



Penn Libraries
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

KISLAK CENTER
FOR SPECIAL
COLLECTIONS,
RARE BOOKS AND
MANUSCRIPTS

2022
Annual Report



Director's Note

The Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books, and Manuscripts 2022 Annual Report evinces an institution that is self-aware, one that knows and values its past, even as it is welcoming new programmatic areas. This is perhaps best exemplified by the year-long Area Studies and Special Collections Strategy that we undertook with colleagues in Penn Libraries and under the guiding hand of Senior Fellow Sarah Thomas. A renowned leader in the field and one-time library director at Oxford, Harvard, and Cornell, Sarah brought to the initiative a blank slate (she had no previous affiliation with Penn Libraries) and a wealth of experience developing and managing world class libraries. The goal of the initiative was to examine the trajectories of collecting in two key areas, area studies and special collections, over the *longue durée* and with an eye towards distilling the areas of greatest distinction and opportunity. What emerged was both an embrace of traditional areas of strength. For example, Judaica, South Asia, Shakespeare, and Pre-Modern Manuscripts, and a more refined and compelling set of narrative frames that include Borders and Belonging; Global Voices; Material Texts; Science; Health; and Society; and Philadelphia: Culture and Communities. In the case of the latter, we are combining long-held strengths in music, particularly classical music, exemplified by the Leopold Stokowski (1882-1977), Eugene Ormandy (1899-1985), and Marian Anderson (1897-1993) by the archives of, and bolstered by the recently acquired Philadelphia Orchestra archive, with our nascent civic engagement program led by Samantha Hill. The goal of that program is to help preserve the histories of communities across the City of Philadelphia and to do so with mindfulness of Penn's historical and current impact on those communities.

Penn Libraries added to its portfolio this past year with the addition of the University Archives and Records Center. The University of Pennsylvania dates its founding to 1740, making it one of the oldest institutions of higher education in the nation. The Archives then holds institutional records from the earliest trustee minutes and the charter establishing the "College and Academy of Philadelphia" (as Penn was known) through contemporary "born-digital" records documenting the work of a modern institution occupying a huge 299-acre campus in West Philadelphia and home to more than 190 different research centers. The role of the Records Center is to help store and manage active records before, eventually, passing those of enduring value onto the University Archives for preservation and access. It is fair to say that welcoming the University Archives and Records Center into Penn Libraries has been a rich learning experience for everyone involved and that, by virtue of new expertise and tens of thousands of boxes of collections documenting our history, we are poised to be more aware of our own history and thus more self-aware collection stewards.

The story the 2022 Annual Report tells is one of a Kislak Center that has welcomed new programs and new faces even as it continues to do the vital work we have always done: building, describing, and preserving collections of rare materials, leading a robust instruction program that touches the lives of thousands of students, and partnering with individuals and organizations in the city and far beyond to advance research in key areas. Thank you for taking the time to review our report and for supporting the Kislak Center.

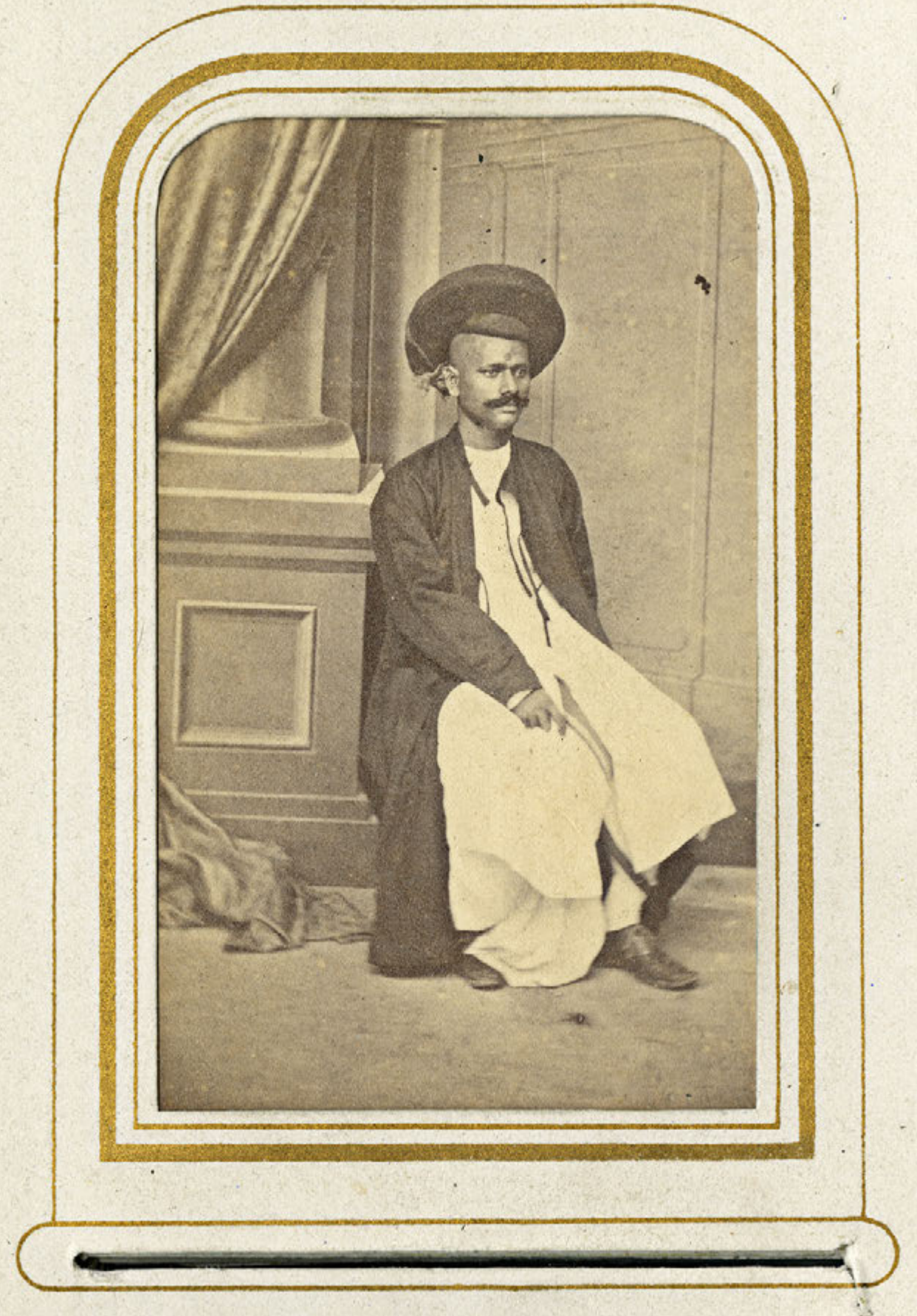
Sean M. Quimby

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



Grow our world-class holdings



*Photograph from an 1860s album of cartes de visites
depicting people from the Indian subcontinent.*

New Kislak Center Staff



Samantha Hill

Samantha Hill joined the Kislak Center as Curator for Civic Engagement. Hill brings the Kislak Center's expertise in preserving and providing access to cultural heritage to communities in and around the city of Philadelphia in a post-custodial model, where the artifacts of memory are not extracted from the communities that create and nurture them. Hill also serves as a Fellow with Civic House, Penn's hub for student civic engagement, centering community organizations and social justice education.

An award-winning trans-disciplinary artist whose practice draws upon archives and oral histories collected by individuals and communities, Hill was born in Philadelphia, most recently based in Chicago, and has worked with communities in Anchorage, Alaska; Macon, Georgia; and Charlotte, North Carolina. Hill comes to Penn from the University of Michigan, where she earned a Master of Information Science. She also earned a Master of Fine Arts from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She is the founder and Primary Investigator for the [Kinship Project](#), a special collection which contains 4,000 candid and professional family pictures (photographs, scrapbooks, tintypes & digital images), mostly of African Americans, from across the country.



Sarah Heim

Sarah Heim joined the Kislak Center as Public Services Librarian. Heim oversees the public services of the Kislak Center, including day-to-day operation of the special collections reading room, researcher services, and pedagogy support. She comes to the Kislak Center from the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, where she was most recently Director of Research Services and had earlier been a processing archivist and a reference librarian. Heim has used that experience to facilitate a pilot teaching collaboration between HSP and the University of Pennsylvania, especially with identifying material for Sophia Rosenberg's History Workshop class. She holds MLS and MA degrees from the University of Maryland.



Kelin Baldridge

Kelin Baldridge joined the Kislak Center as the Processing Archivist for the Elizabeth Fee papers. In this role, Baldridge is responsible for organizing, describing, and creating access to the personal and professional papers of Elizabeth Fee. Fee was a medical historian and activist and former Chief of the History of Medicine Division of the United States National Library of Medicine.

Baldridge earned her BA in Art History and French and Francophone Studies from the University of Pennsylvania in 2017. During these undergraduate years, she was employed as a student worker in the Kislak Center's Special Collections Processing Center. After graduating, she spent six months as a technician at the Library of Congress, then enrolled in the MLIS program at Drexel University while working concurrently at the National Gallery of Art. Upon completing her MLIS, Baldridge worked as the Project Archivist for the NEH-funded John Rhoden project at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and as the Photo Archivist at the Chester County History Center.



Image from a handwritten Turkish translation of Uncle Tom's Cabin.



Anna Juliar

Anna Juliar arranges and describes records from the recent gift to the University of Pennsylvania of over 800 linear feet of records from the Philadelphia Orchestra, in order to make them available and accessible to researchers. Prior to her work at Penn, Juliar was a processing archivist at the Hagley Museum and Library and the American Art and Portrait Gallery branch of the Smithsonian Libraries. She also served as a curatorial fellow in the Prints, Drawings and Photographs Department of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and a curatorial assistant at the Delaware Art Museum, the University of Delaware Museum, the Rosenbach, and the Bruce Museum. She was also the editorial assistant for *The Art Bulletin*. She holds a Master of Library and Information Science, with Archives Concentration, from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, a Master of Art History from the Institute of Fine Arts at New York University, and a Bachelor of Arts in English and Art History from Tufts University.

A “dressed” print – a print that includes thread and fabric woven into the print – of the Betrayal of Jesus.



Kenneth Cleary

Ken Cleary arranges and describes archival collections from the University Archives, the Kislak Center, and the Katz Center, in order to make them available for use by researchers and instructors.

Before coming to Penn, Cleary was a Processing Archivist at La Salle University and the Princeton Theological Seminary. He has also held positions at Rutgers University, Temple University, Hagley Museum and Library, and the New Jersey State Archives. Cleary has also been an active member of the Delaware Valley Archivist Group and the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference. He holds a Master of Library and Information Science, a Master of Arts in American History, and a Bachelor of Arts in English, all from Rutgers University.



Hope Jones

Hope arranges and describes records from the Arnold and Deanne Kaplan Collection of Early American Judaica to make them available and accessible to researchers.

Hope’s experience before coming to Penn includes work in academic libraries and the book trade. Most recently Hope worked at the Library of Congress, through LAC Federal, as a Serials Bindery Assistant in the European Division. She interned with the University of Richmond to create MODS records for a collection of Rev. Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker’s sermons from his time at Canaan Baptist Church of Christ. At Salisbury University, she helped curate an exhibit “Capturing the Times” on a local photographer.

Hope holds a Master of Library and Information Science, with a concentration in Archives Management, from Simmons University and a Bachelor of Arts in History from Bryn Mawr College.

New Acquisitions

Penn Libraries special collections continue to grow, in no small part thanks to close collaborations between librarians and curators across library areas. This year, for instance, the Kislak Center worked with our colleagues in global studies to acquire a number of exciting collections and items. These include a manuscript Turkish translation of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* that provides evidence for the ongoing and global diffusion of Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel; a significant collection of early photographic albums from British India; and a richly illustrated set of Japanese medical manuscripts.

In addition to these joint endeavors, we have continued to build on strengths, completing the accession of the records of the Painted Bride Arts Center in Philadelphia, purchasing the earliest

translation of Shakespeare into French (*Hamlet*, 1739) as well as Hungarian (*Romeo and Juliet*, 1786), and adding 650 works of independent and avant-garde graphic novelists from the collection of Matt Madden and Jessica Abel. Likewise, we acquired a fourteenth-century manuscript collection of remedies and recommendations to combat the plague, written in southern France, as well as a number of more recent manuscript compilations of recipes and remedies.

We are especially excited to build our collections in visual studies and photography. This year, for example, we acquired a set of "adorned" prints after the Flemish artist and print designer Maerten de Vos (1532-1603). This intricate and esoteric art form involves adding or weaving fabric into the paper itself. Most of the "decoration" in these adorned prints, consisting of

various colored silks, including brocades, is actually below the surface of the print. We are likewise building out our superb extant photographic collections in new directions. This year, our newest curator Samantha Hill, acquired a depression-era photograph album of a middle-class Black Kansas family which documents the environmental, economic and emotional hardships of life during the Dust Bowl period. Examples include a snapshot of a group people in fashionable clothing huddled close together smiling in a lush garden close alongside a snapshot of three people from the previous photo wearing plain clothing huddled together sitting in a barren landscape with solemn expressions. There is also evidence of western migration though documentation of the traveled road and a handwritten note with a final destination of Vancouver, Washington.

Left to Right: A "dressed" print – a print that includes thread and fabric woven into the print – of Jesus being taken down from the cross; Photograph from an album of a Black family from Kansas; Covers of some of the graphic novels in the Matt Madden collection; Chinese manuscript of tongue and lip diagnoses.





Make our collections
openly available to all



Newly Processed Collections

208 manuscripts cataloged	29 archival collections processed (ca. 265 linear feet)	5,271 books cataloged, comprising 13,478 volumes
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- Barbara Berney research on health care reform and environmental issues, 1949-2008 (bulk: 1975-2001) (additions)
- Donald Gray Brownlow papers, 1944-2002 (bulk: 1960-1990)
- Marian Brownlow papers, 1893-1990 (bulk: 1974-1984)
- Ashley Bryan papers, 1823-2019 (bulk: 1928-2019)
- Joseph Castaldo scores, papers, and sound recordings, circa 1930s-2000 (bulk: 1955-1999)
- Bruce Curley papers, 1979-2012 (additions)
- Edward S. Curtis collection of interpositive glass plates and papers, 1899-1929
- Irene Eber gift of the Yedidya Geminder Memorial Collection of Sino-Judaica, circa 1940s-2018 (bulk: 1970s-2010)
- James M. Gibson research collection on Horace Howard Furness, 1882-1992 (bulk: 1975-1985) (additions)
- Inbal Dance Theatre Company records, circa 1950s

- Japanese Army aviator photograph album, circa 1936
- Japanese aviator photograph album, 1931-1944
- Japanese machine gunner’s photograph album, circa 1937
- Japanese naval officer photograph album relating to “Shanghai Incident,” 1932-1939
- Japanese photograph album relating to the late Taisho/early Showa era, 1919-1941
- Thomas H. Jones World War II photograph albums, 1941-1968 (bulk: 1942-1945)
- Antoine Prudence Lalouette papers, 1813-1884 (bulk: 1821-1823)
- Harry Mathews Collection (supplement)
- Michael W. Meister collection of conference proceedings from “Perceptions of India’s Past,” 1989 December 18-20
- Phyllis Perchick papers, 1933-1966
- Henry Peterson manuscript plays, circa 1870s-1891
- Procès de Rennes photograph album, 1899

- Caroline Schimmel collection of Jean Simpson Stephenson linocut holiday cards, 1997-2019
- Caroline Schimmel collection of women in the American Wilderness (ongoing)
- Arthur Scouten papers, 1918-2002 (additions)
- George Seldes papers, 1845-1994 (bulk: 1907-1994)
- Allan Solomonow papers, 1944-2016 (bulk: 1960-2009) (additions)
- William Steig papers, circa 1907-2002 (bulk: 1950-2000)
- Jean Simpson Stephenson collection relating to Of Scandinavia, circa 1980s-1992
- Ursula Sternberg-Hertz papers, 1923-2014 (bulk: 1950-2000)
- Jean-François Vilain & Roger Wieck collection of private presses (ongoing)
- Tom Waldman collection of research notes on Félix Nadar, 1972-2018

Left to Right: Interpositive glass plates by photographer Edward S. Curtis: [Left] Plate 379: “A; Hesquiat Maiden” (1916). [Right] Plate 347: “Yákoṭlūs - Quatsino” (1914).



Newly processed
collection focus:

Ashley Bryan Papers



The Ashley Bryan papers, a 2019 gift of Ashley Bryan and the Ashley Bryan Center, is a unique addition to the Kislak Center's holdings, documenting the life and achievements of the renowned Black artist, author, and storyteller Ashley Bryan.

Starting in kindergarten, Bryan (1923-2022) authored, illustrated, and published over sixty children's books, in addition to his extensive travels throughout the world as an arts educator and storyteller. The sketchbooks, artwork, book projects material, and other documentary materials that comprise this newly catalogued collection reflect a life full of inspiration and creativity, bringing young readers' attention to the joys and sorrows of life through African folktales and African-American spirituals.

Top to Bottom: Bryan, Ashley. Beautiful Blackbird: final artwork. (c. 2003). Ashley Bryan Papers. Ms. Coll. 1439; Ashley Bryan at a 2020 celebration of his archive at the Kislak Center. Photo by Eric Sucar.

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.

Clockwise from Top Left: [Book of Hours]; [Use of Paris]. (c. 1500). Ms. Codex 2030; [Map of Palestine] (1488). Moldovan Family Holy Land Map Collection, Moldovan1_222; Università di Padova doctoral diploma for Gershon Cantarini. (1703). CAJS Rar Ms 531; Lynd Ward, Gods’ Man: A Novel in Woodcuts (1932).

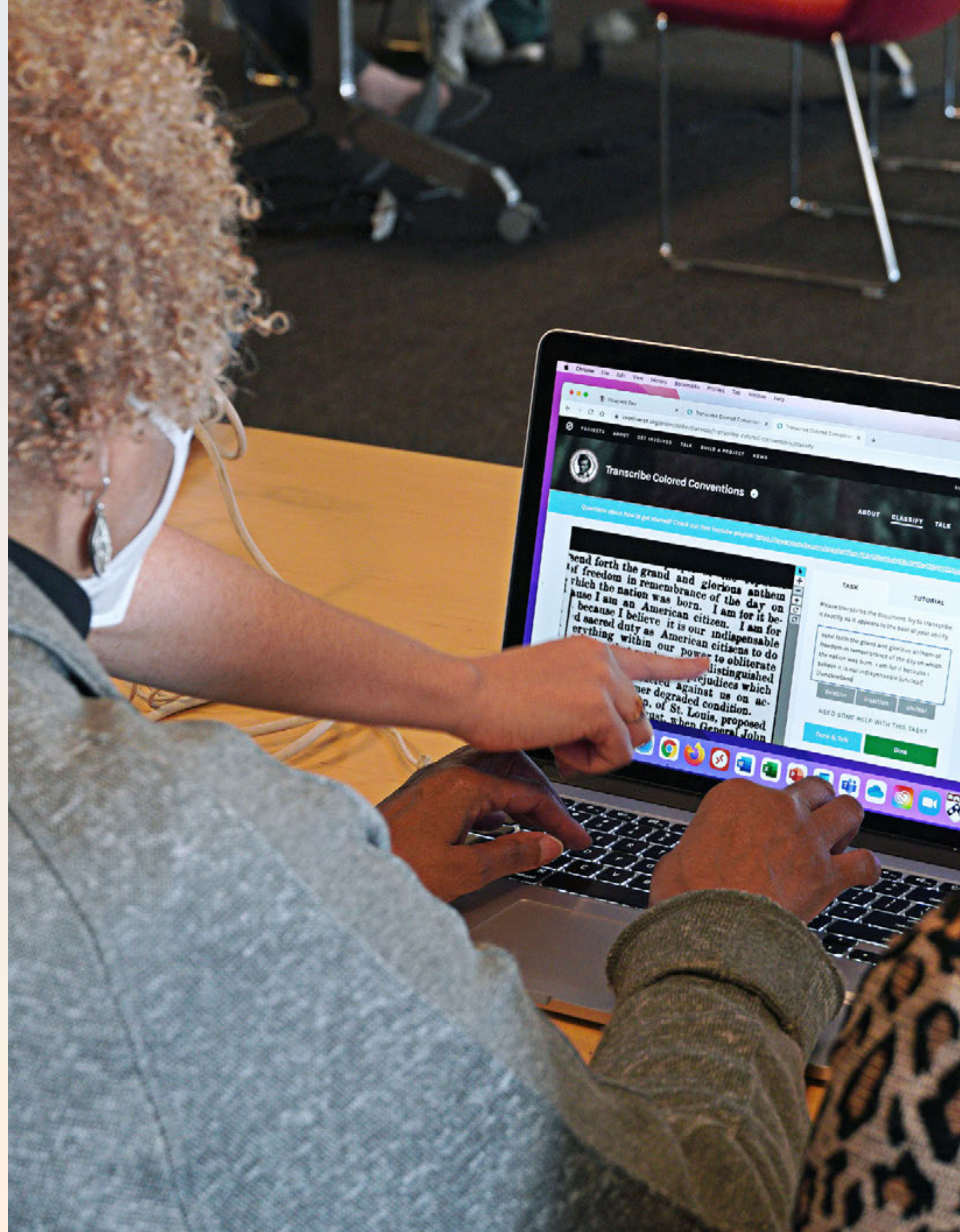
OPenn by the numbers:

<div>10,955</div> <div>total manuscripts with images and metadata</div>	<div>1,344,738</div> <div>unique pages of manuscripts</div>
<div>6,316</div> <div>Penn Libraries manuscripts available for full access (includes 311 LJS manuscripts, 507 Cairo Genizah fragments, 133 Islamic and Hebraic manuscripts from the Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, and 2,787 Indic manuscripts)</div>	<div>4,639</div> <div>manuscripts from 50 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 digitization and access grants</div>	<div>99</div> <div>terabytes of data</div>





Engage with interested communities



Public Services Statistics

1,003 patron visits to the Reading Room	278 reprographic patron requests
15,615 materials requested for research, classes, presentations, exhibitions, and digitization	738 class sessions held in Kislak Center classrooms
18,784 collection pages scanned	



Most Requested Archival Collections

Call number	Title	Requests
Ms. Coll. 200	Marian Anderson papers	208
Ms. Coll. 6	Carl Zigrosser papers	172
Ms. Coll. 2	Lewis Mumford papers	131
Ms. Coll. 694	Medical Committee for Human Rights records	108
Ms. Coll. 111	Henry Charles Lea papers	106

Most Requested Rare Books

Call number	Title	Requests
PR3724.G7	Travels into several remote nations of the world : In four parts (Gulliver's Travels, 1726-1775)	18
PR6023.A93	Lady Chatterley's lover (1928-1953)	16
Sterne collection	The life and opinions of Tristram Shandy, gentleman (1759-2021)	13
IC5 Ar432 516o 1544	Orlando Furioso	10
AE25.E53	Recueil de planches, sur les sciences, les arts libéraux, et les arts mécaniques, avec leur explication	8

Top USA visitors (non-PA)

State	Number
Delaware	42
Oregon	41
New York	29
New Jersey	26
Massachusetts	17
Utah	16
Connecticut	16
California	14
North Carolina	10

Global visitors (non-US)

Country	Number
United Kingdom	16
Canada	5
India	5
Belgium	4
Japan	4
Brazil	3
China	3
Spain	2
Australia, Czech Republic, Germany, France, Hungary, Nicaragua, Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Ukraine	1

Left to Right: Marian Anderson singing at the Lincoln Memorial Concert (1939). Ms. Coll. 198: Volume 7, Page 4, Item 2; Harvey Finkle photograph of a pro-healthcare march led by Walter Lear.

Public Programs

Symposia, Conferences, Workshops, & Showcases

- **From Kitabkhana [Library] to Karkhana [Workshop]: The Arts of the Book in South Asia.** September 10, 2021. Co-sponsored with Wolf Humanities Center.
- **Black Lives and Freedom Journeys: The Legacies of the Still Family of Philadelphia.** October 7-8, 2021. Co-sponsored with The McNeil Center for Early American Studies.
- **The Americas Online: Thinking Digitally About Early America.** November 12-13, 2021. Co-sponsored with The McNeil Center for Early American Studies.
- **Loss.** November 17-19, 2021. *14th Annual Lawrence J. Schoenberg Symposium on Manuscript Studies in the Digital Age.*
- **The Ethics of Collecting in the 21st Century.** December 2-3, 2021. *2021 Jay I. Kislak Symposium.*
- **Immigration: A Philadelphia Perspective.** February 16, 2022. Co-sponsored with Wolf Humanities Forum.
- **Migration: Points of Entry, Points of Departure.** February 25, 2022. Co-sponsored with Wolf Humanities Forum.
- **The Poetry of Migration.** March 30, 2022. Co-sponsored with Wolf Humanities Forum.
- **Li Delun in Philadelphia: Ethnography, Archives, and Music Across the Pacific.** April 2, 2022. Co-sponsored with several Penn departments and organizations.
- **America 250 at Penn: The Declaration's Journey: Thinking about the 250th Exhibition at the Museum of the American Revolution.** April 13, 2022. *America 250 at Penn.* Co-organized with The McNeil Center for Early American Studies, Penn's Graduate School of Education, and the Museum of the American Revolution.
- **America 250 at Penn: Teaching Independence.** March 25-26, 2022. *America 250 at Penn.* Co-organized with The McNeil Center for Early American Studies, Penn's Graduate School of Education, and the Museum of the American Revolution.
- **Warhol in Translation: A Symposium.** June 23-25, 2022.

Lectures

- **Conspiracy Theory and Political Culture, Past and Present: A Conversation with *The Atlantic's* Adrienne LaFrance and James McAuley.** October 19, 2021. *The Lorraine Beitler Collection of the Dreyfus Affair Distinguished Lecture Series.*
- **Printing Abolition: How the Fight to Ban the British Slave Trade Was Won, 1783-1807.** Michael Suarez, S.J. October 25-28, 2021. *The A.S.W. Rosenbach Lectures in Bibliography.*
- **Masters in Miniature: Future Horizons for Italian Manuscript Studies.** Bryan C. Keene. February 11, 2022. *The SIMS & Italian Studies Fellow in Italian Manuscript Studies Lecture.*
- **The Secret Life of Books.** March 14-17, 2022. Peter D. McDonald. *The A.S.W. Rosenbach Lectures in Bibliography.*
- **Gracián between *Oracolo Manuale* and *L'huomo di corte*.** April 14, 2022. Roger Chartier.

Events, Performances, & Showcases

- **While You Were Away: New Acquisitions Showcase.** October 5, 2021.
- **Across Cultures and Time: Music by Ania Vu.** November 10, 2021. Co-sponsored with Wolf Humanities Center and the Department of Music.
- **Douglass Day: Celebrating 19th-Century Black Achievement.** February 14, 2022.
- **Faces of Immigration: Photographs by Harvey Finkle.** February 16, 2022.
- **Class of 2022 Time Capsule Sealing, New Alumni Orientation** May 2022.

Top to Bottom: Illustrated map of constellations. [Astronomical anthology]. (c. 1361). Oversize LJS 57; Marilyn Monroe two-color screenprint: blue ink on red paper. From the collection of Gregory McCoy.



On-going Series

- **Coffee with a Codex.** Informal weekly zoom presentations featuring pre-modern manuscripts from Penn's collections.
- **From the Kislak Stacks.** Presentations by Kislak curators, faculty, and students focusing on material from the holdings of the Kislak Center.
- **Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies Online Lecture Series.** Lectures related to the study of premodern manuscript books and global manuscript culture.
- **Warhol Wednesdays.** Presentations by noted experts on five different topics related to the *Andy Warhol @ Penn Again* project.
- **Workshop in the History of Material Texts.** Weekly talks addressing topics including authorship, writing, reading, printing, and publishing, across all time periods.

Exhibits

- **An Inner World: Seventeenth-Century Dutch Genre Painting.** April 17 – July 25, 2021. Arthur Ross Gallery. Included rare seventeenth-century books from the collection to expand the intellectual and cultural contexts of the show.
- **Romance, Dance, and Happenstance: Egyptian Film Posters Over 50 Years.** September 17, 2021 – February 3, 2022. Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture. Collaborative exhibit of curated 20th Century Egyptian film posters.
- **Warhol @ Penn Again, Marilyn Monroe: From Stage to Silkscreen, and Out of Sight: A Discovery, a Collector, and Andy Warhol.** April 18 - July 28, 2022. A trio of Andy Warhol exhibits exploring the artist's 1965 Institute of Contemporary Art exhibition, the visual legacy of Marilyn Monroe, and collector Gregory McCoy's treasure trove of exhibition posters depicting Warhol's famous 1962 screen print of Monroe.

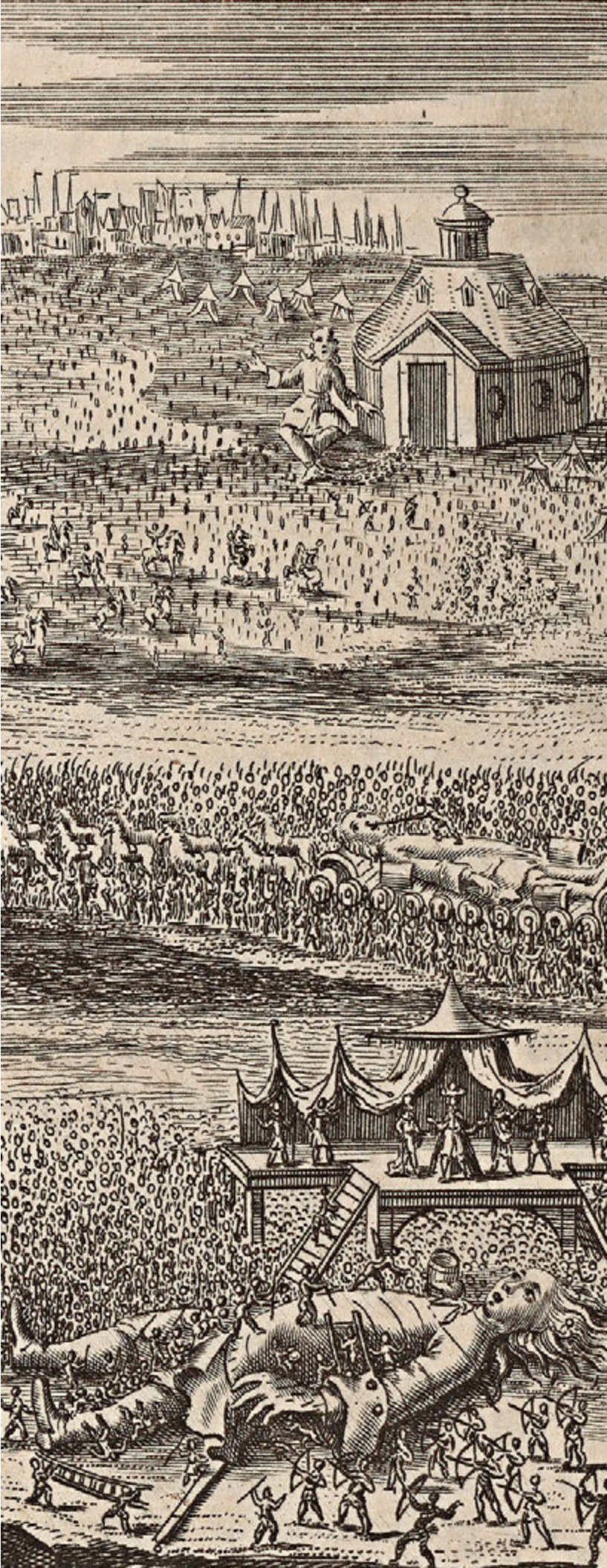


Instruction

Fall 2021

- American Books, Books in America (J. Green & J. Pollack)
- Arts of the Book in South Asia (S. Khullar)
- European Intellectual History Since 1945 (W. Breckman)
- Extreme Heat: White Nationalism in an Age of Climate Change (A. Berg)
- From Scrolls to Scrolling: A Long History of Technology and Communication (D. Starling)
- History Honors (K. Peiss)
- Human Rights and History (B. Nathans)
- Inescapable Classics (R. Rosen)
- Italian Renaissance (G. Bruno-Chomin)
- Jews and China (K. Hellerstein)
- Making and Marking Time (L. Weissberg)
- Medical Activism and Political Health (D. Barnes)
- Othello (A. Arvas)
- Petrosylvania: Reckoning with Fossil Fuel (J. Farmer)
- Pre-modern Women (D. Wallace)
- Sex with Shakespeare (A. Arvas)
- Socialist and Post-Socialist Worlds (K. Platt)
- Texts and Contexts (C. Frei)
- Doing Research: Qualitative Methods and Research Design (L. Mitchell)
- History of Photography (A. Tinkler, Drexel Univ.)
- Penn Slavery Project Research Seminar (K. Brown)

Clockwise from Top Left: Plate from Jonathan Swift's "Travels into several remote nations of the world." (1727). Teerink Collection PR3724 .G7 1727c; Frontispiece portrait of William Still from "Underground rail road records." (1883). 326.973 St5a; Embroidered binding of "Biblia, dat is, De gantsche H. Schrifture." (1657). BS224 1657.



Spring 2022

- 1922: Long, Forgotten, Untimely (P. Saint-Amour)
- British Poetry (A. Meyer)
- Cultural History: A Reappraisal (R. Chartier)
- Cultures of the Book (W. Trettien)
- Dante (M. Aresu)
- The Great War in Memoir and Memory (W. Breckman)
- History Workshop (S. Rosenfeld)
- Inside the Archive (L. Weissberg)
- Junior Honors Thesis in History (A. Farnsworth-Alvear)
- Manuscript Illumination (N. Herman)
- The National Epics (D. Wallace)
- Popular Cultures, Europe and America, 1500-present (R. Chartier & K. Peiss)
- Utopia (M. Todd)
- The History of Women and Men of African Descent at the University of Pennsylvania (B. Peterson, C. Howard, D. Richie-Troy, AFRC187)

Loan Program

Harvard Art Museums, Cambridge, MA

- Loan: [Sidur Rav Se'adyah Ga'on, Selections] Genizah fragment, Halper 171
- Exhibit: Social Fabrics: Inscribed Textiles from Medieval Egyptian Tombs, January 22, 2022–May 8, 2022

The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Amherst, MA

- Loan: Three collages from the Ashley Bryan archive, Ms. Coll. 1439
- Exhibit: Celebrating Collage: A 20th Anniversary Exhibition, June 25 - December 31, 2022



Publications

Researchers

Books/Chapters:

- Elly Dekker. 2021. “The Transmission of Celestial Cartography from the Arab-Islamic World to Europe: The Celestial Maps in MS Schoenberg Ijs 057” in *Cartography between Christian Europe and the Arabic-Islamic World, 1100-1500* (Brill). Draws heavily on the maps from the 14th century collection of texts found in LJS 57 [Astronomical Anthology].
- David Raizman. 2021. *Reading Graphic Design History: Image, Text, and Context* (Bloomsbury Visual Prints). Highlights the 1682 Opera by St. Cyprian (Lea Collection, F.7.13) example of the Fell Types, publications that used the fonts created by Dr. John Fell.
- Glenda Goodman. 2020. *Cultivated by Hand: Amateur Musicians in the Early American Republic*.
- Rebecca J. W. Jefferson. 2022. *The Cairo Genizah and the Age of Discovery in Egypt*. Draws on the Cairo Genizah fragment collection at the Katz Center Library.
- Nancy Shear. [forthcoming]. *I Knew a Man Who Knew Brahms*. Uses examples of scores from the Leopold Stokowski collection (Ms. Coll. 350).
- Colin Roust. [forthcoming]. [Francis Johnson’s sheet music]. In Recent Researches in American Music.
- Joseph Wittreich. 2021. “‘More Worlds ... Other Worlds ... New Worlds’: Translation/Illustration/Paradise Lost” in *Global Milton and Visual Art* (Lexington Books). Highlights images from Wittreich’s collection of Miltonia at the Kislak Center.

Articles:

- Beatrice Arduini. 2020. “Dante’s *Convivio* between Manuscript and Print.” *Mediaevalia* 41, 163-188. Reproduces the frontispiece woodcut portrait of Dante, the address to the reader, and the table of notable topics from our copy of *Lo amoroso co[n]uiuio di Dante: con la additione : nouamente stampato* (IC D2352.4 1521).
- Garrett Dash Nelson. 2021. “Regional planning as cultural criticism: reclaiming the radical wholes of interwar regional thinkers.” *Regional Studies*, 55(1), 127-137. Draws on source material from the Lewis Mumford papers (Ms. Coll. 2).
- John Dixon Hunt. 2021. “Disclosure and Unveiling of Nature in European and Early American Gardens.” *Huntington Library Quarterly*, 84(3), 447-466. References the Beehive by Francis Daniel Pastorius (Ms. Codex 726).
- Christopher M. Keistead. 2021. “Verse Moves: Poetry, Revision, and Periodical Space in John Murray’s European Handbooks for Travellers, 1836-1901.” *Victorian Periodicals Review* 54(1), 60-88. Highlights examples of Murray’s works in the Kislak Center collections.

Left to Right: Plate of an uphosltery shop from vol. 9 of “Suite du Recueil de planches.” (1777). AE25 .E53 Suppl. Plates; Liturgical Genizah fragment “[Sidur Rav Se’adyah Ga’on, Selections].” (c. 11th century). Halper 171.

- Sarah E. Naramore. 2020. “‘My Master and Friend’: Social Networks and Professional Identity in American Medicine, 1789-1815.” *Social History of Medicine* 34(3), 742–765. Draws on findings from our collection of student notebooks in the *Benjamin Rush* lecture notes, 1783-1810 (Ms. Coll. 225).
- Johannah Rodgers. 2021. “Before the Byte, There Was the Word: The Computer Word and Its Many Histories.” *Interfaces* 2. Incorporates findings from John Mauchly’s 1945 report “Automatic High Speed Computing” in the collection.
- Jonathan Singerton. 2022. “Science, Revolution, and Monarchy in Two Letters of Joseph Donath to František Antonín Steinský.” *Opera Historica* 1: 145-165. Includes information on letters about Donath’s study in Prague from the Miscellaneous Manuscript collection.
- Christopher N. Warren, Avery Wiscomb, Pierce Williams, Samuel V. Lemley, and Max G’Sell. 2021. “Canst Thou Draw Out Leviathan with Computational Bibliography? New Angles on Printing Thomas Hobbes’ “Ornaments” Edition.” *Eighteenth-Century Studies* 54(4). Includes our two 1651 editions of *Leviathan*.

Films:

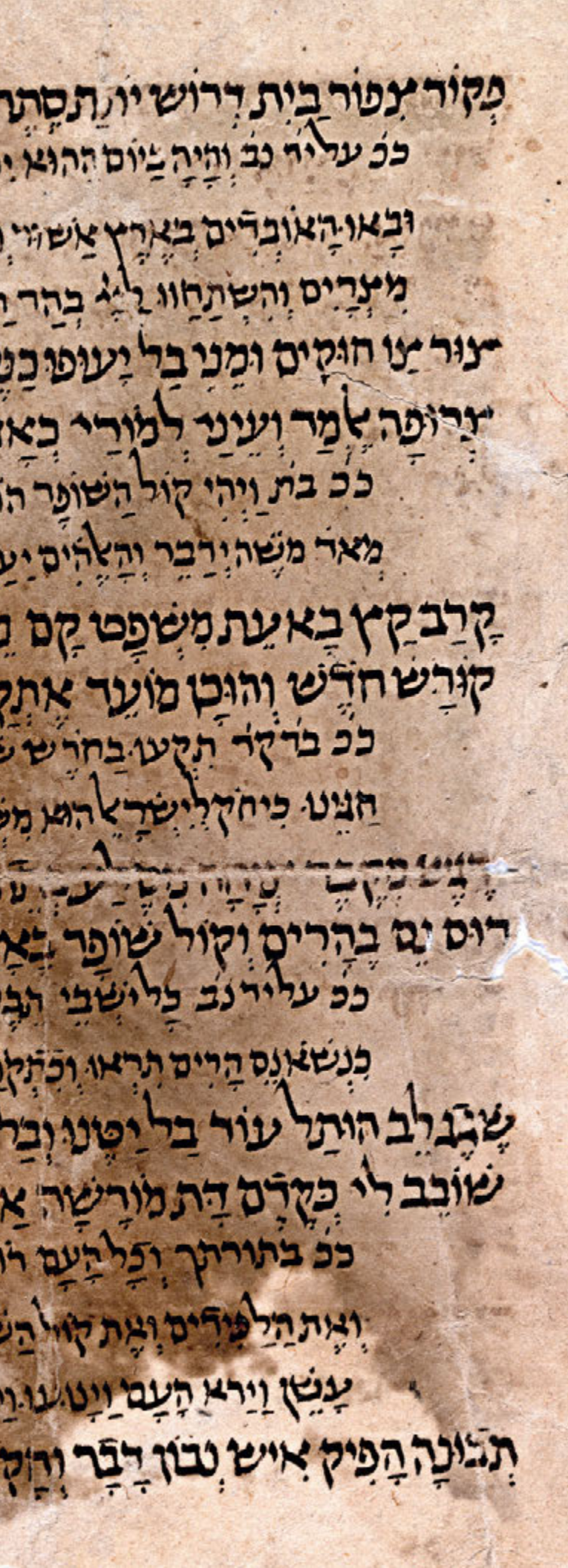
- Rita Coburn. 2022. “Marian Anderson: The Whole World in Her Hands.” *PBS American Masters*. Documentary film that uses material from the various Marian Anderson collections held at the Kislak Center.
- Rob Rapley and Emily Harrold. 2021. “Voice of Freedom: Turbulent Times Turned an Artist into a Hero.” *PBS American Experience*.

Theses, Dissertations:

- Rebecca Alifimoff, 2021, “Personal in the Political: The Usage of Political Postcards during the Dreyfus Affair,” History Department, University of Pennsylvania. Explores material in the Lorraine Beitler Collection of the Dreyfus Affair.
- Miranda E. Mote, 2021, “Reading and Writing a Garden: Materials of a Garden Made in Germantown, Pennsylvania (1683-1719),” Architecture School, University of Pennsylvania. One chapter focuses of Daniel Pastorius’ *Beehive*, which Mote helped to transcribe.

Kislak staff

- Nick Herman. 2021. “A masterpiece rediscovered: Jean Bourdichon’s *Lamentation* from the Hours of Louis XII.” *Colnaghi Studies Journal* 8, 192-211.
- Lynn Ransom, Doug Emery, et al. “Medieval Manuscripts and Their Migrations: Using SPARQL to Investigate the Research Potential of an Aggregated Knowledge Graph.” *Digital Medievalist* 15(1).
- John Pollack, translation, 2022. Roger Chartier, *Won in Translation: Textual Mobility in Early Modern Europe*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.



Library at the Katz Center

Penn’s Judaica collections are global and interdisciplinary in scope and content and constitute a world-renowned destination for teaching and research.

This past fiscal year, in support of new programmatic faculty interest in Jews and China, we received a gift of Sino-Judaica (Irene Eber gift of the Yedidya Geminder Memorial Collection of Sino-Judaica, Ms. Coll. 1449). We also accepted two remarkable gifts of South Asian and Latin American Judaica. In partnership with Penn’s Fine Arts Library we successfully bid on works of 20th century Jewish and Israeli art books and exhibition catalogs from the library of the renowned Israeli poet Natan Zach.

Our collection of research materials about the Land of Israel were enhanced by the purchase at auction, thanks to a generous gift, of hundreds of photographs from Mandate Jewish Palestine. Our State of Israel holding also grew as we acquired through private sale an important collection of Israel Human Rights publications and received a related collection of faculty papers about Israeli politics and culture.

We received a spectacular gift of nearly a 1,000 works of Early American Judaica, spanning four centuries, including 16th century Mexican inquisitorial documents from the Mexican Inquisition, American Revolutionary War-era Judaica, including two portraits in oil of colonial American Jewish patriots, husband and wife.

We purchased numerous works of rare Judaica manuscripts and printed books. Among them was a

handwritten diary kept by a Chicago Jewish immigrant, Abraham Anscher, who led an expedition to explore Southern Africa in 1883-1884. Our rare Middle Eastern Judaica collections grew with the successful acquisition of numerous unique Hebrew manuscripts treating halakhic, liturgical, and communal topics, including an amulet to protect against epidemic in support of an incoming faculty member’s research interests.

We purchased at auction the archive of Alberto Hemis, the composer and choir conductor of the Eliyahu ha-Navi synagogue in Alexandria, Egypt. Our European Ashkenazic holdings were enhanced by several important acquisitions, including an extremely rare Hebrew oath handwritten in Prague in ca. 1740 that has already garnered scholarly attention. We acquired through private sale an extremely rare Russian atlas containing 55 large graphs and maps focused on the economic and “moral” condition of the 19th century Jewish populations of the Russian Empire. One faculty member described the data in this work as “among the richest anywhere – published or unpublished – for the topic and time period. It’s an absolute treasure ... this is really a bibliographic gem ... getting [the Atlas] would be a genuine coup.” Yet another historical acquisition was the bound, mimeographed typescripts of eight publications by the Polish-born Jewish lawyer Nehemiah Robinson, prepared between 1945-1950, concerning compensation and restitution of Jewish Property after the Holocaust.

Special Collections

Public service contacts	468
Special collections requests	381
Reading room appointments	145
Rare book room tours	3
Rare book room tour guests	13

Circulating Collections

Patron registrations	68
Document scans	183
Record maintenance	130
Shelving	850

Students in Professor Kathryn Hellerstein’s first-year seminar, “Jews in China: Views from Two Perspectives,” working with the Irene Eber papers.





University Archives and Records Center

In 2022, the University Archives and Records Center became a part of the Penn Libraries and the Kislak Center. Though they perform similar activities to the Kislak Center, the University Archives and Records Center focuses more exclusively on material related to the University. The Archives strives to ensure the preservation of historically significant documents and other materials that reflect the University's origins and development, and the activities and achievements of its officers, staff, faculty, students, alumni, and benefactors. It is the permanent repository for historically significant materials. The University Records Center is the place for secure storage and prompt delivery of inactive University and Health System records.

Significant collections at the University Archives includes material related to Penn's founding and on-going history, faculty and student records, athletics organizations, medical history, student organizations, and important University-related advances, such as the development of the ENIAC, and papers of Penn faculty and alumni, such as Raymond Pace and Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander.

Project highlight: COVID-19 Community Archiving Project

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the University Archives and Records Center has been striving to document the experiences of the University of Pennsylvania community during the COVID-19 outbreak and pandemic. Our goal is to collect as many diverse voices and experiences as possible so that future historians, students and scholars, doctors and scientists, public policy and health experts, University administrators, and others will be able to understand and learn how our community reacted to the COVID-19 pandemic and how we were able to respond and help support the broader world. We hope to learn about recent experiences on campus, in the lab, in the field, at home or elsewhere. The Penn Community Archive is a means to collect and record what individuals witnessed and experienced and how they responded to this crisis.

Special Collections

	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19
Reference requests	758	576	736	1108
Researcher visits	73	4	120	232

1753 Charter incorporating the Trustees of the Academy and Charitable School in the province of Pennsylvania. UPA3, Pre-1820, Folder 1117.

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 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.

At the core of SIMS is the Lawrence J. Schoenberg collection of manuscripts, which was donated to the Penn Libraries in 2011 as part of a landmark gift establishing the Institute—the largest donation of its kind in the history of the library. Closely associated with this is our flagship digital project, also established by Larry Schoenberg: the Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts. This free, open-access resource enables scholars and enthusiasts to trace the provenance of manuscripts from their origins up to today, and has a large, global user community. The Institute publishes a bi-annual scholarly journal entitled *Manuscript Studies*, which appears online and in print, and also coordinates other occasional hard copy and digital publications.

Every year, SIMS hosts a variety of visiting fellows on a rotating basis, ranging from graduate students to senior scholars; their presence forms a key aspect of the institute’s vibrant intellectual life. We also host, in partnership with the Free Library of Philadelphia, the annual Schoenberg Symposium on Manuscript Studies in the Digital Age, which brings together scholars from Penn and around the world every November to present cutting-edge research related to a specific theme.

Scholarly Publishing

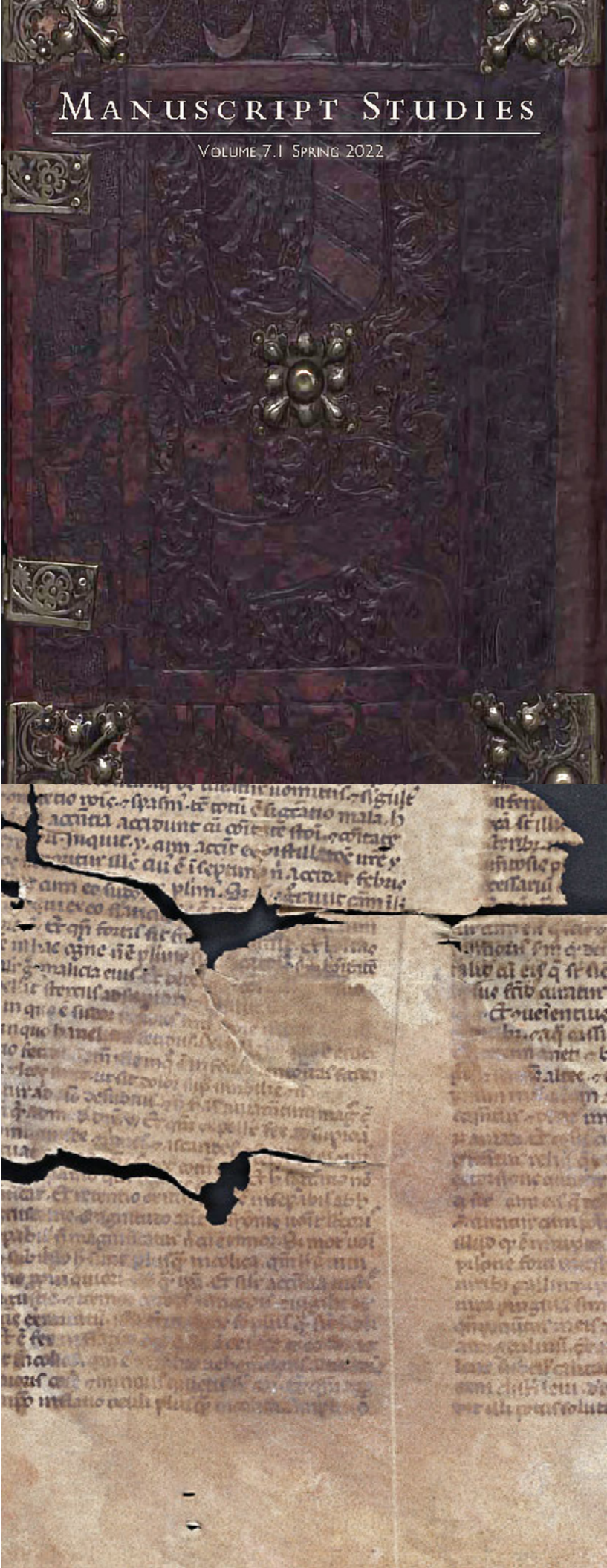
Manuscript Studies: The Journal of the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies: As *Manuscript Studies* enters its seventh year, it continues to see growth in both subscription and Project Muse download numbers. We continue to publish an open access version of *Manuscript Studies* on Penn’s Scholarly Commons site.

User Statistics

	2020	2021
Print Subscribers	73	83
Project MUSE articles access	13,663	72
Scholarly Commons downloads	5,258	5,355

Top Articles

1. Perspectives on Digital Catalogs and Textual Networks of Old Norse Literature by Katarzyna Anna Kapitan
2. Siamese Manuscript Collections in the United States by Susanne Ryuyin Kerekes and Justin McDaniel
3. Illuminated Leaves from an Ethiopic Gospel Book in the Newark Museum and in the Walters Art Museum by Jacopo Gnisci
4. *Penna volans* Discovered: Analysis of a New Exemplar of Calligraphic Virtuosity by Baldericus van Horicke (Brussels, ca. 1616) by Diego Navarro Bonilla and Sofía Alonso Peleato
5. The X-Ray Micro-CT of a Full Parchment Codex to Recover Hidden Text by Paul C. Dilley, Christy Chapman, C. Seth Parker, and W. Brent Seales



2020-2021 Fellowships & Internships

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

- Jennifer Borland, Professor of Art History, Oklahoma State University: “Ingenious Materiality: The Intersections of Medicine, Food, and Art in Medieval Life.”

Graduate Student Fellowship: This fellowship provides an opportunity for a graduate student in the Philadelphia area to conduct work on a special collections research project for the academic year

- Hallie Swanson, PhD Candidate, Religious Studies, University of Pennsylvania, working with a set of narrative manuscripts now held in Philadelphia which were used to teach the Persian language in Indian schools. Her project draws on manuscript studies and digital humanities to map the circulation of these texts and how physical traces left by readers can be used to chart changes in the texts’ perceived meanings and status.

LIS Education and Data Science Integrated Network Group (LEADING) Fellowship: Supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the LEADING project prepares a diverse, nation-wide cohort of LIS doctoral students and early to mid-career librarians for data science endeavors.

- L.P. Coladangelo, PhD Candidate, Communication and Information, Kent State University, working on adding Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts (SDBM) Name Authorities to Wikidata and creating SPARQL queries to enrich entries using methods that are low-cost yet high impact.

SIMS Undergraduate Student Outreach Intern: The Undergraduate Outreach Intern liaises with campus groups and promotes SIMS in student publications.

- Aili Waller, PhD Candidate, Communication and Information, Kent State University, working on adding Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts (SDBM) Name Authorities to Wikidata and creating SPARQL queries to enrich entries using methods that are low-cost yet high impact.



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.

- *Delayed due to COVID-19*

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.

- *Delayed due to COVID-19*

Events

Schoenberg Symposium on Manuscript Studies in the Digital Age
2020: The 13th Annual Schoenberg Symposium, “Manuscript Studies in the COVID-19 Age,” 20 speakers explored the opportunities and limitations offered by digital images and manuscript-related metadata, as well as the digital and conceptual interfaces that come between the data and us as users. The program focused on lessons learned since March 2020 and how those lessons can lead to better practice and development of strategies in the future.

2021: The 14th Annual Schoenberg Symposium, “Loss,” 20 speakers interrogated the notions of loss, survival, and recuperation in manuscript studies, so often in the background but rarely acknowledged as defining features of the field.

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.

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Books as Symbols in Renaissance Art (BASIRA)
Led by Nicholas Herman in partnership with independent scholar Barbara Williams Ellertson, and 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.

OPenn
OPenn contains complete sets of high-resolution archival images of cultural heritage material from the collections of its contributing institutions, along with machine-readable descriptive and technical metadata. 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 CC0, CC-BY, or CC-BY-SA licenses. These licensing structures permit users to have unmediated access to any data we provide, from a single image to the entire data set.

Digital Scriptorium 2.0
Digital Scriptorium is a growing consortium of American libraries and museums committed to free online access to their collections of pre-modern manuscripts. The current project is the technical rebuilding of the Digital Scriptorium online union catalog and an expansion in the breadth and diversity of participating collections to include pre-modern manuscripts from all cultures.

SDBM User Statistics

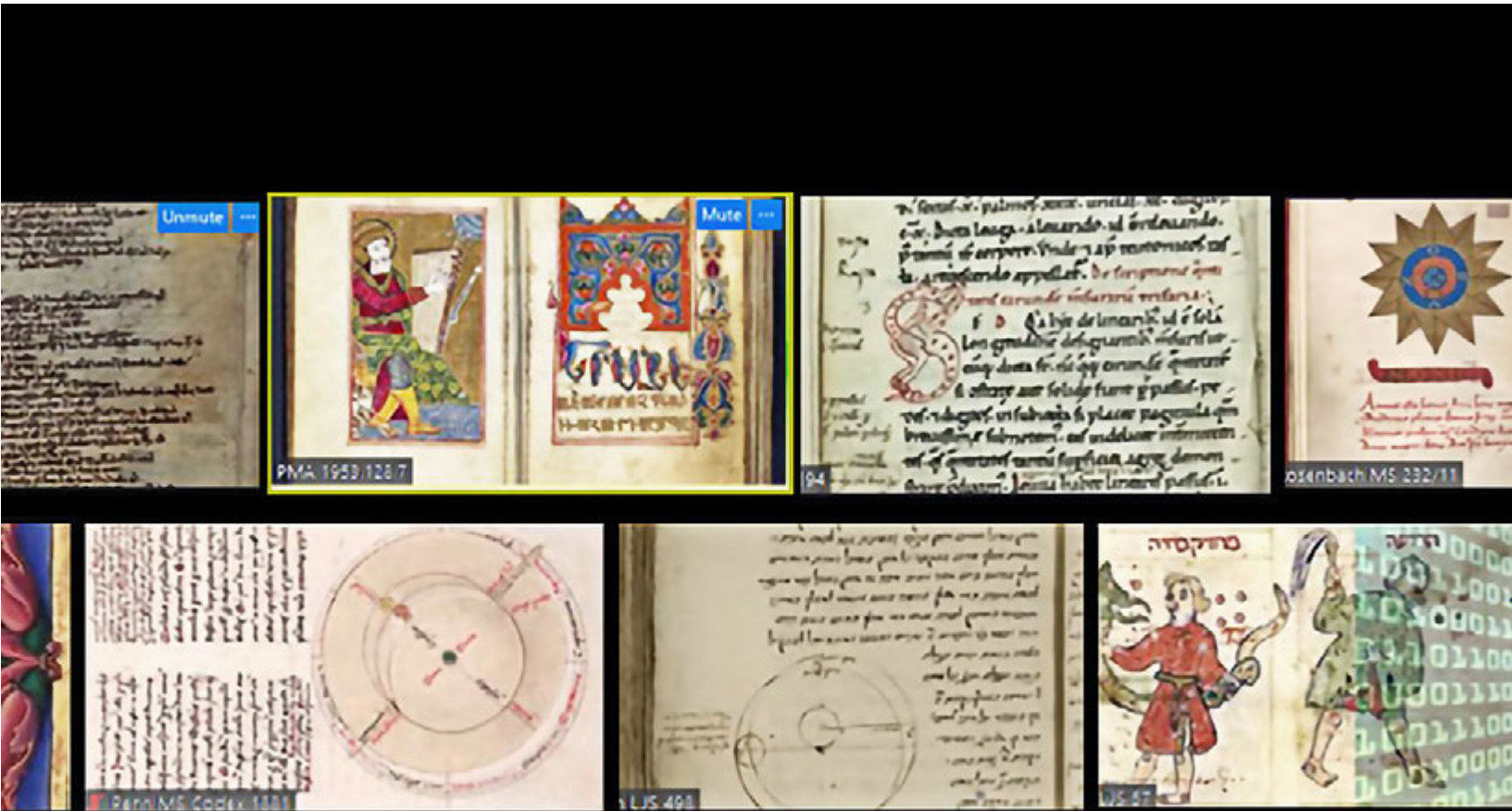
	2018	2019	2020	2021
Registered users	403	494	494	539
New SDBM entries	1,246	7,579	7,579	5,344
SDBM site actions by users	1,516	10,312	10,312	13,393

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.

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
VisColl is a system for building models of the physical collation of manuscripts, and then visualizing them in various ways. The core of VisColl is the data model, which defines the structure of individual manuscripts and which can be built and visualized by different tools.



Engaging with Manuscripts

An Interview with Barbara Brizdle Schoenberg



Together with her husband Lawrence J. Schoenberg (C'53, WG'56), Penn Libraries Board of Advisors member Barbara Brizdle Schoenberg gifted their collection of 287 premodern manuscripts in 2011. In response, Penn Libraries established the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies (SIMS) in 2013 to continue the Schoenbergs' vision of a research institute devoted to the study and care of premodern manuscript tradition. As the SIMS approaches its 10th anniversary, Lynn Ransom, SIMS Curator of Programs, sat down with Barbara to reflect on the institute's first decade and plans for the next.

What inspired you and Larry to give the Schoenberg Collection to Penn Libraries?

Larry always had a deep passion for the Penn Libraries and had been supporting them with various minor donations for years. In 2007, he helped create and fund a faculty-driven initiative to purchase medieval manuscripts to be used in the classroom. This initiative was a great success and showed us how primary materials could create close ties between the faculty and the Libraries. Seeing how invigorated faculty and students became when encountering and engaging with manuscripts as unique witnesses to their times made Larry feel that Penn Libraries would be the place where his collection would be most used and appreciated.

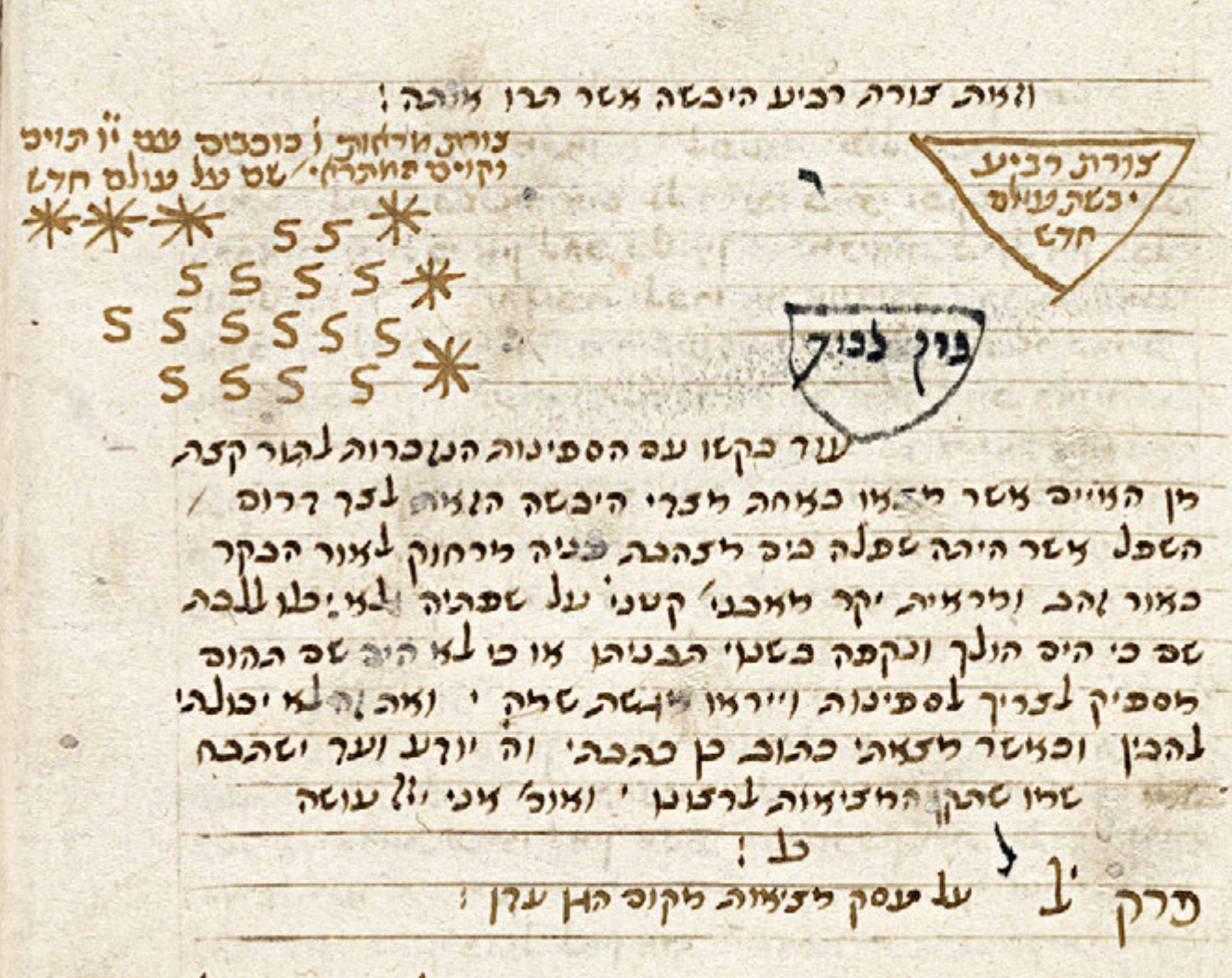
With the gift of the collection, Penn Libraries founded the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies (SIMS). What was your vision for SIMS?

From the start, our vision was that SIMS would attract the best and the brightest medieval scholars to study at Penn. We had hoped that SIMS would influence researchers and scholars –whatever their passion –and that they would come to acknowledge Penn as a leader in the field. We were excited when this vision started

to become reality. I remember Larry's excitement and pride when a faculty member told him that a graduate student turned down an offer to study at another institution because of the promise that SIMS and the collection held for their research.

SIMS will be celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2023. What has been SIMS's most exciting accomplishment in your opinion in its first decade?

Over the past 10 years, SIMS has grown beyond Larry's expectations. He had always championed the idea of free and open access to data and digital images, especially with regard to his manuscripts and the Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts, a project he had worked on since 1997. But the SIMS staff has given flight to that vision in ways he hadn't thought of, first by building OPenn, Penn Libraries' open repository of manuscript and other cultural heritage objects' metadata and images, as well as through other initiatives such as the scholarly journal *Manuscript Studies*, which considers the global dimension of manuscript studies and gives voice to upcoming and established scholars alike, and the annual Schoenberg Symposium on Manuscript Studies, now in its 15th year. I'm also excited by new online initiatives that



came about in response to COVID-19 that have allowed SIMS to reach more people around the world than ever before, including Dot Porter's weekly Coffee with Codex Series and the monthly SIMS Online Lecture Series.

What are your goals for SIMS in the next ten years?

I would only hope that the same exciting trajectory exhibited in the first 10 years continues and that SIMS remains at the forefront of medieval and manuscript studies. I hope that SIMS continues building its place as the leading center for manuscript studies in the United States by developing the tools and software that connect students and scholars around the world to continue researching and learning from the manuscripts that Larry loved so dearly.

What do you believe will most transform the field of manuscript studies for the next generation of students and scholars?

Digital Humanities has already changed the landscape for manuscript studies, and I see that continuing and being mainstreamed into all aspects of scholarly research.

What is your favorite manuscript?

I'm particularly fond of [LJS 101](#), a 9th-century copy of Boethius' translation of Aristotle's *De interpretatione* that has 11th-century additions. It's interesting to me because you can still see that words were written without spaces in the 9th-century text, but by the time the 11th-century additions were made, spaces had begun to be used to separate words. This was a practice introduced by Irish monastic scribes in the 10th century that then spread throughout Europe thanks to their missionary work on the continent, and this manuscript so clearly demonstrated this transition. It's fascinating! I'm most partial to [LJS 499](#), a copy of the 15th-century Jewish geography Abraham ben Mordecai Farissol's *Igeret orhot 'olam*. It contains a treatise on the locations of all dispersed Jewish peoples, including the first mention of the New World in Hebrew, a diagram representing the sky over the New World, followed by a copy of a brief 15th-century treatise on chess. It's at the top of my list because I negotiated its purchase all on my own.

Diagram representing the sky over the New World from a copy of Abraham ben Mordecai's geographical treatise "[Igeret orhot 'olam]," produced in Northern Italy (Ferrara?), after 1525. UPenn LJS 499, fol. 32v.



Penn Libraries

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*Ashley Bryan. "Clock," final artwork for Salting the Ocean.
(c.2000). Ashley Bryan Papers. Ms. Coll. 1439.*

