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## WRL Newsletter September 2016

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September 2016

# Library

Photo by David Maxson

## news

*Your connection to the Wyndham Robertson Library*

### **NEW: EXTENDED CHECKOUT PERIODS, NO LATE FINES**

Here's a familiar scenario: you start a project early and checkout books from the library – your project isn't due for 6 weeks, but your checkout period is only 4 weeks. What do you do? Many times the answer is that you keep the books and suffer the late fines. We want to change that. **Beginning this fall, all students will be able to check out books for 120 days and will no longer be charged for late returns.**

The library's mission is to provide access, not charge fees. Research shows that overdue fines become a barrier to access and are not actually an effective method for getting people to return materials. If people need books beyond the due date, many will keep them regardless of the fine and in some cases never return to the library. Simply put: library fines stop people from using the library – and they don't work. Other libraries have successfully implemented this program and we are pleased to join them.

How will this work?

- This is a pilot program for the 2016-17 school year. We will evaluate the impact to our community and the collection, and hope to go fine free permanently.
- All students will have a 120 day (semester long) book checkout period. Films are still 7 days. After the due date you will receive several notices to return items. If they are not returned or renewed after 29 days, you will be charged a replacement fee. Loans from Roanoke College are included in this program.
- Need a book or film that's currently checked out? First, request it through InterLibrary Loan (ILL). If it cannot be acquired through ILL, you can recall it and the current patron with the book will have 7 days to return the title.
- Recalled books and reserve items are considered high demand items and are subject to late fines.

For more information on the program and a complete list of policies, please visit: [library.hollins.edu/finefree](http://library.hollins.edu/finefree). Questions? Contact Maryke Barber, Public Services Librarian, at [barbermh@hollins.edu](mailto:barbermh@hollins.edu).

### **NEW LIBRARY WEBSITE: LIBRARY.HOLLINS.EDU**

During the spring and summer we solicited website feedback through a usability study and a questionnaire. Based on your suggestions, **we've revamped our website – go to [library.hollins.edu](http://library.hollins.edu) and take a look!**

Changes include:

- Mobile responsive website
- Cleaner interface
- Easy access to databases
- Clear directory of librarians
- Navigation and organization based on your expectations
- Chat with a Librarian link (called "Ask a Librarian") on every page

Take the website for a spin, then let us know how we're doing by taking the survey on the homepage—we're listening!

# Library *news* continued...

## ROXANE GAY READING THURSDAY, SEPT 22



The library and the English & Creative Writing Department invite the entire community to join us for an evening with writer Roxane Gay, author of *Bad Feminist*. Gay will give a reading at 8:15 pm on Thursday, September 22nd in Talmadge Hall, followed by a reception in the Reading Room of the library. On Friday, September 23rd she will participate in a Q&A Session in the Hollins Room at 11:00 am.

Roxane Gay's writing has appeared in *Best American Mystery Stories 2014*, *Best American Short Stories 2012*, *Best Sex Writing 2012*, *A Public Space*, *Tin House*, *McSweeney's*, *Oxford American*, *American Short Fiction*, *West Branch*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *NOON*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *Bookforum*, *Time*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Nation*, *The Rumpus*, *Salon*, and many others. She is the co-editor of *PANK*. She is also the author of the books *Ayiti*, *An Untamed State*, *Bad Feminist*, and *Hunger* (Harper, 2016).

Funding for this event is provided by The Beanstalk Fund. The Beanstalk Lecture Series brings readers and writers together by supporting lively and entertaining literary events at Wyndham Robertson Library and Hollins University.

### INDEPENDENT VOICES

Independent Voices is a new primary source collection of alternative press publications. This database focuses on publications from traditionally underrepresented groups and includes titles like:

- *OFF OUR BACKS*
- *Native American Rights Fund Legal Review*
- *Freedomways*

Access the collection by going to the library homepage, selecting the "Articles & Databases" tab, and using the dropdown menu.

Independent Voices is an Open Access initiative and will become freely available in 2019.

### NEW STUDY AREA ON GROUND FLOOR



The library has a new study space on the ground floor! This group-friendly area comes complete with bean bag chairs, a dry erase wall, and plenty of tables and chairs. To get to the study area take the elevator to "G" or go all the way down the staircase, the study area is located behind the periodicals in the back corner.

Have an idea to improve the space? Email Rebecca Seipp, Outreach Librarian, at [seippri@hollins.edu](mailto:seippri@hollins.edu).

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