



Academic Libraries Support Student Success

By Kathy Irwin, Dean of University Libraries

How does an academic library support college students' success? According to the Association of College and Research Libraries, students who receive information literacy instruction, have one-on-one research consultation with a librarian, study in the library building, or use the library's collections perform better in their courses, are more persistent in working toward their academic goals, and achieve more academic success. Our librarians provide library instruction that strengthens students' abilities to effectively use information and gain confidence about the research process. Library instruction helps students develop their critical thinking skills, inquiry skills, and problem-solving skills. Library study spaces support individual learning and foster collaborative learning, which helps students build a community outside the classroom. Students perceive libraries as a safe and friendly place to ask questions about anything related to their college experience, and we frequently refer them to other services on campus.

During the past two years, our librarians have been more active than ever in supporting student learning through instruction embedded in courses and outside the classroom in one-on-one research consultations. Students have also used our library research guides more heavily during the pandemic. While use of our virtual services continues to be robust, an increasing number of students are using the building this year for individual and group study. We're so glad to welcome them back to a more normal setting this year! Within the Park Library building, students can access the full range of library services as well as academic support services including the Writing Center, the Math Assistance Center, the Certified Testing Center, Student Disability Services, the OIT Help Desk, and more. Providing these supports within the library building is convenient for students, saving them time and raising their awareness of these services at the point of need.

With the creation of the Adobe Digital Lounge, the University Libraries has expanded its services to include digital literacy. The lounge provides a space for students to learn and showcase their digital literacy abilities, and the University Libraries is a key contributor in the broader university initiative for strengthening digital literacy in relevant programs and courses. Why should academic libraries foster students' digital literacy? Libraries play a role throughout a person's life as they learn to read, read to learn, and learn how to use and create information resources for work and personal purposes. Libraries have long supported literacy development, and digital literacy is an extension of information literacy. Whereas information literacy abilities



help students discover, evaluate, and make appropriate decisions about information resources needed to answer questions and solve problems, digital literacy abilities are necessary for finding, understanding, and creating digital information. Projects requiring digital literacy skills include managing online information, creating a presentation, telling stories through video or podcasts, creating a resume, applying for a job, or protecting your online identity. As students use the libraries' physical and online resources, library employees may assist students with both information literacy and digital literacy tasks. Both information literacy and digital literacy are necessary for career readiness and lifelong learning. The University Libraries are pleased to support students in honing these important abilities!

In This Issue:

2020-2021: The Year in Numbers.....	2
Your Support Makes a Difference!.....	2
Thanks to You, We Do.....	3
Introducing Carrie Marsh.....	4
Abundant Waters, Clarke Exhibit.....	4
Clarke Speaker Series.....	5
Introducing Denise Fanning.....	6
Textbooks in the Library.....	7
Building Diverse Library Collections at CMU.....	7
Adobe Digital Lounge Sparks Creativity	8

2020-2021: The Year in Numbers

During the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the combined usage of instruction and research services was greater than the prior two fiscal years. Specifically, usage increased for library research consultations, library research guides, and the library's online learning objects. We were well-prepared to shift our services online beginning in March 2020 as we already offered those options in addition to our face-to-face services. Last year with more students studying remotely and with fewer people coming to the library building, we were not surprised to see an increase in the use of our virtual services.

Although our online services and collections were heavily used, our physical collections and spaces were not used as much due to pandemic protocols. Between March 2020 and July 2020, the Park Library building was closed to the public. When the library building reopened to the public in August 2020, there were fewer students on campus and in the Mount Pleasant area. During the 2020-2021 academic year, the building was limited to 25% capacity and individual study only. Although we continued to checkout physical materials, library users could not browse the shelves. We shipped materials directly to students studying at a distance and implemented a contactless book pickup service. We will continue to offer this service for the foreseeable future.

Thankfully, in July 2021, we increased our study space capacity to 100% and allowed group study once again. During the current academic year, we have appreciated seeing so many more students on campus and in the library building!

↑ 6.9%

Research Guide Usage

Up 6.9% compared to the previous year and up 11.3% compared to two years ago.

4,650

Library Instruction

The approximate number of students who attended a library instruction session.

↑ 19%

Research Consultations

Up 19% compared to the previous year and up 23.6% compared to two years ago.

↑ 48.3%

Library Learning Objects

Up 48.3% compared to the previous year.

↓ 29.7%

1 North Study Room Usage

Down 29.7% compared to the previous year.

↓ 71.8%

Park Library Usage

Down 71.8% compared to the previous year.

↓ 16%

Documents On Demand

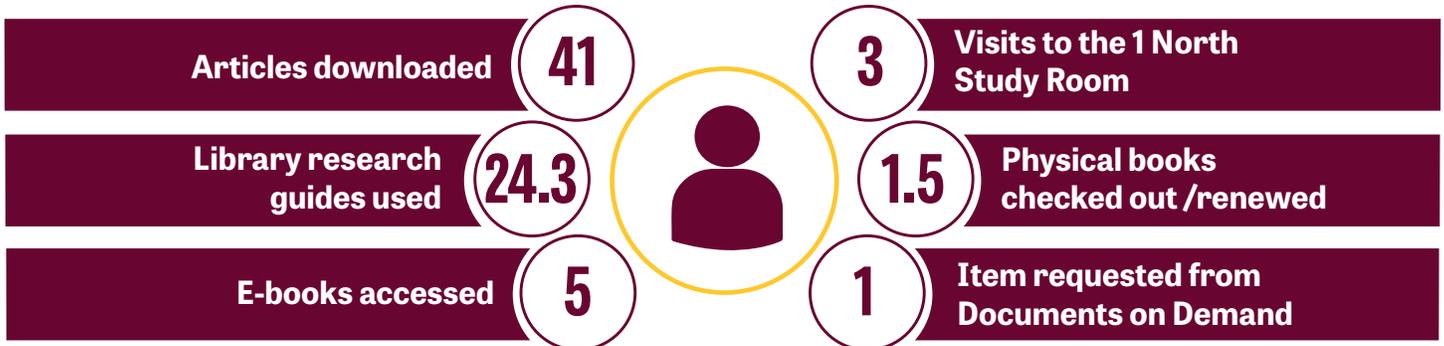
Down 16% compared to the previous year.

↓ 29.8%

Book Checkouts

Down 29.8% compared to the previous year.

How did a typical student use the library during 2020-2021?



Your Support Makes a Difference!

Gifts to the Friends of the Libraries enable us to go the extra mile to enhance study spaces and expand our collections. Many thanks for helping us support student success, enrich research resources, and support cultural events and activities!

Enhancing study and exhibit spaces

- Upgrading Clarke exhibit lighting, summer 2022
- Created the Adobe Digital Lounge, summer 2021

Expanding our collections

- Hathi Trust annual membership
- Native American rare books
- Books about social justice
- National Geographic Magazine database
- Photographs by retired CMU faculty member, Dr. Al Wildey

Sponsorships

- 2022 CMU International Film Festival
- 2021-2022 annual sponsorship of WCMU's program, *The Children's Bookshelf* (radio.wcmu.org/show/the-childrens-bookshelf)
- 2021 WCMU's Hemingway in Michigan virtual event

Thanks to You, We Do: Research, Academic Support, Collaboration, Digital Literacy, Community, Arts, and Culture

By Megan Moreno,
Director of Engagement and Donor Strategies

Dear Friends,

Greetings and Happy New Year! To some of you, I may be a familiar face and name. As the Director of Development for the CMU Libraries from 2010 – 2015, I had the esteemed pleasure of getting to know many alumni, friends, and supporters of the CMU Libraries. In my current role as Director of Engagement and Donor Strategies, I am working with a team of colleagues who are excited to share our appreciation for your support, and to keep you informed about the ways in which your charitable contributions can continue to advance the CMU Libraries.

As we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the renovation of Park Library, we also want to acknowledge what donor support has made possible over the years. The physical space within the Park Library has continued to evolve to provide students an inviting, vibrant, accessible, and up-to-date physical space to connect, collaborate, study, and learn. Of course, the Libraries' reach goes far beyond the walls of Park Library to provide valuable support services and resources accessible to students and patrons wherever and whenever they need them.

The Libraries' assessment, evaluation, and planning for the future continues as we aim to meet the ever-changing needs of those we serve. To keep up with the ways in which students learn, collaborate, and access information, the financial support of donors like you is increasingly essential. I'd like to share with you some of the Libraries' current initiatives for which donor support is needed.

To foster our commitment to providing an enriching cultural environment for the campus community through art exhibitions and artist talks, we would like to increase endowed funds that enable us to sustainably provide adequate honorariums for guest artists. We value artists' work and sharing of their time and talent. We would appreciate your support in ensuring that we are appropriately compensating guest artists for enriching the cultural vibrance of our institution and community.

Additionally, the University Library aims to ease students' financial burden through a new program that will provide course textbooks to students at no charge. Oftentimes, even after scholarship funds have been awarded, the cost of textbooks remains an additional financial strain for students. The textbook program is being piloted this semester and will provide one copy of a physical book per 200 students. To maintain and sustain this service for the future, the University Library requests the financial support of our Friends.

The University Library and Clarke Historical Library broaden the reach and prestige of Central Michigan University through collections, programs, exhibits, and services that benefit all interested people. Support of our collections increases the research capabilities of our faculty and students, thus advancing the level of research done at the Institution. Friends like you, who believe in the value of libraries and higher education, and who choose to give so that others may benefit, are not only Friends, but true partners in the mission of the University. With that in mind, we would enjoy getting to know you! To further discuss your interests, and to learn how you can best support the CMU Libraries, please contact the University Libraries' Dean's office at 989-774-3500 or ditte1j@cmich.edu.

2020-2021: Scholarship Recipients



Lucas Warnke



Emily Korte



Ibora Obot Udoete



Nichole Hochthanner



Abby Nagy



Allison Brown



Nkechi Mgbanwa



Sydney Amsdill



Allyse March

Introducing Carrie Marsh, Director of the Clarke Historical Library



» Carrie Marsh
Director of the Clarke Historical Library

Carrie Marsh, the new director of the Clarke Historical Library, began her role on February 14, 2022. Marsh succeeded Dr. Frank Boles who retired in August 2021 after serving as director for thirty years.

Throughout her time as an undergraduate and graduate student at Central Michigan University, Marsh worked as a student employee at CMU's Park Library. Marsh reflected, "As a CMU alumna and former Park Library student assistant, it is a thrill and an honor to return to the library that inspired me to become a librarian. The Clarke Historical Library was the first special collection I ever used. I look forward to coming full circle and giving back to CMU."

After completing a B.A. in English and Art History and an M.A. in Literature from CMU, Marsh earned her master's degree in library science from The University of Arizona with an emphasis in special collections librarianship. She has served in several roles at The Claremont Colleges in California beginning as reference librarian in 1991, transitioning to special collections librarian in 2002, and becoming director of the special collections and libraries division in 2014. Marsh is a well-rounded manager and strategic planner and brings a wealth of knowledge and skills in special collections and archives including experience with outreach activities, grant writing, digitization, curating exhibitions, and teaching.

During her leisure time, Marsh enjoys collecting books, antiquing, and knitting. Her international travels have taken her to England, Scotland, Greece, and Kosovo. During the pandemic, rather than baking bread, Marsh experimented with pickling vegetables which had various levels of success and spiciness.

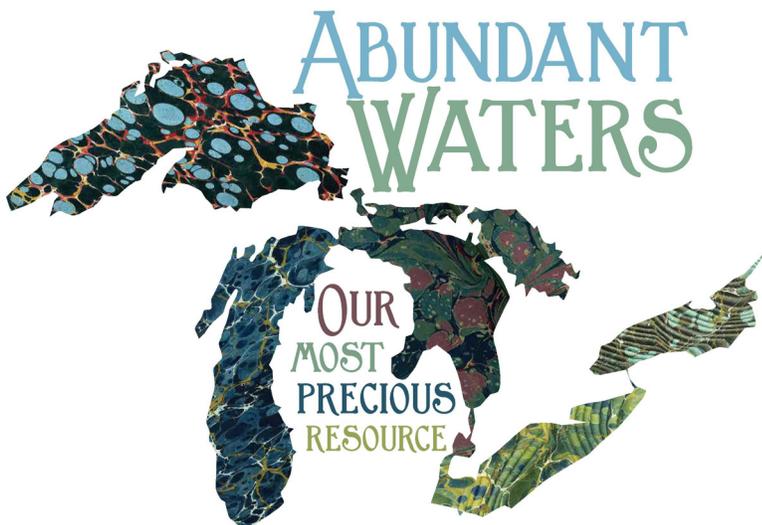
We look forward to working with her as she advances the mission and vision of the Clarke Historical Library!

Abundant Waters: Our Relationship with Michigan's Most Precious Resource

By Gillian Macdonald, Postdoctoral Public History and Archives Assistant

Among a host of other exciting things happening in 2022, the Clarke Historical Library's new exhibit explores a topic close to the heart of every Michigander alike...water and its value to our society. The Great Lakes State is surrounded by and encompasses an abundance of freshwater. In Michigan, you are never more than six miles from a lake, stream, or waterway. Beyond the "big" water, Michigan has more than 11,000 inland lakes, 76,000 miles of rivers, 6.5 million acres of wetlands, and more than 3,200 miles of freshwater coastline. Although most residents have a general awareness of the water around us—many would even proclaim a deep love for the Great Lakes State's water—how often do we truly contemplate our relationship with this precious resource? The Clarke Historical Library's exhibit explores the many ways that abundant freshwater defines Michigan through five themes—politics, recreation, commerce, disasters, and the spirit nurturing aspect of water.

The exhibit was the subject of debate before I even joined the team at the Clarke in August 2021. Because of the rich collections, narrowing down a topic is not always an easy task. A wave of retirements—including the exhibit designer Janet Danek—made an already challenging task harder. After much discussion, the staff decided on the inclusive topic of water. In previously working with Janet on both the Tocqueville and Hemingway exhibits, I have seen first-hand how much work goes into research, writing, designing, curating, deinstalling, and installing special collections exhibits. So, I suppose you



» On Exhibit February 22, 2022 through January, 2023.

could say it is not my first time on the merry-go-round, but I had not directed the process before. Let me be clear—I have had a lot of help with this project; I certainly could not have done this alone.

In researching the exhibit topic, we had to first decide on a mission statement and then the themes that would best illustrate the mission. This decision was the hardest part. What does this exhibit need to project and what is the goal? The Clarke's voluminous collections answered this question for us. The abundance of water and activity connected to the water displayed by the finding aids and manuscript collections illustrate that all aspects of life in Michigan have a relationship with the water. After the mission statement was set, themes fell into place, and I researched from there. Our ideas and imaginations came to life in striking designs telling the stories of our relationships with water under the capable hands of John Metcalf of Good

Design Group. I would like to thank not only Bryan Whittle, Kathy Irwin, and Marian Matyn for their editorial help and suggestions, but also Colleen Green, Director of the Office of Native American Programs & Student Transition Enrichment Program, for her guidance, and members of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe for their participation. The production of the exhibit would not be possible without the CMU Sign Shop, Rebecca Zeiss, CMU Facilities Management, and everyone in between.

The Clarke Historical Library's exhibit explores the many ways that abundant freshwater defines Michigan. Even more importantly, the exhibit offers a dynamic research environment by showcasing a snapshot of Michigan's history through water. As part of CMU's mission to advance discovery and creativity, the University Libraries foster spaces of learning and discovery. Please visit the new exhibit at the Clarke, which will be open through January 2023.

Clarke Historical Library Speaker Series and Events, Spring 2022

By Bryan Whittle, Archivist and E-Records Manager

By shifting its speakers' series online during the COVID-19 public health crisis, the Clarke Historical Library has continued to bring audiences a variety of interesting topics, engaging speakers, and incredible stories. During the spring semester of 2022, that will continue with presentations about the importance of water to our societies, how Central Michigan University became the setting for a series of radio plays, and the story of a former CMU employee's journey to award-winning nature photographer.

The Clarke's Spring Speaker Series began on Tuesday, February 22, with Jim Diana who is the retired director of the Michigan Sea Grant Program and a professor at the University of Michigan. Professor Diana officially opened our *Abundant Waters* exhibit with a discussion about the effectiveness of Great Lakes environmental regulations in protecting this incredible ecosystem.

On Thursday, February 24, the Clarke hosted the annual day of children's books from around the world. The in-person reading program began at 11:00 a.m. in the Park Library's Baber Room, and featured members of the CMU community who read in languages other than English together with the incredible collection of international children's books held by the Clarke. This event is a beloved celebration of language diversity found at CMU.

CMU professor of Broadcast and Cinematic Arts Will Anderson will speak about his "School Spirits" radio plays on **Wednesday, March 16**. Professor Anderson's award-winning project uses CMU campus landmarks as the jumping-off point for a series of audio dramas.

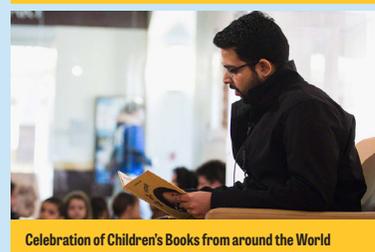
Award-winning children's author Carole Lindstrom will discuss her career and her 2021 Caldecott Medal-winning book *We Are Water Protectors* on **Tuesday, March 22**. Lindstrom, a member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Ojibwe, wrote the book to support the protests about the Dakota Access Pipeline. She will talk about the book's intent to be "an urgent rallying cry to safeguarding the Earth's water from harm and corruption."

The Clarke's Speaker Series wraps up on **Tuesday, April 5**, with Central alum and former university photographer Steve Jessmore. He will speak about his incredible career transformation. Jessmore is an award-winning photojournalist and photographer. When the 2020 COVID-19 shutdown limited opportunities to photograph people in action, he turned his attention to non-human life. The result: within a year, Jessmore's photographs won top prize and honorable mention in the professional category of the prestigious Audubon Photography Awards.

All Clarke Historical Library events are free and open to the public. Speaker events will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be broadcast online via CMU's virtual broadcast platform, WebEx. When possible, presentations will be recorded and made available for on-demand viewing. Register for each event at clarke.cmich.edu/SpeakerSeries2022



Protecting the Great Lakes Ecosystem



Celebration of Children's Books from around the World



"School Spirits": the Audio Drama set at CMU



An Evening with Carole Lindstrom



A Photographer's Journey with Steve Jessmore

Introducing Denise Fanning, University Libraries' Art Coordinator

Denise Fanning, who began her new role as art coordinator in May 2021, recently reflected, "I wasn't looking for a job, but it felt like someone had written the job for me." Denise moved to Michigan after completing her MFA at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts in Philadelphia. Before making her way to Mount Pleasant, she taught sculpture at the College of Creative Studies in Detroit and managed several galleries in Birmingham, MI. Her experiences curating professional art shows, managing art programs, hosting student exhibitions, leading after-school art programs, and as a practicing artist are a great fit for the roles and responsibilities of her new position.

Brad Stambaugh, manager of business services, "was very excited when Denise accepted the Art Coordinator position, which reports to the business services unit. Her knowledge, skills, and experience have allowed her to make a quick transition into the position. She has already made an impact, and I can't wait to see the future exhibits and programs she creates." Brad noted that he needs to rely on and trust the individual in this position since he does not have a background in art himself.

During fall 2021, Denise curated a show entitled *Collecting Water: Water-Inspired Artworks from the Permanent Art Collection of CMU* and exhibited CMU's collection of Katsina Dolls created by Hopi artists. She also hosted an exhibition and talk by visiting artists Rebecca Zeiss and Liz Allen entitled *Of Memory and Relation* and hosted student artist Gray Reynolds' exhibition entitled *Grace Notes: A Celebration of Marginalized Identities in American Folk Music*. She explained that "installation work calls for creative problem solving, and every installation has a unique set of requirements." It has been a pleasure to see the range of her installations and hear her ideas about future exhibits.

Denise hopes that art in the Libraries will help viewers "pay attention to the world around them, notice the details, and see the beauty that is there all the time." She aspires to create more opportunities for art and culture in the local community and wants visitors to seek out the art exhibitions in addition to



» Denise Fanning, University Libraries' Art Coordinator

noticing them as they pass by the Baber Room. She also seeks to present diverse perspectives, subjects, and approaches so visitors may experience art in new ways. Denise welcomes feedback about the exhibitions and would love to have conversations about what folks would like to see in the future. When recruiting artists for future shows, she taps into her existing network of artists and expands her network by attending art shows and events to meet and talk with Michigan artists. If you would like to suggest artists who would be a good fit for the Baber Room art gallery or the third-floor exhibit area, contact Denise at fanni1dw@cmich.edu or have the artist complete the proposal form available online at library.cmich.edu/ProposeAnExhibit

"The presence of thought-provoking and evocative art can light us up in unexpected ways. It stirs our senses and keeps us going. It has the capacity to change us," Denise observed. She hopes that people who view art in the Park Library will be inspired to think, talk about, and see the world around them in new ways.



» *March - April: Axolotls and the Beauty of Regeneration: A Merging of Science, Art, and Design*

Three CMU Professors and select students in Interior design, Fashion Design, and Chemistry respond through art and design to scientific research on axolotl tissue regeneration.

2022 Calendar of Baber Room Gallery Exhibits

» January - February:

Sabrina Nelson, "Who Is Medicine?" *Drawings and Installations*

» March - April:

Bingbing Li, Julie Qun Zuo, Su Kyoung An,
Axolotls and the Beauty of Regeneration: A Merging of Science, Art, and Design

» May - July:

Steve Jessmore, Nature Photography

» August - September:

Taurus Burns, New Paintings

» October - November:

Charles Pompilius, Collected Works

» November - December:

Brian Nelson, Sculptures and Sculptural Installations

Textbooks in the Library Launches for Spring Semester 2022

By Hytham Dali, Coordinator of Access and Delivery Services,
and Susan Powers, Manager of Access and User Services

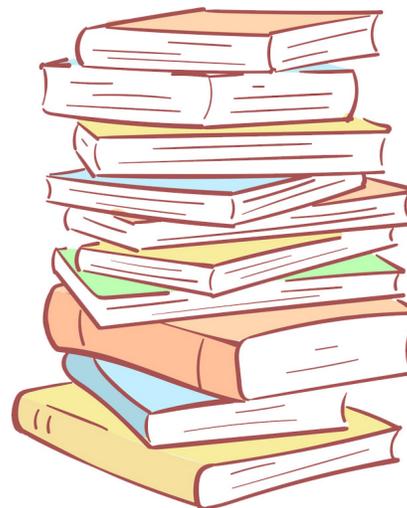
This spring, the Libraries began piloting a new Textbooks in the Library service, which is funded by the President and Provost's Innovation Grant. To launch the pilot service, we purchased print textbooks for approximately 40 undergraduate courses based on the following criteria: high enrollment; general education or competency courses; and entry-level courses for degree programs.

These books are available for students to borrow from the Library Services Desk for three hours at a time at no charge. The new service expands our existing course reserve services. Faculty can join the program no matter what course they teach by lending the library a copy of their print textbook, and we will add it to course reserves for them.

In addition to purchasing textbooks we did not own, we also searched the library's existing collections for books listed for spring 2022 courses. We were happy to discover more than 140 print books and 70 e-books! The print books have been added to course reserves and are available for student use in the library. By keeping these print materials in the library, students on campus will be able to share them. Documents on Demand can also provide chapter scans for CMU users as requested.

Both the print and e-books have been added to the course's reading list which makes them discoverable through Smart Search. Students can link directly to these e-books and use them remotely. They can stop by the library between classes to use the print books, as well as all our other resources and services.

Over the course of the semester, we will be surveying students to get their feedback about the program to guide future decisions about the pilot service. We hope that through this program the library provides another avenue to support student success!



Building Diverse Library Collections at CMU

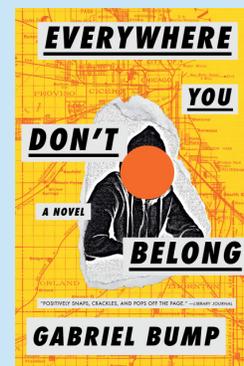
By Tim Peters, Associate Dean of University Libraries

In 2021, the CMU Libraries began an initiative designed to increase its collection of books written by diverse authors and about diversity-related topics. In keeping with the diversity standards set forth by Central Michigan University and the American Library Association, the library is committed to reflecting the varied interests, needs, and identities of its users through its book collections.

Working in collaboration with campus diversity offices, we identified thirty-five diversity book awards celebrating the diverse racial, ethnic, gender, and sexual identities of folks in our nation. While not an exhaustive list of all such awards, the list represents our varied CMU community. Each of these annual awards celebrates either a single book or multiple notable books in such areas as literature, children's fiction, history, biography, social issues, and more. Examples of the awards included in the list are the International Latino Book Awards, the Stonewall Award, the Women's Prize for Fiction, and the American Indian Youth Literature Award.

The 2021 award-winning titles have been purchased and the library will purchase subsequent year winners as they become available. While purchasing past award winners is not part of this initiative, a quick check of the library catalog showed that the library already owned about 25% of past winning titles. Other previous titles may eventually be added through librarian selection or faculty and student

» Diversity book awards honoree celebrating the diverse racial, ethnic, gender, and sexual identities of folks in our nation.



purchase requests.

It is important for libraries to deliberately undertake initiatives like this one because many publishers of books about multicultural and diverse topics are smaller, independent publishers not regularly included in conventional library purchasing workflows. Academic libraries acquire their books through a variety of purchasing plans and agreements with publishers, and these arrangements favor larger, mainstream publishers. To honor its commitment to representing diverse voices in its collection, a library needs to step outside its usual purchasing practices and take a more hands-on approach to collection building.

The library is excited about making these new materials available to library users. The books will play a supporting role in many areas of teaching and learning across the university. The CMU Libraries is proud to support our university's commitment to creating a diverse and inclusive community.

Charles V. Park Library
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859

Adobe Digital Lounge Sparks Creativity

**By Ann Kucera, Systems Librarian, and
Brian Roberts, Manager of Technology and Training**

The Adobe Digital Lounge opened in August 2021 just before the start of the fall semester. Located in room 212 of the Park Library building, the lounge includes a mix of comfortable furniture, movable tables, and large windows that face the Fabiano Botanical Garden to the west.

One of the unique features of the lounge is an 8' X 10' sound recording booth that can be used by anyone on campus to record voiceovers, podcasts, or music. The computer in the sound booth includes popular software programs such as Garage Band, Audacity, and Adobe Audition. Users can check out additional equipment for the sound booth, including an audio interface and microphones with mic stands, from the Library Service Desk on the 2nd floor.

Student staff members are available to help students and others who are using creative software or the sound booth. Each student employee has existing skills in one or more Adobe Creative Cloud apps as well as other creative software. So far, they have created a 30-second video that showcases the lounge; several hands-on activities to introduce people to the features in apps such as Photoshop, Illustrator, and Premiere Pro; and several helpful handouts. This semester they are creating short explainer videos for the sound booth equipment.



The Libraries and Provost's Office hosted an open house on October 27, which featured live demonstrations of the sound booth equipment, hands-on activities, a raffle, and the chance to ask questions about the software and equipment. We also hosted a workshop on January 28, led by Adobe trainers for faculty and students to learn more about digital literacy across the curriculum and personal branding.

As more and more students use the new space, we're excited to see the depth and breadth of their creativity coming to life!