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For Immediate Release

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### **Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts & Humanities Launches Pebble Hill Books Series**

The Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts & Humanities, dedicated outreach unit for the College of Liberal Arts at Auburn University, announces the creation of Pebble Hill Books, an imprint series published in collaboration with the University of Alabama Press. Titles in the occasional series grow out of or contribute to its outreach mission.

The first book in the series, just released, is titled *In the Path of the Storms: Bayou La Batre, Coden, and the Alabama Coast* and co-authored by award-winning writer Frye Gaillard and artists-in-residence Sheila Hagler and Peggy Denniston. The Gulf Coast villages of Bayou La Batre and Coden are two of Alabama's most distinctive, with roots going back to the French settlements of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The book captures, in words and photographs, the uniqueness of these seafood-producing towns—including its significant southeast Asian refugee population—as well as the extraordinary challenges of higher gas prices, cheap imported seafood, and rash of hurricanes, including Hurricane Katrina. *In the Path of the Storms* is the story of tradition, and forces of change, and the brave struggle of these Gulf Coast communities to survive and thrive.

The book's publication is a result of a community history project funded by the Kettering Foundation of Ohio and undertaken in collaboration with the Truman Pierce Institute in the College of Education at AU.

The Draughon Center is located in Auburn at the historic 1847 Scott-Yarbrough House known as Pebble Hill.

For more information, contact the Center at 334-844-4946 or email [mwilson@auburn.edu](mailto:mwilson@auburn.edu).

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