



The Cannavino Clarion

News From the Library

Vol. 4 Fall 2019

Director's Corner

By Becky Albitz

Welcome to the most recent edition of the Cannavino Clarion. Although the Clarion has been on hiatus, there has been no break in activity among the librarians and staff here at Marist. We have welcomed three new members of the library family: Jillian Egan, our new Library Assistant, who joins us from the College's switchboard; Deborah Tomaras, our new Metadata and Resource Management Librarian who moved to the Hudson Valley from Maine; and Zac Grisham, our new Research Services Librarian from Alabama. Along with our regular features highlighting Archives and Special Collections activities and new titles added to the collection, this issue of the Clarion features an interview with Zac, and we will touch base with other librarians in subsequent issues. In September the Library hosted a number of events to celebrate Banned Books Week. Elizabeth Clarke and Emily Doyle present the highlights. Finally, to support our curriculum and to encourage students to read materials beyond their courses, we have established a graphic novel collection. Greg Carr, who has shepherded this collection since its inception, writes about the selection of titles and the goals for the collection.

Meet Zac Grisham, Research Librarian

By Becky Albitz

We are delighted to introduce Zac Grisham, our newest Research Librarian in the James A. Cannavino Library. I asked Zac a bit about his background, his interest in librarianship, and how he is adapting to life in the Hudson Valley, having grown up in Alabama.

You majored in Economics at Auburn University—what intrigued you about Economics?

Quite a few things. For example, I love how you can apply economic thought to so many different fields; there are so many different topics you can study through its lens. I also enjoy all of the differing opinions--so many perspectives among economics scholars can make for quite an interesting show. My favorite thing, though, has to be studying economic incentives (economic incentives are what motivates you to behave in a certain way). They are fascinating. It's cool to think how much they permeate our lives and society, yet we rarely recognize them. I find behavioral economics to be particularly delightful, and have always enjoyed reading and talking about the field.

What were your initial career plans?

I was planning to work for the government with my econ degree—I was exploring a cool internship program before deciding on librarianship.

What drew you to librarianship?

First and foremost, I am a knowledge junkie. I love to learn new things and libraries provide a perfect environment to do just that. Another reason is that researching is one of my hobbies. If you think about it, I get to do something I love every day. Each new student I work with gives me the opportunity to explore a new topic or idea. Last but not least, I love being in two particular places--nature and the library--so naturally I decided to work in one of them.

You've been at Marist for just over 6 months. What have you enjoyed most about the College? About the area? What has surprised you the most?

The most enjoyable thing about Marist has been the camaraderie; it's a little utopia. People are kind, polite, and I like the small-town vibe around it.

In respect to the area, by far the most amazing thing has been the outdoors. It is wonderful how many mountains/forests you can traverse around here. I plan on hiking over and through them all. Besides, there is nothing like hammocking at

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Collection Development News

By Judy Diffenderfer

Earlier this year, the library purchased six primary source collections relevant to many curricular areas at Marist.

American Civil Liberties Union Papers, 1912-1990 – this collection has a strong focus on civil rights, race, gender, immigration, censorship, and labor issues.

Archives of Sexuality & Gender: LGBTQ History and Culture Since 1940, Part I – this collection focuses on social, political, health and legal issues impacting the LGBTQ community.



Sabin Americana, 1500-1926 – based on Joseph Sabin's historic bibliography of the Americas, this collection includes "books, pamphlets, serials and other documents that provide original accounts of exploration, trade, colonialism, slavery and abolition, the western movement, Native Americans, military actions and much more".

Slavery and Anti-Slavery: A Transnational Archive, Part I – Part I of this transnational archive focuses on debates over slavery and abolition. While the collection has a US focus, it also includes sources from Africa, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Women: Transnational Networks – Focusing on the intersection of gender and class, this collection includes content on "social reform, high and low culture, transnational networks, immigration, daily life, religion and more".

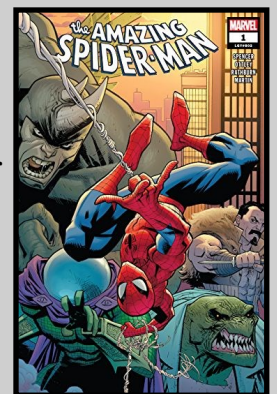
Women's Issues and Identities – This collection, covering the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, features a strong emphasis on social, political, and legal issues. Some of the topics covered include: the history of feminist theory and activism; domestic culture; women in industry, education and the church; and women's control of their bodies, sexuality and gender expression.

The descriptions are drawn from the Gale Cengage website; more detailed information can be found at <https://www.gale.com/primary-sources>.

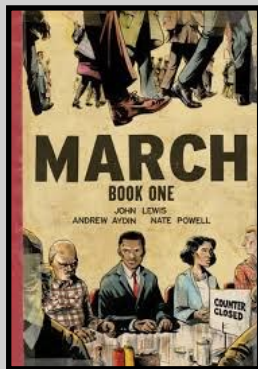
Graphic Novels Come to the Cannavino Library

By Greg Carr

Just when you thought it was safe to be on campus, an invasion has taken place! Ninjas, cyborg aliens, murderous vigilantes, radioactive spiders, eldritch lost gods, and unknowable cosmic beings of immense power have all been spotted in the Cannavino Library. Luckily for the campus and the existence of our dimension, all of these characters have been relegated to the pages of our growing graphic novel collection!



The collection is dedicated to more than just the standard superhero fare. Instead, we have a range of work for a variety of tastes and interests. For example, the story of racial strife in the segregated America is told through the pages of *March* by congressman John Lewis. In *First Year Out*, author and illustrator, Sabrina Symington, recounts her first year post gender transition in a graphic novel that is both poignant and charming.



The librarians are hard at work collecting graphic works from every genre or style possible and making them available to the Marist community. The graphic novel collection supports the growing use of the medium in the curriculum and encourages students to read for fun.

Celebrating Banned Books Week

By Emily Doyle and Elizabeth Clarke

The library held its second recognition of the American Library Association's Banned Books Week¹ on September 22-28. The James A. Cannavino Library hosted and co-hosted events focusing on the censorship of information, particularly in academia and business.

The centerpiece of this year's events was a visiting scholar from Turkey, Dr. Simten Cosar, who spoke about censorship in her home country in a talk titled, "Censorship Leaves Us in the Dark: An International Conversation about Freedom of Information." Dr. Cosar is a current participant in Scholars at Risk, a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting scholars and academic freedom. This talk shed light on the effects of an authoritarian regime on the



free flow of information. Dr. Cosar presented information on books banned in her country how easily freedoms we take for granted can be lost.

The Library celebrated with a display of books that have been banned or challenged, and hosted Banned Books Readings and button making in the Library Lobby. The director of the Library, Becky Albitz, read from a Goosebumps book, which has been challenged for being too scary or violent for the targeted age group. Other readers included professors, students, and various Library staff whose books ranged from *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* to *And Tango Makes Three*, a true story about gay penguins in the Central Park Zoo.

The final Banned Books Week event featured students from the School of Management debating about censorship in advertising. Selected the topics included: YouTube's recent demonetization of videos; Central Hudson's inability to advertise to customers; and the removal of Juul, an e-cigarette manufacturer, advertising on television and in other media.

Librarians recognize this week in order to raise awareness about book censorship, but also to highlight the larger issue of censorship of all types of information that occurs in our society.

¹*Banned Books Week has been celebrated since 1982 when there was a rise in challenges to books in libraries, bookstores, and classrooms. The American Library Association's Office of Intellectual Freedom publishes an annual list of challenged books.*

Zac Grisham (Continued from page 1)

3,400 feet and enjoying nature in its entirety. And, I am looking forward to learning how to snowboard and trying out snowshoeing once winter sets in.

I would say the cost of living has surprised me the most, as compared to Alabama.

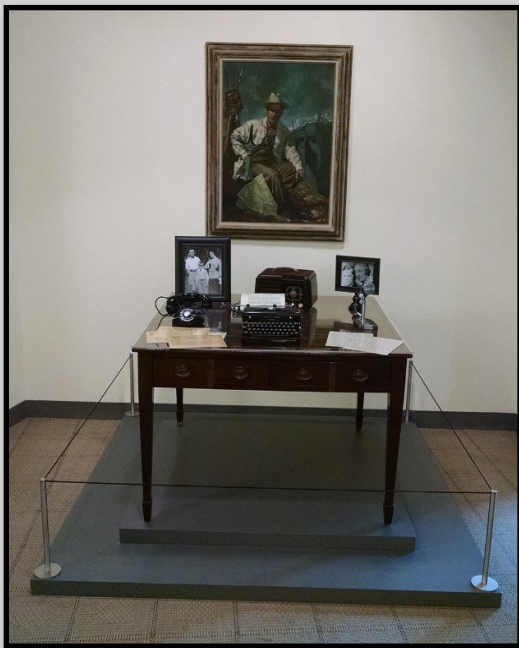
How are you preparing for your first winter in the Northeast?

I have been looking into sandbags and snow tires for my truck. Besides that, I have been doing some research on staying warm--layers, good socks, stuff like that. And I mentioned looking into fun outdoor things available in the snow. I am more curious than anything else though. I have never seen large amounts of snow before or dealt with bitter cold--it will be an interesting experience.

New and Rediscovered Treasures from the Archives and Special Collections

By John Ansley

You may think of an archives as being a stagnant entity, just gathering dust in the basement of our library, but it is actually growing and changing all the time. The Lowell Thomas Papers, our flagship collection which documents the life and adventures of Marist's favorite radio newsman, film producer, explorer, and entrepreneur, is always full of surprises. The collection has doubled in size since the College received it back in 1987. It now holds over one million documents, 40,000 images, 4,300 cans of motion picture film, hundreds of objects, and hundreds of hours of audio. And, we are still acquiring more Lowell Thomas materials every year. Recently, one of Thomas's desks was donated to the Archives and Special Collections by the John Kane House. The Kane House is located in Pawling, NY, the town Thomas called home for over fifty years. Due to this generous gift, we were able to create an exhibit showing what Thomas's desk would have looked like in the late 1930s. The desk itself tells us a remarkable story. It is an antique Chippendale table (circa 1770), that was originally owned by the first Duke of Wellington. To learn more, stop by the first floor of the library check out one of our newest acquisitions.



Lowell Thomas's desk is currently on exhibit on the first floor of the James A. Cannavino Library.

Marist is fortunate to have four oil painting portraits of Thomas, but one has always been a favorite for display. It depicts Thomas behind a microphone at the height of his career. The eighty-four year old painting is showing some signs of its age, and while preparing it for a trip to an art conservator it was discovered that the artist was a person of note. Joseph A. Maturo's skill as a painter was held in the highest regard by the luminaries of the early 20th century and he was eagerly sought for his work. Maturo's paintings of Hollywood stars and other celebrities are rich, colorful, and bold. He attended the Naples Academy of Fine Art prior to immigrating to the United States in 1895. His career included painting reproductions, designing dresses, and ultimately creating movie posters and portraits for the film industry.

Maturo's portraits allowed immediate recognition of the subject and his or her profession. In the Archive's portrait of Lowell Thomas, Maturo painted a striking bust of a middle-aged Thomas (in suit and tie) that is lifelike yet painterly. Maturo's signature brushwork is evident and colors are vivid. True to form, Maturo included an element of his sitter's career: a radio broadcaster's then-ultra-modern ring-and-spring-mounted microphone.

You will see a fully restored portrait of Lowell Thomas on exhibit outside of the Archives and Special Collections next spring.

Coming Soon...

Beginning in Spring 2019, the James A. Cannavino Library will be offering online self-booking for student collaborative study rooms. An online booking form will be made available through the library website. At the time of their reservation, student groups will come to the circulation desk to check out a room key.

Faculty and staff should continue to reserve designated rooms by calling (845)5753106 or emailing PublicServices.Library@Marist.edu