

Goodbye, Beth

Beth Taylor

After 30 years, Beth Taylor is retiring from the University of Michigan-Dearborn. She started at the Mardigian library in the cataloging department in 1992, when cataloging VHS videos was a new format and a big deal. In her years at the library, she helped bring up a new library information system, managed the pulling, sending, and return of most of the library's circulating collection as it was sent to Ann Arbor as part of the Google book project. She established procedures for cataloging new formats including DVDs, streaming videos, e-books, and e-serials. She navigated new cataloging rules (RDA) and witnessed and participated in the evolution of electronic resources in libraries.



Beth Taylor

When she started in the department, there was one dedicated OCLC workstation shared among the cataloging staff, no email, and a shared PC with WordPerfect on it. Now, all staff in the department have their own laptop with all the dedicated library software installed, ready for use at any time. Electronic resources were not even in their infancy in 1992; now they comprise at least half of the library's acquisitions.

Beth worked with incredibly great people over the years. She was privileged to train and mentor six catalogers over the years. She taught authority control workshops statewide and at national conferences. She is looking forward to being able to have more time for her hobbies, knitting, biking, and creating the most weed-free garden in the state.



SURE 2022 Research Showcase

Jean Song

The 4th annual SURE Showcase was held on the first floor of the Mardigian Library on September 15th, 2022. This showcase was enhanced by the generosity of Mardigian Library donors whose funding provided the free-standing poster boards on which the research projects were displayed.

The goal of the [Summer Undergraduate Research Experience \(SURE\)](#) program is to expose undergraduate students to potential educational and research-oriented career paths through faculty mentorship while participating in a faculty member's research or scholarly project. The SURE Showcase is an opportunity for undergraduates to present what they have learned through their summer research experience to a larger audience. It also provides a forum for students, faculty, and the campus community to discuss cutting edge research topics and to examine the connection between research, classroom learning, and career and professional development.

The 2022 showcase included presentations by 20 students from all academic disciplines who were mentored by faculty from all four UM-Dearborn colleges. A panel of judges from across the colleges and the Mardigian Library reviewed the projects while attendees were encouraged to vote for the "People's Choice Award". Remarks were made by university leadership, and faculty from all the colleges interacted with dozens of students throughout the afternoon. Additional photos and information on the research projects can be found on the [SURE website](#). We deeply appreciate our donors whose contributions made displaying the students' work possible.



Christina Haylett
Sometimes I Feel a Little Crazy
Mixed Media on Board, 2016

Christina Haylett: Revelations in Paint

Laura Cotton

The Stamelos Gallery Center is proud to present its next exhibition Christina Haylett: Revelations in Paint. All are invited to a free, public opening exhibition reception on the first floor of the Mardigian Library from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 19th. The artist will speak at 6:00 p.m. and complimentary wine and hors d'oeuvres will be provided.

This exhibition, on view from January 19th to March 26th, features a large

collection of mixed-media, non-representational artworks, landscapes and portraits created by Detroit-area artist Christina Haylett between 2009 and 2022. Haylett's work is an exploration of shape, pattern, line, texture, and color and their impact on each other. Her pieces start out as marks on a board, paper or canvas, and the act of working leads her through the artistic process with no idea where it will end up, or what will be revealed.

The artist often works *plein air* and is influenced by the world around her, but also her own thoughts, beliefs, and introspections about the concerns of our time. Haylett considers the last twelve years to have been her most life-changing and productive period, and she believes this body of work best represents her as an artist.

On display along with Haylett's fascinating compositions is a small selection of studio glass pieces from the University of Michigan- Dearborn permanent collection. Haylett and Curator Laura Cotton chose these works together that inspire the artist and reflect specific elements of her work.

I love to paint. I love the tactile feel of the paint on a surface, the potential offered with each tube, the puzzles to be solved while creating, and all the emotions of joy, sorrow, pain and pleasure that are part of the process. My tools are color, line, shape, pattern, and texture working together and revealing for me a way to visualize the invisible. These artworks are about everyday life for me. My work on the non-representational pieces leads me down unknown and unplanned pathways. It's a way for me to let go and let it take me somewhere I haven't been.

Romare Bearden summed up his artistic process with these words, "You have to begin somewhere... so you put something down, then you put something else with it... then you see how that works and maybe you try something else... and so the picture grows in that way." This is exactly how I work. At some point the piece either starts to gel, or not. The important thing for me is to keep pushing through until I get to that point.

— Christina Haylett

Welcome to Natalie and Annie

Chris Spilker

Among the many changes of the last few years have been some personnel changes. Last year we were able to fill a vacancy in the Library Research Center, hiring Amy Siepke to support the College of Engineering, Math, and Computer Science. This year the LRC made further strides towards rounding out our roster by filling another vacancy for a librarian to support the College of Business, and we hired a Student Engagement Librarian. Natalie Hagopian is our new instructional librarian that works with the College of Business. Natalie has enthusiastically tackled the task of reestablishing the relationship between the library and the COB. She has met and exceeded all expectations, and is already an integral part of our team. Similarly, Annie Dempsey has come on board as the Student Engagement Librarian. This role was formerly the First Year Experience Librarian, but we sought to widen the scope of the position to help a wider variety of students. Annie has also hit the ground running, establishing important relationships within various programs, and contributing to library programming. Annie has brought a creative dynamic to her work that has even spread to our space! Overall, we could not be more pleased with our new hires and their ongoing role in moving our department in a very positive direction.



Digital Storytelling Continues

Chris Spilker

After wrapping up a successful first year with a presentation and reception in the atrium of the Engineering Lab Building, the Not a Single Story: U of M Dearborn Speaks project moved into its second phase. This next step involved our student storytellers moving into a mentorship role for a new cohort of students. Our new cohort brought an entirely different energy and set of skills to the project and served to enhance the overall project. Our returning students really settled into the role of mentors and the quality of the stories delivered represented the hard work of both the storytellers and their mentors. In addition to new students, the second phase saw an adjustment of the storytelling prompt. We kept our overarching theme of agency, identity, and purpose, but expanded the scope to include any part of the storyteller's life. This resulted in a deeper collection of stories, both broader in scope as well as more intimate stories. Our storytelling team continues to learn about digital storytelling and how it might be sustained and supported on our campus even beyond this project. Our team was presented at a PBL event for students, where we shared how storytelling could be a tool used in the classroom by students as well as faculty. As we wind down the fall semester, we are planning for the winter term, where we expect to create new stories from both our returning mentors and the second student cohort.

Student Assistant Scholarship Recipient: Bella Gory

Josh Olsen

The Student Assistant Scholarship recognizes one of the Mardigian Library's most valuable resources. Without the hard work and dedication of our student assistants, the library could not function as it does. Financial assistance makes a huge difference to what a working student can achieve academically. The Mardigian Library Student Assistant Scholarship provides \$1000 to a current library student assistant who exemplifies outstanding service and commitment to our student body while contributing to the essential function of library operations. Donors help honor the incredible service our student assistants provide, enabling them to fulfill their dreams of becoming successful UM-Dearborn alumni.



The most recent recipient of the Student Assistant Scholarship is Bella Gory, who was hired as a Mardigian Library Student Assistant in October 2021. Bella is from Flat Rock, Michigan where she graduated in 2020 as class president. Bella chose to attend the University of Michigan - Dearborn primarily to stay close to home and as a more affordable option, but she also knew many individuals who graduated from the university and spoke very positively about it. Bella is presently a junior, studying Human Resources Management, and plans to graduate in the spring of 2024. The Mardigian Library is lucky to have Bella as a Student Assistant for a couple more years. Following graduation, Bella plans to begin work in an entry-level human resources position and eventually pursue an MBA or MSL (Masters of Studies in Law).

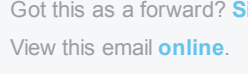
Bella applied to work in the Mardigian Library in the Fall of 2021 after visiting the library several times to study. Bella said, "Before working here, whenever I would have a question or needed assistance, the [staff] were always friendly and helpful, always giving off positivity," and according to Bella, "this was an environment I knew I wanted to be a part of." Also, as a self-proclaimed book lover, Bella said, "Being surrounded by books was something I did not want to pass up." Bella has found many aspects of her job to be enjoyable, but working with her colleagues has been the most enjoyable. "I've developed good relationships with many individuals from different departments who always motivate me to be my best," Bella said. "I've been able to learn many things through them and I always look forward to coming into work because of them." Bella also said that she very much enjoys that she is able to interact with patrons of different backgrounds and areas of life, and "help them find an answer, or provide a way to find an answer, when they are in need of help."

Bella said that working in the Mardigian Library has helped her in her own academic life in numerous ways. "Being surrounded by other students has been very motivating to me," she said, "and this environment makes me motivated to work hard on my studies." There are several things Bella learned from working in the Mardigian Library, such as the ways in which the academic librarians can help and the different systems used to borrow books from other libraries, such as MelCat and Inter-Library Loan. Bella has utilized both of these services and she always encourages patrons to use them, as well.

Receiving the Student Assistant Scholarship has helped Bella quite significantly. "As I get closer to completing my degree and into higher level courses," Bella said, "the cost of these courses increase by a pretty large amount," so the Student Assistant Scholarship has taken some of the weight off of her shoulders when it comes to expenses, and has acted as a motivating factor further encouraging her to work hard and try her best. Bella said, "I am very appreciative to the individuals who have donated towards the scholarship and have helped me in reaching my goals," and the Mardigian Library is appreciative of Bella.

Mardigian Library & Stamelos Gallery Center
4901 Evergreen Road
Dearborn, MI 48128, USA
313-593-5559

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