From the Dean

The Kinne Legacy is a labor of love. So many contributed in their own way to bring this extraordinary exhibition to the Alexander Brest Gallery. Dr. Kinne was deeply respected and admired. Our mission was to do Fran justice and to illustrate the story of her exceptional life for those who knew her well and to educate future generations. On behalf of all who brought the Kinne Legacy to life, I hope you enjoy this remarkable collection.

- Dr. Timothy Snyder, Dean, Linda Berry Stein College of Fine Arts
[Left] Iconic Red Suit with Beaded Sweater

[Center] Saudi Arabian Ceremonial Gown with Gold Thread

[Right] Classic Sequin Gown
Fran in 8th Grade

Bertha (Olson) Bartlett at the age of 100
THE KINNE LEGACY

Iowa Girl
1917 – 1942

The extraordinary life of Dr. Frances Bartlett Kinne began on May 23, 1917, in Story City, Iowa. Her father published Story City's newspaper, and her mother founded and ran the town library. From an early age, Fran showed a passion for learning and a talent for music. She was sharp, clever and an exceptional pianist, helping teach piano lessons as early as age 11 and working as a public school music teacher after graduating high school. She attended Iowa State Teachers College and Drake University, and when World War II broke out, she was the youngest teacher in the Des Moines Public Schools.

“The Middle West and specifically Iowa were right for me. Memories of my childhood are happy ones. I was a Depression child, and in Story City, no one had material wealth. But it was a time of loving family and friends, filled with music, music, music.”
Handwritten Childhood Journal
(ca. 1925)

“The Golden Whistle" Program Frances Bartlett as the lead, center, front row

Close up of display case
THE KINNE LEGACY

Uncle Sam Wants You
1942 – 1948

When World War II began, Fran was eager to put her wit and talent to good use for her country. She signed up as a U.S. Army Hostess at Camp Crowder in Missouri where she was in charge of providing entertainment for as many as 70,000 GIs. She met Col. Harry L. Kinne, and they were married in 1948.

“My responsibility as a hostess was to direct one of the three Service Clubs on post at Camp Crowder, Missouri. The uniform was an attractive suit in air blue, with a rainbow patch on the shoulder and a jaunty cap. The hostesses had the equivalent rank of a 2nd Lieutenant.”
Dear Miss Franklin,

I allow me to write you a letter from Germany. On 1st May this year I left Oslo, S. S. Utopia and arrived at home on 7th May 1945. At home I was almost alone, both my parents were in good health. My wife and my children were very glad to see me. They all arrived at home on 7th May 1945. I was very happy to see them.

I am writing you this letter from my room in Berlin, where I am staying with my parents. I am very happy to be back in my home country. I miss you very much and I hope to see you soon.

Please give my regards to all my friends and family. I will see you soon.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

P.S. I have enclosed a photo of my family. They are all very happy to see me.
Chair Owned by Frances Bartlett Kinne's grandmother
19th c.

Portraits of Frances Bartlett Kinne, Lt. Col. Harry L. Kinne, Bertha Bartlett (mother) and Charles M. Bartlett (father)
H. Kaneko
Japanese
1949
Oil on canvas
Document signed by Josiah Bartlett (1729-1795)
Lawyer and Physician, first Governor of New Hampshire and signer of the Declaration of Independence. Presented to Jacksonville University in honor of his descendant, Dr. Frances Bartlett Kinne, who at the time was Dean of the College of Fine Arts
From the collection of C. Edward Bryan

Sitting Room Re-creation
Including Antique Silver Tea Set, Antique Japanese Dolls and Chair from the Carl Swisher Estate, Early 20th Century
Germany, the Occupation and a Ph.D (1955-1957)

Doctoral Diploma, University of Frankfurt
“A Comparative Study of British Traditional Ballads and American Indigenous Ballads”
[Left] Teapot, Ancient Korean Celadon
[Right] Bowl, 15th Century Emperor Chenghu Ming Xianzong Zhu Jianshen (1464-1487)

China, Imari Ware from Kinne Wedding
Japan
"I was fortunate to have been loved by two great men and to have been married to them." On December 12, 1992, Fran married Col. M. Worthington Bordley "Wordy" in a private ceremony at the home of Ash Verlander. Both Harry (Kinne) and Wordy had brilliant combat records—the former in Europe, the latter in the South Pacific in WWII and in Korea during the Korean War. Each of them had Presidential Citations and Bronze Stars with Oak Leaf Clusters, and Wordy had both a Silver Star and Purple Heart. The latter was awarded to him as a young officer in the 7th Cavalry Division fighting in the Solomon Islands.

THE KINNE LEGACY

The Colonel's Lady
1948 – 1954

After the war, Fran lived abroad with Col. Kinne as he was assigned to posts in China, Japan and Germany. The experience helped shape her outlook and deepened her determination for decades to come. Ever the optimist, she learned to fit in with post-war communities and cultures that rejected the privileged American officers and diplomats who lived among them. While living abroad had its benefits, Fran and the colonel also missed life at home.

“Our three years in China and Japan had been life-enriching, but they had also brought many changes Stateside. Harry’s mother had passed away, and his father had remarried. I had lost my father, and in a sense, we had a feeling the world had passed us by for those three years.”
Internationally recognized artist and Jacksonville University alumna Raquel Carreras Rodriguez draws and paints in watercolors, ink, acrylics, oils and mixed media. Her work has been showcased in numerous local establishments and in private collections in Florida and in Spain. Presently her style is contemporary impressionistic, although she executes abstract painting, abstract realism and coloristic interpretations. Forgotten Walls is one of her acrylic works on loan from the personal collection of Tim Cost ’81 and Stephanie Cost.

WLPS

‘Graduates’ of the Wilma’s Little People School regularly reached out to Dr. Fran Kinne with hugs of affection during their Leaving Ceremonies held outside the President’s Office at Jacksonville University.

“Wilma’s Little People School (WLPS) was established in 1973, under a different name, when Dr. Fran Kinne was Dean of Fine Arts. Dr. Kinne is remembered as a present and positive force in the life and progress of the on-campus preschool. She raved about the progress and looked the other way when still-damp paint rubbed off artwork and onto her new blue suit. How does WLPS say “thank you” to Dr. Frances Bartlett Kinne? Perhaps an underdone cake or a finger-painted masterpiece? Certainly, WLPS sends much love and gratitude for her help over the past 47 years.”

- Dr. Kay Johnson, Founding Director, Wilma’s Little People’s School
THE KINNE LEGACY

Wall of Fame

[Close up] Wall of Fame
THE KINNE LEGACY

Home Economics Career's Life in Leadership

Jacksonville University Magazine

Jacksonville University
Captain's Chair from President's Office
Dr. Kinne's life-long passion for classical music is reflected in the breadth of her personal music library. Among the hundreds of scores and recordings in her collection are these autograph manuscripts, score fragments and correspondence from international musical figures of the 19th and 20th centuries.

[Left] Giacomo Meyerbeer (1791-1864)

German opera composer known for his works of French grand opera, which is characterized by elaborate sets, costumes and spectacle, Giacomo Meyerbeer dominated the Parisian opera scene from 1833 to his death. Presented here is an autograph RSVP to an unidentified recipient.

Honored Sir and Friend:

My sincerest thanks for your kind invitation. It will give me the greatest pleasure to attend this celebration, but, unfortunately, I have some company which will leave tomorrow, and who called on me today at noon. I must therefore forego the pleasure which you so graciously extended to me. Accept my sincerest regrets for being unable to accept your kindness for the invitation.

Yours truly,
Meyerbeer

[Top right] Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924)

The leading Italian opera composer of his generation and exponent of verismo, or operatic realism, Puccini’s works are among the most frequently performed in the repertoire. Presented is an autograph thematic fragment of his most famous work, La Bohème.


Australian-American composer, pianist and conductor Percy Grainger was heavily influenced by English folk music. He is best remembered for his orchestral and wind band works, including Molly on the Shore, presented here in score fragment.

[Top left] Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844 - 1908)

Russian nationalist composer Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov was a member of The Five, a group of prominent 19th-century musicians whose works and promotion of Russian music shaped a national style of classical music that influenced generations of Russian and European composers. Presented here is an autograph musical quotation from the opera Snegurochka ("The Snow Maiden") signed and inscribed in Russian.

[Bottom Left] Pablo de Sarasate (1844-1908)

Spanish violin virtuoso, composer and conductor Pablo de Sarasate won international recognition as one of the greatest violinists for his purity of tone and brilliance of technique. He produced a number of compositions for violin, including folk songs, Spanish dances and the Jota de San Fernim for orchestra.

[Right] Ruggero Leoncavallo (1857-1919)

Italian opera composer and librettist known for his opera Pagliacci, Ruggero Leoncavallo published numerous collections of his songs and opera excerpts. Presented here is an inscription inside one such album dedicated to Wilhelm Jahn, director of the Vienna Court Opera from 1880 to 1897 and principal conductor of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra from 1882 to 1883.

To the celebrated Maestro Jahn, with all admiration for the great artist and gratitude to a charming and good friend.

As a sign of eternal devotion,
R. Leoncavallo
Vienna, November 21, 1893
THE KINNE LEGACY
The 7th Presidency of Jacksonville University
1979 – 1989 and Beyond

In 1979, Fran became the first female president of Jacksonville University and the first female university president in the state of Florida. In this role, she would establish what is now the Davis College of Business, the Keigwin School of Nursing into the School of Aviation. Fran retired as president in 1989 and was immediately elected to become the first Chancellor of Jacksonville University by the Board of Trustees. As her accomplishments grew, she remained ever gracious, kind and quick to encourage others. Whether presiding over JU, donating her time to her numerous community endeavors, or simply sharing a bench with a student, her eternal optimism and vision were apparent to all who knew her. Perhaps that’s because she’d decided long ago to heed her parent’s counsel and follow Albert Einstein’s advice to the letter.

"There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.”
– Albert Einstein and Dr. Frances Bartlett Kinne
Dr. Frances Bartlett Kinne dedicated 62 years to serving Jacksonville University, its students and the community of Northeast Florida. She was a legendary educator, leader and visionary.

Our University would not be what it is today without her.

Your gift in memory of Dr. Kinne will ensure that her legacy of selfless service and support of others will live on at Jacksonville University.

Please visit www.ju.edu/kinnelegacy/give to give today.

**Kinne Century Society**

The Kinne Century Society was established in 2020, to honor the life and legacy of our former Jacksonville University President and Chancellor Emerita.

The University’s most generous supporters are recognized with membership in this exclusive annual giving society in recognition of a gift of $25,000 or more to JU’s Greatest Needs or the JU Scholarship Fund in a calendar year.

To become a member of the Kinne Century Society, or for more information on making a gift in Dr. Kinne’s honor, please contact the Office of University Advancement at (904) 256-7045 or supportju@ju.edu.