



UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

News Notes

December 16, 2008

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News

Annual Staff Holiday Party Filled with Food and Friends!



Director of Libraries Joe Branin thanks his colleagues for a "job well done" in 2008.



People

For the fifth year in a row, students at the Fine Arts Library made holiday cards during their breaks for the assisted-living residents at the New Albany Gardens and Care Center. **Gretchen Donelson** began the project after her grandmother, a resident at the center, passed away. At the same time, she was trying to find some way to showcase the talents of her student employees, many having majors in the visual arts. Seeing how much having visitors and getting mail meant to her grandmother, she called the activities director at the nursing home and a tradition was born.

Beginning in early November, FIN student employees have access to a stack of plain greeting cards and a box of leftover craft supplies donated by the students themselves, staff, and volunteers. All cards are signed by the student with their first name, followed by "OSU's Fine Arts Library". The cards are delivered by Gretchen, former staff member/student employee Katie Voss and her kids ("Our elves!," jokes Gretchen), and one or two current student employees.

It was Amelia Catalano's second year delivering cards to the residents. Last year, she said, "wasn't what I expected at all. For some reason I expected some resistance, and for people not to be nearly as receptive and welcoming as they were. Seeing how happy it made them made me want to participate again this year."



Gretchen adds, "Several students who have gone to deliver cards had not been to a senior care facility before - I think they don't know what to expect. They don't understand that nursing care comes in various stages and we are visiting the assisted-living residents. They are, for the most part, lucid, active seniors who just need a little help with certain activities, or because of medical issues need checked on more often than perhaps their family could handle if the senior lived alone."

Back Row: Fine Arts Library Manager Gretchen Donelson, FIN Student Employee Amelia Catalano, New Albany Gardens Resident Ed Saranerd, Former FIN Staffer Katie Voss. Front Row: Charlie and Evie Voss.

Ed Saranerd has been a favorite resident of the FIN staff for the last 3 years. He has enjoyed drawing as a hobby most of his life, and several of his works are hung on the walls of the center. Ed had resided at the center with his wife Annamarie until her passing earlier this year. Despite his loss, Ed said he was doing well and looked forward to his annual visit from the Fine Arts Library gang in 2009.

"Our craft supply box has become depleted," Gretchen adds, "so if anybody wants to donate construction paper, colored card stock, or glitter glue - we can always use it." Holiday stickers for the outsides of the envelopes are also a welcome donation. "We ran out this year despite a large donation a few years ago by a former student employee. Hopefully we can keep this going for a long time. When we started this project, I thought we would be lifting the spirits the seniors, but surprisingly our students get at least as much out of it as the residents do."

Publications

John M. Bennett, Avant Writing Collection/Rare Books & MSS Library, has published a book of poetry, *Spitting Ddreams* [sic], Puhos, Finland/W. Hartford, CT: Blue Lion Books, 2009, 271 pp.

Training Opportunities

Digital Union Events

Thursday December 18 – Friday December 19, 9 am – 4 pm

Digital Union Podfest III

Learning Collaboration Studio, 060 SEL basement

- **Training Calendar:** <http://library.osu.edu/sites/staff/training/calendars.html>.
- **Human Resources/Organization & HR Consulting Information:** <http://hr.osu.edu/ohrd/index.asp>
- **Meeting and Events Calendar:** Marilyn Willhoff maintains a calendar of all known events and regularly scheduled and special meetings for each month. The calendars are available on the Staff Information page under the first category of People, etc.; they can also be accessed directly at the following URL: <http://library.osu.edu/sites/staff/comcal.html>

Personnel *Provided by the OSU Libraries HR Department*

VACANCIES

STAFF

Science and Engineering Library – Information Associate – 100% FTE – replacing Miller

To comply with University procedures, employees applying for listed vacancies must complete a Promotion/Transfer Request (form 8931, Rev 9/97) during the week of the first listing of the vacancy in the University Personnel Posting (green sheet). To ensure awareness of all vacancies which have been posted, applicants should consult the weekly green sheet rather than relying on the listing in NEWS NOTES Online and are encouraged to attach a resume and/or other supporting documents to the form. Prospective faculty and staff applicants who are absent during the 5-day posting period and wish to apply should see Toni Morrison-Smith.

Library personnel can also review university employment opportunities at:
<https://www.jobsatosu.com/applicants/jsp/shared/frameSet/FrameSet.jsp?time=1206709374977>

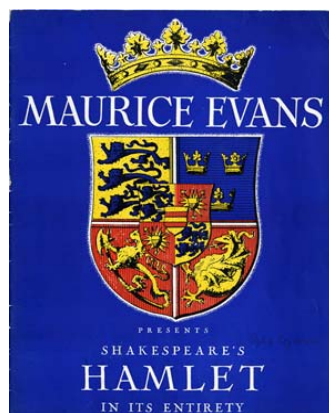
Exhibits

“Who’s there?”: The Ohio State Hamlet Project

This exhibition, curated by graduate students in the Department of Theatre as part of a class assignment for Theatre Research Methods, brings together holdings on many aspects of *Hamlet* from the collections of the Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee Theatre Research Institute. Ranging from artifacts to essays and playbills to promptbooks, covering multiple centuries and countries, the items selected by the curators underscore the fascination that Hamlet and his interpreters continue to hold for audiences.

This exhibition joins the beginning of the European Hamlet Project which is being celebrated by symposia and which will culminate in exhibitions across Europe in 2009-2010. In the current exhibition, playbills and programs of *Hamlet* from 1825 to 2000 attest to the allure and staying power of the play. Materials such as actress Katherine Locke’s ivory and silk fan for her performance as Ophelia in Maurice Evans’s 1938 production and photographs of the legendary Dame Judith Anderson playing the role of Hamlet at age 73 are among the items highlighting famous performances in *Hamlet*. Other items, such as an essay by early 20th century acting coach Estelle Davis on vocal qualities for the Ghost and Ted Lange’s production scrapbook for his multiracial production of *Hamlet* in 1978 at the Inner City Cultural Center in Los Angeles, document the work of the director, prompter, and coach.

French 18th-century translations of the play for the Comédie Français join Tom Stoppard’s modern adaptation *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, and original costume and scene designs by Romanian designer/director Mircea Marosin reveal the vision of the designer. The exhibit is taking place in two locations at The Ohio State University through December 2008. Original materials are at the Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee Theatre Research Institute, 1430 Lincoln Tower, 1800 Cannon Drive, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. Color photocopies of additional materials are at the Drake Performance Center, 1849 Cannon Drive.



Souvenir booklet for Maurice Evans' "Hamlet" in its entirety. 1938. Gift of Roy Bowen

The latest digital exhibit, “Picturing History: Bela Petheo, Artist of ‘The Rise of the West,’” is live at <http://library.osu.edu/sites/exhibits/petheo>. The exhibit was curated by David Staley, associate professor of the OSU Department of History. William McNeill’s *The Rise of the West* is one of the most important books written on the subject of world history. When it was published in 1963, reviewers hailed the book for the new paradigm it advocated—that civilizations did not develop in isolation but grew as a result of contact with other civilizations and the exchange of ideas and techniques that resulted—and in 1964 McNeill was awarded the National Book Award.

As part of the preparation of the book, McNeill commissioned the Hungarian-born artist Bela Petheo to design and draw a series of illustrations to accompany the text. McNeill and Petheo collaborated closely on the design of the illustrations, McNeill's active role in the visual design demonstrating the value he placed on these images. McNeill himself often sketched out crude diagrams to clarify his thinking, and the illustrations in this book were to be a more formal representation of that processes. Therefore, he did not view the illustrations as mere supplements to or distractions from the text, but rather as a vital and necessary part of the book.

While McNeill's book has been long admired, Petheo's images have been largely forgotten. Petheo's illustrations convey historical information through word, symbol, gesture and spatial arrangement. Nearly every mark Petheo committed to paper, every gradation of shading, every arrangement of symbols and figures carries information, information necessary to establish the narrative structure of the whole.

Sam Milai of the Pittsburgh Courier

[Cartoon Research Library](#) Reading Room Gallery

Through December 31

Sam Milai (March 23, 1908-April 30, 1970) was an artist and cartoonist for the Pittsburgh Courier, an influential African American newspaper, for 33 years. He was a centrist who disdained all forms of extremism. Unfortunately, much of Milai's original work was destroyed in a fire. The cartoons in this exhibition were found by his granddaughter in a suitcase in her mother's attic and donated to the Cartoon Research Library. The Sam Milai collection also includes correspondence, clippings and photographs related to Milai.



"Sam Milai of the *Pittsburgh Courier*" documents Milai's mature work during the last seven years of his life. Reading these cartoons from the perspective of almost four decades later, we sense both the hopes and the frustrations that the African American community experienced during the 1960s.

Milai was loyal to Lyndon Johnson, and some of his pro-Johnson cartoons are housed in the Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library. He won the National Newspaper Publisher's Association Russwurm trophy for the best cartoon eight times during his career. In addition to his editorial cartoons, Milai created a series titled *Facts about the Negro* that celebrated the accomplishments of people of color. During the late 1930s, he also contributed a comic strip to the newspaper. He taught part time at Pittsburgh's Ivey School of Professional Art from 1964-1967 and was teaching full-time at the Pittsburgh Art Institute at the time of his death.