Do you know ... VCU Libraries runs a consumer health library?
The Community Health Education Center, Gateway Building, 1200 Marshall St., is a consumer health information library for patients, their families and community patrons. One of the few such centers in the nation, CHEC marks 10 years of service to metro Richmond this year. It is a partnership among VCU Health System, VCU Libraries and the MCV Hospitals Auxiliary. A librarian, staff and volunteers guide people to free online and print materials that help them understand a diagnosis, manage a chronic condition and better understand health, wellness and nutrition. The center is just one example of how VCU serves the community. You are invited to attend an open house from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. April 17 at CHEC. No registration is required. Please drop by on the ground floor of the Gateway Building.

Serving our students
News coverage about James Branch Cabell Library's expanded hours, which started March 18, continues to showcase VCU Libraries' responsiveness to student needs. University News Center article quotes University Librarian John Ulmschneider and Provost Beverly J. Warren. Library staff members are evaluating patrons' use of the facility through counts and surveys. Students apparently welcome the change. Data from the first week of extended services show library use is up: 2,010 people were in the building during the 2-7:30 a.m. period, and weekend use was up by more than 1,000 patrons. Learn more.

Poetry thrives at VCU
A full house of some 300 attended the March 22 reading by Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Yusef Komanyakaa. The popularity of this Friends of the Library event illustrates VCU's close connection to the literary arts. Photos posted on Facebook. Learn more.
VCU Libraries upcoming events
As the academic year draws to a close, VCU Libraries public events are ending as well. Alumni Month events in which the libraries play a part are:

- **10 a.m.-1 p.m. April 14:** Friends of the Library Book Drive
- **11 a.m.-1 p.m. April 17:** Open house at Community Health Education Center in the Gateway Building, MCV Hospital
- **1:30-3:30 p.m. April 21:** RPI History and Memory Sharing Session at Cabell Library, Special Collections and Archives, fourth floor. Archivist Ray Bonis will present on Dr. Hibbs and the early days of Richmond Professional Institute.
- Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences is coordinating with the School of Nursing and the School of Pharmacy on projects tied to Reunion Weekend events April 20-22. Learn more.
- Continuing, INTERSECTIONS: ART AND SCIENCE at Tompkins-McCaw Library. Photographs of the opening reception in March.

More Libraries News

**Facebook facelifts:** As of March 30, all of these social media main pages were updated to a new format and a larger photo. (The second floor mural in Cabell is on the Cabell page.) Check out our new looks, "like us" and encourage your friends to do so, too. Have comments? Contact Sue Robinson, director of communications and public relations, at srobinson26@vcu.edu.

**VCU author honored:** Poets & Writers, Inc. announced that David Baldacci (B.S.’83/H&S) is among the recipients of the 2012 Barnes & Noble Writers for Writers Award. Read more.

**News to use--Start clearing your bookshelves now:** VCU Libraries' annual book drive will be held Saturday, April 14, as part of VCU Alumni Month. Volunteers will be stationed from 1-4 p.m. at the loading dock at the back of James Branch Cabell Library off Linden Street. Learn more or contact kimbrellgg@vcu.edu or (804) 828-0593.

**Stay in touch:** Like us on Facebook to keep updated with the latest in library news! Follow us on Twitter, too. If you would prefer we send updates to a different email address or if your mailing address or phone number has changed, contact us so we can make sure you aren't missing the latest updates from VCU Libraries. Please call Antonia FD Vassar (B.A.’05/A), assistant director of development, at (804) 827-1165 or email her at vassaram@vcu.edu.

**Thank you, thank you, thank you**
Thanks to our Friends of the Library donors for their support of the VCU Libraries.
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