

**VCU**

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

## News for Friends of VCU Libraries

January 2017

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Thanks to a generous pledge from an alumna, VCU Libraries is three-quarters of the way in an 18-month effort to qualify for a \$1 million challenge grant from [The Cabell Foundation](#). In December, **Stephanie Lawson Holt** (B.S.'74/E), pictured above, included a six-figure gift in her estate plan. "This incredibly generous gift comes at a pivotal time for us," says University Librarian John E. Ulmschneider. "Thanks to Stephanie's far-reaching vision for students, we now have a final goal of raising \$250,000 by June 30, 2017. She has set an inspiring example for everyone who understands the central role of libraries in academic life." [More](#)

### Cabell Big Screen to be center stage at King vigil

[VCU plans Jan. 16-22 a robust program of service and reflection](#) in honor of Martin Luther King. At dusk Monday, Jan. 16, a silent

### Breaking records: Exam season draws big crowd

Imagine half of VCU's student enrollment in and out of one building in one day. That's what happened twice the week before

candlelight vigil march begins at the VCUarts Depot and continues through the campus center.

The Big Screen will feature a tribute to King all day.

exams. On Monday, Dec. 5, Cabell Library had 16,243 visitors. Wednesday, Dec. 6, saw 16,998 visitors. Both days set records. A few came in just to buy coffee, but very few seats were empty.

*“This pledge moves us much closer to meeting the challenge of a \$1 million matching grant from The Cabell Foundation.”*

*University Librarian John E. Ulmschneider on the gift from Stephanie Holt (B.S. '74/E).*

### News

[Student and alumni work featured through Jan. 31 on Cabell Big Screen](#)

[National Book Award winner to give VCU Libraries talk Feb. 9](#)

[Renovations moving fast at Tompkins-McCaw](#)

[Explore "Wildflowers" in winter](#)

### Events

**Feb. 3:** [Copyright for Creators](#)

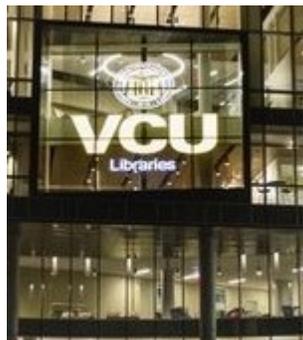
**Feb. 9:** [Black History Month Lecture](#), Colson Whitehead, National Book Award-winning author of *The Underground Railroad*

**Ongoing:** [Real Life Film Series](#)



## Selected Lists of Best Books of 2016

Each year, out of the thousands of books published, a few stand out to literary institutions and reviewers. Among these is *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead, who will give the 2017 Black History Month Lecture. [Here's a compilation of some lists.](#)



On the Cabell Big Screen



Stories from the Libraries blog



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### **James Branch Cabell Library**

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*Please make checks payable to VCU Foundation with the designation Friends of the Library, New Building Fund, etc., in the memo line. Thank you.*



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