



# Library Perspectives

Spring 2019, Issue 60

## Woodbury Papercut Gift



Steven '68 and Ann Woodbury have donated their extensive collection of books and ephemera related to papercut art, papercut book illustration, folk papercutting, and associated materials to the Oberlin College Libraries. The donated materials will be housed in both the Clarence Ward Art Library and the Mary Church Terrell Main Library's Special Collections Department. Steve Woodbury became interested in folk papercutting in the 1970s when he was introduced to Pennsylvania German traditional paper cutting (*Scherenschnitte*). His interest led him to become a founding member and first president of the Guild of American Papercutters.

The collection comprises roughly 1,100 books, pop-up books, and pamphlets. Some of the books are illustrated with papercut art while others discuss paper sculpture, paper engineering, portrait silhouettes, and folk papercutting traditions (including Chinese, Japanese,

*Continued on page 9*

**Right:** Audience members at the naming ceremony

## Susan Orlean to Deliver Jantz Lecture

Award-winning journalist and bestselling author Susan Orlean will deliver the 2019 Harold Jantz Memorial Lecture on Monday, April 15 at 4:30 p.m. in the Science Center. A book signing will immediately follow the lecture. This event is sponsored in part by the Office of the President of Oberlin College and the Friends of the Oberlin College Libraries.

Orlean, author of the *New York Times* bestseller *The Orchid Thief*, will discuss her new book *The Library Book*, published last year by Simon and Schuster, in which she reopens the unsolved mystery of the most catastrophic library fire in American history. The Los Angeles Public Library's 1986 arson fire destroyed 400,000 books, damaged 700,000 more, and closed the library for seven years. Her investigation pays homage to the crucial role that libraries play in our lives, and how this institution, a provider of much more than just books, is needed now more than ever.

Born and raised in Shaker Heights, Ohio, Orlean graduated with honors from the University of Michigan, where she studied literature and history. Shortly



after moving to New York, Orlean published her first book *Saturday Night* (1990). In 1992 she became a staff writer for *The New Yorker*; since then, she has contributed articles to many magazines including the *Boston Globe Sunday Magazine*, *Vogue*, *Rolling Stone*, *Esquire*, and *Outside*. In 1998 her best-selling nonfiction book *The Orchid Thief* was published. She now

*Continued on page 14*

## Terrell Main Library Ceremony Highlights



**Story on page 6**

## From The Director

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to launch my new Director's column. Much of our success is due in part to the Friends, who continue to enrich us through your support. Thank you for your love and excitement regarding the work of the Oberlin College Libraries.

This first column will briefly summarize the amazing year we enjoyed. Organizing what exactly to discuss was actually rather hard for me, as there are so many people and events that I could write about in volumes. So know that the omission of any event or person does not mean that it is any less important. My column strives to hit the proverbial "high notes" in recognition of our boundary-bending activities in 2018.

Our signature event last year on October 4 was the naming of the Mary Church Terrell Main Library as a part of President Carmen Twillie Ambar's inauguration weekend. The moving ceremony captured the essence of Oberlin while also placing us at the center of an important national

discourse regarding who is deserving of the honor of a named space on a college campus. Thanks to the Friends and the Oberlin Alumni Association of African Ancestry (OA4), we were able to fully endow the Mary Church Terrell Endowed Book Fund in record time! I am also pleased to report that, in celebrating the learning, labor, leadership, and legacy of Mary Church Terrell, we inspired 72 new members to join the Friends as of our press date! I am still receiving lovely messages from people all over the world who are celebrating this special moment in the history of our institution with us.

The libraries hosted several public events featuring incredible scholars and professional luminaries including Meredith Evans, Director of the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum and President of the Society of American Archivists (co-hosted by the Friends); the 2018 Harold Jantz Memorial Lecture speaker Denise Gigante, Professor of English at Stanford University, Guggenheim Fellow, and leading expert in early American "bibliophilia;" and Friends of the Oberlin College Libraries annual dinner speaker Maria Balinska, Editor and Co-CEO of The Conversation U.S. edition and incoming Executive Director of the US-UK Fulbright Commission.

Our collaboration with the Allen Memorial Art Museum (AMAM) was strengthened through our shared Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Library-Museum planning grant that culminated into a highly successful summit of



Alexia Hudson-Ward  
Azariah Smith Root Director of Libraries

academic library and museum directors on our campus in June. Johnnetta Cole '57, who served as summit keynote speaker, so electrified my library director colleagues that they invited her to speak at the Association of Research Libraries directors' meeting later in the year. The partnership with AMAM continued with the very successful *Counternarratives* exhibition by contemporary artist Alexandra Bell. Bell's public talk drew a sizable crowd, and the excitement about her public installations on campus energized the entire community.

The libraries welcomed nine new staffers into our fold in 2018 including Associate Director of Libraries Sarah Weeks, who will chair the Friends Council's Acquisitions Committee. Having such a high number of new talent join the libraries has initiated very healthy and productive change within our unit. Our intradepartmental

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## Library Perspectives

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The newsletter of the Friends of the Oberlin College Libraries, *Library Perspectives* is issued two times a year.

Printed from an endowed fund established by Benjamin and Emiko Custer.



Summit attendees at OCLC: Hudson-Ward is 8th from left, back row; Zhu is 2nd from right, back row

# ALL IN FOR OBERLIN 4.25.19

**THANK YOU to the Friends of the Libraries Council who voted to support the libraries with a matching grant during this one-day fundraising campaign on Thursday, April 25.**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

collaborations continue to be fostered through the great work of task forces and working groups, comprised of staff at all levels. Each of the branches participated in various activities and programs throughout the year that highlighted their incredible collections.

Libraries staffers are repeatedly tapped for leadership roles in a multitude of organizations, serving as speakers at conferences and symposia, authoring books and articles, acknowledged for their expertise, and celebrated with awards and recognitions. I was honored to represent the college on a life-altering trip to Ghana with a delegation of college and conservatory faculty to honor the life of legendary alumna, the late Shirley Graham Du Bois '34, MA '35. I was also invited to attend the Sixth North America-China Libraries Summit hosted by OCLC in Dublin, Ohio. East Asian Studies Librarian Runxiao Zhu served as an interpreter for the event. Growth in the libraries' international scope appears to be on the horizon. Consequently, we became a new institutional member in the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and look forward to more partnership engagements with libraries and colleagues from around the world.

While our 2018 successes are a cause for celebration, I would be remiss not to share some of the challenges we face, beginning with the integration and onboarding of so many new staff members. This process is both exciting and energy-consuming. The departure of

several highly talented staffers including the retirements of Assistant Director and Head of Public Services Allison Gallaher and Head of Collections and Acquisitions Jessica Grim means that a significant portion of knowledge departs with them. Oberlin's Academic and Administrative Review Process (necessary for the long term sustainability of our beloved institution) has caused nervousness among some members of our campus community.

In spite of challenging times, the libraries are committed to providing critical educational support and social infrastructure for Oberlin. Our 2019 programmatic agenda and organizational outlook are very positive. The newly formed Libraries Leadership Team, composed of my direct reports and me, is outlining unit-level strategic priorities. The spring semester brings an outstanding lineup of events. We are initiating plans for the 2020 centennial of women's suffrage and our participation in an institution-wide symposium to honor Shirley Graham Du Bois.

I cannot emphasize enough what your commitment to the libraries means to the staff and me. By providing important financial resources, the Friends further enable our ability to be among the best liberal arts college library systems in the nation.

Thank you again for your support. We look forward to an incredible 2019 with you!

Kind regards,

*Alexia*



## 2018-2019 Friends Council

### Officers

**Gary Kornblith**  
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Alexia Hudson-Ward  
Director of Libraries

Sarah Weeks  
Associate Director of Libraries  
Chair, Acquisitions Committee

Eboni Johnson '97  
Outreach and Programming Librarian

## Recent Gifts

The Libraries gratefully acknowledge the following significant monetary gifts and gifts-in-kind.

### Major monetary gifts:

- **Berger Family Foundation, Inc.**, for the Berger Family Foundation, Inc. Current Use Library Fund.
- **Jewish Communal Fund of New York**, for the Beatrice S. and Lloyd Frank '47 Library Fund.

### Generous monetary gifts:

- **Scott Bennett '60**, for the Friends of the Libraries and the Librarian's Discretionary Fund.
- **Robert '54 and Virginia Cassady '55**, for the Friends of the Libraries.
- **Edwin Dugger '62**, for the Conservatory Special Book Fund.
- **Joseph Hickerson '57**, for the Friends of the Libraries.
- **Maxine Houck '58**, for the Friends of the Libraries.
- **Norman Jung '56**, for the Friends of the Libraries.
- **Gilbert Lawall '57**, for the Friends of the Libraries.
- **Richard Lehmann '70**, for the George A. & Susan P. Lanyi Fund for Library Acquisitions.

- **Chelsey Maddox-Dorsey '81**, for the Mary Church Terrell Endowed Book Fund.
- **Ed Mandell**, for the Beatrice S. and Lloyd Frank '47 Library Fund.
- **Lucy Marks '73**, for the Lucy K. Marks '73 English & Classics Book Fund.
- **Bruce Regal '78**, for the Friends of the Libraries.
- **Louisa Roza '80**, for the Friends of the Libraries.
- **Robert Taylor and Ted Nowick**, for the Friends of the Libraries.
- **Dorothy Seebohm '39**, for the Conservatory Special Book Fund.
- **Michael Shinagel '57**, for the Friends of the Libraries.
- **Andrew Stone '80**, for the George A. & Susan P. Lanyi Endowed Library Book Fund.
- **Avonelle Walker '53**, for the Conservatory Special Book Fund and the Friends of the Libraries.

### Significant gifts-in-kind:

- **Salvatore Champagne '80**, Robert W. Wheeler Professor of Voice, donated a large collection of scores to the Conservatory Library.
- **Lubna Culbert** donated a collection of books, scores, and papers from the estate of her husband, David Culbert '66.

- **Donna Harrington Gerber '62**, donated many scores to the Conservatory Library.
- **Susan and John Harvith** donated a large collection of CDs and photographs to the Conservatory Library.
- **Robert Jackson** donated materials of various subjects to the Terrell Main Library and the Clarence Ward Art Library.
- **Joan Long**, parent of James Long '74, donated materials about Persian rugs to the Clarence Ward Art Library.
- **Qiusha Ma**, Emerita Professor of East Asian Studies, donated a large number of East Asian books and material.
- **Barry Neavill '66**, donated a large collection of serials to the Conservatory Library.
- **Bruce Simonson**, Emeritus Professor of Geology, continues to donate books to both the Science Library and the Terrell Main Library.
- **Lisa Tilson** donated materials to Special Collections from the estate of her mother Barbara Goodrich Pitt.
- **Betty Weinstock**, widow of Emeritus Professor of Physics Robert Weinstock, donated materials to both the Science Library and the Terrell Main Library. 📖

## Friends Research Award



Nicolas (Nic) Vigilante '18 received the \$500 Library Research Award from the Friends of the Libraries for a paper or project completed during the 2017-18 academic year. His paper "Research Games in Structural Biology" was written for Chemistry 361, Bioanalytical Chemistry, taught by Rebecca Whelan, then Associate Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry (now at University of Notre Dame).

Whelan described Vigilante's research as the "application of research games as an example of crowdsourcing that has been employed to great positive effect in structural biology and bioinformatics." She added, "This is a fascinating approach to democratizing science." Vigilante played the games himself to gain direct experience

that he then related to citizen science, crowdsourcing, scholarly communication, and the impact of informal networks of gamers on scientific progress.

Vigilante's research process was clearly articulated and very successful, utilizing some of the most comprehensive and scholarly resources the libraries offer. The committee gave his paper its highest assessment for creativity, thoroughness, and accuracy. The paper and Vigilante's research process statement are linked from the Friends of the Libraries web page at [oberlin.edu/library/friends/research.awards/winners.html](http://oberlin.edu/library/friends/research.awards/winners.html). Vigilante currently works for MKI Artists, an artist management company for classical musicians in Burlington, Vermont. 📖

## 2018 Friends Council Highlights

President Robert Taylor convened the 28th annual meeting of the Council on November 3, 2018. The financial report noted that the final balance of \$189,484 represented the third consecutive year of a balance increase. Annual giving was \$68,474, well above the 10-year average of \$58,000. Total cash gifts to the Friends of the Oberlin College Libraries since its founding in 1990 are estimated to exceed \$1 million by the close of this fiscal year.

The Council approved recommendations from the Acquisitions Committee to spend \$39,774 on new resources to support teaching and learning. The Council also approved graduate library school scholarships in the amount of \$3,500 each to Alexandra Howard '14 and Claire Payne '15 (see *Perspectives*, Fall 2018) and a \$500 library research award to Nicolas Vigilante. Upon recommendations from the Nominating Committee, the Council appointed officers for 2018-19 and elected new members (see page 3). Thanks were extended to Robert Taylor, Wendy Wasman '85, Eric Carpenter, Sebastiaan Faber, and Rod Knight for their services as President, Vice President, Secretary, and Council members respectively.

The Membership Committee reported that the decline in membership numbers reported last year has continued, but there was a recent surge in membership

following the Mary Church Terrell Main Library naming ceremony.

Eric Carpenter presented a memorial minute for Scott Alan Smith '76, a founding member of the Friends, longtime Council member, and chair of the Acquisitions Committee (see *Perspectives*, Fall 2018).

The Council heard a report from Director of Libraries Alexia Hudson-Ward, highlighted by the rousing success of the Mary Church Terrell Main Library naming event and establishment of the Mary Church Terrell endowed book fund.

Council approved partial financial support for an event to mark the return of the 15th-century Mamluk Qur'an after its preservation treatment at the New England Document Conservation Center in Boston (see *Perspectives*, Fall 2017). Council also approved partial financial support for the 2019 Jantz Lecture. Finally, Council honored the memory of the late Emeritus Professor of Film Studies Daniel Goulding who died on June 16, 2018. Goulding served on the Friends Council from 2003-2009, with terms as both Vice-President and President. 📖

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Staff members Bill Ruth, Sarah Weeks, Polly Bratton, and Faith Hoffman greeting guests at the Friends Annual Meeting



# Mary Church Terrell Main Library



Raymond Langston reading the letter from Robert Terrell to Robert Reed Church



Newly hung photographs of Dr. Seeley G. Mudd and Mary Church Terrell in the Mudd Center vestibule

Oberlin College faculty, staff, students, alumni, honored guests, community members, and other visitors assembled in the Academic Commons on October 6, 2018, to celebrate an important milestone with the naming of the Main Library in honor of Mary Church Terrell.

Alexia Hudson-Ward, Director of Libraries, presided over the ceremony and acknowledged the many individuals and groups who supported and assisted in planning the event. Board of Trustee members in attendance included Board Chair T. Chris Canavan '84, Board Vice Chair Chesley Maddox-Dorsey '81, former American Library Association President Molly Horst Raphael '67, and Charlene Drew Jarvis '62, whose family loaned to the archives a photo of Terrell with their ancestor Rev. William Daniel Jarvis. Speakers included President Carmen Twillie Ambar, Emerita Professor of History Carol Lasser, Jane and Eric Nord Associate Professor of Africana Studies Pam Brooks, Oberlin College Trustee and Presidential Search Committee Chair Lillie J. Edwards '75, and Oberlin Alumni Association of African Ancestry (OA4) co-chair Carolyn Cunningham Ash '91. Raymond Langston, a descendant of Mary Church Terrell, read a letter dated January 6, 1891 from Robert Terrell to Robert Reed

Church in which Terrell asked permission to marry Church's daughter, Mary Eliza. The letter was one of a collection of letters of Mary Church Terrell and her family donated by Raymond, Jean, and Monique Langston, and presented to College Archivist Ken Grossi for the Oberlin College Archives during Langston's presentation.

Following the speeches, Hudson-Ward presented President Ambar with a ceremonial key to the libraries to commemorate the occasion. Inscribed on the key are the phrases "Key of Knowledge" and "Oberlin College Libraries." The Oberlin College seal is included in the round inset on both sides

Alison Parker, Professor of History at the College at Brockport, State University of New York; Tamika Nunley, Assistant Professor of History and Comparative American Studies; and Grossi participated in a panel discussion following the naming ceremony. Parker spoke about research related to her book about Mary Church Terrell; Nunley discussed the use of primary source materials for her teaching related to Terrell and other African American women of Oberlin College; and Grossi talked about preserving and making available the Terrell Papers in the College Archives for teaching and research. The presentations were



Lillie Edwards '75 holds the ceremonial key presented to President Carmen Twillie Ambar.

# Naming Ceremony Highlights



Installing the aluminum letters “Mary Church Terrell Main Library” in the Academic Commons



Speakers and honored guests for the naming ceremony (L-R): Lillie Edwards '75, Professor Emerita of History and African-American Studies at Drew University and Oberlin College Trustee; Monique Langston, Jean Langston, and Raymond Langston, donors of the Mary Church Terrell letters; Oberlin College President Carmen Twillie Ambar; Alexia Hudson-Ward, Director of Libraries; Pamela Brooks, Jane and Eric Nord Associate Professor of Africana Studies and Carol Lasser, Emerita Professor of History, Honorary Co-Chairs, Mary Church Terrell Naming Ceremony; and Carolyn Cunningham '91, co-chair, Oberlin Alumni Association of African Ancestry

followed by a lively question and answer session with the audience.

Members of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. were also present, including Alpha Kappa Alpha members Hudson-Ward and Edwards. Delta Sigma Theta members included Nunley; Eboni Johnson '97, Outreach and Programming Librarian; and Meredith Gadsby, co-chair of President Ambar's Inauguration and Associate Professor of Africana Studies and Comparative American Studies. Terrell wrote the Delta Sigma Theta Oath and held honorary membership in the organization.

The Mary Church Terrell traveling exhibition and the College Archives exhibition, including materials from the Mary Church Terrell Papers, were on display during the naming ceremony. Attendees were invited to donate to the Mary Church Terrell Endowed Book Fund; those who gave \$100 or more received a special bookmark set and a commemorative calendar highlighting Terrell and other Oberlin African American Women of the 19th century. Fundraising for the Terrell Endowed Book Fund, held in the spring of 2018, was the first crowdsourcing campaign for the Oberlin College Libraries. The goal of \$25,000 was raised in just 60 days, in partnership with Oberlin's Office of Development. 📖

*Watch a video recording of the  
Mary Church Terrell Main Library  
naming ceremony at  
[tinyurl.com/MCTvimeo](https://tinyurl.com/MCTvimeo)*

Display cases at the naming ceremony held photographs, letters, and other objects related to Mary Church Terrell held by the Oberlin College Archives.



## Counternarratives Installations on Campus: Reflections

On October 29 and 30 artist Alexandra Bell installed two murals from her *Counternarratives* art project series on the facades of the Mudd Center/Terrell Main Library and the Venturi Art Building (see *Perspectives*, Fall 2018); they remained on view through December 21. A time-lapse video showing Bell's installation process is posted on the Oberlin College Facebook page at [tinyurl.com/counternarra](https://tinyurl.com/counternarra).

Bell's visit included several educational and public programs, including a lecture about her work at the intersection of media, bias, and the visual arts. She also participated in a "Lunch and Learn" session with students who were selected to attend due to their majors, current coursework, extracurricular interests, or artistic practices and pursuits. Bell spoke about ethics, implicit bias, racism, privilege, and overcoming imposter syndrome (a phenomenon whose research origins began at Oberlin through the work of former professor Pauline Rose Clance). She named Kara Walker, Simone Leigh, and Mel Bochner as three artists

who have influenced her, sparking recognition among the students because children of all three artists have attended Oberlin in the past two years.

The impact of Bell's visit and her interaction with students and the



Alex Bell (on ladder) working with AMAM Assistant Preparator Michael Reynolds on the Mudd Center facade

public is summed up by sophomore Katherine (Kate) Davis Ali, who was at the lunch session. "I chose to attend Oberlin College, a school historically known for its progressive attitude toward the education of POC [people of color] and women, largely because of my experiences with racial injustice during my time in high school. I live right by where Philando Castile was shot in Minnesota, and I spent the summer before my senior year at protests outside of the governor's residence. My school's silence about the issue was deeply upsetting to me, and I wanted to go somewhere where I could be surrounded by activists and hear from people like Bell. My majors focus on social change and my true love is art, so Alexandra is everything I aspire to be."

*Counternarratives* was co-sponsored by the Oberlin College Libraries and the Allen Memorial Art Museum in conjunction with *Radically Ordinary: Scenes from Black Life in America Since 1968*, an exhibition curated by Andrea Gyorody, Ellen Johnson '33 Assistant Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art. 📖



Keep's Bible, with ceremonial key

## Reverend Keep's Bible

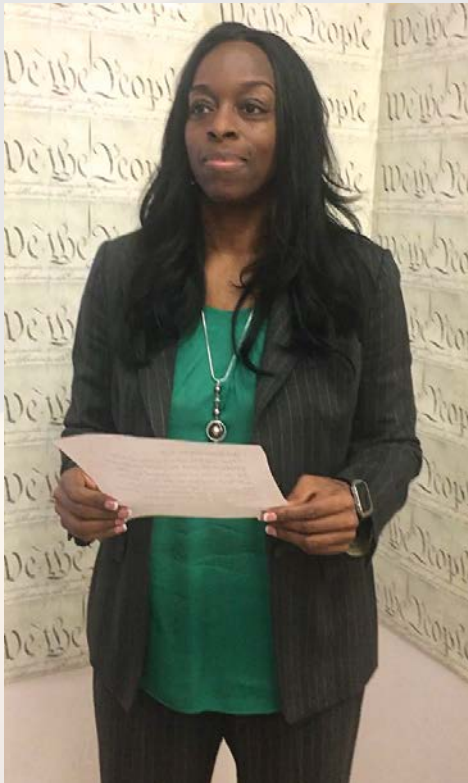
The Reverend John Keep, a trustee of the Oberlin Collegiate Institute (name changed to Oberlin College in 1850), was recognized by the faculty on the occasion of his 80th birthday on April 20, 1861 with a beautiful Bible. The inscriptions expressed a tremendous sense of admiration and respect felt by the campus community for Keep's service to the institution. In 1835, Keep cast the deciding vote for Oberlin to enroll African American students. This catalytic decision not only marked a turning point for the fledgling institution but also set into motion a dynamic change that impacted the nation—and ultimately the world.

The Bible remained in the Keep family until it was donated to the Oberlin College Archives in May 2018.

It was displayed during the Mary Church Terrell Main Library naming ceremony, alongside the ceremonial key to the libraries gifted to President Carmen Twillie Ambar from Director of Libraries Alexia Hudson-Ward. Incorporating Keep's Bible as a part of the Main Library naming ceremony was a fitting tribute to Mary Church Terrell, who believed so strongly in the principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion upon which the college and the colony were founded. She later challenged the college administration when she felt the principles were being compromised. Those principles have always relied upon the courageous efforts of individuals, like John Keep, who took a stance for a cause that helped shape Oberlin's distinguished history. 📖



# Libraries Celebrate Constitution Day



President Carmen Twillie Ambar

In September the libraries, in collaboration with the college's Office of the Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary, organized a full day of celebratory events to commemorate Constitution Day.

In the Mary Church Terrell Main Library, special guests participated in a “read-in” of their favorite passages from the Constitution in Azariah's Cafe including President Carmen Twillie Ambar, Vice President/General Counsel Donica Varner, Acting Dean of the College David Kamitsuka, Associate Deans of the College Daphne John and Elizabeth Hamilton, and Emerita Professor of History Carol Lasser. Videos of the readings were posted on the Oberlin College Libraries Facebook page with the hashtag #OberlinWeThePeople. Available nearby was a pop-up library featuring more than two dozen books about the Constitution from the libraries' collection.

The Conservatory Library hosted a talk by James O'Leary, Frederick R. Selch Associate Professor of Musicology, who spoke about American composer William Billings (1746–1800) next to an exhibition of patriotic-themed materials from the Selch Collection of American Music History. O'Leary provided context for a live performance of two of Billings' songs, “Chester” and “Lamentation over Boston,” which he described as “a journal of the American Revolution.” The songs were prepared by Gregory Ristow '01, Assistant Professor of Conducting and Director of Vocal Ensembles, and sung by members of the Oberlin College Choir. The event was streamed via Facebook Live. In addition, nearly 700 pocket-sized copies of the Constitution, in both English and Spanish, were handed out for free at all campus libraries throughout the day; the Conservatory also distributed versions in Korean and Chinese. 📖

Continued from Page 1

## Woodbury Papercut Gift

Polish, Jewish, German, English, American, Mexican, Filipino, and others). Additionally, the collection includes several examples of shadow puppets and books about shadow theater.

Ed Vermue, Special Collections Librarian, notes that the Woodbury Papercut Collection “creates a wonderful opportunity to draw students' attention to the vast multicultural history of silhouette art and maker craft. Some of the primary sources included in the collection have already drawn the attention of faculty teaching about animation,

puppet theater, and 19th-century folk traditions.” He looks forward to incorporating large sections of the collection into classroom instruction and individual student projects.

Head of the Clarence Ward Art Library Barbara Prior believes “the variety of papercut specimens, from an early 20th-century mission school in China to modern Mexican *papel picado*, will interest artists—for their technique

and effects—as well as those exploring visual culture in a variety of fields.” She notes that “the collection is rich with secondary sources, especially exhibition catalogs and monographs, documenting the use of papercutting techniques in contemporary art.” Some of the books have already found their way into student instruction, thanks to junior

Sophie Drukman-Feldstein, who taught an ExCo course on papercutting last fall and was pleased to have these resources available. 📖



# Patricia Willard Visits the Conservatory



The Conservatory Library together with the Jazz Studies Program, under the sponsorship of David Berger and Holly Maxson, hosted a visit by Patricia Willard in November. Visiting just shy of her 90th birthday, Willard engaged students, faculty, and staff with her stories about experiences as a publicist for Duke Ellington during the last third of his life. She also conveyed insights as a documentarian of jazz history for many decades.

A prolific writer, Willard has been a contributing editor to numerous magazines including *Down Beat*, *Jazz & Jazz Pop*, and *Jazz Times*, and has written for *Rolling Stone*, *The Village Voice*, *Billboard*, the *Los Angeles Times*,

*Los Angeles Herald-Examiner*, and *Los Angeles Daily News*, and many other publications. More recently she has served as a consultant to the Duke Ellington Collection at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History and the jazz and popular music collections at the Library of Congress, as well as the National Endowment for the Arts music program.

In 2018 Willard became the first woman to be celebrated for Lifetime Achievement in Jazz Journalism by the Jazz Journalists Association. Her visits to Conservatory classes in music journalism and jazz studies, as well as her participation in jazz band rehearsals and panel discussions, were highly appreciated. 📖

## Neumann Jazz Symposium

Selections from the Conservatory Library's James R. '58 and Susan Neumann Jazz Collection will be on display and available for listening during the Conservatory's Neumann Jazz Symposium April 15-17. The collection, comprising more than 100,000 recordings and a vast array of posters, ephemera, and iconography, became the inaugural feature of the Conservatory Library's special collections when it arrived in the fall of 2011 (see *Perspectives*, Spring 2012). Through the continued generosity of the Neumanns the symposium will feature panel discussions, documentary screenings, and an Oberlin jazz faculty concert celebrating "30 Years of Jazz Studies" at Oberlin. The symposium will culminate with an Artist Recital Series performance in Finney Chapel by the Spring Quartet.

During the festivities, the Conservatory Library will feature three exhibitions highlighting items from the Neumann Collection and other jazz-related special collections:

- Highlights from the Milton J. and Mona C. Hinton Collection (Kohl basement exhibit case);

- Bunk Johnson display featuring material from the Stanley King Jazz Collection and the James R. and Susan Neumann Jazz Collection (Conservatory Library exhibit case);
- Sonny Rollins' Selmer Mark VI tenor saxophone, 1968, and the Sonny Rollins Jazz Ensemble member ledger book (Kohl first floor exhibit case).

Digital exhibitions will also be on display throughout the Kohl Building:

- Photographs by Mark Sheldon from the James R. and Susan Neumann Jazz Collection;
- Strata-East records in the James R. and Susan Neumann Jazz Collection;
- Film poster selections from the James R. and Susan Neumann Jazz Collection;
- *Pilgrimage Through the Universe: Sonny Rollins' Musical Journey*;
- *Jazz as a Vehicle for Protest* (curated by Emma Adomeit '18);
- *Playing the Changes*, an exhibition from the Milton J. and Mona C. Hinton Collection;
- *Going Electric: The Use of Electronic and Digital Technology in Jazz* (curated by Max Weiner '18).



With the advent of the Bertram and Judith Kohl Building, the Conservatory Library has been able to greatly expand its special collections holdings and thereby play a vital role in Oberlin's commitment to teaching the next generation of renowned jazz musicians. 📖

## Tiny Ref Desk Concerts Enliven Conservatory Library



The Great Lakes Quartet

One night in 2008, Bob Boilen, host of NPR's *All Songs Considered*, and Stephen Thompson, NPR music editor, left a bar feeling frustrated that they couldn't hear the music due to crowd noise. From that frustration, NPR's *Tiny Ref Desk Concerts* were born: short, intimate concerts in a noise-free environment. After watching several videos of the concert series, Kathleen Abromeit, Public Services Librarian in the Conservatory Library, decided to host such a series in the library, calling them Tiny Ref Desk Concerts. The concerts take place at noon near the Conservatory Library's reference desk and are "tiny" due to their short duration of roughly 20 minutes. The

concerts feature students who work in the Conservatory Library and faculty who are avid library users and supporters.

The fall semester started with the Angles Trio (junior Roberto Acosta, piano; junior Dan Finn, bass; senior Ricardo Guerra, drums) playing jazz trio favorites. Finn is from the stacks maintenance team in the Conservatory Library, and Guerra works at the reference desk. The Great Lakes Quartet (senior Devin Cowan, senior Lynn Giam, sophomore Cordelia Mutter, and senior Nanna Treu) performed Beethoven's String Quartet op.18 no. 5. The semester drew to a close with "Swoon over the Bassoon," starring Oberlin's bassoonists led by

Drew Pattison '10, Assistant Professor of Bassoon; Pattison worked as a reference assistant in the Conservatory Library during his student days. In a perfect tiny-world way, junior Philip Swigon, bassoon performance major and current reference assistant, performed a duet with Pattison. They were joined by other members of the studio for a preview of Bassoon Christmas, a jovial holiday tradition.

The spring lineup includes a performance on February 14 by members of the Oberlin College Black Musicians Guild and an April 11 concert in celebration of Jazz Appreciation Month. The April concert will feature three basses from the Milton J. and Mona C. Hinton Collection in the Oberlin Conservatory Library's special collections. Peter Dominguez, Professor of Jazz Studies and Double Bass, and members of his studio will perform on these legendary instruments, recently returned to the Conservatory after several months of restoration and repair in New York. Milt Hinton was one of the most accomplished bass players of the 20th century who chronicled nearly 1,200 recording sessions using these basses.

"We think you'll have at least a tiny amount of fun at our Tiny Ref Desk Concerts," quipped Abromeit. Join us at noon on Thursday, April 11! 📖

## Winter Term in the Letterpress Studio

In January Special Collections Librarian Ed Vermue sponsored his popular winter term course Letterpress Printing, offered this year for the eighth time (see *Perspectives*, Spring 2011). The class project was the publication *600: A Series of Vignettes*, a 16-page book of original prose, poetry, and illustrations. Besides creating the content, students handled all aspects of production, including layout and design, typesetting, cutting images on linoleum blocks, printing inner leaves and covers, hand-sewing spines, trimming edges, and numbering each of the 125 copies. Sophomore Mari Chandy (left) and senior Claire Bonesteel feed a sheet of paper for inking into the libraries' rotary Vandercook SP-20 hand-operated proof press (built in 1963).



# Friends of the Libraries Purchases

At its annual meeting on November 3, 2018, the Friends of the Libraries Council approved spending \$39,774 of Friends funds to purchase the following materials in support of teaching, research, and learning.

## Special Collections

Three albums of original gelatin silver photographs, early 20th century:

1.) 239 photographs showing local people, French military campaigns, and aerial views of Morocco during the Rif War and the final years of French conquest; 2.) 35 photographs taken during the British Mesopotamian Campaign of WWI, showing local people, buildings, and soldiers in Basra, Baghdad, Amarah, and Mosul; 3.) 78 photographs, including nine real photo postcards, compiled by an Imperial German Army officer of the 146th Infantry Regiment during the Sinai and Palestine Campaign of WWI, showing Jerusalem, several towns and villages in the modern-day West Bank, Syria, the Jordan River, Istanbul, and the return voyage to Germany via Gibraltar. Included with the third album are a typescript military report in German on the involvement of the 146th Infantry Regiment in the Battle at Damascus in 1918 and a German map of Palestine and North Mesopotamia. These three albums will be incorporated into syllabi and student assignments in courses on Middle Eastern history.



Qur'anic verses, 1777 [Arabic calligraphy manuscript, Morocco]. This manuscript in Maghrebi script from a North African madrasah is

a primer of Qur'anic excerpts, most likely written by a student for recitation practice. Besides supporting courses in art history and Middle Eastern and North African studies, it gives Special Collections a book type it does not currently have, in a more antique style of script and from a part of the Islamic

world that is underrepresented in the collection.

American calligraphy manuscript, ca. 1870 [notebook]. This 47-leaf practice notebook of unknown origin features a different style of manuscript alphabet on each page. Included are samples of Hebrew and Greek text and several pages of ornate initials. The manuscript offers insight into the breadth of penmanship and graphic design familiar to 19th-century calligraphers. It complements the calligraphy collection recently donated by Myrlin von Glahn (see *Perspectives*, Fall 2014). Penmanship, manuscript illumination, and paleography increasingly arise as discussion topics in special collections teaching and are surprisingly foreign to current students.



## Multidisciplinary Resources

*The Global Press Archive (GPA)* [electronic resource]. GPA's goal is to digitize over 2,000 predominantly non-English-language newspapers from the late-19th century to the present. The Center for Research Libraries (CRL), of which Oberlin is a member, and the online publisher East View Information Services have formed a "charter alliance" through which member libraries will help prioritize content, facilitate digitization of millions of pages of open access content, and enable access to

nearly two million pages of in-copyright content for member libraries. In total, 4.5 million newspaper pages sourced from Stanford University Libraries, the Hoover Institution Library & Archives, CRL and its member libraries, and original publishers will be released over three years. Major languages will include Chinese, Japanese, French, Persian, Arabic, Spanish, and English. This resource gives Oberlin users access to an unprecedented corpus of global newspapers. The GPA will support area studies and social science disciplines, and provide a new foundation for work in digital humanities. The cost of this resource will be spread over three years.



## Art

*A Box of Smile*, 1984 [black plastic box]. This is a replica of one of Yoko Ono's signature conceptual

works from the 1960s and '70s. When the box is opened, it reveals a mirror with a reflection of your own smile. This object adds a significant piece to the collection of Fluxus items in the Art Library's mail art and artists' book collections. Issued by ReFlux Editions, founded in the early 1980s as a way to keep classic Fluxus works "in print" indefinitely, these multiples were intended as inexpensive alternatives to unique and valuable art objects, deliberately undermining the concept of preciousness by their quotidian nature and lack of exclusivity. This acquisition supports courses with an interest in conceptual art and the Fluxus movement taught in creative writing, studio art, art history, and the Conservatory of Music.

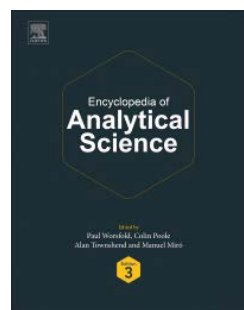
*The Beautiful Book*, 2001 [facsimile].

The only autonomous collection of Jack Smith's photographs to appear during his lifetime, this work comprises 19 hand-tipped, black-and-white contact prints, originally published in an edition of 200 copies in 1962. Smith is best known as the creator of the 1961 film

*Flaming Creatures*; the photographs feature many of the actors and models from the film. This facsimile edition features new prints made from the original negatives and will support both faculty in art history and curators at the Allen Memorial Art Museum.

*The Andy Warhol Catalogue Raisonné*, vol. 5: *Paintings, 1976-1978*, 2018. This latest addition to the Warhol *catalogue raisonné* demonstrates the subversive core of Warhol's art. Intent on radical departure from his portraiture in the early 1970s, Warhol's production during this period gradually became anything but "just faces." From portraits of athletes and self-portraits to his *Skulls* and *Hammer and Sickle* series, this volume showcases the artist's work as powerful and as provocative as ever. Oberlin owns the previous four volumes.

*Neue Garten- und Landschaftsgebäude*, 1798. This book adds a missing item to the Art Library's Jefferson Architectural Books Collection, which nearly replicates all 62 books listed in Fiske Kimball's 1916 bibliography. Clarence Ward began building the Jefferson collection that same year, and it has been relied upon by subsequent art librarians over the past century. Today Oberlin's replica collection is the finest such collection outside of the Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library at Columbia University. Oberlin now lacks just five of the architectural titles owned by Thomas Jefferson.



## Science

*Encyclopedia of Analytical Science*, 3rd ed., 2019 [electronic resource]. This important reference work examines the analytical

techniques that yield information on chemical systems and the instruments and methods used to separate, identify, and quantify matter. Topics new to this edition include genomics, proteomics, metabolomics, increasingly complex

hyphenated techniques, and more. Analytical chemistry is a core area of Oberlin's chemistry and biochemistry curriculum, with applications relevant to environmental and forensic science; this updated edition is an important tool for teaching.

*Comprehensive Toxicology*, 3rd ed., 2017 [electronic resource]. Organized by organ system, this comprehensive reference work addresses chemical effects on biological systems, with a focus on understanding the mechanisms by which chemicals induce adverse health effects. Articles discuss the toxicological effects of chemicals on the immune, hematopoietic, cardiovascular, respiratory, gastrointestinal, reproductive, and renal systems, among other topics. Neurotoxicology is a growing area of interest in the neuroscience department; this work also supports coursework and research in biology and chemistry.

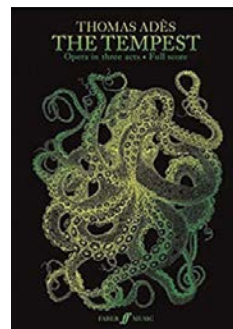
## Music

*Génération Harmonique, ou Traité de Musique Théorique et Pratique*, 1737. This work is a first edition in French of the fourth treatise on music theory by Jean-Philippe Rameau. In his earlier treatises, Rameau had introduced the scientific method in music theory, presenting and expanding upon his ideas about basic principles governing music, including complicated mathematical procedures for deriving all chords from divisions of a single monochord string. The addition of this volume complements the earlier three already in the Conservatory Library's special collections. These writings appeal to music theorists as well as scientists with an interest in the history of acoustics.

*Endimione: Favola per Musica da Recitarsi nel Reggjo Teatro di Torino*, 1699. This rare libretto was printed for distribution to audience members at one of the earliest performances of the 1692 Arcadian opera *Endimione*, based on the classical Greek myth of Endymion and written in Italian verse by Francesco Lemene (1634-1704). It includes extensive annotations to the text that

likely appear here for the first time, making it an essential source for study of the myth's history and development. This important libretto will appeal to opera students as well as music and theater historians.

*De Cymbalis Veterum, Libri Tres, in Quibus Quaecunque ad Corum, Differentiam, Originem, Historiam, Ministros, Ritus Pertinent, Elucidantur*, 1703. In this treatise on the history of cymbals in classical antiquity, author Friedrich Adolph Lampe (1683-1728) traces the etymology and history of cymbals, one of the world's oldest musical instruments. Several plates of antique statues, objects, and instruments illustrate the narrative. This work complements the holdings of the Frederick R. Selch Collection of American Music History.



*The Tempest: Opera in Three Acts, Op. 22: (2003-04)*, 2018 [full score]. British composer Thomas Adès' program notes from the 2004 premier at the Royal Opera

House indicate that his opera was inspired by Shakespeare's play, rather than literally based on it, incorporating both new material and key images from the play. From among the play's many themes, the opera focuses on the difficulty—and the necessity—of mercy. Meredith Oakes' libretto uses contemporary vocabulary and short, rhythmic, and rhymed or semi-rhymed lines, echoing Shakespeare's own writing and reflecting the play's magical, ritual, and childlike elements. The opera has been performed over 50 times since its premiere, was featured by the Metropolitan Opera's *Live in HD* series screened in 1,800 cinemas around the world, and won a Grammy Award for best opera recording in 2014. The full score format will enable study by composers, vocalists, and students interested in theater. 🎭

## New Digital Resources

The libraries recently acquired the following new resources to support curricular programs and research.

### CQ RESEARCHER

*CQ Researcher* is now an all-digital publication, bringing enhancements, additional content, and new features such as the ability to create personal profiles, save searches and documents, set topic alerts, and download PDFs. *CQ Researcher* is often the first source librarians recommend to students seeking comprehensive reporting and analysis on issues in the news. Founded in 1923, *CQ Researcher* is noted for its in-depth, unbiased coverage of health, social issues, criminal justice, international affairs, education, the environment, technology, and the economy. Over 40 single-themed, 12,000-word reports are published annually. Researched and written by seasoned journalists, reports include an introductory overview, pro-con debates of opposing positions, background and chronology, an assessment of the current situation, tables and maps, and a bibliography of key sources.

*The Encyclopedia of Special Education: A Reference for the Education of Children, Adolescents, and Adults with Disabilities and Other Exceptional Individuals* covers issues ranging from theory to practice. The completely updated 4th edition includes 2,800 entries, with increased attention to topics that have grown in importance in recent years, such as technology, federal and state accountability, evaluation and assessment, international issues, and neuropsychology.

### OXFORD BIBLIOGRAPHIES

Six new subjects have been added to the library's subscription to *Oxford Bibliographies Online*: African studies, Chinese studies, Latin American studies, medieval studies, military history, and music. *Oxford Bibliographies* is an authoritative guide to reliable peer-reviewed resources and scholarship.

Selectively curated and annotated by expert academics, the bibliographies offer high-level overviews that provide students and novices with a point of entry into unfamiliar areas of study. Oberlin began subscriptions for political science and linguistics in 2016; their popularity and usefulness has led the libraries to add these new topic areas.

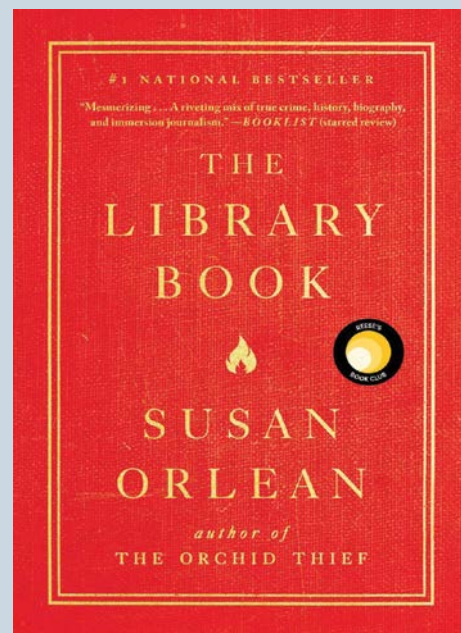
### Otzar HaHochma

The world's largest digital library of Judaic books

*Otzar HaHochma* is a digital library of 93,800 Judaic books, scanned in their original format and fully searchable. It encompasses all realms of Judaism from ancient times to the modern period, including such fields as Talmudic and Tannaitic literature, Jewish philosophy, Kabbalah, Hasidism, and modern scholarship in history, Hebrew linguistics, psychology, and family studies. Included are first editions, rare books, multiple editions of the Talmud, liturgical writings, sermons, and prayer books. The libraries have begun a single-user subscription to determine interest level and usage among Oberlin students and faculty. The interface and included texts are in Hebrew.

### WILEY ONLINE LIBRARY

*Wiley Online Library* now includes the entire journal catalog from John Wiley & Sons. OhioLINK member institutions have had access to Wiley's core journals for the past two decades; the newly negotiated package includes 532 additional titles, bringing the total number to more than 1,500 e-journals published by Wiley for 2019. Known for particular strengths in life, health, and physical sciences, the online library also includes many social sciences and humanities journals, as well as 22,000 e-books published from 2012 to the present. 📖



Continued from Page 1

## Jantz Lecture

splits her time between Los Angeles and the Hudson Valley, continuing to write pieces for *The New Yorker* and occasionally for other magazines while authoring new books.

The Harold Jantz Memorial Lectureship honors the memory of one of the most distinguished literary scholars among Oberlin graduates. Established in 1988 through the generosity of family, friends, colleagues, former students, and classmates of Harold Jantz '29, the endowed fund supports public lectures and symposia in areas of his professional interests: German literature and literary history, German and American literary relations, art and art history, and bibliophilism. The lectureship rotates among the German department, the libraries, and the Allen Memorial Art Museum and is a lasting tribute to Jantz, an Elyria, Ohio native. He earned a PhD in comparative literature with a focus on German literature at the University of Wisconsin–Madison and went on to become a Goethe scholar and authority on early American literature. His esteemed career included professorships at Princeton, Johns Hopkins, Duke, and the universities of Hamburg and Vienna. 📖

# Art Librarian Participates in Mail Art Study Day

What do mail art scholars, curators, and artists do when they meet in D.C.? Visit the National Postal Museum to carve rubber stamps, of course! In November Barbara Prior, Head of the Clarence Ward Art Library, joined the group for their Thursday evening Wine and Design event, a social precursor to a Mail Art Study Day at the Smithsonian Institution's Archives of American Art held the following day.

The Archives of American Art invited three mail artists, six scholars, and two curators to join their five in-house curators for a day of sharing ideas, learning from each other, and enjoying the exhibition *Pushing the Envelope: Mail Art from the Archives of American Art*. The exhibition was curated by Miriam Kienle, Assistant Professor of Contemporary Art History at the University of Kentucky, with the help of students enrolled in her seminar on the international mail art movement. The

exhibition features works from several of the 30,000 artist archives at the Archives of American Art and can be viewed online at [tinyurl.com/aaa-mailart](http://tinyurl.com/aaa-mailart).

This was Prior's first opportunity to meet other professionals curating mail art collections, talk with scholars actively researching mail art, and learn the perspective of mail artists. The Art Library's mail art collection is one of the libraries' largest special collections; the total size is not known, but approximately 23,000 items have been processed to date, representing the work of 300 artists. For over 20 years, Prior has been the content specialist charged with caring for and interpreting the mail art collection. She presented a well-received slideshow that described archival practices for maintaining the collection, which is comprised of the Harley Terra Candella Mail Art Archive and the Reid Wood State of Being Mail Art Archive. Together they

document over 40 years of mail art activity from 1974 to 2016, representing over 1,800 artists from nearly 75 countries. Prior was pleased by the favorable response from attendees as her talk demonstrated how Oberlin's mail art collection has been embraced by the campus.

Sometimes referred to as the "longest-lived international art movement that no one knows anything about," mail art is a global, informal network of artists who have been interacting, building communities, and sharing artwork, ideas, and mutual support since the mid-1950s. The Mail Art Study Day not only led to an expanded professional reading list, but it was also an opportunity to learn that mail art research is a growing practice, especially among young scholars. Prior concluded, "perhaps some day mail art will be known as the longest-lived international art movement that everyone knows something about." 📖

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## Recent Staff Publications and Presentations

**Deborah Campana**, Head, Conservatory Library. "Sighting and Resighting." Photographic exhibition, Kendal at Oberlin, December 12, 2018–February 11, 2019.

**Cynthia Comer**, Academic Commons Coordinator. "#1Lib1Ref: How Library Staff Can Help Make Wikipedia Even Better." Poster presentation, Academic Library Association of Ohio, November 2, 2018. Columbus.

— **and Julie Weir**, Reference and Academic Commons Assistant. "Easy Effort, High Impact, Wide Reach: Cultivating Community Engagement with a Low-Tech Whiteboard." Ibid. [First place winner of the "People's Choice Award" for best poster.]

**Allison Gallaher**, Assistant Director and Head of Public Services (now retired). "Rethinking Fines: Considering Equity, Inclusion, and Retention." Ibid.

**Ken Grossi**, College Archivist and L'ael Hughes-Watkins, Kent State University. "Project STAND: Documenting Student Activism," *Archival Outlook*, September/October 2018.

— **with Alexia Hudson-Ward**, Director of Libraries; Carol Lasser, Emerita Professor of History; Sarah Minion '17; and Natalia Shevin '17. "How a Digital Collaboration at Oberlin College Between Archivists, Faculty, Students, and Librarians Found Its Muse in Mary Church Terrell, Nineteenth-Century Feminist and Civil Rights Icon." *The Journal of Interactive Technology and Pedagogy*, Issue 14, January 7, 2019 [available at [tinyurl.com/ybxjyfe5](http://tinyurl.com/ybxjyfe5)].

**Alexia Hudson-Ward**, Director of Libraries, was featured with a quote in the special report on careers, "Good Job Hunting." *American Libraries*, November/December 2018, p. 36.

**Eboni Johnson**, Outreach and Programming Librarian. "Librarian as Archivist in Africatown: A Grassroots Experiment." Session presentation, Academic Library Association of Ohio, November 2, 2018. Columbus.

**Tammy Martin**, Catalog and Metadata Services Assistant. "Adventures in Ecuador." Presentation on Martin's 2017 international birding trip, Black River Audubon Society, September 4, 2018; Ritter Public Library, Vermilion, Ohio, October 18, 2018; Kendal at Oberlin, March 14, 2019.

**Barbara Prior**, Head, Clarence Ward Art Library. "Mail Art: Managing a New Genre." Presentation, Mail Art Study Day, Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. November 9, 2019.

**Alison Ricker**, Head, Science Library. "Excited About Science: Academic Libraries Get Their Students and Community Engaged." *American Libraries*, November/December 2018.

— Review of *Still Waters*, by Curt Stager. *Choice*, January 2019.

**Anne Salsich**, Associate Archivist. "Sanctuary at Oberlin: The Archives Bear Witness." *Archival Outlook*, November/December 2018, pp. 6+. 📖

# Staff Changes in the Libraries



**A**lonso Avila joined the library as Information Literacy and Student Success Librarian in the Mary Church Terrell Main Library in January. His primary responsibilities include curricular support, reference and instruction, information literacy initiatives, and information resource management. Avila was most recently employed at the University of Iowa as a Special Collections and Reference and Instruction Librarian where he designed and taught a 10-week first year seminar on international hip-hop and social justice. His work included collaboration with staff and faculty to develop a list of resources for a course on countering online abuse and hate, and instruction to ESL students on

finding and evaluating information. He also co-taught university and high school students on the use of archival and primary resources from Special Collections. Earlier work experience at the University of Illinois and the University of Washington ranged from cataloging architectural photos of South Asian temples and co-founding the Midwest Hip-Hop Archives to contributing monthly posts on social justice themes in international pop culture to the blog Glocal Notes. Avila earned his bachelor's in English literature and Spanish from Coe College and a master of science in library and information science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Avila looks forward to learning more about Oberlin, both the town and college, and exploring the region. In his free time, he enjoys looking at how hip-hop culture and Islam intersect, practicing his amateur calligraphy skills, supporting independent artists of color, and music in general, but especially music from talented classical oud players.

**Selina Wang** has assumed a new role in the libraries as Head of Acquisitions, E-resources, and Serials. Wang is committed to enhancing the user's experience when accessing the libraries'

hundreds of thousands of online titles, including e-books, databases, and continuing publications such as journals, newspapers, and magazines. Wang joined the libraries in 2010 (see *Perspectives*, Spring 2011); a search is underway to fill her vacated position as Head of Discovery and Metadata Services.

**Sarah Weeks**, Associate Director of Libraries and Head of Technical Services, who joined the libraries in August (see *Perspectives*, Fall 2018), has assumed collection development and management responsibilities following the retirement of Collection Development Librarian Jessica Grim. Weeks oversees the collection development budget and is working with Megan Mitchell, Digital Initiatives Librarian, to coordinate the outreach efforts and collection development work of 13 liaison librarians. As Head of Technical Services, Weeks has oversight for 15 staff members in the Terrell Main Library and works closely with staff in all three branch libraries. Questions about collection development and management policies can be directed to Weeks or the appropriate subject liaison, as listed on the libraries' website in the Services for Faculty section. 📖

## In Memoriam: Eilene Funk



**F**ormer library staff member Eilene Funk, 101, passed away on January 4, 2019 shortly after her admission to the New Life Hospice Center in Lorain, Ohio. Since 2011 she had resided at the Abbewood Senior Living Community in Elyria, Ohio. Funk began as a part-time assistant in the Readers Service Division in 1970 when the library was still located in the Carnegie building. She also worked for a time at the loan desk (now known as the circulation desk) before the library relocated to the newly-opened Mudd Center in 1974.

As a member of the Main Library Reference Department, one of Funk's main responsibilities was assisting library users during her regular shifts at the reference desk. She also worked on a variety of other tasks in the department, retiring from her position as Reference Assistant on June 10, 1983. During retirement, Funk enjoyed gardening, traveling the country, sewing, needlepoint, quilting, and other craft projects. 📖



## Retirements



**Allison Gallaher** joined the library staff in August 1981 fresh from graduate school at the University of Chicago. She was appointed Reference Librarian in the Main Library, later moving to the other side of the main level to become Head of Circulation, and eventually overseeing interlibrary loan and all aspects of OhioLINK borrowing in addition to circulation and stacks management. Most recently, Allison served as Assistant Director of Libraries and Head of Public Services, adding oversight for reference and instruction activities to her host of other responsibilities. Over the past decades she has been invaluable as the person most knowledgeable about the libraries' circulation system; she helped lead the migration from an early circulation system to the libraries' first integrated library system and was instrumental in subsequent system upgrades.

She helped manage the libraries' initial membership in OhioLINK as the first private college to join the statewide network, and was a highly respected leader on the OhioLINK InterCampus Services Committee. She also helped introduce electronic reserves and the integration of reserve with the Blackboard learning management system, as well as circulation of laptops and iPads. In short, over Allison's tenure, she co-led major initiatives that transformed paper-based circulation, catalog, and reserve operations into the highly efficient and patron-friendly

systems that are now so essential for teaching and learning.

Beyond the libraries, Allison served as an academic advisor and for a number of years on the College Faculty Assemblies Committee, where her knowledge of pop culture and theater was always an asset. Allison will remain "on call" for several months as Special Projects Coordinator to assist in the transition to a new Assistant Director and Head of Public Services. Her immediate plans include an extended trip to the southwest to visit family and friends and take in some Major League Baseball spring training. She will continue her advocacy and volunteer work with RESULTS, a citizen's action organization committed to ending poverty, and plans to "spend more time with her 13 grandkids, and finally clean the basement!"



**Jessica Grim** began working in the libraries in 1991 as Reference Librarian and Instruction Coordinator in the Main Library. She was appointed Collection Development and Management Librarian in 2007, following Eric Carpenter's retirement. As instruction coordinator, Jessica was involved in planning faculty workshops on information literacy and expanding the instruction program throughout the curriculum. She played a key role in transforming the main level of the Main Library into the first iteration of the Academic Commons (see *Perspectives*, Fall 2007). More recently, she developed policies and practices that ensure the long-term stewardship and growth of the libraries' collections, both print and

electronic. Her responsibilities included chairing the Collection Development Liaison Librarians group, helping to coordinate communication between the libraries and faculty, and encouraging faculty engagement with scholarly communication issues. She also served on the *Library Perspectives* editorial team for over 10 years.

Jessica was active on the Administrative and Professional Staff (A&PS) Council (chair, 2015-16) and the A&PS Conditions of Employment Committee. She was instrumental in developing guidelines for A&PS committees and working groups. She also served on the college's Sexual Misconduct Policy hearing panel. A published poet, Jessica was affiliated with the Creative Writing Program; from 1992 to 2016 she advised students completing individual projects in creative writing.

Jessica's contributions outside of Oberlin included service in the Association of College and Research Libraries Women's Studies Section and on collection-related groups in OhioLINK. She was active in the Academic Library Association of Ohio Collection Management Interest Group, serving as chair. Jessica shared that she will miss "working with a truly wonderful and talented group of colleagues" and having access to the "incredible collection" of the Oberlin College Libraries. Her next adventure is a 27-month term of service in Myanmar with the Peace Corps; she will return home in time to see her son graduate from college. Jessica also plans to devote more time to writing.



Best wishes to **Jeremy Smith**, former Conservatory Library Special Collections Librarian and Curator of the James R. and Susan Neumann Jazz Collection and *Library Perspectives* editorial team member, who departed Oberlin in October 2018 to become the Director of the Archives of Appalachia at East Tennessee State University. 📖

# Friends of the Libraries—Spring Programs

## Exhibitions

### “Pine, Bamboo, and Plum: The Painting Manuals from China and Japan”

Monday, February 18–Saturday, March 16,  
Academic Commons, Terrell Main Library, Mudd  
Center

### Votes for Women: A Portrait of Persistence

Includes photos of Mary Church Terrell, Ida Gibbs Hunt, and Anna Julia Cooper, all members of the Class of 1884, on loan from the Oberlin College Archives for an exhibit at the National Portrait Gallery.

Friday, March 29–Sunday, January 5, 2020,  
National Portrait Gallery, Washington, D.C.

### Monoprint of Mary Church Terrell, by Suzanne Benton

Friday, May 24–Sunday, May 26, Academic  
Commons, Terrell Main Library, Mudd Center

### The Mudd Center 45th Anniversary Celebration

Friday, May 24–Sunday, May 26, Academic  
Commons, Terrell Main Library, Mudd Center

### Celebrating the 50th Reunion of the Class of 1969 and the 25th Reunion of the Class of 1994

Friday, May 24–Sunday, May 26, Goodrich Room,  
4th Floor, Terrell Main Library, Mudd Center

## Lectures and Other Events

### “Elusive Utopia: The Struggle for Racial Equality in Oberlin,”

Talk by Gary Kornblith, Emeritus  
Professor of History and Carol Lasser, Emerita  
Professor of History.

Wednesday, February 27, 4:30 p.m., Moffett  
Auditorium, Mudd Center

### Art+Feminism Wikipedia Edit-a-Thon,

Annual international event to help fill gaps in the coverage of women, gender, feminism, and the arts in *Wikipedia*. Co-sponsored with the Allen Memorial Art Museum. All are welcome!

Saturday, March 2, noon–4 p.m., East Gallery,  
AMAM

### “Sovereignty at the Paris Peace Conference of 1919,”

Talk by Len Smith, Frederick B. Artz  
Professor of History.

Wednesday, March 6, 4:30 p.m., Moffett  
Auditorium, Mudd Center

### Flamenco Dance Performances,

by Alice Blumenthal, Visiting Assistant Professor of Dance.  
Wednesday, March 13 and Thursday, March 14,  
noon, Academic Commons, Terrell Main Library,  
Mudd Center

### “Historians and Hamilton,”

Talk by Renee Romano, Professor of History, Comparative  
American Studies, and Africana Studies.

Wednesday, March 20, 4:30 p.m., Moffett  
Auditorium, Mudd Center

### “The Original Black Elite: Daniel Murray and the Story of a Forgotten Era,”

Talk by Elizabeth Dowling Taylor, independent scholar and Fellow,  
Virginia Foundation for the Humanities.

Thursday, April 4, 4:30 p.m., Moffett Auditorium,  
Mudd Center

### Citizen Science Wikipedia Edit-a-Thon,

Celebrate Citizen Science Day by adding new,  
current references that improve science-related  
articles in *Wikipedia*. Led by Alison Ricker, Head,  
Science Library. All are welcome; sign up in  
advance by emailing [aricker@oberlin.edu](mailto:aricker@oberlin.edu).

Sunday, April 14, 1–3 p.m., Mac Lab, Science  
Library, Science Center

### The Harold Jantz Memorial Lecture

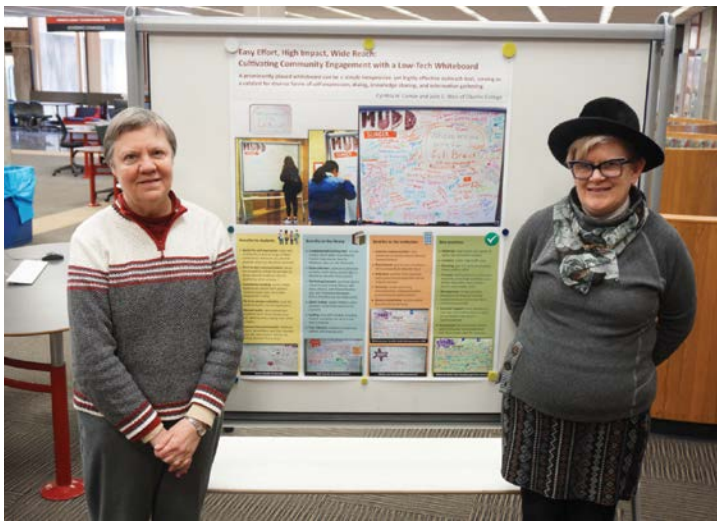
by Susan Orlean, journalist and author of *The Library Book*.  
Monday, April 15, 4:30 p.m., Nancy Schrom Dye  
Lecture Hall, Science Center.



Love letters between Mary Church Terrell and Robert Terrell, displayed on February 14 during “Love Week in the Libraries”



Deborah Campana (center, top photo) with friends and colleagues at her photography exhibition opening (see page 15); Cynthia Comer (left) and Julie Weir with their award-winning conference poster (see page 15); Below, students take turns printing valentines at the letterpress pop-up event hosted by Special Collections Librarian Ed Vermue during "Love Week in the Libraries."



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| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 – Sponsor | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 – Patron        | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 – Benefactor |

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## Mary Church Terrell Traveling Exhibition Hits the Road

The Oberlin College Libraries unveiled a traveling exhibition *Mary Church Terrell: An Original Oberlin Activist* in conjunction with the naming of the Main Library in her honor last fall (see article on page 6). Conceived as a visual literacy extension to celebrate her many accomplishments, the exhibition explores the life and work of Mary Church Terrell (BA 1884; MA 1888; Hon. 1948) through four lenses of achievement: learning, labor, leadership, and legacy. It consists of 10 biographical banners with replicas of ephemera from the Mary Church Terrell collection housed in the Oberlin College Archives.

The exhibition provides an unrivaled perspective on the life and legacy of one of the 20th century's most renowned suffragists and civil rights leaders, while also documenting the sobering racial inequalities faced by African Americans throughout the 20th century. Due to an enthusiastic response, two identical exhibitions have been created to fulfill a litany of requests to host the exhibition.

The traveling exhibition began its journey beyond campus on January 14, 2019, heading to the College of Wooster's Andrews Library through Friday, March 1 and to Butler University in Indianapolis through Friday, March 29. Other venues that have expressed interest include Langston Hughes Memorial Library, Lincoln University, Jefferson City, Missouri

(spring 2019); Pittsburgh Chapter of the National Association of Negro Business & Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. (spring/summer 2019); the University of Akron, Akron, Ohio (spring/summer 2019); Lila D. Bunch Library, Belmont University, Nashville, Tennessee (summer 2019); and Dartmouth University, Hanover, New Hampshire (summer 2019).

Institutions and organizations interested in hosting the traveling exhibition may contact Heath Patten, Visual Resources Curator, Oberlin College Libraries, at [hpatten@oberlin.edu](mailto:hpatten@oberlin.edu) or 440-775-8666. 

Terrell exhibition at Butler University

