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Collections and Connections (Spring/Summer 2016)

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SOKY Book Fest delivers literary talent for readers & writers of all ages and interests

The 18th annual Southern Kentucky Book Fest was held April 22 and 23 at the Knicely Center in Bowling Green. With more than 140 authors presenting, readers and writers were able to take advantage of panel discussions, presentations, and writers workshops in addition to talking to and getting books signed by their favorite authors and illustrators.

“We were very pleased with this year’s turn out,” said Sara Volpi, literary outreach coordinator for WKU Libraries and Book Fest organizer. “Children’s Day alone brought in nearly 1,000 elementary and middle school students, along with 500 high schoolers. There is a big interest in young adult books; we were thrilled to have such a great response to the writers conference for teens as well as the Kentucky Writers Conference for our adult attendees.”

J.A. Jance, Garth Stein, Jay Asher and several other well-known, bestselling authors had great turn outs at their presentations and book signing tables. WKU PBS was on hand to interview several authors who can be seen on the WKU PBS Youtube channel under “Outside the Book.”

“My students look forward to this event every year,” said Renee Hale, school media librarian, formerly at Moss Middle School. “It’s a great chance to meet many authors in one convenient location. We love to discover new books and chat with the authors about what motivates them to write.”

SOKY Book Fest is made possible through sales the day of the event along with fundraisers and financial support from the community. “We truly appreciate the generosity of our supporters,” said Connie Foster, dean of WKU Libraries. “This event would not be possible without donors, patrons, and volunteers.”

Corporate donors included: Platinum Level - Dollar General; Gold Level – Jim Johnson, Daily News; Silver Level – Graves Gilbert, Meijer, WKU-PBS, WKU Conference & Catering, Fruit of the Loom, Friends of WKU Libraries; Bronze Level – Walmart, Friends of Warren County Public Library; Patron Level – Logan Aluminum, WKU Department of English, Crocker Law Firm, Zebra Graphics, WKU Office of Admissions, Bowling Green Convention and Visitor’s Bureau, and Sam’s Club.

To view Book Fest photos, find us on Facebook at SOKYBookFest.



Paul Griner’s book *Hurry Please, I Want to Know*, was the winner of this year’s Kentucky Literary Award. Above Mr. Griner (left) accepts the award from selection committee member Jonathan Jeffrey (right).





Libraries helps students de-stress

It would be a serious understatement to say the weeks leading up to finals week are a bit stressful for students, and even faculty.

In an attempt to alleviate some of that stress, WKU Libraries teamed up with the Testing & Counseling Center to bring in Star, the therapy dog. Counseling and Testing Center Outreach Coordinator Betsy Pierce brought Star to Helm Library and stationed her in the Java City café where dozens of students, faculty and staff stopped by to greet the mild-mannered Aussiedoodle.

“We were very pleased with how the morning visit turned out,” said Carol Watwood, Library Public Services assistant

professor and event organizer. “Hopefully she’ll return next semester.”

During the week of finals, a coloring table was available for anyone to take a stress break and color a page or two. According to Literary Outreach Coordinator Sara Volpi, this was a new idea that came out of a donation of the books from Dover Publishing Company. “Coloring books for adults are very popular right now. It was great to see students take advantage of the free activity,” said Volpi. “Some took them home, and others stopped and colored right at the table.”



Library Special Collections



Gemini jazz bands were a fixture in the WKU Music Department from 1966 through 1979. Originally organized as an all-female jazz band, a few good men (Larnelle Harris, John Carpenter, & Jeff Jones) soon became members. The band leader David “Doc” Livingston partnered with the USO to give his students touring experiences in the Caribbean, Europe

Remembering the Gemini Jazz Bands

and through the Pacific command. WKU Archives received donations of Gemini materials from former members of the bands and has digitized two videotapes regarding the band, thanks to an internal grant through WKU Libraries. Materials can be viewed at an online exhibit titled Gemini Jazz Bands (<http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/gjb/>).

As part of Womens History Month, WKU Library Special Collections organized a premier viewing of recently digitized Gemini 1975 concert video. Former band members from as far away as Charleston, South Carolina

enjoyed the viewing with family and friends. Former band members Nancy Cron, Jamie Daly, and Pam Thurman donated over 300 items to the collection.



Former Geminis David Dorris, Bobbi Battle, Michael Frye, Jeff Jones, Nancy Pollard, Jamie Daly, Nancy Cron and Jane Tichenor.

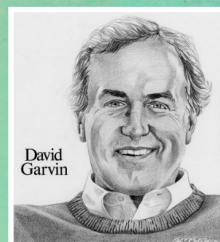
Exhibitions and Events



The late Robert Penn Warren is featured in newly interpreted space in the conference room, Kentucky Library.



Tiny Treasures: Miniature Books exhibition is now open at the Jackson Gallery through December 8, 2016.



Well-known business leader David Garvin was featured last spring in an exhibition in his honor.



Sue Lynn McDaniel presented a program and designed an exhibit on leap year.

Fall '16 Events

6/1-12/8 • Tiny Treasures: Miniature Books
Special Collections exhibition
Jackson Gallery, Kentucky Building

9/8 • Kentucky Live! - "The Tea Things of Jane Austen"
Bruce Richardson, co-owner of Elmwood Inn Fine Teas & Benjamin - Press, Danville, KY

9/15 • Far Away Places - "Exploring New Zealand"
Clinton Lewis, WKU photographer

10/13 • Kentucky Live! - "Una Merkel: The Actress with Sassy Wit and Southern Charm"
Sean Kinder, associate professor,
Library Public Services, WKU

10/20 • Far Away Places - "Radio and the Gendered Soundscape: Women and Broadcasting in Argentina and Uruguay, 1930-1950"
Christine Ehrick, associate professor of History,
University of Louisville

10/20 • SOKY Reads!
Robert Beatty, author of *Serafina and the Black Cloak*

11/10 • Kentucky Live! - "Tasting Kentucky: Favorite Recipes From the Bluegrass State"
Maggie Green, cookbook author & editor,
Owner Green Apron Company

11/17 • Far Away Places - "Istanbul: City of Dreams"
John Dizgun, executive director, Kentucky Institute for International Studies (KIIIS), Bowling Green, KY

In Memory of Strickler & Farley

Two members of the WKU Libraries family recently passed away. Dr. Sally Ann McLeod Strickler died April 6, 2016. Sally Ann worked as a university library faculty at WKU for 28 years, serving as head of circulation and later the reference department and worked an additional eight years in the Kentucky Building, primarily in Library Special Collections.

Ms. Jeanette Farley died June 13, 2016. Jeanette joined the library faculty in 1969 and worked in Library Special Collections for 13 years. She became Assistant Professor, Emerita January 23, 2002. WKU Libraries expresses its deepest sympathy to families and friends.

Former garment industry workers needed!

Library faculty Lisa K. Miller is embarking on a new oral history project this summer, "Garment Workers in Kentucky." Interviews will be collected at least until the end of the summer. Anyone who worked in a garment-related industry anywhere in Kentucky is eligible. If you know of any potential interview subjects, please ask them to contact Lisa at lisa.miller@wku.edu or (270) 745-6122. When completed, the interviews will be archived on



The vintage Singer sewing machine shown is owned by Ronald Miller, recently interviewed for the project.

TopScholar and freely accessible.



Helm renovations underway

Helm Library is closed this summer to install new air units and to restore the historic decorative murals of the building. Helm 100 will also have a fresh look with new furniture later this fall.

Lorge closes speaker series

Dr. Peter Lorge, assistant professor of History and Asian Studies at Vanderbilt University, presented "Chinese Martial Arts: from Antiquity to the Twenty-First Century" as the season finale to the Far Away Places Speaker Series at Barnes & Noble.



in the SPOTLIGHT

- Janet Cline, Robert Thorton, & Barbara Withrow, part-time weekend staff members, retired after over 50 years of combined service. We wish them well!

- WKU Libraries received the "Award for Excellence" in the public relations and social media categories at the Academic Library Advancement and Development Network conference held in Boston, MA June 2-4. Marketing Coordinator Jennifer Wilson accepted for the Libraries.

- Associate Professor Nancy Richey co-authored *Mose Rager: Kentucky's Incomparable Guitar Master*, a biography of one of Kentucky's musical pioneers.

- Valerie Kinder is the new Late Night Weekend Supervisor.

- Special Collections Associate Professor Sue Lynn McDaniel and Kentucky Museum Curator Sandy Staebell attended the Spring Political Americana Collectors of Kentucky show in Louisville in April to showcase WKU Libraries' Rather-Westerman Political Collection--one of the most extensive political collections for primary sources worldwide.

- WKU Libraries Professor Haiwang Yuan's book *Tibetan Folktales* recently received an Honorable Mention in the Special Storytelling Resources category of the 2016 Storytelling World Resource Awards.

- Library professors Rosemary Meszaros and Katherine Pennavaria presented

"Genealogy Workshop" to a dozen participants at the WKU-Elizabethtown-Fort Knox campus.

- Laura Bohuski is traveling to Japan this summer to participate in an intensive Japanese language school.

- Suellyn Lathrop and Joe Shankweiler represented WKU Libraries at a Library of Congress preservation/digitization workshop for "Train the Trainers," held at Northern Kentucky University in June.

- On June 16, 1966, WKU achieved university status. The WKU homepage featured a video from University Archives (https://youtu.be/p8NoDG_o8X4).

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CONGRATULATIONS!



Library Student Assistant Graduates

Amber Archey, Jessica Heno Barragan, Sara Carrico, Sherri Cook, Ye Duan, Katie Gamble, Bria Granville, Sidney Hirsch, Falon Keith, Zhanpeng Liu, Soumya Marri, Miranda Matthews, Abby O'Bryan, Alyssa Pointer, Chia Shen, Brian Steiner, Amy Wolterman



Cherry Society Recognition

At the spring Library Advisory Council meeting, John Paul Blair, associate vice president for Advancement (center), recognized Libraries Dean Connie Foster and Department Head of Library Special Collections Jonathan Jeffrey for becoming members of the Cherry Society, a program honoring supporters who have given \$25,000 or more.

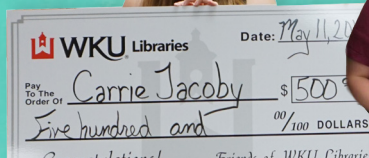
Carrie Jacoby
Student Assistant
Scholarship
Recipient



**Benjamin
Watson**



Hannah Garrett
Student Research
Award Winners
with Sara McCaslin



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