



Bringing Everyone Together

Connection

Syracuse University Libraries

Fall 2025

Libraries Dean, Associate/Assistant Deans, and Directors

David Seaman

Dean of Libraries and University Librarian

Catherine C. Cocks

Director, Syracuse University Press

Melinda Dermody

Associate Dean, Academic Success

Nicolette A. Dobrowolski

Director, Special Collections Research Center

Jan Fleckenstein G'84, G'86, L'11

Director, Law Library

Traci Geisler '90

Director, Blackstone LaunchPad

Melissa J. Gwilt G'18, G'22

Executive Director, Budget, Administration and Operational Excellence

Elizabeth Hansen '03

Director, University Records Management

Cristina Hatem '92

Director, Strategic Planning, Marketing and Communications

Jeanine A. Irons

Director, Institutional Culture

Russell Silverstein '01

Director, Library Information Systems

Scott Warren

Senior Associate Dean, Research Excellence

Additional Contributors:

Rachel Fox von Swearingen, Collections Lead Librarian

Meara Mosny, Digital and Communications Specialist

Jess Van '26, student employee photographer

Lynn Wilcox, Design and Digital Asset Specialist, SU Press

Libraries Advisory Board

Thank you to our Libraries Advisory Board who help us achieve our mission through their support and advocacy:

Adam Fazackerley '96, Alexandria, VA, Co-Chair

Amy Fazackerley, Alexandria, VA, Co-Chair

Carl Armani '60, Boulder, CO

Joshua C. Aviv '15, G'17, Somerville, MA

Laurence G. Bousquet G'80, Syracuse, NY

Joan Brodsky '67, G'68, Chicago, IL

William F. Gaske '72, Dobbs Ferry, NY

Susan Hildreth '72, Walnut Creek, CA

Yvonne Hyland, Greenwich, CT

Frank M. Iannella '92, Brookfield, CT

Karen E. Iannella '92, Brookfield, CT

Diane Miron, Manlius, NY

Judith C. Mower '66, G'73, G'80, PhD'84, Syracuse, NY

Jeffrey N. Rich '67, Purchase, NY

Todd B. Rubin '04, Corte Madera, CA

Christine M. Turner P'15, P'17, Berwyn, PA

Mark D. Turner P'15, P'17, Berwyn, PA

Kathleen A. Walters '73, Atlanta, GA



Front Cover: (Front Row) Professor Beth Myers (left), Executive Director of Taishoff Center for Inclusive Higher Education; Syracuse native **Tom Kenny** (center), the voice of SpongeBob; and College of Visual and Performing Arts Design Professor **Don Carr** (left), at event in Bird Library about creative entrepreneurship.

Above: Librarian **Seyvion Scott** looks at materials in Special Collections Research Center's Black History Month Pop-Up Exhibition.

Table of Contents

Dean's Message	2
New and Notable SCRC Acquisitions	3
Collection Spotlight	4
SCRC Finding Aids: Making Collections Discoverable	5
Recent Additions to SU Libraries' Collections	6
New Research Guides for Your Use	7
SU Press' <i>The Book of Disappearance</i> Longlisted for 2025 International Booker Prize	7
Nightline Celebrates 45 years, with Ted Koppel as Founding Anchor	8
Information Literacy Scholars Produce <i>Information Literacy Collab</i> Journal	9
The Culture Clubs: Researching Communities of Interest Cohort	10
20th Anniversary of the Brodsky Series for the Advancement of Library Conservation	12
Original SCRC Grace Hartigan Materials on view at North Carolina Museum of Art	13
Blackstone LaunchPad 10-Year Anniversary Celebration	13
SCRC Fall 2025 Exhibition: <i>Architectural Origins: Syracuse University Buildings, 1870-1970</i>	14
SURFACE-Hosted Journals	15
Spring Kudos!	15
TEDx Returns to Syracuse University to Change the Narrative	16
<i>The Gilded Age</i> on Syracuse's James Street	18
Congratulations to LaunchPad and Libraries' Outstanding Student Employee Graduates	19
OCLC Partnership: Engagement Provides a Win-Win	20
A Student Perspective	21
Ten Years of Books in the Humanities	22
Make an Impact	22



Sarah Allis, digital library program content coordinator, works on a digitization project.



Students working together at a table in the Law Library.



Dean David Seaman in Carnegie Library



**Your input is important to us!
Please take a few moments
to complete the
[reader feedback survey](#).**

Dean's Message

SU Libraries is a place for researchers, big thinkers and doers— faculty, staff, students and alumni from all academic disciplines— to come together to shape positive change in the world. It is a place for creating new knowledge and innovative entrepreneurial ideas, through discovery, problem solving, creativity and communal effort. This issue of the *Connection* includes multiple examples of this -- from the creation of an open access journal for information literacy (page 9), to the production of Syracuse University's latest TEDx event (page 16), from ten years of young entrepreneurs working in Bird Library's Blackstone LaunchPad (page 13), to international accolades for SU Press' *The Book of Disappearance* (page 7).

As I begin my third five-year term as Dean of the Libraries, I remain proud of my library colleagues and the impact we have, providing global researchers with the ability to access our resources through OCLC's Shares Program or the University's institutional repository, SURFACE, or programs like the Brodsky Series for the Advancement of Library Conservation, allowing scholars from around the world to benefit from our work, making knowledge more widely available. This is core to the Libraries' commitment to creating a more just and open scholarly ecosystem where all voices can be heard and valued. And to remind us that library buildings are communal campus hubs full of life, energy, creativity and fun, as witnessed with the wonderful cover featuring SU professors, library staff and students (including some from InclusiveU), interacting with our guest and Syracuse native **Tom Kenny**, the voice of SpongeBob SquarePants and other popular cartoon characters!

David Seaman

Dean of Libraries and University Librarian

New and Notable SCRC Acquisitions

When adding new collection material to its world-renowned holdings, the Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) acquisitions team applies a reparative framework where all potential acquisitions are assessed with priority to collect, preserve and provide access to materials from historically underrepresented groups. Staff consider purchases and donations in terms of relevance for research; the University's colleges and curricula; and how new acquisitions will fill gaps in representation within SCRC's varied collection areas. Here are recent highlights:



Detail, Original drawings and illustrations by **Don Freeman** for **William Saroyan's** *My Name Is Aram*, 1939. Don Freeman Papers, Special Collections Research Center.

Don Freeman Papers, addition of original artwork from William Saroyan's *My Name Is Aram*

Purchased with **Adah C. Blackman Fund**

Don Freeman (1908-1978) was an American painter, printmaker, cartoonist, children's book author and illustrator, well known for the *Corduroy* books and *Norman the Doorman*. As one of the repositories for his papers, SCRC recently acquired original sketches and preliminary drawings by Freeman for the 1940 **William Saroyan** book *My Name Is Aram*. Saroyan's book chronicles the life of native-born **Aram Garoghlanian** and his Armenian immigrant family in California between 1915 and 1925 through 14 semi-autobiographical short stories. *My Name Is Aram* is notable within the oeuvre of children's literature as an early example of an Armenian American author's storytelling through the eyes of a young boy growing up in an extended immigrant family and adapting to life in the United States. The drawings in this acquisition comprise 30 pages, including loose sheets and materials, in an artist's notebook. Freeman inscribed "scribbles and leftovers" on the front cover with a message to "Bill Saroyan." These materials offer insight into Freeman's process and creative approach, while also revealing several striking differences from the final published version, as well as unused art—or, as Freeman called them, "leftovers"—that did not make the final cut. A first-edition copy of the book accompanied this acquisition.



Front and back of drum major jacket, circa 1938-1940. **Edward Rimkunas** Memorabilia, University Archives, Special Collections Research Center.

Edward Rimkunas Memorabilia

Gift of **Alex Taggard**

Edward Joseph Rimkunas (later Richards) received his Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Syracuse University in 1940. During his time on campus, he was a member of several student organizations, including serving as the drum major for the Syracuse University Marching Band during his junior and senior years. Prior to his promotion to drum major, Rimkunas was one of the band's trumpet players. His drum major jacket, pants and the top portion of his baton were donated to the University Archives by his grandson, **Alex Taggard**. This beautifully preserved uniform provides documentation of the evolution of the Marching Band's uniforms during the first half of the 20th century.

Point of Contact/Punto de Contacto Records

Transfer from Point of Contact/Punto de Contacto

Point of Contact/Punto de Contacto is an organization with a mission to "explore contemporary visual and verbal arts, working across disciplines and across cultures." It was originally founded in 1975 as an independent arts journal by **Pedro Cuperman** (1936-2016), an Argentinian artist, scholar and professor at Syracuse University. Under his leadership, Point of Contact/Punto de Contacto became known for its interdisciplinary approach, publishing literary criticism

and scholarship alongside new works in creative writing and the visual arts in both English and Spanish. In 2005, Point of Contact/Punto de Contacto opened a gallery space for its collection of contemporary art and for events and educational programming. The records consist of materials pertaining to the operations and activities of Point of Contact/Punto de Contacto as an organization, including correspondence, news coverage, promotional documents and media, as well as editions of its arts journal, event programs, exhibition catalogs and other publications.

Alphabetum Arabicum, Rome, Medici Oriental Press, 1592

Purchased with Special Collections Research Center Collection Fund

The Medici Oriental Press was the first printing press in Europe established specifically for printing texts in Arabic. Founded in Rome in the late sixteenth century, the press operated under the leadership of the scholar **Giovanni Battista Raimondi**, with the backing of **Pope Gregory XIII** and the financial support from the **Medici** family. Although the press was active for only a few decades, it produced a

number of important editions of religious as well as scholarly texts in Arabic. The volume consists of a prospectus of Arabic typefaces by the famous typeface designer **Robert Granjon** and an essay in Latin on the Arabic writing system. Granjon's Arabic type continued to be used well into the early 1700s.

Dzim Dollar [Marietta Shaginyan], Mess Mend ili lanki v Petrograde [Mess Mend or Yankee in Petrograd], vol. 1 - 10, (Moscow, 1924)

Purchased with **Adah C. Blackman** Fund

The storyline of this serialized Russian science fiction detective novel in ten parts follows Soviet workers as they confront capitalist antagonists seeking to destabilize Soviet power. The novel was written by **Marietta Shaginyan**, a Soviet poet and writer of Armenian descent, under the pseudonym "**Dzim Dollar**" [Jim Dollar]. The cover of each volume was designed by the Soviet constructivist artist and photographer **Alexander Rodchenko**. *Mess Mend* was among the most widely read Soviet pulp fiction series, with the first edition issued in 25,000 copies.

Collection Spotlight



Selected issues of Der Moderne Buchdrucker (Berlin, Germany, 1911-1914)

George W. Hamilton Book Collection, Special Collections Research Center

The **George W. Hamilton** Book Collection, a gift of George W. Hamilton '53, G'54, carefully documents the history and practice of fine press printing in Europe, particularly Austria, and North America across its more than 1,300 volumes. From antiquarian books and festschrifts, type specimens and typography tomes, to technical manuals on printing and binding, the titles included cover all aspects of the art, craft and trade of small presses. Of note are the typefounders and printers' specimen books, some of which date back to the 18th century. In addition to being informative and educational, many items include beautiful examples of letterpress printing with lithographs, woodcuts and other forms of illustration. The collection complements and enhances SCRC's existing collection strengths in printing, publishing and antiquarian books.

Hamilton has been a long-time supporter of SCRC and the Libraries and was an early funder of Sound Beat, a 90-second radio show highlighting Belfer Audio Archive. This successful acquisition is due to the hard work and dedication of Dean **David Seaman**, Assistant Dean for Advancement **Ron Thiele**, SCRC Director **Nicolette Dobrowolski**, Assistant Director **Lindy Smith**, Curator, Early to pre-20th Century **Irina Savinetskaya**, Lead Curator, Curator of Plastics and Historical Artifacts **Courtney Hicks**, and graduate students **Iman Jamison**, **Philomena Kern** and **Mary Visco**.

Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) Finding Aids

Making Collections Discoverable



SCRC Finding Aids (findingaids.syr.edu) help researchers on campus and around the globe discover rare and distinctive archival, manuscript and primary source collections only available within the Syracuse University Libraries' SCRC. Here are a few highlights of notable collection material processed this past semester:



1993-1995. *The Pink Paper*: A News Journal for the Alternative Community of Syracuse, *The Pink Paper* Collection, Special Collections Research Center.

Activism and Social Reform

- > Proceedings of a Conference on Pacifist Activity, 1 folder
- > Congress of Industrial Organizations (U.S.) Collection, 1 folder
- > Moratorium to End the War in Vietnam Collection, 1 folder
- > Pink Paper Collection, 1 folder
- > Women's Ephemera Collection, 0.3 linear ft. added

Broadcasting History

- > All About TV Recordings, 335 media items added

Illustration, Printing and Publishing

- > Jose Guadalupe Posada Print, 1 item
- > Shahnameh manuscript fragment, 44 leaves

Journalism

- > Joseph Heco Collection, inventory enhanced

Military History

- > Mary L. Russell Papers, 0.25 linear ft.

New York State History and Ephemera

- > New York Women's Trade Union League Collection, 1 linear ft. added

Pan Am Flight 103/Lockerbie Air Disaster

- > Pan Am 103 College of Law Collection, 0.2 linear ft. added

Radicalism in the Arts

- > Earl Browder Papers, 2 folders added

Recorded Sound and Music

- > Miklós Rozsa Papers, lacquer disc inventory enhanced
- > Women's Suffrage Speeches, 1 item

Syracuse University History

- > Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. (Syracuse University Chapter) Collection, 1 folder
- > Jaime Ferrán Papers, 2 folders
- > Karl B. Squires Glass Plate Negative Collection, 0.5 linear ft.
- > Joel Bostick Papers, 11 linear ft.
- > Sy Montgomery Papers, 1 folder
- > Point of Contact/Punto de Contacto Records, 3.25 linear ft. including 28 media items
- > Marie Joy Curtiss Papers, 18.5 linear ft. and 38 reels
- > Pedro Cuperman Papers, 7 media items

Recent Additions to SU Libraries' Collections

Spring - Summer 2025

Each year, key additions are made to the Libraries' general collections, with the vast majority being digital packages licensed from vendors around the world. These include a plethora of databases, eBooks, statistical data, all kinds of periodicals including academic journals, industry publications, and news and historical newspaper archives, plus other primary source materials. These items accelerate and enrich teaching, learning, research and creative pursuits in every school and college, are available to the full SU community worldwide (including students at every SUAbroad site), and are carefully selected to support the academic work of the University. Additionally, new agreements with publishers that enable SU authors to publish openly in journals without charge continue to grow. Recent highlights include:

Databases

- > **Access World News 2025 Collection:** 230 new titles from the United States and international sources, including local news outlets Cuse Media, NCC News, The NewsHouse and WAER.
- > **Applied Science Commons:** Reports, technical documents, white papers, grey literature and podcasts from research organizations around the world.
- > **Gartner Core IT Research:** Analysis, forecasting and reports on information technology products and services.
- > **Interrogating Colonial Documents:** Online learning tools designed to introduce humanities and social science students to key approaches and methodologies of working with primary source material.
- > **Reaxys Academic Edition:** Chemical literature, chemical compounds and reactions.
- > **Sage Business Foundations:** Overviews, videos and scenarios of major business theories and their applications.
- > **Sage Research Methods: Diversifying and Decolonizing Research:** Videos, Cases, Datasets and How-to Guides on conducting critical and inclusive research.
- > **Amnesty International Archives:** Materials from a global movement for Human Rights.
- > **British Society 1939-1951:** Documents on life in Britain during World War II.
- > **Chatham House Online, 1920-2008:** Papers, reports, pamphlets, books, transcripts and audio recordings of speeches and meetings at Chatham House, an international affairs policy research center and think tank.
- > **Cold War Eastern Europe, 1946-1982:** Documents from the British Foreign Office related to political, economic, cultural, social and dissident life in Eastern Europe from The National Archives (UK).
- > **Declassified Documents Online:** Declassified content from the CIA, FBI, State Department, Department of Defense, National Security Council, White House and other government agencies.
- > **History of Disabilities:** Materials demonstrating how society has presented, classified and treated individuals with disabilities in North America and Europe.
- > **History Commons** new modules: Indigenous Peoples Social Justice and Culture; LGBTQ+ Social Justice and Culture; Refugees, Migration, and Borders Social Justice and Culture.

Streaming Media

- > **Historic Dress in Detail:** Videos and accompanying case studies exploring European garments.
- > **Health Care in Sport and Exercise:** Videos and eBooks.
- > **Platino Educa:** Spanish and Ibero-American documentaries, educational shorts, feature films and animations.
- > **Sage Research Methods Video:** Data Science, Big Data Analytics and Digital Methods.
- > **Sage Video Social Justice Collection:** Videos of social justice movements worldwide.
- > **Sage Video Social Work Collection:** Videos on social work theory and policy related to practice, administration, skills and research methods.

Digital Archives

- > **Africa Commons:** Papers, newspapers, magazines and films from and about Africa.
- > **African American Newspapers of the South:** U.S. newspapers published and written by and for African Americans, from Reconstruction through the Jim Crow period (1870-1926).
- > **American Committee on Africa:** Correspondence, writings, speeches, publications, newsletters and pamphlets from a U.S. organization's involvement in African liberation struggles.

- > **Latin America Commons:** Materials on Latin American and Latinx culture.
- > **Latino Social and Political Culture and History:** Correspondence and other archival materials from prominent figures in the 20th Century American Chicano movement.
- > **Women's Magazines and Newspapers:** Newspapers and magazines published in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries focused on Women's Rights and Suffrage.
- > **Women's Studies Archive Part 2, Vision and Voice:** Female-authored literature, women's periodicals, correspondence and other materials on women's political activism, suffrage, birth control, civil rights and socialism.
- > **World War I Military Camp Newspapers:** U.S. newspapers from WWI.

eBook Collections

- > **Aurora Metro Books and Global Plays Collection:** Adding hundreds of international and translated playtexts by women, Black and Asian American and global writers.
- > **Database of Latin Dictionaries:** Dictionaries for Latin translation, etymology and history.
- > **Global Film and Media Collection** from University of Amsterdam Press and British Film Institute TV Studies.
- > **Oxford Scholarship Online eBook Archive 1990-2009.**
- > **Sources Chrétiennes Online:** Original texts in Greek, Latin, Syriac,

Aramaic and Georgian relating to the Christian Church.

- > **Springer and Palgrave Macmillan Social Sciences and Humanities Reference**, full archive and frontlist.
- > **Springer Protocols Handbooks**, full archive and frontlist: Step-by-step laboratory methods and protocols from life and biomedical sciences.

Open Access Support

- > **Elsevier**: SU-affiliated authors can publish openly in all eligible Core Hybrid journals.
- > **DeGruyter**: SU-affiliated authors can publish openly in hybrid, gold open access and Subscribe to Open titles.
- > **PLOS Mental Health**
- > **Taylor & Francis**: SU-affiliated authors can publish openly in hybrid and fully open access journals, including Routledge titles.

Research Impact and AI Tools

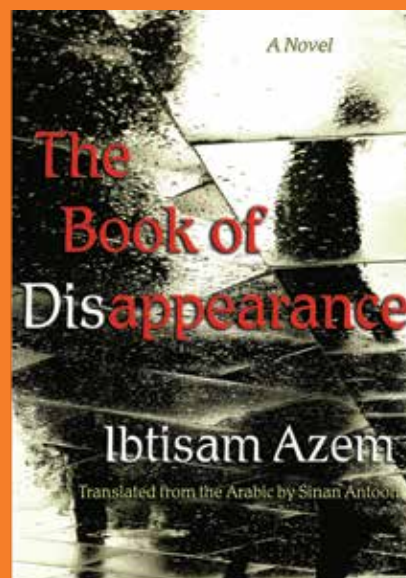
- > **Altmetric Explorer**: Provides access to alternative metrics for publications, beyond traditional citation metrics.
- > **Scopus AI**: Artificial intelligence research assistant added to the Scopus search interface.

New Research Guides for Your Use

Explore Research Guides curated by the Libraries at researchguides.library.syr.edu. With over 300 guides for various courses and partnerships across the University, Research Guides provide the perfect starting point for your research and academic needs.



- > **Art + Ecology Image Discovery Resources**
- > **Barner-McDuffie House Collections**
- > **Critical Quantitative Inquiry (CritQuant)**
- > **EEE 370: Introduction to Entrepreneurship and Emerging Enterprises (Spring 2025)**
- > **EZproxy Bookmarklet**
- > **First-Generation Celebration Week**
- > **Institute for Democracy, Journalism and Citizenship**
- > **ProQuest TDM Studio**
- > **[Military] Service Souvenirs: Objects that Speak Our Stories, Nov. 1-27, 2024**
- > **SOM 354: Managing in a Global Setting (Spring 2025)**
- > **Veteran & Military-Connected Students Guide to the Library**



SU Press' *The Book of Disappearance* Longlisted for 2025 International Booker Prize

SU Press' *The Book of Disappearance: A Novel* by **Ibtisam Azem** and translated from the Arabic by **Sinan Antoon** was longlisted for the 2025 International Booker Prize. SU Press published the book in 2019 and licensed the UK rights to London-based publisher And Other Stories in 2024. The International Booker Prize celebrates the best works of long-form fiction or collections of short stories translated into English and published in the UK and/or Ireland.

The novel unfolds through the lives of Alaa, a young Palestinian man haunted by his grandmother's memories of being displaced from Jaffa, and Ariel, Alaa's neighbor and friend, who is a liberal Zionist, critical of the military occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, yet faithful to the project of Israel. When Ariel wakes up one morning to find that all Palestinians have suddenly vanished, he begins searching for clues to the secret of their collective disappearance. That search, and Ariel's reactions to it, intimately reveal the fissures at the heart of the Palestinian question. Between the stories of Alaa and Ariel are the people of Jaffa and Tel Aviv—café patrons, radio commentators, flower-cutters—against whose ordinary lives these fissures and questions play out.

Critically acclaimed in Arabic, spare yet evocative, intensely intelligent in its interplay of perspectives, *The Book of Disappearance* is an unforgettable glimpse into contemporary Palestine as it grapples with both the memory of loss and the loss of memory.



Take a virtual tour!

Dylan Caskie G'25 takes us on a tour of the [Digital Scholarship Space](#) on the 4th floor of Bird Library.

Video by **Jess Van '26** (Newhouse)



Images from the **Ted Koppel** Digital Collection, Special Collections Research Center.

Nightline Celebrates 45 years, with Ted Koppel as Founding Anchor

It has been 45 years since ABC News' iconic news show *Nightline* debuted on March 24, 1980. The English-born American broadcast journalist, television news anchor, author and Syracuse University alum **Ted Koppel** '60 was *Nightline*'s founding anchor.

For nearly three decades, from its inception in 1980 to 2005, Koppel anchored the innovative late-night show that featured a unique mix of in-depth reporting, extended live interviews and live updates on breaking news stories. In the era before the emergence of 24-hour cable news, *Nightline* was often the only conduit for breaking news between the evening and morning news reports. In addition to creating the mold for the modern television news magazine program, *Nightline* contributed important innovations to the practice of television journalism, including the use of simultaneous live satellite interviews with multiple participants; the use of "natural sound" narration (the "Petacque" technique); the town-meeting discussion/debate format; and the use of Hi8 and hand-held video cameras for the collection of original news footage.

A daily in-depth chronicle of the late 20th century, *Nightline* represents an invaluable historical resource, covering a wide range of important topics and events, including ongoing events in the Middle East, Cold War politics and the fall of Soviet communism, the emergence of AIDS, political coverage of five presidential

administrations, coverage of the 9/11 events and aftermath, and Gulf War and Afghanistan war reporting. Enhanced with detailed descriptive data, the program archive offers rich possibilities for research and discovery in subject areas such as history, politics, the arts, public health and medicine, media analysis, journalism, social policy and the criminal justice system.

The Special Collections Research Center is the home of the Ted Koppel Collection. In 2012, Koppel donated to Syracuse University his personal video archive, a primarily videotape-based collection that contains over 7,000 items covering the latter half of the 20th century, including a complete run of the nightly news program *Nightline* from 1980 to 2005, during Koppel's tenure as anchor. The now digitized collection (located at koppel.syr.edu) also contains final broadcasts of other news programs and documentaries produced and anchored by Koppel, as well as hundreds of hours of accumulated source video that was utilized in the making of aired programs, including unedited original footage of complete interviews, field footage of important places and developing events, clip reels of relevant news and historical footage, documentaries and original performance material.

Episodes of *Nightline* are now available for online exploration and viewing by SU students, faculty and staff.





Information Literacy Scholars Produce *Information Literacy Collab* Journal

In 2019, SU Libraries and the School of Information Studies (iSchool) partnered to create an Information Literacy Scholars program for graduate students. With the rise of artificial intelligence and applications like ChatGPT, building strong information literacy skills is crucial for students and faculty who want to embrace these new tools in an ethical manner. SU's Information Literacy Scholars are at the forefront of this effort and have benefited from practical experience in a variety of capacities at the Libraries, from desk support in the Learning Commons to information literacy instruction and assessment in the classroom.

"This collaborative initiative provides iSchool graduate students with experiential learning and allows them the opportunity to balance professional studies with a personalized and academically rigorous student experience," said **David Seaman**, Dean of Syracuse University Libraries and University Librarian.

Now the program has gone one step further as the Information Literacy Scholars published the first issue of their open access information literacy journal, *Information Literacy Collab* (ILC), in May 2025. ILC is a diamond open access publication by and for students and early career professionals from around the world, designed to foster critical conversations about reflective and ethical information practices within a variety of learning environments. Diamond open access is a publication model in which journals and platforms do not charge fees to either authors or readers. This model is made possible because the journal is available on SURFACE, the University's open access institutional repository. Information Literacy Scholars publishing the journal are also honing their scholarly communications and publishing skills.

"When we began the IL Scholars program in 2019, we wanted to focus primarily on training graduate students to become strong library instructors," said **Kelly Delevan**, Information Literacy Librarian at Syracuse University Libraries. "In 2023, two of our colleagues at the SU Libraries, **Dylan Mohr**, Open Scholarship Librarian, and **Grace Swinnerton**, Institute for Veteran and Military Families Research and Digital Projects Librarian (and former Information Literacy scholar!) suggested that a journal on information literacy could be a great project for the IL Scholars to pursue. Fast forward and we're delighted to publish the first issue."

Excerpt taken and edited from ILC Volume 1 Issue 1, May 2025:

Interview with Early Career Librarian **Seyvion Scott**

By **Rebecca McCall**, Lafayette College

Seyvion Scott is a Student Engagement Librarian at Syracuse University Libraries, [where] she leads user experience (UX) and engagement activities, such as coordinating the Student Library Advisory Board (SLAB), providing reference and library instruction to patrons and collaborating with colleagues on library initiatives.

Seyvion's academic background is in the interdisciplinary fields and disciplines of African and African American Studies, Brain and Cognitive Sciences (Psychology) and Music as a Performing Musician. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in African and African American Studies in 2019 from the University of Rochester and her Master of Science in Information Science from the University at Albany in 2021. While an undergraduate, she began working in libraries as a library assistant in the Rare Books & Special Collections Library at the University of Rochester.

[At Syracuse University,] Seyvion [offers undergraduates support in] general reference, providing instruction on how to conduct library research using the Libraries' website, databases and journals. "If they can master searching on an academic library website, they can master searching in other avenues as well," said Scott. So, she focuses on getting users acquainted with the features of the Libraries' Search, advanced searching and the different specialized and focused research guides curated by librarians.

Submissions for ILC are accepted from around the globe each fall and can include informational studies, instructional lessons, traditional academic papers, case studies, book reviews, editorials and literature reviews. For more information and to see the first issue, visit surface.syr.edu/ilcollab.



THE CULTURE CLUBS

Researching Communities of Interest Cohort

by **Jana Rosinski**, SCRC Instruction and Education Librarian

The Syracuse Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Engagement (SOURCE) continued to offer a short-term research experience for first- and second-year undergraduate students this past Spring 2025 semester, after a successful pilot the previous year. SOURCE Explore engages curious students without much prior experience with an introduction to research by providing hands-on, interactive workshops led by a faculty member or research staff member. Students in this year's SOURCE Explore with the Special Collections Research Center cohort looked in special collections for traces of human culture, activity and ideas through archival materials like photographs, scrapbooks and diaries, homemade fliers and pamphlets, notes and ephemera to better understand what constitutes "community" from mainstream offshoots, to counterculture and subculture groups, to organizations of extreme niche interest.

Over the course of the program, students explored an archival collection related to a "culture club" of the past. Based on their individual primary source and contextualizing secondary source research with the community of their choosing, each student created an original zine (a do-it-yourself, limited-circulation publication) that represented what they connected with and uncovered about their community. Students presented their work and their experiences at a SOURCE research fair alongside students from the other concurrent cohorts participating in SOURCE Explore.

Here are excerpts and a photo from each student's description of their research.



Lucas Dewitt

Reel History: Film Forum at Syracuse
Film Forum Collection

The Film Forum was a student group at Syracuse University in the 1960s, 70s and early 80s. **Norman Keim**, the founder of Film Forum, wanted to start showing films on the SU campus for students to study and analyze, since film

was a growing artistic medium at the time. As a current film student, I wanted to analyze the importance of film at SU throughout its history. Learning about the history of the Film Forum and its impact here at Syracuse gave me a new perspective on what film means here at SU.



Noor Atkinson

Sniffin' Chaos

Sniffin' Glue

I researched the 1976 punk zine *Sniffin' Glue*, a raw, DIY [do-it-yourself] magazine that captured the chaotic energy, rebellious spirit and unfiltered opinions of the punk movement. I created my own miniature version of

the zine, keeping the same chaotic, opinionated style but shifting the focus to modern bands I love, rather than strictly punk acts. Instead of just replicating *Sniffin' Glue*, I reinterpreted its rebellious essence, proving that the DIY ethos of punk can be applied to any genre, any era and any fan with something to say.



Emma Donahue

What Do We Need to Be Free? - Exploring The Reentry Bill of Rights

The Reentry Bill of Rights: A Blueprint for Keeping Us Free by The Reentry Think Tank

My research focused primarily on how and why this *Bill of Rights* and the organization that created it came to be and what they are currently doing. In

the zine itself I wanted to focus on the interviews with formerly incarcerated individuals represented in the *Bill of Rights*. I think prison reform and helping formerly incarcerated people reenter society is a huge issue that is often forgotten about among the many other issues of the world.



Lorraine Matheu

We The People

The Reentry Bill of Rights: A Blueprint for Keeping Us Free by the Reentry Think Tank

My research delves into the powerful world of art created by current and formerly incarcerated individuals in Pennsylvania. Their work offers a unique and heartbreaking perspective on the injustices they've faced, their concerns,

and the realities of life behind bars and beyond. It's a way for them to share their stories, challenge perceptions and, ultimately, make their voices heard.



Sam Bevans

Monsters: Horror, Sci-fi, and The Birth of Fandom

[Famous Monsters of Filmland](#)

"How did fandom become what it is today?" is a question that is often asked as we see labels like "Star Wars Fan" and "Marvel Fan" becoming a part of people's standard identities, as well as

the negative ways it has impacted fans and creators alike. *Famous Monsters of Filmland* stands as a key example for understanding how fandom evolved, the passion and problems it created and the way we engage with films as art today.



Dan Fenzl

Echoes of Electronic Counterculture

[Radical Software by Raindance Corporation](#)

Echoes of Electronic Counterculture examines the relationship between the early adopters of video-based activism in the 1970s and the modern use of digital media for protest and communication. This comparison

illustrates there will always be those who push technology to its limits to make their message heard.



Janice Zhang

Syracuse Community Then vs. Now: Housing Edition

[Syracuse Community Development Association Records](#)

This all started when I first looked through the Syracuse Community Development Association files. The collections recorded much of the

prevalent issues in the Syracuse City community back in the 1960s. I pulled up reliable data from secondary resources from the internet about what the housing situation is like today. Finally, I crafted my zine strategically across multiple parameters to compare housing in Syracuse from the 1960s to now.



Emily Kozak

Native Rights and Fights

[American Indian Movement \(AIM\) Collection](#)

With my research I focus on Native American rights, policy, protest and key movement figures, primarily in the Northeast region of the U.S. Through highlighting the work of **Leonard Peltier** among other activists, I bring their

legacy into conversation with the issues that persist today.



Jera Strony

JAWS: A Place of Knowledge for All Women

[Journalism and Women Symposium, JAWS newsletter from the Women's Ephemera Collection](#)

Journalism and Women Symposium (JAWS) was created in 1985 by 16 original members. The goal of JAWS

is to provide information for women by other women through the form of newsletters. Today, JAWS is still up and running, offering membership and retreats for women journalists to create an inclusive environment for all. With my zine, I hoped to display the original look and information of JAWS and how a JAWS newsletter might look now in our current moment, and what I felt would be important to include.



Lillie Kochis

Religious Education Values at May Memorial Unitarian Church in the 1960s

[May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society Records](#)

Extra! Extra! Read all about religious education in the 1960s at May Memorial Unitarian Church in this

edition of The Theological Conversationalist. Featuring excerpts from **Jo Gould's** "A Guide to the Use of Conversations with Children," you'll be left with inspiration to take back into your own classroom. Opinion columnist Lillie Kochis shares where she wished her religious education could have implemented some of these values. There is unexpected wisdom to be found in these writings of years past.



Emily Tenorio

What's Forward: A View of Fashion and Environmental Culture at SU

[University Union at Syracuse University Records and Outer Fringe Society Collection](#)

For my project I looked into the University Archives by way of a scrapbook from 1949-1952 by members of the University Union. I was

fascinated with how the art and appreciation of fashion and fashion-related events transcend time—how they evolve and grow, but my exploring didn't end there. I came across archives of a club that existed between 1972-1975 called the Outer Fringe Society. I wanted to combine the findings from the past within SU campus culture through the lens of fashion and environmentalism and create a call to action for the future: to combine the culture of both to increase awareness about fashion sustainability within the student body.

20th Anniversary of the Brodsky Series for the Advancement of Library Conservation

2025 marked the 20th anniversary of the annual Brodsky Series for the Advancement of Library Conservation, made possible because of the generosity of **Joan** '67, G'68, H'24 and **William J.** '65, G' 68, H'24 **Brodsky**.

The Brodsky Series for the Advancement of Library Conservation, organized through the Special Collections Research Center (SCRC), has brought preeminent conservators to campus to share expertise with staff, students, faculty and community, while also consulting with SCRC staff on format-specific conservation issues and questions related to SU's rare and unique collections. As one of the first annual conservation-focused programming series in the nation to create an ongoing combined lecture/workshop format, the Brodsky Series provides discussion and experiential learning opportunities focused on challenges, trends and treatments relating to special collection and libraries' formats such as rare book bindings, paper, pigments in medieval manuscripts, plastics, textiles, born-digital files, film, audio recordings and photographic material.

Since its beginning, the Brodsky Series lectures have been recorded and made freely available online. The online archive of recordings is a significant resource for preservation and conservation professional development and knowledge building and continues to elevate Syracuse University as a leader in preserving the human record. The Brodsky Series evolved into a hybrid format during COVID and in doing so, expanded its impact to a truly global audience. This year's lecture reached more than 350 attendees from 10 countries.

Former Brodsky speakers and topics:

- > April 2, 2025 - **Jennifer Hain Teper** - [Historic Scrapbooks in Libraries and Archives - the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly](#)
- > April 4, 2024 - **Alexis Hagadorn** - [Reuse, Repurpose, Recycle: A Conservator Reviews the Long History of Binding Waste](#)
- > March 28, 2023 - **Nancy K. Turner** - [Materials of the Illuminator's Art: Medieval Recipes, Modern Identifications, and the Preservation of Pigments, Dyes and Metals in Medieval Manuscripts](#)
- > April 6, 2022 - **Anna Laganà** - [The Conservation of Plastics in Collections: A Challenging Path](#)
- > May 3, 2021 - **Monique Lassere** - [Translating Bits: Maintaining \(Born-\)Digital Heritage](#)
- > April 11, 2019 - **Deborah Lee Trupin** - [A Tale of Two Flags: How History of Treatment and Ownership Affected Conservation Treatment of Two Early Nineteenth-Century American Flags](#)
- > March 22, 2018 - **Deborah Stoiber** - [Conserving Cinema's Legacy at George Eastman Museum](#)



Jennifer Hain Teper (right) in SCRC, 2025.

- > March 23, 2017 - **Maria Fredericks** - [Rare Books as Museum Objects: Considerations for Safe Exhibition and Loan](#)
- > March 24, 2016 - **Sam Brylawski** - [Knowledge Crowns Those Who Hear Her: Sound Archives in the 21st Century](#)
- > March 26, 2015 - **Gary Albright** - [The Intensification of Photographs: Observations from Recent Research and Practice](#)
- > October 3, 2013 - **Jeffrey S. Peachey** - [Reconstructing Diderot: Eighteenth-Century French Bookbinding](#)
- > October 28, 2011 - **Lois Olcott Price** - [Line, Shade and Shadow](#)
- > October 22, 2010 - **Holly Krueger** - [Featuring Herblock!](#)
- > October 16, 2009 - **Don Etherington** - [A Sixty-year Odyssey in Bookbinding and Conservation](#)
- > November 7, 2008 - **Consuela "Chela" Metzger** - [Rare Skills for Rare Books: Book Conservation Education](#)
- > November 1, 2007 - **William Noel** - [The Archimedes Palimpsest](#)
- > November 3, 2006 - **Gary Frost** - [The Aesthetics of Conservation](#)
- > October 8, 2005 - **Hedi Kyle** - [Conservation and the Book Arts: Creative and Innovative Solutions for Preserving Library and Archival Materials](#)
- > April 1, 2005 - **John F. Dean** - [Conservation and Preservation in the Digital Age](#)



To view past lectures, visit **SURFACE**,
SU's Open Access Institutional Repository.



Entry to **Grace Hartigan** exhibition.
Photo by **Courtney Hicks**.

Original SCRC Grace Hartigan Materials on view at North Carolina Museum of Art

On view at the North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA) from April to August 2025 were three original screenprints, select issues of *Folder* magazine and various photographic reproductions from SCRC's **Grace Hartigan Papers**. Grace Hartigan (1922-2008) was an American painter and educator associated with the Abstract Expressionist movement that emerged in New York City in the 1950s. SCRC collaborated closely with NCMA museum staff to loan selections from the collection for the exhibition titled, *Grace Hartigan: The Gift of Attention*, which explored the creative synergy between Hartigan and her fellow poets and artists of the 1950s and '60s New York School.

Grace Hartigan was also the recent topic of *On This Spot NYC*, which focuses on putting women artists on the map. The nonprofit created a short documentary-style video of Grace Hartigan using research and reproductions from SCRC's Grace Hartigan Papers (vimeo.com/1033999255).



SCRC's collection is comprised of photos of Hartigan, correspondence, exhibition brochures and artwork. View the collection finding aid here.



Blackstone LaunchPad student employees.

Blackstone LaunchPad 10-Year Anniversary Celebration

The Blackstone LaunchPad is Syracuse University's entrepreneurship and innovation hub, connecting the campus resource-rich ecosystem with a global network that provides support for and builds communities of aspiring entrepreneurs, inventors and creators. The program serves faculty, staff, students and alumni across all disciplines who are interested in entrepreneurship, venture creation and innovation careers. This year marks the 10-year anniversary of receiving the Blackstone Foundation grant, the catalyst for positioning the LaunchPad as Syracuse University's campus hub for innovation, entrepreneurship and creativity. Similar funding from the Blackstone Charitable Foundation was provided to a global network of 70+ universities around the world.

Located on the main floor of Bird Library, the LaunchPad supports a key pillar of Syracuse University's academic strategic plan to give students experiential opportunities that help prepare them to be trailblazers in an entrepreneurial world.

Join us as we celebrate on Thursday, October 16, 2025 from 5-7 p.m. on the first floor of Bird Library.

REGISTER for the event by October 6, 2025 using the QR code below or by email to libcom@syr.edu.



The 10-year Anniversary Celebration will highlight LaunchPad alumni. If you are a LaunchPad alum willing to be featured during and after the event (whether or not you're able to attend), please complete the update form at this QR code.



Photograph of Syracuse University campus, circa 1889-1890, Syracuse University Photograph Collection, University Archives, Special Collections Research Center.

Special Collections Research Center Fall 2025 Exhibition

Architectural Origins: Syracuse University Buildings, 1870-1970

Ranging in style from Romanesque Revival to Georgian Revival to modern, Syracuse University's early buildings embody the architectural evolution of the campus during its first one hundred years. Since the University's founding, its buildings have been the backdrop for artistic expression, scholarly work, libraries, athletic achievements and student activism. The origins of the University's thirteen colleges and schools as well as its student housing and centers of administration and athletics can also be found within these buildings. Further, they have exemplified the University's values of scholarship, discovery and inclusion as well as historically significant architecture. Fifteen of Syracuse University's structures are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Curated by **Meg Mason**, University Archivist, *Architectural Origins: Syracuse University Buildings, 1870-1970* exhibits historical materials from the University Archives in Syracuse University Libraries' Special Collections Research Center. The exhibition showcases photographs, architectural drawings and plans, correspondence and other University records, postcards and

printed materials. Three-dimensional objects will also be on display, including a piece of a bleacher from Archbold Stadium and **I.M. Pei's** architectural model of the Newhouse Communications Center complex.

The exhibition will be on view at the Special Collections Research Center, Bird Library, 6th floor gallery during the Fall 2025 semester.

Movie Night at the University Archives: Historic SU Buildings on the Big Screen, featuring clips from historical films from the University Archives, will be held on October 30 at 5 pm. Visit the events calendar for more information.



In addition to this exhibition, historical information about Syracuse University's buildings can be found online. Scan this QR code, which will take you to lists of current and lost campus buildings, a timeline and many details about your favorite buildings.

SURFACE-Hosted Journals

by **Dylan Mohr**, Open Scholarship Librarian

One of the purposes of SURFACE, Syracuse University's open access institutional repository, is to provide a platform for voices across the university and beyond that might not find a home in other publishing venues. SURFACE provides the tools and resources for individuals to produce and disseminate their own stories and share their perspectives and experiences with the campus and global communities. Two examples of journals that have effectively leveraged this resource are *Mend* and *Intertext*. Utilizing SURFACE's journal hosting capabilities, these two publications highlight the importance of open publishing resources to expand the variety of voices contributing to scholarly and public discourse.

Patrick W. Berry, an associate professor of writing and rhetoric in the College of Arts and Sciences, is furthering his work and sharing with others the importance of what literacy and writing can do for those impacted by incarceration. Berry created *Mend*, a multi-modal journal that not only highlights the life and creative work of incarcerated and formerly incarcerated individuals and their families, but also provides opportunities for contributors to take part in the production, design and layout of the journal itself. By prioritizing participatory practices, *Mend* ensures that, from composition to production, the stories themselves remain under the stewardship of those telling them.

Another publication hosted on SURFACE is *Intertext*, a student-produced journal that highlights the power of storytelling. *Intertext* provides Syracuse students with a space to share their voices. By virtue of being published openly, these stories travel far beyond campus, reaching readers around the world and reinforcing that their experiences matter. *Intertext* continues to be the most widely read of 13 active SURFACE-hosted journals.

Open access publishing enabled by the Libraries via SURFACE allows students, scholars and the community to shape and share their narratives with global audiences. This dual role—empowering storytellers with free publishing tools and amplifying their reach—underscores the transformative potential of open access in creating a more equitable and diverse scholarly ecosystem.



Christine Demetros,
Associate Director for Research and Collections, Law Library.

Spring Kudos!

- **Christine Demetros** received the 2025 College of Law Staff of the Year Award, voted on by students, “in recognition of dedication, professionalism and commitment to supporting academic and personal development of students.”
- Syracuse University Libraries received the One University Assessment award in April 2025 as a ‘Shared Competencies Assessment Champion.’ This award recognizes campus community members and groups who advocate for meaningful assessment to enrich the student learning experience and operational effectiveness.
- The Special Collections Research Center and Syracuse Office of Undergraduate Research & Creative Engagement (SOURCE) partnered to offer a ‘shared experience’ activity for students in First Year Seminar (FYS 101). Their activity received a campus award that “celebrates a campus or community partner that engaged FYS 101 sections in a meaningful activity that allowed the students to gain a better understanding of their resource and helped the sections bond outside of the classroom, increasing their sense of community.”



Dean **David Seaman** and **Ryan Nkongnyu** '25, G'26 on the TEDx stage, April 9, 2025.

TEDx Returns to Syracuse University to CHANGE THE NARRATIVE

by **Linda Dickerson Hartsock**, Strategic Initiatives Advisor | Photos by **Ronald Thiele**

After a years-long hiatus following the pandemic, TEDx made a powerful return to Syracuse University this spring. With Syracuse University Libraries returning as host sponsor in collaboration with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Strategic Initiatives and Innovation, the event was a celebration of ideas, identity and the stories we tell ourselves and others.

Dean of Syracuse University Libraries and University Librarian **David Seaman** shared his pride in sponsoring the event, “We are thrilled that TEDx at Syracuse University continues to be a platform where knowledge, passion and possibility intersect. It is fitting for the Libraries to be the convener of events like these that strengthen our intellectual community and amplify the voices of our students and scholars. The return of TEDx not only renews a beloved campus tradition, but it also affirms the Libraries as a hub for dialogue, creativity and global impact.”

Organized by **Ryan Nkongnyu** '25, G'26, the evening brought together diverse and dynamic speakers whose subjective experiences and professional insights challenge narratives and sparked transformative thought. Nkongnyu, a first-generation college student leader and visionary, poured his passion into the event, best expressed through his personal opening remarks.

Nkongnyu shared how his mother, whose courage and determination brought him from Cameroon to the United States, planted the seeds for a future full of opportunity, purpose and change. “She decided to take control of her story and change her narrative,” he said, his voice steady but full of emotion. “All of us have the power to do this, especially students. Our generation is one of participation, not just observation. We are one of innovation, not just limitation. My mother changed the narrative for our family by imagining a new life for us. Tonight is about what happens when each of us makes that choice, for our ourselves, for our communities and for the world.”

He also paid tribute to two Syracuse University Libraries’ Blackstone LaunchPad alumni who inspired him. **Chris Sekerak** '19, created the original TEDx Syracuse events in 2018 and 2019, working with the School of Information Studies and Syracuse University Libraries. He mentored Nkongnyu on how to relaunch TEDx. Nkongnyu also credited **Ryan Williams**, a former SU student who worked as a startup mentor during his college years and was co-founder of the LaunchPad venture CLLCTVE.

The speakers included:



Sonia Issa '24, G'25
“Breaking Cycles, Not Ourselves”

A graduate student who also earned her undergraduate degree at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Sonia Issa took the

stage with a soul-stirring message rooted in lived experience and public policy. Issa’s work spans public, nonprofit and academic sectors. She’s led programs in housing justice, restorative practices and youth mentorship—often simultaneously. In her talk, she explored what it means to break generational and institutional cycles while protecting one’s own well-being. “Too often,” she said, “we are taught to wear resilience like armor. But real change is not about self-sacrifice—it’s about sustainable systems, care and healing.”



Jordan Pierre '23, G'24
“The Danger of a Single Narrative Story”

National speaker, youth mentor, media analyst and LaunchPad alum Jordan Pierre knows firsthand the danger of narrow narratives. An S.I. Newhouse

School of Public Communications graduate, Pierre’s work centers on media literacy, authenticity and representation. He was featured on *The Tamron Hall Show* and *Hoda & Jenna* and has become a voice for young Black men navigating complex identities. Pierre’s message cut to the core: “You become what you watch,” he said. “If all you ever see are stereotypes, you start to internalize them.” His talk dissected how the media oversimplifies identities and how young people can reclaim their sense of self by broadening the lens.



Alie Savane '25
“Reclaim Your Narrative: The Choice That Changes Everything”

Hailing from the Bronx by way of West Africa, Alie Savane is more than a first-generation pre-med student in the College

of Arts & Sciences; he is a dynamic leader, global health advocate and entrepreneur. As the founder of Bété Kola, a wellness brand that incorporates the kola nut—a traditional West African remedy—into modern nutrition, Savane bridges culture and innovation. His talk focused on the empowerment that comes from rewriting one’s own story from his perspective as a passionate advocate for global health equality. “A narrative isn’t just a story. It’s a decision,” he said. “You don’t have to inherit the limitations placed on you.” His work, from mentoring students on campus to participating in global health initiatives in Guatemala and The Gambia, demonstrates how personal narratives can evolve into platforms for broader change.



Melissa Nicole Martinez
“Be A Creator”

Melissa Nicole Martinez, assistant teaching professor at the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, brought a creator’s spirit and a

strategist’s mind to the TEDx stage. Having led media strategies for global platforms and brands, Martinez now teaches students how to wield content creation as a tool for visibility, empowerment and economic opportunity.

“Media shapes culture, and culture shapes possibility,” Martinez explained. Her talk emphasized that today’s digital age allows anyone with a smartphone to become a narrator of change. She urged attendees to move from passive consumers to intentional creators.



Clare Frattarola '10
 “How Teaching Kids
 Emotional Intelligence
 Can Change the World”

After a decade in media
 working with giants like
 Disney and Paramount, S.I.
 Newhouse School of Public

Communications alum Clare Frattarola took a leap and founded We Are Saplings, a mindfulness-based brand that teaches children emotional literacy. Her company uses nature-inspired characters and simple practices—like breathing exercises and yoga—to help kids understand and regulate their emotions.

“Teaching kids emotional intelligence isn’t just soft skills—it’s foundational to a healthier society,” Frattarola told the audience. “When we give children the tools to understand themselves,” she said, “we help them change the narrative from the inside out.”



Jeffrey A. Rogers
 “Cultivating
 Collaboration for
 Success Intentionally”

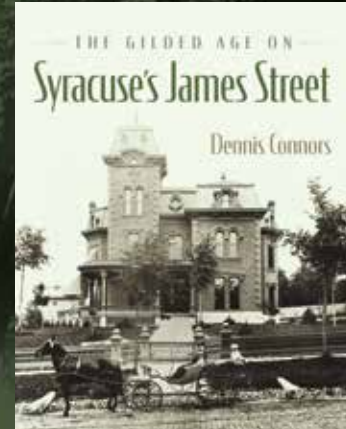
Leadership coach and business
 strategist Jeffrey A. Rogers
 offered a pragmatic but
 profound message about

teamwork and intention. Founder of Syracuse-based Catalyst Leadership Dynamics, Rogers specializes in developing C-suite leaders and entrepreneurs by aligning personal clarity with business outcomes. “Success doesn’t happen by accident,” he told the audience. “It happens by design.” His TEDx talk encouraged young professionals and changemakers to adopt collaborative leadership styles, practice emotional intelligence in the workplace and define their personal why.

The event was a convening of purpose-driven thinkers. Between talks, the audience engaged in conversations, shared reflections and connected with one another. In fact, this year’s event leadership team has already identified a group to continue the momentum next year.

Dean Seaman reflected on the broader vision. “We are proud of TEDx at Syracuse University. It is a platform not just for ideas but for community building and critical thinking. We hope the dialogue it sparked continues far beyond this event.”

Co-published by the Onondaga Historical Association and
Syracuse University Press



*The Gilded Age on Syracuse's
 James Street*

Written by Syracuse historian and former Curator of the Onondaga Historical Association, **Dennis J. Connors**, and co-published by Onondaga Historical Association and Syracuse University Press in 2025, *The Gilded Age on Syracuse's James Street* provides a history of the most fashionable road in the Salt City from the 1890s to 1930s. Connors shares the history of the stately mansions, gardens and carriage houses, many of which are long gone.

The book features 20 homes, each with its own chapter, which includes who built them, who lived there and the home’s evolution through the years. A beautiful ‘table-top’ book filled with photos and drawings, it’s a treasure for historians and architectural buffs.

Available at press.syr.edu

Congratulations to LaunchPad and Libraries' Outstanding Student Employee Graduates



Left to right: **Elizabeth Paulin**, **Tosin Alabi** and **Chidinma Chikwe**.

Elizabeth Paulin '25 (Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs and College of Arts and Sciences), student founder and LaunchPad member, received the Syracuse University Seinfeld Scholarship. The annual award honors the talents of outstanding faculty or students who have been determined by their peers to have made outstanding contributions to the beauty of the world, to have added to human values and to ending human abuse anywhere in the world, and to have demonstrated passion for excellence, creativity and originality in academic or artistic fields. Paulin started Paulin Ventures, a venture capital (VC) firm uniquely focused on investing in early-stage startups founded by diverse and disabled entrepreneurs—an underserved market with immense untapped potential.

“When I came to Syracuse 4 years ago, I had NOTHING—no internships, no accolades, no accomplishments, no funding—just dreams. Through your constant investments into me I have secured the once every 3 years Syracuse Seinfeld Award from the Chancellor, graduated summa cum laude, created Paulin Capital and raised \$100k+, interned at Citibank/Goldman Sachs, secured a full time offer in VC, won countless trips to international and national conferences, gained recognition from an Ivy League [school that I applied to for graduate school] (SU is still the best in my book :) and won Panasci [Business Plan Competition sponsored by Martin J. Whitman School of Management and open to all Syracuse University students]! You have truly changed my life. I know you don't always get to see the impact of your work, and I know we students can be a lot sometimes, but what you do matters. Every day, you're changing lives, and I'm one of them.”

—**Elizabeth Paulin '25**

Tosin Alabi G'25 (Martin J. Whitman School of Management), student founder and LaunchPad member, used her business experience to create DiabeTech, a smart sock bandage that helps detect early signs of diabetic foot ulcer. The product is past the prototype stage, and Alabi is in talks with manufacturers who may mass produce it for clinical trial. She raised \$40,000 last semester alone, winning five of eight entrepreneurial pitch contests she entered, including \$25,000 at Whitman's Orange Tank competition and \$5,000 at the Orange Innovation competition. Beyond that, Alabi applied for and was awarded permanent U.S. citizenship through an EB-1A visa, better known as an Einstein visa, given to foreign nationals who exhibit exceptional abilities in their field of expertise.

Chidinma Chikwe G'25 (Martin J. Whitman School of Management) and Syracuse University Libraries' student employee organized the inaugural Whitman Women's Summit in April to empower, educate and connect women in leadership and innovation. Themed “Limitless,” the event featured Deputy Mayor of Syracuse **Sharon F. Owens** as keynote speaker and brought together women leaders from across Central New York to share experiences, examine how technology and AI are shaping the present and future, and advance the fearless pursuit of entrepreneurship. According to Chikwe, “Too often, conversations about women in business, innovation and leadership highlight only the polished breakthroughs. But behind every success are the trade-offs, uphill battles, critical pivots and invisible challenges that multiply at every stage. Limitless was a strategic declaration that ignited cross-sector dialogue on navigating leadership in a rapidly changing economy, with over 100 participants and more than 70 percent reporting a shift in perspective. In today's AI-driven economy, those who combine evolving skill sets with collective action can open new markets, drive economic growth and shape future innovations. Thankfully, the summit has already laid the groundwork for strategic cross-industry collaborations.”

OCLC PARTNERSHIP

Engagement Provides a Win-Win

Syracuse University Libraries is a member of OCLC, a global library organization that provides shared technology services, original research and community programs for its membership and the greater library community. OCLC has thousands of library members in more than 100 countries. OCLC's Research Library Partnership (RLP) is focused on research that expands library learning, innovation and collaboration. Syracuse University Libraries has been a member of OCLC RLP since 1980 and is the third most engaged library of all its members globally based on metrics tracked by OCLC RLP. Through membership in OCLC RLP, Syracuse University Libraries benefit from professional development and skill-building support, research and collaboration activities, and networking and community-building opportunities. In turn, OCLC RLP and its member libraries from around the world benefit from SU Libraries' leadership and engagement, which takes many forms.

Research Support

One way SU Libraries engages with OCLC members is by sharing best practices. **Anne Rauh**, head of the Libraries' Department of Research and Scholarship, has shared insights with OCLC members through publications, research blog posts and webinars. The Libraries' Research Impact Team shared its highly collaborative approach to supporting the University's R-1 Carnegie Classification, which designates Syracuse as one of 146 "Doctoral Universities: Very High Research Activity." Since 2020, a team of four subject librarians—**Brenna Helmstutler**, **Anita Kuiken**, **Stephanie JH McReynolds** and Research Impact Lead **Emily Hart**—have worked to define and pilot services, build relationships with stakeholders across campus, and develop skills and capacity to serve researchers and campus units. The team has developed expertise in an array of products and services and shared use cases with other OCLC members.

The Libraries' strong, trust-based relationships with campus units are an excellent example of best practices for strong social interoperability—the creation and maintenance of working relationships with individuals and campus units that promote collaboration, communication and mutual understanding.

Other examples of SU Libraries' presentations to OCLC RLP members include workshops on Syracuse's approach to staffing the university's institutional repository as well as data, tools and workflows for maintaining shared print collections.

Collection Lead Librarian **Rachel Fox Von Swearingen** contributed to OCLC RLP's 'Stewarding the Collective Collection' project focus group and served as a panelist on shared print workflows at an ACRL conference. This work was important to OCLC RLP in filling out their knowledge around shared print collections activities.

Anne Rauh also participates in the OCLC RLP Leadership Roundtable on research support to discuss approaches in libraries across the globe. In addition to research impact, the roundtable has focused on open research as a strategic priority, how to resource research services and leadership in times of change and uncertainty.

SHARES

For more than 40 years, OCLC's SHARES libraries have offered interlibrary loan and reciprocal onsite access to the students and faculty of all SHARES partner institutions. OCLC libraries that choose to participate in its SHARES program can also opt to offer reciprocal onsite borrowing privileges to each other's patrons. **Ronald Figueroa**, Resource Sharing and Facilities Manager, oversees SU Libraries' participation in the OCLC's SHARES Program. According to **Dennis Massie**, Senior Program Officer for OCLC Resource Sharing Partnership, "Ron is a shining light in the resource community, and especially amongst his peers in the SHARES consortium. He is well known throughout the interlibrary loan community for his groundbreaking work on providing research materials in remediated accessible formats for differently-abled library patrons. Ron has also been instrumental in helping other libraries get started on the path to being able to provide such a service to their patrons."

Figueroa served three years on the SHARES executive group, where he led a survey initiative to identify current accessibility practices in interlibrary loan, helped create an accessibility resource document and was instrumental in a SHARES effort to have language about accessibility inserted for the first time into the revised United States Interlibrary Loan (ILL) Code. He and other ILL practitioners presented a webinar on "Increasing the accessibility of library materials—Roles for ILL." Currently, he is participating in a cohort of six SHARES libraries that are using the ILL Cost Calculator to identify lessons and best practices around comparing ILL unit costs. He is also on a working group to document and address changes in the way SHARES libraries receive visitors, and he routinely contributes to weekly SHARES town halls.

Special Collections

Syracuse University Libraries' Special Collections Research Center participates in OCLC's RLP Leadership Roundtable focused on Archives and Special Collections, sharing best practices and ideas with other members. Recent shifts in archives and special collections reflect a period of significant transformation, driven by efforts to expand access, promote inclusivity and respond to evolving research and teaching practices. Discussions have highlighted challenges such as the growing volume of remote reference requests and digitization orders, ongoing post-pandemic staff turnover and the increasing demand for curriculum-aligned teaching, especially the need for adequate staffing and space to support undergraduate instruction. Another recurring theme is the adoption of the Total Cost of Stewardship model, which encourages institutions to acquire fewer collections—but with greater intention—to ensure the long-term preservation and accessibility of existing holdings. This selective approach is particularly important as many institutions continue to confront significant processing backlogs.

Roundtable topics also covered the complexities of managing born-digital collections—including funding, specialized staffing, digital preservation and the environmental and financial costs of large-scale digital storage - and the high likelihood of inevitable gaps in preserved history as some institutions struggle to develop the infrastructure needed to be responsible stewards.

Representing the Libraries in this Roundtable, SCRC Director, **Nicolette A. Dobrowolski**, notes “these conversations provide us with a collegial and safe space to connect and learn from one another, offer support, foster community and exchange knowledge, best practices and creative solutions. It is important for us to keep our pulse on the issues and trends most of our institutions are experiencing and support one another when and where we can.”

According to **Constance Malpas**, Executive Director, OCLC Research and Programming, “Syracuse University Libraries have been active participants in the OCLC Research Library Partnership (RLP) for many years, contributing expertise and insights across a wide range of program areas. These contributions have added value for all members of the RLP network, extending the scope and increasing the impact of OCLC Research and Programming. We value our long-term partnership with Syracuse and look forward to deepening our collaboration in years to come.”

A Student Perspective



Nafisa Jeilani

“The Library is not only my favorite space on campus, but also the favorite space for a lot of my friends and peers. Bird Library is the only space on campus that I can say with confidence that I always see someone I know. The familiarity is comforting, knowing that someone that acknowledges you back is always gonna be there, makes me so much more inclined to default to Bird Library. The most helpful part of Bird Library was the SCRC. This is where I learned that this was the coolest job, archivists existed and I wanted in. This is where I met the staff and faculty who I still interact with today, reminiscing on that moment way back when and giving updates on my journey to be just like them. This is where I sometimes request to look at newspaper clippings and articles I donated regarding Syracuse’s educational history, just to feel the importance of my contribution and fantasize about what I can do in the future. The SCRC has been the most impactful space in my entire academic career, and I will forever advocate for students of all backgrounds to benefit from its treasures before they graduate.”

—Nafisa Jeilani '26
(Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs)

Syracuse University Libraries

222 Waverly Ave.
Syracuse, NY 13244-2010
315.443.2093
libref@syr.edu



Want more behind the scenes Libraries info?

Check out our news and blog at library.syracuse.edu/news and library.syracuse.edu/blog



Attend a Libraries Event.

See our listing



Ten Years of Books in the Humanities

The Syracuse University Humanities Center in the College of Arts and Sciences is a dynamic hub of scholarship and programming. It began its annual 'Books in the Humanities' tradition in 2016, recognizing humanities-rooted scholarship among campus-wide colleagues. The Libraries collaborate with the Humanities Center, the Office of Research, and the SU Bookstore to identify publications to be recognized. In addition, for the past decade, the Libraries has supported the Humanities Center's yearly celebration honoring the books authored or edited by current Syracuse University faculty, staff and students with an annual Books in the Humanities Research Guide and book display to showcase the important contributions of colleagues. The Libraries also purchase both a print and an e-book of featured books for its collections whenever available. This past spring, the Humanities Center recognized 46 works released by 45 Syracuse University scholars in ©2024.

Left: Attendees browse books at the 10th annual Books in the Humanities reception, April 30, 2025.

MAKE AN IMPACT

When you support Syracuse University Libraries, either with a gift that will mature in the future through your will or trust, or through a beneficiary designation on an account or life insurance, you can make a significant difference in the lives of students, faculty and programs. For more information, or to explore options that are most beneficial to you, please visit ForeverSyracuse.syr.edu or contact us at 888.352.9535 or GiftPlan@syr.edu.