NEWSLETTER OF THE DREW UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

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DREW.EDU/LIBRARY

Bobby Kennedy's Message of Hope

By the Reverend Fred Day, General Secretary, General Commission on Archives and History (GCAH)

Recently, a relative of the late Bishop Reuben H. Mueller (1897–1982) asked for GCAH's help in doing genealogical research. It was 51 years ago this spring—April 23, 1968—that Bishop Mueller, representing the Evangelical United Brethren Church, joined with Methodist Bishop Lloyd C. Wicke to form the United Methodist Church.

In the course of gathering the pictures and documents requested from the GCAH vaults, Frances Lyons, our reference archivist, was especially taken with a congratulatory telegram from then presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy, dated April 22, 1968, and addressed to Bishop Mueller as one of the presiding officers of the uniting conference and official celebration of the merger to take place the next day.

"I wish to extend my greetings and congratulations to the Uniting Conference of the Methodist Church and Evangelical United Brethren Church. This step toward Christian ecumenism is further witness to the urgent need for cooperation in a world divided and broken. The historic concerns of both your churches for social issues and community service have led to significant advances in American religious life. I commend you on your past achievements and extend my best wishes to the new United Methodist Church as it seeks to

open new frontiers of service.

Dag Hammarskjold wrote, 'The road to holiness leads to the world of action.' My best wishes to the United Methodist Church as it goes to where the action is."— Robert F. Kennedy

When Frances shared this chance discovery with me, I was immediately struck by Kennedy lifting up the "new" United Methodist Church as a

Continued on the back cover





Researching the Holocaust and Other Genocides

By Olivia Kingree, Student Assistant, Donor Relations and Stewardship, and Andrew Bonamici, Drew University Librarian

In March, Dr. Omer Bartov, John P. Bierklund Professor of European Studies and professor of German studies at Brown University, was the guest speaker at Drew's George and Alicia Karpati Lecture. The series, established in 2005 by Michael and Noemi Neidorff in honor of Noemi's parents, brings accomplished speakers to Drew in the fields of Jewish/ Holocaust studies and Eastern European history.

Bartov began his Drew visit at an open forum with students and faculty from the Center on Holocaust/ Genocide Study, where the discussion topics included perspectives on Israel–Palestine relations, his life and education in Israel, and responses to Holocaust denial. Bartov also addressed the need for researchers to understand how archives are created, who controls

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University Librarian's Corner



Welcome to the spring 2019 issue of Visions. Last fall, we welcomed Drew's Instructional Technology department to our library organization. Since then, we've appointed two new IT staffers: Jenna Corraro as instructional designer and Danielle Reay as digital scholarship technology manager. They join our very experienced IT team led by Director Shawn Spaventa, Senior

Instructional Technologist Nicole Pinto-Creazzo and Audiovisual Systems Specialist Steve Paddack.

During the past months, I have served on a committee charged with evaluating classrooms and learning spaces in anticipation of Drew's enrollment growth. This experience has me thinking a lot about the library's physical spaces. While detailed library space planning was beyond the scope of this study, the committee and our consultants did create an analysis of space needs, a first step designed to set the stage for the future. We also recognized how central the library is to the needs of the entire Drew community.

Future space planning for the library will go hand-in-hand with continuous digital development. In a residential university, networked digital systems and the physical campus operate together as a unified interactive environment where teaching, learning, research and community building take place. Libraries provide physical spaces for individual and group work in proximity to print collections, electronic resources, media production tools and advanced hardware and software. Designing facilities and services like these requires extensive collaboration and careful alignment with the academic mission.

"Libraries need to intentionally strengthen the ties of their spaces and services with the academic program," said Joan Lippincott, associate executive director of the Coalition of Networked Information, during a 2016 interview with Project Information Literacy. "I would prefer that libraries were known as the intellectual crossroads of the campus," said the author, speaker and former academic librarian. "That means highlighting and programming library spaces to have direct relationships with teaching, learning and research."

Most of all, the library is a place where students and faculty find staff expertise of all kinds: in-depth research consultations with a librarian; borrowing a hard-to-find book via interlibrary loan; exploring primary source collections in the Methodist Library and Archives; learning new technologies or research methods in a workshop; and designing courses and instructional materials for maximum learning impact.

This issue of *Visions* includes a report from the 2019 Karpati Lecture by Dr. Omer Bartov, plus stories on two archival discoveries (a rare Persian manuscript and a 1968 congratulatory telegram from the late Senator Robert Kennedy), a pair of book reviews and snapshots of our hardworking student staff.

al Rome

Please enjoy it with all best wishes,

Andrew Bonamici University Librarian

GENOCIDES Continued from page 1

them and the importance of looking beyond official records in uncovering history.

At his evening lecture, Bartov spoke about his studies on genocide, referencing his book, Anatomy of a Genocide: The Life and Death of a Town Called Buczacz, which details the atrocities that occurred in that Ukrainian town during World War II. Bartov's mother spent her early years in Buczacz when it was still part of Poland. She then moved to Palestine prior to the outbreak of the war. after which the town fell into Soviet and eventually German hands. In describing his research process, Bartov spoke about how he used historical photographs of exhumed mass graves.

At both his open forum and later lecture, Bartov reinforced the importance of accessing archival materials from private as well as institutional collections. "You need to go cross-grain," he said, when seeking out historical research material, noting that official archives can be maintained by governments for their own purposes, such as reinforcing repressive power structures, while items collected by individuals can tell entirely different stories. During WWII, the official German line (backed by government records) was that regular Wehrmacht soldiers did not commit atrocities. That myth was debunked, however, as evidence of atrocities and mass killings by regular soldiers was uncovered

VISIONS.

Andrew Bonamici

University Librarian Drew University Library

Editor: Marc Boisclair Associate Editor: Kathy Juliano

A complete online archive of past issues of Visions can be viewed at drew.edu/library/visions.

due in part to photos and other documents sent back to spouses, siblings and friends in Germany.

A photo spread on Bartov's evening lecture appears on the opposite page.



2019 George and Alice Karpati Lecture



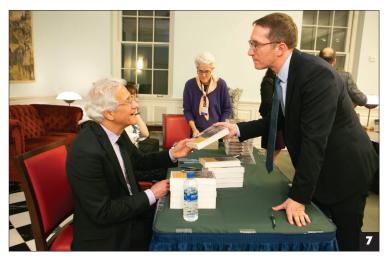














1. George Kornitzer, Michael and Noemi Neidorff, Omer Bartov, and Ben Kornitzer. 2. Bartov with Karpati Sponsor Noemi Neidorff. 3. Bartov chats with some of his post-lecture guests, as Drew Provost and Dean of the College of Liberal Arts Debra Liebowitz (r.) looks on. 4. Bartov and Renata Kessler. 5. Hope Bera, Archives Librarian Brian Shetler, Professor Neil Levi and Michael Neidorff. 6. Liebowitz, Ben Kornitzer and George Kornitzer. 7. Bartov and Levi. 8. Bartov and Drew University Librarian Andrew Bonamici.

To view a recording of Bartov's speech, please go to https://vimeo.com/327258604.

What We're Reading

Ostend: Stefan Zweig, Joseph Roth, and the Summer Before the Dark by Volker Weidermann

Drew call number: PT 405 .W3513613 2015; Drew library location: Level C

I am a passionate amateur Germanist. For me, German culture is utterly captivating. Therefore I count myself fortunate to serve as the library liaison to the German Department at Drew, purchasing books that support the curriculum and the German faculty. When the English translation of this book came out in 2016, I did not hesitate to order it, as it is perfect for our collection.

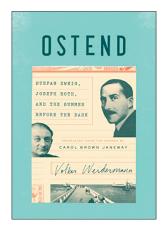
Volker Weidermann, the literary director and editor for the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (Frankfurt General Newspaper), gives a succinct novelistic portrayal of exiles from Nazi Germany. In the summer of 1936, a coterie of writers and activists gathered at the Belgian beach resort of Ostend. Hitler had been in power for three years, and these were outcasts from Central Europe. Weidermann focuses on two of them: the Austrian writers Stefan Zweig and Joseph Roth.

Until recently, Zweig was relatively forgotten in America, but that's changed in the past six years. The New York Review of Books has issued new translations of at least four of his novels, while Pushkin Press, a charming independent outfit in London, specializes in reprinting his work. Fans of Wes Anderson's

precious movies may recall the director crediting Zweig's writings as the inspiration for his The Grand Budapest Hotel. Joseph Roth, meanwhile, is probably best known for *The* Radetzky March, what many call the best novelistic portrayal of the late Austro-Hungarian Habsburg Empire.

In 1936, however, both men were struggling. Zweig's works were banned in Germany, and he was estranged from his wife and daughters. Roth was also fleeing a troubled relationship and slowly losing his battle with alcoholism. Both men needed a vacation, a chance to sequester themselves away and help each other make sense of the world the best way they knew how, through their writing.

Along the way, Weidermann introduces us to the other exiles: writers, activists (read: Communists) and those who simply refused to be pushed around by the Nazis. Think of Rick's Café Américain in the movie Casablanca, only this time we are more than 1,600 miles away in the Café Flore. A different location, but the frustration, desperation and impotence are the same. All Zweig, Roth and the others can do is write, plot and talk.



The supporting cast is sometimes appropriate, at other times a distraction. Weidermann is at his best when he focuses on Zweig and Roth and their awkward waltz of a friendship awkward because of the complexities of Jewish identity. Zweig was a wealthy, successful, assimilated Jew, comfortable in Western Europe. Roth came from humble beginnings in a shtetl, or largely unassimilated Jewish enclave, in Galicia, what is now western Ukraine. They are an odd couple brought together by fate.

In the span of only 165 pages, this book covers the literary lives of these two writers. We know the tragedy that is to befall them in the years to come. Weidermann, however, helps us act as if we do not, if only for a moment.

—Matthew Beland, University Archivist

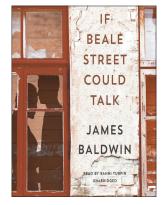
If Beale Street Could Talk by James Baldwin

Drew call number: 813 B181i; Drew library location: Level E

James Baldwin's fifth novel, the basis for Barry Jenkins' recent award-winning film, is as much a love story as it is an intimate study on heartbreak and hope. Set in early 1970s Harlem, it's worth noting that 45 years ago this northern slice of Manhattan was not the trendy neighborhood of celebrity restaurants, A-list nightspots and posh townhomes you'll find there today. The story is told through the perspective of Tish, a 19-year-old who's in love with Fonny, a young artist. Tish and Fonny become pregnant and intend to marry, but those plans are put on hold when Fonny is falsely accused of a crime (rape) and imprisoned based on the victim's misguided eyewitness testimony. Friends and family work together attempting to clear Fonny's name, only to be repeatedly frustrated by

individual and systemic acts of cultural and racial bias. The police department's manipulation of the accuser, the rage Fonny's mother expresses at the pregnancy, and the lawvers and bondsmen who prey on the poor hinder his freedom and his future with Tish.

Baldwin is precise in his commentary on the injustices black families faced then (and continue to face today) and the ways in which black love and resistance inevitably intertwine. The people Baldwin creates are unforgettable and deeply realistic, and his depiction of their relationships, especially those within Tish's family, are critical as



Tish and Fonny struggle to stay strong and hopeful amid their crisis. Because the spirit cannot be broken when faced with love, Baldwin offers no space for pity or other useless emotions. His young couple confronts the reader with the ways America has forced death upon life, darkness against lightness and slavery against freedom. Baldwin sums up his characters' (if not his own) frustrations about social inequality and

a skewed justice system succinctly and emphatically: "I hope that nobody has ever had to look at anybody they love through glass." In If Beale Street Could Talk, Baldwin dares the reader to look at America straight through glass.

Yanira Ramirez, Catalog Associate



Student Snapshots

The Drew library staff and that of University Technology (UT) rely on many student assistants to keep our operations running smoothly. Meet four of our hardworking, service-oriented students for the spring 2019 semester.



Elena St. Amour

Year: First-Year Studying: Double major: Psychology and Chemistry Job title: Student Assistant, Circulation Department

Home: Mullica Township, New Jersey

Duties: Working the circulation desk; shelving books; shelf reading; collecting and sorting newspapers; helping patrons with various tasks.

Most satisfying part of the job: Answering patrons' questions and showing them where different things are. I feel as though it's my responsibility to make their library experience simpler and overall better.

Skills learned: Better people skills and, most importantly, the Dewey Decimal and Library of Congress categorizing systems. I'm now able to better navigate a library no matter where I go. **In-house getaway:** The desk area in the stacks on Level F. It's a quiet place to get my studying done.

Notable library checkout: The movie *Contact*. Seeing a film with a female protagonist involved in science was inspiring and made me feel like I can accomplish my goals.

Post-Drew goals: To work as a psychologist investigating the causes of plane crashes and how the aviation industry can be improved.



Kasey Glass

Year: Junior

Studying: Major in Neuroscience; minor in Spanish

Job Title: Student Assistant, Circulation Department Home: Emerson, New Jersey

Duties: Greeting patrons; checking out materials and finding books; shelving books; checking shelves for misplaced and mislabeled books. Most satisfying part of the job: Seeing all the new students at

the beginning of each semester—it's always exciting to see them in the library.

Skills learned: I've developed/enhanced my organizational skills thanks to shelving and my people skills from everyday interactions

In-house getaway: The tables along the front windows on Level E. It's quiet and open, and I have room to spread out. It's a nice distraction when I'm in need of a break.

Notable library checkout: The Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger. I checked it out during a busy time in my first year. It reminded me of the previous year at high school and home as a whole.

Post-Drew goals: I plan on participating in Teach For America before I continue my education in medical school, where I hope to become a pediatric neurosurgeon.



David Boateng

Home: Accra, Ghana

Year: Sophomore Studying: Major in Biology; minor in Chemistry Job title: Student Assistant, Reference Department

Duties: Shelving and reshelving books; assisting people with finding articles and using the library research resources.

Most satisfying part of the job: Working with patrons; being able to help people with library concerns; and interacting with other students.

Skills learned: How to navigate the library quickly; shelving and reshelving books; learning how to change the toner in the printers. **In-house getaway:** The mail room. The window in that room

is so huge it allows you to see behind Mead Hall and the path leading toward Seminary Hall. It's a guiet room for thinking in the library, a place that only employees can use.

Notable library checkout: *ScienceDirect.* This e-book collection allows me to find journals and books in the sciences and helps me to find articles for my papers.

Post-Drew goals: I'd like to go to dental school and get my degree in dental surgery.



Angad Singh

Year: Junior

Studying: Major in Economics; minor in Law, Justice and Society Job title: Student Assistant, University Technology

Home: Basking Ridge, New Jersey

Duties: Assisting students, staff and faculty with issues related to technology, both in person at the UT Help Desk and over the phone at the UT Service Center.

Most satisfying part of the job: Solving a technology issue that you have experienced in the past. It helps me learn from mistakes and makes me more confident around technology.

Skills learned: I'm now able to run simple diagnostics, understand operating systems better, and have also learned how to address frustrating problems in a systematic way.

In-house getaway: Group study room 212, on level E. It's quiet, has nice art and is a place where I can get a lot of work done.

Notable library checkout: The Undoing Project by Michael Lewis. It discusses the works of two prominent Israeli psychologists who were able to find an algorithmic approach to judgment and decisionmaking. It gives great insight into the commonalities in human error and psyche.

Six Degrees of Shahnameh Separation

By Candace Reilly, Methodist Library Associate

In spring 2018, just a day before Professor Rita Keane's class on Islamic art history planned to visit Drew's Methodist Archives. Methodist Librarian Brian Shetler and an intern stumbled onto an exciting discovery in the archive's Schultz Room: a stack of Arabic manuscripts. One particular document, a Persian (Farsi) manuscript, proved the highlight of Professor Keane's class visit. Students and archive staffers alike spent hours flipping through its pages attempting to decipher the content. Along the way, they came upon an envelope with the following inscription: "A New Year's day present / To J.D. Rockefeller, Esq., Millionaire / owner of kerosene oil wells and president of the Standard Oil Co. of New York, New York U.S.A. / If not at New York then at his usual residence in one of the states." This cryptic message, sent from somewhere in France, made us wonder: Did our treasured manuscript once belong to the brash oil baron?

That said, I first needed to identify the manuscript's content, and reading the images was my best option. One particular figure was repeated throughout, wearing very specific armor a leopard-skin helmet. Eventually I concluded that our document was a Shahnameh (the Persian Book of Kings), given the standard iconographic traits of the hero Rustam, who wears the head of Div-e Sepid (a White Demon). The Shahnameh, an epic poem consisting of 46,000 rhyming couplets, recounts the story of a pre-Islamic Iran, from its mythological beginnings through the historical reign of its kings. Our newly discovered Shahnameh was actually a composite



work, pieced together with images specifically cut from another manuscript and pasted into this one.

With research in hand. Brian Shetler and I headed to New York City's Rockefeller Archives last June to verify if, indeed, our Shahnameh once graced the millionaire's library. After examining Rockefeller's artistic holdings and correspondence, we were still uncertain. We found a tumultuous history of art dealers who'd sent expensive works of art, Persian rugs and manuscripts hoping Rockefeller might purchase them for a small fortune. Perhaps our document involved one of those dealers, and Rockefeller chose to return it rather than pay. That aside, there remains more research to be done regarding Drew University's Shahnameh.

Professional News

Johanna Gauer Edge, head of the library's Circulation Department, has defended with distinction her doctoral dissertation, From the Steamboat to Harlem to Main Street to Bodymore: Satire and Subversion in Novels of Passing.

Brian Shetler, head of Special Collections & University Archives and the Methodist librarian, has defended with distinction his doctoral dissertation, Presenting Chaucer to the Reader: Printing the Canterbury Tales in England, 1477–1830.

Methodist Archives assistant Kwang Yu Lee passed his doctoral dissertation, A Jungian Psychohistorical Analysis of the Growth of the Korean Methodist Church: Trauma and Cultural Complex.

Samantha Depierro, a Special Collections student assistant since 2016, received the 2019 Drew Student Employee of the Year Award for her excellent archival work.

Jesse D. Mann, Theological Librarian, was invited to serve as a peer reviewer for the Revista Española de Filosofia Medieval and on the Rowman & Littlefield Library Advisory Board (2019–20).

A Song of Joy

By Kathy Juliano, Electronic Resources Librarian

Drew's Dorothy Young Center for the Arts has earned kudos as a cuttingedge concert hall that's hosted top-notch entertainment through the years. Among the center's regular performers is the Drew University Choral Union, featuring two library "artists in residence": Head of Reference Jody Caldwell and me.

Jody has been a member since the group's inception in 2011. "It's a great opportunity to interact with students in a different environment from the classroom and my office," she says. For me, singing in a vocal ensemble has been part of my life since sixth grade, so I was very excited to join the Choral Union in 2013. During two hours of rehearsal, you focus on nothing but the music. Sharing that experience with students, some of whom I work with at the library, makes me feel more connected to Drew.

Drew's community chorus, the school's largest choral ensemble, is open to students, faculty, staff and others and offers a mixed-voice (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) repertoire focusing on major works with orchestra. Past performances have included the opera Dido and Aeneas and singing at Drew President MaryAnn Baenninger's inauguration.



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New to the Libraries



Danielle Reay

Danielle Reay joins the Drew Library's Instructional Technology Department as digital scholarship technology manager and librarian. Prior to joining Drew, Reay held

positions as art, architecture and design library specialist at New Jersey Institute of Technology and arts librarian for digital and access services at Yale University. She has a Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) from Rutgers; a master's in cinema studies from New York University and a bachelor's in history from Drew.



Jenna Corraro

Jenna Corraro joins the Drew Library as an instructional designer in the Instructional Technology Department. She currently adjuncts in the Humanities

Department at the New Jersev Institute of Technology and the School of Business and Digital Media at Georgian Court University. Corraro has a bachelor's from Rutgers in English literature and a master's in professional and technical communication from NJIT, and has worked as an instructional designer at NJIT and Seton Hall University.

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VISIONS.

Library Events





Queen for a Night

Drag culture came to The Forest in February when photographer David Ayllon and his husband, drag performer Pissi Myles, held court at the Drew Library Archives. Myles (aka Joseph D'Angio, a popular NYC-area performer) and Ayllon were the featured guests for the library's panel discussion, Drag as an Art Form. The two discussed their role as a power-couple in the drag community, after which Myles posed for photos and poured her lip-sync soul into Grease's *Beauty School Dropout* and *I Am What I Am* from *La Cage aux Folles*.

Are you a Drew faculty member or an alumni author?

Please let us know of your recent publications and consider donating an extra copy for the permanent collection of faculty and alumni works in the University Archives. We're also happy to feature, when possible, current works in the Learning Center Lobby exhibit case.

KORNITZER PRIZE COMPETITION

Drew faculty and alumni authors are eligible for the **11th Béla Kornitzer Awards** in recognition of outstanding *nonfiction* books **published between October 15, 2015 and August 1, 2019.** Separate awards, including monetary prizes of \$2,000, honor faculty and alumni authors. A faculty prize committee will select the winners, who will be announced in early 2020. Submitted books will be added to the University Archives Faculty and Alumni Collection.

Please send/bring your submissions (i.e.,the book, a nomination letter and any available reviews) to: **Andrew Bonamici, University Librarian, Drew University Library, 36 Madison Avenue, Madison, 07940. Submission deadline: September 1, 2019.** N.B.: Previous winners are *not* eligible.

The Kornitzer Awards, established in 1992 by Alicia and George Karpati, honor the achievements of Ms. Karpati's brother, author and journalist Béla Kornitzer. For more information, contact Professor Jesse Mann at **jmann@drew.edu.**

MESSAGE OF HOPE

Continued from page 1

"witness to the urgent need for cooperation in a world divided and broken." The year 1968 was one of the most turbulent, divisive times in modern American history: war and peace, hippies and hardhats, race and riots. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated just weeks before Kennedy composed his telegram. It is not a stretch to imagine that he was looking for sources of hope in this tragic landscape. In the midst of this era, when the U.S.—and even the world around the church—seemed to be breaking apart. Kennedy observed this one creative act of two churches uniting as a reaffirmation of a different way forward. It seemed to give him hope that while all around us appeared at odds, there were still people working together in service and faith to bring about a better world.

Kennedy himself was tragically assassinated just some weeks later, but one could take comfort in the lesson that even while violence and hate seem to destroy our best hopes for progress, a united and uniting community of souls bound by service and faith provides the best breeding ground for the next step forward in the "world of action."

This telegram both reminds us of where we have been and comes as a prophetic gift. Whether looking back or looking forward, may onlookers know United Methodists for our "cooperation in a world divided and broken" and open "engagement of new frontiers of service."

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