London Stakes A Claim

In an historic celebration, the Founding Friends of Lauinger Library in London, the GU Alumni Club of the United Kingdom and London's Georgetown University City Alliance came together for the Library’s 45th anniversary and to raise money to renovate the Lauinger Library’s much loved Pierce Reading Room. At a Drinks Party and Auction held on November 12 at the legendary Asprey jewelry and luxury goods store, Georgetown alumni, parents and friends in London raised nearly $300,000 toward the renovation project.

Library Board member Anne-Marie Barcia de Leiva (F’76) spearheaded the event. A committee of nearly 60 alumni, parents and friends donated outstanding items and experiences for auction, including a stay at a grand villa on France’s Cap Ferrat; a week at a luxurious Nantucket home; a golf stay on South Carolina’s Kiawah Island; tickets to Glyndebourne Opera in Sussex; a year’s worth of dining out; a celebrity chef dinner in your home; and many more! Guests were also given the opportunity to bid on plaques to be placed in study carrels in Pierce, and donations of all sizes were encouraged . . . and happily accepted! The event was fully underwritten; all proceeds will benefit the project directly.

Library Board member Christopher Meyering (C’80) made the venue available to the Library—and it was a significant draw. Library Board members arrived in force, continued on page 3
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FROM THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

TAKEN FOR GRANTED

This Newsletter comes to you in the winter but is being prepared during the holiday season that begins with Thanksgiving. I used to take for granted that everyone in the United States observes “turkey day” with good food, good friends and good will, but I know that for many, Thanksgiving is a difficult time for historic, cultural or personal reasons. Even if one does celebrate the holiday, it may be difficult to express thanks or gratitude. The Georgetown University Library, however, does not take your generosity for granted, and is full of both thanks and gratitude to those many of you who have given the gifts of time, talent and treasure to us. Particularly during this season of the year, we are grateful to you; without your generosity, we know that our library would be less than it might become.

You may take for granted that the library will always work assiduously to bring you the finest and most important resources; recruit and retain the best staff; and draft, develop, and design fabulous spaces within the library. But please do not take for granted that a university can supply all of the funding that a fine library needs. Our library budgets may suffice for the familiar and expected, but they do not always permit exploration for the unusual. We keep up with everyday requirements for our university, but we also need to support cutting-edge ideas, advanced technologies, new resources, and innovative opportunities. We assess our services to our community, but we always strive to improve, declining to accept the status quo.

Elsewhere in this Newsletter you will read about two extraordinary achievements that highlight the efforts of several library philanthropists. The gifts of these generous people brilliantly illuminate the truism that gifts beget gifts. As many have asserted, great universities—and great libraries—are built upon great philanthropy. We succeed because you succeed in appreciating the value a library adds to the academy, and you are our partners in excellence. We will never take you for granted, and we will always thank you, especially now: ’tis the season.

--AGK

Asprey London, site of this fall’s celebration and auction to benefit the Library (see story Page 1). Photo courtesy of Asprey.
Since he founded the Chimes Library Endowment in 1990, David J. Walsh (C’58) has been a long and loyal—and dearly valued—Library supporter. On a personal level, he has also been a mainstay of support, encouragement and inspiration for generations of Chimes. He is held in the highest esteem by many of his fellow Chimes, and this fall they came together to demonstrate their regard by making an extremely generous gift in his honor.

In late 2014, Dave was kind enough to make a significant gift to the Library that allowed us to kick off fundraising to renovate Lauinger’s main reference area. University Librarian Artemis Kirk combined Dave’s gift with a number of other donations, and at the Library’s Board meeting on October 30, 2015, she announced that the Chimes had come together to add to Dave’s initial capstone gift, reach the $1.2 million mark, and begin preparations for the project. GU Library Board Chair Tony Kerbs (C’73) had joined with a core group of Chimes over the past several months to lead the “Chimes Challenge,” a challenge quickly met and surpassed through individual donations—in less than six months.

With funding in hand, the reference area will be reconfigured to meet the needs of today's users. It will be redesigned to provide consultation areas, group study rooms, soft seating and more. The new space will be called the David J. Walsh Research Commons, made possible by the Georgetown Chimes. It is with enormous gratitude that the Library thanks Dave and the Chimes who honored him so enthusiastically. The Chimes’ support for the Library, which Dave Walsh has led by personal example, exemplifies the power in numbers and reflects the extraordinary bond and loyalty the Chimes have to each other, to the University and to the Library. This gift, their dedication and Dave’s commitment will truly benefit every student at the University “for generations to come.”--MN

including special guest Philip C. Lauinger (C’58) who spoke beautifully about how meaningful it is to the Lauinger family that the London community has, over time, so generously embraced the Library.

Our thanks go to the entire Committee, to our Board members who attended and donated items, and to all those—too numerous to name individually—who were there to give so generously. It took so many to make the evening such a phenomenal success! We are thrilled that London chose the Library as the place they wish to stake a claim on the Hilltop and we look forward to welcoming all back to a new and improved Pierce Reading Room.--MN
**LIBRARY ASSOCIATES**

**EVENTS**

**Friday Music Series: Rebecca Gates**
On September 18 the Library Associates continued their partnership with the Department of Performing Arts to present the year’s first weekly Friday Music Concert, starring Rebecca Gates.

Rebecca Gates is a U.S.-based musician, curator, artist and audio editor who has released five albums, three as leader of the critically acclaimed group The Spinanes; toured internationally; and appeared as a vocalist on numerous records by artists as wide ranging as The Decemberists and Willie Nelson.

Gates accompanied herself on guitar and performed a lively set list including a folk pop tune called “And, And, And,” a ballad called “The Seldom Seen,” and a song inspired by a British Blues Rock musician.

The Leon Robbin Gallery featured a companion exhibition entitled *Popular Music at Georgetown, 1900–2015*, curated by GU alumnus Jackson Sinnenberg (C’2015), including sheet music and concert advertisements and posters that show Georgetown University’s rich legacy of music.—GM

**Gallery Talk with Eric Denker**
On October 1 the Library Associates, in collaboration with the Embassy of Australia and the Center for Australian, New Zealand & Pacific Studies, presented a gallery talk by Erik Denker on the exhibition *Jörg Schmeisser, Prints and Passages*. The exhibition in Lauinger Library’s Fairchild Gallery featured the work of the late Jörg Schmeisser, a German-born Australian printmaker and was curated by Denker, senior lecturer at the National Gallery of Art and a close friend of Schmeisser.

While reminiscing about his friendship with Schmeisser, Denker gave insight into the artist’s technique and inspirations. The well-traveled Schmeisser incorporated into his work his fascination with cities in places ranging from Europe to Asia to the Middle East. His choices of various texts, colors, and designs all have meaning and aesthetic significance. Through Denker’s close relationship with the artist, the audience learned that sometimes the purpose behind Schmeisser’s choice was as simple as a private joke with a friend about a color preference.

From September to November several of Schmeisser’s works were on display in the Fairchild Gallery. One of his works, the etching *Blue Mud Bay Mangrove Leaves and Notes*, has been generously donated to the Library’s Art Collection.—ZC
EVENTS

WAS SAINT TERESA A FEMINIST?
The Library Associates partnered with the Department of Spanish and Portuguese on October 15 for the annual Casey-McIlvane Memorial Lecture, launching the two-day celebration of the 500th anniversary of Saint Teresa of Ávila’s birth (see related story p. 7). Professor Bárbara Mujica, a prominent scholar of Saint Teresa, gave the lecture entitled Was St. Teresa a Feminist?” portraying the 16th-century mystic as a woman ahead of her time. Dr. Mujica curated the exhibition in the Special Collections Gallery, 500 Years of Teresa de Ávila, and is the author of a number of scholarly works and novels including Sister Teresa.--GM

GEOGETOWN WRITES: ALUMNI EXPERIENCES IN JOURNALISM
On October 29 the Library Associates held the second annual Georgetown Writes: Alumni Experiences in Journalism. This program continued our exciting series that highlights accomplished alumni in various fields of professional writing. The panel consisted of Yamiche Alcindor (C’09, G’13) of USA Today, Mark Denis Bulik (F’80) of The New York Times, J. Patrick Cooke (C’75) a contributor to the Wall Street Journal and Rebecca Webber (C’97) who works as a freelance editor and writer.

Brian Healy, School of Continuing Studies, moderated the panel and led them with a series of questions about the writing process, their experiences in the field and the ways in which Georgetown influenced their careers. The panelists shared personal anecdotes about their careers, including experiences in the business world and working with the Black Lives Matter movement.

The panel was followed by a lively question and answer session with an audience comprising many current and aspiring journalists.--GM

Watch a video of most Library Associates events at library.georgetown.edu/digital/lecture-hall.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATES

Exhibitions

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS GALLERY & FAIRCHILD GALLERY
JANUARY-MARCH 2016
Undiscovered Printmakers

ROBBIN GALLERY
SEPTEMBER 2015-JANUARY 2016
Popular Music at Georgetown, 1900-2015

FEBRUARY-AUGUST 2016
Jazz Exhibition

KERBS EXHIBIT AREA
DECEMBER 2015-JANUARY 2016
Celebrating Twain’s Jumping Frog

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2016
Jesuit Heritage Week Exhibition

Was Saint Teresa a Feminist?

The Transformation, Marguerite Kumm, 1950, Monotype with aquatint on paper. From the upcoming exhibition Undiscovered Printmakers.
The Cold War-era drama-thriller *Bridge of Spies*, which opened in movie theaters this fall, has a connection to a multi-generational Georgetown family and the Library’s Booth Family Center for Special Collections.

Directed by Steven Spielberg, the film is inspired by the true story of James Donovan, played by Tom Hanks, who in 1957 defended the accused Soviet spy Rudolf Abel. Believing that even a KGB spy was entitled to due process under the U.S. Constitution, Donovan took the case after many other lawyers refused. Although Abel was convicted, Donovan was able to mount a vigorous defense, much to the surprise of the U.S. government and the public.

With a prescient belief that Abel might one day be valuable as a bargaining chip, Donovan convinced the court to sentence Abel to life in prison rather than the death penalty. Five years later, Donovan successfully negotiated with the U.S.S.R. to exchange the captured American U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers for the still-imprisoned Abel. Donovan wrote about these events in the recently reissued memoir *Strangers on a Bridge*.

Donovan’s son John attended Georgetown’s School of Foreign Service. Four grandchildren—Beth (C’89), John (C’91, L’95), Trish (C’94), and Ed (C’98) Amorosi—are alumni, as well as several in-laws, nieces, and nephews. The Georgetown connection led to two rare works becoming part of Lauinger's special collections.

To honor their friendship after his return to Russia, Abel sent Donovan—a fellow rare book collector—two 17th-century legal works: a massive folio volume of German legal decisions and an equally massive commentary on the Justinian Code, a 6th-century work that is a cornerstone of jurisprudence. In 1994, Donovan’s eldest daughter Jan Donovan Amorosi, the mother of four Hoyas, donated these works to the Georgetown University Library.

“Abel gave these works to my grandfather for their symbolic value as core legal works and to honor my grandfather’s commitment to the law,” says Beth Amorosi. “Our family knew that Georgetown was an appropriate home for them because of its renown in international relations, diplomacy, and law.” --JBD
This fall Georgetown University celebrated the quincentenary of Teresa of Ávila (1515–1582). An all day commemoration on October 16, 2015, the day after Saint Teresa’s feast day, included a symposium featuring renowned Teresian scholars from across the country; a concert of Spanish music by the Georgetown University Orchestra; and scenes from a play, God’s Gypsy, by Coco Blignaut, based on the novel Sister Teresa, by Bárbara Mujica, Professor of Spanish in Georgetown’s Department of Spanish and Portuguese. Professor Mujica also curated an exhibition in the Booth Family Center for Special Collections in Lauinger Library, and in the Casey-McIlvane Lecture on October 15 proposed the question: “Was Saint Teresa a Feminist?” (See story, p. 5.)

The exhibition features books drawn from the Library’s rare book collection. Prof. Mujica writes in the introductory essay of the exhibition catalog that “Books were vital to Teresa de Ávila (known in the Spanish-speaking world as Teresa de Jesús) from the time she was a girl. The daughter and granddaughter of conversos (converted Jews), Teresa learned to read at an early age. She mentions in her Vida that as a child she was an avid reader of chivalric novels, a passion she shared with her mother.”

Highlights of the exhibition include the 1588 Los libros de la madre Teresa de Jesús, one of only four extant copies in the U.S. and perhaps eight in the world of the extremely rare first edition of the works of Saint Teresa; the first edition of Ignatius of Loyola’s Exercitia spiritualia (Spiritual Exercises) from the Woodstock Theological Library; and Cartas de la Seráfica y Mística Doctora Santa Teresa de Jesús, the first collection of Teresa’s letters, compiled by Diego de la Presentación, O.C.D. and published by Juan de Palafox y Mendoza, Bishop of Osma, in 1671. The exhibition explores Teresa’s own writings, in her language and in translation; the books she read; the writings of her friends, collaborators, and followers; and those inspired by her during her lifetime and for centuries thereafter.

An online version of the exhibition can be seen at library.georgetown.edu/exhibition/500-years-teresa-de-avila.
Twain’s Frog

This little London sixpence edition of Mark Twain’s *The Jumping Frog & Other Stories* is part of an exhibition celebrating the 150th anniversary of the publication of Twain’s tall tale, “Jim Smiley and His Jumping Frog,” in *The Saturday Press* of New York. First published on November 18, 1865, the story would be reprinted in several newspapers and other publications before being included with 26 other sketches in Twain’s first book in 1867. The exhibition, in the Kerbs Exhibit Area in Lauinger Library through December 2015, can also be seen online at library.georgetown.edu/exhibition/celebrating-twains-jumping-frog.

Did you miss one of our Library Associates events? You can find full-length videos online in the Digital Georgetown section of our website. Go to www.library.georgetown.edu/digital/lecture-hall.

The Georgetown University Library Associates are a group of Georgetown alumni, parents and friends dedicated to helping the Library shape the creation of knowledge, conserve culture for posterity and transform learning and research. To learn more, contact us at 202-687-7446 or visit us at:

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