

Arts outreach (<http://artplayasc.org/programs/outreach/community/>)

Civic engagement and service opportunities (<http://www.uab.edu/civicengagement>)

UAB Benevolent Fund (<http://www.uab.edu/benfund/>)

Volunteering at UAB Medicine (<http://uabmedicine.org/volunteer-services>)

## IMPACT

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