Madonna University Library advances the University mission by supporting the research needs and enhancing the information literacy skills of students, faculty, and staff. The library provides quality resources, research assistance and instruction in an atmosphere that reflects Christian service and values.

“Meet the Author” Provokes Emotion and Discussion

“The student has his Rome, his Florence, his whole glowing Italy, within the four walls of his library. He has in his books the ruins of an antique world and the glories of a modern one.”

- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
American Poet

John Carlisle speaks about his book, 313: Life in the Motor City, during the “Meet the Author” event held on December 8, 2011 in the Madonna University Library.

Coming Soon to Madonna Library’s “Meet the Author”

2/23/12: Robert Rann, Recollections - Life in the Keweenaw

3/13/12: Mary Minock, The Way-Back Room: A Memoir of a Detroit Childhood

4/17/12: Journalist Hugh McDiarmid will speak about current issues involving Michigan’s environment.

The audience listened intently as he told his story. Some were on the edge of their seats; others were wiping away tears. When the speaker concluded, the crowd stood and gave him a gracious applause.

This was the scene on November 3rd when author Sam Offen spoke about his experiences as a Holocaust survivor, which he also describes in his book, When Hope Prevails.

The turnout to Offen’s presentation was tremendous. People continued to pour in and more chairs were constantly being pulled from various parts of the library to accommodate the growing crowd.

Emma DeCenso, reference librarian, who is in charge of organizing “Meet the Author” events was very excited to call her first event a success.

“I was surprised by the turnout. I really didn’t know what to expect, but it was an unforgettable experience. I am so grateful to everyone who attended and I hope that our future programming will enjoy the same success,” said DeCenso.

On December 8th, DeCenso did enjoy the same success when journalist and author, John Carlisle, spoke about his book, 313: Life in the Motor City.

Carlisle entertained the audience with comical stories about his career as a journalist. Carlisle drives throughout Detroit to find interesting people to be topics in his articles. His book is a compilation of all his most fascinating stories.

Carlisle’s charismatic personality eased the audience to ask questions which sparked several discussions. To DeCenso, that is the purpose of the “Meet the Author” events.

“I see the author events as an opportunity for faculty and students to casually congregate and learn of common interests. This is all part of a liberal arts experience,” explained DeCenso.
Winter Term 2012 Walk-In Research Clinics

Need help with your current research project? Or assistance locating the appropriate resources for an assignment? Need to improve your research skills or learn about the Library’s resources? Drop into one of the Library’s Walk-in Research Clinics and get the help you need!

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The library welcomes all members of the Madonna Community, faculty, staff, and students to the research clinics. No reservations are necessary. Join us in room 2301. Please call the reference desk at (734) 432-5767 for further inquiries.

Lijun Xue Recognized for 10 Years of Work at Madonna

“A decade is a long time. For some people it feels like an eternity, but for reference librarian, Lijun Xue, 10 years went by in a blink of an eye.

Xue was recognized on November 21st during the Founder’s Day and Interfaith Luncheon for being a dedicated employee for 10 years.

“ar cannot believe that I have been here for 10 years. I guess when you really enjoy what you do and the people you work with, time goes by fast,” explained Xue.

The luncheon featured several presenters and a delicious lunch. However, the focal point of the luncheon were the special staff and faculty members who have been with the university for 10, 20, and 30 years.

Xue, who started out as a staff member in the library and became a librarian after earning her master’s degree, was very honored to be awarded in front of her peers and colleagues.

“I enjoyed seeing many other people like me who have worked 10, 20, and even 30 years at Madonna. I felt encouraged to be one of them. It was also special to have colleagues from the library there supporting me,” said Xue.

When asked why Madonna is able to retain employees for sometimes up to 30 years, Xue replied:

“There are many reasons why Madonna is a wonderful place to stay for such a long time. For me, the work atmosphere is very friendly. You feel like part of a family because we are truly respected and valued. Everybody shares the same goal which is to do whatever we can to help our students achieve academic success.”
Madonna University Library Spreads Cheer During Holiday Season

Madonna University prides itself on being a university founded on Franciscan tradition. However, the students, faculty, and staff go a step further by putting these Franciscan teachings in practice. During this past holiday season, numerous departments and faculty members sponsored underprivileged families and senior citizens.

Instead of exchanging gifts, the library participated in this charitable event by adopting a senior citizen. Money was donated from the library faculty and staff.

This is something the library personnel participates in nearly every year and it feels more satisfying to buy gifts for someone who really needs them.

"This is the season for giving and for those who are able to help, it is a great feeling to know you are responsible for making someone’s holiday a little happier," says Anita Shiplett.

Some faculty and staff members went out shopping; giving up their own time and money to help a person in need. Gifts, such as sweaters, shirts, pants, socks, and stationary were gathered and neatly wrapped. A gift card to Meijers was also purchased with the money collected.

"I think we did very well with everything we were able to buy. It shows our compassion and good will towards other people," explains Andrea Hall.

Whether it's adopting a family for the holidays or giving spare change to a bell-ringing Santa, a kind gesture can go a long way to making someone's Christmas brighter.

Library Assistant Lauren Seppanen Gets Married

The library would like to congratulate Lauren Seppanen on her New Year’s Eve wedding to her high school sweetheart, David Ziolkowski. The newlyweds are looking forward to having a more relaxing year.

"I’m excited just to start having a normal life together. The past year has been a whirlwind. We were planning the wedding, we bought a house, and we adopted a puppy. It has been crazy and we are looking forward to just being a boring married couple,” says Seppanen.

Seppanen describes herself as an organized person who rarely procrastinates. However, when planning the wedding she wasn’t on her game like usual.

"Before I started planning the wedding, I thought it was going to be really easy, but as the date got closer I realized there were so many small details that still needed to be done,” explained Seppanen.

Seppanen recommends for any bride-to-be to get as much done at the beginning as you can. Make lists and spreadsheets to keep yourself organized. And if organization and planning aren’t your forte, just elope!

Welcome Back to the Library Sister Virginis

After three months of recovering from knee replacement surgery, Sister Virginis is back at her post at the library circulation desk.

As a retired elementary school teacher of 56 years, Sister Virginis is used to juggling a busy schedule. However, during her recovery time she was forced to take it easy.

"I am happy to be back at work. I love interacting with the students and I started to become bored,” said Sister Virginis.

Sister Virginis explained that it was important for her to return to work at the library because she missed the staff, faculty, and student workers.

The feelings were mutual. Everyone in the library missed seeing Sister Virginis.

"We missed her enthusiasm. She is always willing to help the students because she cares so much for them,” said Helene Quattro.

It is evident Sister Virginis is a special and kind person by the fact that her former students from 40 years ago still get into contact with her.

We are glad to have Sister Virginis back in the library. Feel free to stop by and say hello to her!

Answers to the Who Said It Test on Page Four:
1. F
2. E
3. H
4. A
5. C
6. B
7. D
8. G
Celebrate National Library Week April 8-14, 2012

In a time when information can be reached instantaneously via the Internet, smart phones, or Kindles, community libraries are easily taken for granted. However, with each new piece of technology, librarians are needed even more to guide patrons to the right information.

Let’s face it, with so many avenues to find information, it is hard to decipher which sources are reliable. Librarians are able to not only find these reliable sources, but can teach patrons the tools to find sources on their own.

During the week of April 8-14, please show support to your academic and community libraries for National Library Week. The American Library Association wants patrons to remember that You Belong @ Your Library, which is the theme for National Library Week 2012.

National Library Week began in 1958 and is observed in libraries throughout the country. The purpose of National Library Week is to appreciate the work of librarians and to continue library use and support.

Who said it?

Match the quote to the person who spoke it. Answers can be found on page three.

1. “How wrong is it for a woman to expect the man to build the world she wants, rather than to create it herself?”
   A. Martin Luther King Jr.
   B. Benjamin Franklin
   C. Henry Ford
   D. Abraham Lincoln
   E. Walt Disney
   F. Anais Nin
   G. Sir Winston Churchill
   H. Ayn Rand

2. “It’s kind of fun to do the impossible.”

3. “You can avoid reality, but you cannot avoid the consequences of avoiding reality.”

4. “In the End, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.”

5. “Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off your goal.”

6. “Whatever is begun in anger ends in shame.”

7. “If I were two-faced, would I be wearing this one?”

8. “A lie gets halfway around the world before the truth has a chance to get its pants on.”