

Eastern receives generous estate gift



Polly (Galla) Bogue '77

Eastern recently received a six-figure IRA disbursement from the Jeffrey and Polly '77 (Galla) Bogue Estate. **Polly Louise Bogue, 61**, passed away on Sept. 8, 2016, at her home with her husband, Jeffrey, and family by her side. Jeffrey passed away four years later.

Polly graduated from Eastern in 1977 with a degree in education. She was one of the first members of the Spanish Honor Society, Sigma Delta Pi. Her mentor was the late **Lee Watts**, former professor and chair of the Modern Languages Department.

Polly devoted her teaching career to the Stratford school system, where she taught, encouraged and befriended countless elementary students as they began their journey through life.

Polly retired in 2009 and moved to Charlottesville, VA, with her husband, where she continued to pursue her passions. Polly was a member of the First Tuesday Quilters Guild and co-president of the Ivy Creek Methodist Church women's group, Sarah Circle.

Nellie Mae grant designated for scholarships

Eastern received a \$40,000 Nellie Mae Education Foundation Director's Discretionary grant in June. Each director of the foundation is authorized to make a limited number of grants in the name of the foundation. Eastern President Elsa Núñez, a member of the board of directors of the Nellie Mae Education Foundation, designated this award for the scholarship she started in 2007 at the time of her inauguration – the President's Community Endowed scholarship.



Eastern receives National Endowment for the Arts grant

Eastern Connecticut State University is one of 61 U.S. organizations selected for a 2021-22 Big Read grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The \$20,000 grant will support a community reading program centered around "The Best We Could Do" by **Thi Bui**. From October 2021 until January 2022, Eastern will host a series of events related to the book.

"The Best We Could Do" is a 2017 illustrated memoir that chronicles the author's parents' life before and during the Vietnam War, their escape from Vietnam and their migration to the United States.

For more information visit <https://www.easternct.edu/big-read/>.

