

FRIENDS OF CHAMBERS LIBRARY

UNIVERSITY OF
CENTRAL OKLAHOMA

UCO Acquires Melton Art Reference Library Collection

After providing art reference services to the OKC metropolitan area for nearly 30 years the Melton Art Reference Library (MARL) closed its doors for good in December 2017. The Melton Art Reference Library, established in 1989 by Howard and Merle (Buttram) Melton, originally began as a means to educate themselves in building a private collection. As their collection grew, they soon realized a need in the community for such a resource. Howard was himself an artist exhibiting and selling his work locally. His generous spirit and philanthropy to the community was recognized in 1994 when he received the Governor's Arts Award for Community Service. Their daughter Suzanne (Melton) Silvester took over running the MARL when her parents passed away.

As Suzanne neared retirement, she hoped to find someone who would step in and take over running the MARL. However, the right person never came along so she turned to UCO and asked if we would like to have the collection. We eagerly accepted and on November 17, 2017 the gift agreement was signed by President Betz and the members of the Melton Art Reference Library Board gifting the MARL's extensive collections to the University of Central Oklahoma.

In all, the donation included over 340 original artworks, an over 5000-volume library that includes raisonnés, exhibition catalogs and sales catalogs, 1000s of prints and 130 cubic feet of subject files on known and lesser known artists. In addition, a generous endowment was established at the UCO Foundation with earnings going to support maintenance of the collections. Preparations



Signing of the Gift Agreement

*back row L-R Stephen Hansen, Nicole Willard, Habib Tabatabai,
front row L-R, Robynne Mulcahy, Suzanne Silvester, Pres. Don Betz,
Amena Butler, and Tim Silvester*

for moving the collection began in September of 2017. It took over 4 months for the Chambers Library, Archives & Special Collections staff to complete the transfer.

This is not the first donation Suzanne has made to the University. In 2002, she gifted 64 works of European art to the University. This collection includes works by artists Thomas Moran, Peter Paul Rubens, El Greco, and Edvard Munch to name a few. The gift also provided for the creation of the Melton Art Gallery in the center of campus for the display and study of these artworks. In addition, a generous endowment was created at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation to provide maintenance support for the artwork. This collection and the new collection



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University of Central Oklahoma

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Habib Tabatabai

Nicole Willard

Michele Ramsdell

Max Chambers Library

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100 N University Drive
Edmond, OK 73034

www.library.uco.edu
libdev@uco.edu
Phone: (405) 974-2877
Fax: (405) 974-3806

Regular Library Hours:

Monday-Thursday
7:30 am - 2:00 am

Friday
7:30 am - 6:00 pm

Saturday
10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Sunday
12:00 pm - 2:00 am

Intersession Hours
May 6 - June 3

Monday - Friday
7:30 am - 6:00 pm

Saturday - Sunday
Closed

Chambers Library Friends of the Library

We would like to acknowledge and thank those
who support the Friends of Chambers Library

Library Benefactor

Walter & Judy Jones
Melton Family

Presidential Partner

Habib Tabatabai
Lee Tyner
The McConathy Family

Library Partner

David Luza
Deborah Thompson
Nicole Willard

Library Contributor

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Shay Beezley
Maury Blair
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Erika Cerda
Nicole Garber
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Tamara Grigg
Dana Jackson-Hardwick
Joseph and Annelle R. Huggins
Jonathan Looper
Charles Melson
Jeff Musslewhite
Sharon Saulmon
Carole Sites-Walker
Traca Wolfe
Joanne Wong

Faculty

Emily Butterfield
Donna Carlon
Warren Dickson III
Cheryl Frech
Dawn E. Holt
Ted Honea III
Brian Lamb
Maria-Theresa Moinette
Barbara Streets
Janet Wetsel

Student

Amy Brandley
Equlla Brothers
Cory Castoe
Sarah J. Chambers
Josiah Cogan
Janet Cowden
Anona Earls
Christine Edwards
Jennifer Flygare
Gray Hale
Brenda Knott
Denise Lozeau
Cheyenne Marski
Kaitlyn Palone
Cody Roberts
Mandana Roshan
Lese Salaswat
Abigail Smith
Aaron Sterba
Stephanie Tatum
David Trevino

Executive Director's Report

We are closely monitoring current legislative actions and their potential impact on UCO and the library. We are working diligently to steward the resources available to us with care and reason by being forward thinking and creative. In consultation with the faculty and Deans in all the Colleges, we continue to review our print and electronic collections. We are investing more in resources to ensure currency and full access. We continue to obtain individual journal title subscriptions, when they are embargoed in the aggregated databases.

Several improvements are being carried out to facilitate the development of the Learning Commons. We are moving forward on plans for creating a makerspace that will be located on the northwest wall of the first floor. This space will be utilized to consolidated services including 3D Scanner, 3D Printer, large format printer, and VR machines. We are working toward a fall launch of this new space.

The unified service desk is in its new location. Moving the circulation desk to just south of its previous location has opened up a space filled with windows illuminated by the morning sun. We have temporarily moved tables and chairs into this space and students are filling it up. Armed with designs from the Charles Evans Design Studio we will be turning this area into a café with diner style seating. A space that is filled with light and food is sure to be popular for collaborative and individual study.

We recently made additions to the northwest corner of the fourth floor, affectionately known as "The Max," making it a flex space with an emphasis on collaboration and providing access to technology tools. Since transforming this space, we have been hosting events. Most recently, we held a daylong Comic Convention, which you can read about later in the newsletter.

As the end of the semester approaches, we will offer expanded hours, 24/5, beginning April 22 during quiet and finals

week. In collaboration with Wellness Center, we are hosting therapeutic activities for students during this time including therapy dogs and a make your own tea station. With the support of the Friends of Chambers Library, we will be offering a coffee bar and pizza night for our students during finals week.



Habib Tabatabai, Executive Director

UCO Acquires Melton Art Reference Library Collection cont.

will be housed and cared for by the Chambers Library, Archives & Special Collections staff. However, these resources are available for exhibition. There is currently an exhibit in Old North on the 3rd floor that shows a sampling of the new gift. The exhibit titled Oklahoma Artist Educators will be up through the end of the year.

Suzanne like her parents before her always had the goal to expose and educate people about art and in the process elevate the art culture in Oklahoma. Sufficient data exists to support the belief that study and participation in the fine arts is a key component in improving learning throughout all academic areas. The arts support skills that are essential for success in the modern world. Jane Chu, Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts sums it up nicely, "Arts education fosters bright, creative and socially

engaged students who grow up to be our next leaders, parent's, teacher's, artists and engineers. Their innovative ideas will shape industries, their creative thinking will find out-of-the-box solutions for a global society, and will provide students with a way to understand themselves, and have a sense of belonging."

Suzanne Silvester has entrusted a valuable and unique collection to the University's stewardship. We are most grateful for her confidence in our abilities and for her unwavering support. The endowment established as part of the recent donation will help us care for these rich resources for many decades to come.

library.uco.edu/archives

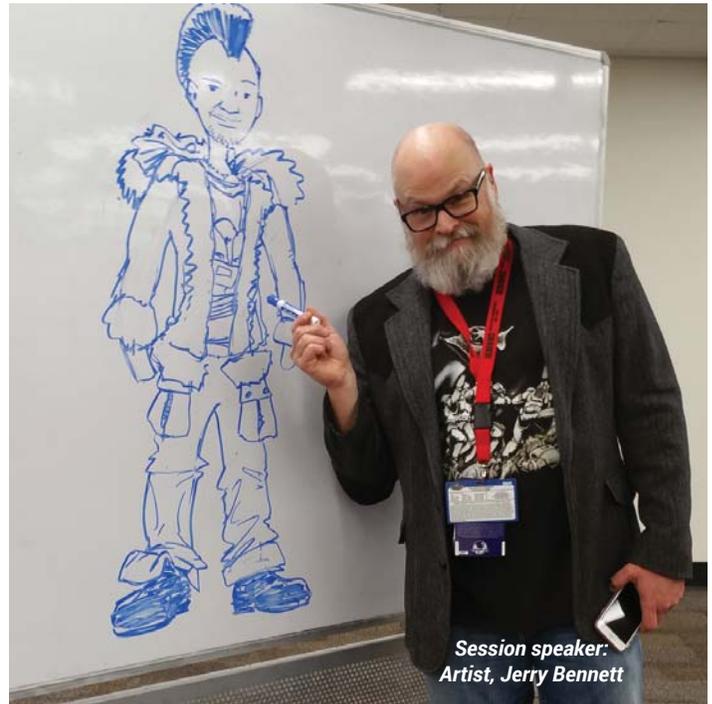
Inaugural Comic Fest Big Success!

On March 3rd, Chambers Library ventured into the world of comics and held its inaugural Comic Fest, transforming the fourth floor of the Library into a comic convention! Over 150 comic fans from across the metro, and Tulsa, attended the one-day event. The Comic Fest included a vendor area, speaker sessions, children's area, board game area, and two Cosplay Contests.

We had over 14 vendors, representing various aspects of the comic genre; including artists, authors, comic book stores, bookstores, fandom merchandisers, and fandom organizations. Each vendor provided one of the 20 door prizes that were given away throughout the event. Three how-to sessions were offered during Comic Fest. Local artist Jerry Bennett started the sessions with "Bringing Your Comic Characters to Life", followed by UCO Lecturer, James Daro, and his session entitled "I Can't Draw... Can I Still Write Comics". The last session was presented by Jeff Provine, publisher of *Okie Comics*, and was entitled "What's Going on in Oklahoma Comics". Participants got a comprehensive look at the many ways in which individuals can become involved in the comic book industry.

The children's area was buzzing with activity including coloring, making custom bandanas, and creating Perler bead art. New World Comics in Oklahoma City offered their well-known Hero School where children had the opportunity to take pictures with superheroes including Wonder Woman, Captain America, and Spiderman. Volunteers from UCO's Fandoms Anonymous student organization ran the children's area. In addition to the children's area the UCO Board Games and Chess Club operated the board game area, which was enjoyed by many.

Our inaugural Comic Fest was an overwhelming success, and plans are being made for another festival in 2020. This year's festival would not have been possible without the joint efforts of the Comic Fest Committee, and other staff members that volunteered their time. Thank you Cory Castoe, Kenzie Stephens, Jeff Musslewhite, Carolyn Mahin, Michele Ramsdell, Jean Longo, Patrick Douglas, and Nicole Willard.

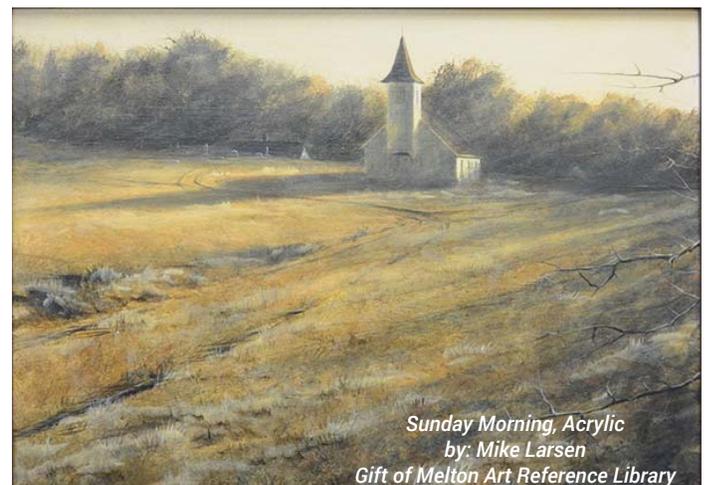


Oklahoma Artist Educators Exhibit Opening

February saw the opening of the Oklahoma Artist Educators Exhibit on the 3rd floor of Old North. Throughout Oklahoma's history, there have been arts advocates who used their talents to elevate the culture of art in Oklahoma. This exhibit celebrates some of those artists who through their teaching have influenced the landscape of art in Oklahoma. This exhibit also commemorates the one-year anniversary of the re-opening of Old North.

Most of the works on exhibit come from the Melton Art Collection at the Chambers Library, Archives & Special Collections. Some of the artist's names will be familiar while others are more obscure. The one thing they all have in common is they are or were arts educators. Many of these artists were devoted to teaching and providing opportunities for their students to learn. Artists like George Calvert who encouraged and found opportunities for his students to exhibit their work. Calvert often exhibited alongside his students. George Goetz traveled the region giving art

lessons in an effort to bring art to rural Oklahoma communities. The exhibit will be on display throughout 2018.



NCUR at the Library

The University of Central Oklahoma recently had the honor of hosting the prestigious National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) on the UCO campus in April. NCUR is the annual conference put on by the Council on Undergraduate Research each year, which affords undergraduate students from around the United States the opportunity to present research in their chosen fields to fellow undergraduates and faculty mentors. NCUR, which brought over 4000 participants to UCO, represented the culmination of over two years of institutional planning and was the first time an institute in our region has hosted NCUR since 1997. Hundreds of volunteers



Students from Michigan playing games in the NCUR lounge

assisted student presenters and their faculty mentors navigate the UCO campus and surrounding community.

Chambers Library played a key role during the conference this year, hosting

staff whose assistance was crucial in making this event a success in the Library, thank you Jeff Musslewhite, Charles Melson, Michele Ramsdell, Jean Longo, Aaron Sterba, Ronny Brown, Josiah Cogan, and Cory Castoe.

a student lounge on the first floor and offering our study rooms to students for practicing their presentations. The NCUR Student Lounge offered a place for students to relax with free hot coffee and snacks sponsored by UCO's Office of High Impact Practices. Board games were provided to relieve stress and were very popular. We would like to thank Library

Student Research Showcase Winners Announced

The Student Research Showcase, an inaugural Library event, was created as a competitive event where students could present their academic research in preparation for both Oklahoma Research Day and NCUR, and receive valuable feedback about their presentations. Chambers Library, along with the Office of High Impact Practices began collaborating on this event, which soon blossomed into a campus wide committee made up of representatives from each of the five Colleges on campus, plus the Forensics Institute. The committee met, a timeline was created, a scoring rubric was finalized, and judges were secured for the event that was slated for late February. Four of the six Colleges on campus were represented with over 26 submissions.

Despite rescheduling due to a weather delay, the showcase was held with

two oral presentations, and 14 poster presentations. The topics and intense research performed by these students was evident in their presentations, and transformative learning has clearly taken place for those involved. Presentations were attended by both fellow students and faculty mentors. Students did an excellent job of answering questions posed by the crowd. Cash prizes were awarded for first place (\$100.) and runner-up (\$50.) from each of the four Colleges represented. The winners were:

College of Education and Professional Studies

1st place: Makenzy Hamon
Runner-up: Cara Daniels

College of Fine Arts & Design

1st place: Jacob Jones
Runner-up: Elizabeth Suarez

College of Liberal Arts

1st place: Blake Janak
Runner-up: Heather Scheele

College of Mathematics and Sciences

1st place: Emily Kelting
Runner-up: Christiana Obioma



Makenzy Hamon discussing her poster

Governor Appoints Nicole Willard to Chair State Commission

Congratulations to UCO Archivist, Nicole Willard, who was recently appointed by Governor Mary Fallin to chair the Archives and Records Commission for the State of Oklahoma. The Commission has exclusive authority for the disposition of public records and archives. By law, no record created or received in the transaction of official business can be destroyed by a state agency without prior approval from the Commission.

With over twenty-five years of experience in the fields of archives and records preservation, Nicole's knowledge and leadership skills will be a vital asset to this commission. As chair, she will work alongside other state

officers or their representatives including State Librarian Susan McVey, Lt. Gov. Todd Lamb, State Treasurer, Ken Miller, and State Auditor, Gary Jones.

Nicole earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees from Central and currently oversees the operations of the University's Archives & Special Collections, and Library Development for UCO's Max Chambers Library.

In addition to this new appointment, Nicole serves on the Executive Committee for the newly formed Oklahoma Archives Association, and serves as Secretary for the Native American Faculty and Staff Association here on campus.



Nicole Willard, Director of Archives, Special Collections and Library Development

New Library Employees



Technical Services is pleased to welcome Shaye Caban as Chambers Library's new Web Developer. Shaye received her BA of Information Studies in 2007 and her MA of Library and Information Studies in 2009, both from the University of Oklahoma. Shaye comes to us from the Pioneer Library System where she served as an Information Services Librarian at the Moore Public Library. Shaye's previous library

experiences have included working as a cataloger, virtual librarian, children's librarian and a reference librarian in public libraries. Her professional interests include improving the customer experience, community outreach and issues related to accessibility and usability. In her free time, Shaye enjoys reading teen fiction, cooking, and trying new knitting patterns.



Welcome Jordyn Richardson, our new part-time graphic designer. Jordyn is a junior in the Graphic Design Department specializing in drawing, photography, and typography. Jordyn is a conscientious student who spends many hours with her favorite study partners: her cat, James Brown, and her dog, Winnie. In her

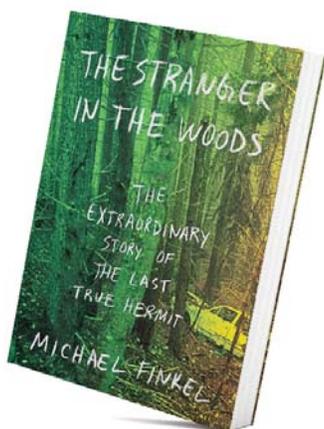
free time, she enjoys working on creative art and design projects. Jordyn's responsibilities for the Library include creating posters, slides, and other marketing tools that help promote events, services and resources at Chambers Library. We are happy to have Jordyn working in the Library.

Book Reviews

The Stranger in the Woods

By Michael L. Finkel

Reviewer: Cory Castoe,
Public Services
Call Number: CT9991.K65F56 2017

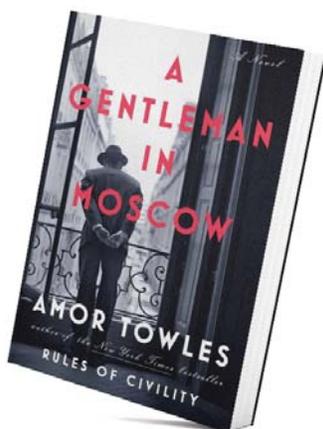


This is the story of Christopher Knight, who lived alone in the Maine wilderness for 27 years, until he was arrested in 2013 for breaking and entering. The book begins with Knight's arrest, and what follows is an attempt by the book's author, Michael Finkel, to get an accurate account of how Knight was able to survive on his own for nearly three decades. When Finkel first hears of the story, he feels a kinship with Knight, and searches him out to find out more. He finds Knight unwilling (and maybe unable) to trust him, but slowly, Knight's mind starts to open, and he tells Finkel an incredible story. At times humorous, and at other times heartbreaking, *The Stranger in the Woods* is a tale just bizarre enough to be true. It speaks to anyone who has ever dreamed of being a hermit (a term Knight takes great offense to), or even just to be in communion with nature.

A Gentleman in Moscow

By Fredrik Backman

Reviewer: Diane Rice,
Archives & Special Collections
Call Number: PS3620.0945G46 2016



A Russian aristocrat, Count Alexander Ilyich Rostov, placed by the Bolsheviks under house arrest in a Moscow hotel, seeks a purpose in life. The novel tells a charming, well-crafted, witty, intelligent and engaging story of the Count's successful effort to create a meaningful life for himself despite his confinement in the hotel and his designation as a "Former Person."

On Such a Full Sea

By Chang-Rae Lee

Reviewer: Jean Longo,
Research & Learning
Call Number: PS3562.E3347 2014



Lee takes us into the future of a declining America. Things have changed greatly, long abandoned neighborhoods have been changed to labor colonies. The residents spend their days finding purpose in providing fresh products and fish to the elite charter villages. In one of the labor colonies, called B-mor, lives Fan who is a fish tank diver. When her love disappears mysteriously Fan decides to leave her home to search for him. She ventures out through a wasteland without policing to find Reg.

For more staff book and media reviews go to:
<http://libguides.uco.edu/staffreviews>

Friends of Chambers Library
University of Central Oklahoma
Max Chambers Library
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100 North University Dr.
Edmond, OK 73034

CLOSED:
Saturday and Sunday
during intersession May 5 – June 3
May 28, 2018 (Memorial Day)
July 4, 2018 (Independence Day)
Sept. 3, 2018 (Labor Day)

