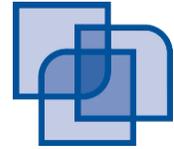


2017 Community Leader Philanthropy Award



Diane Christian and Bruce Jackson

UB Professors Diane Christian and Bruce Jackson have spent their careers, and much of their personal lives, giving to UB's and Buffalo's art communities. As SUNY Distinguished Professors, this dynamic couple has inspired and nurtured many of those who have emerged from WNY's fertile artistic training grounds over the last 40 years. They are celebrated and revered in their respective fields, and they recently cemented their legacy in the arts community by pledging \$1 million in support of UB's next generation of creative arts students.

Their personal achievements are numerous and beautifully intertwined as they are partners in the truest sense of the word; they push and motivate to succeed, and their joint efforts are true labors of love. Dr. Christian is a poet and an author. She has taught young violent offenders in prison and has written extensively on the impact of violence. Dr. Jackson is an acclaimed folklorist, ethnographer, prize-winning recording artist and documentary filmmaker, and a James Agee Professor of American Culture. They met and married in the late 1960's and have collaborated on several books and documentaries, but they are perhaps best known as the creators and longtime hosts of the *Buffalo Film Seminars*.

Their financial pledge, a cap on two remarkable careers in the arts and education, will be given in support of UB's new Creative Arts Initiative, of which Jackson is Co-Director. Citing their mothers as having had profound impacts on their personal and professional lives, the fund will create the Julia Jackson Scholarship in the Creative and Performing Arts after Dr. Jackson's mother, and the

Fellowship will be named the Ruth Christian Fellowship in the Arts after Dr. Christian's mother.

For their many efforts to lead, champion and support the arts, the NFJC is proud to present Dr. Diane Christian and Dr. Bruce Jackson with the 2017 Community Leader Award in Philanthropy.

NFJC of WNY, Inc. Community Leader Awards Luncheon January 25th, 2017
www.nfjcwny.org (716) 853-9596



"...a just community begins with me!"

360 Delaware Avenue Suite 106
Buffalo, NY 14202
716.853.9596
www.nfjcwny.org