FOCUS ON A FRIEND

Friends Board Member Suzy Ettinger Supports Library in Many Ways

“One of my passions is art,” says Milwaukee philanthropist Suzy Ettinger. “As a Board member of the Friends of the Golda Meir Library, I became more aware of the Library’s unique collections, including a remarkable collection of books made by artists. These wonderfully imaginative works of art offer delight and inspiration for students, faculty, book artists, and the community.”

In 2005, in support of this collection and her passion, Suzy established the Ettinger Book Artists Series, which brings prominent book artists from around the country to UWM to lead workshops and lecture about their work.

Speakers in the series have included New Jersey book artist Maria Pisano, proprietor of Memory Press, and Claire Van Vliet, a MacArthur “genius” grant winner and founder of Janus Press in Vermont.

This year’s presenter was North Carolina-based photographer and book artist Clarissa Sligh, who offered a fascinating commentary on her thought-provoking work.

The Ettinger Family Foundation grant of $25,000, given over five years (and recently renewed for another five years), also underwrites acquisitions for the UWM Book Arts Collection, which is held in Special Collections.

Over thirty limited edition artists’ books have been added to the Collection through the Foundation’s gift, including Caren Heft and Jeff Morin’s heralded collaboration Martyr, Mercury, Rooster and Julie Chen’s and Nance O’Banion’s classic work Correspondence Course.

“The ongoing and very generous support of Suzy Ettinger and her Foundation has not only helped to build the collection and bring important book artists to Milwaukee,” says Max Yela, Head of Special Collections, “it has also helped to transform the landscape of book-arts education at UWM and in the city, and broaden our profile both nationally and internationally.”

Suzy’s contributions to the Library are not limited to artists’ books. She serves on the Friends of the Golda Meir Library Development Committee and was part of the Friend’s Renovation Task Force, which helped raise $2.2 million of private funding for the construction of the Daniel M. Soref Learning Commons. In addition, the Ettinger Family Foundation contributed significant support for this beautiful transformation of the Library’s west wing first floor.

Suzy and her late sister, Sally Waters, were also early supporters of the Library’s WTMJ-TV News Film Preservation Project.

And Suzy recently donated her own extensive collection of books about art—primarily works on major American and European artists—as well as some of her sister’s books, to the Library, with many designated for Special Collections.

“It is rewarding to help add more books to the collection and showcase some great book artists through the annual speaker program,” she says. “I encourage others to learn more about the many treasures at this Library!”
This past year has been an eventful and exciting one for the Friends of the Golda Meir Library. We celebrated the successful outcome of our Renovation Task Force fundraising efforts at the dedication of the Daniel M. Soref Learning Commons, and, I am happy to report, the students agree about how wonderful the new space is—they have been visiting the library in record numbers.

The Learning Commons has become a prime meeting ground for faculty. It is also a “can’t miss” stop on UWM tours for prospective students and their parents.

The Friends organized two well-attended lectures in 2010 focusing on crucial community issues: the reorganization of Milwaukee County government and the sustainability of Lake Michigan. Businessman and philanthropist Sheldon Lubar gave an insightful presentation on the first topic entitled “Fixing Milwaukee” and Great Lakes advocate David Ullrich delivered an informative lecture on the second: “The Lake That Made Milwaukee Famous.”

Another pair of successful used book sales, as well as strong membership numbers, contributed to our sound financial standing and we were again able help support many library events as well as library staff development and recognition. And we have pledged another $30,000 for critically needed online resources that benefit faculty as well as students at UWM.

We have a newly designed web site where you can find announcements, membership information, and links to some of the Library’s most popular web pages. Check out its attractive and fresh design at libraryfriends.uwm.edu.

And speaking of membership, we have streamlined the process of joining or renewing in several ways. A key change is that one can now sign up at any time during the year.

Looking ahead, we have already planned several exciting events. Our Annual Program will be held on Thursday, May 5, 2011, and feature Robert Greenstreet, Dean of the UWM School of Architecture and Urban Planning, and Rocky Marcoux, Commissioner of Milwaukee’s Department of City Development. Their topic is timely: east side and campus development plans, including the soon-to-be-vacant Columbia-St. Mary’s Hospital site adjacent to UWM.

From January 24 to February 21, 2011 the Library will host a panel exhibition celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Freedom Riders, courageous young women and men who helped break up the entrenched segregation in the Deep South. In conjunction with the exhibit, the Friends will present an important, related lecture. Look for an invitation soon!

And mark your calendars for the Spring 2011 Friends Used Book Sale, open to UWM students, faculty, and staff on April 4, and to the public on April 5 and 6.

Of course we will continue our advocacy for the Library in many other ways, as well. The Board welcomes your involvement in the organization, as well as your support.

I invite you to join me and become involved with the Friends. If you are interested, please contact me or the Libraries Development Director, Susan Modder (414-229-2811). Thank you.

Sarah Wright Kimball
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**FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Friends who volunteer at the organization’s used book sales often hear first-hand how much students appreciate the event.

“Students sometimes are thrilled to find a book from their childhood—an old friend of sorts,” says longtime volunteer and former Friends President Pat Van Alyea.

“They love the bargains, of course, and also the fact that the money from their purchase goes to the library to buy new books.”

The Friends are beginning to prepare for the Spring sale, to be held April 4-6, 2011, in the fourth floor Conference Center of the Library.

The sale will feature thousands of books in a wide variety of genres and a thousand LPs, mostly classical.

**MAPS FOR ADOPTION**

Four rare maps have been “adopted” and a fifth has been pledged for adoption in the American Geographical Society Library’s new program that offers the opportunity to support the conservation of specific maps in its collection.

Contributions fund de-acidification and encapsulation of the maps, stopping their deterioration.

Emeritus geography professor and former Friends Board member Donn Haglund—who, along with his wife Alma, has adopted a 1657 map of New England—explains the need for the program: “Many people may not be aware of the importance of conserving maps or that gifts in the range of $250-$1000 can save an important historical document.”

There are many more maps needing conservation, including:

- **Chart shewing the principal tracks of the discoverers in the Southern Ocean**, 1774, Lt. Charles Clerke of Capt. James Cook’s ship Resolute.
- **Grecian Archipelago**, 1899, James Imray & Son.

For more information about the Adopt-a-Map program, please contact Susan Modder, Development Director, at 229-2811 or semodder@uwm.edu.

**BOOK SALES VALUED BY STUDENTS**

Friends interested in volunteering for the event, please contact Jody Steren at jsterenfam@aol.com

**Days and hours are:**

- Monday, April 4, the sale is open to UWM students, faculty and staff only, noon to 6 pm.
- Tuesday, April 5 the sale is open to the public and runs from 10 am to 6 pm.
- Wednesday, April 6 the sale is open to the public and runs from 10 am to 4 pm.
This fall the UWM Libraries launched an online collection documenting the civil rights movement in Milwaukee. Michael Doylen, Head of the Archives Dept. and the Libraries’ representative on the collaborative project, recently answered questions about the new collection.

Q. Michael, how did the March On Milwaukee Civil Rights History Project come about?

Back in 2006, Margaret Rozga, a professor of English at UW-Waukesha and former NAACP Youth Council member, approached Michael Gordon and Jasmine Alinder, professors in UWM's History Department, to see if they might help coordinate commemorative events for the 40th anniversary of Milwaukee's open housing marches. Their collective efforts culminated in a weekend's worth of events in September 2007. The idea of a digital history project arose as a way to create a more lasting record of Milwaukee's civil rights history.

Q. Tell me about the collection.

Well, everyone on the project feels that we’ve created something very special. The Archives Department has many of the key collections documenting Milwaukee’s civil rights history: the papers of activists such as Fr. James Groppi and Lloyd Barbee, the records of organizations such as the Milwaukee branches of CORE and the NAACP, as well as WTMJ4 news film from the period. The digital collection provides online access to historical documents, photographs, and news film footage from 12 separate manuscript collections—and did I mention that we've included oral histories, as well?

Q. What are the advantages of a digital collection?

Providing online access eliminates many of the "inconveniences" of conducting research in a reading room. With the digital collection, one can study the actual lesson plans used in the Milwaukee freedom schools, watch news film footage showing activists protesting the de facto segregation policies of MPS, and listen to interviews with individuals reflecting on their involvement many years later—all while sitting in one's pajamas at home!

Q. Does the Archives plan on creating more digital collections?

Oh, certainly. We are currently developing a fund-raising campaign to digitize the photographs of Roman Kwasniewski, a collection of over 25,000 negatives, primarily glass, documenting Milwaukee’s Polish south side from 1910 to the mid-1940s. The Library itself has only limited funding for these important projects. Some grants are available, and we also seek the support of local foundations and individuals with an interest in preserving and providing greater access to Milwaukee’s historical record. The general public might be surprised by the significant cost of developing and maintaining digital collections. But this is an investment in the future.

The new collection may be accessed at marchonmilwaukee.uwm.edu

The UWM Libraries have been creating digital collections of our rare and unique materials since 2002. There are currently 20 sets, including March On Milwaukee: Civil Rights History Project; Tibet: From the Collections of the AGS Library; and Cities Around the World, with more in production.

This year the Libraries are featuring a different collection each month on the Libraries web site. For a link to the latest highlighted collection, visit www4.uwm.edu/libraries.

David Ullrich, Executive Director of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, presented the 2010 Friends Annual Program on May 13 in the American Geographical Society Library. Ullrich, a former administrator in the EPA, works with U.S. and Canadian mayors across the region to restore and protect the Great Lakes.

At the Friends Annual Business Meeting, which preceded the lecture, the Friends elected John Pinkstone as Secretary of the Board.

Also at the meeting, Sarah Wright Kimball, Martine Meyer, and Jody Steren were re-elected to four-year terms.

Lynne Pearson, who served on the Friends Board last year as representative of the Alumni Emeritus Board, was elected to a four-year term, as was Wendy Bosworth. Nancy Lizdas joined the Board as the new representative of the Alumni Emeritus Board.

Bosworth, a retired partner of Foley & Lardner LLP law firm, also serves on the Board of the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, the Investment Committee of Alverno College and the Finance Committee of the United Way of Greater Milwaukee.

Lizdas, who earned an MS in educational psychology from UWM, is a retired guidance counselor for Atwater School in Shorewood and a Board member of the Shorewood Foundation.

Outgoing Board members Deborah Gardner Conta and E.J. Brumder were honored with certificates of appreciation and thanked for their service. They received emeritus status for 2010-11.

Steven Burnham sburnham@uwm.edu
A THANK YOU
FROM THE LIBRARIES DIRECTOR

We at the Libraries are very thankful for the many contributions from the Friends of the Golda Meir Library. Two recent examples stand out:

Our wonderful Daniel M. Soref Learning Commons, which has become the hub of campus life, would not have been built without the effort and support of the Friends Board’s Renovation Task Force and Friends donations.

And a $30,000 grant from the Friends for online resources that enrich our research offerings has been critical in presenting UWM students and faculty with the tools they need to succeed.

The Friends also helped underwrite staff development and recognition, and supported many Library events. I join with the entire staff in thanking the Friends President Sarah Wright Kimball, the Board, and the entire organization for their many generous contributions to the UWM Libraries.

Ewa Barczyk
Director of Libraries

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