



BINDINGS

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES MAGAZINE

SUMMER 2021

IN THIS ISSUE

LATINO NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER

Celebrating 50 years
of placemaking & activism

IOWA

Our mission to

ENSURE ACCESS



During this past year, it's been especially important for research libraries to ensure access to the world's information resources.

With the sheer volume of information available and the need to evaluate credibility, our mission is both an incredible challenge and a rewarding opportunity.

I am proud of our staff, who continue to meet these challenges head on. This issue is filled with examples of their work, such as a new YouTube video series about **research and disinformation** (page 13), the efforts of our Regional Medical Library to provide **trustworthy health information** in the midst of a pandemic (page 14), and collaborations with local libraries to foster **community conversations about anti-racism** (page 29).

Our staff have worked tirelessly to ensure access to valuable stories about our campus and state by preserving the **histories of women in Iowa** (page 6); by shining light on student-led efforts that have made the University of Iowa a welcoming place for **Latino and Native American students** (page 22); and by celebrating the legacy of a faculty member who pioneered the **African American studies program** (page 30).

I am grateful for the generous philanthropic support that allows us to improve crucial services for our university and community. A grant from the **Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust** enables us to purchase backfiles of journal articles (page 5); a gift from **Jean Lloyd-Jones** allows us to tell the stories of Iowa women in politics (page 8); gifts from Friends of the Libraries like **Alan and Ann January** help us preserve the cultural and family histories of Iowa (page 32); and the **contributions of many** allow us to support our graduate student employees, who are instrumental in our work (page 4).

This year more than ever, I am aware that the Libraries are entrusted to serve our campus with access to resources that open our eyes to the most pressing issues facing the world today. Thank you for helping the Libraries in these crucial times.

John Culshaw

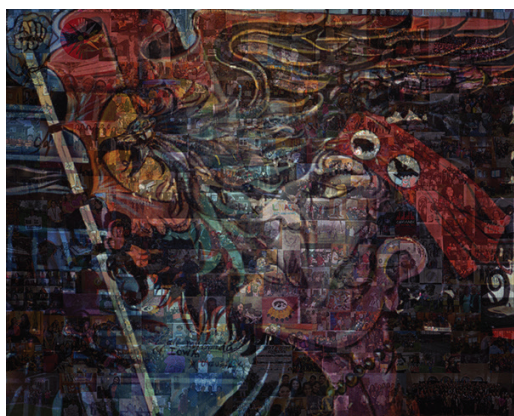
Jack B. King University Librarian

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Generations of support create a legacy for the University Libraries.



ON THE COVER: This image combines a mural created by Manuel Unzueta in 1974 for the Latino Native American Cultural Center (LNACC) at the University of Iowa with hundreds of photographs that show the history of placemaking that has made the LNACC a home for students over the past 50 years. The resulting image is featured in the center of the Main Library Gallery as part of the current exhibit. See page 22 for the cover story.

Image created by Kalmia Strong, creative coordinator at the University of Iowa Libraries, with exhibit curators Rachel Garza Carreón and Christopher Ortega.

award WINNERS

Sara Jensen and Alex Hsieh

2020-2021 Libraries Graduate Student Employee
Academic Enrichment Award



SARA JENSEN

MFA student
UI Center for the book
South Jordan, UT



ALEX HSIEH

DDS student
College of Dentistry
Northbrook, IL

"I STARTED WORKING IN BOOK REPAIR at the Preservation and Conservation Lab during my first year in the MFA program. **I was excited to finally learn book and paper conservation.** I have been interested in book repair for years, but the field is so competitive that I never had a chance learn despite my experience in bookbinding. My hope is to continue to work in the field after graduation by studying under a private conservator, working as a lab tech, or striking out on my own to take on freelance book repair work.

I have been surprised at the number of well-loved books in the collection that come across my desk. There is so much information that still can't be found on the internet and can only be accessed through books. **Repairing these frequently used books reminds me that books remain an important and viable information technology.**

After graduation, I look forward to kayaking the rivers of Iowa and going on some outdoor adventures around the state! There is still so much I want to see before packing up and moving out west."

"MAKING SURE OUR LIBRARY PATRONS FEEL CARED FOR has been a goal of mine while working at Hardin Library, and that is a philosophy I will carry into my career as a dentist. In both situations, **a patron/patient who feels comfortable and welcome will get the most out of their visit** and will more likely come back again!

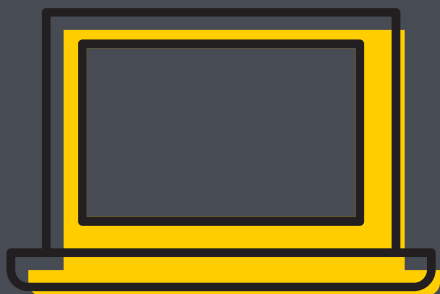
The sense of community I found in working in a library was a surprise to be sure, but a welcome one. With the lens of a student, I viewed university libraries primarily as a quiet and solitary space. As an employee, I quickly found that was not the case, whether it was through **the connections made with other coworkers or the sense of satisfaction I felt from providing a service** to all our hardworking patrons.

I am looking forward to the greater flexibility and freedom after graduation! The structure of school can be nice to have since there are clear objectives and milestones to strive for, but I find myself thriving more in an environment that allows for a greater degree of spontaneity and independence."



THANK YOU

Many thanks to our Friends for supporting the Libraries' Academic Enrichment Award for Graduate Student Employees, whose efforts benefit the entire UI community. These awards help recognize and support our graduate student employees.



ENHANCING ACCESS

to the journal literature
for cross-disciplinary research

The **Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust** has awarded a grant of **\$247,955** to the University of Iowa Libraries to purchase journal backfiles representing approximately 450 journal titles from Wiley, Cambridge University Press, and DeGruyter.

These funds enable the UI Libraries to meet the ongoing research needs of students, faculty, and researchers across academic disciplines. Online access to these journal backfiles also prepares the UI Libraries to make strategic decisions about our legacy print collections, thus freeing valuable space in the Main and Hardin libraries for future renovations. Our **thanks to the Carver Trust** for aiding us in our mission. Below, read more about why this funding is so crucial.



Rising Costs

Over the last 15 years, the Libraries has spent an **increasing percentage** of its information resources budget on electronic materials.



Providing access to both print and electronic information resources is a core component of the University of Iowa Libraries' mission.

These resources are critical for research, discovery, clinical care, and in support of instruction. Faculty at the UI expect that the Libraries will maintain a robust collection of journal articles and scholarly monographs.

92%

of UI faculty routinely use the libraries' collections and subscriptions and report that it is **extremely important** that the libraries provide needed resources, from academic journals to books to electronic databases.

From the 2019 ITHAKA S&R survey of UI faculty

access is a
CORE MISSION



Preserving **IOWA WOMEN'S HISTORY**

BY JANET WEAVER,
ASSISTANT CURATOR, IOWA WOMEN'S ARCHIVES

In the fall of 1992, **Kären Mason, PhD**, was hired as the founding curator of the Iowa Women's Archives (IWA). Over the next 28 years, she would astutely guide the IWA to its current position as a nationally renowned repository with holdings that document the history of women, gender, and sexuality throughout the state and beyond its borders—from remote rural Iowa townships to the far reaches of the world.

DUE IN NO SMALL PART to Mason's steady leadership, these collections reflect the diversity and agency of Iowa women from all walks of life and political persuasions, spanning the mid-nineteenth century to the present day. To ensure the development of a rich repository of primary sources that is **inclusive of the voices of those previously underrepresented in historical narratives**, Mason initiated special projects to solicit materials from African American women, rural women, Latinas, and Jewish women.

Mason retires after 28 years as curator of the Iowa Women's Archives

MASON'S DEDICATION to the art of processing manuscript collections lies at the heart of the “discoverability” of and access to IWA collections today.

From her training as a graduate student at the University of Michigan's Bentley Historical Library, she brought an understanding of the necessity of a standardized approach to processing and arranging manuscript materials that formed the basis for training student processors in the IWA.

In the ensuing decades, this consistent approach would enable a deft transition from printed finding aids—available only in the IWA reading room—to online search tools that enable discovery from any location.

The extraordinary scope of the IWA's well-organized and easily accessible collections provides scholars with a wealth of resources through which they have developed new

perspectives on history that shape the way we understand and interpret the past, revealing a more inclusive view that places women and gender at its center.

Numerous scholarly publications cite materials from the IWA and countless scholars have gratefully acknowledged Mason for her research assistance. Her excellence in this capacity earned her the **UI Libraries' Arthur Benton Excellence in Reference Services and Professional Development Award** in 2004.

Throughout her career, she played an active role in the Society of American Archivists and, together with Tanya Zanish-Belcher, co-founded the Consortium of Iowa Archivists. In recognition of her many accomplishments, Mason was the recipient of the **UI Susan C. Buckley Distinguished Award for Staff** in 2016, followed by the **Jean Y. Jew Women's Rights Award** in 2021. ■



IN HONOR

To celebrate Kären's dedicated service, the University of Iowa Libraries has established a fund in her honor. This fund will benefit both the IWA and the future of the profession, as it will be used to hire student employees who will process donated items. These funds will have a lasting positive impact for the IWA, as well as for University of Iowa students, faculty, and all researchers who use this unique collection.

A photograph of Jean Lloyd-Jones, an older woman with short white hair and glasses, smiling. She is wearing a sleeveless grey and white patterned top and dark pants. She stands in a garden with purple and yellow flowers in the foreground and a brick house with a white-framed window in the background.

TELLING THE UNTOLD STORIES OF IOWA WOMEN IN POLITICS

BY BEN FROTSCHER

Jean Lloyd-Jones (71MA), who is most well-known for her work as an Iowa state legislator and political activist, recently made a \$2 million gift to support the **Iowa Women's Archives**, which is housed within the University of Iowa Libraries' **Special Collections & Archives**.

Lloyd-Jones' gift is creating an archivist position dedicated to the UI Libraries' expansive political collection, including the recently launched website, **Hard Won, Not Done—A Salute to Iowa**

Women Politicians, which commemorates the centennial of the 19th amendment and pays tribute to Iowa women who have served in statewide or national public office.

"The University of Iowa Libraries has worked for years to collect, preserve, and share the history of Iowa women through the Iowa Women's Archives," says John Culshaw, who holds the title of Jack B. King University Librarian at the University of Iowa. "Jean's generous gift provides the Libraries with a dedicated staff member who will participate actively in the creation of new knowledge related to Iowa women in politics."

Jean Lloyd-Jones has devoted much of her career to helping Iowa women pursue careers in politics. Now she's helping share those stories, in perpetuity, thanks to **a gift to the Iowa Women's Archives**.

IN RECOGNITION of Lloyd-Jones' recent transformational support, this new position will be known as the **Jean Lloyd-Jones and Michal Eynon-Lynch Iowa Women's Archives Women in Politics Archivist**. This is just the second named position within the University of Iowa Libraries.

"This is truly a meaningful way to continue and expand upon the work Jean began with the Iowa Women in Politics initiative," says Lynette Marshall, president and CEO of the University of Iowa Center for Advancement. **"I know that her efforts will allow the University of Iowa Libraries to continue to preserve and document the stories of women in politics here in Iowa."**

Lloyd-Jones was born in Washington, DC, and grew up in New Mexico, where her father was a state legislator. It's also where she met her late husband, Richard Lloyd-Jones (56PhD), a long-time faculty member in the UI Department of English. Lloyd-Jones—who has an English degree from Northwestern University and a master's degree in history from Iowa—went on to lead the League of Women Voters for four years before serving in the Iowa House of Representatives from 1979 to 1986 and the Iowa Senate from 1987 to 1994.

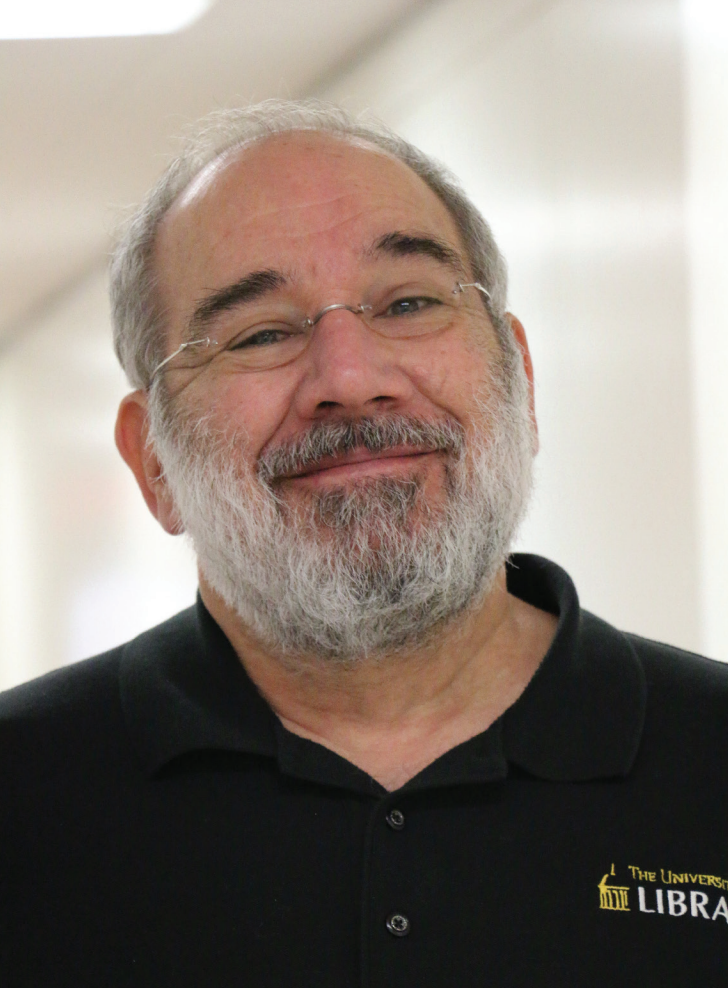
Her political influence went far beyond the capital, though, working toward equality for women in politics. In 2010, Lloyd-Jones and

former Iowa state senator Maggie Tinsman (74MSW) launched **50-50 in 2020**, a bipartisan, issue-neutral organization that assisted women in running for office.

"My goal has been to raise the awareness of needing to have more women in politics," says Lloyd-Jones, who lives in Iowa City. "By funding a position within the Iowa Women's Archives, I hope to help continue to update, maintain, and expand upon the Women in Politics website, as well as to tell the stories of Iowa women yet to come and make that content accessible to all."

Lloyd-Jones has given back to the University of Iowa for 50 years, in part, because of all that the state of Iowa and the university have given her.

"I can't imagine what my life would have been if I had not lived in Iowa," says Lloyd-Jones. "My husband grew up in Mason City, and his salary as a faculty member at the University of Iowa allowed us to rear our four children here. They benefitted from Iowa's excellent public education system. I was active in nonprofit organizations where **I met incredible people—intelligent, committed Iowans who took their work and their politics seriously. I've learned so much from them.** Now, with a 91-year-old's perspective, I marvel at the many benefits I enjoyed and opportunities that have come to me only because I am an Iowan." ■



BENTON AWARD

Balestrieri wins the
Libraries' top honor

PETER BALESTRIERI, curator, science fiction and popular culture, is the winner of the **2020 Arthur Benton University Librarian's Award for Excellence**. He will accept the award at a reception held in his honor, which is yet to be scheduled due to COVID-19.

The Arthur Benton University Librarian's Award for Excellence recognizes a member of the UI Libraries' professional staff who has **demonstrated outstanding commitment and leadership in furthering the Libraries' mission to serve the university community**. The honor includes a \$1,500 award for professional development that will support the recipient's research projects or publications related to library services.

The late Dr. Arthur Benton, professor of psychology and neurology at the University of Iowa and University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, established the endowment to make this annual award possible.

Based on letters from faculty nominators, the selection committee noted Balestrieri's **significant contributions to teaching and scholarship, as well as his commitment to student success**.

Nominators were impressed with Balestrieri's intimate knowledge of the Hevelin Collection (a science fiction collection at the University Libraries) and his unique ability to connect researchers to essential archival materials.

They also lauded his efforts to put these materials in context for students and to inspire an infectious sense of enthusiasm about the richness and value of archival research.

Brooks Landon, professor of English, wrote in his nomination letter that Balestrieri's in-depth knowledge of pulp and fanzine archival materials in the UI Libraries' Hevelin Collection has inspired research as well as course offerings.

"Just to say that I have benefited from Pete's knowledge and advice does not begin to indicate the profound ways in which he has influenced my teaching and scholarship and the scholarship of my students, both undergraduate and graduate," says Landon.

According to Landon, Balestrieri has had a positive influence on students. "Grad students have been particularly wowed by Pete's knowledge, enthusiasm, and indefatigable help with their research papers. I don't know how many librarians have fan clubs, but Pete certainly does!"

UI doctoral candidate E. Mariah Spencer also writes about Balestrieri's influence on scholarship. "He allowed me expanded access to the collection based on my experience as a book historian and bibliographer, while regularly urging me to take my research to the next level."

Corey K. Creekmur, associate professor, cinematic arts, English, and gender, women's and sexuality studies, lauds Balestrieri's in-depth knowledge. "I presume I come to my classes with expertise in these areas, but in our class sessions, Pete regularly matches or exceeds my knowledge as he guides students on clear paths through what often appears to be a sheer mass of impenetrable material."

Balestrieri has influenced Creekmur's approach to teaching with materials in special collections. "Whereas I used to present the holdings of Special Collections as 'nice to have,' I now seek to make students understand how fundamental they are to the construction and pursuit of original research projects."

About Balestrieri's teaching skills, Creekmur adds, "For many of [my students], this will perhaps be their single encounter with a curator or archivist, but I know that for others he provides them with passage to a world they hadn't imagined, in which library research collections, which they might have found intimidating or simply dull, can speak to their own interests and pleasures, effectively legitimizing the serious (but still fun) study of popular culture."

Both Creekmur and Spencer comment on **Balestrieri's ability to help students understand complex works**, neither avoiding nor overstating sensitive aspects of the topics at hand found in works such as "underground" comic books or the writings of H.P. Lovecraft. According to Spencer, Balestrieri "was enthusiastic and erudite as he lectured to students about the troubled history of H.P. Lovecraft, who was both the father of modern horror fiction and a blatant racist. In each instance, Pete was careful to provide historical and social context for publications, as well as a list of additional readings."

Balestrieri's sensitivity to donors has resulted in expansions to the Libraries' collections that could not otherwise have happened. "Pete fully understands the mindset—and emotional complexity—of collectors as well as the needs of researchers, which don't always align," says Creekmur. "He therefore knows how to walk the tightrope between their distinct investments. It's clear that we have acquired many important, unique, and extensive collections because Pete was the contact person between the donor and the library."

Landon summarizes his nomination, saying, "Let me just end by noting that Pete has had one of the greatest positive impacts on my teaching and scholarship in my forty-two years at Iowa. He's one of Iowa's treasures!" ■



FIND US ONLINE

Follow **the Libraries on Instagram & Twitter** to learn about our staff, how they serve campus, and their pets.



Laurie Neuerburg,
Sciences reference &
outreach librarian

"I am one of librarians at the Sciences Library. I work with biology, physics, and astronomy. I help students, staff, and faculty find the books, articles, and data they need for their coursework and research on topics ranging from metabolic pathways to astronomical objects.

I am also the librarian liaison to the Pride House multicultural center on campus and help them connect with the wealth of resources at the UI Libraries."

EVENTS FOR THE COMMUNITY

"I love being involved in the community science events on campus, such as the "Discover Iowa's Birds: Intro to Birding with Linda Rudolph" online program we hosted this spring. You can find more information at our [online guide about Iowa birding](#).

BIG CHANGES DURING THE PANDEMIC

"It has been a sea of change! While I did teach a couple of small, physically distant library sessions to students in person with masks, I have done the majority of my work remotely from home. I have shifted to purchasing unlimited user access ebooks whenever possible to support online coursework. I have also been creating video tutorials for the [Sciences Library YouTube channel](#) and I'm planning to add more!"

LAURIE'S HOME OFFICE ASSISTANT

"In October I took on an incredibly soft and spirited kitten named Toast as my home office assistant. Toast will occasionally hunt small sticky notes and the microphone on my computer headset.

He also will wave his tail periodically in front of my webcam so that I will not experience Zoom fatigue."

Laurie also has a dog named Holly; you can see photos on Instagram. "Holly has been my canine companion since 2007. Her professional interests are in nature and wildlife. A self-care expert like Toast, Holly never lets me forget when it's time for dinner."



Connor Hood, public engagement specialist in the Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio

"I help to promote anything from our summer fellowship program to digital research projects created by faculty, students, and Studio staff through social media, email, events, and more!"

LEARNING UI HISTORY

"I love learning about Iowa and the university's history through a number of our resources and projects. One of my favorites is the [Iowa Digital Library](#), which includes over a million digital objects created from holdings of the Libraries and its campus partners."

BIG CHANGES DURING THE PANDEMIC

"Assisting users has shifted a bit by going from in-person consultations and meetings to having everything over Zoom and email over the past year. We held our first all-virtual summer fellowship program last year and have had some great virtual events, but I look forward to when we can have these face to face again."

CONNOR'S HOME OFFICE ASSISTANT

"I have a dog named Mack. He's a Blue Heeler mix that my girlfriend and I adopted from the @cvhumanesociety back in early November. He brings me joy every day, getting me outside to go on a walk or to work on some training. He also likes to push our laptops closed when he's ready for us to be done working, which is priceless."



WELCOME TO THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES!

In this [short video](#), brand new Hawkeyes learn how our seven campus libraries can help them succeed.



NEW PODCAST SERIES ON SPOTIFY

Dan Gall, UI distance education librarian, hosts [LOUD in the LIBRARY](#)—conversations with Libraries staff and student employees to present listeners with an inside view of our services to campus.



WHAT IS DISINFORMATION?

Watch the Libraries' series of seven videos, [Research and Disinformation](#), to learn from UI librarians Tim Arnold and Katie Hassman about the problem of disinformation and how to deal with it as an information consumer.

← Looking back on 5 years as a

REGIONAL MEDICAL LIBRARY

& looking ahead to the next 5 years →



BY DEREK JOHNSON, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,
GREATER MIDWEST/REGION 6 REGIONAL MEDICAL LIBRARY

IN MAY OF 2016, the University of Iowa Libraries' Hardin Library for the Health Sciences was selected to serve as the Greater Midwest Regional Medical Library (GMR), becoming one of eight regional medical libraries across the country. This coveted designation came about through a five-year \$6.5 million grant from the National Library of Medicine (NLM).

IN APRIL OF 2021, NLM awarded the Hardin Library a **\$5.7 million grant** to continue serving as the GMR. With this opportunity to expand on its previous work, the team of five GMR library staff is now engaged in planning and implementing programs and services for the next five years as a regional medical library.

Having completed our first five years of service, we have an opportunity to reflect on the GMR office's accomplishments. To achieve the goals the GMR set five years ago in accordance with the NLM's mission, our staff members have taken **a three-pronged approach focused on education, funding, and engagement.**

1 EDUCATION

As an outreach arm of the NLM, the GMR has emphasized the importance of educating and training health professionals, public health workers, librarians, and others on accessing **reliable health information** and the many free online resources from the NLM. Our staff have presented as keynote speakers at conferences, held breakout sessions, conducted webinars, facilitated online courses, developed asynchronous training modules, and taught all-day workshops. By delivering educational sessions via multiple channels, the GMR has maximized its ability to reach local, regional, and national audiences.

3 ENGAGEMENT

The GMR supports engagement through a membership program. NNLM, as a whole, has more than 9,000 organizations that have signed on to become members of the Network, and **more than 1,500 of those organizations reside in the Greater Midwest Region**. Membership is free and provides a way for organizations to demonstrate their shared commitment to our mission and to make connections with potential partners in their states and region.

2 FUNDING

Expanding equal access to trusted health information goes beyond building awareness and education. The GMR recognizes that getting funding directly into communities enables trusted partners to engage with individuals who struggle the most with information access and literacy. Since 2016, **our office has awarded over \$2 million** to organizations across the ten-state region to engage in on-the-ground outreach activities. These awards have gone to all types of organizations, including academic libraries, public libraries, public health departments, and community-based organizations.

In 2019, for example, **the GMR funded Wisconsin Health Literacy to conduct 32 workshops on digital health literacy** for adults 65 and older and other underrepresented populations, including communities with low health literacy. The workshops were held across the state of Wisconsin and reached more than 200 individuals. Participants reported a 37% increase in feeling very confident in finding good health information online.

Recognizing the profound impact that COVID-19 has had across the country, the GMR adapted and launched a quick-response funding program in January 2021. Through this initiative, GMR was able to award funds to two organizations. **The University of Minnesota Duluth** received an award to provide virtual, culturally tailored youth activities to promote 1) COVID-19 awareness, 2) the practice of COVID-19 safety precautions, and 3) COVID-19 and online media literacy for Native American (Ojibwe) youth in northern Minnesota. **Ohio University** received funding to develop and disseminate a culturally sensitive COVID-19 Fact Sheet and to provide a COVID-19 hotline for Amish communities. The hotline is staffed by a trained community member who can speak the primary language and address questions and misinformation.

continued on page 16 →

GMR'S EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT SUCCESSES

since may 2016

97%

of training
evaluations show
participants
improved their
ability to find
useful online health
information.

GMR staff have
offered **over 160
educational sessions**,
for which there were
**over 20,000
registrations**.
The recorded
sessions have been
**viewed more than
30,000 times**.



Positive feedback

about GMR workshops

**"I've used a
computer, but
have never
searched like this
before. This was
really helpful."**

—GMR Workshop
Participant



Positive feedback

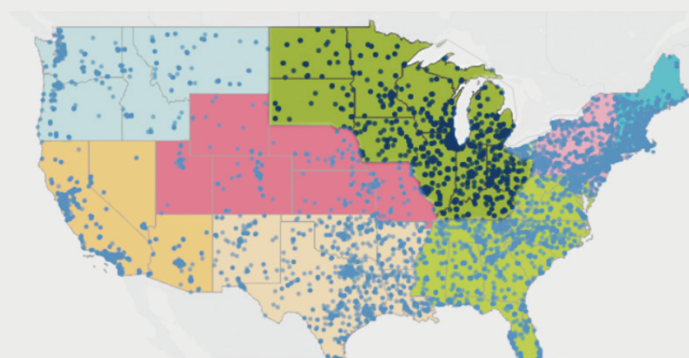
about GMR courses

**"I was impressed with
how comprehensive
the course was. I
expected the online
resources, but not the
additional context
around it. I was
pleasantly surprised."**

—GMR Course
Participant

Greater Midwest Region

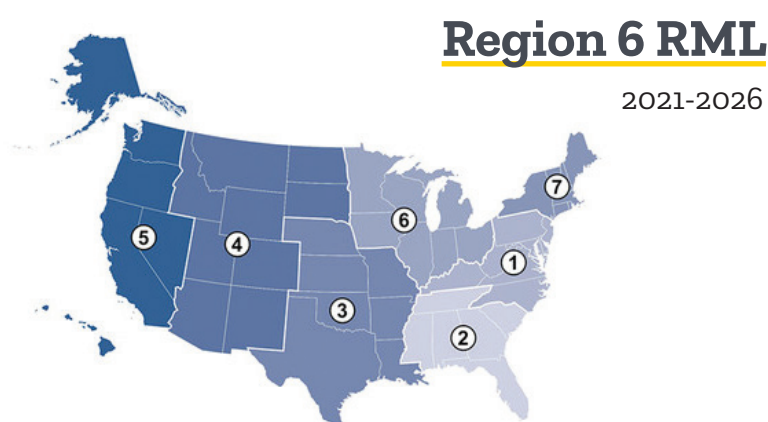
2016-2021



DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS, THE GMR SERVED A 10-STATE REGION, as shown in green on the map above. The blue dots show the locations of NLM member organizations across the United States. In the next five years, the GMR will serve a seven-state region (see map on page 17).

The next 5 years... ➔

AS ALL PROGRAMS CHANGE OVER TIME so too does that of the NNLM. As of May 1, 2021, NNLM condensed its regional structure, reducing the number of regional medical libraries from eight to seven and shuffling the states within each region. The Regional Medical Library (RML) at the Hardin Library serves Region 6, which includes **Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio**. The office is now called the Region 6 RML.



The core mission remains the same, however, with each of the seven regional medical libraries focused on three main goals:

- Working through libraries and other members to support a highly trained workforce for biomedical and health information resources and data
- Improving health literacy
- Increasing health equity through information

As we've all been learning over the past year, mis- and dis-information about health can spread quickly and widely. Now, more than ever, **it's imperative that we have programs like those run through NNLM to help combat the sharing of harmful information** and equip the general public with the tools necessary to make informed decisions about their health.

We are proud of the accomplishments and impact that the GMR has made over the past five years and look forward to continuing our contributions to this important work. ■



What is a regional medical library?

A BRIEF HISTORY

In 1965, then president Lyndon B. Johnson signed into law the Medical Library Assistance Act (MLAA). The MLAA provides funding to the National Library of Medicine to develop, among other initiatives, a regional medical library system, which today is known as the **Network of the National Library of Medicine** (NNLM).

Over the past fifty years, the structure of the regional medical library system has changed, but the core component has always centered on its current mission, which is to advance the progress of medicine and improve the public health by providing all U.S. health professionals with equal access to biomedical information and improving the public's access to information to enable them to make informed decisions about their health.

THERE'S POWER IN ALL OF US

OUTREACH & PARTNERSHIP efforts
provide reliable health information
to underrepresented communities
during the pandemic.





The University of Iowa Libraries' **Hardin Library for the Health Sciences** is home to the Network of the National Library of Medicine **All of Us Community Engagement Center (CEC)**.

BY BRITTNEY THOMAS, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CENTER

The CEC is the national coordinating center for a pilot partnership between the National Library of Medicine and the **National Institutes of Health All of Us Research Center**. (Read more about the *All of Us* program on page 21.)

Through its outreach program, the Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM), the National Library of Medicine (NLM) coordinates efforts to increase awareness of *All of Us*, especially among communities that have been traditionally underrepresented in biomedical research, to ensure that research studies that use the data set created by *All of Us* positively impact all people living in the United States.

In 2017, the NLM awarded the University of Iowa Libraries a grant to establish the **NNLM All of Us Community Engagement Center** (CEC), which supports community engagement efforts in and through public libraries across the United States. The program's goals are to improve health literacy and to provide local communities with information about the *All of Us* research program and its goals to advance precision medicine.

In early 2020, as the **COVID-19 pandemic shut down libraries across the United States**, the CEC worked with the Network of the National Library of Medicine to transition the partnership to focus on virtual engagement.

As we reached out to our library partners, we began to understand that COVID-19 impacted public libraries in a variety of ways. Most libraries were closed to the public, many public library staff were furloughed, and others were working from home.

continued on page 20 →





The NLM has extended the NNLM *All of Us* CEC grant to the University of Iowa Libraries. Over the next five years, the CEC will **continue to partner with local libraries and agencies** advocating for underrepresented communities to improve access to reliable health information.

← continued from page 19

During a pandemic, health literacy is of crucial importance, and getting accurate and timely health information to the public can be even more difficult when a widespread health crisis arises.

As libraries began to come back online, their focus was on figuring out how to offer essential library services safely—virtual health programming was not the top priority. For public libraries that were interested in providing such programming, many did not have the capacity, technology, or support to offer it.

The solution? **Leverage the power of networking** already in place through the CEC.

In response to this complex situation, the CEC began developing **virtual health programs** that public libraries could promote among their communities.

In keeping with the networking mission of the program, the CEC leveraged NNLM partnerships with a variety of organizations ranging from nonprofits to healthcare organizations that were, in turn, also partnering with *All of Us* to support engagement efforts.

Throughout the past year, the CEC worked to refine its virtual program offerings, experimenting with a variety of formats, including author talks, panel discussions, and film screenings.

In September 2020, the CEC partnered with a community organization, the Black Women's Health Imperative, to offer its first **virtual program featuring Dani McClain**, author of the book *We Live for the We: The Political Power of Black Motherhood*.



Watch the author talk with Dani McClain

All of Us is a research program utilizing precision medicine as the foundation for healthcare based on you as an individual, taking into account factors like where you live, what you do, your genes, and your family health history. **All of Us** will advance precision medicine by creating a data set of the health information of one million or more people who represent the diversity of the United States, allowing researchers to conduct thousands of studies on health and disease.



▶ **Watch the author talk**
with Dr. Quiñones-Hinojosa

In January 2021, the CEC partnered with the National Association of Hispanic Health to cohost a **virtual talk featuring Alfredo Quiñones-Hinojosa, M.D.**, author of *Becoming Dr. Q: My Journey from Migrant Farm Worker to Brain Surgeon*.

From March through April 2021, the CEC partnered with **breast cancer thriver and film-maker Paula Mozen**, director of the documentary film *Life Interrupted*, a film featuring empowering stories of breast cancer survivors told through unflinching graphic imagery from the survivor's perspective.

To reach communities that often lack access to health information, **the CEC partnered with five community organizations and healthcare providers to offer a series of film screenings and panel discussions** featuring healthcare providers, breast cancer survivors, and advocates affiliated with Underrepresented in Biomedical Research communities across the United States. Most recently, viewers tuned in to listen to a panel discussion co-hosted by the **Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services**. ■



▶ **Read about the film**
directed by Paula Mozen

cover
STORY

PLACE

Celebrating 50 years



“The Latino Native American Cultural Center is a *living being* that carries ancestral history through the liveliness in our students’ celebrations, passions, and the overall center. Celebrating our daily existence and our ancestors is a value that we honor to the students, community, and future generations.” —Rachel Garza Carreón & C

MAKING & ACTIVISM

s of the **LNACC**



estral knowledge and
overall vibrancy of the
or when being of service
Christopher Ortega, curators

BY RACHEL GARZA CARREÓN & CHRISTOPHER ORTEGA,
EXHIBIT CURATORS
INTRODUCTION BY SARA PINKHAM,
EXHIBIT & OUTREACH COORDINATOR

In 1971, three University of Iowa students (Nancy “Rusty” Barceló, Ruth Pushetonequa, and Antonio Zavala) established what is now the **Latino Native American Cultural Center (LNACC)** on campus. In 2021, the LNACC is celebrating 50 years of creating community and a home away from home for Latinx and Native American students at the University of Iowa.

This exhibition, **Building Our Own Community: 50 Years of the Latino Native American Cultural Center, Founded by Chicano and American Indian Students in 1971**, shares the history of the center in depth. It explores its establishment in the 1970s, campus activism, and the many ways in which the LNACC has supported students over the years.

continued on page 24 →



← continued from page 23

THE EXHIBIT WAS CURATED WITH CARE by Rachel Garza Carreón and Christopher Ortega. Their work honors the past, present, and future of the UI's Latino Native American Cultural Center (LNACC) and the students who made it possible. These are their personal reflections about the LNACC, the process of creating the exhibit, and the importance of telling the stories of the LNACC's positive impact on the UI community.

RACHEL GARZA CARREÓN

When I first arrived at the University of Iowa many years ago, I had no idea what to expect. I had lived in many different parts of the U.S. and in another country, but never the Midwest. I grew up in the South side of San Antonio, Texas, in a community that was mainly Mexican American.

I didn't know anything about Iowa and when I thought about where my culture was represented it was always Texas, California, and Chicago. Imagine my surprise and gratefulness when the president of the Latinx Council contacted me within the first week to welcome me to this new and frankly shocking environment.

IN THIS PHOTO

On the left is a black-and-white group picture with five students (from the left): Nancy "Rusty" Barceló, Armando Almazán, Antonio Zavala, Donna Olvera, Joe Gomez.

Through meeting with the group, a new friend would say, "You have to meet so-and-so, they are from Texas too." So, the journey began with me meeting new friends then their friends, who I can now claim are some of the best people I know.

You see, I was lucky. By some weird twist of fate, three of my new friends had been recruited by Rusty Barceló and were finishing up their PhDs and/or working at the university when I arrived here. They told me their stories. They told me about the LNACC over a home-cooked meal. They told me about the protests, the mural, the fiestas, and the powwows in such vivid detail that it made me feel like I had been there.

I eventually met Rusty, and it felt like meeting a myth. The stories I heard of the trials and triumphs of Rusty Barceló, Ruth Pushetonequa, and Antonio Zavala seemed like tales from long ago. I thought about the history of the LNACC and couldn't help but be in awe of these three individuals who put it on their shoulders to create a home for not only them but any other Latinx and Native American who happened to come to the UI. They could have easily put their heads down because that's a lot. You're talking about three people in a group who just said, "No, this isn't right. We should do something about it."

It is now 2021, and we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of the LNACC. I have researched so much about the LNACC over the years that I feel like it is a part of my history too. I decided that I wanted to do this exhibition because everyone should know this history.

I asked Christopher Ortega to join me on this journey because he was new to the university like I was all those years ago. It has been a pleasure to share these stories with a friend and colleague who has as much of an interest in sharing this information as I do.

I want people to understand that the LNACC is not just a physical building. It stands for something because of its history. To me, it is a landmark. I am proud of this exhibition and hope to someday develop additional methods of telling the many stories that we didn't have room to tell. Until then, **welcome to our casa.** Thank you for coming, and I hope when you leave you will understand why the LNACC is a home to so many people.

CHRISTOPHER ORTEGA

The spark that led to my working on this exhibit was a tiny three-word phrase hidden inside a faded yellow flyer. In that flyer, the students from the then-new Chicano Indian American Cultural Center list what people can expect to see from them throughout the semester. At the end of that list, standing proud and bold, are the words “risa y desmadre.”

The first word of the phrase is easy to translate. “Risa” is laughter. The second word, though, is where the fun of the phrase is. There are many ways to translate it, and most of them aren't very polite. It's an idiosyncratic slang word, pointing directly at a certain place, a certain time, a certain type of irreverent joie de vivre.

The fact that the Center chose to introduce itself to campus with this phrase, speaking straight to los que saben, was an eye-opener for me. It made me want to learn more about the Center and its students, and so my involvement with this exhibit began in earnest.

continued on page 26 →

ABOUT THE CURATORS



RACHEL GARZA CARREÓN is the Outreach & Research Librarian at the University of Iowa Libraries. She serves as the subject liaison for classics, philosophy, and religious studies, and is the UI Libraries liaison to the Latino Native American Cultural Center.



CHRISTOPHER ORTEGA is an Undergraduate Engagement Librarian at the University of Iowa Libraries. His mission is to support undergraduate success and make students feel welcome and empowered on campus and in the Libraries.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Financial support: Friends of the UI Libraries

Special thanks: Nancy “Rusty” Barceló, Ruth Pushetonequa, Antonio Zavala, Thomas Arce, Isabela Flores, Sandra Solis, Tracy Peterson, Rosa Higareda Heredia, Adriana Peterson, Karla Alvarez-Ledesma, Gabriela Rivera, Jesse Garza Carreón, everyone involved with the #DoesUlowaLoveMe campaign, the Latino Native American Cultural Center, the Association of Latinos Moving Ahead (ALMA), the Native American Student Association (NASA), and every Latinx and Native American who shattered barriers and paved the way for future generations

As Rachel and I started to gradually uncover the story of the LNACC, **I grew increasingly impressed with the scope of what the founders accomplished.** Three strangers bonded over their shared sense of unbelonging and decided to do something about it. With their own hands, they carved out a space where they and those that followed them could feel free to be themselves and be sure that others would understand them. It's a laudable achievement, and its power reverberates to this day.

My biggest goals for this exhibit are two-fold: to give its viewers the opportunity to better understand these students' experiences at the university and thereby appreciate the necessity of spaces like the LNACC and to also celebrate the history and impact of the LNACC here in this community. It's a storied history, and **I hope that by sharing it with everyone I can inspire people to start looking for other such stories** both here and wherever else they go. ■



"We're not advocating separatism. We're advocating [for] our own identity."

— Theresa Reyes,
Native American Law Student Association

The image on the left and quote above appear in the exhibition side-by-side.



LEARN MORE

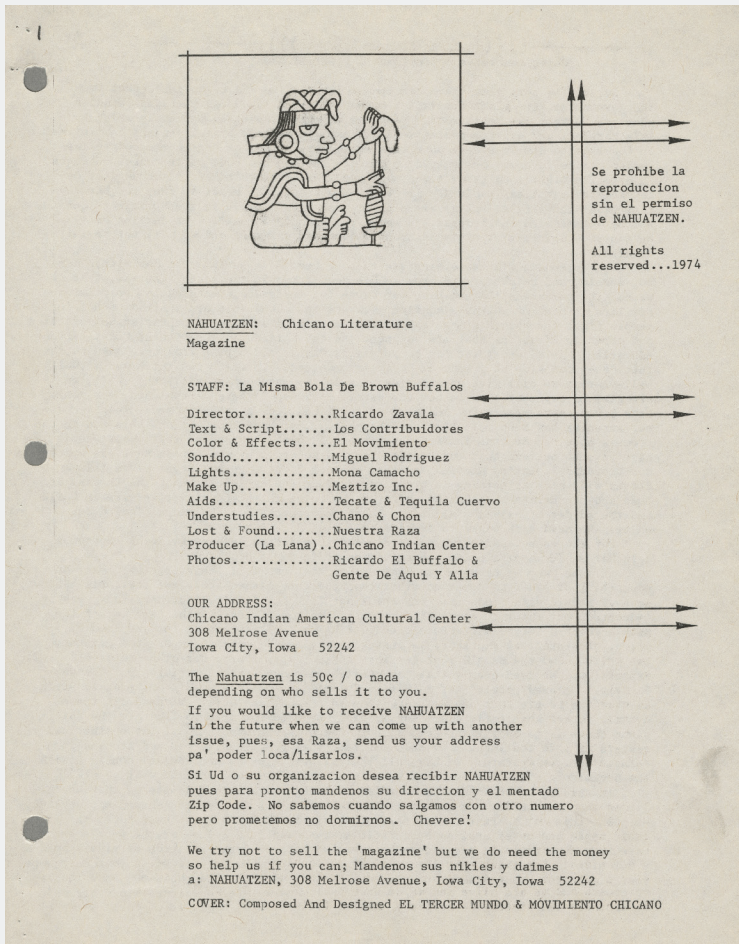
ABOUT THE EXHIBIT—Read more about "**Building our Own Community.**"

360 TOUR—Take an **immersive virtual tour** of the exhibit space in the Main Library Gallery.

EXHIBIT GUIDE—Visit our **online guide** to the exhibit for related articles and additional resources in the Libraries.

GUIDE TO THE LNACC—Access resources and historic documents related to the **LNACC.**

images FROM THE EXHIBIT



PICTURED ABOVE: Page from LNACC publication Nahuatzen (vol. 3, no. 1, 1974). In the introduction to this issue, one can see the ethos behind the LNACC's publications: "We need not let other people write our own stories when we have our own writers."

PICTURED BELOW: This portion of the exhibit highlights the warmth of the LNACC kitchen as the heart of community, which "creates a sense of home that reminds everyone that this is a place where they are welcome, where they belong."



PICTURED TO THE LEFT: "The Latinx Community Gathers to Celebrate Activism" The Daily Iowan, March 28, 2019.

Shared meals are a foundational aspect of forging a sense of community. This meal was part of the Latinas in the Community Dinner that took place in the LNACC on March 27, 2019, hosted by the Association of Latinos Moving Ahead (ALMA).



next exhibit
MAIN LIBRARY GALLERY

From Revolutionary Outcast to a Man of God: **Dostoevsky at 200**



Vasily Perov. *Portrait of the Author Fyodor Dostoevsky*
(Портрет писателя Федора Михайловича Достоевского), 1892. Public domain.

The Fall 2021 Main Library Gallery

exhibition, *From Revolutionary Outcast to a Man of God: Dostoevsky at 200*, is dedicated to the life and work of the Russian writer Fyodor Dostoevsky (1821-1881). Curated by **Anna Barker**, University of Iowa visiting assistant professor of Russian literature, the exhibition covers the entirety of Dostoevsky's prolific literary career. His youth, his years of exile in Siberia, a period of gambling addiction, and his eventual discovery of religion are explored in the context of many of his most famous novels, from *Poor Folk* to *The Brothers Karamazov*.

The exhibition will be accompanied by additional campus and community events related to Dostoevsky, such as **special curator talks** in the Main Library Gallery, a **Dostoevsky film festival** in partnership with FilmScene, and **programming at the Iowa City Book Festival**. ■



EXHIBITS

FALL 2021—*From Revolutionary Outcast to a Man of God: Dostoevsky at 200*

SPRING 2022—*University of Iowa: 175 Years*

FALL 2022—*55 Years of the World's Literatures at the Writing University*

SPRING 2023—*Queer in Every Sphere*

engaging COMMUNITY

BY SARA PINKHAM,
EXHIBIT & OUTREACH COORDINATOR



LIBRARIES ALWAYS FIND A WAY to reach the communities they serve, even under pandemic-related limitations. Like most libraries around the globe, the **Coralville Public Library**, **Iowa City Public Library**, **North Liberty Library**, and the **University of Iowa Libraries** made creative pivots within their services and programs to accommodate users during a time of worldwide uncertainty. Changes included options for virtual learning and interaction, which all four libraries plan to continue to offer.

LIBRARIES PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPORTANT CONVERSATIONS



**LOCAL
LIBRARIES**
LISTEN, INITIATE, TALK

Recognizing the need for community-wide programming focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion, these libraries partnered to bring dynamic virtual author events to Eastern Iowans. Supported by The Tuesday Agency, this joint series was called **Local Libraries LIT – Listen, Initiate, Talk**. Authors of color were invited to share their stories this spring, including Mira Jacob, Saeed Jones, and Roxane Gay.

“Providing a platform and opportunity for community members to hear from essential voices carries forth the role of libraries as places where all individuals are welcomed and celebrated,” said Jennie Garner, director of the North Liberty Library.

“Libraries are all about connecting people with each other, with new ideas, and with enriching experiences,” said Elsworth Carman, director of the Iowa City Public Library. “Local Libraries LIT is a perfect example of how that aspiration is amplified when agencies work together to craft events that approach global issues with a local lens.”

Attendees for these special free events tuned in from across Iowa.

The University of Iowa Libraries has made diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion initiatives a major focus of its new strategic plan. Partnering with three of the local public libraries in Johnson County on these author events was a natural fit, made possible by the Friends of the University of Iowa Libraries. Based on the success of this collaboration, all four libraries plan to continue working together to bring Local Libraries LIT programming to Eastern Iowans. ■

DARWIN TURNER

Pioneer of African American Studies

BY DAVID MCCARTNEY,
UNIVERSITY ARCHIVIST, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES

DARWIN TURNER ARRIVED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA IN 1972 to join the faculty of the newly established Afro-American studies program. Soon after, he became chair when Charles Davis accepted a position at Yale.

For the next 19 years, **Turner developed a program that pioneered this emerging field of academic study.** Iowa was among the first institutions in the nation to offer advanced degrees in Afro-American studies, providing intellectuals of Black

culture the opportunity to teach and conduct research at colleges and universities across the U.S. and abroad. His legacy at the University of Iowa Libraries is a rich collection of papers documenting his life's work.

Throughout his life, Turner (1931-1991) achieved milestones that contributed to the expanding discipline. A native of Cincinnati, Ohio, Turner was considered a child prodigy. At age 13, he enrolled at the University of Cincinnati, graduating in only three years as an inductee of Phi Beta Kappa. He continued his studies at Cincinnati, receiving a Master of Arts degree in English and American drama at age 18. By age 25, he was awarded a Ph.D. at the University of Chicago.

In the Libraries' University Archives, a review of the UI's general course catalogs published during Turner's tenure reveals **a rich and diverse array of course offerings** open to majors and non-majors alike. The 1976-78 catalog, for example, lists over 40 courses in a curriculum that included Black literature, theatre, history, political science, and advanced research techniques. Black Action Theatre, later renamed in his memory, was established during this time at his behest and continues to present thought-provoking pieces for social and cultural awareness through the UI Department of Theatre Arts.

Turner's contributions to the profession were substantial. He edited more than a dozen works of African American literature, and his original works included literary criticism and poetry.



In addition, he wrote extensively for academic journals and anthologies.

The papers in the Darwin Turner collection at the University Archives, recently processed and cataloged for researchers, reveal the breadth and depth of his academic career, spanning two decades at Iowa.

A significant part of the collection is a set of audio tape recordings featuring visiting speakers who participated in the **Institute for Afro-American Culture, a nationally acclaimed lecture series coordinated by Turner.**

More than 450 recordings document visitors to Iowa City during the 1970s and 1980s whose lectures were broadcast on WSUI radio. Speakers include poet and essayist Rita Dove (77MFA), historian John Hope Franklin, and novelist Ralph Ellison, author of *Invisible Man*. The collection also includes heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali's speech to a standing-room only crowd at the Iowa Memorial Union in 1967, only a few months after he announced his opposition to serving in the Vietnam War. Although his visit preceded Turner's arrival by five years, Turner safeguarded the tape recording of the event in his office for many years.

In 2019, the UI Libraries received a Historical Resource Development Program grant of about \$27,000 from the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs to **preserve and digitally reformat these unique and historically valuable recordings**. Many of the lectures have been digitized and are accessible online via the [Iowa Digital Library](#).

Turner died in 1991, at age 59, following a heart attack. Today, his legacy is remembered at Iowa through the **Darwin T. Turner Awards**, which recognize the scholarship of students from historically underrepresented groups, and the **College of Liberal Arts and Sciences' Darwin Turner Endowment** that provides additional scholarship opportunities. His papers at the UI Archives are another tangible remembrance of a life devoted to excellence in education. ■



Darwin Turner Collection

ONLINE

Hear [audio recordings and view items](#) from the Darwin Turner collection.

EDITOR'S NOTE

David McCartney writes the column "[Old Gold](#)" for the University of Iowa. This article is an updated version of a column that first appeared in [Iowa Magazine on September 11, 2020](#).

new
ACQUISITIONS

CZECH CYLINDERS

Gifts of culture &
Iowa family history



BY KATIE BUEHNER, HEAD, RITA BENTON MUSIC LIBRARY

The wooden case is opened, revealing metal spools, latches, and a motor wheel reminiscent of an old sewing machine. The needle mount is lifted, and Alan January carefully slides the cylinder into place. He reaches down and puts the crank handle into the side, winds it half a dozen times, and then flips the lever on the top of the player. The cylinder starts to spin, the needle is lowered, and a scratchy, thin stream of music begins to play.

THERE MAY BE NO SUCH THING AS TIME TRAVEL, but the four people in the Music Library are suddenly transported back one hundred years as we listen to “Under the Anhauser Busch” on an Edison Gold Moulded cylinder, likely produced in 1904.

Cylinders were one of the earliest forms of sound technology and the first to allow for mass production and distribution of sound in recorded form. They were usurped quickly by discs, which could be made from sturdier material and were cheaper and easier to manufacture, but not before leaving behind a substantial catalog of popular tunes and recitations from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

In 2018, Alan and Ann January gifted a large collection of cylinder recordings and a phonograph player to the University of Iowa’s Rita Benton Music Library. For over a century, the collection had been handed down through Ann’s Czech immigrant family, which settled in Cedar Rapids around 1892. Most of the cylinders are releases from the Edison and Columbia catalogs, many of which have been digitized through projects at the University of California at Santa Barbara, Syracuse University, and the Library of Congress.

There are a few curiosities, though: in particular, sixteen brown wax cylinders. The January family told us the recordings were Bohemian in origin (a region now part of the modern-day Czech Republic). Most of these recordings were in containers featuring the image of a man and an inscription identifying him as “Ed. Jedlička,” but research was required to track down the identity of Mr. Jedlička and information about his cylinders.

About a month after the donation was received, two archivists from the National Museum of Prague—Filip Šír and Martin Mejzr—visited the UI campus to speak with students in the School of Library and Information Science. Associate professor Lindsay Mattock scheduled time for them to visit some of the special collections around campus, including the Iowa Women’s Archives and the Music Library.



continued on page 34 ➔

I took the archivists to my favorite place in the Music Library, the Canter Rare Book Room, and pulled out some samples from the recent cylinder donation. I was eager to share our most recent acquisition, especially the cylinders thought to contain songs from Bohemia.

Filip became visibly excited as he saw the brown wax cylinders and the label imprints. He told us about Eduard Jedlička, a Czech immigrant who set up shop as a jeweler in New York City in 1898. Starting in 1903, his laboratory produced over 500 cylinder recordings of Czech songs, poetry, folk and children's tunes, and other musical performances. The earliest recordings were never reproduced for commercial sale, so each cylinder is unique, and, in many cases, Jedlička himself supplied the performance. The Library of Congress holds a collection of Jedlička cylinders, but most are late in the production run (earliest held is no. 151). The January collection includes cylinder nos. 4, 6, 10, 29, 66, and 68, making them the earliest extant recordings of Czech music made on American soil.

At first, it was believed the donation included Jedlička issue no. 1, a recording of "Kde domov můj," the song that became the national anthem of the Czech Republic.



PICTURED ABOVE: Frank Jiruska and Fannie Vich, great grandparents of Ann January.

However, container labels can be misleading, so it was important to digitize the cylinders to discover their actual contents.

In October 2019, I drove the brown wax cylinders to the Media Digitization and Preservation Initiative at Indiana University to be digitized. Audio engineer Dan Figurelli made the digital recordings using an Endpoint Audio Labs Cylinder Playback Machine, which is designed to measure the cylinder's grooves using a laser and software that maps the best path for playback.

A few key discoveries came from finally hearing the Jedlička cylinders. Each cylinder began with an announcement of its contents, so it was possible to confirm those that matched with the container information. First, **we were thrilled to confirm that no. 68 did in fact feature the famous Czech trumpeter, Bohumir Kryl.**

Second, not all the recordings were from Jedlička's laboratory. Several were homemade recordings, using brown wax blanks and a recorder needle instead of the reproducer needle used in playback. The homemade recordings included children singing, violin playing, and a track of a gentleman singing loud, unintelligible syllables.

Most importantly, **it was clear that the Jedlička no. 1 container held a homemade recording and not the hoped-for national anthem.** Instead, it featured a young girl singing followed by a few scattered spoken phrases.

In the meantime, Ann generously supplied some additional documentation on her family and their lives in Cedar Rapids during the early twentieth century. Frank Jiruska left Prague in 1891 and came to the United States, where he quickly made his way west to Iowa and eventually settled in the large Czech community within Cedar Rapids, where he married Fannie Vich. Frank worked as a carpenter for the Cedar Rapids schools until his death in 1938. Frank and Fannie had three children: Frank Jr., Emma, and Elsie (Ann's mother).

Listening to a homemade cylinder is a bit like hearing sound through a piece of rough sandpaper. Words are garbled, the sounds from the swish and scratch of the stylus are prominent, and sometimes performers were too close or too far away from the recording horn to be heard with clarity. Homemade cylinder recordings of spoken words can be especially difficult to decipher. It wasn't until spending several weeks working with immigration documents, photographs, death certificates, and other documentation from the Jiruska family that the opening statement of cylinder no. 1 became clear: "By Elsie Jiruska." **The little girl singing on the cylinder was Ann's mother.**

Now that the sound recordings on the cylinders have been digitized, the Music Library continues to work with Filip and the National Museum of Prague to transcribe and translate the song and poetry texts, to research Eduard Jedlička, and to learn more about how these cylinders made their way into the hands of a family in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Filip and I are hoping to learn more about the cylinders held at the Library of Congress and to see if additional Jedlička recordings might still be found. But most of all, I love showing this collection to students, who are fascinated when I bring out the phonograph and demonstrate how early sound recordings were made and reproduced, watching with wonder as the mandrel starts to spin up the sounds of long ago. ■



HEAR & SEE

AUDIO—Listen to [recordings online](#) on the Libraries' web site.

VIDEO & TEXT—View the [phonograph player in action](#) and [read about the player](#).

a library **LEGACY**



BY MARY RETTIG

As I draft this column, we're amid university and collegiate annual report season and online giving days (thanks to all who gave during UI's "One Day for Iowa" on March 24). Giving Days are useful tools for engaging and encouraging new supporters, while the annual reports share successes and, sometimes, highlight generous donors. The latter is the focus of this column.

Meet Alan and Ann January, who are longtime advocates of the University of Iowa, including the UI Libraries.

Both families have roots in Iowa. Alan's parents met at the UI prior to World War II and subsequently moved to Arizona, where Alan was born. In 1946, the family returned to Iowa City. Ann claims Cedar Rapids as her hometown (read more about her family's history in Iowa on page 33). Both did graduate work at the UI, Ann in political science while Alan earned a PhD in history. Alan reports having "**made extensive use of the Libraries' extraordinary resources** [during] doctoral research, especially the Interlibrary Loan Department, which located obscure resources as far away as the UK."

THE JANUARY FAMILY has a long and generous relationship with the UI, specifically with the UI Libraries. Upon returning to Iowa City, Alan's parents, Dr. Lew and Eloise January, quickly became immersed in the University and community culture. In 1989, Lew was recognized as a 25-year member of the Friends of the Libraries.

That **commitment of service** has continued with both Alan and Ann, who have shared their time, talent, and treasure by serving on the Friends Board (1986-90). In addition, Ann has been an advisory board member of UI's Stanley Museum of Art since 2004, serving as chair multiple times.

Both Ann and Alan are **true partners of the Libraries**. Alan has a long and strong relationship with Special Collections & Archives and is becoming acquainted with our new Rare Books Curator, Eric Ensley. (Did I mention Alan is an avid book collector?) More recently, they have become deeply engrossed with the story of the Ann's Czech cylinders (see page 32).

What inspires Ann and Alan to carry on the legacy of giving? Perhaps their own words best describe their reasons for giving. "By supporting the University Libraries, Ann and I want to be sure its unique resources and critical services will be available to students, staff, faculty, and the public in the future. Whether it's an electronic database, a rare 16th century medical treatise, or a flood-damaged public library book from a small town on the Missouri River, the University Libraries is the "go to" place to access and preserve these important resources. There is a reason the University Libraries is the heart of the UI campus."

Thank you, Ann and Alan, for choosing the UI Libraries as one of your philanthropic priorities. ■



**MARY RETTIG,
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN
FOR ADVANCEMENT**



CONTACT US

For more information about how to become involved as a Friend of the University of Iowa Libraries, please contact Mary Rettig (mary.rettig@foriowa.org 319-467-3809) or Katharine Lasansky (katharine.lasansky@foriowa.org 800-648-6973).

the Main Library's **70th ANNIVERSARY**

APRIL 7, 2021 MARKED THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MAIN LIBRARY. Construction lasted almost two years following a groundbreaking ceremony on May 11, 1949. In his speech on that occasion, UI President Virgil Hancher said, "Today we break ground for the construction of the first library building as such this University of ours, in its one hundred and second year, has ever had. This is a day for which the university community has waited a long time, a very long time."

He went on to emphasize the importance of libraries to the university. "When I have tried to state the three purposes this library is to serve—the liberal education of the youth, preservation of the records of learning, and advancement of research and teaching—there is something more that yearns to be said.

"One cannot contemplate libraries and books without recalling the civilization-long battle for the freedom of the human spirit. That is what yearns to be said on this occasion, because here we build a place for the magnificent record man has made in his quest for goodness, happiness, and security."

Today, the Libraries is, once again, **planning for renovations**, which will bring the Main Library facility up to modern-day standards. We look forward to sharing information as the process moves forward.



Remember this?



PICTURED ABOVE: Two different book brigades, with volunteers moving library materials hand-to-hand at the Main Library.

The top photo from April 7, 1951 shows volunteers moving books from the Old Armory to the new Main Library. The bottom photo from June 14, 2008 shows student volunteers moving books from the Main Library basement to safety during the flood.

PICTURED ON THE OPPOSITE PAGE: Students help shelve books in the Main Library during the move-in process on April 7, 1951.

BINDINGS is the University of Iowa Libraries' magazine, published twice annually to highlight the efforts of its librarians who work to support the successes of students, faculty, staff, and community members.

ADMINISTRATION

John Culshaw

Jack B. King University Librarian
john-culshaw@uiowa.edu

Paul Soderdahl

Associate University Librarian
paul-soderdahl@uiowa.edu

Linda Walton

Associate University Librarian
linda-walton@uiowa.edu

Jennifer Masada

Strategic Communication
Editor & Designer
jennifer-masada@uiowa.edu

Heather Healy

Editing & Proofreading
heather-healy@uiowa.edu

Michelle Milldyke

Editing
mmmillydyke@gmail.com

DEVELOPMENT

Mary Rettig

Assistant University Librarian
for Advancement
mary.rettig@foriowa.org

KATHARINE LASANSKY

Associate Director of Development,
Regional Gifts and Libraries
katharine.lasansky@foriowa.org

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Main Library Gallery

August 16–December 17, 2021

The Fall 2021 Main Library Gallery exhibition, **From Revolutionary Outcast to a Man of God: Dostoevsky at 200**, is dedicated to the life and work of the Russian writer Fyodor Dostoevsky (1821-1881). Curated by Anna Barker, University of Iowa visiting assistant professor of Russian literature. See page 28 for details.

Exhibitions in the Main Library Gallery are open to all and free of charge. Location, hours, and exhibition information at lib.uiowa.edu/gallery

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