

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS MAGAZINE  
JULY/AUGUST 2015



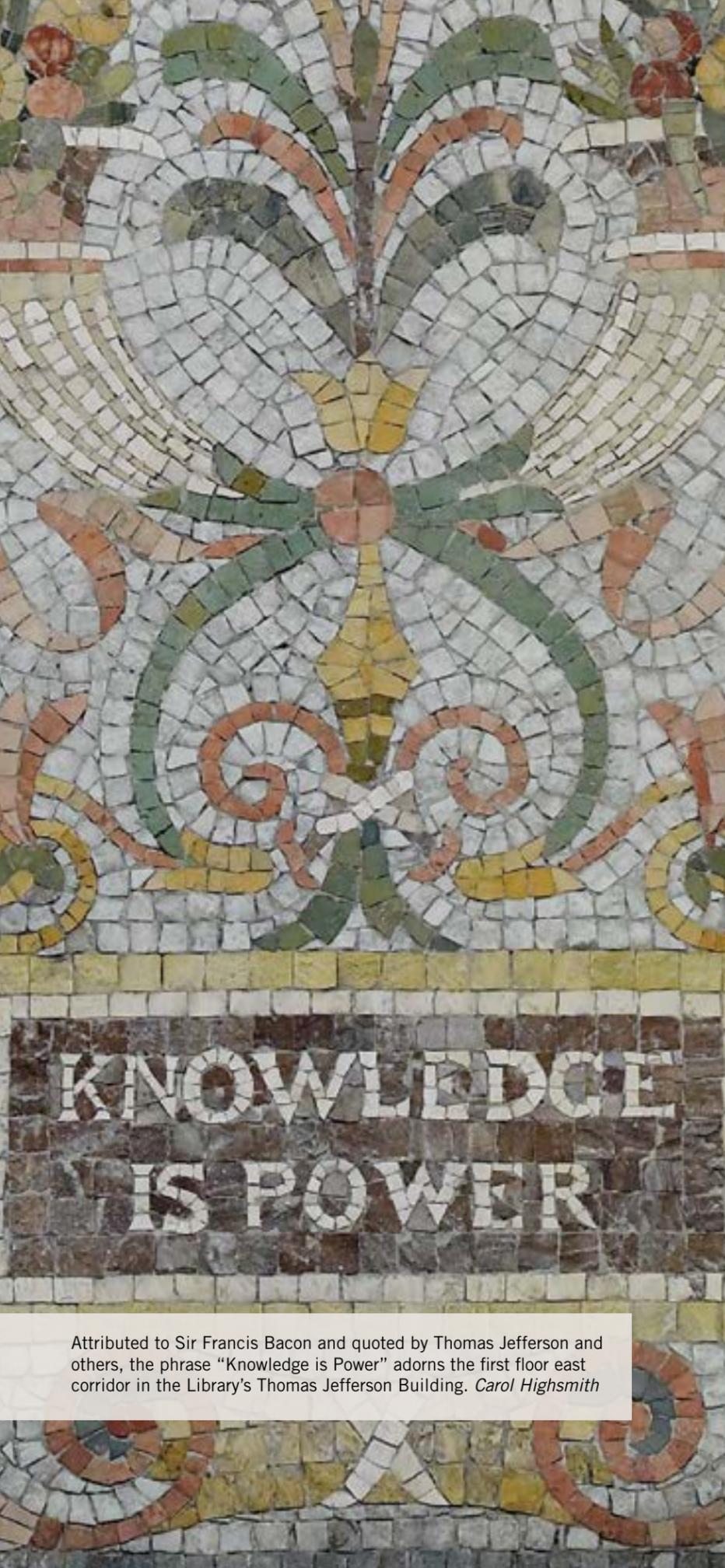
The Path a  
Book Takes  
Gifts to the  
Nation's Library

- ▶ Summer in Washington
- ▶ The Civil War in 3-D
- ▶ Jefferson's Library Within

# THE ART OF ACQUISITION



 LIBRARY OF  
CONGRESS  
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Attributed to Sir Francis Bacon and quoted by Thomas Jefferson and others, the phrase "Knowledge is Power" adorns the first floor east corridor in the Library's Thomas Jefferson Building. *Carol Highsmith*



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS MAGAZINE

Library of Congress Magazine  
Vol. 4 No. 4: July/August 2015

**MISSION OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS**

The mission of the Library is to support the Congress in fulfilling its constitutional duties and to further the progress of knowledge and creativity for the benefit of the American people.

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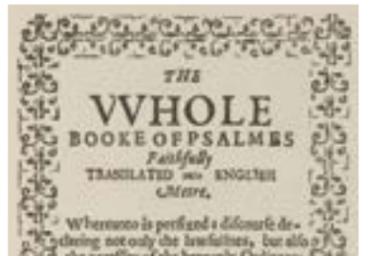
JULY/AUGUST 2015

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**ON THE COVER:** The Library of Congress collections include (clockwise from top) video games, instruments, campaign buttons, a rough draft of the Declaration of Independence, stereographs and baseball cards.

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- Library of Congress blogs:** [blogs.loc.gov](https://blogs.loc.gov)
- LCM online:** [loc.gov/lcm](https://loc.gov/lcm)



## DONATE BOOKS AND OTHER MATERIALS TO THE LIBRARY

**THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS** welcomes inquiries about donations of library materials but reserves the right not to accept unsolicited items. Donated material will be reviewed for potential selection for the Library's collections. Items may not be selected for a variety of reasons. For example, the Library acquires many U.S. book titles through copyright deposit. Thus, books offered to the Library for donation may already be part of the collection.

### TO DONATE:

1. Do NOT send or drop off unsolicited material.
2. Send gift offers to the Library via email to [gifts@loc.gov](mailto:gifts@loc.gov).
3. Include the following information in the gift offer:

- Description of the item(s) to be donated, including author, title, place and date of publication, publisher and edition statement;
- An estimate of the quantity of items to be donated;
- An assessment of the physical condition of the item(s).

*Note: To make monetary gifts, please contact the Library's Development Office at [loc.gov/donate.html](http://loc.gov/donate.html)*



Donor Tom Liljenquist holds an original American Civil War tintype, also pictured left, part of a larger collection he donated to the Library. *Shealah Craighead*

### ► MORE INFORMATION

[loc.gov/acq/donatex.html](http://loc.gov/acq/donatex.html)  
202.707.0792

## for you AT THE LIBRARY

### SURPLUS BOOKS



**WHAT:** Surplus Books Program  
**WHERE:** James Madison Memorial Building, Room B03  
**WHEN:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays  
**COST:** FREE

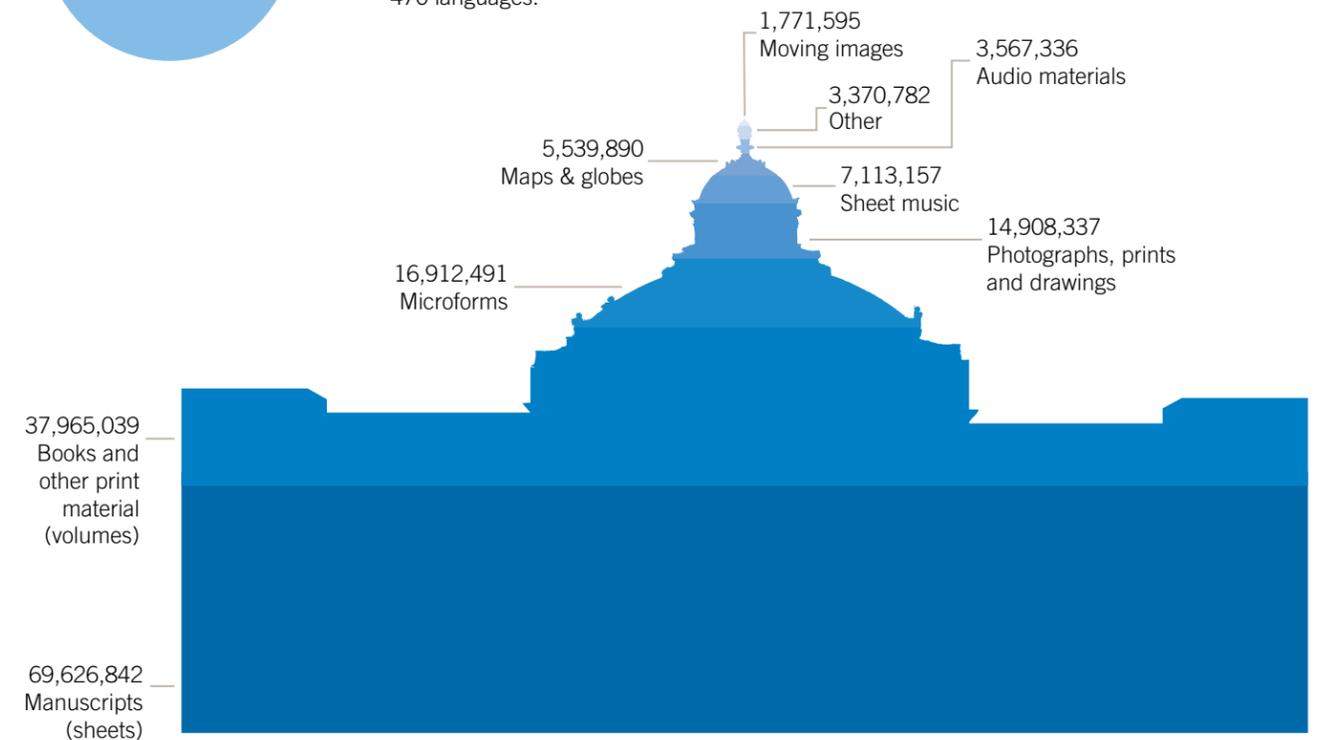
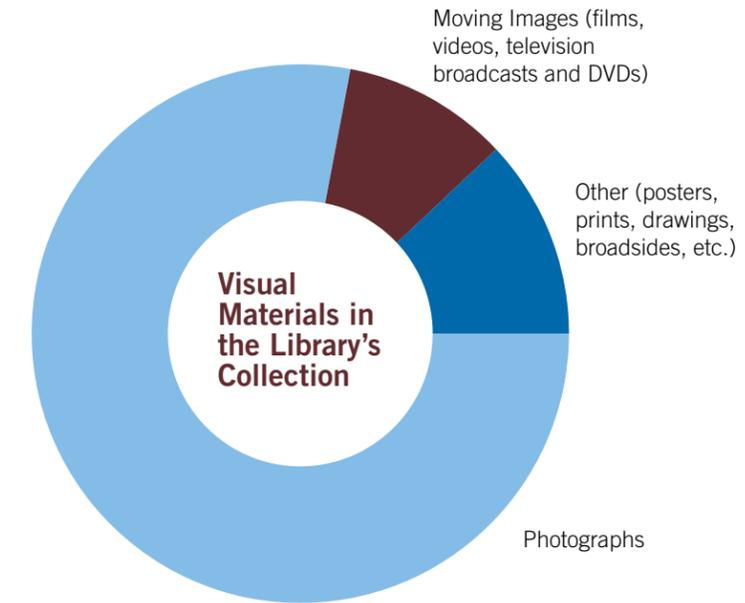
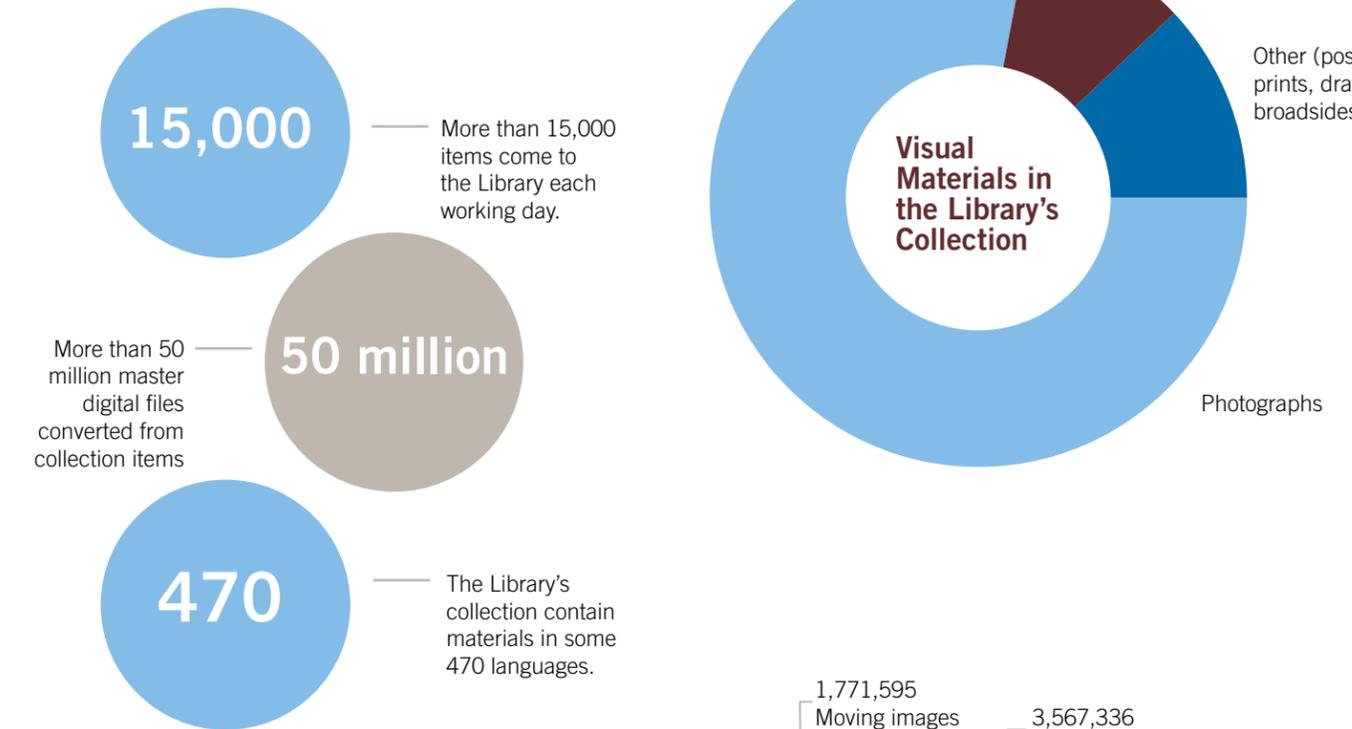
**THE SURPLUS BOOKS PROGRAM** strengthens the nation's educational resources by providing eligible organizations with surplus books and material no longer needed by the Library of Congress. The guiding principle behind the program is to build library collections.

To qualify for the program, organizations must be located in the United States and fall into one of the following categories: a tax-supported or nonprofit educational institution (school, school system, college, university, museum or public library); an agency of local, state or federal government; a nonprofit organization with tax-exempt status under section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 that operates a library and/or research center open to the public.

► **Surplus Books** [loc.gov/acq/surplus.html](http://loc.gov/acq/surplus.html)  
 phone 202.707.9524  
 email [surplusbooksprogram@loc.gov](mailto:surplusbooksprogram@loc.gov)

## UNPARALLELED COLLECTIONS

**THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CURRENTLY CONTAINS MORE THAN 160 MILLION ITEMS.**



## SUMMER IN WASHINGTON

A SELECT GROUP OF STUDENTS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY IS SPENDING SUMMER IN THE NATION'S LIBRARY.



How did you spend your summer vacation? The proverbial question is the subject of many back-to-school essays.

For the tens of thousands of students who flock to the nation's capital each summer, the answer is that they held a coveted internship in a federal, private or nonprofit institution. Among the most sought after is the

Library of Congress Junior Fellows Summer Internship.

This summer, 36 undergraduate and graduate students from 21 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico were selected from more than 800 applicants nationwide to work at the Library of Congress. During the 10-week paid internship, June 1 through Aug. 7, fellows are exposed to a broad spectrum of library work: copyright deposits, collections processing, reference, preservation, access and preservation. Working full-time with Library specialists and curators in more than 19 divisions, fellows will inventory, describe and explore collection holdings in a wide variety of formats.

Among the planned projects are: news broadcasts from the NBC Radio collection; a study of glass deterioration in early 19th-century flutes; Veterans History Project collections; an iron-gall ink study; the magician Harry Houdini's collection; and researching Maya, Olmec and Aztec jade archaeological artifacts.

"These projects and others are designed to increase access to the Library's collections and promote awareness of its digital preservation



Junior Fellow Isamar Abreu-Gomez processes the Library's miniature collections. *Shawn Miller*

projects," said Beatriz Haspo, collections officer in the Library's Collections Access, Loan and Management Division and the Junior Fellows coordinator.

"I have to pinch myself to believe I'm here at the place where Library of Congress cataloging records are created," said Isamar Abreu-Gomez, a graduate student in library science at the University of Puerto Rico. With an interest in preservation, Abreu-Gomez has been given the opportunity to process and rehouse items from the miniature collections in the Collections Access, Loan and Management Division.

"You will learn from the best people in their field," said Deputy Librarian David Mao upon greeting the 2015 class of Junior Fellows, pictured left, taking the oath of office. "And they will learn from you, young people with a fresh perspective."

The Library's Junior Fellows Summer Intern Program is made possible through the generosity of the late Mrs. Jefferson Patterson and the Knowledge Navigators Trust Fund established by Gerry Lenfest, with additional support provided by The Pew Charitable Trusts.

### ◉ MORE INFORMATION

**Junior Fellows Summer Intern Program**  
[loc.gov/hr/jrfellows/about.html](http://loc.gov/hr/jrfellows/about.html)

## HARVESTING THE EVER-CHANGING WEB

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS HAS BEEN AT THE FOREFRONT OF DETERMINING HOW BEST TO COLLECT AND STORE WEBSITE CONTENT.

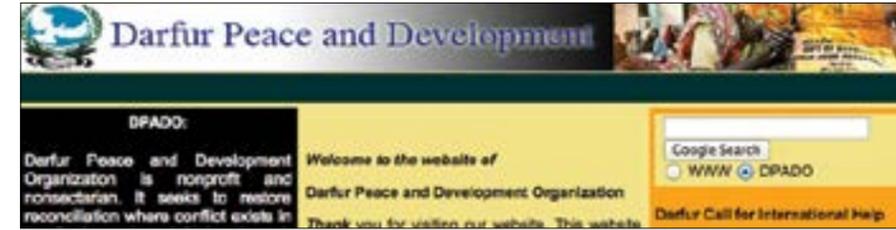
Since the earliest days of the Internet, websites have appeared, changed dramatically, even vanished without a trace. From the start, librarians, archivists and other information professionals knew that this born-digital content needed to be preserved for future generations.

Early on, the Internet Archive ([www.archive.org](http://www.archive.org)) and a few national libraries and archives around the world began collecting web content through a process known as web archiving—the gathering (harvesting) of Internet data, storing it and ensuring that it is preserved and accessible.

The Library of Congress launched its web archiving program in 2000. Since then, subject specialists have archived websites on a variety of topics as part of a continuing effort to evaluate, select, collect, catalog, provide access to, and preserve digital materials for researchers today. To date, the Library has created more than 70 thematic and event-based web archive collections—comprising approximately 582 terabytes of data—which are publicly accessible on its website. These range from the White House website to those of various Members of Congress, the National Urban League, the League of Women Voters and the government of Darfur. Many of the archived websites pertain to the events of Sept. 11, 2001.

As one of the founding members of the International Internet Preservation Consortium, the Library continues to work closely with other organizations dedicated to improving the tools, standards and best practices of web archiving. Together, they explore the following challenges:

**What to preserve.** One of the biggest challenges faced by web archivists is determining what to collect and who should collect it. Library staff recommend websites that rank high in these areas: usefulness in serving the needs of Congress and researchers, uniqueness of information, scholarly content, risk of loss and currency of information. For example, political campaign websites that can be expected to disappear soon after an election are a focus of the web archiving program.



**Technological considerations.** The Library's goal is to create an archival copy of how a site appeared at a particular point in time, including HTML, images, PDFs, and audio and video files, to provide context for future researchers. Special software helps make this possible. However, there are limits to what can be archived. For instance, the web-crawler tools that exist have difficulty archiving streaming media or database content requiring user input.

**Copyright considerations.** While some countries have a legal mandate allowing libraries to make preservation copies of websites without permission, the U.S. copyright law does not specifically address web archiving. The Library's practice is to notify most website owners of its intent to harvest their web content. The challenge comes when they do not respond. As a result, some web content is not preserved.

With ongoing collaborative efforts to tackle these challenges the Library will continue to build its web archive collections for future researchers.

—Abigail Grotke is the lead information technology specialist in the Office of Strategic Initiatives.

### ◉ MORE INFORMATION

**View the Library's Archived Websites**  
[loc.gov/websites/](http://loc.gov/websites/)



1



2



3



4



5

## THE CIVIL WAR IN 3-D

A banner raised by Confederates flutters over the rubble of Fort Sumter in the days just after Union forces abandoned the site—some of the first photographs taken of the Civil War. Slaves kneel before an image of Christ on the cross inside a plantation chapel—a perhaps one-of-a-kind image depicting slaves worshipping. Abraham Lincoln's funeral procession passes through several cities, following services in Washington, D.C., for the slain president.

Those exceedingly rare photographs are among 540 Civil War stereograph images acquired recently by the Library of Congress from a collection built over four decades by Robin Stanford, a Texas grandmother (see page 7). A selection of 77 images from the collection is now available on the Library's Prints and Photographs Online Catalog. Eventually, all will be placed online.

"It's like the California gold fields: If you found 540 gold nuggets in the played-out fields of California, it would be huge news," said Bob Zeller, president of the Center for Civil War Photography, which helped the Library acquire the images. "We've just reached back into history and plucked out these gold nuggets of photography—windows into our history that help illuminate this period of time."

Stereograph views were popular in that era. About 70 percent of all Civil War photos were shot as stereographs, using a camera with two lenses. The two images were printed side-by-side on a rectangular card, which was viewed in 3-D through a stereoscope.

Over the course of her collecting, Stanford amassed the largest collection of Civil War stereo photos in private hands—more than 1,500 images from the war, plus an equal number of Texas views.

The Library holds the most significant collection of original Civil War photographs of any public institution. The collection began with an emphasis on important Northern photographers such as Mathew Brady and Alexander Gardner and has expanded greatly over the last decade to include many Southern and also some Western images. The Library holds fewer images by Southern photographers and images by local photographers—both Northern and Southern—in part because there are simply less to get.

"Most [Southern photography] died because of the blockade and the lack of supplies," Zeller said.

The Stanford photographs help fill that gap.

"The Library has long sought to expand its coverage of the war," said Helena Zinkham, chief of the Library's Prints and Photographs Division. "The Stanford Collection adds rare



Shawn Miller

views of the South made by the people who lived there."

Among the rarest images are photographs documenting slavery at Rockville plantation, just south of Charleston—the largest group of real slavery photographs known to exist. Most "slavery" photos actually show recently freed African-Americans. These images, however, depict actual scenes of slavery, captured by Charleston photographers James M. Osborn and Frederick E. Durbec before the war or in its early years.

In the photos, slaves sharpen tools outside a workshop, "Old Bacchus" fishes from a dock, an elderly slave escorts a child past a planter's house. One photo depicts a slave

cemetery: "Respect for his character, and gratitude for his services, have caused this stone to be erected," a tombstone reads.

Still others show the first images of the Wilderness battlefield; the first "action" image of war; an Episcopal missionary church that may be the first image of an African-American church; remarkable images of freed slaves on St. Helena Island; and President Abraham Lincoln's final resting place at Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, Illinois.

"To be able to preserve these and put them at the Library where they're available to everybody," Zeller said, "is just to me a very thrilling thing to be able to do."

—Mark Hartsell is editor of *The Gazette*, the Library's staff newspaper.

**Opposite from top:** 1. A Confederate flag flies in the aftermath of the bombardment and capture of Fort Sumter. 2. Slaves worship in a church at Rockville plantation, near Charleston, S.C. 3. Southern artillery militiamen pose in Charleston, S.C. 4. An African American man and child pose in front of a planter's house near the Rockville Planation, Charleston, S.C. 5. Abraham Lincoln's casket passes through a crowd on Philadelphia's Broad Street. *Ridgway Glover*  
All stereograph images | Robin G. Stanford Collection, Prints and Photographs Division

### ► MORE INFORMATION

View images from the Robin G. Stanford Collection  
[go.usa.gov/3f4qP](http://go.usa.gov/3f4qP)

## AMASSING A COLLECTION

Robin Stanford, pictured left, bought her first stereoscope and stereograph cards for modest, practical reasons: to serve as a rainy-day activity for her children and as decoration for the living room of her new Texas farmhouse.

That small purchase in the early 1970s sparked a passionate pursuit of rare stereograph images that, decades later, resulted in what experts call the biggest, finest private collection of Civil War stereo photos ever assembled.

"The camel gets his nose in the tent," Stanford said, "and the first thing you know, they're having lunch."

Stanford, always a history buff, liked the way the photos brought historic events and everyday people to life. She studied images of plantation slaves and Confederate artillerymen and wondered what happened to them, how it all turned out.

"These people are ghosts. They're dead," she said. "But I just find it fascinating. Don't ask me why."

Stanford had planned to pass her collection to her son, a physics professor at Concordia University, but he died of a heart attack last year at 53—a tragedy that took the joy out of collecting for her.

So she decided to sell parts of her collection to fund college for her grandchildren—and to find a home that would make the images accessible to the public forever. That home, she felt, should be the Library of Congress.

"This way, it's going to be available to everybody," she said. "All you have to do, sooner or later, is go onto the site and you can see any of this. I think that's wonderful."

—Mark Hartsell



# GIFTS TO THE NATION'S LIBRARY

The Library's treasure trove grows daily, thanks in large part to donated collections.

**From top:** This 1964 "Instrument of Gift" authorizes the Library's acquisition of the papers of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. *Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate*

"Rollerbladers" in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, is part of photographer Vincent Cianni's "We Skate Hardcore" series, 1995. *Prints and Photographs Division*

Marvin Hamlisch's original manuscript for the song "Nobody Does It Better" is one of the many treasured items in the composer's donated collection. *Music Division*

Astronomer Carl Sagan poses next to a model of the Viking Lander in Death Valley, California, 1980. *Bill Ray, The Seth MacFarlane Collection of the Carl Sagan and Ann Druyen Archive, Manuscript Division*

The Library of Congress acquires materials through many different streams (see page 10). Copyright deposits, purchase of U.S. collections and exchange agreements with partners around the world, among other methods, substantially underpin the Library's acquisitions.

One lesser-known method through which the Library acquires many of its special collections is through gifts. The Library's acquisition of gifts is administered by the gift coordinator in the U.S./Anglo Division in consultation with Library curators and recommending officers. Not all gifts are accepted for inclusion in the Library's collections. From single items to large collections, offers of gifts are evaluated for possible acquisition in accordance with the Library's collection development policies (see page 10).

The Library receives offers of materials in various formats such as manuscripts, films, photographs and other special collections. Library curators also actively solicit gifts from individuals and collectors in their respective fields. About 70 curators, recommending officers, and other Library officials are authorized to negotiate for gifts. For example, Verna Curtis of

the Library's Prints and Photographs Division offered the following justification for acquiring a gift of photographs by Vincent Cianni:

"This gift adds to the Library's representation of the contemporary photographic practice of shooting in black-and-white and printing gelatin silver prints (now in decline) and serves as documentation of an urban culture in America. The photographs enrich the Library's photography holdings by offering striking traditional prints which chronicle a community of in-line skaters Cianni met and followed in the Williamsburg, Brooklyn, neighborhood ... during the 1990s." The collection of 33 photographs recently came to the Library.

Once recommenders determine that a proposed gift meets the Library's collection policies, they notify Gift Coordinator Peter L. Stark (see page 21), who is authorized to obtain, pay for and arrange transportation for special collections that come to the Library of Congress. For many of the gifts, Stark works closely with the Library's Office of the General Counsel, the recommenders and the donors to ensure that the agreements are clear and understood by all involved. Some gift acquisitions are more complicated than others.

The gift coordinator also arranges for the shipping of about 125 donations via Federal Express each year for the American Folklife Center, the Prints and Photographs Division and Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division, to name a few.

Shipping large collections to the Library can create unusual challenges. Comprising more than 900 boxes, the papers of astronomer Carl Sagan were stored in a facility in Ithaca, New York, that was built into the side of a steep slope equipped with only a narrow stairway up to street level. The Sagan Collection was carried out of the facility one box at a time.

Collections housed in various locations can also be complicated. A case in point is the recently acquired collection of composer Marvin Hamlisch.

"The collection was divided between the two coasts," said Mark Eden Horowitz, a senior music specialist who works closely with the gift coordinator to recommend and acquire American musical theater collections for the Library. "Access to one location was hard to schedule and the collection includes rare and fragile items



The Abel Buell map is installed in the Library's Creating the Americas Gallery. *Abby Brack Lewis*

that required fine-arts shippers to pack. Through it all, the U.S./Anglo Division staff did the heavy lifting—both figuratively and literally."

Often, a donor will arrange to send an initial shipment of material to the Library shortly after signing a gift agreement and then continue adding to the collection over a period of years. For example, the Manuscript Division recently received a five-box addition to the papers of conservative leader and National Review publisher William A. Rusher, whose original gift to the Library was made in 1989.

The exceedingly rare 1784 Abel Buell Map of the United States, now on display at the Library, was transported to the Library from New York City by special courier.

The U.S./Anglo Division acquires from 35 to 45 major special-format, non-book gifts per year, which each require a formal gift agreement signed by the donors and the Librarian of Congress. Stark writes approximately 250 letters per year acknowledging non-book gifts. The letters range from thanking donors for major collections to acknowledging the receipt of single gift items that "walk in" to collection divisions.

"From a single book to a large private collection, donations to the Library of Congress benefit the nation," said Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Director Beacher Wiggins.

*Gift coordinator Peter Stark and Beth Davis-Brown, a section head in the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate, contributed to this article.*

## ► MORE INFORMATION

[loc.gov/acq/donatex.html](http://loc.gov/acq/donatex.html)



# THE ART OF ACQUISITION

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS WORKS DAILY TO BUILD A UNIVERSAL COLLECTION.

BY JENNIFER GAVIN

Blame Thomas Jefferson.

He's the founding father (and ravenous reader) who convinced the U.S. Congress it needed not just his books on law and history to replace its more than 3,000-volume library—torched with the U.S. Capitol by the Redcoats in 1814—but all 6,487 of his volumes, in many languages and on many topics.

“There is, in fact, no subject to which a member of Congress may not have occasion to refer,” Jefferson argued—and the retired president won the day. His universalist, multi-lingual approach to book-collecting became the Library of Congress approach, and is a major reason the Library—with items in more than 470 languages—is a resource for the entire world.

From the acquisition of Jefferson's personal library 200 years ago—which the Library celebrates this year—the Library has grown to 160.7 million items. This includes more than 38 million books and other print material, and nearly 123 million other items in other formats, including audio, manuscripts, maps, movies, sheet music and photographs.

How does the Library acquire all that knowledge, decide what to keep, and distribute the rest?

## How Do Collections Come to the Library?

The Library gets its materials, which flow in at a rate averaging more than 15,000 items per working day, from four primary pipelines:

- Through gifts;
- Through the U.S. Copyright Office, which is part of the Library of Congress;

**Opposite:** The Library's General Collections are stored on bookshelves in the Thomas Jefferson Building. *Shawn Miller*

**Clockwise from top left:** Helena Zinkham, acting director of Collections and Services examines the Library's largest book, “Bhutan” (5 by 7 feet when open), *Shawn Miller*; George Gershwin's self-portrait; a rare perfect copy on vellum of the Gutenberg Bible.

From left: A nitrate film reel of Thomas Edison's 1910 film "Frankenstein," *Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division*; David Gibson preserves video games at the Library's Packard Campus for Audio Visual Conservation, *Shawn Miller*; a 1866 ribbon map of the Mississippi River, *Geography and Map Division*

Opposite, from left: A 1941 postcard from folksinger Woody Guthrie to folklorist Alan Lomax, *American Folklife Center*; an NBC recording of the news coverage of President John F. Kennedy's assassination, *Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Record Sound Division*; a ribbon from a 1907 New York State Woman Suffrage Association Convention, *Rare Book and Special Collections Division*; a 1953 photograph of photographer Ansel Adams by Imogene Cunningham, *Prints and Photographs Division*; an 1890 promotional poster for Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West show by artist Alick Ritchie, *Prints and Photographs Division*; a Nov. 3, 1948, early issue of the "Chicago Daily Tribune" prematurely declared a presidential winner, *Serial and Government Publications Division*; a Mayan jaguar sculpture, AD 600-900, *Jay I. Kislak Collection, Rare Book and Special Collections Division*

- Through purchases;

- Through exchanges with other libraries and other non-purchase arrangements.

The Library's curators approach holders of prospective collections to let them, or their heirs, know of the Library's interest in acquiring such collections.

Some of the Library's most awe-inspiring treasures come in as part of larger, donated collections. For example, books of poems by William Blake and many other rare books came through donation by rare book collector Lessing Rosenwald.

The Library's collection of the works, working papers and even the piano and typewriter used by George and Ira Gershwin were donated by their family. The heirs of Abraham Lincoln and of some of his cabinet members made gifts to the Library of papers and artifacts, including handwritten copies of his most famous speeches.

Since 1870—when Congress put the Copyright Office inside the Library—a deposit copy of each work copyrighted is made available to the Library for its collections. This gives the Library what Librarian of Congress James H. Billington likes to call the "mint record of American creativity." Many of the most interesting items in the Library's collections—from baseball cards to poetry, to Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech—came into the Library through copyright.

Purchases fill in another part of the picture. The majority of the Library's budget is appropriated funding from Congress and a segment of that funding goes toward purchases of research materials. The Library also gets a boost from external supporters—

such as the membership of the James Madison Council, the Library's private-sector advisory group. Its members have been very generous in donating funding for Library acquisitions.

A mix of public and private money helped the Library buy, for \$10 million, one of its top treasures, the Waldseemüller Map of 1507—the first document to include the name "America." Private funding has helped the Library buy rare books, maps and many other collections (see page 27).

Some items come to the Library through auctions. The Library has a process through which curators work closely with recommending officers to determine whether to bid on items.

Jennifer Baum-Sevec, who is involved in auctions as part of her work in the Library's U.S./Anglo Division, said the Library typically works through agents, in part so it is not obvious it is a government agency doing the bidding (which might adversely affect the price). The Library, which under federal financial regulations cannot produce payment on the spot for such purchased items, also benefits by working with agents who are willing to wait for their own payment until the steps mandated by law have been undertaken.

Sometimes the Library decides to pass on an

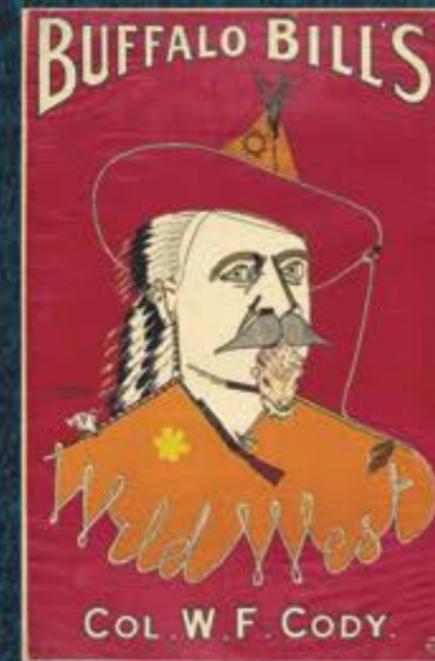
auction if it just gets too costly. "Determine your walk-away point—you have to go into it with that mindset," Baum-Sevec said.

The Library also maintains collecting offices in parts of the world where getting materials is a bit more challenging. These are in Nairobi, Kenya; Cairo, Egypt; Islamabad, Pakistan; New Delhi, India; Jakarta, Indonesia; and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

#### From Intake to Shelf

Policy on what to collect has been established and is reviewed, as needed, by the Library's Collections Development Office and its Collections Policy Committee, composed of key staff members throughout the Library (see page 15).

The Library's 200 recommending officers proactively identify items for acquisition and also select from other materials that have been received.





**COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT OFFICER JOSEPH PUCCIO DISCUSSES THE LIBRARY'S COLLECTION-BUILDING TODAY AND TOMORROW.**

When I began my career at the Library of Congress in 1983 as a freshly minted library school graduate, I was astounded by the depth and breadth of the collections, comprising more than 79 million items. Those collections were all physical (analog) items, and they have continued to grow. The Library's analog collection today totals more than 160 million items. In recent years, a huge amount of digitized collection material and born-digital items has been amassed, too—now consuming more than five petabytes of storage space.

The Library's acquisitions programs for physical materials, with their supporting policies and technical infrastructure, are long-established and extremely effective. A set of over 70 Collections Policy Statements and Supplementary Guidelines documents guide the institution's acquisitions and selection operations. These policies were developed over decades and continue to be updated. They provide the policy framework to support the Library's responsibilities to serve the Congress as well as the United States government as a whole, the scholarly community and the general public. The policies provide a plan for developing the collections and maintaining their existing strengths. They set forth the scope, level of collecting intensity and goals sought by the Library to fulfill its service mission.

Our digital collecting programs, for the most part, are still in the process of being fully developed, with several successfully implemented. These efforts fall under the same framework of our analog collecting policies. However, a range of challenges—both technical and intellectual—must be met.

On the technical side is the challenge of the multiplicity of formats in which digital materials are produced, and the fact that the technology is constantly advancing. Thus, building and maintaining a system to ingest, preserve and provide access to digital content requires continuing modification.

A major consideration is the long-term sustainability of the digital materials. We are concerned about access to the content today and in the future. Another major factor in working with digital content is respecting use limitations imposed by the rights holders (usually creators or publishers).



Shawn Miller

But the biggest challenge is to decide what to collect and in what format. We do not have the resources to collect all available digital content—not even close. So, the questions we ask include what does the Congress need to support its work now? What will researchers need in 100 years or 500 years? What content best reflects America's history and should be preserved and made accessible in perpetuity?

Those are questions we asked—and still ask—regarding analog materials. Such questions are even more critical in the realm of digital collecting. Although the policies provide guidance, the reality is that selection decisions—whether for analog or digital material—often require the expert judgment of Library staff members.

As the Library's digital collecting program expands and matures, policies will continue to evolve. For example, our policy for U.S. newspapers states that we collect those that meet certain criteria, including those that are national in scope or coverage. For decades, we have met that mandate by acquiring paper issues for current use and microfilm for the permanent collection. How will that policy be applied in an environment where the newspapers themselves are available in multiple digital formats and a publication's content is available separately, via one or more websites and through aggregated databases? Choices will need to be made, and the policies will need to be reviewed and updated on a continuing basis to meet the current and future needs of our users.

**► MORE INFORMATION**

**Collections Policy Statements and Supplementary Guidelines**  
[loc.gov/acq/devpol/cpsstate.html](http://loc.gov/acq/devpol/cpsstate.html)

Duplicates of books already in the collections and other books not meeting the Library's collection criteria are placed in the Library's Surplus Books unit for a time. These recent-issue books are available for donation to libraries or other nonprofit groups willing to cover the cost of moving them to new homes (see page 2).

**The World's Largest Library**

What this means is that the Library of Congress, with 21 reading rooms open to anyone 16 or older with a Library reader card, and online to anyone with internet access, is a veritable intellectual feast.

Thomas Jefferson probably didn't anticipate that when he began amassing his personal library. But it's not hard to imagine that he would be as proud of that as he was of penning the Declaration of Independence or helping found the University of Virginia.

He knew that knowledge is power.

Designated staff in the Copyright Office, Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate and the Law Library of Congress also analyze the incoming materials and make selections. On average, about 12,000 items are selected daily from the 15,000 received.

Selected material must be cataloged, shelved—on about 838 miles of shelving in three buildings on Capitol Hill and several offsite storage facilities—and made available to researchers.

**What about the Leftovers?**

The Library of Congress does not collect everything it is offered, some of which is unsolicited.

*Jennifer Gavin is a senior public affairs specialist in the Office of Communications. Joseph Puccio, the Library's collection development officer, contributed to this story.*

**► MORE INFORMATION**

**Learn more about Library acquisitions.**  
[loc.gov/acq/](http://loc.gov/acq/)

**Clockwise from top left:** Color poster by Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, 1892, *Prints and Photographs Division*; "Migrant Mother" by Dorothea Lange, 1936, *Prints and Photographs Division*; volumes from Thomas Jefferson's personal library, *Rare Book and Special Collections Division*



Packages of books arrive at the loading dock in the Library's James Madison Building.



Richard Yarnell reviews materials in the acquisitions mailroom where they are sorted by country of origin.



Julio Berrios confirms that the incoming title matches the one on the invoice.



Deborah Vaden completes the call number and scans the barcode.

# THE PATH A BOOK TAKES

**FOLLOW THE JOURNEY TAKEN BY EACH OF THE 300,000 BOOKS ADDED TO THE LIBRARY'S COLLECTIONS ANNUALLY.**

BY SUSAN MORRIS

Between the time a book is published and a library user reads it, as many as a dozen Library staff members will have handled the volume. They will have made a series of crucial decisions about its acquisition for the collection, analyzed and described it in the Library of Congress Online Catalog and preserved and shelved it so it can be made accessible to readers.

To track the path a book takes from arrival to the reading room, we will follow "Crónicas Cuauhtemenses" by Rodolfo Torres González, a volume received from the Mexican book dealer México Norte.

The book arrives at the loading dock in the Library's James Madison Memorial Building on Capitol Hill. This is not the first stop the book has made in greater Washington. To ensure that books are not contaminated with chemical or biological substances, the packages have already been opened, inspected and resealed at an off-site mail-handling facility in suburban Maryland—like all mail that is delivered to the Library on Capitol Hill. The Library's mail contractors load the packages of books into upright mail cages near the loading dock and push them to the acquisitions mail room on the basement level of the Madison Building, where Library staff sort them by country of origin.

The book travels to the Mexico, Central America, and Caribbean Section of the African, Latin American and Western European Division to receive acquisitions processing. An acquisitions specialist opens the package of books and verifies that the items received are ones the Library wanted and in good physical condition. The specialist evaluates each book to determine

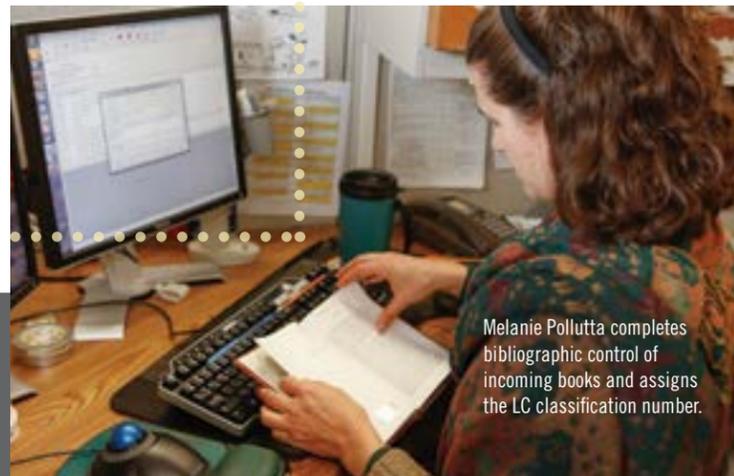
its cataloging priority—a crucial decision that determines how full a bibliographic description will eventually be created for the book. Next, a Library recommending officer determines that the title is within scope for the Library's collections and confirms the cataloging priority. The acquisitions specialist prepares the invoice for payment and turns the book over to an acquisitions technician, who searches the Library's Integrated Library System (ILS) to be certain it is not a duplicate of material already received.

The technician also searches the ILS for an initial bibliographic record and creates one if none exists. If no other cataloging data exist for the book, he inserts slips in its pages to show that it needs original cataloging—cataloging created "from scratch" by Library staff. The invoice from the vendor is forwarded to the section head who approves payment. The book is carried to the security marking and targeting station, where it receives a stamp on the top edge to indicate Library of Congress ownership and security targets are inserted, which will cause an alarm to sound if the book is removed from Library premises. The book is now under physical security control, inventory control and initial bibliographic control. It is placed on a book truck and delivered to staff members who have skill in cataloging Latin American material.

A senior cataloging specialist in the Mexico, Central America, and Caribbean Section completes the bibliographic control of the book. She reviews and expands the physical description of the book and determines which individuals and corporate entities were responsible for writing the content and publishing or sponsoring the finished book. She formulates authorized forms of names for the responsible parties and adds them to the bibliographic record in the ILS.



Barbara Tenenbaum checks to see if incoming titles should be included in the Handbook of Latin American Studies.



Melanie Pollutta completes bibliographic control of incoming books and assigns the LC classification number.



Michael Sheppler adds security devices in each volume.



"Crónicas Cuauhtemenses" has been cataloged, bound and deacidified.

She also analyzes the content of the book in order to assign subject terms, using the standardized, controlled vocabulary in the Library of Congress Subject Headings. Very often, the cataloger creates new name or subject terms, in standardized forms, to provide access to cutting-edge research materials in the catalog. Finally, she assigns a classification number from the Library of Congress Classification System (LCC). Books about Mexican history will class between F1201 and F1392 in the LCC.

A cataloging technician adds information to the classification number to produce a complete call number. The call number serves as the physical address where the book will reside. All newly cataloged monographs in the general collections are shelved at the Library's offsite facilities or in fixed location shelving on Capitol Hill in order to conserve space.

The LCC call number will always remain in the ILS bibliographic record for two reasons: other libraries that hold copies of the same book may want to use LCC call numbers as their books' physical addresses; and the call number is hot-linked in the Library of Congress Online Catalog so that the Library's end users can use the call number to launch online searches for other resources about the same subjects. "Crónicas Cuauhtemenses" received the call number F1391.C8835T67 2007, and it is stored in the Library's offsite facility at Fort Meade, Maryland, where it can be retrieved and delivered to a user on Capitol Hill in a matter of hours.

The cataloged book is forwarded to the inspection shelves for the "Handbook of Latin American Studies" (HLAS) for review by the Library's area specialist in Mexican culture. She inspects the book to determine

whether it should be included in HLAS, the bibliography of publications about Latin America that has been edited at the Library of Congress for more than 70 years. The area specialist decides that this title should not receive an entry in this renowned reference tool. At this point, the book may also be considered for possible assignment to reference collections in the Library's reading rooms.

Next, the Library takes steps to ensure the book will be available for generations to come. Like most books the Library receives from Latin America, "Crónicas Cuauhtemenses" is soft-covered. It will be sent to the Library's Binding and Collections Care Division, which will ship it to the Library's commercial bindery in Indiana. After it is hardbound, the book may be sent to the Library's mass deacidification contractor near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to neutralize the wood-pulp acid in its pages. Deacidification prevents premature yellowing and extends the life of a book by 300 years or more.

The book has had a long journey from Mexico to Washington, D.C., with side trips to Indiana and Pennsylvania. When the cataloged, bound, and deacidified book is returned to the Library, it is now ready to be provided to the Library's users in the Hispanic Reading Room, Main Reading Room or other reading rooms in one of the Library's three buildings on Capitol Hill.

*Susan Morris is assistant to the director for Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access.*

*All images | Shawn Miller*

**PETER STARK DISCUSSES HIS WORK AS THE LIBRARY'S GIFT OFFICER.**

**How would you describe your work at the Library of Congress?**

My work, simply put, is to support the efforts of the many recommending officers in the Library's collection divisions (Manuscript, Prints & Photographs, Music, etc.) in the acquisition of special-format collections offered to the institution as gifts. After a collection and willing donor have been identified, I go to work.

My formal position description is "gift coordinator" and I have taken that to mean that I am responsible for coordinating the gift process among all interested parties, keeping them informed from the first draft of a formal gift agreement, to the packing and shipping of the collection into the Library's custody, and the acknowledgement of its receipt.

**How did you prepare for your current position?**

Before being hired by the Library of Congress in the fall of 1999, I had earned a master of library science degree followed by 21 years of experience in academic librarianship, in the rather specialized field of maps and cartographic information. As head of the Map and Aerial Photography Library, a branch library of the University of Oregon Library System, I arranged quite a few transfers of map and aerial photography collections from federal and state agencies, which did involve gift negotiations and acquisitions, in addition to my other duties. My references might have indicated that I was an organized librarian, one that could be counted on to successfully begin and finish projects, which is important in my current position.

**What are the biggest challenges in your current position?**

Perhaps the biggest challenge is to keep the many gift acquisition projects—currently 20 major gifts and 18 smaller gifts—all moving smoothly to a successful completion. There are plenty of moving parts in the gift process and I try to guide all the parts forward to a satisfactory conclusion.

**What are some of the most memorable collections you helped bring to the Library?**



Shawn Miller

One of the more memorable collections that I helped bring into the Library was the large and significant collection of Herbert Block's (Herblock) political cartoons, largely because of his incredibly important and far-reaching legacy of national political commentary. Others include the Coca-Cola Company's gift in 2000 of its television commercials from 1953 to the present; the personal and professional papers of conductor, television star, recording industry producer and exceedingly gracious human being Mitch Miller; and the recorded sound collection of guitarist Les Paul.

However, I am struck daily by the many thousands of smaller donations, made by a highly diverse group of donors whose records fill more than 120 file drawers in my office. These less-than-major donations—a single map of Arizona Territory, a collection of photographs of famous jazz musicians, or a single newspaper issue from Vicksburg, Mississippi, published during the Union army's 1863 siege and printed on decorative wallpaper—might not make the headlines. But taken as a whole, they have advanced the ongoing, multi-generational task of making the Library of Congress the largest and finest library in the world. I have been fortunate to have been able to assist in this great effort of building the nation's library through gifts.

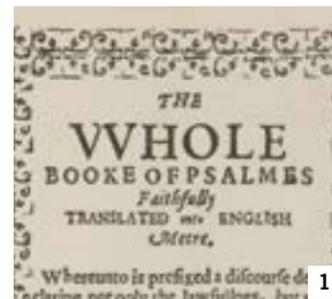
**FIRST PRINTING**

**RARE BOOK AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DIVISION CHIEF MARK DIMUNATION DISCUSSES SOME EXAMPLES OF EARLY AMERICAN PRINTING FEATURED IN A NEW LIBRARY EXHIBITION.**

**1. The Bay Psalm Book**

The Bay Psalm Book was the first book printed in British North America, making it an important artifact of the founding of this country and its culture. "The decision to print a book of psalms metered for singing may seem an odd choice as the first book to be printed by the settlers of Massachusetts Bay, but this modest hymnal served the larger purpose of the colony and its members—to live within the reformed church."

*"The Whole Booke of Psalmes Faithfully Translated into English Metre," Cambridge, 1640*



1



2



3



4



5

**3. "Plain Truth"**

In 1747, Spanish, French, and Indian privateers were raiding properties along the Delaware River and capturing vessels en route to Philadelphia. In his pamphlet "Plain Truth," printer Benjamin Franklin urged the Pennsylvania Assembly to unite and establish a defensive voluntary military force to protect property and check the incoming vessels. "The influential pamphlet included the first political cartoon of any kind published in America."

*"Plain Truth or, Serious Considerations of the Present State of the City of Philadelphia and Province of Pennsylvania," Philadelphia, 1747*

**5. The Declaration of Independence**

In 1777, the Continental Congress chose Mary Katherine Goddard (1738-1816) to produce "an authentic copy of the Declaration of Independence, with the names of the members of Congress subscribing to the same." The Goddard Broadside was the first to reveal the typeset names of all of the signatories. "Women in early America were involved with printing as a craft and as a family business. Mary Goddard was a printer in her own stead."

*"The Unanimous Declaration of the Thirteen United States of America," Baltimore, 1777*

**MORE INFORMATION**

**"First Among Many: The Bay Psalm Book and Early Moments in American Printing"**  
[loc.gov/exhibits/bay-psalm-book-and-american-printing/](http://loc.gov/exhibits/bay-psalm-book-and-american-printing/)

**2. Eliot Indian Bible**

As part of his mission to convert the indigenous people of Massachusetts, Puritan clergyman John Eliot spent 14 years translating the Geneva English Bible into Natick, a dialect spoken by the Algonquin tribes in the region. The result was the first complete bible printed in the Western Hemisphere. "At its completion, the Eliot Indian Bible emerged as the largest printing project in 17th-century colonial America."

*"The Holy Bible: Containing the Old Testament and the New," Cambridge, 1663*

**4. "The American Crisis"**

This extremely rare broadside opens with Thomas Paine's famous overture: "These are the times that try men's souls," which soon became the catchphrase for the struggle for freedom and liberty throughout the American Revolution. "When General George Washington viewed the first printing on Dec. 19, 1776, he immediately ordered it read to his troops before crossing the Delaware River to attack Trenton on Christmas Day, greatly bolstering morale."

*"The American Crisis No. 1," Boston, 1777*

All images: Rare Book and Special Collections

## A LIBRARY WITHIN A LIBRARY

**TWO CENTURIES AGO, A RETIRED PRESIDENT HELPED REBUILD THE NATION'S FLEDGING LIBRARY.**

This year marks the 200th anniversary of the Library's most important acquisition—Thomas Jefferson's personal library. The Library will celebrate that pivotal event in its history at the 2015 National Book Festival on Sept. 5. The festival's theme, "I Cannot Live Without Books," is a tribute to Jefferson's legacy and his offer of his own books to replace the nascent congressional library that was destroyed by fire during the British attack on the U.S. Capitol in 1814.



Rare Book and Special Collections staff members Anna Bryan and Eric Frazier re-shelve books in Thomas Jefferson's library. *Abby Brack Lewis*

On Jan. 30, 1815, President James Madison approved an act of Congress appropriating \$23,950 for the purchase of Jefferson's collection of 6,487 volumes. Jefferson's collection contained more than twice the number of books Congress lost in the attack five months earlier, and it included a much wider range of subjects. The previous library covered only law, economics and history.

In his day, Jefferson owned the largest personal library in the United States. He had titles that could not be found anywhere else in the country. In a letter to his friend Samuel Smith, Jefferson wrote, "I do not know that it contains any branch of science which Congress would wish to exclude from this collection . . . there is in fact no subject to which a member of Congress may not have occasion to refer." This approach continues to inform the Library's collecting policy today.

Although a chimney fire on Christmas Eve of 1851 destroyed nearly two-thirds of the volumes Congress had purchased from Jefferson, the titles assembled by Jefferson remain the core from which the present collections of the Library of Congress developed. Major donors Jerry Jones and his wife Gene Jones supported an effort, begun in 1999, to replace missing titles in Jefferson's original library through purchase, gift and a search in the Library's collection for duplicate items. The multiyear project to search for the missing titles has succeeded in replacing all but a couple of hundred volumes.

Jefferson's library, part of the Library's Rare Book and Special Collections Division, can be viewed in person at the Library or online.

A new Library display, "Out of the Ashes: A New Library for Congress and the Nation" is on view through May 2016.

—Audrey Fischer

Detail of a 1973 print depicting the British raid on the U.S. Capitol during the War of 1812 | *Allyn Cox, Architect of the Capitol*

**► MORE INFORMATION**

**Out of the Ashes: A New Library for Congress and the Nation**  
[loc.gov/exhibits/out-of-the-ashes/](http://loc.gov/exhibits/out-of-the-ashes/)



Shawn Miller

**► MORE INFORMATION:**

**Location:**  
 Thomas Jefferson Building  
 Southwest Pavilion,  
 Second Floor  
 10 First Street S.E.,  
 Washington, D.C.  
 20540  
 202.707.8000

**Hours:**  
 Monday – Saturday:  
 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
 Closed Sunday and  
 federal holidays

**Visit Jefferson's Library online**  
[loc.gov/exhibits/thomas-jeffersons-library/](http://loc.gov/exhibits/thomas-jeffersons-library/)

**THOMAS JEFFERSON'S LIBRARY** is one of the Library's most popular attractions. The exhibition re-creates the library purchased by Congress from the retired third president, Thomas Jefferson, after the British burned the U.S. Capitol in 1814 and, with it, the congressional library.

"Jefferson's library is a physical representation of the intellectual curiosity of a Founding Father and a tangible connection to the towering historical figure who personally picked out and read every title," said Mark Dimunation,

chief of the Library's Rare Book and Special Collections Division.

However, Jefferson's books are not just for show. The collection is a working library that helps scholars gain a better understanding of Jefferson and his world. On average, 15 to 18 volumes from it are requested by researchers each week.

In Jefferson's day, people traveled long distances to see the library and use the books. Two centuries later, they still do. "Jefferson would be thrilled," said Dimunation.



1. Center for the Book Director John Cole (from left) moderates “A Conversation with the Ambassadors,” featuring former National Ambassadors for Young People’s Literature Katherine Paterson and Jon Scieszka, and current ambassador Kate DiCamillo on May 6.

2. Susan B. Harper, nonresident Scholar at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, delivers the 19th Annual Vardanants Day Armenian Lecture at the Library on May 7.

3. Pam Tillis performs during a Country Music Association Songwriters Series concert in the Library’s Coolidge Auditorium on April 21.

4. Eugenie Delphond, a representative of an anonymous donor, presents a series of 23 posters portraying the work of prominent Ukrainian poets and writers to the Prints and Photographs Division on April 10.

5. Scholars, archivists and film enthusiasts attend the “Mostly Lost” film festival held June 12 at the Library’s Packard Campus for Audio Visual Conservation to screen and identify silent and early films.

6. Gambian environmentalist Isatou Ceesay helps students from the Maret School make jump ropes from plastic bags during an April 14 celebration of Earth Day at the Library’s Young Readers Center.

All photos | Shawn Miller

**LIBRARY RECEIVES MARVIN HAMLISCH PAPERS**



The Library of Congress has acquired the manuscripts, papers and related personal items of celebrated American composer, pianist and conductor Marvin Hamlisch (1944-2012).

Hamlisch’s extensive body of work includes his score for the Broadway musical, “A Chorus Line,” and 45 scores for films, including “The Way We Were,” “The Sting,” (adapted from the works of Scott Joplin) “The Spy Who Loved Me” and “Ice Castles.” Many of the films featured hit songs composed by Hamlisch, including “The Way We Were,” “Nobody Does it Better” and “Looking Through the Eyes of Love.” Hamlisch was one of only 12 people honored with all four major American entertainment awards: the Emmy, the Grammy, the Oscar (Academy Award) and the Tony. Hamlisch was one of only two to have also received the Pulitzer Prize.

Donated by Hamlisch’s wife, Terre Blair Hamlisch, the collection includes all of these awards, which will be displayed at the Library of Congress, beginning this fall.

[MORE: loc.gov/today/pr/2015/15-015.html](http://loc.gov/today/pr/2015/15-015.html)

**COMMISSIONED MUSIC AVAILABLE VIA STREAMING**

The Library of Congress Music Division and Q2 Music are collaborating to make pieces of contemporary classical music commissioned by the Library available to listeners free of charge. The service is provided via general rotation on Q2 Music’s continuously available stream of new music and on-demand at its website.

The Library of Congress has solely or jointly commissioned scores of works in the contemporary classical-music canon since the 1920s. Among the pieces to be listed on Q2 Music are works by composers John Adams, Caleb Burhans, Sebastian Currier, Chaya Czernowin, Mario Davidovsky, Gabriela Lena Frank, Jefferson Friedman, Stephen Hartke, Michael Hersch, George Lewis, Chiel Meijering, Harold Meltzer and Ezequiel Viñao. In addition, pieces by David Bruce, Irving Fine, George Walker and Dmitri Yanov-Yanovsky that were premiered at the Library will also be made available.

[MORE: loc.gov/today/pr/2015/15-048.html](http://loc.gov/today/pr/2015/15-048.html)

**FEDLINK AWARDS FEDERAL LIBRARIANSHIP**

The Federal Library and Information Network (FEDLINK) at the Library of Congress honored the 2014 winners of its national awards for outstanding federal librarianship at the FEDLINK Spring Exposition on May 5, 2015, at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

Barr Memorial Library at Fort Knox U.S. Army Garrison in Kentucky received the award in the Large Library category for its leadership role in delivering flexible, innovative and relevant programs and services to support, build and sustain a constant state of Army readiness. The Small Library award went to Darnall Medical Library at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center for dedicated library leadership in support of quality patient care and health education. Richard James King, branch chief and information architect at the National Institutes of Health Library, was recognized as Federal Librarian of the Year. Maria Walls, a library technician at the U.S. Department of Justice, was recognized as Federal Library Technician of the year.

[MORE: loc.gov/today/pr/2015/15-065.html](http://loc.gov/today/pr/2015/15-065.html)

**EARLY MOMENTS IN AMERICAN PRINTING ON DISPLAY**

“First Among Many: The Bay Psalm Book and Early Moments in American Printing” tells the story of early printing in the American colonies—spanning 100 years. The centerpiece of the exhibition is two copies of the Bay Psalm Book, officially titled “The Whole Booke of Psalmes Faithfully Translated into English Metre” (1640).

Approximately 30 additional Library of Congress treasures will be on display, including the Dunlap Broadside of the Declaration of Independence (1776); “Poor Richard’s Almanac” by Benjamin Franklin (1741 and 1742) and “Common Sense” by Thomas Paine (1776).

On display at the Library through Jan. 2, 2016, the exhibition is made possible through the generous support of David M. Rubenstein, whose personal copy of the Bay Psalm book will be displayed with the Library’s copy through Saturday, Aug. 8. Americans will see these texts together for the first time. Both copies were at one time in the library of the Rev. Thomas Prince in the historic Old South Church Library in Boston.

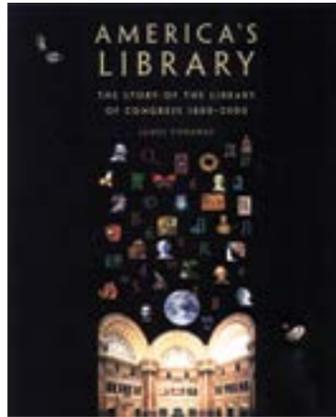
[MORE: loc.gov/today/pr/2015/15-061.html](http://loc.gov/today/pr/2015/15-061.html)

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS SHOP offers items that celebrate the institution's collections and the art of collecting.



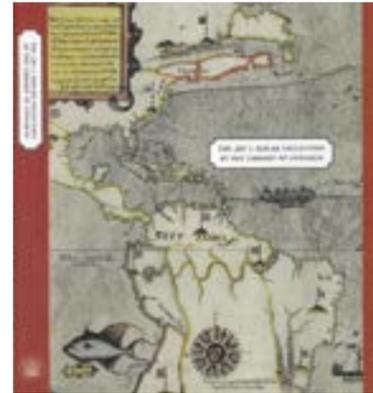
**Boazio Map Trivet**  
Product # 21505281  
Price: \$45

The Baptiste Boazio map of Sir Frances Drake's West Indian voyage, from the Library's Jay I. Kislak Collection, is depicted on this natural marble trivet.



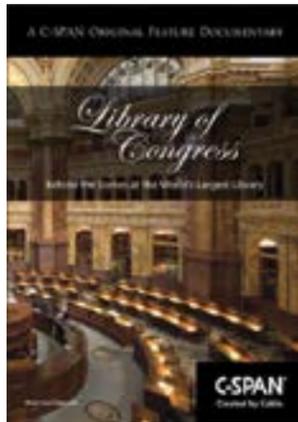
**"America's Library"**  
Product # 21107071  
Price: \$39.95

The story of the Library of Congress, from its founding in 1800, is told in this 226-page softcover book.



**"The Jay I. Kislak Collection at the Library of Congress"**  
Product # 21107086  
Price: \$50

This 235-page hardcover volume offers a broad introduction to the gift of Jay I. Kislak to the Library of Congress of 3,000 items pertaining to the exploration of the early Americas.



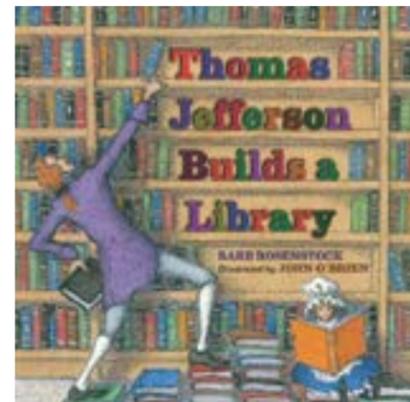
**Library of Congress DVD**  
Product # 21204004  
Price: \$14.95

The history of the nation's library and the scope of its collections are explored in this 90-minute documentary.



**Little Librarian**  
Product # 21504075  
Price: \$19.95

This 54-piece kit will provide young book lovers with everything they need to transform their book collection into a library.



**"Thomas Jefferson Builds a Library"**  
Product # 21106739  
Price: \$16.95

This 32-page softcover picture book tells the story of how Thomas Jefferson's vast book collections helped to create the Library of Congress.

[MORE INFORMATION](#) | Order online: [www.loc.gov/shop](http://www.loc.gov/shop) | Order by phone: 888.682.3557

## THE VALUE OF MAPS

GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM CONGRESS AND PRIVATE DONORS ENHANCES THE LIBRARY'S GEOGRAPHIC AND CARTOGRAPHIC RESOURCES.

Throughout the ages, maps and atlases have been powerful ways of communicating information.

Today the Library's Geography and Map Division has the largest and most comprehensive cartographic collection in the world with more than 5.5 million items. While most current cartographic works published in the United States are acquired by the Library through the U.S. Copyright Office or purchased with appropriated funds, private support helps the Library acquire rare and unique maps and other collections that might otherwise be out of reach.

The Library, in 1995, established two support groups: the Philip Lee Phillips Map Society, an association of friends of maps named after the division's first chief; and the Center for Geographic Information (CGI), a partnership of private sector firms. The CGI encourages deposits of geospatial data sets by American and foreign government, industry and academic producers. Institutions such as Harvard have responded by donating their professional papers concerning the development of computer-assisted mapping.

Gifts from Phillips Map Society members have supported the Library's acquisition of rare cartographic items such as the James Merrill Safford Collection of 55 geological maps of Tennessee. William Wooldridge of the Phillips Map Society, along with the Norfolk Southern Foundation, made it possible for the Library to acquire Herman Boye's 1827 map of Virginia. Several members of the Phillips Map Society, including its chair, George Tobolowsky, along with Roger Baskes, William Ginsburg and Richard Brown, are also members of the James Madison Council, the Library's private-sector advisory group. Both groups, with support from Phillips Map Society Steering Committee member Thomas J. Touchton, collaborated to purchase for the Library a 1752 map of Philadelphia by Nicholas Scull.



The Madison Council has made many Library acquisitions possible, including several exceedingly rare maps. One such map is the only known copy of the 1507 world map by Martin Waldseemüller—the first map to use the name "America." It spent nearly 400 years in obscurity in the library of a castle in southern Germany until its rediscovery in 1901. The Library purchased it in 2003 for \$10 million—with half the funds coming from a congressional appropriation and the other half from private donors, including Discovery Channel, former Madison Council chairman H.F. (Gerry) Lenfest, and others.

The following year, the Library acquired a major collection of rare books, manuscripts, historic documents, maps and art of the early Americas, which were donated by the Jay I. Kislak Foundation (see page 28). The Kislak Collection includes the Carta Marina (1516), the first printed navigational chart of the entire world, prepared by Waldseemüller.

In 2010, philanthropist David M. Rubenstein, the current chair of the Madison Council, purchased a rare copy of a 1784 map of the new United States by Abel Buell. Rubenstein generously placed the map at the Library so it can be publicly displayed.

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

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German Chancellor Angela Merkel, at podium, speaks at a ceremony held at the Library to mark the acquisition of the 1507 Martin Waldseemüller map. *Michaela McNichol*



Josh Ritchie, courtesy of the Kislak Organization

**JAY I. KISLAK, COLLECTOR AND PHILANTHROPIST, DISCUSSES HIS PASSION FOR HISTORY.**

When I moved from New Jersey to Florida in the 1950s, I began reading about the history of Florida and the surrounding regions, including the Caribbean, Latin America and what is now the southeastern United States. I learned a great deal beyond what I had been taught in grade school or even at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

Most of us who grew up when I did in the Northeast thought American history began in 1620 when the Mayflower landed at Plymouth Rock, or perhaps a bit earlier, when English settlers came to Jamestown in 1607. Yet Europeans were in America long before that. Ponce de Leon came ashore in a place he called “La Florida” in 1513. Norse explorers very likely arrived around 1000. And of course, the indigenous people of the Americas, with sophisticated cultures, thrived here long before Columbus.

The fascinating history of early America has inspired my collecting. Starting with books and maps, my collecting expanded over the years to include manuscripts, historic documents, artworks and cultural artifacts. After acquiring early printings of the Columbus letter describing his 1492 voyage, it made sense to begin looking at pre-Columbian history, including painted hieroglyphic texts on pottery created by the Maya people, a highly advanced civilization.

I consider collecting a sort of sickness, one from which few people recover. Like many others, I began as a child, collecting stamps and coins. From my days in college, books always held strong appeal, and my book-collecting started in a traditional way—beautiful bindings, classics such as Shakespeare and Dickens. After I moved to Florida and bought our first house there, I began collecting more seriously. Before long, bookshelves covered every possible wall. I decided to slow down and specialize, focusing on Florida.

Around 1960, on summer vacation, I walked into Goodspeed’s Book Shop in Boston, a famous old place founded in 1898. On the top floor was the Americana department, headed by Mike Walsh, among the most knowledgeable experts in the field. I told him I was interested in Florida and asked his advice. Mike showed me the 1732 edition of “Historia de la Florida,” written more than a century earlier by Garcilaso de la Vega, son of a 16th-century Spanish conquistador and an Inca princess. The two-volume history describes Hernando de Soto’s journeys in Florida, starting in 1539.

I spent \$200 for the two volumes. At the time, it seemed like a lot of money—more than twice what I’d ever spent before for one book. Later, I was able to acquire the very rare, and much more costly, 1605 first edition, which I’m proud to say is now part of the Jay I. Kislak Collection at the Library of Congress.

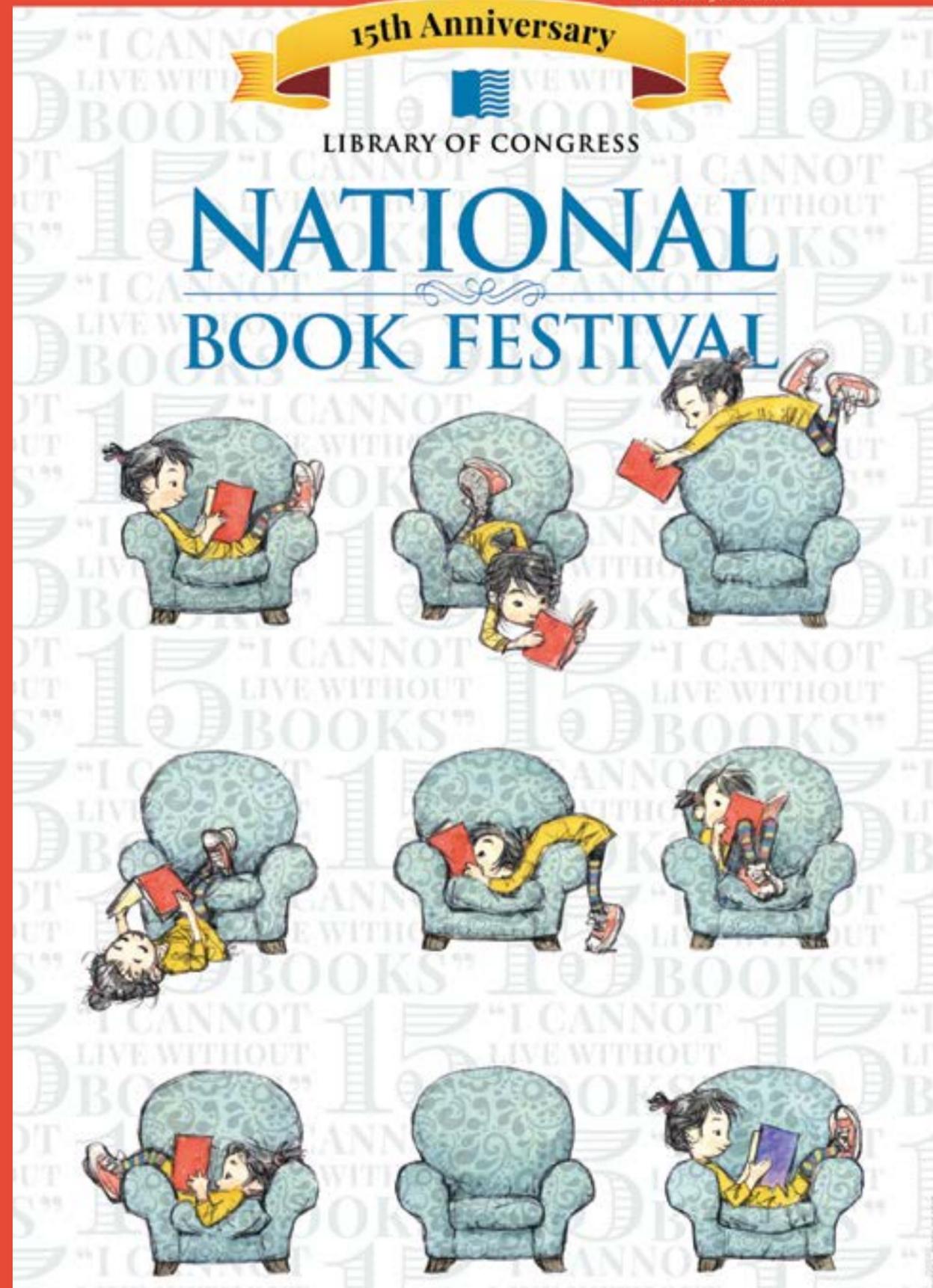
After so many years of acquiring works of history and culture—from de la Vega, Columbus, Cortés, Catesby, Waldseemüller, and others, to manuscripts by George Washington and Thomas Jefferson—I feel privileged to see these works now held by our nation’s most distinguished cultural institution, the institution created in part through Jefferson’s passion for books. I still feel a personal connection to every book and map, every object in the Kislak Collection. But most of all, I feel a sense of gratitude toward the Library of Congress, knowing these objects will be preserved, shared and enriched with new knowledge for generations to come.

**▶ MORE INFORMATION**

**View selected items from the Library’s Jay I. Kislak Collection**  
[loc.gov/exhibits/exploring-the-early-americas/](http://loc.gov/exhibits/exploring-the-early-americas/)

“I CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT BOOKS”

—THOMAS JEFFERSON



The 2015 Library of Congress National Book Festival takes place 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, September 5, 2015, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C. *Poster by Peter de Sève*



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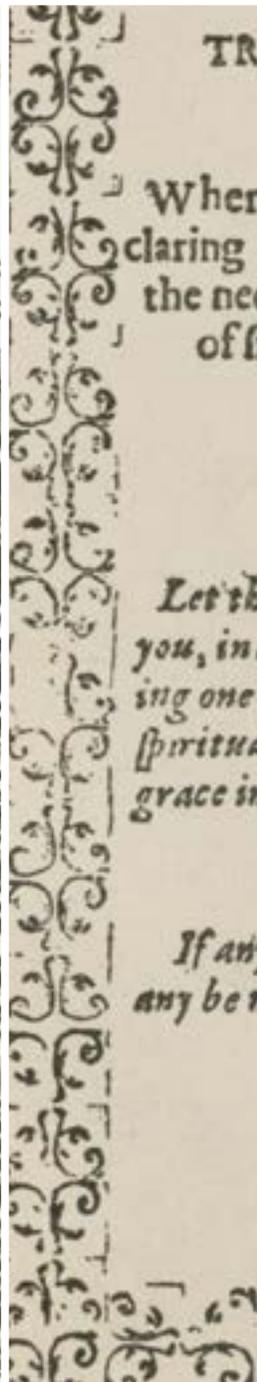
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**MORE INFORMATION:**  
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