

fiat lux

SPRING 2010 • NO. 15

Sharing the Thrill of Discovery

ALUMNA SHARES THE FUN OF LIBRARY FINDS WITH TODAY'S STUDENTS

IT STARTS HERE.

Berkeley's excellence is founded on its library. Opened in 1868 with one thousand books, the University Library now holds over ten million volumes, and ranks as one of the world's great research collections. Join us in supporting the growth and preservation of this stellar library.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

In the Beginning

Jazz Pianist's Gift

Strengthening the Collections

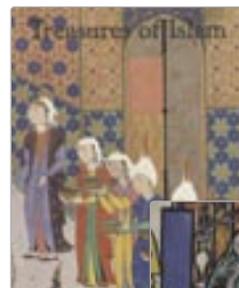
Luncheon in the Library

The Best Thing Ever!

East Asian Library Wins Design Award

Shannon McClatchey '88 gleefully recalls the thrill of earning her "stack pass" as a junior, back when access to the stacks was restricted. "I remember how exciting it was to get my pass and be able to —literally— get lost in the stacks. More than once I truly did get lost there, spending hours on some rainy afternoon probably looking at books that had nothing to do with my classes."

Shannon felt the same excitement when she was given access to the Art History Library in Doe, which was reserved at that time for the use of advanced-level students. "There were so many amazing books — I always found something new and wonderful to look at," she says. "Just being in those rooms was inspiring. That's part of the reason I donate to the Art History Library today, so that some other student can have that same experience."



The art history collections in the University Library are considered to be the best and most comprehensive west of the Mississippi. Berkeley's art history faculty includes renowned scholars such as Timothy J. Clark, Patricia Berger, and Joanna Williams.

University Librarian's Letter

IN THE BEGINNING



Great libraries hold the story of mankind, a story that Berkeley keeps making longer. The early hominid Ardi (*Ardipithecus ramidus*), discovered by Berkeley researchers, was front page news last fall. "Becoming Human," the recent PBS *Nova* series, puts Ardi (4.4 million years old) in the continuum of early man that ends with the last great Ice Age, 12 thousand years ago. DNA analysis, refined carbon dating, genetic shift, and other new metrics are producing a stunning new picture of our ancestors.

Librarians know how difficult it is to collect the scholarship of these discoveries, only a little easier than displaying the artifacts themselves. The British Museum, holding work by man that is 1.8 million years old, now lights up stone tools as if they were intriguing jewels. As they seem to be. Many stone axes have been found along waterways in Britain, inspiring curators to draw pictures of hairy ancestors splashing as they hunted game. But the experts now wonder if these people were doing no such thing, and just liked to drop their axes in the water as we might leave objects at memorials.

In addition to taking in the great volume of technical literature in pre-history, your library adds works for the general reader. Nicholas Wade surveyed multiple migrations out of Africa in *Before the Dawn* (2006). This is a good place to go for the latest thinking about the demise of the Neanderthals and the rise of *homo sapiens*. *The Complete Ice Age*, a new coffee table book, shows a globe as exotic to us as another planet, while making mankind and land today more understandable.

An arc of human culture, from around 36,000 to 12,000 years ago, appears more glorious as we learn more about it. The cave painters of France and Spain left more than 20,000 images, exciting the art world during the past century as the charging horses, bison, and lions became common knowledge. *The Cave Painters* (2006) by Gregory Curtis and *The Cave and the Cathedral* (2009) by Amir Aczel sum up the latest discoveries and the long wars within the academy to make sense of the images. There is room to enlist if you wish to rely on ethnographic models from contemporary hunter-gatherers, or the wiring of the human nervous system, or gender theories, or New Age beliefs. Berkeley anthropologist Meg Conkey has her students explore "The Cave Man Mystique," suggesting the intellectual excitement they are in for as they visit the library.

Cave painters and other ancient artists did work that remained powerful and stable. The caves were renewed with new images after gaps of thousands of years and the cultural tradition remained intact for twenty thousand years. No library has kept a cultural tradition safe for even a thousand years, and the move of information from ink to bits makes it less likely that we will ever do as well in preservation as the first modern humans. The only certainties are that we will be reading more about them and testing new arguments. And, for many generations, anyway, libraries will safeguard this knowledge.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "The Leonard".

Thomas C. Leonard
Kenneth and Dorothy Hill University Librarian

This letter is expanded from a post on the Berkeley Blog, a new interactive site that shares ideas and opinions on topical national and global issues from UC Berkeley professors and scholars. Visit blogs.berkeley.edu to read current discussions on climate research, the U.S. economy, Haiti, health care reform, air travel safety, and much more.



Shannon McClatchey '88, on the San Francisco Bay

Sharing the Thrill of Discovery, continued from page 1

As an undergraduate majoring in art history, fashion design was one of Shannon's interests, and a highlight of her years at Berkeley was the creation of a fashion show featuring the fifteenth-century painters Jan van Eyck and Rogier Van der Weyden. The assignment, for a course on early northern Renaissance art taught by James Marrow, was to invent a conversation between the two Flemish painters, in any format except a traditional academic paper. The unusual project stimulated students to draw on their own creativity while demonstrating their learning in the course.

Together with art history, music and photography are two of Shannon's lifelong passions. After graduating from Berkeley, she earned an MA in the history of art and film from the University of Chicago. She has studied photography since high school (her Irish landscapes and images of Paris can be viewed at www.mcshanphoto.com). Shannon notes that she still prefers the "old school" practice of darkroom work: "Even though I've developed countless rolls of film and printed hundreds of photos, I still enjoy the magical thrill of watching an image appear on paper."

Shannon draws on her love of music for her career in the digital music industry. Based in Los Angeles, she currently leads the partner marketing initiatives for Napster,



David Schmitz

The extensive art history collections at the University Library are accessible to all library users in Doe's Gardner Stacks. They are estimated to be second in value only to the vast special collections housed at Berkeley's Bancroft Library.

which has evolved from being a controversial music-sharing site to a business model based on paid subscriptions. Previously, she had a ten-year career at AOL, where one of her achievements was to revamp the live music area of the Digital City sites.

An avid reader, Shannon enthused about the recent novel *Brooklyn* by Colm Tóibín, and about Lucinda Holdforth's *True Pleasures: A Memoir of Women in Paris*. This spring, she was eagerly waiting an appearance by Patti Smith at a nearby bookstore, where the musician was to sign copies of her well-received new memoir *Just Kids*.

"It's really important to support the University Library," Shannon concluded. "My father is an antiquarian bookdealer, so I've been around books and people who love books my whole life. And the art books I own are among my prized possessions. I support the Art History Library so that a future student at Cal can come across an amazing book there someday, and experience the delight and wonder I felt in my time." 🌿

"Just being in those rooms was inspiring. That's part of the reason I donate to the Art History Library today, so that some other student can have that same experience."

Estate of jazz pianist Earl “Fatha” Hines given to UC Berkeley

NEW ARCHIVE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSIC ESTABLISHED

Adapted from a December 8, 2009 story by José Rodríguez, University Relations

The gift to the University of California, Berkeley, of the bulk of famous jazz pianist Earl “Fatha” Hines’ estate will provide exceptionally gifted low-income students with free musical instruction and the Music Library with his collection of papers, compositions and memorabilia.

Hines’ musical archive will become the cornerstone at the Jean Gray Hargrove Music Library of a new Archive of African American Music, which will be unique on the West Coast.

Hines played to sold-out audiences in the United States and around the world for most of the 20th century, defining jazz until his death in 1983. For the last three decades of his life, he lived in Oakland during a time of renewed appreciation for his contributions to jazz.

Hines, who first came to UC Berkeley as a Regents’ Lecturer in music in 1979, had a special interest in furthering music education, particularly that of African American students, and stipulated that a portion of his estate be dedicated to such purposes.

A key part of the estate gift will create the Earl “Fatha” Hines Young Musicians Development Fund, which will benefit students in the campus’s Young Musicians Program. This program has spawned such luminaries as saxophonist Joshua Redman, pianist Benny Green, and drummer Will Kennedy. Its students currently are enrolled in 26 universities and conservatories across the country.

In addition to supporting the education of young pianists in the classical and jazz traditions, the monetary gift — in excess of \$257,900 — will also allow the program to fund guest artists who spend several weeks teaching and mentoring students at UC Berkeley during the summer.

MUSICIAN’S COLLECTION TO BE HOUSED AT LIBRARY

The Earl “Fatha” Hines Collection — the other component of the overall gift — helps document the rise of Hines as one of jazz’s early masters, and his continuing importance in jazz history in the 1940s as the leader of the first modern jazz big band, which included Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie, Sarah Vaughn and Billy Eckstein.

“These materials not only document the career of a jazz pioneer, but they also illuminate decades of musical life in the Bay Area,” said John Shepard, head librarian at the Music Library. The collection forms the cornerstone of a new Archive of African American Music.

A major strength of the Hines collection is the group of “charts” — the instrumentalists’ performance parts — used by Hines’ big band and smaller ensemble, said Shepard. Among the charts are numerous arrangements

These materials not only document the career of a jazz pioneer, but they also illuminate decades of musical life in the Bay Area.



by luminaries such as Tadd Dameron and Budd Johnson, as well as memorabilia, correspondence, biographical materials and some interesting regalia, such as Hines' stage costumes and collection of fancy cufflinks.

"This is an unusual kind of gift from an artist to a university," said Professor Emeritus of Music Olly W. Wilson. The only other comparable collections are at the Library of Congress, the Yale University Library, the Center for Black Music Research at Columbia College Chicago and the Institute of Jazz Studies at Rutgers University.

The Hines collection "helps to support research in the field of African American music, defined broadly as the wide range of extraordinary music genres that developed in African American culture," Wilson added.

It is a fitting association for the legacy of Hines, who is considered to be, along with Jelly Roll Morton, the major innovator in the development of jazz piano. Hines developed a style of playing florid linear melodic passages that had an inner musical logic in the right hand, while maintaining a steady rhythmic left hand, all performed with the characteristic jazz triplet subdivision of the pulse.

Because Hines frequently played these lines in octaves so they could be better heard, they reminded people of the lines horn soloists played, and so this style was referred to as "trumpet piano style." Hines also developed a technique of playing fiendishly difficult lines with rhythmic vitality, unexpected interjected dissonances, and interior counter melodies in the middle range of the piano.

One of the highlights of Hines' life was being presented in 1969 with a magnificent unique Steinway grand piano by *San Francisco Chronicle* managing editor Scott Newhall at a gala event in Hines' honor.

The inscription on that grand piano reads, in part: "This piano is the only one of its kind in the world and expresses the great genius of a man who has never played a melancholy note in his lifetime on a planet that has often succumbed to despair." 🌿

SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN TO STRENGTHEN THE LIBRARY COLLECTIONS



John Shepard, head of the Jean Grey Hargrove Music Library, with Professor Davitt Moroney in the foreground. The two are admiring treasures in the Music Library, whose superb collections are renowned among scholars and musicians around the world.

A notable recent acquisition is a manuscript copy of Handel's opera *Siroe*, from circa 1740, which will enhance the strengths of the Music Library's special collections in 17th to 19th century operas. The purchase was made possible by an endowment for rare materials that was established in 1953 by Elizabeth Patterson Mitchell, who was a musician and prominent member of the San Francisco and European artistic communities.

Rare manuscripts like the Handel opera—and many others at campus libraries—are an invaluable resource for scholars, and greatly contribute to the globally-recognized quality of Berkeley research. Yet the hundreds of thousands of titles used in day-to-day research are fundamental to the learning that happens on campus.

In all forms—rare manuscripts, monographs, science journals, maps, digital resources, films, and many others—the Library's rich holdings inspire students and faculty across the disciplines. The Campaign for the University Library will raise \$25 million to secure the long-term health of our collections. Visit lib.berkeley.edu/give for more information on the Campaign.

LUNCHEON



Library Campaign Leadership Committee members Jack Rosston '42 and Sheryl Wong '67, with Bob Wong '68

IN JANUARY, the University Library opened its doors to over 200 alumni and friends. Following three warmly received readings—from Mark Twain editor Bob Hirst, and novelists Daniel Mason and Sara Houghteling—guests enjoyed each other's company over lunch in the elegantly appointed Morrison Library. Due to winter break, no students were on campus during the event, so the Doe Library rooms which are normally filled with people quietly working were open to attendees. The event was a gesture of appreciation from the Library to Bay Area donors, thanking them for their generous support over the years.



Bob Hirst M.A. '65, Ph.D. '76 with Tom Worth '72, J.D. '76, who serves on the Library Campaign Leadership Committee. Hirst is general editor of the Mark Twain Project at the Bancroft Library. Nearing publication is the massive work of Mark Twain's autobiography, scheduled to appear on the centenary of Twain's death. Visit www.marktwainproject.org to learn more.



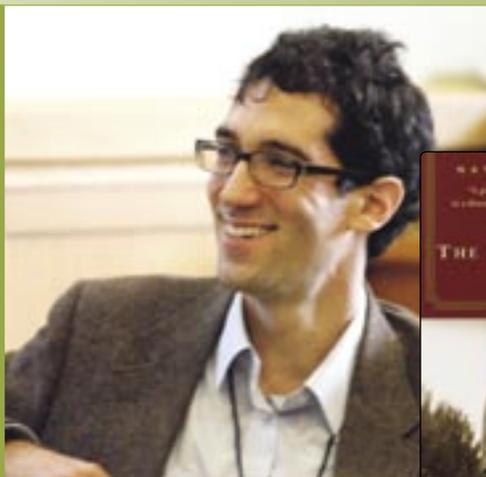
John Post '49, Polly Mansfield-Post '48, and Sylvia McLaughlin, well-known environmentalist and co-founder of "Save the Bay"

IN THE LIBRARY

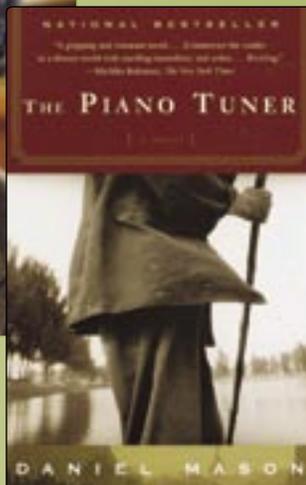
LIBRARY COLLECTIONS FUEL NOVELIST'S CREATIONS



Novelist Sara Houghteling, who read from a work-in-progress entitled *The Great Silence*, about a pianist searching for Hindemith's lost piano concerto after ruining his right hand practicing Brahms' Piano Concerto in B-Flat Major. Her novel *Pictures at an Exhibition* was published in 2009. Sara received her MFA from the University of Michigan, and teaches English at Marin Academy.



Daniel Mason (who is married to Sara Houghteling) published his first novel, the national bestseller *The Piano Tuner* in 2002, and his second, *A Far Country*, in 2007. For guests at the Library event, he read from the novel he is now writing, about the early study of the art of the mentally ill.



In developing his stories, Daniel Mason richly mines the collections of the University Library, commenting that "there are weeks that I visit the library every day

for hours. Just for this current novel, I have found: World War I sanitation manuals for Medical Officers, German Propaganda sent to Cal during World War I, 1920s psychiatric treatises on the artwork of the mentally ill, textbooks for learning German, descriptions of Austrian

medical school, monographs on turn-of-the-century artists, two fascinating volumes on the correspondences of Richard Strauss and his librettists... I have even found old travel guides, telling me what steamers my characters could take, where they could buy train tickets, eat dinner, what paintings they would see in what room of the museums. In the biology library, I have found field guides on the flora and fauna of Eastern Europe, so I know about the kind of plants my characters would pass on their walks. In the video collection of the Media Resources Center, I have been able to watch Weimar-era films, recordings of operas that I would never have a chance to see; at the music library, I have been able to look at old scores. I could go on!"

Daniel's wide use of the collections exemplifies the way the Library provides inspiration for writers, scholars, and other members of the community outside of the University.



Carmel "Candy" Friesen '50, a member of the Library Advisory Board, with Mary Catherine Birgeneau

Then & Now

REFERENCE HELP: "THE BEST THING EVER!"



This 1953 image shows the Reference Desk in the North Reading Room, on the second floor of Doe Library. These days, students are as likely to consult with an expert librarian online as in person.

The Library's latest mode of delivering reference assistance—Chat Reference—is described by delighted customers as “the best thing ever!” Although students in the 1950s probably used a different idiom, enthusiasm for timely and targeted reference support has remained strong with each generation.

Students' fervent appreciation for the nearly instantaneous help offered by “Chat Ref” hints at the research challenges that they often experience at Berkeley. Especially in the first year or two, undergraduates are often faced with challenging assignments that require

more extensive library research (including the use of primary sources) than they have done before. Combined with the fact that they may be juggling several demanding research assignments at a time, it's lucky the Library is there to help! And the numbers alone tell of the service's success: in the last two academic years, the number of Chat Ref requests across participating libraries within UC and nationwide has more than tripled.

Chat Ref is one in a suite of reference services offered by the University Library, which includes traditional drop-in consultations at reference desks located in all campus libraries.

Another popular option is in-person advising appointments. In discussing their project with a librarian, students often learn not only the best resources to pursue, but how to clarify and focus their paper's topic. Recent queries have included:

- the *Ladies Home Journal* and how it influenced women in the 1950s
- new directions in Filipino American popular culture
- gambling on the Chinese peninsula of Macau

Fiat Lux, or Let there be light, is the motto of the University of California.

The *Fiat Lux* newsletter of the Library at the University of California, Berkeley is published quarterly by the Library Development Office, University of California, Berkeley, Room 131 Doe Library, Berkeley CA 94720-6000. Telephone: (510) 642-9377. Email: give@library.berkeley.edu. Your feedback and suggestions are warmly invited.

Kenneth and Dorothy Hill University Librarian
Thomas C. Leonard

Director of Development and External Relations
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Photography
Peg Skorpinski p 5-7, 9

Printed on recycled paper and with soy-based ink.

ask us!

Questions?

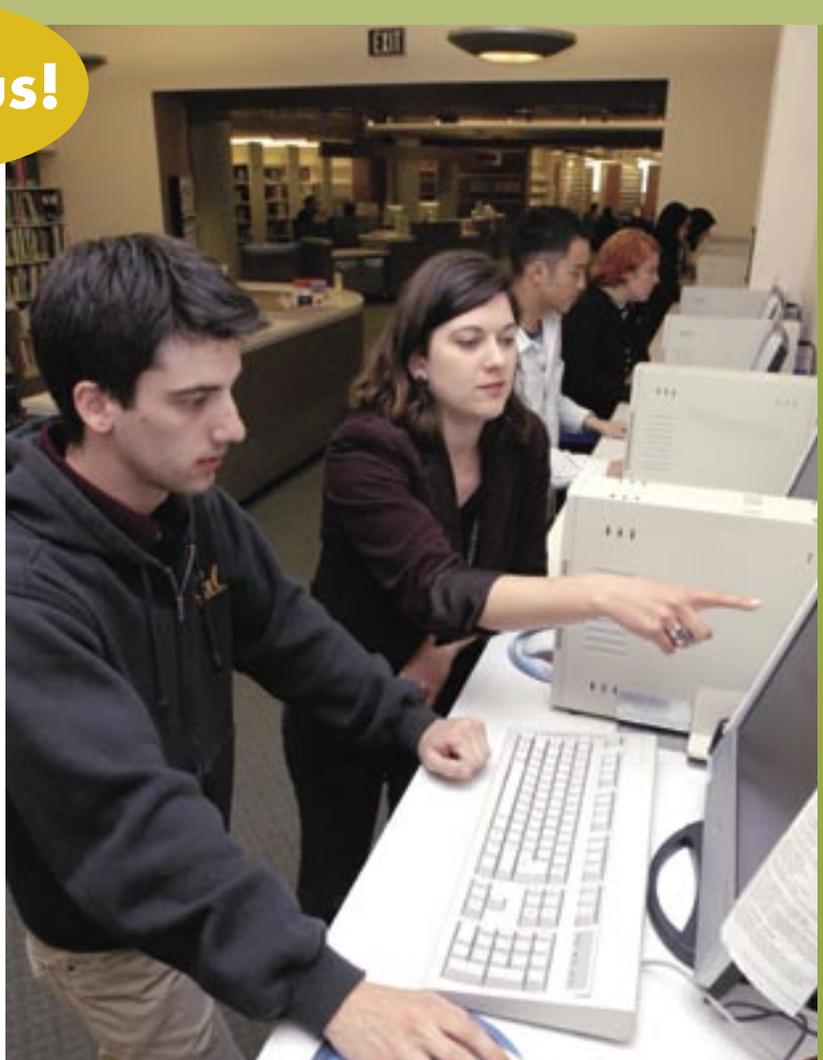


Through the 24/7 Chat Reference service, students can obtain expert help without leaving their seat, simply by typing in their question on their laptop. Within seconds, an answer floats across their screen.

- the role of social networks in forming perceptions of climate change risks
- the Harlem Renaissance
- Jewish migration to Argentina in WWII
- the history of South African debt.

Longtime Berkeley librarian Imani Abalos describes these consultations as “part reference, part counseling and part pep talk. Some students need to learn to focus in on their subject more, whereas other students need encouragement to open it up, to get more curious.”

Abalos continues “I tell students to ‘follow the breadcrumbs’ in their research. One source can lead them to another, for instance if they look up articles and books quoted in footnotes and bibliographies. Done this way, library research is an adventure, not a chore!”



Reference desks located throughout the several dozen campus libraries offer immediate in-person assistance for all research questions. Above, a librarian at the Bioscience and Natural Resources library assists a student.

Student evaluations of the advising appointments range from warm to downright effusive:

- “Best one hour of my research experience so far.”
- “This service is absolutely amazing and EXTREMELY useful!”
- “Amazingly detailed and helpful in formulating and talking with me about the *direction* of my research paper and not just how to do book searches.”
- “Makes the Library feel much more at my fingertips. Thanks!!”
- “[The librarian] demonstrates a passion for what he does and that’s very motivating. He makes research sound so exciting. This was a great experience.”
- “Very helpful! I don’t feel lost anymore.” 🌱

Moffitt Challenge Grant Earns Early Support



In November 2009, the Skirball Foundation generously awarded a challenge grant to support the revitalization project at Moffitt Library. The terms of the grant call for the Library to match the \$1.5 million dollar gift in private support over the next two years. Early results from the private support needed to secure the matching grant are promising, thanks to leadership gifts from the Library Advisory Board and from Library friends around the country.

Mollie Collins '65, president of the Library Advisory Board, comments that "Investing in the Moffitt Library revitalization is an investment in students, as the Skirball Foundation has recognized in making this generous grant. The new Moffitt will be fully equipped to meet students' study, research, and social needs, both now and in the future."

Thanks to the Skirball Foundation Challenge grant, now is a great opportunity to donate to the library—your gift will be matched dollar for dollar, doubling in value.

More information on the Moffitt project can be found at www.lib.berkeley.edu/give/moffitt.html. Gifts can be made online at givetocal.berkeley.edu, or by mail to Library Development, 131 Doe Library, Berkeley CA 94720-6000.

We thank you for your support!

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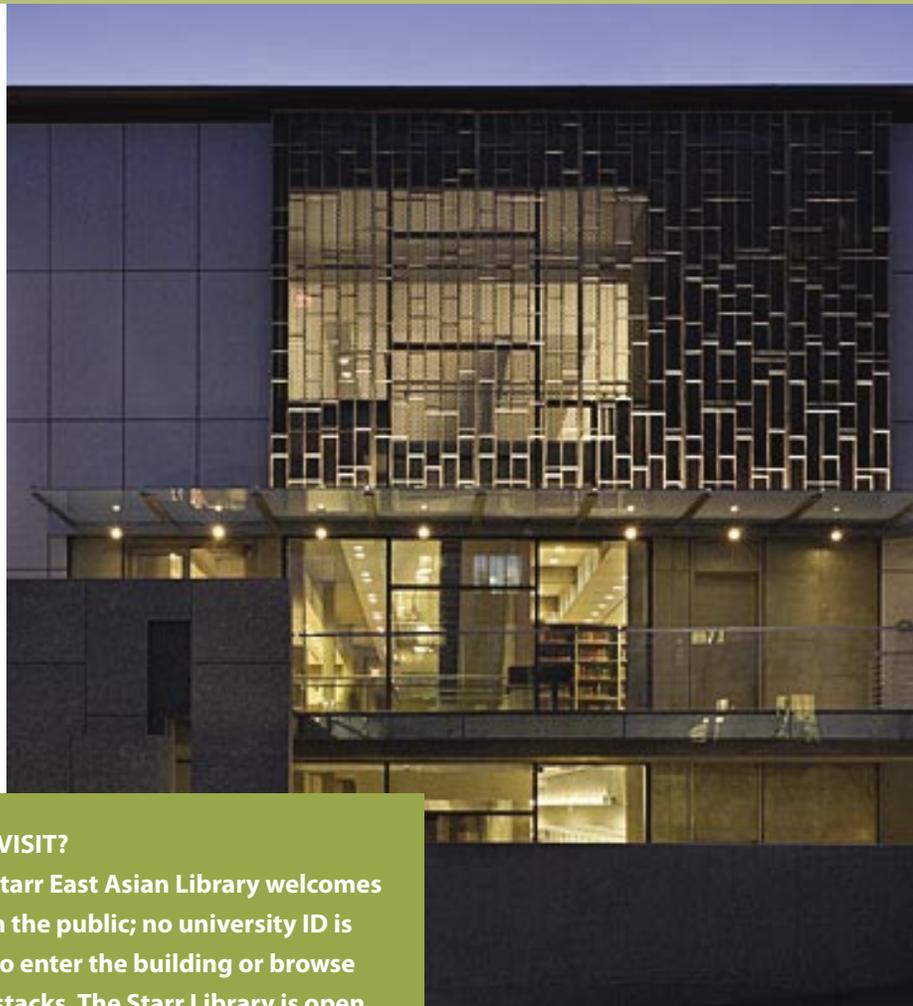
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EAL Award

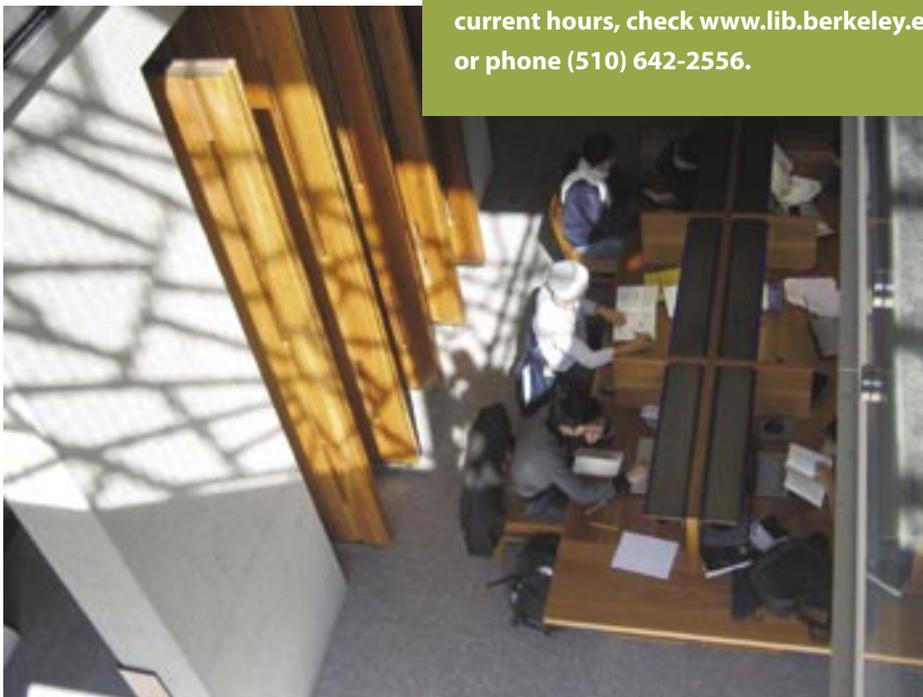
Every two years the American Institute of Architects and the American Library Association issue joint awards for the finest examples of library architecture designed by architects licensed in the United States in the previous period. In 2009, eight AIA/ALA awards were given globally; and one of those was given locally, to the Starr, designed by Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects. The AIA/ALA judges cited the green features of the building—the bronze screens, bamboo flooring, storm water recharge basin, and occupancy sensors—and the resonance between the building’s solid exterior and its function as a repository for books and sanctuary for study. But they also noted the transformation that occurs inside the doors, in the variety of the interior spaces and the quality of the light, suiting any style of study.

— Deborah Rudolph 🌿



WANT TO VISIT?

The C. V. Starr East Asian Library welcomes visits from the public; no university ID is required to enter the building or browse the book stacks. The Starr Library is open through spring semester every day. For current hours, check www.lib.berkeley.edu or phone (510) 642-2556.



Since its opening in 2008, the C.V. Starr East Asian Library has become a favored study destination for Cal students in all disciplines, who fill its study carrels, tables, and armchairs throughout the day and night. The demand for study spaces remains high in libraries across campus.

The Starr Library faces Doe Memorial Library across Memorial Glade, fulfilling one of John Galen Howard’s aspirations for the campus he designed over a century ago. With Doe Library “as the intellectual center of the University” established at the heart of the budding campus, Howard conceived of a major building balancing it on the north side of the axis on Observatory Hill — just where the Starr Library sits today. Visit <http://tiny.cc/starr> for more images of the library and its renowned collections.

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Exhibits & Events

Fighting Nazism with Words: Dutch Clandestine Books and Pamphlets under Occupation
Bernice Layne Brown Gallery, Doe Library
Through August 2010

Free; check www.lib.berkeley.edu for hours

UC Berkeley's Bancroft Library contains one of the largest collections of illegally published books and pamphlets from the period of the German occupation of the Netherlands in World War II. This exhibit highlights the collection and the conditions of Dutch everyday life during the occupation. It depicts the rise of Dutch resistance to Nazi rule and the fate of Dutch Jews as the conflict dragged on.

Opening lecture and reception

Thursday April 15, 5 to 7 pm in the Morrison Library

With Kader Abdolah, noted Dutch-Iranian opponent of the current Iranian regime. Free and open to the public.

STORY HOUR IN THE LIBRARY

A monthly reading series celebrating prose writers from Berkeley and beyond, hosted by Melanie Abrams and Vikram Chandra.

Michelle Richmond

Thursday April 8, 2010

Morrison Library, 5 – 6 pm

Michelle Richmond is author of *No One You Know* and the New York Times bestseller *The Year of Fog*, among other novels. She has taught in MFA programs at University of San Francisco, California College of the Arts, St. Mary's College, and Bowling Green State University. A native of Mobile, Alabama, Michelle lives in San Francisco and writes full time.

Recent Story Hour in the Library readers have included Daniel Handler, Annie Barrows, and Daniel Alarcón; past readings can be enjoyed online at webcast.berkeley.edu.

More Library events and exhibits can be found at www.lib.berkeley.edu/give



Misty Richmond