August 2012

Vote for VCU Libraries

The office door of pioneering cartoonist Billy DeBeck is one of the treasures from the comic arts collection. Typical of comic artists, DeBeck painted his characters on the door. It’s up for a vote in the Top 10 Endangered Artifacts campaign organized by the Virginia Association of Museums. DeBeck (William Morgan DeBeck, 1890–1942) was a giant in the art form. To comic strip readers in the Jazz Age and Depression era, his characters were as beloved as Superman, Peanuts and Doonesbury became to later generations. Dialogue from Barney Google became part of the cultural syntax of the time. Catchphrases from his strips included: “Horsefeathers!” "Heebie-jeebies;" "Jeepers Creepers!" “Bus’ mah britches!” and “Time’s a’wastin’!” Google “with the goo-goo-goo-gly eyes” was the subject of a 1923 hit song by Vaudeville great Billy Rose. Please support the libraries by voting on the VAM website. You may vote more than once. Tell your friends! Vote now.
Interactive exhibit opens academic year
Universities promote the reading of research papers, in-depth articles and sophisticated books of all varieties. But often books that a person reads early in life make significant impacts, too. That’s the idea behind Books You Carry with You, an exhibition at James Branch Cabell Library through September. On loan from and organized by the Richmond Public Library System and sponsored by their Friends of the Library organization, the poster show features some 50 Richmond leaders and their childhood book inspirations. VCU President Michael Rao, Ph.D., Rams head men’s basketball coach Shaka Smart and others share the children’s books that still inspire them. The VCU Libraries show welcomes your participation. Come by the library and post the titles of your favorite children’s books, or use the Cabell Twitter address, @VCUcabell and the hashtag #VCUreads. You can also email your thoughts to Gregory Kimbrell at kimbrellgg@vcu.edu or comment on the Cabell Facebook page. More.

News and Updates

Library tours set
Aug. 20 is the start of Welcome Week on the Monroe Park Campus. More than 1,000 new students are expected to attend Library Fest, the 2-4 p.m. open house that introduces new students to Cabell Library. This could be the last fall Cabell Library looks just like this so if it’s been some time since your last visit, please feel free to join one of the quick tours. More.

New in 2012-13
Keep an eye on Library News to stay updated about what’s new to the collection and the latest about library services.

2012 Literary Awards from VCU
Judges have selected the winner of the 2012 Levis Reading Prize: Rebecca Larson for "Radial Symmetry." Larson will give a reading at VCU in the fall of 2012. The Department of English sponsors this award. The papers of Larry Levis are housed in James Branch Cabell Library. More.
The Department of English also announced that Justin Torres, author of “We the Animals,” is the recipient of the **2012 Cabell First Novelist Award**. VCU Libraries is a partner in this award. A reading and program will be held in November. More.

**Flashback Fridays**
The VCU Alumni Association’s [Facebook page](#) each Friday features a photograph of the university’s past. Most photos are from VCU Libraries’ Special Collections and Archives.

**Friends of Library giving levels 2012-13**
Please join the Friends of VCU Libraries today. More.

- $1–$99 – Supporters
- $100–$249 – Friends
- $250–$499 – Sponsors
- $500–$999 – Sustainers
- $1,000–$2,499 – Fellows
- $2,500–$4,999 – Benefactors
- $5,000–$9,999 – Librarian’s Circle
- $10,000 + – Rams Society

Donors at the $100 or more level are eligible to receive borrowing privileges, invitations to Friends-sponsored events and admission to the preview of the annual book sale. A gift to the VCU Friends of the Library is an unrestricted annual gift, tax deductible as allowed by law.

**Update your information: Do you have friends to add to our mailing list? Let us know!**
Do you have a new email address or mailing address? Please update your information by contacting Antonia FD Vassar (B.A. ’05/A), assistant director of development, at (804) 827-1165.

**Stay in touch**
[Like us on Facebook](#) and follow up on [Twitter](#), too.

**Thank You, Thank You, Thank You**
Thanks to our Friends of the Library donors for their support of the VCU Libraries. Please consider [making your annual gift today](#).
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