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Part of the Library and Information Science Commons
THE LIBRARY ONLINE

We reduced the library’s open hours. Then we remained open to campus, but closed to the general public. Then we shifted to working from home, planning to do so for a limited period. Fast forward to mid-April: we are still home, supporting online instruction through the end of the semester. Here we are: welcome to the Library Online!

Like every workplace responding to COVID-19 the library has adjusted, changed, then adjusted some more. Staff scanned hundreds of pages of reserve books; they triaged the sudden return of materials and the departure of student employees. They set up a schedule to manage incoming shipments of books and other packages; they created a website and new workflows to help faculty, staff and students maximize use of the library’s online subscriptions. Library staff redesigned policies, services, schedules, budgets, and work spaces.

Everyone affected by this crisis looks for the bright spots; we do too. Colleagues offer helpful tips—no surprise, as library people are always generous with advice and methods. Publishers offer free or reduced price access to online resources, which helps ease the loss of access to physical books and films. Working from home, we have all become friends with Zoom—and with each other’s pets!

While seeing each other daily helps, there are things we cannot replace. First and most, we miss serving the Hollins community in person, as we have done ever since the university has had a library. We miss our student employee colleagues, especially the seniors whose work with us has come to an abrupt end. We miss library traditions: bookmobile, student advisory group, write-ins, putting out exam snacks and games.…

These things will all resume. In the meantime the library is open, and we are here! We have digital text from over 150 databases and 300,000 e-books, along with digital-only interlibrary loan. Most importantly, we have people! We look forward to your emails, phone calls, questions via chat or Skype or Zoom. If you are wondering whether we can help, just ask: join us in the Library Online.
MEET SHAWNA BATTLE

Shawna Battle is one of the library’s newest staff members: she joined the library staff as Interlibrary Services Coordinator in August 2019. Interlibrary Services borrows books and articles for Hollins students, faculty and staff from other libraries; we also lend our materials to those other libraries when they need them. All of this keeps Shawna’s department busy year round! We asked Shawna a few questions about herself:

Q: What is your academic background?
A: I graduated from Spelman College with a B.A. in English. Spelman is also a women’s college.

Q: What did you do before joining our library?
A: I have worked in public, college, middle school and business libraries. I used to be a member of the Friends of the Roanoke City Public Library and I volunteered with the Roanoke City Public Library also.

Q: What do you like to read (or watch on film or TV)?
A: I like to read general fiction, historical fiction, horror and mysteries. The non-fiction books I like are biographies. I also love to listen to books on Audible.com. My favorite film/tv shows are drama, romances, period pieces, horror, mystery and documentaries.

Q: What else would you like to share about yourself: hobbies, fun facts, life goals?
A: I plan to get a Master’s degree in Library Science. I also want to be an author of children’s books. I am interested in baking, gardening, and quilting.

If you have questions about your Interlibrary Loan requests, you can reach Shawna at ill@hollins.edu. When the library re-opens, you can stop by and see Shawna at her desk behind the Checkout and Reserves counter, 1-9 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 9-5 p.m. Fridays.

TRIAL DATABASES DURING COVID-19

The library has added multiple new databases to provide additional online materials: e-books, online theatre performances, classical texts, 3-D chemistry models, movies, and more! You can find them all on the library’s A-Z Databases page (label: New/Trial).

- Architecture Library
- British Online Archives
- Chemistry: Gale Interactive
- Digital Theatre Plus
- Drama Online
- Loeb Classical Library
- ProQuest eBook Central
- RILM Abstracts of Music Literature & Music Encyclopedias
- SAGE Knowledge Books & Reference
- SAGE Research Methods (Video)
- Screen Studies
- Swank Digital Campus (Video)
- Testing and Education Reference Center

GETTING FIT

Thanks to the university’s employee wellness program the library now has two FitDesk bicycles. You will find them on the third floor, where you can pedal away while enjoying the scenic view of Tinker Mountain.

Whether you are a student working on homework, faculty finishing that research article or an employee taking a break with our latest bestseller books, the FitDesk bikes will be a great opportunity for you. When the library building reopens, come and give them a try!

- FitDesk bicycle demonstrated by Claire Ross (class of 2023)
MUSEUM EXHIBIT FEATURES ARCHIVES

Students in the Spring course “Cultural Property, Rights and Museums” were just putting the final touches on descriptions for their upcoming exhibit in the Eleanor D. Wilson Museum, when the announcement was made that the remainder of the semester would take place online. At a time when many projects had to be cancelled due to COVID-19, Professor Ashleigh Breske and her students decided to move their exhibit into virtual space. Their collaboration with the Hollins Archives and with Wilson Museum Director Jenine Culligan and her staff has resulted in a fascinating website titled *Unveiling the Past: Reckoning with Our History of Enslavement at Hollins.*

Objects in the exhibit are artifacts from the Archives; in order to prepare the exhibit students worked closely with Beth Harris, the library’s Archivist and Special Collections Librarian. Their descriptions of letters, diaries, photographs and even an old musical triangle become windows into a time during which enslaved people worked on the Hollins campus as “servants” (this term was used both before and after Emancipation) to Hollins students, faculty, and staff. Other images illustrate campus life as it continued into the 20th century. The main goal of the exhibit, as students write in the introduction, is to “create a public space to reckon with our Hollins past and give a forum to those who were not given a voice, name, space, or attention in the past.”

The online exhibit is also the latest in a series of projects by the Hollins Working Group on Slavery and its Contemporary Legacies; Breske, Harris and Culligan are members. Since its formation as the Hollins Heritage Committee in 2016, the Working Group has generated a variety of events in which students, faculty and staff collaborate to uncover and grapple with the history and continued legacy of enslavement on the Hollins campus.

- Caesar Morton (~ 1848—1929) worked at Hollins for 67 years.

NEW IN ONESEARCH

Next time you are using *OneSearch*, the library’s online system, look at the top of your screen for a new feature. “*New Items*” shows you browseable lists of the library’s new books (both print and E-Books), films (Blu-Ray, DVD, and streaming), and Bestsellers.

The Criterion Film series features important classics and contemporary films. The following Criterion titles are newly available in the library:

- Charles Burnett’s *To Sleep With Anger*
- Pawel Pawikowski’s *Cold War*
- Frederico Fellini’s *Roma*
- Robert Altman’s *Short Cuts*
- Sofia Coppola’s *The Virgin Suicides*
- Terry Gilliam’s *Time Bandits*
- John Cassavetes’ *Love Streams*
- Jacques Audiard’s *Dheepan*
- Les Blank’s *Always For Pleasure*
- Murray Lerner’s *Festival : folk music at Newport, 1963-1966.*
2019-20 IN THE LIBRARY

NOVEMBER

Award-winning novelist Balli Kaur Jaswal and Professor Jeanne Larsen at Jaswal’s author Q&A in the Hollins Room. A Hollins alumna, Jaswal read and signed copies of her new novel The Unlikely Adventures of the Shergill Sisters as part of the Beanstalk Reading Series.

FEBRUARY

Hollins’ incoming President Mary Dana Hinton greeted faculty, staff and students at a welcome reception in the library’s Lewis Reading Room as part of an all-day visit to the campus.

MARCH

Heath Hardage Lee discussed her work on The League of Wives, a history of Vietnam-era POW/MIA spouses, at a Beanstalk reading in the library. League of Wives is Lee’s second book; it has just been optioned for a feature film. Lee also gave a workshop on writing oral history for the campus community.