

OFF THE SHELF

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University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire



"Everybody who was serious, I met in the library." For Susan Goeters Bradshaw, a UW-Eau Claire student in the mid-1980s, memories of McIntyre Library evoke both a place and

people. She recalls studying regularly with her cross-country teammates in study rooms. "It was quiet and private and fun," she writes.

We were curious about library connections that students made over the years - with people and with spaces, so we asked for your stories in the previous issue of *Off the Shelf*. We received responses spanning generations of students. Some recalled most vividly their favorite study spots. For others, the library was where they connected with people, and some even found unexpected connections to the library profession.

A student in the early 1970s, Ruth Hunt spent a lot of time in the library, researching debate and forensics topics. Her favorite spot was a quiet study carrel with "a stack of finds next to me." She spent so much time in the library, in fact, that people thought she worked there. Initially she explained that she wasn't staff but eventually just rolled with it and helped the other students find their resources.

In addition to self-appointed library staff, actual former library student employees shared stories of connections they made in the library.

Lexie (Warren) Lucast '20, met a classmate while she was working at the library front desk. They became good friends, and "fast forward to 2025, I am a proud godmother of his son who was born in April! I have deep gratitude to the library," Lexie writes, "for not only employing me for four years, but giving me the gift of friendship and love to a (fingers crossed) future Blugold, Class of 2047!"



Students come to McIntyre Library for its resources, staff, and space to study, but it's also led to connections that alumni have remembered well after graduation.

Amaya Millard '25, also a McIntyre Library student employee, had a favorite spot on the fifth floor, hidden behind the bookshelves. "So quiet and peaceful." A library co-worker became her best friend and bridesmaid for her wedding.

For some, time spent in the library connected them with their future careers.

Barbara Benisch Sisolak '91, shares that the most important connection she made in the library was with the space itself. She liked studying in the old Reserves reading room, in what is now offices on the first floor of Vicki Lord Larson Hall. After graduating, she earned her master's degree in library and information studies, and "had a wonderful career as an academic librarian."

Similarly, Dardi Sizemore Mixon credits McIntyre Library with connecting her to a career in libraries. A student in the 1990s, she lived off campus and would often study (or sleep) on one of the

upper floors of the library on class days. As a history major, she did an internship with then library archivist, Larry Lynch. Within a month, she knew she'd found her calling, went on to earn double master's degrees in history and library science from UW-Milwaukee, and has been a university archivist for 26 years.

George Affeldt, a graduate student in the mid-1970s, also wrote about the impact of librarians. He credits librarian Cleo Powers with being "the connection between grad students, curriculum, professors and place." George was one of a group of graduate students that met regularly in library study rooms. The students encouraged and critiqued each other in their work, even having buttons made that read, "Work Hard, Play Hard" and "Better to Wear Out Than Rust Out."

During these same years - and perhaps leaning into the "play hard" sentiment - another student, Dean, reports going to the library to meet girls because "we wanted to meet the smart ones." The fifth floor was his regular spot, "but if

there were no girls there, we would go down a floor."

Sometimes even leaning into the "work hard" ethos could lead to trouble, albeit good trouble.

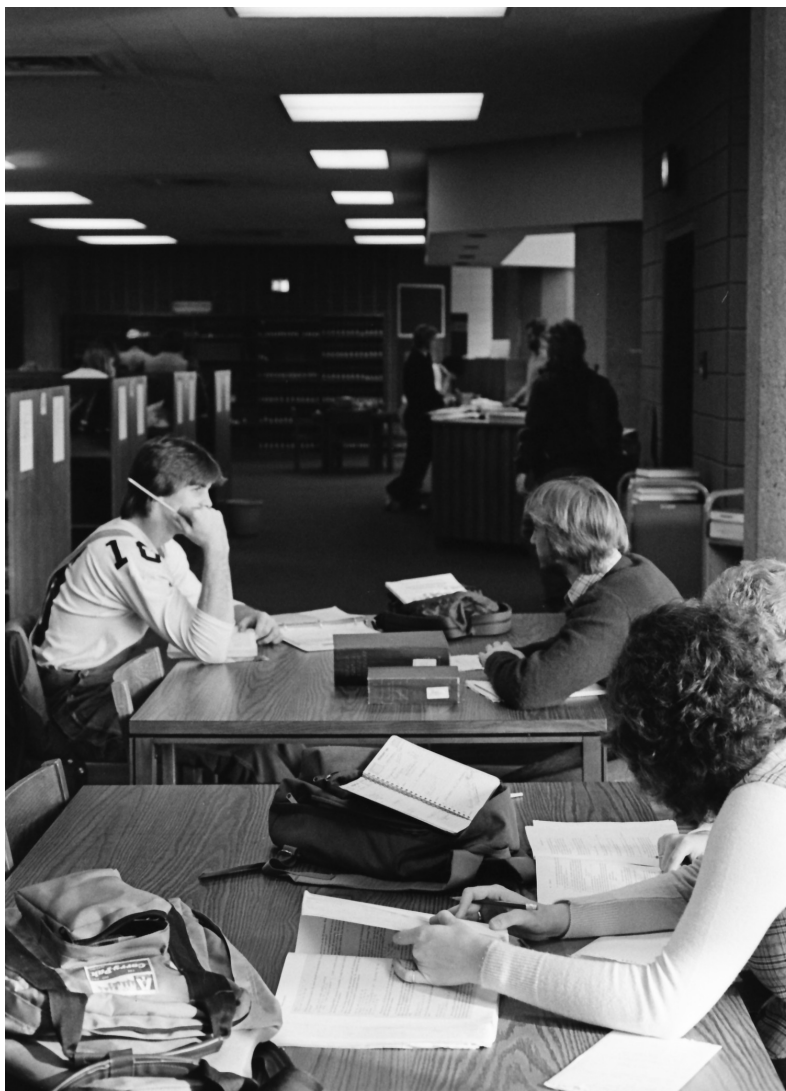
McIntyre Library stayed open 24 hours during finals week until 2019, resulting in many overnight antics, one of which Katie Haas recalls. In 2008, Katie and some friends decided that rather than hiking back to their dorm after a late night of studying before an early morning final exam, they would just sleep in a library study room. They used a Band-Aid to keep the door from locking after they turned in the study room key, having exceeded the two-hour room limit, only to be discovered at 6:00 a.m. by campus security. A self-described good and studious kid, Katie was so worried that she called her father. "Call me back when you get into some real trouble," was his advice.

Sometimes "work hard" and "play hard" were roommates. In the 1980s, Maureen would go to the library with her roommate, "a rambunctious red-headed organic-chem major who loved jazz and theater...a smoker and also a genius." While her roommate sprawled out in the library smoking lounge, casually leafing through chemistry books with a cigarette, Maureen studied in a cubicle on the other side of the glass. "Mo, are you done yet?" Red would mouth through the glass, always the first to be done with studying and ready to go for a night-cap and free popcorn. Afterwards they would walk home together, chat about their days, and wonder about their futures. "Long days," reminisces Maureen, "but good ones."

For generations McIntyre Library has been a place where friendships grew, romances sparked, and favorite study spots became parts of personal history.

Jill Markgraf

Jill Markgraf,
Director of Libraries



Left: The library has long been a spot for studying as well as camaraderie among students, as seen in this 1981 archival photo.

Below: McIntyre Library's After Dark event, held the first day of the fall semester, brings students together over games, karaoke, and other activities.





Left: *Blugold Makerspace aficionado Hunter Martin had been a regular user of the creative space in the library prior to earning a job there.*

Right: *Rachael Singer attributes fielding unexpected queries at the Main Desk to helping her personal and professional growth.*

Quite the pair

Donor boost allows library to give two student worker scholarships

By **Andrew Dowd**, dowdal@uwec.edu

For his sixth birthday party, Hunter Martin had just one place in mind for the occasion – his hometown’s public library.

“This made perfect sense to my child brain – I already spent so much time there on a near-daily basis, walking the stacks of the children’s section on the hunt for new books, why not have my birthday there, too?” he recalled.

It was the first time this library in Elgin, Ill., got a request to host a birthday party, but the staff was glad to accommodate him – as long as the party’s food stayed in a meeting room.

Hunter remembered that during the party, he stood on a chair, held up a completed scavenger hunt card, and shouted “I love the library the most!”

His passion for libraries continued when he got to college, discovering not only McIntyre Library, but also the Blugold Makerspace in the building’s lower level where he quickly became a regular.

“Even before I was hired, the Blugold Makerspace was one of my favorite places to spend my free time between classes,” Hunter said.

The Makerspace noticed Hunter and hired him in spring 2022.

Brad Gehrke, one of McIntyre Library’s full-time staff who helps run the Makerspace, attested to the talents and mindset that make Hunter a valuable member of the team.

“Hunter’s technical skill made him an immediate asset, but it is his natural creativity and curiosity that have truly established him as a core member of our community,” Gehrke said. “He consistently thinks on his feet and adapts quickly while supporting the diverse projects that come through our doors.”

Hunter, who continues to work at the Makerspace and leads some workshops, will graduate this semester with a bachelor’s degree in music education with a choral emphasis. He is one of the winners of this year’s McIntyre Library Student Employee Scholarship.

This is the first time the library has awarded not one, but two \$500 scholarships to its student workers.

Jill Markgraf, UW-Eau Claire’s director of libraries, said giving a second scholarship was made possible by the UW-Eau Claire Foundation and the generosity of library staff and McIntyre’s supporters. While numerous donors contributed to the scholarships, Markgraf highlighted a matching grant from a retired university faculty member for the recent boost in giving. Professor emerita Sally Webb, a longtime scholarship effort supporter, offered a \$1,000 matching grant on Giving Tuesday in fall 2025. Other donors quickly met the challenge, doubling Webb’s contribution and then going beyond to further strengthen the scholarship fund.

In fall, library student workers were invited to apply for the scholarships by writing an essay. A three-person panel of full-time library employees selected the two winners and notified them in December.

Along with Hunter, the panel chose

Rachael Singer as this year's second scholarship winner.

In her scholarship essay, Rachael recalled the anxiety when the library phone rang when she was hired in Fall 2024.

"When I was first hired at McIntyre Library, I treated the Main Desk phone like it was wired to explode," she wrote.

She'd gladly take on other tasks - aiding patrons in-person, returning books, equipment maintenance - but would defer to seasoned colleagues when someone called. That changed, though, with practice and as her confidence grew.

"With consistent guidance from the McIntyre team, I started seeing these conversations as puzzles; the patron had some pieces, I had others, and together, we discovered solutions," Rachael wrote.

Now she races to pick up the receiver when the phone rings.

Rachael's supervisors noticed the professional growth she's shown at work.

"Rachael began as a smart and empathetic worker with an enthusiasm for learning," recalls Erin Kriener-Franz, the library's equipment checkout and desk supervisor. "In her time here she has grown in confidence, further strengthening her interpersonal skills (in interacting with library users and collaborating with her colleagues), and is a great library advocate."

In addition to a solid work ethic, Rachael's supervisors spotted her ability to mentor and lead fellow students. That prompted her to be promoted to one of the library's student leads - a group of Main Desk workers who supervise fellow student employees and are entrusted with numerous tasks and projects.

"The endless support of fellow McIntyre Library staff has allowed me to swap my skittish shell for a firm foundation as a reliable leader who directs with patience, curiosity, and authenticity," Rachael wrote.

Rachael, who hails from Green Bay, is a third-year student. She is double-majoring in psychology and English. After she graduates from UW-Eau Claire, Rachael anticipates getting her master's degree in the future. For her career, she intends to be a clinical mental health counselor. ■

Who's on first?

Spring brings art exhibits to main floor



Above: Olivia Villareal-Bishop, a graduating senior majoring in visual arts with a Latin American studies minor, gave an artist talk at the library on March 11 about her solo exhibit, *Textile Testimonials*, which was on display on the first floor during March. **Below:** Cedar Marie, associate professor in Art + Design, shared her students' final *Mid Century Modern Tables and Clocks* in an exhibit at the library earlier in the semester. **Bottom:** Art 312 instructor Ellen Mahaffy, a professor of Communication and Journalism, shared her students' final infographics during winter in the library's living room.



Maker, trainer, equipment master

Erin Kriener-Franz's talents aid Main Desk, Makerspace



By **Anna Zook**, zookam@uwec.edu

Nearly every hour of every day at the Main Desk of McIntyre Library employees behind the counter are hit with a variation on a question about whether we have a piece of equipment to check out.

Do we have a lightning charger? Yes.

Can I check out a laptop? Yes.

A mirrorless camera, Blu-Ray/DVD player, smartphone gimbal, graphing calculator, and a portable sound system? The answer to all, a resounding yes.

Seldom is a student's request for equipment met with a no, because the library's [Student Equipment Checkout](#) pool is curated, managed, and maintained by the ever thoughtful and talented Erin Kriener-Franz.

An integral staff member at McIntyre Library since 2014, Erin's journey to her position as equipment manager and desk supervisor began five years earlier when she was hired as a student employee. She juggles multiple roles from her office behind the Main Desk, including the supervision of 19 students (a task she shares with her equally talented and wonderful partner in crime, Jenna Vande Zande).

Without Erin's efforts to create accessible training documentation in multiple formats to reach a variety of learning styles, the equipment might not have the requisite batteries, charging cables, or accessories. It's not just the students who benefit from Erin's expertise and training modules in Canvas and Teams. Faculty and staff members who work behind the desk must also be vetted by the

Canvas quizzes and in-person trainings and prove their mettle when it comes to checking out equipment and other library materials. Students *and* staff greeting our patrons from behind the desk are always improving on their approachability, professionalism, and responsiveness, because Erin is always working behind the scenes to improve our patrons' experience and make the library an inclusive space where everyone feels welcome.

When asked to describe what she sees as one of the biggest changes at the library from her time as a student employee, she notes that the "core mission of providing quality service has always been there, but the flexibility in the method of doing so has been the biggest change," further noting that McIntyre is "less centered on maintaining for the sake of tradition," but rather "moving towards experimenting to ensure the best library experience for all."

One of the ways Erin keeps our equipment pool on point is by listening to the students visiting the library, asking questions about their assignments and what types of technology will improve their lives, while also keeping an eye on social media and trends in higher education. She regularly monitors our question tracking database, Gimlet, for requested equipment the library doesn't offer. Erin views the out-of-the-ordinary requests "as a compliment to our service - it means people see the library as a place that has whatever they need, even if it's something we don't have at the time."

Her current favorite piece of equipment available for checkout? Our portable monitors, which afford users the opportunity to turn their single monitors into a two-monitor set up.



Left: Erin Kriener-Franz trains and supervises student employees at the Main Desk, as well as managing the library's collection of equipment. **Above left:** Erin creates digital art, including this bookshelf full of McIntyre Library "Easter eggs." **Above right:** In her off hours, Erin also spends time as a talented maker. She made this quilt for her parents' 40th wedding anniversary. **Below:** Erin is one of the library's experts on operating the laser engraver, as well as other equipment in the Blugold Makerspace.

But Erin isn't just an expert equipment manager and supervisor, keeping us stocked in charging cables, laptops, cameras, umbrellas, and hammocks (yes, we have umbrellas and hammocks!), and ensuring the best possible experience for our patrons. She also is a creative maker who uses her talents to craft some of the iconic designs you see around the desk and in the Blugold Makerspace.

From seasonal stickers featuring Artie, the skeleton students can check out for anatomy, to a digital bookshelf with hidden "Easter eggs," Erin's cleverness and humor are frequently put to great effect through designs and objects that bring joy to their beholders. While she enjoys creating Canvas trainings because they blend her love for education, graphic design, video editing, and writing (she graduated

from UW-Eau Claire with a bachelor's degree in English education), her light shines so brightly when she is incorporating her love of making and finding ways to connect with other passionate makers on campus.

For Erin, the Makerspace isn't just about one thing or intended for one type of maker. She embraces the equitable nature of the space, noting that there are valuable tools and resources for all makers, no matter how tech savvy or what their level of expertise may be. Members of the Makerspace team frequently host workshops for the community, and Erin has hosted many of them, from hand lettering to creating original patches. She is also one of our resident experts on creating digital files on the laser engraver. Next time you visit the space, ask to see the original piece she designed to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Makerspace in the fall of 2023. Her touch is visible in every corner of the Makerspace, and she further lends her talents to our Digital Studio spaces, embracing the interconnectivity of making digitally and physically, sharing that, "as a maker, learning new technologies (digital illustration, sublimation, laser engraving, etc.) has opened up so many possibilities for my own projects. I would love to see more opportunities for the arts and technology to blend together for our makers as well."

For someone whose favorite motto is "everything is figureoutable," Erin has a penchant for viewing obstacles as opportunities rather than problems. She's always tinkering with something, trying to figure out the best way to use the tools and materials we have in our spaces. ■



Sexual assault survivors share their stories

By **Helena Sumbulla**, sumbullh@uwec.edu

In honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), McIntyre Library is hosting an exhibit throughout April titled *What They Were Wearing: A Collection of Survivor Stories*. The exhibit, on display on the first floor of the library, marks a collaboration with multiple partners, including It's On Us, a student organization dedicated to sexual assault education and survivor support, [UW-Eau Claire's Counseling Services](#), the [Center for Awareness of Sexual Assault \(CASA\)](#), and Dr. Mia Kelly, a faculty member in the [Criminal Justice](#) department.

When survivors of sexual violence disclose their stories, they are often asked, "What were you wearing?" as if clothing determines consent. This exhibit fights back against rape myths and victim-blaming by displaying originals and re-creations of the clothing survivors were wearing when they were assaulted, demonstrating that someone's clothing does not equate to their consent. Various art pieces (i.e., collages, paintings, sculptures, etc.) also are on display.

There was an opening reception with light refreshments at the library on the evening of Tuesday, April 7. Attendees got the chance to hear about the exhibit from the organizers as well as learn about an opportunity to participate in a larger community art project.

To conclude SAAM, McIntyre Library will host a denim mending workshop on Denim Day, Wednesday, April 29, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the library's lower level. Makerspace and mending expert Jenna Vande Zande will be assessing denim pieces and guiding attendees on how to mend them. Feel free to bring a piece you have been meaning to fix. This workshop is open to everyone.

Denim Day occurs annually on the last Wednesday in April in honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Month to practice solidarity with survivors by demonstrating a commitment to exposing harmful behaviors and attitudes surrounding sexual violence. For more information on Denim Day, please see: [Why Denim? – Denim Day](#).

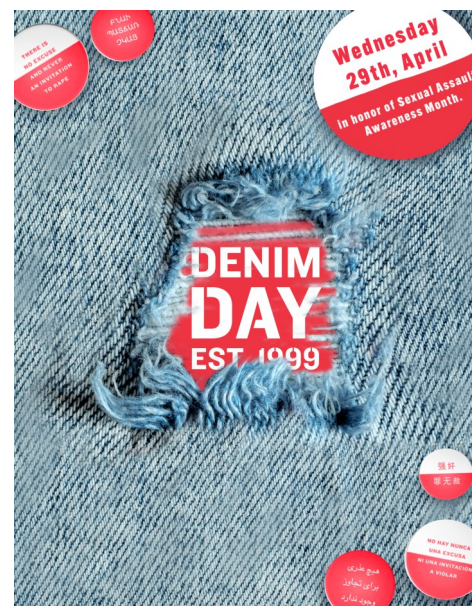
We hope to see you at one of our events for this exhibition! ■

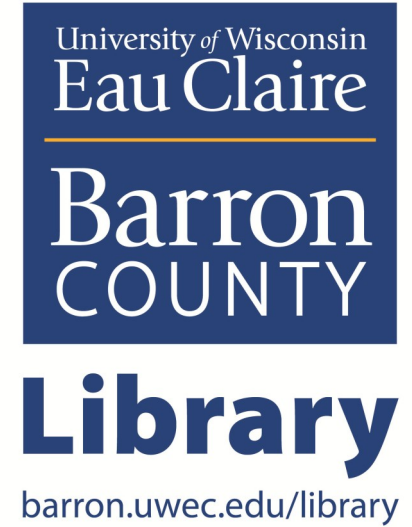
WHAT THEY WERE WEARING:
A Collection of Survivor Stories

On Display in McIntyre Library: April 1ST - April 30TH / **Exhibit Opening Reception:** Tuesday | April 7TH | 5:30 – 7^{PM}

Above: Multiple campus organizations are collaborating on an exhibit to educate about sexual violence through survivors' stories, clothing, and art pieces.

Right: McIntyre Library's Blugold Makerspace will host a mending workshop in observance of Denim Day on April 29.





Library showcases 60th

By **Jennifer Duvall**, duvallja@uwec.edu

This year the UW-Eau Claire – Barron County campus celebrates its 60th anniversary, and the library has been enlisted to create both physical and digital archival exhibits to provide students and visitors with the history of our institution.

Our campus was the first planned two-year college campus in the UW System and was originally a branch campus of UW-Stout. Since its opening, UWEC-BC has seen many changes, and approaching exhibits for the anniversary was a challenge. We chose topics that would be of interest to students, staff, faculty, and the community, so we planned four topics to be represented in the four physical exhibits in our main building: In the Beginning, The Arts, Campus Life, and Academics.

Our four student workers were instrumental to this process and their input and assistance during the planning and creation of the physical exhibits made it possible. They each said that they enjoyed working on the project and felt that they gained something from their participation:

Aspen: Working on the 60th has been kind of fun, I think! The whole thing started as kind of a concept to me, but as the pieces came together, I saw the vision! Plus, all the different tasks have given me a whole new set of skills, which I find helpful.

Julia: For the 60th, I went through our archived theatre photos and picked what I thought best showcased our



Four library student workers help create anniversary exhibits.

drama program. I think my favorite part was looking at how much theatre has changed over the years.

Ned: In preparation for our campus' 60th anniversary, I worked on multiple projects. I identified useful documents and photos that could be used, helped to create some of the foam-board cut-outs, and assisted in setting up the displays. One of my favorite activities I got to work on was researching and writing a summary on the history of higher education in Barron County. This included reading newspaper articles and committee meeting write-ups. I especially enjoyed looking at the earliest yearbooks, some of which had great information that really helped make sense of the early stages of our campus.

Molly: I enjoyed helping with the 60th project. I was curious to see the old pictures of UWEC-BC campus, which was so interesting! I chose some of the pictures to add to the exhibits and helped set them up. ■

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

All titles can be found in the Popular Reading Collection on the second floor of McIntyre Library.

List curated by **Carrie Butler Becker**, beckercb@uwec.edu

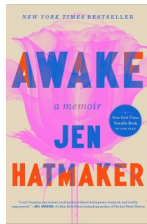
Atmosphere: A Love Story

Taylor Jenkins Reid
PS3618.E5478 A94 2025



Awake: A Memoir

Jen Hatmaker
HQ834 .H367 2025



Boleyn Traitor

Philippa Gregory
PR6057.R386 B653 2025

Buckeye: A Novel

Patrick Ryan
PS3618.Y336 B83 2025

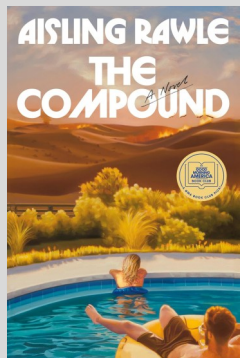
Bury Our Bones in the Midnight Soil

Victoria Schwab
PS3619.C4848 B87 2025

The Compound: A Novel

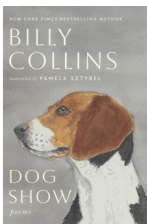
Aisling Rawle
PR6118.A5226 C66 2025

Lily wakes up on a remote desert compound with 19 other contestants in a hugely popular reality TV show. They compete in challenges for minor niceties and the players start forming intimate bonds. But show producers keep raising the stakes, leading Lily to ask how far she's willing to go to win?



Dog Show: Poems

Billy Collins
PS3553.O47478 D64 2025



The Everlasting

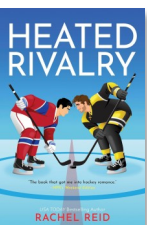
Alix E. Harrow
PS3608.A783854 E84 2025

Heart the Lover: A Novel

Lily King
PS3561.I4814 H43 2025

Heated Rivalry

Rachel Reid
PR9199.4.R4567 H43 2024



The Impossible Fortune

Richard Osman
PR6115.S58 I66 2025

Improbable Mentors & Happy Tangents: How Firefighters and Poets, Truckers and Nurses, Soldiers and Singers, and Other Improbable Individuals Can Show You the Way in Business and Creativity

Michael Perry
BF637.M45 P47 2025

Rural Wisconsin writer Michael Perry passes along some life lessons he learned from people with unexpected wisdom.



Isola: A Novel

Allegra Goodman
PS3557.O5829 I86 2025

Katabasis: A Novel

R. F. Kuang
PS3611.U17 K38 2025

The Loneliness of Sonia and Sunny: A Novel

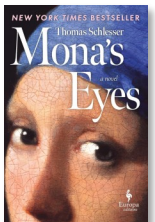
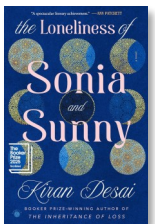
Kiran Desai
PS3554.E82 L66 2025

Mate

Ali Hazelwood
PS3608.A98845 M38 2025

Mona's Eyes

Thomas Schlessler
PQ2719.C438 Y3413 2025



Murder on the Marlow Belle: A Novel

Robert Thorogood
PR6120.H6775 M87 2025

The Other Bennet Sister: A Novel

Janice Hadlow
PR6108.A354 O84 2021

Queen Esther: A Novel

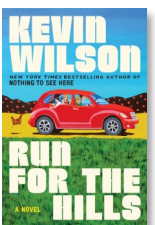
John Irving
PS3559.R8 Q44 2025

The River Is Waiting: A Novel

Wally Lamb
PS3562.A433 R58 2025

Run for the Hills: A Novel

Kevin Wilson
PS3623.I58546 R86 2025



Say You'll Remember Me

Abby Jimenez
PS3610.I47 S29 2025

**Shadow Ticket**

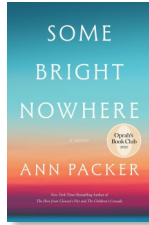
Thomas Pynchon
PS3566.Y55 S48 2025

She's Not Sorry

Mary Kubica
PS3611.U23 S54 2025

Some Bright Nowhere: A Novel

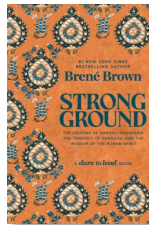
Ann Packer
PS3616.A33 S66 2025

**Startlement: New and Selected Poems**

Ada Limón
PS3612.I496 S73 2025

Strong Ground: The Lessons of Daring Leadership, the Tenacity of Paradox, and the Wisdom of the Human Spirit

Brené Brown
HD57.7 .B7645 2025

**Ebooks and Audiobooks via Libby**

Available to UWEC faculty, staff, and students.

The Bewitching

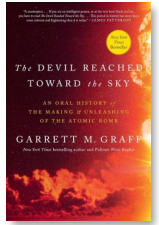
(audiobook)
Silvia Moreno-Garcia

**The Book of Lost Hours: A Novel**

(audiobook)
Hayley Gelfuso

The Devil Reached Toward the Sky: An Oral History of the Making & Unleashing of the Atomic Bomb

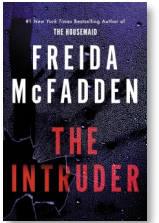
(audiobook)
Garrett M. Graff

**Heartwood: A Novel**

(audiobook)
Amity Gaige

The Intruder

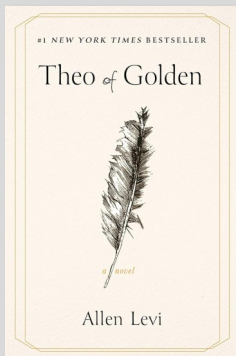
(audiobook)
Freida McFadden

**The Knight and the Moth**

(audiobook)
Rachel Gillig

The Land of Sweet Forever: Stories and Essays

(audiobook)
Harper Lee

**Theo of Golden**

Allen Levi
PS3612.E9236 T46 2025

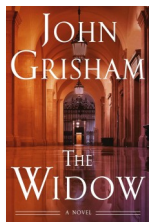
A newcomer to town begins meeting the denizens of Golden by reuniting them with their portraits, which were drawn by a local artist. As Theo meets residents, he learns their histories and develops relationships with them. The novel explores community, creativity, and small acts of kindness.

What We Can Know: A Novel

Ian McEwan
PR6063.C4 W47 2025

The Widow

John Grisham
PS3557.R5355 W53 2025

**Wreck: A Novel**

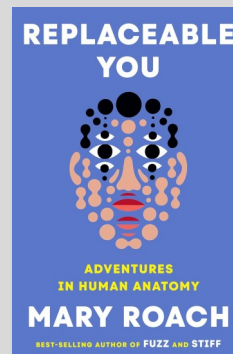
Catherine Newman
PS3614.E6217 W74 2025

The Zorg: A Tale of Greed and Murder that Inspired the Abolition of Slavery

Siddharth Kara
HT1031 .K37 2025

Replaceable You: Adventures in Human Anatomy

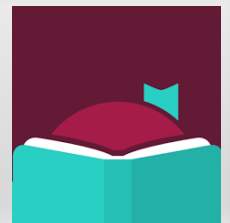
(audiobook)
Mary Roach



From a stay in a vintage iron lung to cutting-edge efforts to 3D-print living tissue, author Mary Roach takes a rollicking and accessible look at what doctors and scientists do to replicate human body parts.

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All about the art

Michelle McMahon
made 8 exhibits, tied
pieces to pop albums,
cleaned many works

By **Anna Zook**, zookam@uwec.edu

In the spring of 2024, Greg Kocken and Anna Zook interviewed Michelle McMahon, an Integrative Visual Arts BFA major, for a Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates position funded by the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs at UW-Eau Claire. The two-month position was requested to digitize pieces from UW-Eau Claire's Permanent Art Collection, but more importantly, create curated exhibits to promote and contextualize the collection for a broader audience. With more work to do with the collection after those two months, she was hired on as a regular student worker.

When interviewed for this edition of *Off the Shelf*, Michelle shared that prior to that spring 2024 meeting, she didn't know the PAC existed. Fast forward nearly two years, eight plus exhibits, and dozens of trips across campus to view pieces in the collection, she can speak about the artists, their mediums, the impact the collection has on this campus, and the work required to maintain, organize, and promote a nearly 800-piece collection of art. To explore some of



Michelle's exhibits and favorite artists in the library's online [Campus Art Collection](#) site, please use the hyperlinks throughout the interview.

Why did you want to work with the PAC?

I wanted to work with the PAC because I thought it was a wonderful opportunity to utilize my art background with this research project. It was also something that I didn't know much about, so I thought it would be a fun experience learning about something new!

What are the skills you've learned while working on the PAC for the past two years?

I've gained a lot of skills while working on the PAC, such as curating exhibitions, building digital exhibits through Omeka, and overall, gaining more insight into behind-the-scenes work it takes to manage an art collection.

Who are some of your favorite artists in the collection?

Some of my favorite artists in the collection include [Jean Stamsta](#), [Paul Granlund](#), [Anders Shafer](#), [Warrington Colescott](#), [Gladys Nilsson](#), and [Joseph Solman](#).

Have you seen any of those artists at other galleries?

I was able to go on the Art + Design Department's New York immersion trip last spring break and while at The Met. I specifically remember seeing a D'Arcangelo painting that I only recognized due to the [D'Arcangelo paintings](#) in UWEC's Permanent Art Collection. It was a really cool experience to see artists we have in our collection hanging in massive museums.

What's your favorite thing about working with the collection?

I love discovering new artworks within our collection while working! Further, getting to research the artists and their work and curate exhibits based on my research has also been a highlight! Doing some of the more physical work of moving artwork around, setting up our storage room, and locating artwork has felt very rewarding.

What's been the most difficult thing about working with the collection?

Figuring out how to best organize all of our pieces that are in the storage room.

What are some opportunities you've had because of working with the PAC?

I got the opportunity to speak about my research and work with the PAC at UWEC's Honors Symposium last spring which was such a (nerve-racking but) rewarding experience. Preparing for that presentation and getting to share the work I'd done with others made all the progress we've made with the collection feel so much more tangible.

Of all the exhibits you've created for the digital side of the PAC, which one is your favorite?

I have two favorite exhibits that I've made for our digital website for the PAC. I really enjoyed creating the exhibit on [Warrington Colecott](#) because he has a unique style and I was able to find a lot of information about individual pieces that we have in our collection. I also loved getting to create [the brat exhibit](#), based on Charli xcx's album. It started as just an experiment to figure out how to use the Omeka software, but eventually I made it into an actual exhibit. It was super fun to try and tie modern songs with pieces in our collection.

Are you working on any new exhibits?

I'm currently working on finishing up two exhibits; the first is about artists in our collection who were involved with the WPA (the New Deal's Works Progress Administration) and the second is reimagining musical artist Chappell Roan's debut album "The Rise and Fall of a Midwest Princess" with pieces from our PAC.

How many pieces of art do you think you've cleaned in this position?

Hundreds!
I think we've cleaned almost every piece that's hanging up inside McIntyre Library and Centennial Hall, and have started cleaning other pieces in Schofield Hall, the nursing building, and pieces in our library storage room. In total, I'd say at least half the collection which is about 400 pieces! But it's been a

group effort between me, Anna, and Eva!

Which building on campus, outside of McIntyre Library, has art you send people to see (if they aren't regulars to that building)?

Centennial Hall has a lot of beautiful artwork throughout the building. They have a lot of [Jean Stamsta](#) pieces in particular, which are very colorful and brighten up the space!

What is your favorite sculpture?

My favorite sculpture is [Sprites](#) by Paul Granlund. I think it adds so much life to the outdoor section of campus.

What's your favorite painting? Where is it located?

One of my favorite paintings is [The Red Bow](#) by Joseph Solman, hanging in Vicki Lord Larson Hall. I also love [St. Petersburg](#) by Emil Glocar, located in the library!

In your opinion, what are some of the hidden gems of the collection?

I think the [Tiit Raid](#) paintings in the main library stairwell are wonderful and have so much texture and character. Students might miss out on them if they only take the elevator.

Anything else you'd like people to know about the collection?

If you ever need a break from studying, take a walk around the library or any campus building and appreciate the beautiful artwork this university has!

What do you wish for the collection after you graduate?

I hope our digital catalog continues to expand, and we can get photographs of every artwork uploaded to the PAC website. Additionally, I hope it gets more acknowledgement in general; it is a wonderful collection of artwork that adds a lot to our campus, both visually and academically, yet I don't think a lot of people are even

aware of it! Lastly, with more time and money, I'd love to see our PAC storage room get the proper equipment to store our pieces more effectively.

What are you going to miss the most about working with the PAC after graduation?

I will most miss getting to work with Anna and Eva on the PAC after graduation. They have made this experience such an enjoyable opportunity and have helped me through all the learning curves I went through when starting this project.

When asked for comment, PAC Manager Eva Peterson and Arts Librarian Anna Zook concurred that Michelle's work with the PAC, both in-person and digitally, has greatly improved the visibility of art and artists featured in the collection. Her imagination, creativity, and hard work breathed new life into the collection, and they are grateful to have had a continued opportunity to work with Michelle beyond the initial summer research experience.

Michelle's upcoming exhibits on the WPA artists represented in the PAC and artworks that can help listeners reimagine Chappell Roan's 2025 album will be published on the Campus Art Collection website in April.

When Michelle isn't at the library working on digital exhibits or tackling the best ways to store and manage the physical art, she enjoys trips to Half Moon Lake, tackling homework at Racy's coffee lounge, and finding hidden treasures at local consignment shop The Attic.

As an artist, her preferred medium is oil painting, but she also loves colored pencils, collage, and oil pastels. Readers will be able to view Michelle's work, depicting her journey as an artist from childhood to today, in the [Bachelor of Fine Arts Senior Exhibition](#) at the Ruth Foster Gallery in the Haas Fine Arts Building on Water Street from April 24 until May 10. ■



EC REPAIR FAIR

SAT, APRIL 18TH | 10 AM - 4 PM

UWEC SONNENTAG CENTER FREE EVENT

Made possible by the **WILS** Ideas to Action Fund

Blugold Makerspace

McIntyre Library



**EARTH 2026
FEST 26**

EAU CLAIRE, WI

**SATURDAY
APRIL 18TH**

10 AM - 4 PM

**THE SONNENTAG
EAU CLAIRE, WI**



Event Info

Repair Fair collabs with others for Earth Fest

By **Blugold Makerspace staff**, library.makerspace@uwec.edu

Join us for year two of the Eau Claire Repair Fair!

To reach an even bigger audience, the Blugold Makerspace has partnered with many local organizations to bring the Chippewa Valley a new collaborative event called [Earth Fest 2026](#). This event brings together experts and organizations who are passionate about sustainability, and eco-friendly products and services.

Attendees can enjoy a vendor

marketplace, workshops, field trips, and activities for people of all ages - including the EC Repair Fair! Earth Fest and the EC Repair Fair are FREE and open to everyone.

At the EC Repair Fair, experts will be available to teach and demo things like: darning, visible mending, soldering, basic electronics repair, lamp rewiring, DIY patches and basic clothing repair, and a stuffed animal hospital for our furry friends. Bring

an item to repair or learn with our provided materials.

Staffed by members of the McIntyre Library Blugold Makerspace and local experts, Denise DeGidio ([Metal + Wool](#)), Aaron Zook, and Cassie Pearson. Activities available and open to all ages! (but we ask that makers 8 and younger attend with a trusted adult).

The EC Repair Fair is sponsored by the WILS Ideas to Action fund and McIntyre Library. ■



Open Hours Spring 2026

Monday - Friday 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday only 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Sunday Noon - 4:00 p.m.

Upcoming Makerspace workshops

By **Blugold Makerspace staff**, library.makerspace@uwec.edu

Our Makerspace student staffers are sharing their expertise through multiple workshops this spring. No prior experience is required for those attending these workshops.

These workshops are open to all UWEC students, and

individual faculty and staff members by presenting a Blugold ID when entering the Makerspace.

Groups of UWEC employees should contact the Makerspace in advance for pricing and scheduling ■

Custom Laser-Engraved Metal Cards



Tuesdays
April 7 & 21
4:00-5:00 p.m.

Collage Bookmarks

Wednesdays
April 8, 15, 22 & 29
5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.



DIY Felt Plushies or Keychains

Fridays
April 10, 17 & 24
11:00 a.m.-Noon



Macrame Keychains

Thursdays
April 9 & 23
2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.



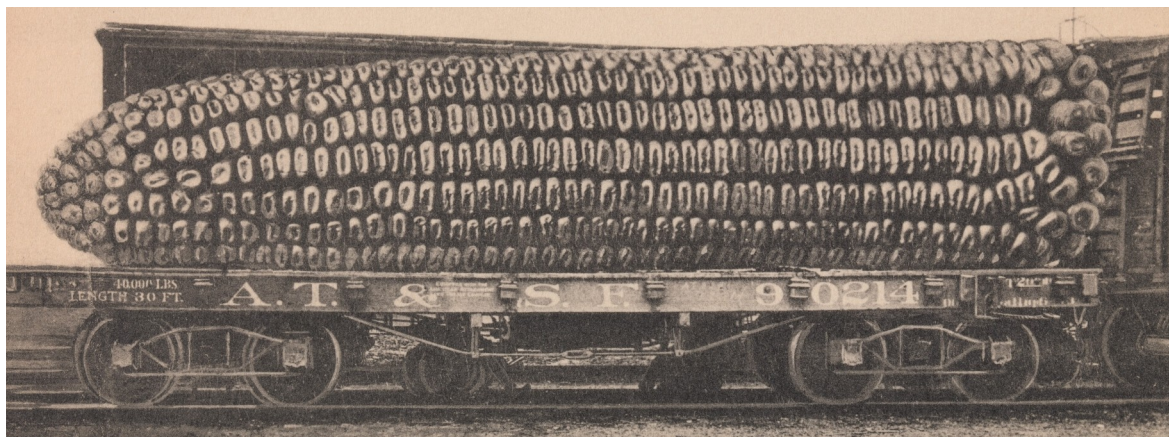
Bead Stitch Basics

Sundays
April 12, 19 & 26
1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.



Shrinky Dinks

Thursdays
April 16 & 30
2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.



George B. Cornish created this image of a giant corn cob using trick photography techniques from over a century ago. Modern artificial intelligence has made it much easier and quicker to create photo-realistic fake images. Detecting AI fabrications requires a flexible mindset.

Seeing is ... believing?

Tools help detect AI, but fakes keep improving

By **Kate Hinnant**, hinnanks@uwec.edu

In 2016, there was a significant uptick in the amount of disinformation that accompanied that year's presidential election. Numerous newsrooms and social media platforms met the moment by introducing fact-checking features. These were intended to help their audience determine the veracity of notable political statements, memes, and even photographs.

A decade later, many media companies have discontinued their regular fact checking for either policy or financial reasons. But in 2026, we find ourselves in another moment of crisis: the proliferation of generative AI. Photos and videos created or manipulated by generative AI have increased on the internet, in magazines, and even some news sources.

Deceptive photography has been around since the beginning of the medium. "[A Car Load of Texas Corn](#)" by George B. Cornish was composed in 1910. Part of the Metropolitan Museum of Art's exhibit, [Faking It: Manipulated Photography before Photoshop](#), the giant corn on the cob is composed of realistic components, but undercut by its fantastical dimensions. It's hard to believe that anyone took this photo seriously, which is different from our current image manipulations. For

example, revenge porn generated using X's generative AI tool Grok appears (mostly) true to life for making its nefarious purpose effective. Deepfakes, as they are called, look deceptively real, and unlike yesteryear's Photoshopped images, take just seconds to create.

The question becomes not just how can we believe our eyes, but also how will we know not to? The problem with teaching students and others tips on detection is that advice on recognizing images created with AI has a really short shelf life. You may hear "look for extra fingers" or "check for where the walls don't meet the ceiling," but those are current errors that will probably be fixed by better algorithms in the near future.

AI detection tools, often created by the same companies that create the AI generation tools, are getting better at sussing out what is AI or what is real, but are not comprehensively accurate. A recent comparison by the [New York Times](#) found that most detection tools were able to identify simple fakes, but more complex images confounded them. Additionally, while different tools were better at pinpointing generated audio, none handled video well. Detection tools should improve over time, but is it likely that the public will be deploying them on a routine basis?

So how do we teach students, peers, and the public how to evaluate the photos they see?

Visual literacy used to be about finding, interpreting, evaluating and creating images. Added to that skill set now may be "verifying" those images first. Even before AI, newsrooms had to have a system for verifying photos and videos. User-generated content, videos and photos taken by the public that capture sensational moments like building fires must be checked to make sure the person offering it didn't "scrape" or copy it from an existing image on the web. Recent images of explosions in the conflict in the Middle East have been flagged as out of context, because they were photos of a car accident that had been posted the week before the bombs.

Teaching awareness of AI images in our information landscape is the first step in a visual literacy lesson. Teaching verification is much harder. Extensive five- to seven-step processes for verifying images can be found readily on the web but may be too elaborate for most people. Checklists run the risk of falling out of date, like the ones created decades ago for websites that still get taught in some schools.

It is almost a certainty that more image verification news features will appear, like [BBC Verify](#), for the big fakes of national or international importance. Those will be great for awareness. But figuring out what is a simulation is going to require a lot of flexibility. We need to teach students that any specific strategies we teach are for now, not forever. ■



Join the banned

By **Helena Sumbulla** and **Kate Hinnant**,
sumbullh@uwec.edu and hinnanks@uwec.edu

In 2021, the number of book challenges in American libraries skyrocketed from 278 to 3,916, increasing 1,400% in the span of just one year.

The cause? Pressure groups and government entities entered the book challenge arena. Many of them were done protesting mandatory masking in schools during the pandemic and they were ready to take on the next cause. They came armed with sweeping lists that included the *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* and *The Handmaid's Tale*. Common themes emerged: LGBTQ+ characters, books that mention race/racism, broadly defined "sexual content" deemed age inappropriate.

These sweeping challenges and bans bubbled to nationwide attention with a case in McMinn County, Tennessee. The school board there voted 10-0 to remove Pulitzer Prize-winning author Art Spiegelman's book *Maus*, which was based on his parents' experiences in the Holocaust, from the middle school curriculum.

The context in which *Maus* was removed is typical of most book bans and challenges in the United States. Public school districts, serving minors almost exclusively, bear the brunt of book bans and challenges, though public libraries are not too far behind. While only 2% of books get challenged in higher education settings, as academic librarians, we continue to champion principles of intellectual freedom - the right of individuals to seek and receive information without viewpoint restriction.

Enter: McIntyre Library's Subversive Book Club. Formed in 2022 in the context of the McMinn County School Board vote, our book group's inaugural title was *Gender Queer* by Maia Kobabe, which is still the most challenged book in Wisconsin. That initial gathering, with around 20 students in attendance, was filled with vibrant conversation about reasons for book challenges/bans and surmises as to why *Gender Queer* is so heavily targeted. One student expressed gratitude at having a space to socialize with other readers coming out of COVID's isolation. Following that first meeting, we received a grant to order copies of *Maus* vol. 1 and vol. 2, which ended up being our next two book club titles.

Since 2022, we have read "Harrison Bergeron," *Bridge to Terabithia*, "The Lottery," *This One Summer*, *The Watchmen* vol. 1, *Persepolis*, *Fun Home*, *Blankets*, *The Color of Earth*, *They Called Us Enemy*, and a special reading of *Heated Rivalry* due to the TV show being banned in Russia - and we have no plans to stop.

Along the way, we learned to prioritize graphic novels to better accommodate college students' busy schedules. This worked well because graphic novels get uniquely challenged for not only text, but also their images. Censors do not need to read the book to point to an objectionable image, devoid of context. We also learned the importance of marketing the book club through various avenues: student newsletters, physical flyers, social media, campus calendars, and word of mouth.

Early on, we began to see our book club as a blueprint for other libraries who wanted to explore these books with their patrons by starting their own banned book club. We were already creating book questions that tackled issues relating to the why's of book banning, including the history of book suppression surrounding books relating to LGBTQ+, black, and brown characters. Our questions also addressed the books themselves, what moved us as readers and sometimes what didn't. Why not share our questions and our background information with other librarians to use and adapt?

Initially we considered combining our curriculum with small collections of the banned book that we recommended, so we could loan them to other libraries. But the financial cost of purchasing duplicates of each book title wound up being prohibitive. We pivoted to providing our curriculum online in the form of a [LibGuide](#) that contained both our questions and our background information.

To build on our list of books and related questions, we brought two students on board to help lead the book club and develop our curricular guide.

Through a student-faculty research grant, Scout McKnight, an illustration student, and Grace Schutte, an English student, joined our team. Both provided valuable insights into texts that students would be interested in reading as well as creative questions about the books that would get students engaged. Scout primarily contributed to the feel and design of the curricular LibGuide, and Grace did much of the historical research into book bans and challenges in the United States. At the end of the research period, we created a guide on the history of book bans and challenges, as well as information and guiding questions for five Subversive Book Club titles that can be used by any parent or educator.

Books are transporters into different worlds and viewpoints, as well as tools reflecting the reader back onto themselves. When books are removed from shelves or tucked away behind a library desk, the message to readers is that their identities are shameful or not worth learning about.

If you would like to donate to make challenged books accessible to our students, please fill out [this form](#) and indicate Subversive Book Club in the notes. ■



Robin Miller, left, is McIntyre Library's coordinator of its expansive collection of federal government documents. Cataloger Laurie Roach, right, has worked with the library's government documents since fall 1996.

Depository marks diamond anniversary

For 75 years, library has housed area's trove of federal government documents

By **Andrew Dowd**, dowdal@uwec.edu

For 75 years, McIntyre Library has provided access to thousands upon thousands of federal government documents to not only the university, but also to the Eau Claire area and beyond.

At what was then known as the Eau Claire State Teacher's College, the campus library in 1951 became part of the Federal Library Depository Program, taking on the responsibility to maintain a trove of official documents for the public to use.

"Depository libraries have had a historically important role in collecting and making that data available," said Robin Miller, who serves as McIntyre's depository coordinator as part of her position as associate director for library collections and scholar services.

Government statistics, law books, transcripts of congressional hearings, documents on government programs, official maps, and much more can be found in the collection currently housed on the first floor.

In recognition of UW-Eau Claire's longevity in the program, early this year the FDLP sent a 75th anniversary plaque to McIntyre Library.

Cataloger Laurie Roach has worked with McIntyre's government documents collection since October 1996. As countless papers on legislation, studies, federal programs, general information and more have crossed her desk, some stand out in her memory.

In particular, she remembers a set of World War II-era recipe cards for making meals in times of food rationing.

There are currently 1,089 Federal Depository Libraries in the U.S., according to the Government Publishing Office. The U.S. GPO produces and provides government documents to those libraries free of charge. But the libraries bear responsibilities to catalog, allocate staff, maintain, and keep the collections available to the general public. Here those duties are performed by Roach and Miller.

In Wisconsin, there are 19 FDLs. Two of them – UW-Madison's Memorial Library and the Milwaukee Public Library – are Regional FDLs. They take in all the documents produced by the GPO. But the remaining 17, including UW-Eau Claire and some other campus libraries, are selective FDLs.

There are some core must-have documents that FDLs must have, such as books with the current Code of Federal Regulations. But selective FDLs get flexibility on which optional documents they need in their collections.

"Selectives are able to make decisions based on the needs of their community," Miller said.

For example, McIntyre Library's collection includes numerous documents tied to the Native American tribes that lived in the Chippewa Valley.

How students in a variety of subjects could make use of

government information has also been used in deciding which documents to pursue.

Maps from the U.S. Geological Survey and Department of Interior have been used by students doing geology and geography course work. Historic dietary guidelines can come in handy for those studying nutrition and public health.

Public history students in Professor John Mann's History 386 course visited the library in March for an assignment on writing legislative histories.

Encountering rows of documents organized in a system of call numbers unique to them, can be daunting at first for undergraduates.

"Because students are not familiar with the way that government documents are organized, they are usually overwhelmed by this assignment initially," Mann notes about his students' initial reactions. "But by the end they find it worthwhile and rewarding."

He credits Miller, as well as her predecessor in the depository coordinator role, Leslie Foster, with helping him conduct this assignment in the library.

And for her part, Miller said that she'll often find something interesting when she helps patrons comb through the volumes of government documents.

"It can be very fascinating," she said. ■

Test yourself

Test your trivia knowledge with this short multiple-choice quiz. Answers are printed below.

1) Which of these government documents are real and can be found in McIntyre's collection?

- A) "Elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation: Are we doing enough?" – a transcript of a Senate subcommittee hearing
- B) "Let the zodiac wheel help steer you in the best direction" – a Chinese zodiac poster that discourages drinking and driving
- C) "Sprocketman" – a comic book that promotes bicycle repair and safety
- D) "Plane Clothes" – report by the Judiciary Committee on outfits worn by Federal Air Marshals

2) Which U.S. president signed into law the establishment of a Government Printing Office, thereby replacing the practice of contracting out to printing companies to print off copies of federal documents?

- A) Ulysses S. Grant
- B) Millard Fillmore
- C) James Buchanan
- D) Abraham Lincoln

3) What did Congress rename the U.S. Government Printing Office to in 2014?

- A) The U.S. Government Document Data Center
- B) The U.S. Government Publishing Office
- C) American Online Legislation
- D) GovPubs.gov

4) What department oversees the Federal Depository Library Program?

- A) Department of the Interior
- B) Department of State
- C) Department of Education
- D) Department of the Treasury

5) Prior to 1951 when UW-Eau Claire took on the duty of the local Federal Depository Library, where were these copies of federal documents kept?

- A) Eau Claire City Hall
- B) The county courthouse
- C) The Eau Claire Public Library
- D) In a damp garage on Water Street

1) All of them. 2) C. Buchanan signed the law on June 23, 1860. The GPO began operating on March 4, 1861 – Lincoln's inauguration day. 3) B. The broader name reflects its publishes digitally, not just in print. 4) A. Since 1895, the Department of the Interior. Before then, the responsibility moved around, including when the Secretary of State handled it in the early 1800s. 5) C. The Eau Claire Public Library, which was renamed in 1979 as L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library.

UWEC's exhibits history of civil rights education

By **Sarah Beer**, beersj@uwec.edu

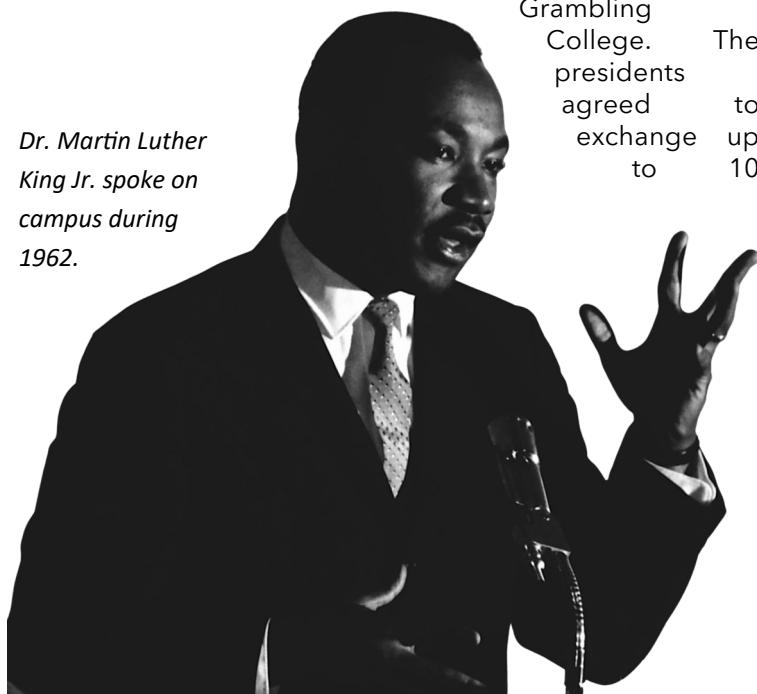
On February 4, Multicultural Student Services (MSS) and the Special Collections and Archives debuted an exhibit to complement the Martin Luther King Jr. Social Justice Leadership Award ceremony.

The exhibit, housed in the Davies Center's third floor galleries, showcased over sixty years of social justice activity on campus. The first gallery was dedicated to black speakers who have come to our campus. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was one of the first to speak on behalf of civil rights. Since his appearance in 1962, we have had more than fifty black speakers discuss topics ranging from civil rights, feminism, domestic and international politics, and the black experience. Some of those names include Yvonne Brathwaite-Burke, who spoke in 1970 about women in politics. Maya Angelou in 1988 encouraged students to go after their goals, despite the harmful effects of racism and sexism on their motivation and mental health. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, whose 1997 speech "Profiles in Black Courage" stressed the importance of learning about and understanding African Americans' contributions to American history. Paul Rusesabagina shared his story in 2005 of surviving the Rwandan genocide and encouraged the audience to stand up and fight for Africa. Barack Obama, who appeared here in a 2008 campaign rally, encouraged thousands to stand for change.

The exhibit's second gallery highlighted two important programs on campus: the Grambling Student Exchange and the Civil Rights Pilgrimage. The Grambling Student Exchange began in 1970, after President Leonard Haas visited Grambling, Louisiana and met with the president of

Grambling College. The presidents agreed to exchange up to 10

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. spoke on campus during 1962.



UW-Eau Claire students cross the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama, during the 2015 Civil Rights Pilgrimage. Each year the university hosts an immersion trip to give students a first-hand look at important places from the Civil Rights Movement.

students a year from each of their schools, allowing them to eat, live, and study on their respective campuses for a semester. The program was meant to create a cultural pluralism, giving both black and white students a chance to extend outside of their comfort zones and experience life from a completely different perspective.

Over the past 18 years, thousands of UW-Eau Claire students, under the guidance of Jodi Theising-Ritter, have participated in the Civil Rights Pilgrimage. These students have walked in the footsteps of Southern civil rights activists and followed the path of the Civil Rights Movement through Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Tennessee. Students visit historical sites and museums that tell the story of the movement, listen to these stories told by people who lived them, learn about current activity at the Southern Poverty Law Center, and interact with local communities through churches and service projects.

The exhibit's final gallery showcased recipients of the Martin Luther King Social Justice Leadership Award. Assembled by MSS through interviews, the gallery hosted a biography of each recipient, walking the reader through their life and highlighting their social justice activity here at UWEC. Past recipients include: Rose Marie Avin, David Shih, Selika Ducksworth-Lawton, Dang Yang, Heather Ann Moody, Sarita Jayanty Mizin, and Stacy Jackson. This year's recipient was Dr. Kati Barahona-López, a sociology professor, who has demonstrated her dedication to social justice through her teaching, scholarship, and mentorship.

Library Staff News: November 2025 — March 2026



Brad Gehrke's November trip to Turkey included a hot air balloon ride.

Brad Gehrke, library systems and Makerspace associate, and his partner, Kristin Steele, took a 10-day trip through Turkey from Nov. 17-28. Over this Thanksgiving holiday extravaganza they toured Hagia Sophia in Istanbul, walked the underground cities in Goreme, flew over the storied fairy chimneys of Cappadocia in a hot air balloon, and gawked over the walls of fabled Troy. It was good, and there were plenty of cats to pet.

On February 19th, the McIntyre staff held their very first (but hopefully not last) potluck-style homemade soup gathering dubbed the Souperbowl Party. The four soups represented were pho-nomenal: Thai chicken basil, Polish dill pickle, white bean and sausage, and mushroom and wild rice. In addition to soups, staffers also brought in home-baked bread and a selection of cheese and crackers.

Crystal Schmidt, cataloger, and her friend Sarah Van Heuklon met Brian Baumgartner during the actor's Nov. 13 appearance in Schofield Auditorium on campus. The star from the NBC workplace sitcom *The Office* and other shows was the first speaker in the 83rd season of UW-Eau Claire's The Forum.



*Crystal Schmidt, left, and Sarah Van Heuklon, right, met Brian Baumgartner, the actor who played 'Kevin' in *The Office*.*

McIntyre Student News

Maggie O'Brien, a Main Desk student assistant/supervisor, is student teaching this semester at Memorial High School in Eau Claire. An English and Language Arts teaching major with a minor in creative writing, O'Brien is working in the classroom of Christina Schroeder, who teaches English language arts to 10th and 11th grade students.

Emilija Durdevic, a senior who has worked as a Main Desk student assistant since the second semester of her freshman year, is excited to announce she's been accepted to grad school. After months of applying to various programs across the nation, she has been admitted to a master's program at University of Texas at Arlington. Starting this fall, Emilija will be studying industrial-organizational psychology.



Main Desk Student Lead/Supervisor **Rachael Singer**, three fellow UW-Eau Claire students, and English Professor Blake Westerlund presented at the 66th Annual Convention of the Midwest Modern Language Association on Nov. 14 at Marquette University in Milwaukee. For a panel presentation during the convention's Undergraduate Research Symposium, the students applied diverse theoretical frameworks, including Rachael's application of Freudian psychoanalytic theory, to the Apple TV+ series *Severance*. Rachael is a third-year double-major in psychology and English.

Rachael Singer, left, three classmates, and Professor Blake Westerlund, presented at a November convention in Milwaukee.

SUPPORT YOUR LIBRARIES

Our supporters often ask us how they can help the libraries at UW-Eau Claire keep up the great work. Here are some ideas!



Nurture Student Employees (\$500)

\$500 would fund one scholarship, awarded annually to a UW-Eau Claire student who works in the libraries.

Enhance Library Exhibitions (\$530)

\$530 to purchase a conservation chest mount form that could be used to safely exhibit historic clothing from Special Collections and Archives.



Your gift to the McIntyre Library Advancement Fund can be designated for one of the items on our wish list. To share your support, go to blugolds.uwec.edu/library, select the McIntyre Library Advancement Fund, and make a note of the wish list item in the comments field.

Thank you to our McIntyre Valued Partners (MVPs)

The following donors have contributed to the UW-Eau Claire Foundation McIntyre Library Funds from November 2025 through March 2026



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| Krisi Harwood | Scarlett Roderich |
| Dennis and Mary Hayden (honoring Leslie Foster) | Stephen Ruthy |
| Susan Hinnant | Patrick Schaefer |
| Kyle Hiort | Hickory Tate |
| Celeste Keating-Hadlock (honoring Carol G. Lonning) | Stephen Thorpe |
| Gregory and Sarah Kocken | Ivy Wallen |
| Ben and Shelley Kyriagis | |