The latest edition of the Friends of the Library newsletter.

September 2012

Scenes in and around VCU Libraries

Some 31,600 students are enrolled at Virginia Commonwealth University for the fall academic semester. First-year students number 3,575 and more than 1,000 of them visited James Branch Cabell Library during the annual Library Fest open house Aug. 20. On the MCV Campus, Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences hosted two August open houses for its students. And health sciences students donned their white coats for the first time in time-honored ceremonies. See for yourself.

The VCU Board of Visitors OKs design contract

At their August meeting, the VCU Board of Visitors approved the $3.2 million contract for design work on the $47.3 million Library project. Moseley Architects and Shepley Bulfinch, a nationally recognized library design firm, were selected as the architects/engineers for the project, a combination of new construction and improvements to Cabell Library. Background and timeline.
“Emancipation Day” part of Year of Freedom

After the Civil War in cities and towns throughout the South, it was common for the African-American community to mark “Emancipation Day” with parades and speeches or more quiet celebrations. Because freed blacks and slaves learned of Lincoln’s signing of the Emancipation Proclamation at different times in 1863 and beyond, celebration dates and styles varied. In Richmond, the custom was for a parade on April 3—the anniversary of the fall of the city to Federal troops. A new online resource and an exhibit on display on the fourth floor of Cabell Library explore this important and little-known history of Emancipation Day celebrations through holdings of Special Collections and Archives and other historic sources. (Above: 1905 Emancipation Day Parade.) This project is in cooperation with VCU’s Year of Freedom, 2012–13, a series of programs exploring the meaning of emancipation and the Civil War on its 150th anniversary. Stay tuned for details of upcoming events, including a talk by writer for The Atlantic Ta-Nehisi Coates. Emancipation Day Exhibition.

Save these dates

Be sure to mark your calendar for these major VCU Libraries fall events. All are free and open to the public. Registration is requested for large lectures and presentations to assist with planning and facilitate seating. Complete listing of VCU Libraries events, exhibits and classes.

Community Health Education Center 10th Anniversary Lecture:
Why Hospitals Should Fly, presented by John J. Nance
6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18
Hermes A. Kontos Medical Sciences Building, 1217 E. Marshall St.
Register now!

11th Annual VCU Cabell First Novelist Festival
7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 8
Grace Street Theater, 934 W. Grace St.
Register now!
VCU Friends of the Library Annual Book Sale
Monday, Oct. 22–Friday, Oct. 26
James Branch Cabell Library, 901 Park Ave.

Gallery Shows

**Intersections: Art and Science**
Through Sept. 28, 2012, normal library hours
Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences, 509 N. 12th St.

**Books You Carry with You**
Through Sept. 30, 2012, normal library hours
James Branch Cabell Library, 901 Park Ave.

**Australopithecine!**
Through Dec. 18, 2012, normal library hours
James Branch Cabell Library, 901 Park Ave.

**Rams Reaching Out**
Coming fall semester
Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences, 509 N. 12th St.

Visit the fourth-floor gallery areas at James Branch Cabell Library and Special Collections and Archives at Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences for additional exhibits that rotate throughout the year.

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**News and updates**

**Clear off your bookshelves!**
VCU Libraries is still accepting donations for its October 2012 sale. Novels, biographies, scholarly works, cookbooks, movie DVDs, music CDs and more may be donated.

**Information on how to donate books.**

Interested in attending the preview sale on Monday, Oct. 22? Admission to the sale is available to all current VCU Friends of the Library donors at the Friends annual leadership level. **Details.**
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.

Friends of Library giving levels 2012–13  
Please join the VCU Friends of 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 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 VCU Libraries. Please consider making your annual gift today.