Reaching Out Beyond the Library Walls

How we’re making a difference in your community

Check it out! New books, movies, and magazines added to our collection (page 4)

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

On the Same Page title revealed (page 5)
Teaching your teen to handle money (page 8)
An egg-bot, a printer that prints on spherical objects, is just one of the many new and fascinating pieces of equipment that will be available for public use when the Main Library’s Maker Space opens in January 2015.

You may be wondering, what is a Maker Space? A Maker Space is defined loosely as “a shared workspace where people create collaboratively.” Such a space fits perfectly with our Strategic Plan goal of introducing new technologies to our community.

Located on the second floor of the North (newest) building, the Maker Space will offer an opportunity for everyone to be a maker.

In addition to the egg-bot, the Maker Space will include:

• A laser cutter/engraver station with equipment to engrave or cut on a wide variety of materials—wood, steel, glass, mirror, plastic, cardboard, and more.
• A vinyl printer/cutter used to print and cut out full-color graphical vinyl signs.
• 3D printers used to print your own designs or one of 1,000s of free designs available on the Internet. This station will also include digitizers that allow patrons to transform real objects into printable 3D models.
• A collection of modular robots to begin to learn the basic principles of creating and programming robots.
• An audio recording station with a sound-proof booth. Audio recorded in the booth can be mixed or edited at the digital creation stations.
• A suite of computers with both premium and open-source software commonly used for digital creation.
• A photography station with a high-quality camera, lightbox, and green screen to create still photography, product photos, or video.
• Laminators, button makers, paper cutters, and hole punches.
• Sewing machines and large tables for measuring and cutting fabric.
• Media conversion stations to take photographs, video tapes, CDs, cassette tapes, and other media—and convert it to digital.
• Entry-level electronics and soldering equipment will allow customers to use open-source inexpensive computers/microcontrollers like Arduino and Raspberry Pi to create custom electrical components.

We’re very excited to be bringing a Maker Space with this level of technology to our community.

Get reading suggestions, new information on upcoming Library programs, inspiring ideas, and learn about new books, music, and movies coming to the Library’s collection by following us on social media!

Facebook.com/CincinnatiLibrary
@CincyLibrary (Twitter)
Pinterest.com/CincyLibrary
CincyLibrary.Tumblr.com
@CincyLibrary (Instagram)

...and check out our mobile app in your app store!
New Library Branches Taking Shape

Walls are up, and workers are making significant progress at our three new branch locations in Clifton, Reading, and St. Bernard. These exciting projects are on schedule for completion in spring or early summer 2015. You can follow the construction progress with weekly updates on all three locations and live webcams trained on the construction sites in Reading and St. Bernard at CincinnatiLibrary.org/info/construction.

Five Stars Earned by Library

The Library recently earned a five-star rating for the second consecutive year by the library field’s leading professional publication, the Library Journal. This year, the Library ranked second among libraries in the country in the $30+ million expenditure category and is one of only five libraries nationwide in its category to receive a five-star rating. The Library Journal’s Index of Public Library Service is a national ranking system comparing U.S. public libraries on the quantities of services they deliver based on per capita statistics for library visits, circulation, program attendance and public internet use.
OneClick Digital Audiobooks Available with No Waiting or Holds

Looking for some new audiobooks to pass the time during your commute? Our OneClick Digital collection offers readers thousands of unabridged titles from bestselling authors. The best part is these titles are always available—with no holds or waiting. Check out one of these recent additions to our OneClick Digital audiobook collection today!

New Music Added to Hoopla

Use your Library card to access thousands of free streaming music albums from well-known artists and performers on your tablet, computer, or mobile device. Recent additions to Hoopla’s collection include Ellen’s The Only Holiday Album You’ll Ever Need, Vol. 1: Greatest Hits...So Far!!! from Pink; It’s the Girls from Bette Midler; and Hallelujah for the Cross from Newsboys. Visit CincinnatiLibrary.org/downloadables and click “Connect to Hoopla Music” to get started.

Popular Titles Added to Flipster Magazines

Flipster Magazines is a new digital magazine service featuring a variety of titles for adults and children. With Flipster, you can use your Library card to access current and back issues of popular titles such as People, Real Simple, Time, Ebony, Old House Journal, Cricket, Ranger Rick, and Kiplinger’s Retirement Report. Download as many magazines to your computer or mobile device as you’d like. Titles never expire, so you’ll have no overdue fines! Visit CincinnatiLibrary.org/downloadables and click “Connect to Flipster” to get started.

See New DVD Releases on Our Website

To make it easier for Library customers to get a sneak peak at new and upcoming DVD releases, a “New DVD Releases” page has been added to our website. Check the page for updates, then head to your local branch to get your hands on the latest movies and TV shows. All you need is your Library card! To access this new resource, click “Books, Music, and Movies” from the horizontal navigation bar, then click “New DVD Releases” in the drop-down menu.
Black History Month 2015: Free Blacks in the Era of Slavery

ARTISTS AND AUTHORS UNITE: THE LIMITED EDITIONS CLUB, 1929-2007
Jan. 23–March 29
Joseph S. Stern, Jr. Cincinnati Room

George Macy revolutionized the art of fine bookmaking when he established the Limited Editions Club in 1929. Artists and Authors Unite showcases selected works from the Library’s extensive collection of the Limited Editions Club books. Among them, Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Letter from Birmingham City Jail illustrated by Faith Ringgold and Maya Angelou’s Music, Deep Rivers in My Soul illustrated by Dean Mitchell are fitting tributes to Black History Month.

The following programs will take place in the Genealogy & Local History Department at the Main Library, 800 Vine St., 513-369-6900.

ROBERT S. DUNCANSON: CINCINNATI’S FREEDMAN OF COLOR
Saturday, Feb. 7, 2 p.m.

Robert S. Duncanson arrived in Cincinnati in 1841 to pursue a career in art. Duncanson painted eight monumental murals still on display in the foyer of the Belmont mansion—known today as the Taft Museum of Art. Join Mary Ladrick, Manager of Public Programs, at the Taft, as she discusses Duncanson’s life and art.

AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGY TWO-SESSION WEBINAR
Saturday, Feb. 14

Researching free and slave ancestors can present significant challenges—tackle them during this free two-session webinar with Michael G. Hait, professional genealogical researcher. These webinars are co-sponsored by the Friends of the Public Library and the Hamilton County Genealogy Society.

Tearing Down the Brick Walls, 11 a.m.
Researching Freedmen’s Bureau Records, 2 p.m.

JOHN MERCER LANGSTON AND OHIO BLACK CONVENTIONS
Saturday, Feb. 28, 2 p.m.

Freedman John Mercer Langston was the first African American elected to public office in the United States and was twice suggested as a candidate for vice-president of the United States. Join Dr. John Bryant—educator, historian, scholar, and Board member of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center—as he presents his research on this important figure in American history.

Join us Feb. 1–March 31 for the annual Library-hosted community reading event, On the Same Page. We’ll be examining two books this year—The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald and So We Read On: How the Great Gatsby Came to Be and Why It Endures by Maureen Corrigan. Written nearly a century ago by a man who died believing himself a failure, Gatsby is now a revered classic and rite of passage in the reading lives of millions. Offering a fresh perspective, So We Read On takes us into the archives, high school classrooms, and even out onto the Long Island Sound to explore the novel’s hidden depths, a journey whose revelations include Gatsby’s surprising debt to hard-boiled crime fiction, its rocky path to recognition as a “classic,” and its profound commentaries on the national themes of race, class, and gender.

Now in its 14th year, On the Same Page is one of the longest-running programs of its kind in the country. Visit CincinnatiLibrary.org/samepage after Jan. 1 to learn more about the book and author, connect with other readers, engage with discussion questions, and learn about special Library programs centered around the books.
For thousands of Hamilton County residents, the act of going into a building to take advantage of Library services just isn’t possible. They are constrained by disabilities. They may not have access to an Internet connection, a computer, or a mobile device. They may not have reliable or safe transportation to their nearest branch. This is where the Library’s Outreach Services Department steps in, and brings the Library to customers when and where they need it.

The Outreach Services Department serves Library customers who have special needs or may have difficulty using the Library through traditional means. “Outreach is an important aspect of library service,” says Drew Pearson, Outreach Services manager. “It enables us to meet our community and individual customers at their point of need. If an individual is unable to get to a Library facility, that doesn’t mean they lose access to information.”

Pearson began work with the Library as a student shelve in high school and became manager of Outreach Services in 2013. “Before my interview, I asked the retiring manager, ‘What is the mission of this department?’ She responded, ‘We help connect with customers who cannot access the Library through traditional means.’ After hearing this response I knew this was the right job for me,” recalls Pearson.

On any given day, a van loaded with books and other items makes its way from the Main Library to area schools, nursing homes, and community centers for deliveries. Helen Ligenfelter, a resident of Seasons of Kenwood, is a regular user of the Library—thanks to deliveries made to the facility by Outreach Services. “I don’t know what I’d do without your service because I like to read,” says Ligenfelter. “I don’t drive any longer, so it’s a way of getting books and reading materials.”

The way the world can access information has dramatically changed with the emergence of smartphones, eReaders, and tablets. The Library is working to find ways to incorporate these technologies into Outreach Services. In 2013, the Library developed a pilot program at two Cincinnati-area retirement facilities and equipped 20 residents with mobile tablets. The retirement facilities were chosen because they had free Wi-Fi, a dedicated activity director, and the ability to host monthly programs where Library staff can provide training on the tablets. “The residents are learning to utilize these devices to access free downloadable eBooks and audiobooks, communicate with loved ones using Facetime, write emails, and post photos on Facebook,” explains Pearson.

The department also plays an important role in serving educators. The most popular service used by teachers is the delivered Educator Collections. During the school year, Outreach staff delivers materials to
preschools, elementary, middle, and high schools in Hamilton County once a month. To receive the delivery, a school needs five or more teachers with Educator Cards to be signed up for the service. “This year we have 500 participating teachers,” says Pearson. “Teachers provide grade level, reading level, and the themes they will be teaching each month of the school year. These profiles are then assigned to staff members. Each month, staff gather books that supplement the classroom curriculum. The staff is well-trained and does an excellent job of creating entertaining and engaging collections.”

“It’s really cool,” says Kristina Williams of Mt. Washington. Williams is a teacher at Springer School and Center who uses the service. “I call the closest library to either my school or my home, and I ask for a certain set of books, such as Incan history. And the librarian then gathers all of these wonderful resources specifically designed for middle school readers. It takes away all the work for me.”

Outreach Services can also send items like books, movies, magazines, and CDs through the mail to people with visual impairments or disabilities. Some 300 Hamilton County residents currently take advantage of that service. Staff also provides individualized programs for children with special needs, incorporating technology, sensory kits, and books. These programs are presented at schools and Library locations. Each of the department’s three Children’s Librarians does between 18 and 20 such programs each month. The department also handles the circulation of a wide variety of special devices like the Victor Reader Stream (see sidebar) to help residents take advantage of Library services.

Communities are living things; they are constantly growing and changing. To meet the diverse needs in any community, the Library strives to keep in touch with these changes and tailor its services to fit the demand. Outreach Services has a long history of helping the underserved and the physically and mentally disabled benefit from Library services. When these populations are able to take advantage of Library services, it benefits the whole community. Your Library is working tirelessly to find new ways to reach people where they need it most. It’s a tangible way to fulfill our mission statement: connecting people with the world of ideas and information.

Outreach Services to Teachers, Seniors, and Those with Special Needs

BOOKS TO YOUR DOOR
Monthly deliveries of Library materials to nursing homes, assisted living facilities, correctional facilities, and other congregational living locations. Residents may make special requests or have a Library staff member select materials based on their reading interests.

BOOKS BY MAIL
Materials mailed to individuals in Hamilton County living in their own homes or apartments who are unable to visit the Library due to illness or disability.

TEACHER COLLECTION DELIVERY
Collections are delivered to schools in Hamilton County. At least five teachers with Educator Cards must request deliveries for a school to qualify.

SPECIAL NEEDS COLLECTION
Outreach Services has a large collection of materials designed to meet special needs including:

•Large print: an extensive collection of adult books including fiction and nonfiction.
•Audio books.
•Victor Reader Stream: An MP3 player for customers with visual impairments. The device can hold several audiobooks that are loaded onto the device by staff and can be checked out at any branch.
•E readers: iPads and iPad minis are loaned to residents at select senior facilities. Staff provide training and assistance to residents who use the devices to download eBooks and digital magazines from the Library.

•Materials for nursing home activity directors: Bifocal program kits, videos, music, craft books, trivia, poetry, pictorials, and professional literature.
•Juvenile materials: Fiction and nonfiction including multiple copies of many titles.
•Special Needs Collection: Books for children with special needs, their parents, and the professionals who work with them.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS
Librarians perform storytimes and other programs at branch libraries, community locations, hospitals, classrooms, and facilities serving children with developmental and learning disabilities, behavioral problems, mental health issues, and medical challenges. Visits are made monthly through the school year and may continue during the summer.

SENIOR PROGRAMS
The department provides programs for seniors at nursing homes and assisted living facilities and provides materials in a variety of formats for senior book clubs.

Above: Reference Librarian Annalea Volk makes a delivery to senior living residents.
Back by Popular Demand:  
**Smart Investing @ Your Library**

The Library’s popular financial literacy workshops for teens return in January. The four-hour sessions include hands-on activities, games, and prizes designed to teach teens how to make smart decisions with their money. Visit Teenspace. CincinnatiLibrary.org for more information. Registration is recommended.  
**Thursday, Jan. 8, 4 p.m.**  
Bond Hill Branch Library  
1740 Langdon Farm Rd., 513-369-4445

Prizes Up For Grabs in Teen Fan Art Contest

The Library’s annual Teen Drawing Contest Jan. 1-31 is open to teens ages 12-18. Teens can submit original drawings or paintings that re-create a favorite book scene. Entries are accepted at any Library location. Winners will be selected from two age groups: ages 12-14 and ages 15-18. Prizes will be given at an awards reception at the Main Library in TeenSpot, Saturday, March 7. Winning artwork will be displayed online. Programs to help teen artists develop their original ideas will be offered in partnership with Elementz Urban Arts Center. Visit Teenspace.CincinnatiLibrary.org for more information.

**Monday, Jan. 12, 4 p.m.**  
Hyde Park Branch Library  
2747 Erie Ave., 513-369-4456

**Saturday, Jan. 24, noon**  
Groesbeck Branch Library  
2994 W. Galbraith Rd., 513-369-4454

**Saturday, Jan. 31, noon**  
Green Township Branch Library  
6525 Bridgetown Rd., 513-369-6095

Poetry Celebrated During Annual Library Contest

From Jan. 1–Feb. 28, the Library will look to discover new and talented poets from the region. Adults, ages 18 and older, are invited to enter the Library’s annual Poetry Contest. Entries will be judged in March by a committee of literary professionals. As many as four winners will have their poems published on the Library’s website in April and will be given the opportunity to read at the Main Library’s Poetry in the Garden series held every Tuesday evening in April. Enter at CincinnatiLibrary.org after Jan. 1.

Celebrating the Revival of Cincinnati’s Brewing Traditions

**Sunday, Jan. 25, 2 p.m.**  
Main Library, 3rd Floor  
Genealogy & Local History Department  
Greg Hardman, the CEO and owner of the Christian Moerlein Brewing Company, returns to the Main Library for a talk about the revival of the Queen City’s brewing traditions. He will also share the latest activities and future plans for the Brewery District, located in Over-the-Rhine.

Children Invited to Celebrate MLK Day

**Monday, Jan. 19, 2 p.m.**  
Main Library Children’s Learning Center  
Celebrate the life of Civil Rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Children’s Theatre of Cincinnati actor Deondra Means will perform his one-man show and explore the real person behind the historic figure.
An Attitude of Gratitude for 2015: The Friends’ Shop Helps You Rediscover the Art of the Proper “Thank You”

After the stress and whirl of the holiday season, why not make it your New Year’s resolution to express gratitude in a simple and personal way? A handwritten note and a thoughtful gift in an age of all-digital communication is special and can strengthen bonds in your personal and business life as well as strike an emotional chord with the recipient. It can even make you feel better too! A 2009 study by the National Institutes of Health found that expressing feelings of gratitude can improve your overall health by reducing depression, soothing aches and pains, and relieving stress. The Friends of the Library Shop in the Main Library makes it easy to express your appreciation! We stock dozens of unique note cards and one-of-a-kind gifts to help you show just how grateful you are. Stop by for personalized service from our friendly staff or simply browse our selection of specialty items, including historical and literary-themed gifts! The shop is right inside the Vine Street entrance of the Main Library, 800 Vine St., and is open 10 a.m.–4 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

USED BOOK SALES

Shop Anytime for Gently-Used Books and More at the Friends of the Public Library Warehouse!

You will always find books, in all genres and for all ages, large-print books, CDs, DVDs, audiobooks, and more at the Warehouse, located at 8456 Vine St. in Hartwell. The Warehouse is open 5:30–7:30 p.m., Mondays; 10 a.m.–1 p.m., Wednesdays; 10 a.m.–2 p.m., Saturdays.

Thank You to Customers of the Anderson Township Library Association Sale!

The November ATLA sale garnered a total of more than $9,000 in proceeds to benefit the Anderson and Mount Washington branch libraries. ATLA would like to thank all the customers who donated books for the sale and those who came to browse and buy. Look for details of ATLA’s June sale in a forthcoming issue of Links!
Thank you...

The following gifts were received between August 1 and October 31, 2014. For more information about donating to the Library Foundation, visit our website at Foundation.CincinnatiLibrary.org.

Gifts to the Library
LaMacchia Family Foundation, $10,000

Gifts to the Library and Foundation Writer-in-Residence Program
Naomi T. Gerwin, $10,000

Summer Learning
PNC Foundation - Grow up Great, $5,000—Summer Learning Preschool Prize sponsor

Torch Society /Planned Giving Gifts
Paul A. Liebati

Annual Fund
$1,000+
Dr. and Mrs. Stewart B. Dunsker
Greg Edwards
Kimber Fender
Hon. Sylvia S. and Robert G. Hendon
Mr. and Mrs. John Pepper
Dr. and Mrs. Peter J. Stern

$500+
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Cranley
Molly DeFosse
Angela Farmer
Tom Gardner
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis B. Worthen, Ph.D.

$100+
Anonymous
Keith Armour
Jill Beitz
Paula Brehm-Heeger
John Brenner

Kate Denier
Natalie Fields
Maelynn Foster Hudson
Albert Hallenberg
Lisa Hamrick
Rob Hardy
Chris Holt
Angela Hursh
Bill Hyden
Andrea Kaufman
Jill Keller
Lisa Kuhl
Cate Malone
Janet Neumann
Ken Reeder
Tina Riehle
Diana Rowe
Maria Serra
Garrette Smith
Morris Smith
Lisa Soper
Veronica Sorcher
Patricia Van Skak
Holly Varley
Jennifer Weikert

$50+
Anonymous
Bank of America Matching Gift Program
Charlene and Peter Briggs
Terence Cody
Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius X. Coyle
Elaine Fay
Kyla Hardin
Mona Heim
Diana Herbe
Angie Jones
Mary Lamping
Bill Lane
Ben Lathrop
Laura Lazaraton
Macy’s Foundation Gifts Program

Lisa Mauch
Mike Metz
PLCH Staff Association
Mario Pellegrini
Stephanie Plaver
Sondra Presley
Holbrook Sample
David Siders
Diane Smiley
Patricia Spaite
Randa Suidan
Elizabeth Sullivan
U.S. Bank Foundation Matching Gift

$49 and below
Anonymous
Paula Alford
Tina Barlage
Emily Bayci
Howard and Mary Beth Bialick
Sam Bloom
Stephanie Bricking
Angela Buelsing
Jenny Carr
Debby Carrico
Sagoree Chatterjee
Michael Christian-Budd
Stephanie Cooper
Susan Daley
Cecilia Davis
Joshua Downing
Andrea Ellis
Edith Elmore
Trish Eversole
Kristina Funk
James Green
Tiffany Harmon
Pamela Healy
Christian Hedger
Ned Heeger-Brehm
Stephanie Hicks
Debbie Hull
Holly Jackson
Stacey Johnson
Nicole Kelsch
Karelia Koschmeder
Diane Mallstrom
Karen L. Mandel
Barbara Mayfield

The Library is deeply grateful for the generosity of our community and welcomes gifts of all sizes. Your donations are essential to ensuring delivery of excellent library services and the availability of the widest possible range of informational resources for all ages. For inquiries regarding contributions, please contact Melissa H. Deters, Library Foundation Executive Director, at 513-369-4595.

2014 Writer-in-Residence Kathy Y. Wilson

The Library Foundation’s Writer-in-Residence program was made possible through the generous support of Naomi Tucker Gerwin. In September, Kathy Y. Wilson was named as the first Writer-in-Residence and led programs throughout the fall, including an appearance at Books by the Banks, a Twitter chat, storytimes with children, a discussion about the writer’s creative process, and a writing workshop. Wilson is a contributing senior editor at Cincinnati Magazine and a University of Cincinnati adjunct instructor of Women’s Studies and Journalism.
Honor and Memorial Gifts

Martha G. Anness in memory of your friends: John C. “Jack” Mueller, Mabel Rueger, and Betty L. Fey
Barbara Beaver in memory of Margery Schubert Beaver (1928-2014)
Bill and Sharon Brown in memory of Evan William Clawson
James and Andrea Cheng in memory of Lois Rosenthal
Amy and Dave Clawson in memory of Evan William Clawson
Janice Clawson in memory of Evan William Clawson
Melissa H. Deters in memory of Clarence G. Kohlen, loving grandfather of Lisa Ankenbauer

Cathleen Arnold in memory of Sissie and Callie, beloved cats of Susan and Bob Ford, and in memory of Pete, beloved cat of Barb and Phil Amato
Rachel Bruno and Stephen Bondurant in memory of Dutch, beloved pet of Connie and Firmin Widmer
J.A. and Cecie Chewning in memory of Fry, beloved dog of Janice Kagermeier
Phyllis Crawford in memory of Cody, beloved dog of Mr. and Mrs. Teaney
Pat Dolan in memory of Buster Brown, beloved dog of Jonathan Anderson and Sandy Lett
Mr. and Mrs. Roy Duff in memory of Lucy, beloved pet of Joanie Peck
Dale and Amy Erickson in memory of Cherie, beloved pet of Mary and David Rice
Sally Schultz Giannella in memory of Sonny, beloved pet of Rob and Tina Taylor
Doug and Carolyn Goldberg in memory of Jazmyn and Riley, beloved pets of The Hultgen Family
Lynn Goose and Charlene Banduarraga-Hole, in memory of Paddy and Smokey Joe, loving pets of Cindy Havenstein
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Huenefeld in memory of Spencer, beloved dog of Mr. and Mrs. Graham D. Tyrrell, and in memory of Sylvester, beloved cat of the Tyrrell family
Andrew and Doris Jones in memory of Pepper, our beloved dog
Robin Lippelman in memory of Sylvie, beloved cat of Dr. and Mrs. Gunar Mezaraups

David Mason in memory of Kelsey, beloved cat of Sue Taylor
Dave and Linda Mathews in memory of Egor, beloved cat of Peggy and George Vollman
Maureen and Gene Mello in memory of T. Rex “Rexie,” beloved pet of Gayle Tritschler
Matt Mullin in memory of Twink, beloved dog of Brian and Andrea Leukering
Marianne R. Rowe in memory of Lucy, beloved therapy pet to Joan Peck
Jenna Schmitz in memory of Nellie Fischer Becker, beloved pet of Liz Becker
Carol H. Strunzenberger and Ann Russell, in memory of Pepper, beloved dog of Doris and Andrew Jones
William Dreyer and Sue Wettstein in memory of Penny and Barney Thompson, beloved pets of Dave Thompson

Pet Memorial Gifts

Lisa Arnett in memory of Theodore “Teddy” Bear, beloved cat of Lisa Arnett

Eagle Savings Bank for the Battle of the Bands program prizes at the Green Township Branch
Ford Motor Company Fund for the Sharonville Branch
Kids Plus Learning Center for the Mt. Healthy Branch
Ann C. Regan for the Deer Park Branch, in memory of her mother, Beulah L. Weppler
Susan S. Schmidt in memory of Barbara S. Seale, to support the Mariemont Branch
Kathy and Shannon Womer for the Blue Ash Branch
Wayne D. Wright for the Genealogy & Local History Department

Memorials for Delsie Churchill for the Mt. Washington Branch

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Butcher
Cynthia Churchill
Rusty Girouard
Steve Guggenheim
Nancy M. Krody
Madison Tree Care & Landscaping, Inc.
Carol Moore
Diana Rowe
Susan S. Schmidt
Dr. Ted Silberstein and Ms. Jackie Mack
Sogetsu Cincinnati Branch
Ms. Jackie Mack
J.A. and Cecie Chewning

Befriend a Branch

Jennifer Best for the Anderson Township Branch
D.M. Booker for the Madeira Branch
Kathleen Choi and Kathleen Houghton for programs at the West End Branch
Cincinnati Children’s Hospital for programs at the College Hill Branch
Carolyn and Craig Coldiron in memory of Carey Ann Burton, to support the Mt. Washington Branch
Author Finds Treasured ‘Trouvelot’ in Virtual Library’s Collection

When award-winning photographer, author and filmmaker Michael Benson was searching for images to include in his fourth book, Cosmigraphics: Picturing Space Through Time, it seemed like he would have to search the cosmos for a rare complete set of sketches by 19th-century French astronomer Étienne Léopold Trouvelot. Luckily, all he had to do was visit the Virtual Library of the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County. There he found his missing images from the 1882 book Trouvelot Astronomical Drawings.

“I was looking for high-quality scans of the Trouvelot drawings, and I got a number of them from the University of Michigan,” said Benson in a phone interview from his office at MIT in Boston. “Their folio was missing several images though.”

Even after discovering the Library’s digital collection, Benson said he was doubtful he could use the five images he downloaded. “Then I realized they were high-quality PDFs with a high resolution, and I was really happy. I was glad to see a regional library was performing such a public service,” he said.

The Library has been offering this service—officially known as Digital Services—since 2007 when it received an Institute of Museum and Library Services Library Services and Technology Act grant award by the State Library of Ohio to purchase digitization equipment. This allows the Library to reach customers unable to come to a physical location and showcase collections that are too fragile, large, or rare to put on physical display. Digital Services also scans institutional partners’ collections, such as high school and university yearbooks, to make them available to the public.

“One of the purposes of digitization is to bring attention to parts of the Library’s collection that may be less accessible,” said Katrina Marshall, Digital Services manager. “The beautiful chromolithographs of the Trouvelot Astronomical Drawings were something that we wanted to highlight. Also, it was science-related and added even more diversity to the digitized collection.”

The Virtual Library collection currently includes antique children’s books, letters written by Abraham Lincoln, city directories, Victorian-era valentines, medieval manuscripts, and online exhibits. Visit VirtualLibrary.CincinnatiLibrary.org.