Booth Family Center for Special Collections Opens

On March 23 the new Booth Family Center for Special Collections celebrated its official opening. Mark Dimunation, Chief of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division at the Library of Congress, gave the keynote address during an evening celebration that included remarks by University President John J. DeGioia, Provost Robert Groves, University Librarian Artemis G. Kirk and Head of the Booth Family Center for Special Collections John Buchtel. A ribbon-cutting ceremony with the donors was held on June 2.

The renovation was funded entirely through philanthropy, including a landmark $3 million gift from Suzanne Deal and David G. Booth (P’2012), for whom the new Center is named. In addition, Barbara Ellis Jones (C’1974) and members of the Lauinger family gave lead gifts for the project.

The celebration marked the completion of the $5 million renovation and expansion of the previous Special Collections Research Center on the fifth floor of Lauinger Library. The new Center includes a revamped reading room, state-of-the-art storage and exhibition facilities, and, for the first time, a technology-enhanced classroom designed specifically for teaching with rare and valuable items.

The Center’s inaugural exhibition, Treasures Since 2000, features extraordinary books, manuscripts, artwork and University Archives items added to the collections by gift or purchase in the past 15 years. You are invited to see the exhibition on the fifth floor of Lauinger Library, or to visit virtually at library.georgetown.edu/exhibitions.
FROM THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

COMMENCEMENT
Georgetown University holds numerous events related to Commencement, including honors recognition ceremonies, stirring convocation speeches and individual graduation celebrations for our different Schools. At each of these, I learn a great deal about the people we educate, and I learn from the people who are asked to address the graduates. It’s exhilarating to participate in the launch of the next generation of scholars, leaders, thinkers and doers into the world.

The comments of two speakers particularly struck me this year. The speakers dealt with similar issues: the challenges of our society, and the complexity of our rapidly changing world. One speaker opined that the ability to confront complexity, challenge it, and think through problems to find solutions, were skills we all needed to acquire or to hone. He argued that we needed to unite with others in our efforts and to share responsibility for outcomes. The speaker could have been discussing how we work in libraries today! While our Library staff has particular strengths in disciplines or in functional areas, we work across traditional boundaries not only to meet users’ needs today, but to anticipate them for tomorrow.

The other speaker quoted former Health, Education and Welfare Secretary John Gardner, who said that amidst society’s challenges we had “some breathtaking opportunities disguised as insoluble problems.” Everyone I spoke to who had heard this quote was strongly and positively affected by it, and again, I could relate it to work in libraries. One very recent example that produced a breathtaking outcome, even when we felt beset by problems, was of course the creation of the new Booth Family Center for Special Collections.

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Chandler Booth, David G. Booth, Erin Booth, and Suzanne Deal Booth at the Booth Family Center for Special Collections ribbon-cutting ceremony in June.
CAMPAIGN FOR THE LIBRARY

Focus on the Finish

Your Named Endowment: Ensuring the Future

Endowments to the Library provide a secure and continuous source of support, enabling the Library to fulfill its mission in perpetuity. The principal of an endowed fund is never spent, but is invested and managed through the University. The annual interest from this investment is used to support the donor’s designated wish. Endowments are a critical vehicle for funding, and provide the type of permanent reliable income that allows—and encourages—innovation. Their assured revenue allows leadership to “think outside of the box,” move forward with assurance and respond to opportunity.

At the Library your endowment can: strengthen collections generally or in a specific area; create new programs, lectures or presentations; underwrite exhibits or publications, symposia and conferences; buy equipment; ensure state-of-the-art technology, renovate and update facilities or even hire students or add additional staff talent—wherever you wish to support Library priorities. Or you may wish to establish an endowment that provides undesignated funds, allowing the Library to address a wide array of needs and opportunities. All are needed; all are appreciated. Endowments may be named for you—the donor—or for your family, an occasion or even a beloved professor. Donors receive an annual report; you will see the immediate impact of your gift.

Today, the Library has nearly 100 endowments funding everything from rare books to specialized staff. In every seasonal calendar of Library events, you will see lectures named to honor the donor who has endowed the funds that support it. You may see a plaque in the Library acknowledging refurbishment or technology made possible through an endowment. To see a full list of the Library’s endowments visit library.georgetown.edu/giving/endowments.

We invite you to create your own lasting legacy to benefit the Library and Georgetown into the future. Please contact Miriam Nickerson, Director of Development, mn355@georgetown.edu to discuss creating your own endowment.
Crisis in America

The Library Associates partnered with the McCourt School of Public Policy on February 18 to welcome former U.S. Secretary of Transportation, Ray LaHood, for the annual Tanous Family Endowed Lecture. Secretary LaHood presented his lecture Crisis in America: Infrastructure at a Crossroads and discussed his experiences with national policy issues and the current political climate. He also discussed what he sees as the deterioration of the nation's transportation infrastructure due to lack of continued funding following the Obama economic stimulus package.

The former secretary spoke about his 36 years of public service and highlighted his commitment to bipartisanship. He discussed the importance of compromise as a congressman and the policies he worked on during President Clinton’s presidency. He went on to focus on his four years as the Secretary of Transportation under President Obama. He related the general political climate in the United States specifically to the transportation infrastructure and spoke about his own disappointment in the lack of compromise and efficiency in Congress today.

The lecture sparked an animated question-and-answer session between the audience and Secretary LaHood.—GM

Roosevelt’s Second Act

On March 4 the Library Associates hosted a lecture on the book Roosevelt’s Second Act: The Election of 1940 and the Politics of War by Richard Moe, former President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. This text follows President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s unprecedented decision to run for a third term and the consequences of that decision for the United States and the world.

The lecture outlined the historical context, discussed in the book, that led to President Roosevelt’s supposedly reluctant third campaign. Moe discussed the President’s foreign policy decisions while the country was on the brink of entering World War II, and the way domestic views on the international political climate informed his decision to run again.

Moe discussed the many political leaders Roosevelt consulted, and examined the role of Eleanor Roosevelt’s influence on his decision. Moe went on to explore the responsibility of presidential leadership reflected in President Roosevelt’s decision-making process.—GM

You can view these and other Library Associates programs at www.library.georgetown.edu/digital/lecture-hall.

Upcoming Events

September 18
Friday Music Series
In conjunction with the Department of Performing Arts

October 15
The Annual Casey-McIlvane Memorial Lecture: St. Teresa de Ávila

October 16
Symposium, Concert and Play: 500 Years of Teresa de Ávila

October 29
Georgetown Writes

December
Library Associates Holiday Party
LIBRARY ASSOCIATES

EVENTS

PATRICIA STONESIFER AND MARtha’S TAble
On April 23 the Library Associates partnered with the Georgetown University Center for Social Justice to present the Annual Ellen Catherine Gstalder (C’98) Memorial Lecture with Patricia Stonesifer in conversation with Georgetown’s Professor Marcia Chatelain. Patricia Stonesifer is the President and CEO of Martha’s Table, a DC non-profit that provides food, clothing and education to those in need at 15 locations throughout the city.

Professor Chatelain led the conversation with questions about the nature of poverty in the city, the effects of gentrification and Stonesifer’s approach to leadership. Stonesifer shared her practical and holistic approach to combating poverty in the District and how Martha’s Table works across District wards to help people to expand their options and improve their standard of living. Those in the audience were clearly inspired by Chatelain’s and Stonesifer’s conversation, and many asked directly how they could be a part of the solution. —KT

COMMENCEMENT, continued

The Library has other “breathtaking opportunities” as we focus on the challenge of completing our campaign. One such opportunity is the creation of innovative, inventive and inspiring spaces for scholarly creativity and contemplation. A second opportunity is to ensure extraordinary talent in the Library by endowing chairs. A third is to continue to grow our collections and foster the creation of new knowledge by supporting special funds for research and scholarship, and for endowments in all formats across all disciplines. A fourth is to engage with Georgetown’s numerous communities to sponsor symposia, lectures and stimulating programs.

We know it will be a challenge to reach our campaign goals with only one year remaining. At times it will seem that we confront “insoluble problems.” But if we unite in our efforts with our many friends, partners and supporters, and if we all accept the notion of our shared interest in good outcomes, we indeed can confront and challenge complexities, and then transform presumed insoluble problems into breathtaking opportunities. Let us, then, commence! —AGK

Exhibitions

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, FAIRCCHILD AND ROBBIN GALLERIES
March-July
Treasures Since 2000

KERBS EXHIBIT AREA
June
Georgetown University Scholars Thinking With—and Beyond—Vatican II

July-August
Lincoln Assassination Commemoration Exhibit

August-December
Special Collections Gallery
500 Years of Teresa de Ávila

FAIRCCHILD GALLERY
September-November
Jörg Schmeisser, Printmaker

ROBBIN GALLERY
September-December
American Musical Culture

Poster from an evening with poet Allen Ginsberg in Gaston Hall, February 29, 1968. From the Georgetown University Archives and featured in the Treasures Since 2000 exhibition.
CLINCH CALKINS PAPERS

The Georgetown University Library’s Booth Family Center for Special Collections is pleased to announce that an important addition to its women’s collections, the papers of poet and writer Clinch Calkins, are now available to researchers. Processing was recently completed for this generous donation from Julie Harris, Calkins’ daughter. A finding aid for the papers is available online in DigitalGeorgetown at http://hdl.handle.net/10822/712311.

Marion Clinch Calkins was born in 1895 in Evansville, Wisconsin. After graduation from the University of Wisconsin in 1918, Calkins worked in a Milwaukee artillery shell packing plant, before returning to her alma mater to teach English and art history. Around this time, Calkins entered the annual poetry competition held by The Nation, submitting her poem “I Was a Maiden” under the name of Clinch Calkins because she wanted her authorship to be gender neutral. Oswald Garrison Villard, the editor, awarded the poem third prize but did not publish it for fear that its content was too avant garde and would cost the magazine its mailing privileges. The poem was eventually published, together with Calkins’ early collected verse, in Poems (1928).

Although Calkins considered poetry to be her favorite literary medium, her most critically acclaimed book was Some Folks Won’t Work (1930), a seminal document on the Depression, based on 300 individual case histories of the effects of unemployment. Published a year following the Wall Street Crash, the book received accolades on the front page of The New York Times Book Review, and brought Calkins national attention along with an invitation from Harry Hopkins to work with the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA). (The papers of Franklin D. Roosevelt adviser Harry L. Hopkins, as well as those of his son Robert Hopkins, are also held in the Booth Family Center for Special Collections.)

Other publications include the verse drama State Occasion; the poetry collection Strife of Love in a Dream; and the novels Lady On the Hunt and Calendar of Love.

The Clinch Calkins papers, comprising 106 boxes (43.53 cubic feet), enhance the Special Collections holdings of the papers of distinguished 20th-century women authors. These include poets Katherine Biddle and Elizabeth Jennings; journalists and writers Anna Brady (first female journalist in the Vatican press corps), Marguerite Tjader Harris (founder of Direction magazine), Shirley Hazzard (novelist and friend of Graham Greene), Mary O’Hara (author of the Flicka children’s books), Lisa Sergio (pioneer female radio broadcaster), Edith Sitwell, and Barbara Ward (writer on humanitarian and economic issues).

The women’s collections at Georgetown University Library’s Special Collections form a research area with great development potential and provide the foundation for a significant women’s archive. In addition to the aforementioned, women’s history is represented by the papers and work of women—many of whom were the first of their gender in their chosen fields—in art, civil and humanitarian rights, education, diplomacy, photography, and performing arts.—LM
UNDISCOVERED PRINTMAKERS

In 2011 Lauinger Library was awarded a $95,200 “Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and Archives” grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR), to catalog the personal collections of six significant 20th-century American printmakers. This ground-breaking project, which required three part-time staff members over the past three years, was successfully completed in November 2014. The goal of Undiscovered Printmakers: Hidden Treasures in Georgetown University’s Library was to create web-accessible records according to standards that would enable the broadest possible exposure to the scholarly community. The six printmakers included in the project were renowned wood engravers and book illustrators, Lynd Ward (1905-1985) and John DePol (1913-2004), as well as four highly talented, but underappreciated, women printmakers of the same period: Louise Miller Boyer (1890-1976), Helen King Boyer (1919-2012), Marguerite Kumm (1902-1992), and Kathleen Spagnolo (b.1919).

More than 5,500 printmaking objects and ephemera were cataloged, with material ranging from preliminary sketches and drawings, trial proofs of prints, book mockups and finished prints, to the tools used to create them. Collection highlights include two complete sets of woodblocks for Lynd Ward’s pioneering graphic novels, Gods’ Man (1929) and Madman’s Drum (1930), as well as a bound book mockup of Madman’s Drum. Other highlights include unique examples of John DePol’s distinctive wood engraved illustrations for the private press, some beautiful examples of Kathleen Spagnolo’s work in multi-viscosity printing and striking linocuts and aquatints by Marguerite Kumm. Project staff also discovered innovative examples of drypoints by Helen and Louise Boyer, who were pioneers in the use of aluminum printing plates for producing the drypoint printing technique. The catalog record for each object includes an image scan, and we plan to select a Web interface within the next year so that records will be searchable online.

The reorganization and cataloging of the collections has revealed exciting new details about the working methods of each artist, which will be of particular scholarly interest. Preliminary sketches and trial proofs have revealed the experimental processes undertaken by each artist that led to the final version of prints in each collection. Several of the collections, notably Ward’s and the Boyers’, are also complemented by substantial archives of correspondence and manuscripts which revealed personal insight into the context of the artists’ work.

The Undiscovered Printmakers project was a pilot project of a new collections management database, EmbARK, with which curators and project staff developed a customized database template for cataloging the unique, physical characteristics of each print medium. Project Coordinator Katharine Malcolm and Assistant Art Curator Christen Runge participated in a panel as part of CLIR’s Hidden Collections Symposium in March 2015, outlining the cataloging procedures developed for these six collections, which may serve as models for similar collections.

The collections will serve as excellent case studies to include in future teaching projects. An exhibition of highlights from the CLIR grant collections is being planned for spring 2016.—KM, LLW

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:

library.georgetown.edu/associates

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.