



KISLAK CENTER
FOR SPECIAL
COLLECTIONS,
RARE BOOKS AND
MANUSCRIPTS

2020
Annual Report





From the Director



I am writing this note three months into my tenure at Penn, as the chaotic year that is 2020 draws to a welcome close. Our lives changed forever back in March when we decamped for a life of quarantine. I was at Columbia University, living just two blocks from campus, but separated from the special collections in my care. At the time, I had no inkling that I would return home to Philadelphia, charged with leading the world-renowned Jay I. Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts just a few months later. By the time I was interviewing in May, the nation was ablaze with protests over the murders of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor.

Like many of my colleagues in the field, I resolved to find meaning, purpose, and cause in the work of collecting, preserving, and providing access to cultural and intellectual heritage. Amidst a flurry of well-intentioned anti-racist public statements, I recalled a challenge that Harvard's Khalil Gibran Muhammad issued to libraries and archives a few years earlier. I'm paraphrasing, but it amounted to "what you do is more important than

what you say." What that means now, in this moment, when work is remote and "virtual," is one of the driving questions that I bring with me to Penn.

In such times, it is important to reflect on mission, and it is the Kislak Center's mission statement that defines the structure of our annual report:

We grow world class holdings, but we must ensure that we are doing so in a way that reflects cultural diversity and is both economically fair and morally just. While this report highlights major new acquisitions, we must also begin to consider non- or post-custodial models of collection development.

We strive to make collections open to all. For many years now, Penn has been a leader when it comes to open collections and data. The value of this commitment has become all too apparent during this academic year, where research and teaching has almost entirely depended on digitized surrogates.

We engage with interested communities. The University of Pennsylvania's current campaign celebrates "**The Power of Penn**" to advance knowledge for the good of all people. Whether we speak of the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies, which serves as a global hub for scholars interested in manuscripts and manuscript cultures, or a visit from a local neighborhood high school, Kislak is at the center of Penn's commitment to transforming the world through ideas.

In my brief time here, I have come to know my colleagues at the Kislak Center through the two dimensions of a Zoom screen. But, even in that limited way, I have come to admire the expertise that they bring to fulfilling a multi-dimensional mission. The annual report that follows gives evidence to their work.

Sean M. Quimby

Associate University Librarian for Special Collections & Director,
Jay I. Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts



Grow our
world-class holdings

la Ciudad tan Ilustre como esta
ejercicio de la Vida Christiana se
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Exemplo de ntror. Predeservos

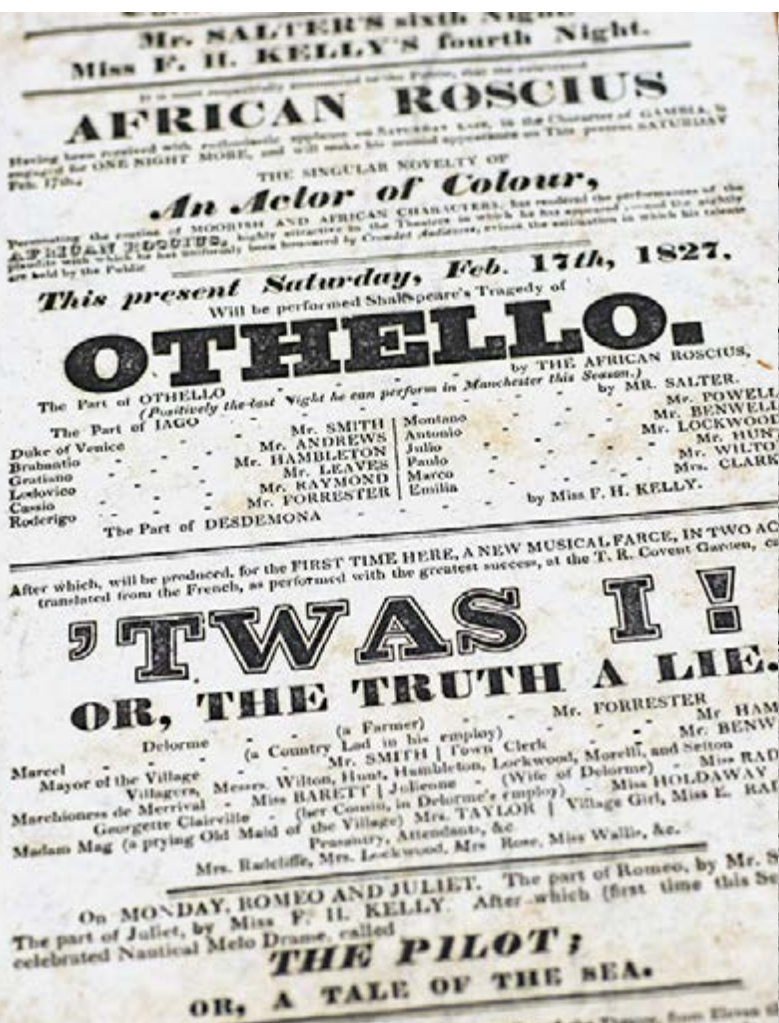
Selected New Acquisitions

Playbill featuring
Ira Aldridge (1827)

The Horace Howard Furness Memorial fund continues its long tradition of supporting the acquisition and growth of the Furness Shakespeare Library, one of the preeminent collections in the world in its field. A significant acquisition over the past year is a single sheet 1827 playbill. This broadside from Manchester, England promotes a starring performance by “the celebrated African Roscius,” Ira Aldridge, the African American “Actor of Colour” who first shattered theater’s racial barrier in the early 1800s.

Münster's Cosmographia (1564)

Gift funds made it possible to acquire an important 1564 edition in German of Sebastian Münster's *Cosmographia*, a Renaissance bestseller. A cosmography may be described as a description of all of the peoples and places of the world, and Münster's version was the most ambitious and sweeping of the many such works printed in early modern Europe. This copy is filled with extraordinary woodcuts and maps, including fourteen maps of the continents and three remarkable fold-out city views. It is an important complement to our strong holdings in Renaissance studies.





British & American fiction before 1830

Our collection of British and American fiction before 1830 is widely renowned and used heavily in both teaching and research. This year we added over two dozen titles to the collection, helping to fill in the picture of reading tastes and publishing history for this period and provide opportunities to discover new connections within our collections. Among the new acquisitions are a 1760 epistolary novel known in only two other copies; the first Dublin edition of Maria Edgeworth's *Castle Rackrent*; as well as a 1724 translation of a French work into English; published in what is now Germany. We also purchased a novel once owned by Isabella Monck, a prolific 18th-century reader.

Modern ephemera

In recent years we have worked to greatly increase our holdings of contemporary materials relating to the recent social and cultural history of Philadelphia with a special emphasis on those ephemeral items which might not otherwise survive. This past year we continued this work, purchasing a variety of flyers, pamphlets, and advertisements from the 1940s through the 1980s, ranging from a 1976 Philadelphia elementary school bazaar program to a 1955 "Negro History Week" handout. Not often found in research collections, this crucial material serves as witness to the history of the struggle for radical political, social, and cultural change and provides a fuller picture of Philadelphia's past.





The Ashley Bryan Archive

In 2019, we acquired the archive of renowned African American author, artist, and humanitarian Ashley Bryan. Penn Libraries invited Bryan to celebrate his work in January and December of 2019. Bryan has written and/or illustrated over 50 award-winning books of African folktales and Black American spirituals, as well as modern poetry and contemporary stories. He is perhaps best known for *Beautiful Blackbird*. Two recent publications, *Freedom Over Me: Eleven Slaves, Their Lives and Dreams Brought to Life* and *Infinite Hope: A Black Artist's Journey from World War II to Peace*, bear witness to the inhumanity of slavery and its legacy. Bryan is celebrated as well for his paintings, stained glass windows, and puppets made from materials picked up during walks along the beaches of Little Cranberry Island, his home in Maine.



The Ashley Bryan Archive covers nine decades and includes correspondence, original artwork, sketchbooks, photographs, and production materials. It is currently being processed in anticipation of a major 2023 exhibition, on the 100th anniversary of his birth.



Make our collections
openly available to all



Newly Processed Collections

<p>248</p> <p>manuscripts cataloged</p>	<p>10,341</p> <p>books cataloged, comprising 13,478 volumes</p>
<p>36</p> <p>archival collections processed (ca. 100 linear feet)</p>	<p>227</p> <p>serials cataloged, comprising 1,143 volumes</p>

- Dr. Daniel and Eleanor Albert collection of medical receipts, 1836-1869
- American publishing, printing, and book-related ephemera collection, 1827-1961
- Austin & Austin business and financial records, 1834-1871
- Joanna Banks Collection of African American Books
- David Belasco play scripts, 1887-1912
- Arthur Bloom research collection on Edwin Forrest, 1829-2018
- Howard Haines Brinton collection of Upper Silesia plebiscite material, 1919-1925
- Godha Ram Channon papers, 1913-1983
- Geoffrey Day collection of Laurence Sterne
- Anne Sandwith Drinker scrapbook, 1934-1937
- Alan and Lois Fern collection on the Gehenna Press, 1957-1971
- Fowler and Wells phrenological character readings, ephemera, and printed material, 1840-1910
- Sherman Frankel papers, 1942-2008
- Sir Richard Harington papers, 1891-1912
- Martin F. Heyworth music manuscripts and scores, 1966-2018
- Jesselson family collection of Isaac Leaser letters
- John C. Winston Company book jacket album, 1947-1955
- Arnold and Deanne Kaplan collection of Early American Judaica
- Kelly Writers House recordings, 1996-2016
- David Mendelssohn papers relating to World War II, 1941-1950s, 1975
- Newton, Gordon, Johnston, Murdoch, and Scott of Madeira, Portugal letters, 1790-1835
- Jeremy Duncan Nicholson papers related to LGBT issues at the University of Pennsylvania and Philadelphia, 1976-1984
- Nottingham Naturalists' Society scrapbooks, 1872-1893
- Morris Osborn collection of Bonnee Hoy material, circa 1970-1979
- Ann Parr collection of material relating to Geddes Mumford, 1943-1998
- Pennsylvania College of Dental Surgery theses, 1855-1865, 1879-1885
- Robert I. Rudolph collection of Gustave Dore
- Laurence Salzmann photographs
- Arthur Scouten papers, 1918-1994
- Collection of Simpsons and Seinfeld scripts and storyboards, 1991-2016
- Society for Historians of the Early American Republic (SHEAR) records, 1978-1995
- Early Soviet posters, circa 1920s-1930s

- Soviet student schoolwork, 1928-1950
- Robert M. Thrall papers relating to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Radiation Laboratory, 1940-1971
- David Toccafondi collection of University of Pennsylvania Van Pelt Library bulletin board flyers, 2017-2018
- David Toccafondi collection of University of Pennsylvania and West Philadelphia ephemera, 2017-2018
- University of Pennsylvania Fund publicity material, 1924-1926
- Sholem Aleichem will and epitaph (gift of Robert V. Waife)
- Ted Weems papers, circa 1910-1985
- Richard Wernick papers, 1943-2015
- Herbert S. Williams papers, 1908-1950
- World's Fairs collection, 1850-1893
- Michael Zinman collection of World's Fairs and Expositions material, 1851-2000

Ted Weems Collection

The Ted Weems collection, a 2019 gift of Alan C. Love and Ted Weems, Jr., is an exciting addition to the Kislak Center's already impressive and diverse music archives. Weems (1901-1963) graduated from Penn and rose to national stardom directing the Ted Weems Orchestra and earning renown for "Somebody Stole My Gal," "Piccolo Pete," and "Heartaches."

The scores, recordings, photographs, and scrapbooks in this newly cataloged collection capture the glitz and sparkle of big band music and feature the likes of whistler Elmo Tanner, crooner Perry Como, and of course Ted Weems himself.



Newly Digitized Collections

The OPenn repository provides open access to selected digital assets in both human-readable and machine-readable formats.

OPenn's digital datasets consist of master TIFF files, web JPEG images, thumbnail images, and XML manuscript descriptions. All data sets are available as free cultural works and as such are released into the public domain or under Creative Commons licenses. By providing unmediated access to any data we provide, from a single image to the entire data set, OPenn facilitates scholarly re-use of rare and unique digitized materials.

OPenn continues to grow in size and in kind of content. Among its materials, OPenn recently added all the medieval manuscripts in the Philadelphia area; Muslim world manuscripts from Philadelphia, Columbia University, and the Walters Art Museum; and church records from early Philadelphia congregations.

OPenn by the numbers:

<div>10,011</div> <div>total manuscripts with images and metadata</div>	<div>1,273,142</div> <div>unique pages of manuscripts</div>
<div>6,024</div> <div>Penn Libraries manuscripts available for full access (includes 307 LJS manuscripts, 478 Cairo Genizah fragments, 115 Islamic and Hebraic manuscripts from the Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, and 2,787 Indic manuscripts)</div>	<div>3,987</div> <div>manuscripts from 43 other institutions, including manuscripts from the Free Library of Philadelphia, Columbia University, a number of PACSCL institutions, and several Philadelphia-area colleges and universities</div>
<div>\$1,800,000</div> <div>in taxpayer investment represented by 6 NEH grants</div>	<div>96</div> <div>terabytes of data</div>



Conserving Collections

Conserving Statistics

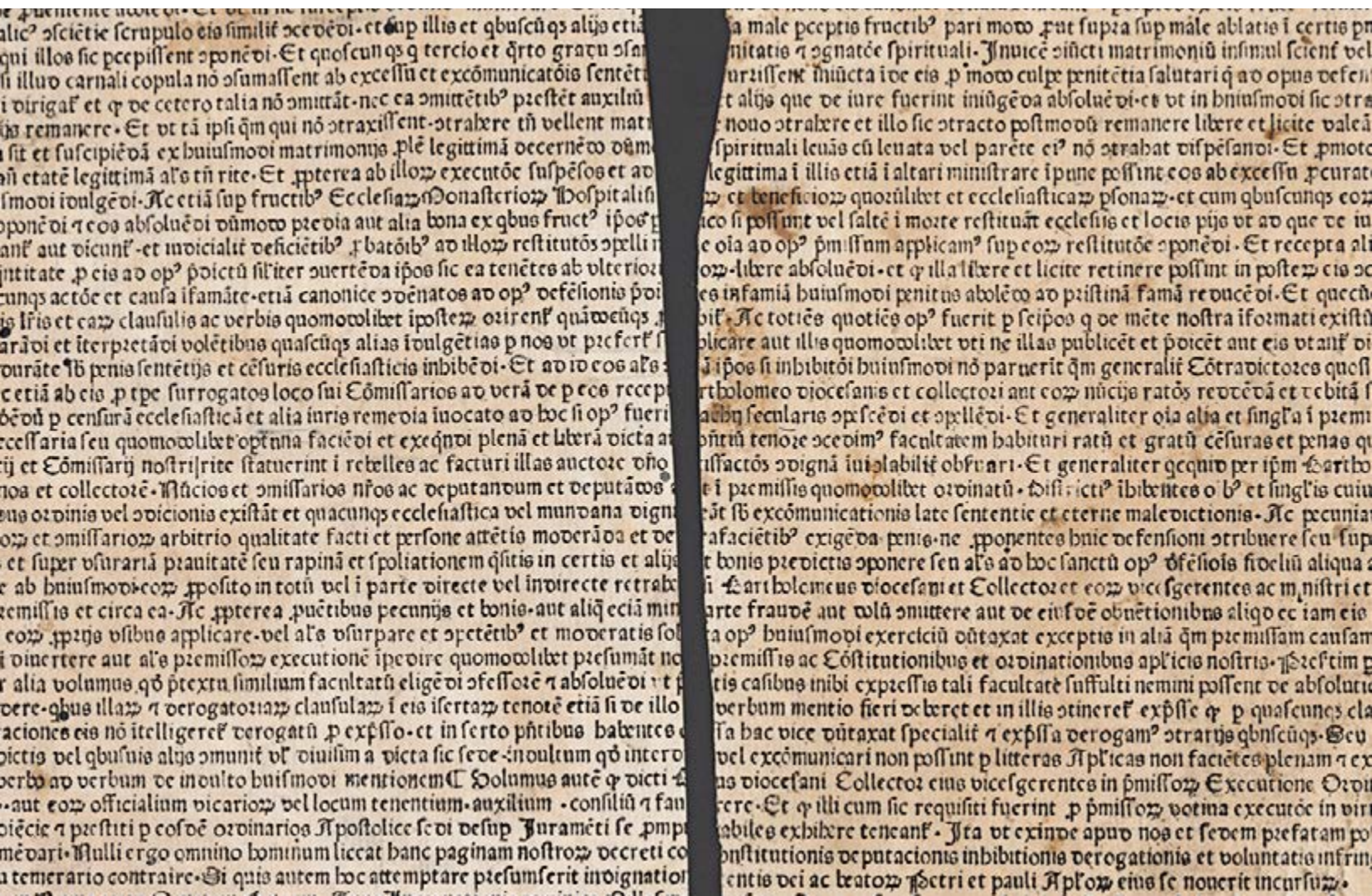
Conservation projects over the past year focused on stabilization of collection materials, rehousing in archival enclosures and boxes, and preparation for 15 internal and external exhibits.

Objects treated over past year	88
Custom enclosures constructed	293
Custom exhibition mounts	318
Objects prepared for exhibits	467
Objects prepared for loans	31

Conservation in Focus

A unique copy of a 1482 printed indulgence, which consists of two early printed leaves that were once folded and reused as book pastedowns with significant adhesive residue, came to the lab after acquisition. The leaves were removed from their old mat, surface cleaned, mended, and housed in polyester sleeves. The treatment to humidify the folds and flatten the leaves was unusual because we decided to allow a significant amount of old adhesive to remain as evidence of their use as pastedowns.

Printed indulgence to support the war against the Ottoman Empire (1482)





Engage with interested communities

*April James shows students from Stanton Elementary School
sheet music from the Marian Anderson collection.
Photo by Eric Sucar, University of Pennsylvania Communications.*



Public Services Statistics

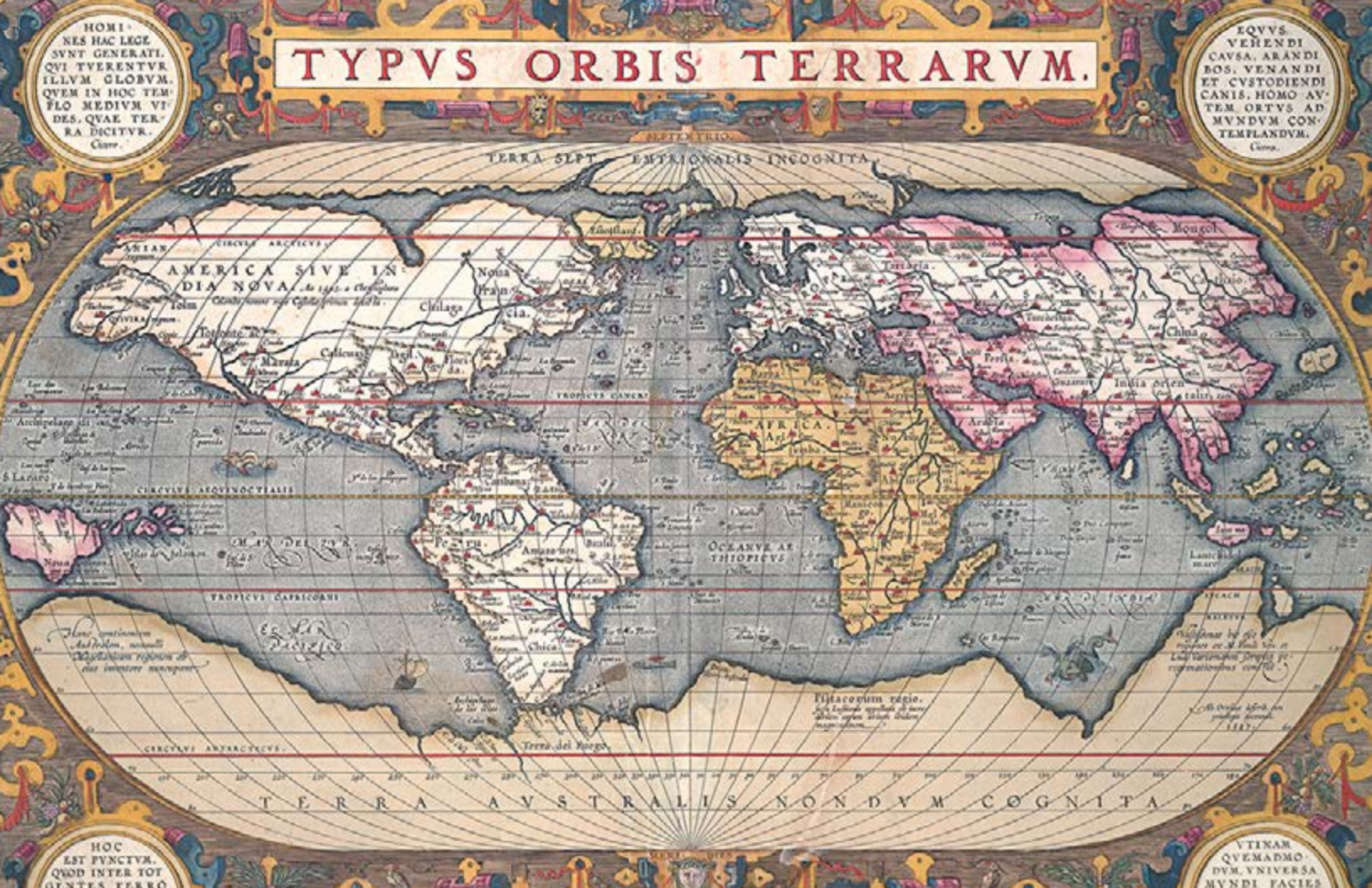
2,320 patron visits to the Reading Room	213 reprographic patron requests
5,187 materials requested for research, classes, presentations, exhibitions, and digitization	554 class sessions held in Kislak Center classrooms
2,586/139,871 collection pages scanned for patron and library use: 2,586 items and 139,871 images	

Most Requested Archival Collections

Call number	Title	Requests
Ms. Coll. 200	Marian Anderson papers	73
Ms. Coll. 1025	Gotham Book Mart records	71
Ms. Coll. 30	Theodore Dreiser papers	66
Ms. Coll. 777	Institute of Contemporary Art records	63
Ms. Coll. 91	Eugene Ormandy papers	55

Most Requested Rare Books

Call number	Title	Requests
Folio PR2751 .A1	Mr. VWilliam Shakespeares comedies, histories, & tragedies (Shakespeare plays, 1623)	15
Portfolio Inc S-307	Liber chronicarum (Nuremberg Chronicle, 1493)	11
Folio Inc D-35	La Commedia (The Divine Comedy by Dante, 1497)	10
Portfolio BS185 1800 .L65	The Holy Bible (Macklin Bible, 1800)	8
Mapcase G3200 1592 .O78	Typus orbis terrarum (world map, c. 1592)	7



Top USA visitors (non-PA)

State	Number
New York	44
California	16
Virginia	13
Maryland	11
Massachusetts	11
New Jersey	10
Texas	6
Florida	6
DC	6
Illinois	5

Global visitors (non-US)

Country	Number
Great Britain	19
Canada	6
Germany	6
Italy	2
Japan	2
Netherlands	2
Belgium, Finland, France, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Norway, South Africa, Spain, and Taiwan	1

Engaging Communities

The Year of Whitman, at Penn and Beyond.

Whitman at 200: Art and Democracy, a grant-funded Philadelphia region-wide project, directed by Senior Curator Lynne Farrington of the Kislak Center, observed the 200th anniversary of Walt Whitman's birth throughout 2019. As part of this re-examination of Whitman's legacy, the Kislak Center hosted the conference *Whitman at 200: Looking Back, Looking Forward*; the exhibition *Whitman Vignettes: Camden and Philadelphia*, based on Penn's Whitman Collection; and the concert "*The Varied Carols I Hear*": Penn sings Whitman, with works by Penn faculty composers. The grant staff also organized a City Hall Birthday Party, at which Patti Smith sang "People Have the Power", and supported Penn faculty and students in developing the People's Press, a mobile letterpress studio printing Whitman's words.

Conferences

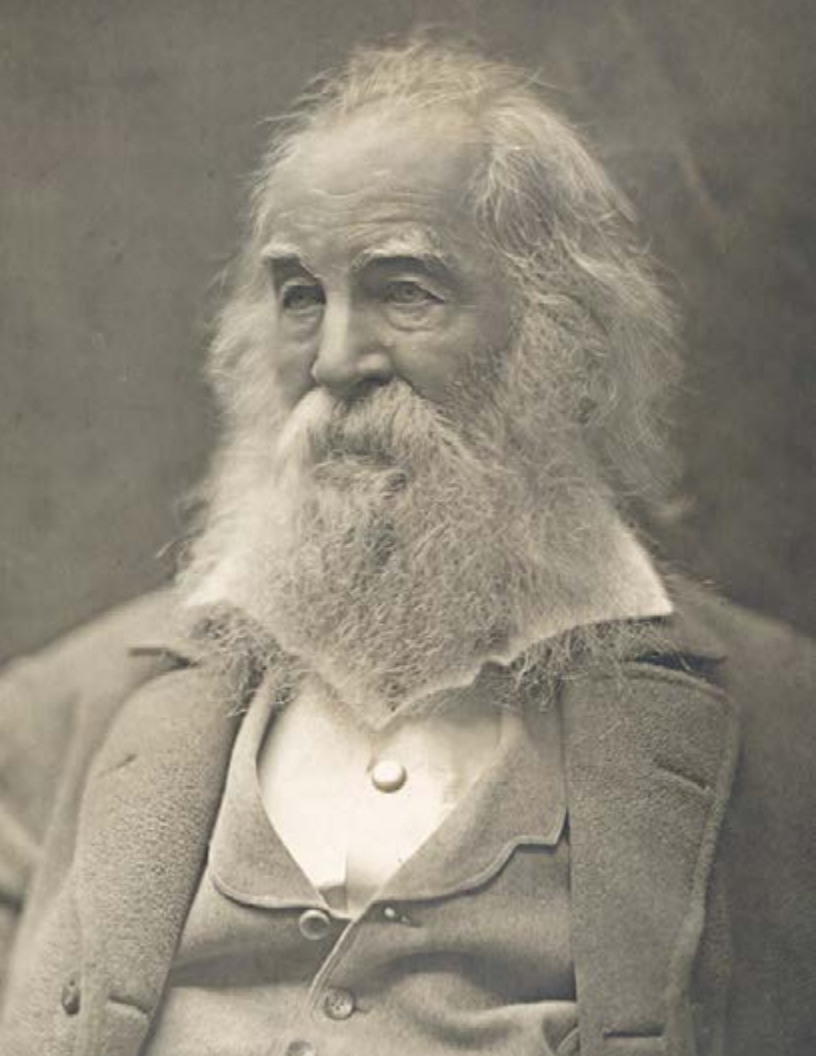
- Penn Libraries, "A Symposium on Preserving Contemporary Cultural Heritage," October 16, 2019
- "Hooking Up," 12th Annual Schoenberg Symposium on Manuscript Studies in the Digital Age, November 21-23, 2019
- "Black Women Writing Across Genres in the Late 20th Century," Jay I. Kislak Symposium, February 20-21, 2020
- "American Contact: Virtual Conference on the Intercultural Encounter and the History of the Book," Online, April 24-25, 2020

Lectures and Events

- Fabrizio Lelli, "Changing Minds: Geographic Discoveries and New Worlds through the Eyes of a Renaissance Jewish Scholar," 2019-2020 Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies & The Herbert D. Katz Center Distinguished Fellow's Lecture in Jewish Manuscript Studies, September 10, 2019
- Daniel Burge, "Identification and Preservation of Inkjet Prints in Museums, Libraries, and Archives," September 11-12, 2019

- "Bound to Conserve: The Art of Angling and the Future of Rivers," September 14, 2019
- Philadelphia Orchestra Musicians, "String Trio in the Pavilion," 5th Annual Audience Appreciation Day, September 23, 2019
- "Keith Carter: Art and the Archive," Presented in conjunction with Whitman at 200: Art and Democracy, October 3, 2019
- Archives Month Philly, "From Antarctica to Zimbabwe: Around the World with Archives, Books and Codices," October 23, 2019
- Patricia Flatley Brennan, "Making Artificial Intelligence Trustable, Transparent & Useful: The Role of the National Library of Medicine," October 28, 2019
- "Censorship & Democracy: From Whitman to the 21st Century," A panel in conjunction with Whitman at 200: Art and Democracy, October 29, 2019
- "Ashley Bryan Archive Celebration and Philadelphia Book Launch for Infinite Hope." December 5, 2019
- Kislak Center and the Philadelphia Orchestra, "Rachmaninoff's Symphonic Dances and Its Premiere by the Philadelphia Orchestra: Celebrating the Rediscovery of a Historic Recording," January 31, 2020

Top to Bottom: Photograph of Walt Whitman (photographer unknown), c.1888. Neff-designed box created for Catskill Rivers: Birthplace of American Fly Fishing by Austin M. Francis (1983).



- Kathy Peiss, "When Librarians, Soldiers, and Spies Banded Together in World War II Europe." Co-Sponsored book discussion with the Penn Department of History, February 19, 2020
- Charles Burnett, "Arabic and Greek Science and Philosophy: Form and Style in the Transmission to the Latin West," The A.S.W. Rosenbach Lectures in Bibliography, November 11-14, 2019
- Roger Chartier, "'Per dir forse una nova parola': Sixteenth-century translations of sprezzatura." Co-sponsored by the Center for Italian Studies, February 6, 2020
- Maddalena Signorini, "Text on Flyleaves: An Investigation on Petrarch's Writing Uses." Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies & Center for Italian Studies Fellow's Lecture in Italian Manuscript Studies, February 27, 2020
- Anna Corrias, "'Riddles and Puzzles': Pythagoras in the Italian Quattrocento." Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies & Center Visiting Research Fellow Lecture, March 4, 2020

Music in the Pavilion Series

- Night Music Chamber Ensemble, "A Subtle Aroma of Romanticism: Music by Felix Mendelssohn and Louise Farrenc." September 27, 2019
- Jim Primosch, George Crumb, and others, setting Walt Whitman's poems for voice and piano, "'The Varied Carols I Hear': Penn Sings Whitman." November 8, 2019
- Jasper String Quartet & Friends, "Music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Erich Korngold, and Karl Weigl." January 17, 2020

Exhibitions

- **Marian Anderson on the World Stage,**
August 25, 2016 – August 2019
- **Thomas W. Evans Bible Collection,**
April 24, 2019 – August 5, 2019
- **Whitman Vignettes: Camden and Philadelphia,**
May 28, 2019 – August 23, 2019
- **Red Etchings: Soviet Book Illustrations**
from the Collection of Monroe Price,
September 23, 2019 – November 22, 2019
- **The Bibliophile as Bookbinder:**
The Angling Binding of S.A. Neff, Jr.,
August 26, 2019 – December 20, 2019.*
- **Manuscriptistan: Photographs by Anthony M. Cerulli,**
September 9, 2019 – December 13, 2019
- **Writing Across Genres: African American Women**
Writers in the Joanna Banks Collections,
January 13, 2020 – April 20, 2020.
- **Making the Renaissance Manuscript:**
Discoveries from Philadelphia Libraries,
February 10, 2020 – May 19, 2020*
- **Remarkable Figures: Women in**
the Art of Ashley Bryan,
February 17, 2020 – April 17, 2020
Also online
library.upenn.edu/collections/online-exhibits
- **A Liberal Arts Education for the (Middle) Ages:**
Texts, Translations, and Study,
Online only exhibition
<https://ljs101.exhibits.library.upenn.edu/>
- **Justice Now: 1960s Protest Drawings by Ashley Bryan**
Online only exhibition
library.upenn.edu/collections/online-exhibits

* includes catalog publication

Top to Bottom: Marian Anderson 1939 performance at the Lincoln Memorial. Marian Anderson Collection of Photographs, Ms. Coll. 198, Vol. 7, Page 4, Item 1. History of Art 501 students working on the Tress collection.





For the curatorial seminar History of Art 501, Professor Julie Nelson Davis had students investigate the Arthur Tress Collection of Japanese Illustrated Books over two semesters. The students drafted materials for a forthcoming exhibition on the Tress Collection.

Classes

The Kislak Center hosted a wide range of classes throughout the year, from one-session visits to ongoing classes in our seminar rooms. These instruction sessions use the Kislak Center's extensive collections to illustrate topics and engage students. Here is a selection:

- A Black Seed (He) Sowed: Introduction to Paleography and Book History, Eva Del Soldato
- Animal, Vegetable, Mineral: The Columbian Exchange, 1450-1750, Marcy Norton
- Art, Politics, and Power in Late Medieval and Renaissance France, Nicholas Herman
- The Cold War, Kelsey Norris
- Colonial Latin America, Marcy Norton
- Comics and Graphic Novels, J-C Cloutier
- Concepts and Methods in Cultural History, Roger Chartier
- The Enlightenment, Joan DeJean
- Gender and Health, Elaine LaFay
- Introduction to Bibliography, Zachary Lesser and Mitch Fraas
- Introduction to Digital Humanities, Whitney Trettien
- Introduction to Print Culture: Reading, Writing, and Printing in early modern England and America, Peter Stallybrass and Roger Chartier
- Italian Jewish Writers from the Emancipation to Primo Levi, Gabriella Romani
- The Long Reformation, Margo Todd
- The Making of Modern Paris, Eugenie Birch and Andrea Goulet
- Pre-modern Rhetorics, Rita Copeland
- Race, Globalization, and Capitalism in Early Modern England, Ania Loomba
- Renaissance Vernacular Science, Eva Del Soldato
- Shakespeare/Not Shakespeare, Zachary Lesser
- Travelling with Gulliver, Toni Bowers and Lynne Farrington
- Visual Narrative, David Comberg and Jamie Diamond
- What is the Novel?, Joan DeJean
- Why Early Modern Spain?, Michael Solomon



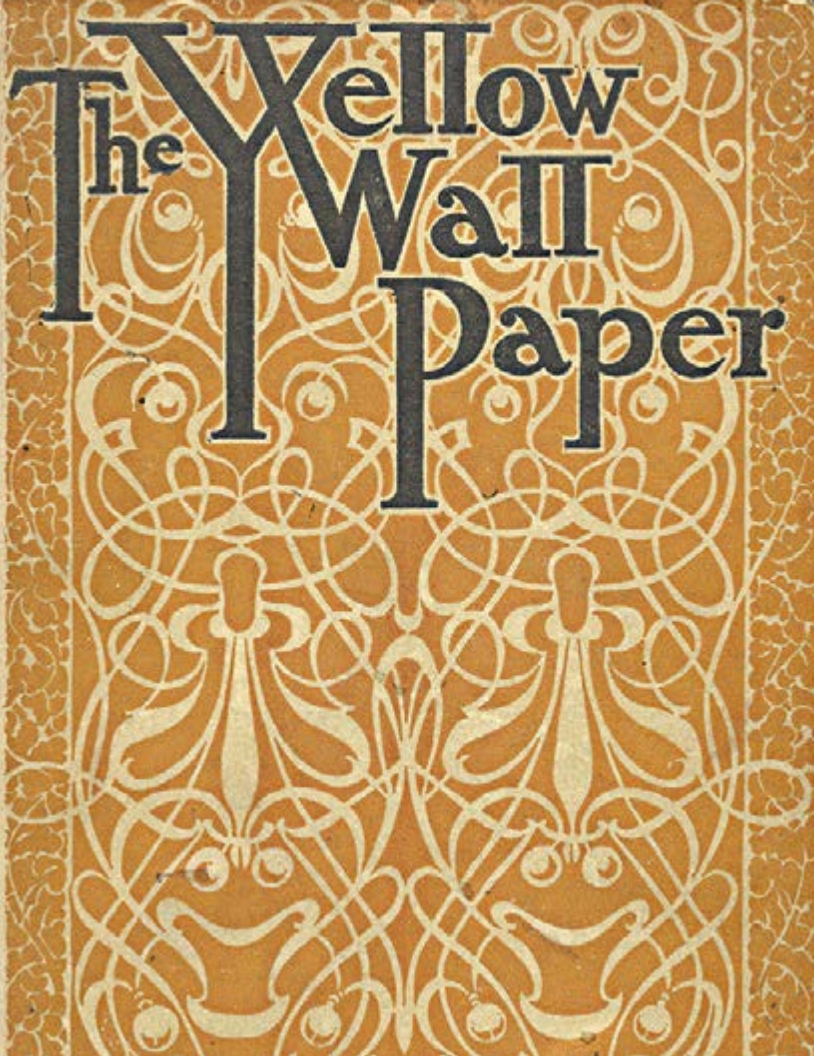


Joanna Banks Collection Curation and Symposium

The Joanna Banks Collection comprises over 10,000 books, periodicals, recordings, and photographs by and about African Americans, with a focus on Black women, children's literature, and cookbooks. Two Penn graduate students, Kiana Murphy (English) and Destiny Crocker (Africana Studies), spent months reviewing materials for the exhibition *Writing Across Genres* and the symposium *Black Women Writing Across Genres in the Late 20th Century*, mentored by Senior Curator Lynne Farrington.

Working with the Joanna Banks collection was the biggest highlight of my graduate career. From organizing the symposium to sifting through hundreds of boxes for the exhibit, I was able to think deeply about Black women's literature, archival practices, and curation. My fondest memory was looking through boxes of periodicals and finding materials I had never seen: signed copies of Audre Lorde's pamphlets, original Octavia Butler novels, and nearly every published copy of the magazine *Negro Digest / BlackWorld*. As I sat beside tables fully covered in history, I had a profound revelation of the rich abundance of Black cultural production.

– Kiana Murphy, Graduate Student in English



Exhibition Loans

National Portrait Gallery, Washington, D.C.

Loan: Gilman, Charlotte Perkins. *The Yellow Wall Paper*.
AC9 G4203 899y

Exhibit: *Votes for Women: An American Awakening, 1840-1920*
March 1, 2019 - January 5, 2020

Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Loan: Kōkyōan, Kasen, and Yoshitoshi Taiso. *Shūzō Suiko Meimeiden: Nihen*. Arthur Tress Collection

Exhibit: *Yoshitoshi: Spirit and Spectacle*
April 11, 2019 - August 18, 2019

National Portrait Gallery, Washington, D.C.

Loans: Sixteen objects from Marian Anderson
collections Ms. Coll. 198 and Ms. Coll. 200
Exhibit: *One Life: Marian Anderson*
June 28, 2019 - May 17, 2020

Fisher Fine Arts Library, University of Pennsylvania,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Loan: Sssr Na Stroike. Folio DK266.A2 S761 1931

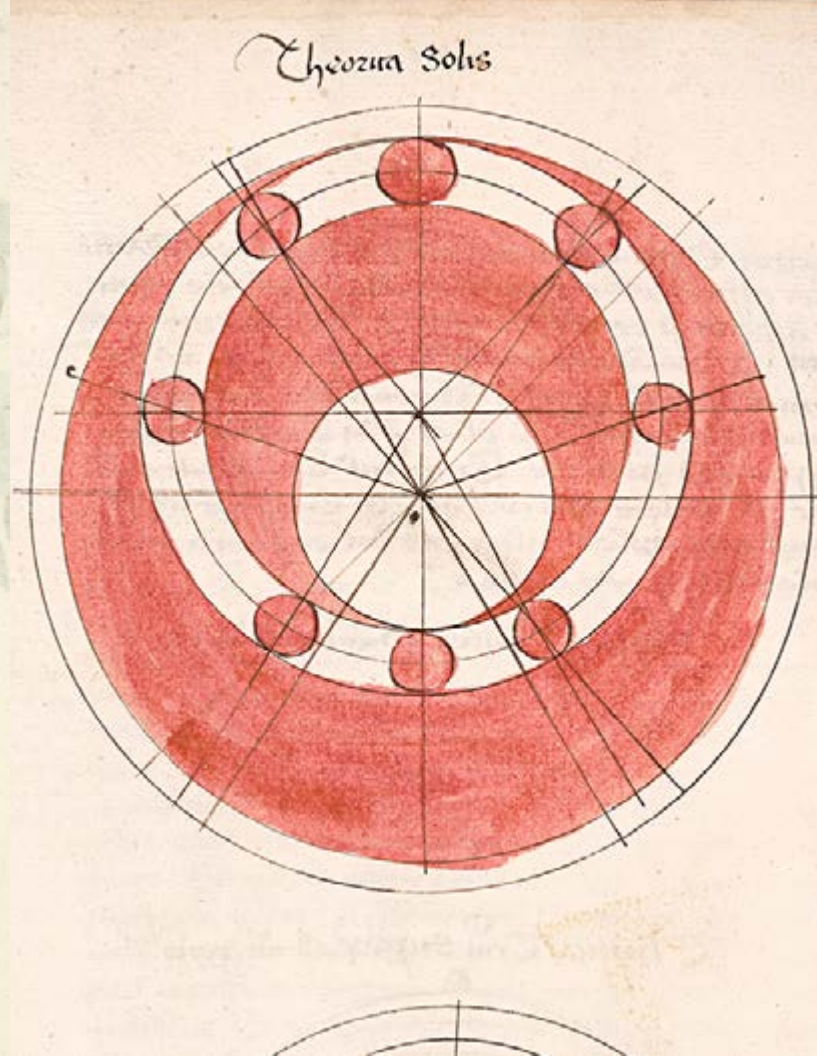
Exhibit: *Soviet Architecture: the Fifth View*
September 16, 2019 - December 19, 2019

Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, New York

Loans: Cuspinianus, Johannes, and Johann Singriener.
Wo Vnd Wie Ro. Kay. GC5 C9624 515w

Lipsius, Justus. *Iusti Lipsi Diua Sichemiensis Siue*
Aspricollis. BT660.H35 L57 1604

Exhibit: *The Last Knight: The Art, Armor,*
and Ambition of Maximilian I
October 2, 2019 - January 5, 2020



Left to Right: Charlotte Perkins Gilman, *The Yellow Wall Paper* (1899). *Kōkyōan Kasen, Shūzō Suiko Meimeiden Nihen* (1868). Herbal ... (1520). *Astronomical Treatises and Tables* (1481).

National Constitution Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Loan: Stowe, Harriet Beecher. *Uncle Tom's Cabin, Or, Life Among the Lowly*. Schimmel Fiction 4626, vol. 1

Exhibit: *Civil War and Reconstruction: The Battle for Freedom and Equality*

January 2, 2020 - June 1, 2021

Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Loans: 2 issues, *The Black Panther*. 1 April 1972 and 13 May 1972. Folio AP2 .B612

Exhibit: *Colored People Time*

February 7, 2020 - April 20, 2020

Haverford College Library, Haverford, Pennsylvania

Loan: Behn, Aphra, and Pierre Antoine de La Place. *Oronoko*. Schimmel Fiction 360

Exhibit: *Crossing Borders: From Slavery to Abolition, 1670-1865*

March 2, 2020 - October 2, 2020

Free Library of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Loans: Eight pre-modern manuscripts, including five from the Lawrence J. Schoenberg collection, dating as early as 1240 CE

Exhibit: *Medieval Life*

June 1, 2020 - January 31, 2021

Selected Publications

The Kislak Center's collections support scholarship in diverse fields. Below is a selection of articles and monographs from the past year:

- Arthur Bloom, *Edwin Forrest: A Biography and Performance History*, McFarland & Company (2019). Based on material from the Edwin Forrest collection (Ms. Coll. 5) and the Forrest Library of books.
- Deborah Calland and Barry Millington, "'Lonely Walk': An Unpublished Song by Alma Schindler-Mahler," *The Wagner Journal* vol. 12, no. 3 (2018). Featuring the discovery of "Einsamer Gang" in the Mahler-Werfel papers (Ms. Coll. 575) and a reproduction of the song.
- Mary Fissell, "Aristotle's Masterpiece: Early Modern Sex Ed" podcast, Consortium for History of Science, Technology and Medicine (2019), <https://www.chstm.org/video/83>. Discussion of our copy of Aristotle's Masterpiece (EC65 A100 684a2).
- David Gray, *Work Better, Live Better: Motivation, Labor, and Management Ideology*, University of Massachusetts Press (2020). Uses material from the Lemuel R. Boulware papers (Ms. Coll. 52). Boulware was a leading figure in industrial relations in America during the 1940s and 1950s.





- Werner Stark (ed.), *Immanuel Kant: Gesammelte Schriften*. Abtheilung IV: Vorlesungen; Bd. 26 (IV.3/II+III), De Gruyter (2020). Includes a full reproduction of Ms. Codex 1120, handwritten notes taken by a student of Immanuel Kant's 1775 lectures at the University of Königsberg.

Forthcoming

- Rebecca Bushnell (ed.), *The Marvels of the World: An Anthology of Nature Writing Before 1700*, University of Pennsylvania Press (2021). Includes images from a number of Kislak Center items, such as the 1594 book *Histoire d'un voyage fait en la terre du Bresil, autrement dite Amerique* by Jean de Léry.
- Catriona MacLeod, "Paper, Scissor, Stone" in *Before Photography: German Visual Culture in the Nineteenth Century*, De Gruyter (2021). Draws on images from collection items, such as the alphabet book *A-B-C für artige Kinder in Silhouetten und Reimen* by Karl Fröhlich.
- Sarah C. Schaefer, "Visual Representations" in *A Cultural History of the Bible in the Age of Empire*, Bloomsbury (2021). Includes images from the Globe Bible Publishing Co. canvassing Bible (Zinman 121.5).
- Kira Thurman, *Singing Like Germans: Black Musicians in the Land of Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms*, Cornell University Press (2021). Drawing on the Marian Anderson Collection papers and photographs (Ms. Coll. 198 and Ms. Coll. 200).



Der Fischer froh zu Markte zieht.
Der Fuchs mit seiner Beute flieht.



Selected Publications Continued...

Selected publications by Kislak Center staff

- Doug Emery, Mitch Fraas, Lynn Ransom, Emma Thomson, et al., "A New Model for Manuscript Provenance Research: the Mapping Manuscript Migrations Project," *Manuscript Studies*, vol. 6 no. 1 (2021).
- Doug Emery, Mitch Fraas, Lynn Ransom, Emma Thomson, et al., "Mapping Manuscript Migrations Knowledge Graph: Data for Tracing the History and Provenance of Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts," *Journal of Open Humanities Data*, vol. 6 no. 3 (2020).
- Doug Emery, Mitch Fraas, Lynn Ransom, Emma Thomson, et al., "Linked Open Data Vocabularies and Identifiers for Medieval Studies," in *DHN 2020: Digital Humanities in the Nordic Countries: Proceedings*, CEUR Workshop Proceedings, vol. 2612 (2020).
- Lynne Farrington, "The Good Gray Poet in Germantown," *Germantown Crier: A Publication of the Germantown Historical Society* (2019).
- Mitch Fraas and John Ghazvinian (eds.), *American and Muslim Worlds before 1900*, Bloomsbury (2020).



Left to Right: Choir book (1525), part of The Free Library of Philadelphia collection.
Gotham Book Mart logo.

- Nicholas Herman, "Meta-Painting and the Painted Book" in *Renaissance Meta-Painting*, Brepols (2020).
- Nicholas Herman, "Eusebius, Chronicon," in *Trésors enluminés de Suisse*, Silvana Editoriale (2020).
- Nicholas Herman, *Making the Renaissance Manuscript: Discoveries from Philadelphia Libraries*, University of Pennsylvania Libraries (2020).
- Nicholas Herman, "Porträtdiptychon," in *Fünzig Objekte in Buchform: Vom Reliquiar zur Laptoptasche*, Edition Imorde (2020).
- David McKnight, *Wise Men Fished Here: A Centennial Exhibition in Honor of the Gotham Book Mart, 1920-2000*, University of Pennsylvania Libraries (2019).
- Lynn Ransom, "Mixed Media: The Question of Format in Late Medieval Pictorial Vita Christi Cycles," in *The Meditationes Vitae Christi Reconsidered: New Perspectives on Text and Image*, Brepols (2021).
- Kelly Tuttle, "The Educational and Social Worlds of Premodern Arabic Encyclopedism," in *The Wiley Blackwell Companion to World Literature*, vol. 3, Wiley Blackwell (2020).

Kislak Responds to COVID

Beginning in mid-August, a limited number of Kislak Center staff returned for on-site work to support the special collections-related teaching, learning, and scholarly research needs of our community of users. Though we could not host researchers on-site due to health and safety restrictions, we increased our digital efforts through remote consultation and instruction sessions as well as enhanced reprographic services.

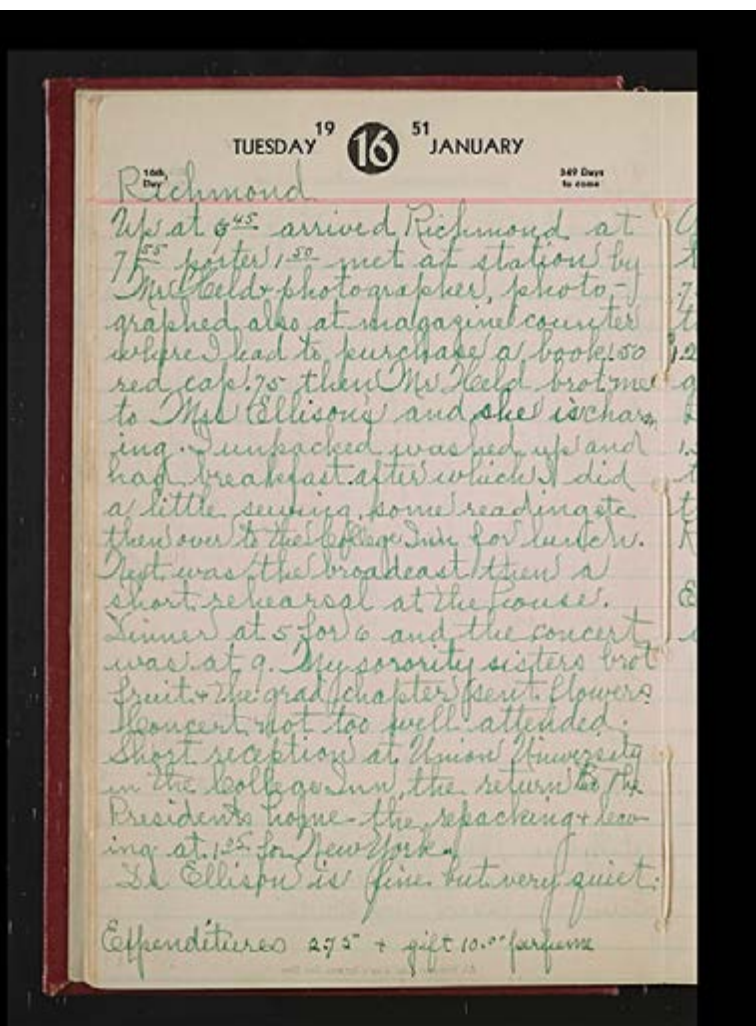
Transcribing Travel Diaries

The transition to remote work provided the perfect opportunity to launch a project to transcribe examples from the Kislak Center's collection of 18th- and 19th-century travel diaries. This initiative allows Libraries staff, the Penn community and citizen scholars to transcribe digitized copies of journals recorded by travelers from all walks of life. Their words and illustrations shed light on their experiences and their motives for travel, and bring to life the people and places they visited. Using the FromThePage platform, participants have acquired new skills in paleography and metadata enrichment while also traveling to remote locations from the comfort of their homes.

This successful collaborative project—only one of many engaging Kislak Center transcription initiatives—continues to grow. Newly-digitized diaries are added on a regular basis and the number of participants increases steadily. The project is open to anyone wishing to travel—virtually—with the diarists and share their incredible stories of marvels, meanderings, and mishaps.

Left to Right: FromThePage.com transcription project of the Diaries and Notebooks of Marian Anderson.

Alicia Meyer, Kislak Center Fellow for 2020-21, using a document camera to display Lady Mary Wroth's The Countesse of Mountgomeries Urania (1621).



[Tuesday 16 January 1951]

Richmond

Up at 6:45 arrived Richmond at 7:55 porter 1.50 met at station by Mr Heeld + photographer, photographed also at magazine counter where I had to purchase a book .50 red cap .75 then Mrs Heeld brot me to Mrs Ellison's and she is charming. I unpacked washed up and had breakfast after which I did a little sewing, some reading etc then over to the College Inn for lunch.

Next was the broadcast then a short rehearsal at the house. Dinner at 5 for 6 and the concert was at 9. My sorority sisters brot fruit + the grad chapter sent flowers. Concert not too well attended. Short reception at Union University in the College Inn, the return to the Presidents home the repacking + leaving at 1:05 for New York.

Dr Ellison is fine but very quiet.

Expenditures 2.75 + gift 10.00 perfume

Material Texts in a Virtual World

Kislak Center staff routinely welcome hundreds of students, researchers, classes, and event visitors and encourage them to see and even to handle our unique collections, from medieval manuscripts to contemporary comic books.

But what happens to this atmosphere of engagement with physical materials when our libraries close, when all of our work is mediated by computer screens? We “pivot” and develop new ways to engage with scholars, students, and interested visitors, even when our physical library spaces were closed. A few examples:

- Many of the classes we would typically host in our space transitioned to Zoom sessions, so we purchased a mobile document camera to make our physical objects accessible in the remote format.
- Weekly meetings of the Workshop in the History of Material Texts, where leading scholars discuss books, manuscripts, publishing, reading, and writing, moved to Zoom and sessions were posted to YouTube.

Reprographic statistics

Since staff returned for on-site work in mid-August and processed requests through mid-December, we processed more than 220 reprographic requests. We averaged 10-15 requests per week.

A majority were for outside researchers, but over 100 requests also came from University of Pennsylvania users.



Library at the Katz Center

The Library at the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies represents one of the world's largest and richest resources on the history and culture of Jews, with approximately 200,000 volumes, 32 incunabula, and over 8,000 rare printed works. The Library's archive holds the institutional records of Dropsie College, as well as the personal papers of over fifty Philadelphia Jewish American scholars and community leaders.

The Library at the Katz Center staff along with Penn Libraries colleagues worked on a number of important projects over the last year. Staff processed and catalogued a significant number of rare Hebraica printed works that pre-date 1864, a collection that numbers several thousand volumes. They also worked on the Jewish Counter Culture Oral History Project, a multi-year project to interview 31 founding members of Havurat Shalom, one of the first institutional homes of the Havurah movement.

The Library at the Katz Center also participated in an international partnership with the National Library

of Israel's Ktiv digital Hebrew manuscripts project to scan and share our post-1601 Hebrew manuscripts with them, and collaborated with Princeton University, Haifa University, the Jewish Theological Seminary, Oxford University and the University of Manchester on phase two of the Scribes of the Cairo Geniza Project.

The library hosted its fourth SIMS-Katz Fellow: Fabrizio Lelli, Associate Professor of Hebrew Language and Literature at the University of Salento (Lecce, Italy). Lelli researched our LJS 499 manuscript, Abraham ben Mordecai Farissol's 16th century geographical treatise, *Igeret orhot 'olam*. This item is the first modern Hebrew work on geography and contains the first Hebrew text to mention by name the New World ('olam hadash). As part of the program, Lelli delivered a MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) and gave a public lecture, "Changing Minds: Geographic Discoveries and New Worlds through the Eyes of a Renaissance Jewish Scholar."

Special Collections

Public service contacts	443
Special collections requests	434
Rare book room tours	6
Rare book room tour guests	69

Circulation Collections

Patron registrations	240
Document scans	233
Record maintenance	210
Shelving	3140



Selected New Acquisitions

The David M. Goldenberg Papers document the academic and administrative career of Goldenberg, the former President of Dropsie College (now the Katz Center). The collection includes details on the aftermath of the November 9, 1981 arson attack, deliberately set on the 43rd anniversary of Kristallnacht, which destroyed a large part of the College's library.

Mahzor (High holiday prayer book) according to the Polish rite (1680). An extremely rare volume of the book, with distinctive typography.

The Paul D. Neuwirth Collection of Israel Medals supports the study of Israeli numismatics. The medals, issued between 1959 and 2019, honor and memorialize a vast array of topics, providing insight into what the Government of Israel thought merited such recognition during the period.

A photograph album of a Holocaust survivor who spent time in several DP camps in Slovenia or Germany during the years 1946-1948 and later immigrated to Israel, acquired with funds from the Mark S. Zucker Judaica Endowment.

Jacob Emden, *Sefer ha-shimush* (1758-1762). A provocatively illustrated anti-Sabbatean polemic by one of the leading Ashkenazic religious authorities of 18th century German lands.

Tanuji, Ishmael, ha-Kohen, *Sefer ha-zikaron: piske halakhot* (1555). A comprehensive presentation of Talmudic laws by one of the leading Sephardic religious authorities in 16th century Ottoman Tunisia.

Robert Lehman and Alexander Weil donated manuscript materials and photos by Rabbi I. Harold Sharfman for his study of Rabbi Abraham.

A first edition of Viktor Frankl's *Trotzdem Ja Zum Leben Sagen* ["Say yes to Life"] (Vienna, 1946) acquired with the Mark S. Zucker Judaica Endowment funds. This is the first published version of three lectures delivered shortly after the liberation by the founder of logotherapy. Here Frankl affirms, as the German title tells, the urgent call to "Say yes to life anyway" derived from the chorus of the Buchenwald song written by concentration camp prisoner Fritz Löhner-Beda.



Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies

Guided by the vision of its founder, Lawrence J. Schoenberg, the mission of the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies (SIMS) at the Penn Libraries is to bring manuscript culture, modern technology and people together to bring access to and understanding of our intellectual heritage locally and around the world.

SIMS staff have shown remarkable agility in navigating not only the challenges but also the opportunities that the year 2020 has presented. Many of our most visible, meaningful projects continue apace, and, rather than being hampered, have in fact reached large, new audiences.

Ambitious new projects, such as the redevelopment of the VisColl collation modeling tool and Books as Symbols in Renaissance Art (BASIRA) database, continue unhindered in the virtual environment. SIMS is also playing a leading role in the redevelopment of Digital Scriptorium as a national union catalog of premodern manuscripts in the US. Our work is furthering the mission of the Institute's founders more than ever, laying the foundations for continued success and impact in the years to come.

Scholarly Publishing

Manuscript Studies: The Journal of the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies

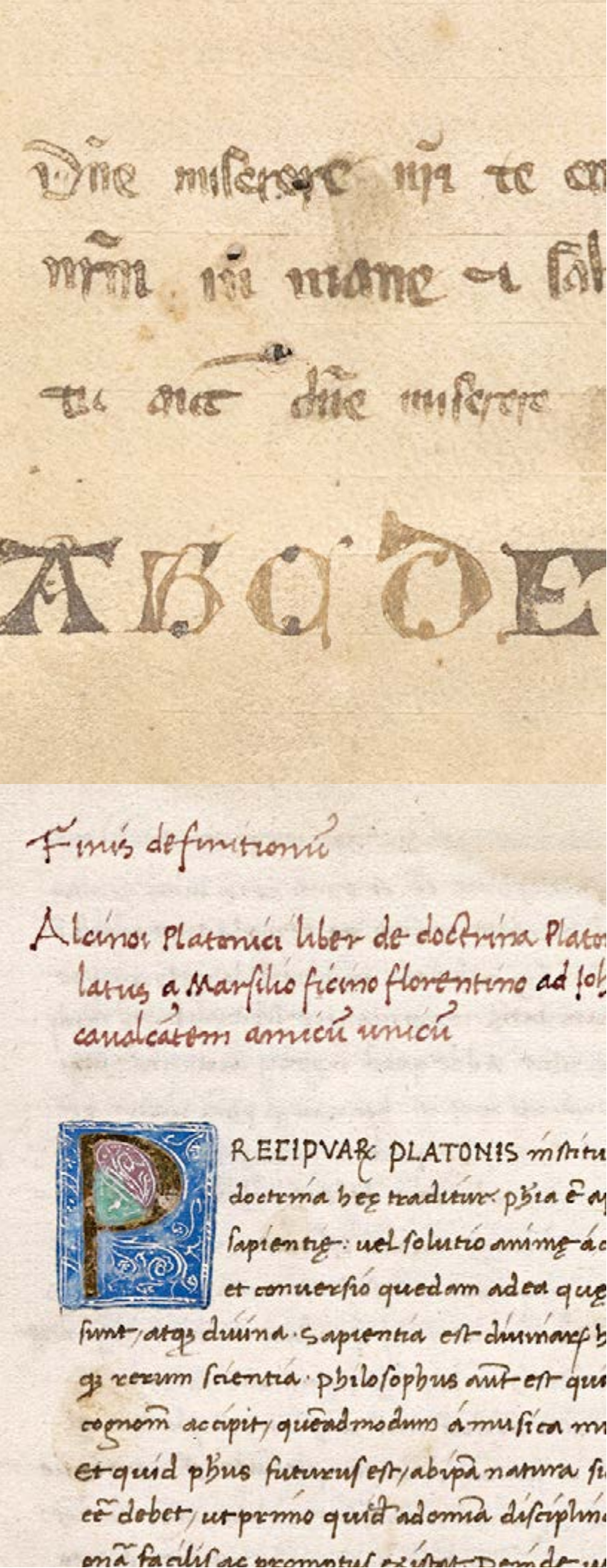
As *Manuscript Studies* enters its sixth year, it continues to see growth in both subscription and Project Muse download numbers. We continue to publish an open access version of *Manuscript Studies* on Penn's Scholarly Commons site.

User Statistics

	2019	2020
Print Subscribers	72	73
Project MUSE articles access	67	13,663
Scholarly Commons downloads	2,739	5,258

Most Downloaded Articles

	Downloads
Manuscripts of Sir Thomas Phillipps in North American Institutions	303
Translating Machiavelli's Prince in Early Modern England: New Manuscript Evidence	216
Cultural Goods and Flotsam: Early Thai Manuscripts in Germany and Those Who Collected Them	210
The Handwritten and the Printed: Issues of Format and Medium in Japanese Premodern Books	191
Notes of Exchange: Scribal Practices and Vernacular Religious Scholarship in Early Modern North India	181



Visiting Research: The SIMS Visiting Research Fellowships encourage junior, senior, and independent scholars to conduct research at SIMS relating to our pre-modern manuscript collections.

- Anna Corrias, UQ Development Fellow, University of Queensland: “Reading Ficino’s Pythagoras: A Study of LJS 438.”

- **2019-2020:** Christine Bachman, PhD Candidate, Art History, University of Delaware, “Boethius’ *De interpretatione* (UPenn MS. Codex 101): Historical, Intellectual, and Artistic Contexts.”

- 2020-2021: Matthew Aiello, PhD Candidate, English, University of Pennsylvania, "Temporal Collations of Medieval Manuscripts Using Bindr™."

**Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies &
Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies
Distinguished Fellow in Jewish Manuscript Studies:**
The fellowship brings a distinguished scholar to SIMS
to work with our Hebrew manuscript material.

- **2019-2020:** Fabrizio Lelli, Associate Professor of Hebrew Language and Literature, University of Salento (Lecce, Italy), “Changing Minds: Geographic Discoveries and New Worlds through the Eyes of a Renaissance Jewish Scholar.”

Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies & Italian Studies Fellow in Manuscript Studies: This fellowship is sponsored by the Center for Italian Studies, the Italian Studies section of the Department of Romance Languages, and the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies.

- 2019-2020: Maddalena Signorini, University of Rome Tor Vergata, "Texts on Flyleaves. An Investigation on Petrarch's Writing Uses."

Events

Schoenberg Symposium on Manuscript Studies in the Digital Age

2019: During the 12th Annual Schoenberg Symposium, “Hooking Up,” 23 speakers explored the connections between historic and current approaches to data linkage regarding manuscripts and manuscript research.

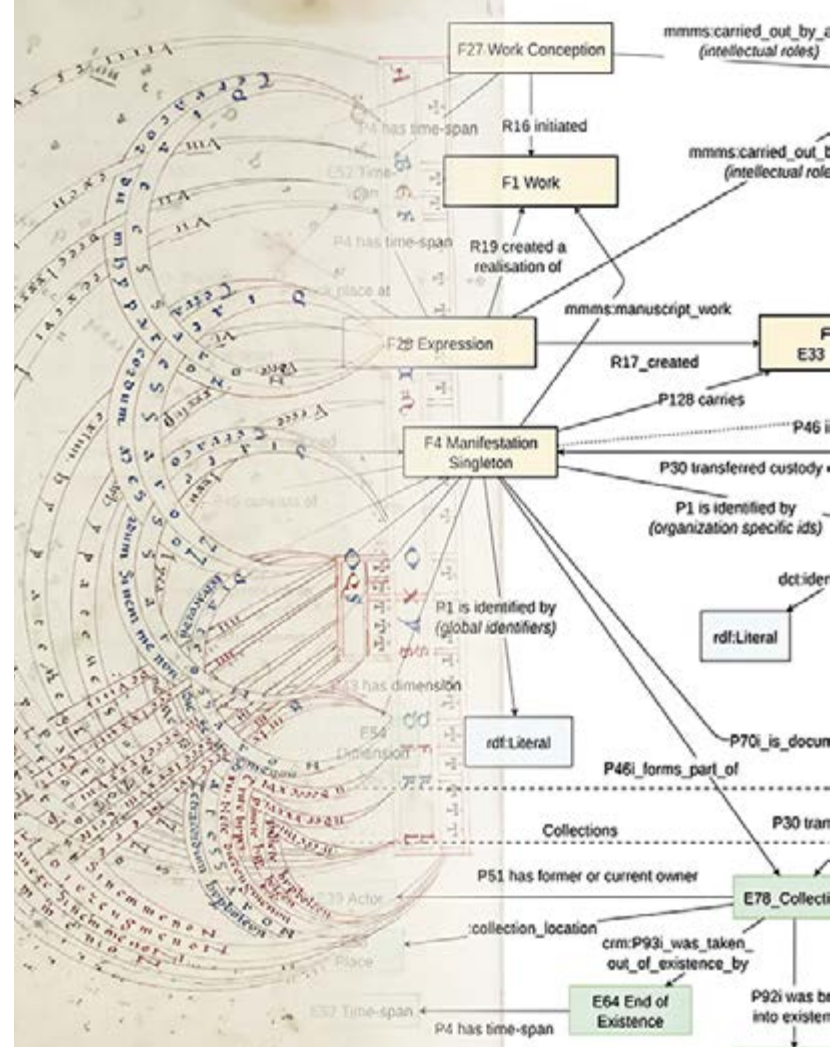
Projects

Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts (SDBM)

The SDBM mission is a user-maintained, open-access, collaborative research tool for finding and indexing the world's manuscripts. Our user community increased by 22% since last year. Staff continue to refine, enrich, and link the SDBM's Name and Place authority records, generating invaluable biographical and geographical data used to track manuscript provenance.

Books as Symbols in Renaissance Art (BASIRA)

Led by Nicholas Herman in partnership with independent scholar Barbara Williams Ellertson, and is supported by a grant from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, BASIRA aims to produce a high quality, fully searchable, publicly accessible database of representations of books in Western European art from 1300 to 1600.



SDBM User Statistics

	2018	2019
Registered users	403	494
New SDBM entries	1,246	7,579
SDBM site actions by users	1,516	10,312
Public user groups	10	16
Forum posts	261	268

Clockwise from Top Left: 12th Annual Schoenberg Symposium, "Hooking Up". Francis Pastorius, Beehive manuscript (1696). Example of the VisColl program. Niẓāmī Ganjavi, Khamsah (1582-1584), part of the Penn Museum collection.



Digital Beehive

The Beehive (Ms. Codex 726), a commonplace book kept by Germantown founder Daniel Francis Pastorius, is one of Penn Libraries' great treasures. In 2016, SIMS began work to create the Digital Beehive, a prototype web interface that serves as both a digital representation and host of digital tools for researching and working with the manuscript.

Digital Scriptorium 2.0 Planning Grant

In July 2020, the IMLS awarded Penn Libraries a \$100,000 National Leadership for Libraries Grant to oversee a one-year planning period for the future of Digital Scriptorium (DS), a consortium of US institutions who are dedicated to providing open access to their manuscript data and images. The goal of DS 2.0 is to become the national union catalog of pre-modern manuscripts in the US.

DM 2.0

DM is a Mellon- and NEH-funded project to create a digital environment for the study and annotation of images and texts that provides a suite of tools enabling scholars to gather and organize the evidence necessary to support arguments based in digitized resources.

Fifty-two Discoveries from the BiblioPhilly Project

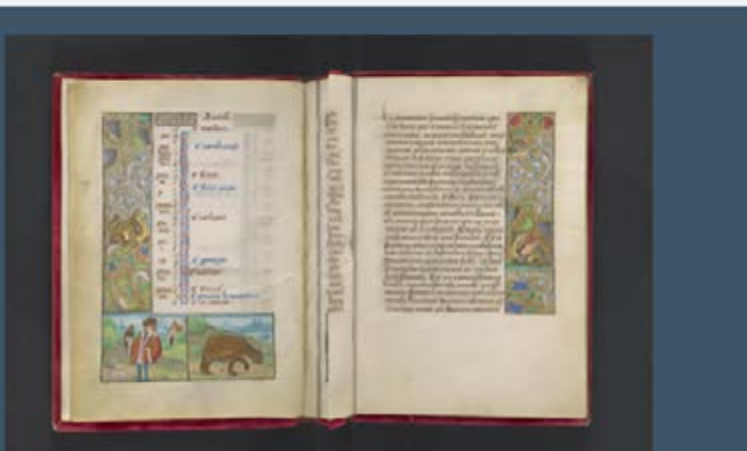
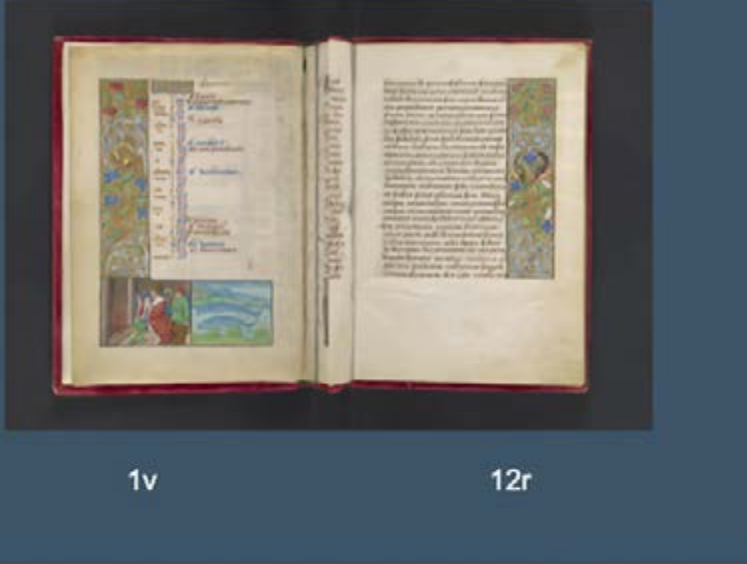
This series of weekly blog posts posted to the PACSCL-hosted BiblioPhilly site and the SIMS blog, showcased the new discoveries made during the BiblioPhilly regional digitization and cataloguing project.

Manuscripts of the Muslim World

As the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR)-funded Manuscripts of the Muslim World project enters its final year, there are now 630 items with full catalog records and digital surrogates available on OPenn.

VisColl: Collation Visualization Project

Initially developed in the spring of 2013, Dot Porter, Doug Emery, Dennis Mullen, and Alberto Campagnolo created VisColl as a system for generating visualizations of a physical manuscript's collation.



A Love of History: Interview with Arny Kaplan

Dee and Arny Kaplan's shared passion for the past led them into collecting historical material beginning in the 1970s. Their generous gift to the Penn Libraries in 2012 became the Arnold and Deanne Kaplan Collection of Early American Judaica, which they continue to add to each year. The collection teaches us about Jewish life throughout the western hemisphere over four centuries.

Recognizing the importance of digital access and preservation, Dee and Arny recently endowed the Arnold and Deanne Kaplan Collection of Early American Judaica Curator of Digital Humanities, the first Judaica DH position in the world. This pioneering curatorship will oversee the Kaplan Collection and help promote access to and use of Penn's world-class Judaica collections.

Why did you endow the Arnold and Deanne Kaplan Collection of Early American Judaica Curator of Digital Humanities?

The paths of learning are not linear; and after almost a decade observing how digital technologies have revolutionized the use of Judaica archives at Penn, as well as at numerous other Institutions, it became clear to me how important open access is. Working in partnership with Arthur Kiron, Penn's Curator of Judaica Collections, I came to understand that the digitization of primary sources and the creation of new online learning opportunities are a current need and represent the future.

As I struggled to envision the researcher of the future, I tried to look through the eyes of a young PhD candidate (not an easy task). Fortunately, I knew Laura Eckstein, a Penn doctoral student interested in Atlantic Jewish history, who shared many of her eureka moments with me when she found material available online. I witnessed firsthand how she was able to solve a puzzle when the content was discoverable. I also came to understand her frustration when she knew the sources of information existed but were inaccessible. Bottom line: a key component of why we endowed this position is to help unlock this future.

We believe that Penn, with its intellectual and material resources, is the ideal platform for this first-of-a-kind position. While our effort is a modest one by comparison, I always looked to the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies as a model for how a collector can use their passion to create a platform to advance scholarship. It is our hope that this position will become a model for other Institutions.

What immediate goals would you like to see accomplished by the incoming Kaplan Curator?

Our foremost immediate goal revolves around imaging and bringing online, in a usable open access format, the entire Kaplan Collection of Early American Judaica. We have been at it for seven years; and it is not an easy task with over 10,000 items and growing. We have about a year to go. Bottom line, the Kaplan Curator will be an important steward of the digital collection and will help to achieve this urgent priority.

Additionally, under the guidance of the co-directors of the Judaica Digital Humanities program, the first year will be particularly important in terms of brainstorming and then prioritizing the workflows and strategic goals of the position.

What are your long-term goals for the Kaplan curatorship?

It is a pleasure to imagine the myriad avenues along which this position might travel, helping to mine digital technologies as tools. I imagine these tools serving not only academia, but also a number of other potential users, including (but not limited to): historical societies, museums, individual genealogists, as well as public and religious school programs.





Penn Libraries

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

3420 Walnut St.

Philadelphia, PA 19104

215-898-7555

library.upenn.edu



*Marian Anderson in Geneva, Switzerland. Marian Anderson
Collection of Photographs, Ms. Coll. 198, Vol. 2, Page 10, Item 2.*