UB LIBRARIES today

A PUBLICATION OF THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO LIBRARIES

SPRING 2016

Connect. // Collaborate.

Create.

Exciting changes are taking place in the Oscar A. Silverman Library in Capen Hall.

UB LIBRARIES today

SPRING 2016

UB Libraries Today is published by the University at Buffalo Libraries for alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends.

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Cover Photo:

Rendering of the 3rd floor of the Oscar A. Silverman Library by Daryl Ryan, Junior Architectural Planner, UB Capital Planning.



Support the UB Libraries Every gift is important. Your generosity affirms the vital role the UB Libraries play in learning and discovery. To give to the University Libraries, please visit: library.buffalo.edu/support.

DID YOU KNOW?



Oscar A. Silverman joined the UB faculty in 1926, and was Director of the University Libraries from 1960-1968. During this period, UB Libraries' collections grew to the impressive figure of one million volumes.

from AUSTIN



Taking a tour of Silverman Library's third floor renovations are (left to right): Robert Rychlik, Senior Architectural Planner, UB Capital Planning; H. Austin Booth, Vice Provost for University Libraries; Satish Tripathi, UB President; Kevin Thompson, Director, UB Facilities Planning & Design; A. Scott Weber, UB Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs.

State-of-the-art library destination

The excitement is growing! After years of planning and many months of construction, renovations to the third floor of the Oscar A. Silverman Library are nearly complete. For the University Libraries, this large-scale project represents more than simply updating worn, outdated physical space; it is a bridge to modernization, giving us an opportunity to anticipate and adapt to the changing needs and expectations of UB students and faculty.

Our cover story in this issue of *UB Libraries Today* previews the collaborative workspaces, expansive common areas, and interactive technologies that will be available when Silverman's newly-renovated space reopens this Fall. Offering a myriad of opportunities for people to connect, create, share and learn, Silverman Library promises to be a dynamic hub of intellectual and social engagement for students, faculty, staff and visitors.

In addition to outlining the changes taking place in Silverman Library, this issue includes news and updates from across the University Libraries. Within these pages, you'll meet contemporary poet, therapist and teacher, Gail Sher, who recently donated her papers to the Poetry Collection. Sher's publications will soon be available as a digital collection from the UB Libraries, ensuring that her creative work reaches new generations of scholars around the globe. You'll also learn how two portraits of poet Dylan Thomas have been restored to their original brilliance sixty years after their acquisition by the Poetry Collection. The stories in this issue reflect the diverse ways in which the UB Libraries support the academic success of our students, the teaching and research of our faculty, and the intellectual pursuits of our staff, alumni and community members.

As we prepare to celebrate Silverman Library's transformation, I would like to offer my sincere thanks to everyone who has made financial contributions, both large and small, to the University Libraries. Thanks to your steadfast and generous support, the Libraries continue to provide our students, faculty and community with outstanding opportunities to learn and grow.

Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable summer!

A Austin Bord

H. Austin Booth Vice Provost for University Libraries



▶ UB students enjoy samples of the specialty coffees available for purchase in the new Whispers Café at Abbott.

Cappuccino, anyone?

Now open in the Health Sciences Library: Whispers Café at Abbott. Created in response to student and faculty requests for more dining locations and food options on the South Campus, Whispers Café is located near the library's first floor main entrance. Run by UB's Campus Dining & Shops, the café welcomed its first customers at the start of the Spring 2016 semester.

The cozy, comfortable spot offers library users a place where they can take a break from their studies, relax in the company of friends and colleagues, and get a bite to eat without having to leave the library.

"The café is easy and convenient for students," says Lucy Lin, graduate student in Occupational Therapy. "Time is very valuable, and it's a safer place to get coffee than going across the street." Dental student Drew Ferrell agrees. "The café gives me incentive to come back to the library," he says. "I like to study in a coffee shop, and the coffee is good!"

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES TRIVIA

Can you identify these famous poets?

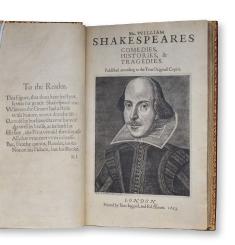
Founded in 1937 by Charles Abbott, the University Libraries' Poetry Collection is the library of record for 20th- and 21stcentury poetry in English. Can you name the four eminent 20th-century poets pictured here?

library.buffalo.edu/pl

Answers: B. Dylan Thomas, 1953 C. James Joyce, 1924 C. James Joyce, 1924



News and Notes

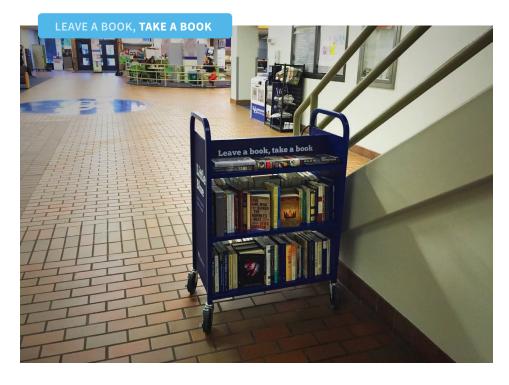


400 years of Shakespeare

In recognition of the 400th anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare (1564-1616), the University Libraries have created a digital collection using Thomas Lockwood's 17th-century folio editions of Shakespeare's works that are now part of the Rare & Special Books Collection.

Included in Lockwood's collection is a rare First Folio, published in 1623, which contains many of Shakespeare's wellknown plays, grouped for the first time into comedies, histories and tragedies.

library.buffalo.edu/collections/ shakespeare-folios



Meet Little Blue

UB Libraries launch 'Little Blue' library

Meet "Little Blue." Filled with books to share, this brightly-painted book cart is modeled after the Little Free Library, a nonprofit organization that promotes literacy and community through free book exchanges. Regularly restocked with donated books of every genre, from recent best sellers to cookbooks, travel books and children's books, Little Blue is a popular gathering place for those who share in the joy of reading.

Purposely placed in high-traffic areas on the North Campus, Little Blue rotates between the

ground floor of Capen Hall and the Student Union throughout the year. Wander by at almost any time of day, and chances are you'll find UB students and staff happily browsing the changing assortment of donated books. Return the book you take, or simply leave another; sharing is the only rule. So leave a book, take a book, and enjoy!

Questions? Contact Denise Wolfe at (716) 645-2967 or dawolfe@buffalo.edu

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EN GARDE!

Fencing was incorporated as a varsity level sport at the University of Buffalo in 1934, and the program gained great esteem as UB swordsmen enjoyed many winning seasons. Peter Tishman, a UB student from 1936-1938, distinguished himself as a prominent member of his six-man fencing team. Tishman eventually transferred to NYU, but not before earning a varsity letter sweater from UB. Recently rediscovered by Tishman's son and donated to the University Archives, the beautifully-preserved sweater is a visible reminder of UB's fencing program and the individual athletes who contributed to the team's success.

Visit the UB Sports History Collection: library.buffalo.edu/collections/sports-history





Sarah Pinard's interest in archives dates back to her childhood. "I grew up in Colton, New York, and my mother worked at the Adirondack Museum in Blue Mountain Lake," says Sarah. "She used to take me there, and I thought it was the coolest thing ever to see what went on behind the scenes."

Today, Sarah is a processing archivist for the University Libraries. Her task? To organize and preserve the records and collections of UB academic departments, administrators, faculty members, and individuals associated with the university, ensuring that materials housed in the Archives are accessible for researchers.

"Studying archaeology as an undergraduate at Syracuse University helped me realize the importance of primary sources," Sarah says. "When I enrolled in library school, I chose a program that offered a concentration in archives and records administration." After earning her MSIS degree from SUNY Albany, Sarah served as assistant archivist at Sarah Lawrence College for five years before joining the UB Archives staff in 2014.

In recent months, Sarah has processed several large collections, including the professional and personal papers of the late Herbert A. Hauptman, UB faculty emeritus and Nobel prize-winning mathematician. She's also organized an array of smaller collections. "It's been quite the spread in terms of materials," Sarah says, "including scrapbooks, autograph albums, a homemade cloth bull mascot head on a stick, and bobble head dolls....something new every day!"

ESEARCH IN THE LIBRARIES



Left to right: Dave Voisinet (retired former director of the Appellate Division Fourth Department Law Library in Rochester), Beth Adelman (Director of the Charles B. Sears Law Library, University at Buffalo), Jeannine Lee (retired former director of the New York State Supreme Court Library in Buffalo), Andrew Kloc (Senior Law Librarian, Appellate Division Fourth Department Law Library in Rochester)

NYCRR Digital Archive

Digitizing New York's Regulatory History

Legal researchers, rejoice! The SUNY Buffalo Law School's Charles B. Sears Law Library, the Appellate Division Fourth Department Law Library in Rochester, and the New York State Supreme Court Library in Buffalo, have created the NYCRR Digital Archive. This free, openaccess database allows researchers, librarians and practitioners to more easily determine previous versions of New York's codes, rules and regulations, a task performed in print that is often difficult and time-consuming.

The NYCRR Digital Archive contains full-text digital images of replaced pages, known as "takeouts," from the New York Codes, Rules, and Regulations of the State of New York from the time of the code's inception in 1945 through 2001. These dates represent the online debut of New York's regulatory history material covering this time period. Work on the project began in late 2012, with approximately one million pages scanned and converted to searchable PDF documents. As a service to the New York legal community and the legal community at large, the NYCRR Digital Archive was collaboratively funded and staffed by librarians from all three institutions. Portions of the scanned pages contain New York State's copyrighted material, and are included with the permission of the Secretary of State.



For free access visit: law.lib.buffalo.edu/nycrr



Connect. Collaborate. Create.

Exciting changes are taking place in the Oscar A. Silverman Library in Capen Hall.

The ways in which students learn, classes are taught, and information is shared are very different today than in decades past. To ensure that the UB Libraries continue to advance teaching, learning and research in the digital age, exciting changes are taking place in the Oscar A. Silverman Library in Capen Hall on UB's North Campus. Designed to accommodate the different ways students and faculty work, study and research in the 21st century, these changes will transform Silverman Library into a dynamic intellectual hub that brings people together from across the university, encourages us to explore new ideas, and inspires us to create new knowledge for today and tomorrow.



For more than four decades, UB students have flocked to Silverman Library, and it remains one of the university's most heavily-utilized study and research spaces. Fondly referred to as "Club Capen" by generations of UB undergraduates, Silverman Library is increasingly a social learning space where students gather to conduct their academic work in the context of interdisciplinary collaborations. Tech-savvy UB students turn to Silverman Library to support their digital research needs, and to provide them with convenient, comfortable learning and collaboration spaces where they can work cooperatively with peers and with faculty on a broad range of academic initiatives.

To meet the changing needs of our users, Silverman Library is in the midst of an extensive renovation project as part of "*The Heart of the Campus*," UB's multi-phase initiative to enhance the student experience by providing students with opportunities to learn everywhere on campus – not just in lecture halls and labs. Buffalobased Architectural Resources is leading the Silverman renovation team, which also includes academic library design specialists from Boston's Perry Dean Rogers, along with other experts in creating sustainable, beautiful spaces for colleges and universities.

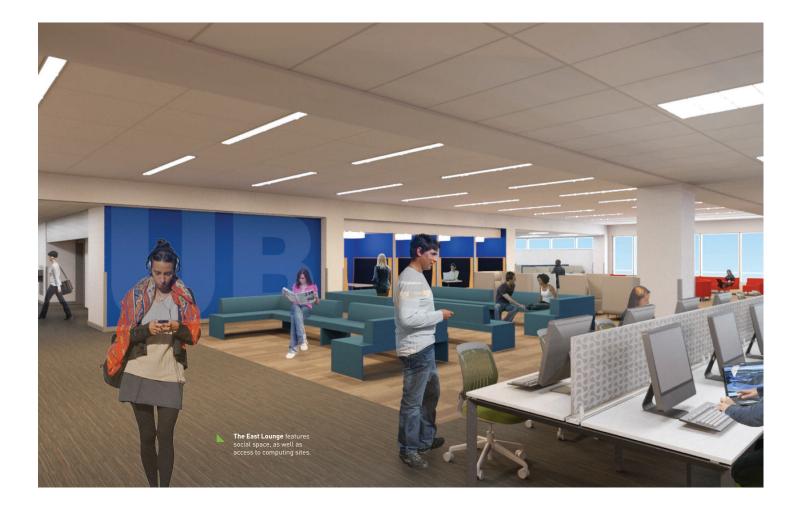
Phase One of the renovation project involves a complete redesign of Silverman's third floor, a vast area encompassing more than 57,000 square feet. Closed for nearly two years so that construction could move forward, excitement is growing as the grand reopening is set for Fall 2016. This new space promises to be a vibrant, flexible, technology-rich destination featuring an abundance of new common areas, group work spaces, and support for new interactive digital technologies. "Silverman will be a gathering place where people come to create knowledge as well as absorb knowledge," says H. Austin Booth, Vice Provost for University Libraries. "It will be a place where teaching, learning and collaboration of all types take place, reflecting UB's excellence as a premier public research university."

Using the concept of neighborhoods as a design theme, the architects have reimagined and reinvented Silverman's third floor, creating distinctive areas for individual study, group collaboration, media creation, and informal gatherings. The existing high ceilings and windows have been used to full advantage, providing large, open vistas filled with abundant natural light. Glass partitions, along with new furniture, flooring and fresh interior finishes, enhance the feeling of openness, while flexible design elements, including moveable furniture and walls, and adaptable technologies, anticipate the needs of future university students. Robust, seamless wireless connectivity throughout the renovated space makes it easy for library users to quickly plug in, charge and use laptops, tablets and other mobile devices. Flexible, high-tech classrooms enable UB faculty to experiment with new instructional methods and give undergraduate, graduate and professional students the opportunity to work with new digital tools. Events, workshops, meetings and exhibitions can take place in a beautiful, inspiring environment that encourages creativity, imagination, and innovation.

Silverman Library Third Floor Renovation Highlights:

- An elegant, light-filled, traditional "Grand Reading Room," featuring rich oak woodwork and archival images of UB life.
- Spacious, technology-enabled group study rooms with writeable walls and places for students to plug in and display from their own devices to collaborate on projects.
- Two large, high-tech classrooms, offering librarians and other faculty the opportunity to try out new ideas and involve students in designing their own learning.
- "One-Button" recording studios where students can create, edit and view media productions.
- Space for university and community groups to host lectures, exhibitions, meetings and other events.
- A café where students, faculty, staff and visitors can meet with friends and colleagues, enjoy a cup of coffee, purchase a snack or salad, or simply relax and engage in conversation.
- Comfortable, informal seating areas for individual and group study.





- Desktop computers in open spaces and mobile devices to check out for in-library use in other areas.
- A consultation room where librarians and staff can meet one-on-one with students or faculty members to provide individual assistance with research or media.
- Expert subject librarians and staff to help students with all aspects of their research, media and technology needs.
- A multimedia center with state-of-the-art facilities for media creation and a top-notch collection of digital media materials.

What's Next

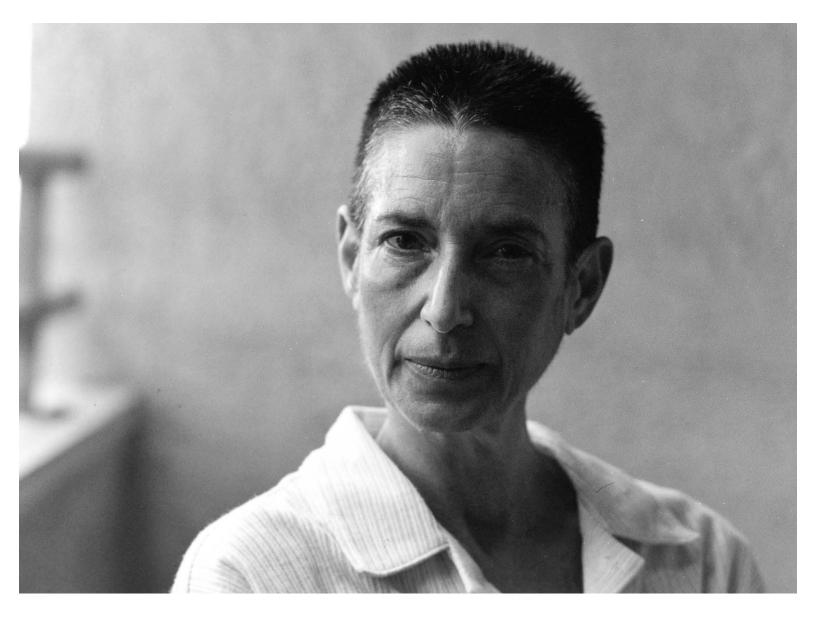
When fully operational, the reconfigured Silverman Library will be open 24/7 during the academic year, providing a safe, comfortable place for UB students to study day and night. And this is just the beginning! Plans for Phase Two include a new second floor entrance to Silverman Library and the development of Makerspace areas where students and faculty from all disciplines can experiment with cutting-edge digital tools, including 3-D printing, laser cutters and scanners, and virtual reality technologies. A state-of-the-art visualization lab, capable of displaying massive data sets in real time, is also planned for Silverman, giving student and faculty researchers the ability to visualize and analyze complex data instantaneously and collaboratively with colleagues and students. Several other exciting projects are in the works. "The next phases in *The Heart of the Campus* project will focus on the student experience outside of the classroom," says Dennis R. Black, Vice President for University Life and Services. "Two projects being planned today would create a new one-stop student service center in Capen Lobby and an international market dining center in Norton Hall. Both projects would dramatically enhance campus life for the entire UB community by consolidating many essential services into one central location, and by offering a modern food service area, serving meals from around the globe."

How You Can Help

The renovated Silverman Library is poised to be the new learning center for students on campus. UB Students will now have a state-of-the-art collaborative and hands-on environment that is a rich training ground for turning ideas into solutions and learning new skills for use in their careers and personal lives.

And while the UB Libraries and their resources are perceived as free amenities, the truth is without support from myriad sources, especially our generous donors, UB students would not have access to the space and services they deserve. Please know that your support of the UB Libraries has the potential to impact every student on campus and position each of them on a path to success. Gifts to UB Libraries can be made online at:

giving.buffalo.edu/libraries



Gail Sher

Announcing the Poetry Collection's Gail Sher Collection

By: Dr. James Maynard, Associate Curator

The Poetry Collection has gratefully received its newest archival collection: the papers of Gail Sher, accomplished poet, writer, teacher and psychotherapist.

It is our utmost pleasure to pass along her legacy to new generations of readers and researchers.

Michael Basinski, Curator

ince her first poetry publication thirty-five years ago in a journal founded by Robert Bertholf, former curator of the Poetry Collection, Gail Sher has published over thirty books of poetry, three books on writing as a craft and a spiritual practice, and a book on bread making based on her years of experience at the San Francisco Zen Center's bakery in San Francisco.

Her books include From Another Point of View the Woman Seems to Be Resting (Trike Press, 1982), Broke Aide (Burning Deck, 1985), Kuklos (Paradigm Press, 1995), Marginalia (Rodent Press, 1997), One Continuous Mistake: Four Noble Truths for Writers (Penguin, 1999), redwind daylong daylong (Night Crane Press, 2004), From a Baker's Kitchen (20th anniversary edition, Marlowe & Co., 2004), and Five Haiku Narratives (Night Crane Press, 2015). Sher's writing has appeared in numerous literary magazines and journals, and her haiku has won awards in Japan and the U.S.

Underlying Sher's work as a writer and therapist is her training in Zen and Tibetan Buddhism. In 1970 she was ordained as a lay disciple of Shunryu Suzuki Roshi, the Zen master who helped spread Soto Zen Buddhism in the United States through his founding of the Tassajara Zen Mountain Center and San Francisco Zen Center, monasteries where Sher practiced for eleven years. Both her writing and her counseling are deeply informed by a Buddhist approach to *awareness*. In her recent publication *Poetry, Zen and the Linguistic Unconscious* (2016), Sher writes that her "biggest responsibility to myself as a poet is to remain in the realm of the unknown. I don't write what I already know...My writing arises, and I am constantly surprised by it."

The Poetry Collection is currently cataloging Sher's papers and creating a digital collection of her publications. Commenting on her donation, Curator Michael Basinski says that "the Gail Sher Collection is a remarkable addition to the Poetry Collection's contemporary manuscripts. It is our



utmost pleasure to pass along her legacy to new generations of readers and researchers." In describing her decision to give her papers to the UB Libraries, Sher explains:

My first publication as a poet in 1981 was in the distinguished journal *Credences*, edited and published by the Poetry and Rare Books Collection at UB. As I approach the end of the arc of my career as a poet, I am honored to have my poetry, letters and papers housed in the "library of record for 20th- and 21st-century poetry in English." Ted Hughes, Poet Laureate of England, once said that critics and poets alike have an obligation to steward the "achieved human voice" found in poetry, and the Poetry Collection has been doing that since its founding almost eighty years ago. In addition, as I know from my own experience, it recognizes and supports the emerging voices of poets of the future. On behalf of all poets, I am happy to support and be part of this irreplaceable collection.



To learn more about the Gail Sher Papers, visit: library.buffalo.edu/collections/gail-sher





Before

After

Dylan Thomas **RESTORATION**

By: Dr. James Maynard, Associate Curator

Thanks to the Art Conservation Department at Buffalo State, the Poetry Collection's portraits of poet Dylan Thomas (1914-1953) have received a major restoration sixty years after their acquisition.

he two portraits were painted by Gordon Stuart, a Canadian-born artist who spent several days painting Thomas at his home in Laugharne, Wales, in October 1953, just a month before the poet died in New York on November 9th of that year. The portraits were acquired by Charles Abbott, the Poetry Collection's founder, in 1956, after the scholar Alan Denson, a friend of Stuart's, wrote to say that the painter had completed three portraits of Thomas and was looking to sell one of them.

After seeing photographs of two of the portraits, Abbott ultimately purchased them both, and as soon as they arrived in Buffalo he framed and displayed them as part of a spring 1956 exhibition of Thomas's manuscripts. Commenting on the two paintings in an accompanying statement, and paraphrasing remarks made by Denson, Abbott wrote: "The two portraits, each of head and shoulders, are of disparate interest as paintings, but are comparable in value from the point of view of documentation. The one, the better painting of the two, was thought both by Thomas and by his mother to be the best portrait ever painted of him."

When Gordon Stuart died on July 22, 2015, at his home in Swansea, the birthplace of Dylan Thomas, it was reported by the BBC and other outlets that Stuart had produced three oil paintings and an oil sketch of Thomas, but only listed one painting held by the Poetry Collection. By all evidence he must have created five portraits, with the other three now part of the Harry Ransom Center, University of Texas at Austin; the National Portrait Gallery, London; and the artist's personal collection. In 2014 the Poetry Collection received permission from Stuart to feature one of his portraits on its holiday broadside alongside the published and manuscript versions of Thomas's poem "The force that through the green fuse drives the flower."

Over time, the layer of paint on one of the two

from the James Joyce Collection prior to their inclusion in the 2009 exhibition *Discovering James Joyce*.

In the fall of 2015, Graduate Fellow Lisa Ackerman, under Hamm's supervision, cleaned the surfaces of both paintings, vacuumed out the layers of dust, and repaired all the cracks and flaking paint. To do this she applied a solution to the surface of the canvas, allowed it to dry overnight, and then gently heated it to activate the new adhesive and to relax the paint so that she could reposition it on the surface.

For the painting with the severe flaking, this meant carefully pressing down and reattaching each and every loose piece of paint over a period of time. Afterward, any remaining cracks or losses in the paint were filled in using pigmented wax resins that were heated and mixed to match the colors of Stuart's paint. She also



Graduate Fellow Lisa Ackerman at work in the Buffalo State Art Conservation Department restoring one of the Poetry Collection's two portraits of Dylan Thomas.

portraits inexplicably became unstable and started losing its adhesion to the canvas, which caused significant flaking in several sections. Concerned about the work's condition, the Poetry Collection's curators contacted Professor James Hamm, a specialist in paintings restoration, at Buffalo State's renowned Art Conservation Department. Their hope was that, in conjunction with the 2014 centennial celebration of Thomas's birth, for which the Poetry Collection loaned Thomas manuscripts to joint exhibitions at the National Library of Wales in Aberystwyth and the Dylan Thomas Centre in Swansea, Hamm would accept the two works as projects for his students training to become conservation professionals. In the past, the Poetry Collection has benefited greatly from such collaborations with Hamm and his department; in the summer of 2008, for instance, he and three students treated nine paintings

reinforced the frames and re-laminated the plywood used to back one of the paintings. Of her work on the project, Ackerman, who will be attending an international course on wood conservation technology this summer in Oslo, Norway, said: "As a Buffalo native, it was a special treat to be able to work on these two paintings from UB. Although one was in very good condition, needing only cleaning and a few small fills, it allowed me to practice a variety of examination imaging techniques for use on canvas paintings. The other presented challenges that, at first, seemed insurmountable, but with the guidance of my professor, James Hamm, I learned about proven conservation materials and methods that made it possible to complete a successful treatment that I am especially proud of."

Library Artifacts

The University at Buffalo Libraries are filled with artifacts from around the world.



Wallpaper Printing Block

Before the days of printers, wallpaper print and other designs had to first be carved onto wooden blocks and then stamped onto fabrics or paper. This wallpaper printing block belonged to artist Charles E. Burchfield, and is now part of the Poetry Collection.



Camp Fire Girls Ceremonial Collar

This ceremonial collar, created during the 1950s or 1960s, belonged to Patricia Manuele, a Buffalo native and longtime member of the Camp Fire Girls, an organization that provided recreational opportunities for girls and women. Each merit badge and bead has a distinct color, shape, and size, reflecting the abilities and achievements of the wearer. This collar was donated to the University Archives in 2014 by Patricia's mother, Ann.



Junior Prom Favors

The 1928 UB Junior Prom took place in the Statler Hotel Ballroom, with music provided by the Hobart Seneca Serenaders. Favors from this prom, including a napkin ring, pocketbook, and dance card booklet, are preserved in the University Archives.

Thanks to you,

I've achieved academic success.

"Amazing." That's the word Tahia Syeda uses to describe the University Libraries. Born in Bangladesh, Tahia moved to New York City when she was six years old, and spent her childhood in Queens. She recently received her B.S. degree in biotechnology from UB (February 2016), and is planning to pursue a career as a physician assistant.

Tahia credits the UB Libraries and librarians with helping her succeed in the academic courses required for her degree. "I took courses in genetics, biomolecular diagnostics, biochemistry, instrumental analysis, and immunology," she says. "When I had to locate journal articles and prepare presentations, the resources that I found on the Libraries' website, including PubMed and Web of Science, were so helpful! I really like the way the Libraries links you to all of these resources."

Congratulations, Tahia, and best of luck in the future!

Your generosity affirms the vital role the UB Libraries plays in learning, discovery and service to society. library.buffalo.edu/support



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