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Main Stories

- Latino-American History Film Series and Grant
- 6,500 Books Added
- Introduction to Michener Library
- Pueblo Indian Pottery Exhibited
- Native Voices Exhibit
- Archival Services Compact Shelving
- Dearfield eBook Project
- Bringing Primary Sources to Life
- Reading Aloud with Books and Puppets
- National History Day

Sidebar

- Bear Pantry
- Anatomy Figure Added

Bear Pantry

For the University Libraries' winter service project, library staff collected donations for Bear Pantry, a collaborative campus initiative that aims to minimize food insecurity for members of the campus community who are in need. Donations received during the holiday season included non-perishable food, hygiene items, and cash. In this photo, Libraries staff Colleen Stewart, Deb Kinzer, and Andy Malinski deliver the donations to Decker Hall, where the pantry is located.



Anatomy Figure Added

A Denoyer-Geppert 1/2 Scale Muscular Anatomy Figure with Internal Organs was added to the anatomy model collection at Michener Library this semester. Full-scale human skeletons being used by health sciences students are often seen out and about in the library. This figure, a study aid for the muscular system and internal organs, was requested by University of Northern Colorado students.



Film Series and Grant Provide Opportunities to Learn About Latino-American History

The University Libraries is one of 203 grant recipients nationwide selected to receive support to hold public programming about Latino history and culture, featuring the screening of episodes of the PBS documentary series, *Latino Americans: The 500-year Legacy that Shaped a Nation*. The grant is a joint project of the American Library Association and the National Endowment for the Humanities. This special series of programs began in September 2015 and concluded in April 2016.

The programs began in the fall with screenings of portions of the *Latino Americans* documentary series, along with the Rocky Mountain PBS series *La Raza de Colorado*. Viewings were guided by local scholars Trish Escobar, Director of the UNC César Chávez Cultural Center, and UNC Hispanic Studies Department faculty members Dr. José Suárez and Dr. Patricia Falcón. Programming continued in January with the Colorado premiere of the film *The Head of Joaquín Murrieta* and a question-and-answer session with the filmmaker, John J. Valadez. In February, UNC alumna Dr. Camila Alire moderated a panel entitled "Latinos and Education in Colorado: Changing Hearts and Minds;" panel members included Trish Escobar; Dr. Priscilla Falcón; Jesse Tijerina, Assistant Principal at Greeley Central High School; and Dr. Luis Torres, Assistant Provost at Metropolitan State University in Denver. The series of programs ended with a presentation about Latinos and the mining industry by Dr. Fawn Montoya, Associate Professor of History and Director of the Chicano Studies Program at Colorado State University in Pueblo.

The experience of planning and hosting the programming related to the *Latino Americans: 500 Years of History* grant has forged new connections within the Northern Colorado community. The Libraries has been proud to be a partner in this endeavor to celebrate diversity and create a venue for open dialogue about Latino American history in Colorado and the United States.

University Libraries Adds Over 6,500 Books

The University Libraries has purchased Elsevier electronic journals through the Colorado Alliance for Research Libraries since the 1990's. The latest contract negotiations with this major publisher have added e-book content in addition to the traditional e-journals. Researchers at the University of Northern Colorado now have access to over 6,500 e-books on the ScienceDirect platform.

Elsevier is a well-known publisher in the bench sciences, but also provides content in more varied areas such as psychology and dietetics. The new e-books can be found in the Libraries catalog, through a Summon search, or directly on the ScienceDirect platform. Any questions about this content, and how best to utilize it for teaching and research, should be directed to Jennifer Leffler, Technical Services Manager, at jennifer.leffler@unco.edu or 970-351-1543.

A Student's Introduction to Michener Library

It can be intimidating for students to find a single book in a building packed with more than a million of them, especially when that building spans the space of more than three football fields. Sure, that building may be full of people ready to help students and signs directing visitors to various locations; however, it is always easier to be confident about finding what you need when you know where you are going. For years Michener Library has offered students and visitors a standard map to help them move through the building; when the Internet came online so did the static map of Michener Library.

Now Michener Library has an interactive map through which students and visitors can determine locations of rooms and collections, as well as learn about services, view images and videos about the library, and be directed to learning guides and tutorials. The map was created using floor plans, videos, images, and a technology named ThingLink - a platform for creating interactive images and videos. To view the interactive map, see <http://libguides.unco.edu/tour>.

Pueblo Indian Pottery Exhibited at Michener Library



Artifacts from the Anthropology Department's collection of Pueblo Indian pottery on display on the first floor of Michener Library.

A portion of the University of Northern Colorado's collection of Pueblo Indian pottery, some of it 2,000 years old, can be viewed for the first time in more than 30 years as part of an Anthropology Department exhibit on the first floor of Michener Library. These artifacts were part of the Anthropology Department's campus museum until 1983, when they were loaned to the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center. Most of the items were obtained from potters and trading posts in the southwestern United States between 1890 and 1906 and were collected by Edgar Lee Hewitt, who taught at what was then the Colorado State Normal School (now UNC). He donated his collection to the school in the early 1900s.

Anthropology Department Professor Sally McBeth, four of her colleagues, and five students spent two days at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center packing up the fragile pieces for safe transport back to UNC. The University Libraries hosted a reception for the opening of the exhibit on February 17. The Anthropology Department plans to exhibit additional artifacts from the collection at the Libraries, and students are developing other themes for a rotation of future exhibits from the collection.

Native Voices Traveling Exhibit Visits Michener Library

During late winter the UNC Libraries hosted *Native Voices: Native Peoples' Concepts of Health and Illness*, a traveling exhibition created by the U.S. National Library of Medicine. Set up on the main floor of Michener Library from 31 March – 11 May, the exhibit prompted innovative programming in the region. A group made up of students, staff, and faculty collaborated to plan an Opening Event held on 1 April 2016. Catered by acclaimed New Mexico chef Freddie Bitsoie, the opening celebrated healthful contemporary indigenous cuisine. Additional campus programming included a screening of *For the Generations: Native Story & Performance*, a documentary exploring the role of the arts and movement in contemporary native identity, health and fitness; the screening was followed by a Q & A session facilitated by Denver artist, musician, and educator Rose Red Elk. Red Elk, an accomplished musician and artist, shared stories from her own life, and sang an original song while playing the guitar. A Read-In of Native Literature was held during the month as well.

Collaborating with the University Libraries on programming to support the exhibit, High Plains (public) Library District (HPLD) planned a workshop on herbal remedies held at Centennial Park Library. HPLD's Carbon Valley Regional Library hosted a presentation by Erin Smith, herbalist and ethnobotanist, on historical and modern uses of Colorado plants that have been used as food and medicine. This library's location boasts a native plant garden that includes many of those discussed by Smith in the presentation.

The planning group was made up of Annie Epperson (Coordinator of Engagement & Academic Programming at University Libraries) and Eryka Charley (Director of Native American Student Services), along with faculty, staff, and students in the Community Health and Anthropology programs. Hosting the exhibit had two purposes: 1) to improve visibility of native people's issues and ways of knowing on campus, and; 2) to diversify library programming for the campus and larger community. Outcomes included increased understanding of native cultures' challenges and successes, and fostered connections between the University Libraries and the Greeley/Weld County community.

The James A. Michener Library was the first location in Colorado to display this important, interactive exhibit, which will tour the nation visiting more than 100 libraries between 2016 and 2020. Hosting *Native Voices* afforded the University Libraries the opportunity to reach out to campus and other populations to strengthen the role the Libraries hold in the community. This exhibit builds on earlier successes such as *Latino Americans: 500 Years of History* and promises to be one of many more to come.

Archival Services Compact Shelving Project



Completed compact shelving in the Archival Services Department.

The main storage area for the Archival Services Department has undergone a major renovation during the spring 2016 semester. The area serves as the primary storage location for the University's historic records and the diverse special collections housed in Archival Services, including the records for the International Gladiolus Hall of Fame and the O.T. Jackson papers documenting the history of the town of Dearfield, Colorado.

The construction project involved replacing the traditional shelving with compact shelving that has dramatically increased the capacity for storing archival materials. During the previous academic year, nearly 700 linear feet of special collection materials, including early textbooks, faculty publications, and rare books, and over 3,000 linear feet of archival boxes, artifacts, and primary source materials were moved into the basement of Michener Library for temporary storage. With the room emptied, all of the old shelving, map cases, and stored furniture were also removed. Several walls within the space were demolished to increase space available for additional shelving. The newly installed compact shelving and the redesign of the room has nearly doubled the storage capacity of the archives, allowing for the continued growth of the Libraries' primary source collections.

Dearfield eBook Project

The University Libraries has an interdepartmental program in place for digitizing archival and other primary source materials and making them available through the online repository, *Archives & Special Collections @ Digital UNC*. Members of the digitization team were interested in finding new and innovative ways to disseminate and promote the Libraries' digital content, in addition to publishing it in the repository.

Inspired by a project undertaken by a teacher who was involved in the University's Teaching with Primary Sources program, the team decided to experiment with using the electronic book format as a way to integrate digitized primary source materials with materials from other institutions, packaging them in such a way that they could be readily integrated into the classroom for teaching.

Jessica Hayden, Technical Services Manager; Jay Trask, Head of Archival Services; and Jane Monson, Digital Initiatives Librarian worked together to create an e-book containing materials related to Dearfield, an African-American agricultural settlement that briefly thrived on the eastern plains of Northern Colorado during the early part of the 20th century. They incorporated images and documents from the Libraries' Dearfield-related holdings as well as newspaper clippings from the Colorado Historic Newspaper Collection. They also created new content including biographies of Dearfield settlers, video clips of local experts conducting tours of the settlement site, and a timeline of the town's history.

They used Apple's iBooks software to create the e-book, titled *Dearfield: Ghost Town on the Plains*. The book is available as a free download from the iBooks online store.

The Dearfield eBook is intended to provide insight into the growth and decline of the town and reflect the daily life of Dearfield settlers, and the creators hope that it will prove to be a valuable educational resource for teaching and learning about the history of African-Americans in Colorado.

Bringing Primary Sources to Life

The University Libraries offers a wide range of instruction services for UNC students, from "one-shot" instruction sessions to credit-bearing courses. Recently, several librarians teamed up to create an innovative approach to teaching about primary source materials. The goal of the project is twofold: to make the concept of primary sources come alive for students by having them create their own oral histories, while also increasing the visibility of student voices in the Libraries' archival collections.

The project was developed by William Cuthbertson, Instruction Librarian; Jane Monson, Digital Initiatives Librarian, and Jay Trask, Head of Archival Services. Cuthbertson recruited Trask and Monson to visit his Research Skills for Beginning Researchers classes and speak to the students about the nature of primary sources in both paper and digital form. This included a "show-and-tell" of physical materials from the Libraries' Archives and Special Collections, which were displayed alongside digitized versions of the same materials that are available through *Archives & Special Collections @ Digital UNC*. To bring the lesson full-circle, the students were given an assignment inspired by the *StoryCorps* oral history project, requiring them to pair up and interview each other about their experiences as first-year students at UNC. Students turned in a digital audio or video recording that was deposited in the University Archives for long-term storage and preservation. They were also given the option of having their recordings made publicly available online.

Since its initial pilot in Fall 2015, the project has been expanded to other courses offered by the Libraries. The addition of these student-created primary sources to the Libraries' archival collections will allow future scholars a unique view into the lives of today's UNC students.

Reading Aloud With Books and Puppets



The University Libraries received a Colorado Department of Education *State Grant for Libraries* award in 2016 in the amount of \$5,133. The award provides libraries with funds for educational materials to support efforts to improve literacy and learning. Education Librarian Bette Rathe selected the materials, purchasing a mix of items: puppets, books about the art of storytelling, and winners of the Wanda Gág Read Aloud Book Award. The award, named for children's book author and illustrator Gág, is given annually to the best "read aloud" picture book for children up to age 8.

Reading aloud to children is critical for the development of literacy, and the youth collection at Michener Library offers a fine selection of children's books for this purpose. Now, thanks to the grant, you can also find a furry or feathery or plush puppet in our K-12 resources collection that helps bring a story to life. Whether you think back fondly to Shari Lewis and Lamb Chop or the Muppets on *Sesame Street*, puppets continue to be an important part of ensuring literacy for each generation.

National History Day

In recent years, the University Libraries has assumed an expanded role in National History Day (NHD) activities in Greeley. NHD is a competition for middle and high school history students that has been described as "like a science fair, but for history." Participating students conduct original research and complete projects, which might be research papers, websites, displays, documentary videos, or scripted and costumed dramatic productions. This year's theme is *Exploration, Encounter, and Exchange*.

The northeast Colorado regional competition was held in Ross Hall on the first Saturday in March under the organization and direction of UNC history professors Thomas Schamp and Michael Welsh. Volunteer judges evaluated and scored the entries, and winners advanced to the state competition. For more information on National History Day, visit <http://nhd.org>.

Michener Library hosts several NHD events. In October, there was an all-day workshop for middle and high school teachers supervising students projects. Presenters included Celeste Archer and Stacey Pendleton from the National History Day state office; Cody White from the National Archives Regional Office in Broomfield; Dr. Michael Welsh with the UNC History Department; and Mark Anderson, Government Publications and History Librarian at UNC.

On the last Saturday in January, Michener Library hosted the first of two "research rendezvous," open labs in which students were invited to conduct their research under the guidance and supervision of History Department and Libraries faculty. This event attracted 41 students and 4 teachers. A second "research rendezvous," for students who are moving on to the state competition, was held in April. In addition to these formal events, UNC librarians make themselves available to answer History Day research questions via email, LibChat, and in person.

COMMENTS, CONCERNS, AND COMPLIMENTS

Contact the Libraries' Administration via email, telephone, or postal mail with your ideas for *Library Letters*.

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