Dear friends,

Thank you for attending tonight! Your support for UAF is sincerely appreciated. Kay and I are excited that you have joined us for UAF’s new signature event, the Blue and Gold Gala. We are here to celebrate UAF’s centennial and honor distinguished alumni, dedicated donors and our exceptional faculty recipients of the Emil Usibelli Awards.

2017 marks a momentous occasion for UAF, our 100th birthday! We are honored you could be here as we celebrate a century of education and community. We certainly did not get here alone. The UAF family includes everyone within our Golden Heart City, alumni and friends across the state, as well as our Nanooks across the globe. UAF’s academic programs, world-renowned research, outreach, students and faculty have helped advance our community and state and vice versa. We are shaped by our place in the great state of Alaska. Together we have paved the way for higher educational opportunities in our state and beyond.

I hope you enjoy tonight’s celebration. You are among our more than 30,000 alumni, nearly 5,000 generous donors, countless friends, students, faculty and staff whose commitment and support are instrumental to UAF’s success. UAF is honored for your friendship and we are excited for what our next 100 years will bring.

Sincerely,

Dana L. Thomas, Ph.D.
Interim chancellor
AN EVENING OF EXCELLENCE

6:00 p.m. Cocktail reception with musical performance by Pamyua

7:00 p.m. Dinner and program

Chancellor Dana L. Thomas
Presentation of awards and honorees

Emil Usibelli Distinguished Teaching, Research and Service Awards

UAF Alumni Association Awards
  Distinguished Alumna Award
  William R. Cashen Service Award

Philanthropists of the Century Awards

Student speaker

Closing remarks

UAF would like to extend a special thank you to tonight’s musical entertainment, Pamyua, for celebrating UAF’s 100th birthday with us.

Pamyua shares indigenous knowledge and history of Inuit culture through music and dance performance. Their joyful and sincere style uses “traditional melodies reinterpreted with contemporary vocalization and instrumentation” to convey Inuit traditions. Creator of “Inuit soul music,” Pamyua is one of a kind.
CELEBRATIONS
DISTINGUISHED AWARDS AND HONORS

Emil Usibelli Distinguished Teaching, Research and Service Awards

These prestigious awards are presented to individuals who display extraordinary excellence in one of three categories representing the Land, Sea and Space Grant mission of the University of Alaska Fairbanks—teaching, research and public service. Individuals receiving an Emil Usibelli Award are being recognized for their exemplary contributions to the discovery, communication and use of knowledge.

presented to

Dr. Mary Ehrlander, Distinguished Teaching
Dr. David Newman, Distinguished Research
Dr. Laura Conner, Distinguished Service

Distinguished Alumna Award

The Distinguished Alumna Award is the association’s most prestigious award. It was first awarded in 1962 and continues to annually recognize living graduates of UAF. Alumni are selected for the award based on specific meritorious service on behalf of UAF, distinguished accomplishments in business and professional life, or distinguished human service in community affairs.

presented to

Virginia Farmier ’84
CELEBRATIONS
DISTINGUISHED AWARDS AND HONORS

WILLIAM R. CASHEN SERVICE AWARD

William R. “Bill” Cashen ’37 was an alumni association director, professor, marshal, historian, public servant, proud alumnus and friend to many alumni. Cashen set the example for service to the university and its alumni association. This award is designed to recognize and perpetuate his example and inspire all those associated with the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Awardees are selected on the basis of meritorious service. It is the only alumni association award that may go to people who are not alumni.

presented to
Jo Ryman Scott

UAF PHILANTHROPISTS OF THE CENTURY

The recipients of this award are individuals who have dedicated their time and resources to UAF at an exceptional level. Their support has advanced our mission, enabled student success and shaped our university. Through their leadership, cumulative philanthropic support, longevity of giving, total number of gifts and volunteerism, the Philanthropists of the Century are individuals who have given of themselves so that others may have a better future. These distinguished honorees’ pioneering spirits have left an undeniable mark on the past century. They have helped to build a culture of giving and have played an integral role in our history, without which UAF would be a very different place.

presented to
THE LATE ELMER AND MARY LOUISE RASMUSON
Grace Berg Schaible
The Usibelli Family
Meet scholarship recipient Luke Rollie Rogers

Jay Hammond Scholarship 2016/17
George and Mine’ Mikami Scholarship 2015/16

Luke was born and raised in Fairbanks. He is currently in his junior year at UAF studying wildlife biology and conservation with a minor in outdoor leadership. A lifelong Nanook, both his parents and his sister graduated from UAF. Luke has had the opportunity to continue his late father’s work by helping with the reintroduction of wood bison to Alaska, a historic conservation achievement. He has also taken advantage of UAF’s unique undergraduate research funding to study wood bison behavior. Luke enjoys sharing the Alaska experience with fellow UAF students through hiking, skiing, rafting and climbing excursions at his student job with the Outdoor Adventures department. After graduating, Luke would like to embrace a more worldly perspective through travel and community service before attending graduate school at UAF. He would ultimately like to work with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game or a similar agency to promote the introduction and conservation of Alaska’s wood bison.

To celebrate our 100th anniversary, we are creating a legacy where education is even more affordable at UAF. Through the Centennial Scholarships and Fellowships Initiative, we are boosting existing awards and creating new funds to support students at UAF. Our goal is to help reduce the financial burden on our future graduates, allowing them to focus on their studies and reach their full potential. You can help us make a difference in the lives of our students!

Tonight, you will have an opportunity to make an impact through the Centennial Scholarship and Fellowship Endowment (or another UAF scholarship of your choosing) via MobileCause. Please stay tuned for information on how you can change lives right from your smartphone.
Thank you to the following donors who generously contributed these fabulous door prizes.

Chuck Lemke and Phyllis Pendergrast
Dinner with beverage pairing

Here is your opportunity to enjoy a private evening for four, hosted by Dr. Phyllis Pendergrast and Chuck Lemke. Featured will be a variety of gourmet dishes and desserts, accompanied by a tasting of spirits.

Chef Lemke will coordinate with the recipients to determine the food choices and to select the tasting of their choice. Bourbons, wines, beers or tequilas can be selected. Also, our guests will be given several dates to choose from for their special evening. The location of this event will in part be dictated by the weather.

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Dr. Phyllis Pendergrast and Chuck Lemke, Dr. Hannah Summerfelt, and Asa Pendergrast
Siemens Industry
UAF Alumni Association
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**Blue:**

Bettisworth North Architects and Planners
ConocoPhillips Alaska
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner
First National Bank Alaska
GHEMM Company
Great Northwest
Keyes & Associates
New York Life
Dr. Phyllis Pendergrast and Chuck Lemke, Dr. Hannah Summerfelt, and Asa Pendergrast
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Special thanks to Pamyua; Townshend Cellar; Span Alaska Transportation; our attendees, sponsors and supporters; and the UAF Honors Program students assisting this evening.

Also, a special thanks to Your Story Wedding and Event Planning for supporting tonight’s celebration.

For more information about how you can make an impact at UAF, or to ask questions about giving, please contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at 907-474-2619 or visit www.uaf.edu/giving/.

To learn more about the UAF centennial celebrations, visit www.uaf.edu/centennial/.

Naturally Inspiring

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