



MARDIGIAN LIBRARY & THE ALFRED BERKOWITZ GALLERY

FALL 2018

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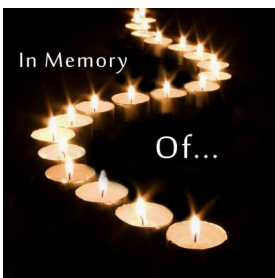
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Vision Statement

The Mardigian Library is recognized as a campus leader and active partner in developing innovative and accessible collections, services, programs, and spaces essential to support a dynamic, inclusive student-centered, community-engaged university with a reputation for excellence.



Teague Orblych Endowed Scholarship

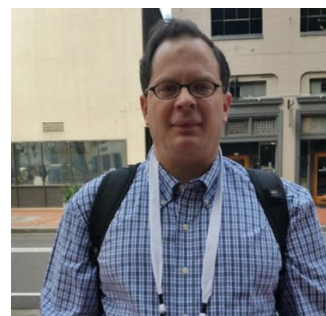


We were very saddened to learn of the death of our colleague Michael Teague Orblych in February. During his 17 years as our Research Instruction Librarian, Teague impacted many students with his passion and dedication, and that is why we have chosen to memorialize him with an endowed student scholarship. Said a former student, "He was a great teacher and brought out talents I didn't even know I had... Teague was just an authentic guy who wanted to inspire us and to help us with the information he had at his fingertips."

All UM-Dearborn undergraduate and

graduate students who meet the criteria for the university's current Student Scholarship Program are eligible. The Teague Orblych Memorial Scholarship still needs additional funds to complete the endowment. If you wish to contribute, any amount would be greatly appreciated. The link to online donation form can be found at:

giving.umich.edu/give/700603



"Teague was all about helping students. And with a scholarship like this, he'll be able to do that in perpetuity."

Welcoming Our New Chancellor, Dr. Domenico Grasso



We're excited to share the news that Dr. Domenico Grasso became UM-Dearborn's newest chancellor Aug. 1. Chancellor Grasso has impressive academic and professional credentials, earning his Ph.D. in environmental engineering at U-M and serving at institutions including the University of Delaware, University of Vermont, and Smith College.

As a first-generation college student, a commuter student, and a veteran of the U.S. Army, Chancellor Grasso has a lot in common with UM-Dearborn students.

Throughout his extensive career in higher education, Chancellor Grasso has led significant efforts in engineering education, enrollment management, diversity, and community engagement.

We look forward to working with Chancellor Grasso, who replaces Chancellor Daniel Little. Dr. Little served as chancellor for 18 years and will remain as a member of the faculty at UM-Dearborn.

Welcome!

Chancellor Grasso!

Interim Director



Dr. Maureen Linker, professor of philosophy, was recently named interim library director. She teaches primarily in philosophy as well as regularly teaching courses in the Women's and Gender Studies program. Dr. Linker recently completed a Provost Faculty Fellowship, a campus program providing faculty members an opportunity to gain administration experience in higher education.

Like many of our students Dr. Linker was the first in her family to attend college and finish a four-year degree. She first majored in physics as a path to astronomy, a subject that intrigued her due to attending a high school with a planetarium, until the required course "Philosophy of Physics" changed her career path to philosophy. However, she never lost her love for science and physics, and even teaches courses in

philosophy of science and theories of reality.

A long-time Mardigian Library user and supporter, Dr. Linker's main priorities this year are improving student and faculty access to library services, as well as linking the expertise of librarians with the expertise of the campus's instructional designers. This last priority will enable us to evaluate open educational resources (OER) with faculty who are redesigning their courses to increase student success. Dr. Linker brings the faculty point-of-view to the library's work this year, and everyone is looking forward to working with her.

In her other life, Dr. Linker says she's lucky to be married to both her best friend and the person who makes her laugh the hardest. Their 16-year-old son and a rescue dog named Luna complete the family. Cooking and making vintage craft cocktails are fun pastimes that she enjoys.

 WELCOME Dr. Linker!

Omar Bahalwan, User Services Weekend Supervisor



Omar Bahalwan is our new user services weekend supervisor. Omar began working for the Mardigian Library in 2014 as a student assistant at the Library Info desk and was promoted to weekend supervisor in 2018. Prior to joining us, he

was a library assistant at the Bryant Branch of the Dearborn Public Library. He has also worked as a long-term substitute teacher and will graduate from UM-Dearborn in December with a degree in biology. His future plans include graduate school.

Welcome Omar!

Engaging our Students



Several events this year were very popular with our students. In February a "Living Books" event was held with students, staff, and faculty volunteering to share

their personal, unique experiences.

"Readers" (attendees) checked out "living books" for 15 minutes during which time the books shared their stories, and both the book and reader engaged in dialogue. Extraordinary conversations occurred, ranging from overcoming a disability (blindness) to lessons learned from not finishing college to biracial family life. Everyone agreed that "Living Books" should become an annual event.

In April we hosted a student panel discussion about the immigration experience, a topic explored in the book "The Namesake" by Jhumpa Lahiri. The event was a collaboration with The Big Read Dearborn, a program of the National Endowment for the Arts. The Berkowitz Gallery was packed with students who listened to a lively discussion about the

joys and challenges of being a first-and second-generation immigrant. Everyone learned about other cultures and the process of assimilation. Student groups are asking for more events of this type.

The library also partnered on the "Metro Read," a campus initiative to enhance the culture of metropolitan engagement. Campus activities were held as students read chapters of "Acts of Faith" by Eboo Patel. The library hosted "Books and Brew," a series of discussion sessions about "Acts of Faith" and served light refreshments.

Events such as these support our vision of being "a campus leader and active partner in developing innovative and accessible collections, services, programs, and spaces essential to support a dynamic, inclusive, student-centered, community-engaged university with a reputation for excellence."



2018-2019 Student Assistant Scholarship Winners



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. We awarded scholarships to two library student assistants for the 2018-2019 school year. Maggie Marion and Sarah Chamseddine best represented the commitment to academics, employment, and co-curricular activities that we look for in awarding this scholarship.



Maggie Marion works in Technical Services and has previously held positions in both Shelving and User Services. She is pursuing a Psychology degree with an Applied Art minor and is grateful for the financial support provided by those who have donated to the Student Assistant

Scholarship fund. Without students like Maggie, our materials would never make it to the shelves. She is one of the behind-the-scenes workers who makes the library run smoothly.



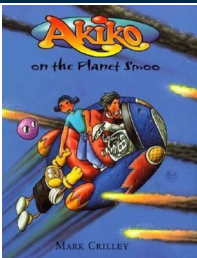
Sarah Chamseddine works at the Library Info Desk meeting requests for resources and information. Her goal is ultimately to attend dental school and she appreciates the financial support our scholarship will provide to make

this a reality. Students like Sarah are the face of our library and make it possible for us to be open the many hours we are to meet campus needs.

Financial assistance makes a huge difference to what a working student can achieve academically. Please join us in raising scholarship funds for current and future student assistants who exemplify outstanding service and commitment to our student body. Donors help honor the incredible service our student assistants provide, enabling them to fulfill their dreams of becoming successful UM-Dearborn alumni. If you are interested in supporting the Student Assistant Scholarship Fund please visit the Library Giving Page library.umd.umich.edu/us/give.php or contact Sue Flannery at (sasbury@umich.edu or 313-593-5236)



Promoting Children's Literacy Save the Date for the 2018 Young Authors' Festival!



This year's 6th annual Young Author Festival is a half-day campus event in the Mardigian Library (Saturday, Nov. 10, 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.) featuring Michigan author and illustrator Mark Crilley and his children's book "Akiko on the Planet Smoo." Fun breakout sessions for children and adults are followed by a writing contest award ceremony and a book signing.

The YAF is a collaboration between the Mardigian Library and faculty and students in the College of Education, Health & Human Services.

This event is free and open to the public, but registration is required. For more information and registration, visit our website library.umd.umich.edu/yaf or contact Raya Samet (rsamet@umich.edu or 313-593-4936) or Barbara Kriigel (bkriigel@umich.edu or 313-593-5614).

We hope to see you!

Deirdras Jones, Operations & User Services Supervisor



Deirdras Jones is our new operations & user services supervisor. She comes to us with several years of experience in libraries at Wayne State and Kettering universities. Deirdras supervises our student assistants both at the Library

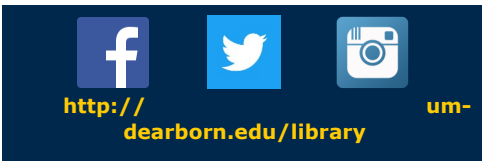
Info Desk and in the shelving area. She also coordinates our interlibrary loan services and shelving maintenance. Deirdras has a Bachelor of Arts in Media Arts & Studies from Wayne State University.

Welcome Deirdras!

"Deliberate Misunderstandings: Embroidered Found Photographs"

I am fascinated with early and mid-twentieth century vernacular photographs. Nan Goldin wrote, "The snapshot (is) the form of photography that is most

defined by love. People take them out of love, and they take them to remember — people, places, and times.



"Deliberate Misunderstandings: Embroidered Found Photographs" - continued



They're about creating a history by recording a history." When I make art with another's photo, I tease out a common humanity not confined by time, place or circumstance. I explore our shared

human condition to better understand my own.

I have accumulated over 70,000 found vernacular photographs — primarily snapshots and studio portraits. In 2007, I began hand-embroidering quotes into studio portraits. Adding famous persons' words to vernacular images, I could ventriloquize thoughts I wanted to express. Later, I added illustrative drawings and collaged/juxtaposed images to my work. Stitching by hand is a laborious, time-consuming process that provides me a satisfying, meditative intimacy with these mechanically-captured moments of unknown people's lives.

This exhibition is organized around a new series that I have created entitled "Remember me: a collective narrative in found words and photographs."

This project intimately connects vernacular photographs with anecdotes culled from family/friend written obituaries.

There is a richness in vernacular photos whether or not we know the person, place or time. By asking viewers to look carefully — to react to quotations, decipher symbols and signs, and/or puzzle out juxtapositions — I renew and transform their experience of looking at old photographs. By engaging them with other people's family photos, I alter the way they see their own. They come to realize, as I did, how common this form of expression is — and how precious. - Jane Waggoner Deschner

The opening reception for "Deliberate Misunderstandings: Embroidered Found Photographs" will be held in the Alfred Berkowitz Gallery on Thursday, Oct. 25th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. . The artist will speak at 6:00. This event is free to the public with a wine and hors d'oeuvres reception.

