



THE
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

of Cincinnati
and
Hamilton County

800 Vine Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-2071
www.CincinnatiLibrary.org

Phyllis Hegner
Assistant PR Manager
Phone (513) 369-4571
Fax (513) 369-4565
Phyllis.Hegner@CincinnatiLibrary.org

Richard Helmes
Press Officer
Phone (513) 369-6959
Fax (513) 369-4565
Rick.Helmes@CincinnatiLibrary.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Press Release

October 18, 2005



Inland Rivers Library Exhibit at Main Library through December 31

The inland rivers still serve as arteries of the nation's trade, commerce, and travel industry. Like many communities, Cincinnati was built upon the Ohio River's traffic. Many

visitors enjoy the riverfront activities that towns and cities offer along the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. The river also offers many scenic vistas. Life on the river is captured in these images from the **Inland Rivers Library** collection on display through December 31 at the Main Library (800 Vine Street) in the Rare Books & Special Collections Department (3rd floor bridge).

The story of inland rivers is not solely a documentation of steamboats. Equally important are the people responsible for these boats, as well as their passengers and cargo. Also significant is the complex story of river improvement that includes locks, dams and levees. These images from the Inland Rivers Library reflect various aspects of life along the rivers.

The Inland Rivers Library was established in 1956 with the donation of the collection of the sons and Daughters of Pioneer Rivermen as its core. Under the leadership of Librarian Carl Vitz, the river materials that the Public Library already owned were incorporated into the new gift collection to form the **Inland Rivers Library**—a major resource for books, manuscripts, photographs, maps and ephemera focusing on the commercial use of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers and their navigable tributaries. Photo: This lithograph published in "Harper's Weekly" shows the Suspension Bridge after it opened in 1866.