Library Gained 18th Century Musicology Works

TCU Gives Day A Big Success

TCU Press Newly Released Books

Faculty Speak Series
Kristie Bunton - Having Their Say: Athletes and Entertainers and the Ethics of Speaking Out

The Influence of the Perfect Teacher
Mary Kay Varley Collection

It’s A Wrap
10th Annual Banned Books Jacket Design Competition

Research Librarians

TCU Tales
A Legacy of Excellence Leo “Dutch” Meyer

Friends of the Library New Board Members

Loyal Friends
Glenna Odom - 50 Years of Steadfast Support
Wow, all I can say is that I’m stunned! This year’s TCU Gives Day was a great success for the Library and I am in awe of the level of support the library received. I’ve always said that I feel the love for the library from students, faculty, alumni and friends, but this amount of support went much beyond my expectations. The generous level of giving helped unlock the donor challenge gift of $15,000 from our current Friends of the Library President Stephanie Sumner Brentlinger and the Sumner Family. The Sumner family has been a long-time supporter of the library and through their generosity the library has been able to provide some beautiful spaces in the building, including the Sumner Academic Heritage Room and the finishes in the Special Collections Reading Room. Additionally, their donations have enabled us to continue to purchase materials for the general collection when university funds were limited. A big thanks to the Summers and to all that helped us meet the challenge! The funds raised will allow us to continue to provide quality resources in support of the university’s teaching and research activities.

To top off this great news, I’m happy to report things are starting to return a bit more to “normal” here in the library. It is a welcomed sight to have the students back on campus and using the library. Last year, while we had many students on campus, the hybrid teaching impacted the “busyness” of the library as many students attended courses online. With all classes in person this year, the students have once again flocked to the library. Furthermore, since the university needed to continue to provide social distancing in classrooms (3-feet between students), they looked to all spaces on campus, including the library, to use for classrooms. The library’s instruction rooms on the third floor have been used this fall for several mathematics courses, so that brings in an influx of students on a daily basis. It’s good to have them back.

Finally, an update on our building status. If you recall in the spring newsletter, we wrote about the flooding damage we suffered during our February SnoVID event which forced us to close the entire west side of the building for the duration of the semester. While we are still working with insurance to determine replacement value for the books that were damaged beyond repair, we were able to salvage about a third of the volumes (approximately 5,000) by having them freeze dried. Those volumes recently made their way back to the shelves. On an even better note, after several months of work I’m happy to report repairs are completed and we reopened that side of the building just before classes started in August. Additionally, the Board of Trustees approved the renovation of the west side and the design phase will kickoff in January 2022. I look forward to contributing to the design of a new welcoming entrance as you enter from University Drive, an enhanced Music/Media Library, additional quality seating spaces and upgraded staff areas.

As the pandemic wanes, there are a lot of exciting prospects on the horizon and it helps knowing that I have the support of so many on my side! Thank you again for your generosity during our TCU Gives Day campaign and every day. It sure makes my job a lot more enjoyable.

Tracy L. Hull
Library Dean
Special Collections recently acquired three early musicology works from Jean Philippe Rameau, a central figure of the eighteenth century French music scene. Rameau was a French composer of the late Baroque period, best known today for his harpsichord music, operas and works in other theatrical genres, but in his lifetime also famous as a music theorist.

Rameau was France’s foremost composer, especially for keyboard, but his talent also extended to the opera for which he even collaborated with Voltaire on three librettis. In the field of music theory, his reputation went far beyond national borders. His *Nouveau Système de Musique Théorique*, published in Paris by Jean Batiste Christophe Ballard in 1726, sealed his reputation as an innovator.

Rameau’s contemporaries considered this work so controversial it occasioned a public debate in 1729 and a series of heated exchanges to appear in the popular magazine *Mercure de France*. It is hard to imagine a work of musicology causing such uproar today!

His prickly personality led him to break with his publisher, Christophe Ballard, mid-production. This dramatic gesture set a pattern for the rest of his career; for each subsequent publication, he switched publishers, none of which quite lived up to his standards.

As an added and unexpected bonus, our copy has an eighteenth century bug preserved within the fibers of the paper! This poor bug fell into the vat of wet cotton while the paper was being made and, along with the fibers, became part of the weave of the paper. It also provides an excellent opportunity to teach students the details of early hand-paper making.
WE DID IT! TCU Gives Day 2021 was a resounding success. On Oct. 26-27, the Mary Couts Burnett Library received 67 gifts and unlocked a $15,000 challenge gift from Stephanie Sumner Brentlinger ’88 and the Sumner Family.

“Thank you for helping support the library. Your investment creates powerful opportunities that allow us to provide intellectual resources, innovative technology tools and an inspiring physical and virtual environment,” said Tracy Hull, library dean. “Your support truly made a difference.”

Because of you, we reached our goal to positively impact the people and programs of our University and the Mary Couts Burnett Library. Thank you for believing in the TCU Library!

TCU celebrates the second highest year in both dollars and donors during TCU Gives Day, as the university blew past this year’s goal of 2,500 participants — with 2,661 donors — and raising more than $2,106,412 overall for Lead On: A Campaign for TCU, the university’s most ambitious philanthropic campaign in its nearly 150-year history.

Thank you to all our donors for ensuring that the Mary Couts Burnett Library remains a home for current and future Frogs. Without your support, the library would not be where it is today.
Newly Released

Looking for a great read? Here are three great recommendations from TCU Press.

**It Will Rain Someday... Always Does**
*By Carol Henderson*

Carol Henderson’s first book tells the story of her great-grandfather, who braved the perils of 1880s Texas frontier life to ultimately establish the largest ranch in Jack County, which is still in the family today. This book, drawn from tattered handwritten letters, dusty photographs, and family lore and legend, narrates the life of a man whose history begs to see the light of day. It’s a beautifully designed book that would make a great gift for any cowboy or Texas history buff.

**With One Hand Tied Behind My Brain, A Memoir of Life After Stroke**
*By Avrel Seale*

Most would not expect a book about a stroke to be entertaining, but this memoir will force you to laugh through a tragedy, then cry, then laugh again. Avrel Seale was fifty, did not smoke or drink, had low blood pressure and had hiked more than two hundred miles the year a stroke nearly ended his life. In an instant, he was teleported into the body of an old man—unbalanced, shaky, spastic and half-paralyzed. Overnight, he was plunged into a world of brain surgeons, nurses, insurance case managers and an abundance of therapists. Beginning three weeks before his stroke to set the stage, Seale leads us through the harrowing day of his stroke and emergency brain surgery with minute-by-minute intensity. We then follow him through ICU, a rehab hospital, and a neuro-recovery group-living center, where we meet a memorable cast of other stroke survivors and also those recovering from auto accidents and gunshots. Finally home, Seale leads us through a new life of firsts, including returning to work, to driving, to playing guitar, to camping and even to writing a book—all with one hand. What emerges from his humor (“elegant but devastating”) is a revealing critique of the hospital experience, the insurance industry and rehab culture.

**Old Money, New West: Fife Symington and the Uniquely American Landscapes That Made Him, Broke Him, and Made Him Anew**
*By Robert Nelson*

By 1994, Arizona Governor Fife Symington was arguably the hottest young star in the Republican Party—a lively, articulate voice for a new breed of culturally moderate conservatives positioned for a US Senate run and perhaps a shot at the presidency in 2000. Instead, earlier decisions and mistakes he made as his real estate empire collapsed amid the Savings and Loan Crisis would torpedo his political career, bankrupt him and place him at the doorstep of federal prison. Then a new century—along with a preemptive presidential pardon from President Bill Clinton—brought new hope and opportunities as well as international fame in the world of UFO research. Born into one of the wealthiest families in America, Symington could have hunkered down in old-money leisure. Instead, he left the country to fight in Southeast Asia and then went on yet another real estate boom in the American West. He brought his old-school conservative fiscal philosophies with him, but soon found himself at war with the cultural conservatives within his own party, particularly on issues of immigration and the environment.

The library hosts faculty to share their many successes and/or speak about their newest books or real-world experiences with the TCU community.

In a digital world in which all kinds of people — especially famous athletes and entertainers — can use their platforms to spread out and advocate for causes and products, what's left to policy makers, politicians, journalists or public relations officials? On Nov. 2, Kristie Bunton, TCU Bob Schieffer College of Communication Dean, drew on her new book, *Having Their Say: Athletes and Entertainers and the Ethics of Speaking Out*, presenting the ethical responsibilities of famous people — and the rest of us - for speaking out about public issues in our sphere of influence.

Bunton’s book examines the ethical issues that arise when famous people speak out on issues often unrelated to the performances that brought those figures to public attention. It analyzes several celebrity speakers—singers Taylor Swift and the Chicks; satirist Jon Stewart; actor Tom Hanks; and athletes Serena Williams, Stephen Curry, Colin Kaepernick, and Naomi Osaka—and demonstrates that justifiable speaking requires celebrity speakers, journalists, and audiences to consider ethical issues regarding platform, intent, and harm. Celebrity speakers must exercise ethical care in a digital world where audiences equate celebrity status with authority and expertise about public issues. Finally, this book considers how people who are not famous can understand their ethical responsibilities for speaking out about public issues in their own spheres of influence.

Congratulations to Leah Hamrick and Nancy Menard, the recipients of the 2020 Staff Excellence Award for going above and beyond and being essential team members. Funded by the Friends of the Library, the staff excellence award recognizes outstanding performances by a library staff member.

**Leah Hamrick**, electronic resources librarian, was recognized for extraordinary efforts managing the library’s subscriptions during the COVID-19 budget reduction. Leah and her team pulled together an enormous amount of statistics, so that the library could make informed decisions regarding which resources could be cancelled. This took countless hours, but Leah’s attention to detail and positive demeanor made the work all that much easier. Her hard work also enabled the library to come to the negotiating table with a stronger argument, resulting in reduced rates on several subscriptions.

**Nancy Menard**, library specialist, was recognized for her excellent work ethic. Nancy is a part-time employee, but her productivity matches a full-time employee’s. In addition to her regular ordering responsibilities, she has a knack for locating obscure materials requested by faculty. When the library staff were forced to work from home during the pandemic, Nancy didn’t miss a beat. She continued her normal duties while helping document new workflows. Nancy assisted with closing out a complicated FY20, and helped identify some billing errors from one of our vendors which saved us money!
THE INFLUENCE OF THE PERFECT TEACHER

A gem among many, the Mary Kay Varley Collection is accessed by TCU students and faculty from disciplines across campus for research and other academic endeavors.

“A TEACHER’S LOVE FOR CHILDREN’S LITERATURE GREW INTO AN EXTENSIVE PERSONAL BOOK COLLECTION, WHICH HAS MADE ITS WAY TO A PERMANENT AND CARING HOME AT THE MARY COUTS BURNETT LIBRARY.

The Mary Kay Varley Collection includes works from best-selling authors and some of the most talented and creative illustrators, some of whom are dyslexic, such as Jerry Pinkney, E. B. Lewis and Patricia Polacco. The pride of her collection are works by illustrator Mitsumasa Anno, some in the original Japanese. Ed Young is also a favorite illustrator as well as Eric Carle and Steve Jenkins for their torn-paper style picture books.

“My hope is to provide a body of work that the students, faculty and community can access and that can provide pleasure and enrichment to their classrooms, projects or lives,” said Varley M.Ed. ’89. “Seeing all the books together in the special collections vault is a joy to me. I know the library will care for them in a way that eases my mind.”

The Mary Kay Varley Collection currently contains 3,495 volumes. More than a third of the books are signed copies and all are in mint condition.

“Having a collection like this is quite special because it’s hard to find children’s books in mint condition, said Tracy Hull, library dean. “Through Mary Kay’s efforts, and now Special Collections, these titles will be preserved, so that they will be available for researchers in a variety of disciplines including education, history and art.”

TCU students and faculty from disciplines across campus access the collection for research and other academic endeavors. It is a gem among may special collections in the campus library.

“Children’s books have immense research value. They speak to social historians, graphic artists and historians interested in the history of literacy and education,” said Julie Christenson, rare book librarian. “Thanks to the generosity of Mary Kay Varley, we are able to preserve these important artifacts in their pristine, original form so they can be permanently available for this kind of research.”
Chapter One
Mary Kay Varley began her teaching career 49 years ago in a multi-level class of children with learning disabilities and behavioral disorders. While in undergraduate school, she found her passion for children’s literature and discovered reading aloud to her students after lunch and recess had a calming effect on them.

She started with Roald Dahl’s Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, a children’s classic, and quickly noticed that all ages in the class seemed to love his style of writing. Reading children’s literature aloud was making an impact on her students and that’s how Varley’s book collection began.

She couldn’t wait for the library to get the books she wanted to read to the students, so she began buying her own copies, which had to be hardback.

“The read aloud books always had to be hardback,” said Varley. “Paperback copies didn’t hold up well, and I knew that some editions would be used for several years.”

A bookseller in San Diego suggested putting her book jackets in protective covers, because for a collector, the dust jacket was considered to be extremely valuable.

She has an extensive collection of pop-up books, especially those of Robert Sabuda, award-winning American artist and paper engineer. There are samples of his early and late work and everything in between.

Varley’s collection began growing by the hundreds and her home started to become inundated with books. She was faced with the challenge of where and how to store her books. Her hardcover copies were kept at home and she only took them to school for reading aloud.

“My small townhome became stuffed with books—baskets, boxes and bookshelves were full,” she said.

The Signature Collection
The collection truly took off in the late ’90s and early 2000s when a friend of Varley’s told her that children’s illustrators may perhaps be considered the new fine art artists and recommended she try to complete a favorite author or illustrator’s collection. He also encouraged her to acquire signed first editions as it would make the collection more valuable. Thus, her obsession began with collecting signed book copies.

At first, she would attend as many author talks as she could, meet the authors and then ask if she could send them a return postage paid box of books for them to sign. They graciously accommodated her requests.

When the online world took a more recognizable form, Varley found locating and contacting authors was much easier.

“To be able to easily make contact with the authors and illustrators was how I came to have so many books signed by Eric Kimmel, Faith Ringgold, Gary Schmidt and Steve Jenkins,” she said. “This connection also allowed me to form special friendships with authors and illustrators.”

Outgrowing Their Home
As Varley approached retirement, she began to worry about who would care about her book collection as much as she did. TCU immediately came to mind. One of the reasons she loves children’s literature, books and reading is because of Luther Clegg, who taught her children’s literature class at TCU in 1987.

“He loved children’s books more than anyone I’d ever known,” she said.

In 2012, she decided to contact the TCU Library to see if they would be interested in her eclectic and quality children’s book collection. After their acceptance, she began donating approximately 250 editions annually. The last large donation was completed in 2018. Her favorite authors and illustrators continue to work and publish, so each year between 50 and 75 editions are added to the collection.

Though Varley often collected on the basis of art, she also collected chapter books, such as those of one of her favorite young adult authors Gary Schmidt, who had a particular impact on her.

“Some books grab you and don’t let you go,” she said. “I used to spend my summers reading new editions of children’s books rather than ones for myself. Children’s books are never just for children.”
Three graphic design students are winners of the 2021 Banned Books Cover Design competition hosted by the staff of Mary Couts Burnett Library. The competition, now in its 10th year, challenges students in Typography II to read a book that was once on the banned books list and design a book jacket, including cover, spine and back, to reflect the story.

Richard Harris took first place for his design of The Magnificent Ambersons by Booth Tarkington, Avery Benevides took second place for The Rainbow by D. H. Lawrence and Jillian Morrison took third place for Wide Sargasso Sea by Jean Rhys. These winning book jackets along with other entries were on display in the library during Banned Books Week, Sept. 26 - Oct. 2, 2021.

Banned Books Week is an annual event highlighting the value of free and open access to information. Spotlighting current and historical attempts to censor books in libraries and schools, the event brings together the entire book community — librarians, booksellers, publishers, journalists, teachers and readers of all types — in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas, even those some consider unorthodox or unpopular.

The books featured during Banned Books Week have all been targeted for removal or restriction in libraries and schools. By focusing on efforts across the country to remove or restrict access to books, Banned Books Week draws national attention to the harms of censorship.
RESEARCH SUBJECT LIBRARIANS are a valuable and, for some students, little known resource on our campus. Each librarian provides instruction and support for the academic departments they serve, and they all have individual expertise in the research sources and methods that best meet the needs of their departments. Additionally, subject librarians are knowledgeable about library services, policies, and collections, all valuable information for students to use.
They called him “Saturday Fox,” for he was a master at pulling the major upset. “Old Iron Pants,” for his tough coaching, the folks around Fort Worth identified him as “Mr. Football,” but everyone knew him as “Dutch.”

It’s been 39 years since his death, yet the legacy of Leo “Dutch” Meyer ’22 is still very much alive. And although many these days can’t name details — such as the fact that he still has the most national championships of any TCU football coach — they almost invariably can recall he was some kind of an important figure at the university.

We would like to think that the University Archives contribute a little to the continuing legacy of “Dutch” Meyer’s coaching career at TCU. The collection includes photos, newspaper articles, memorabilia and other effects.

Football began at TCU in 1896 when the university was located in Waco, TX. TCU joined the Southwest Conference in 1923, the year Meyer entered the coaching profession as Horned Frogs’ freshman football coach. He was named head coach in 1934 (the year Sammy Baugh enrolled at TCU) and held the post for nineteen years, retiring from coaching in 1953.

Meyer spent several years as TCU’s athletic director until his retirement in 1963. What many don’t know is he also coached TCU basketball (1934-1937) and TCU Baseball (1926-1934, 1945, 1956-1957), winning the Southwest Conference Championship in 1956.

Meyer was considered one of the best in the business at coaching football. He built a foundation of excellence over his 19-year tenure, winning two National Championships, three Southwest Conference Championships, two Sugar Bowls and one Cotton Bowl Classic. He also accumulated a record of 109 victories, turned out top teams and produced twelve All-Americans, including Sammy Baugh, Heisman Trophy winner Davey O’Brien, Ki Aldrich, I.B. Hale, Lindy Berry and Darrell Lester.

During the “Dutch Meyer era,” his 1938 football team was considered one of the Southwest Conference’s finest teams. That football season, the Horned Frogs rolled to eleven straight wins, including a 15-7 triumph over Carnegie Tech in the Sugar Bowl to claim their second championship.

He gained stature as a coach when he helped mold the short-passing game by installing what would become known as the “Meyer Spread.” This famous formation turned the Horned Frogs into an unstoppable force like nothing else seen from that era. His offense attracted so much attention, he wrote a book on the subject entitled Spread Formation.
Many of the same principles of the short precision, passing attack and aggressive approach on offense are featured in today’s professional and college game.

According to Sammy Baugh, “Dutch Meyer taught us. All the coaches I had in the pros, I didn’t learn a damn thing from any of ’em compared with what Dutch Meyer taught me. He taught the short pass. The first day we go into a room and he has three S’s up on a blackboard; nobody knew what that meant. Then he gives us a little talk and he says, ‘This is our passing game.’ He goes up to the blackboard and he writes three words that complete the S’s: ‘Short, Sure and Safe.’ That was his philosophy — the short pass.”

Everybody loved to throw the long pass. But the point Dutch Meyer made was, ‘Look at what the short pass can do for you.’ You could throw it for seven yards on first down, then run a play or two for a first down, do it all over again and control the ball. That way you could beat a better team.”

His words live on too. Meyer’s overall coaching style and philosophy is best summed up in his famous rally cry that is still given to TCU athletes before they go out to compete — “Fight ’em until hell freezes over. Then fight ’em on the ice!”
The Friends of the TCU Library is pleased to welcome three new board members Holly Cimo, Dhananjaya “DJ” Perera and Caroline Samis.

“We’re excited to expand our board with three new members who will bring diverse expertise and insight to our work,” said Friends President Stephanie Sumner Brentlinger ’88. “Their extensive experience will be invaluable to the Friends of the TCU Library as we move forward with many new and strategic initiatives to promote and enrich the resources, services and operations of the Mary Couts Burnett Library.”

Holly Cimo grew up in Houston, TX and graduated from Vanderbilt University with a BS in Spanish. She spent nine years in the classroom teaching Kindergarten and second grade in Houston and Dallas before moving to Fort Worth in 2008 with her husband Michael. She has two children, Jack (15) and Clara (12), who attend Fort Worth Country Day School. Cimo currently volunteers both at the school and in her neighborhood where she serves on their association’s board. A lifelong lover of books, she enjoys helping in the FWCD Lower School library and is excited to explore all that the TCU Mary Couts Burnett Library offers.

Dhananjaya “DJ” Perera is a Sri Lankan American artist residing and practicing in Fort Worth where he has also served as an art educator for the past eight years. He currently is teaching for Eagle Mountain Saginaw ISD’s Boswell High School. Perera first moved to the United States in 2006, graduated from TCU in 2010 with a BFA in Painting and Drawing, and received his MFA in Painting and Drawing from Pratt Institute in New York. Perera has served as a Visiting Artist facilitator for the Kimbell Art Museum, as a National Advisor to the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations and most recently as a panelist for KERA’s 2021 State of the Arts. His work has appeared in several exhibitions and he has been the recipient of many accolades, including being awarded one of the “New Normal” grants funded by Mr. Edward and Mrs. Sasha Bass during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Caroline Samis joined Frost Bank over three years ago as a Business Development Officer for the Frost Wealth Advisory Group. She focuses on generating new Private Trust and Investment Management Services for the North Texas region, as well as leads the Family Legacy Services Team in Fort Worth. A fifth generation Fort Worth native, Samis is an SMU graduate, former Washington, D.C. Capitol Hill staffer, and a Development Fundraising Officer at her alma mater, All Saints’ Episcopal School of Fort Worth. Samis is involved in the Fort Worth community serving on the Board of the Cliburn Foundation, the Board of the Union Gospel Mission of Tarrant County, the Board of Rutledge Cancer Foundation and a member of the SMU Fort Worth Alumni Chapter Leadership Committee.

The board also includes:

Stephanie Sumner Brentlinger ’88, President
Craig Barbolla, Vice President
Kevin Kuenzli, Treasurer
Shelda Dean, Secretary
Mary Kay Varley

Since the organization’s founding in 1972, the Friends of the TCU Library have enriched the University with their generosity. The Friends of the TCU Library is a coalition of individuals dedicated to helping the library maintain excellence by providing funds for reference materials, books, rare books and continues to provide much-needed support for equipment as well as support its many programs. We will continue to fund many worthwhile projects for the library. For more information, please visit: www.lib.tcu.edu/friends.
Glenna Odom has been a member of the Friends of the TCU Library since 1972 when she and her husband Dr. Keith C. Odom (TCU English Dept. 1962 - 1997) were instrumental in beginning the Friends organization. Dr. Odom’s whole life centered around books, so the Friends of the Library was a natural fit for he and Glenna.

TCU runs deep in the Odom family and they truly bleed purple. Glenna graduated in 1953 and her two sons, Dennis and Clayton Odom also graduated from TCU. Clayton also received his Master’s Degree from TCU and was a proud member of the TCU Baseball team. Dennis currently works at TCU as Head of Technical Services at the Library. During the 1970s and early 80s Glenna and her husband lead several tours throughout the British Isles for TCU, which was part of the TCU Tours program.

Books have always been an important part of the Odom family life and supporting the TCU Library was just a natural extension of their family’s love of books. It is through the generosity of people like Glenna that allows the Mary Couts Burnett Library to expand our holdings and improve our facilities.

When asked why she continues to give to the library, Odom said:

“I see the library as an important part of campus life. With all the money spent on Athletics, I am proud to have helped support the Friends which focuses more on the academic side of the University.”

Become a Friend of the Library today! Visit www.lib.tcu.edu/friends

In Memoriam

This year marked the passing of past president (2010 - 2012) of the Friends of the Library Mrs. Susan Nancy Vernor Smith. Susan went to TCU, where she developed a great love for purple, Zeta Tau Alpha sorority, Horned Frog sports and Fort Worth. She was very active in the community and was dedicated to supporting TCU and the TCU Library. Her passion and tenacity for the improvement of the library and TCU community will be missed, but her enduring spirit lives on.

Loyal Friends

We are deeply grateful for her generosity and steadfast support of 50 years!
SAVE the DATE
For The
2022 Texas Book Award
Wednesday, April 13, 2022
In-Person Celebration

Friends of the TCU Library

TCU Library
The Place for Great Minds