

**A**s educators we plant seeds and cultivate learning, we stimulate conversation and the exchange of ideas, and we help build the intellectual infrastructure of life-long learning. But, we are facing a diffused, complex and constantly evolving digital landscape with a multitude of emerging technology applications and a generation with different learning styles.

Google, which scans 1,000 pages per hour, has to date digitized 20 million books with their library partners. In 2010 the company awarded a total of \$479,000 for the start of a new digital humanities research program. This project was Google's first formal foray into supporting humanities text-mining research. The total number of Facebook users, 799,092,160, would form the world's third largest nation after India. The explosion of aggregators, such as Reddit, Digg, Delicious and others, speeds up and simplifies the sharing of information and media.

In addition to the millions of books and publications in all formats, Wikipedia alone has more than 19 million articles in approximately 270 languages. On YouTube, 48 hours of video are uploaded every minute resulting in 8 years of content uploaded each and every day. There is an explosion of content for e-books, mobile devices and a constant expansion of databases in all subjects and disciplines including online reference materials. According to the blog, The CITE (Course materials, Innovation and Technology in Education), 96% of 18 to 29-year-olds own a cellphone or other mobile device that they use to access the internet (<http://thecite.blogspot.com/2010/10/96-of-18-29-year-olds-own-cell-phone.html>). Our students are within this age range. They expect "to be able to work, learn, study and socialize whenever, wherever, and however they choose." What do these challenges and opportunities mean for academic inquiry, pedagogy and the role of academic libraries?

Our new users are accustomed to the speed of access to information and they often opt for convenience at the expense of quality. It is our job to help them appropriate knowledge that endures and become discerning information consumers. Therefore, our goals and values as librarians remain the same while embracing new technologies. A librarian serves as: **Sherpa:** guiding all users through the maze of information and data in various media; **Interpreter:** promoting information fluency, copyright, digital literacy, academic integrity, citing sources, intellectual property; and **Teacher:** seizing teachable moments to promote learning, critical thinking and global awareness. Thus, the library is a physical and virtual place providing a holistic experience. This is what we do at Adams Library.

~Hedi BenAicha, Director [hbenaicha@ric.edu](mailto:hbenaicha@ric.edu)

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*"Sharing knowledge is not about giving people something, or getting something from them. That is only valid for information sharing. Sharing knowledge occurs when people are genuinely interested in helping one another develop new capacities for action; it is about creating learning processes."*

—Peter Senge  
American scientist and director of the Center for Organizational Learning at the MIT Sloan School of Management

## CAN ART CHANGE THE WORLD?

### INSIDE OUT AT RIC

by Hannah Resseger, Africana Studies

**P**erhaps you've seen these images hanging in the windows of the library and wondered, "why?" *"INSIDE OUT is a large-scale participatory art project that transforms messages of personal identity into pieces of artistic work. Using black and white portraits that are uploaded and sent to INSIDE OUT where they are converted to posters then sent back to be exhibited in the subjects' own communities. The project aims to challenge individuals to discover, reveal and share their untold stories through their images which are posted around the world in office windows, lining walls along streets, on abandoned buildings, full stadiums or anywhere else. Participation is encouraged by individuals or groups. These exhibitions will be documented, archived and viewable virtually."* Although JR, creator of INSIDE OUT, is from



France, his project branches all over the world where he uses these images to create curiosity, bring people together, raise awareness and address conflicts.

INSIDE OUT at Rhode Island College emerged out of a lesson on African and African American artists in an Intro to Africana Studies course during Winter 2011. After watching the video of JR's TED Prize (see link), we decided as a class to participate in this worldwide art movement. The students came up with several creative ideas, some of which are displayed on the INSIDE OUT Poster displayed in the Adams Library foyer. Five students then volunteered to have their faces blown up and displayed on campus.

The goal of this project is to "turn the world inside out" by getting people to take notice

of each other, realize that we are really not all that different, and that many of the conflicts in the world arise out of our ignorance. INSIDE OUT has brought people together who might not ordinarily interact in the same space. It has sparked discussions and mutual understandings of real people and the situations they face. Holding the project at RIC raises awareness about the power and influence of art on a world spectrum but also displays the diversity of the Africana Studies program and the fact that this discipline is important for all students, no matter what their "race" or background. ■

More about INSIDE OUT: <http://jr-art.net/>

View JR's TED Video: [http://www.ted.com/talks/lang/en/jr\\_s\\_ted\\_prize\\_wish\\_use\\_art\\_to\\_turn\\_the\\_world\\_inside\\_out.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/lang/en/jr_s_ted_prize_wish_use_art_to_turn_the_world_inside_out.html)

Libguide: <http://ric.libguides.com/artforchange>

# Our Staff

## Myra Blank, Document Delivery Coordinator

by Debra Thomson

*“I’ve* collected music since I was 14, starting with Harry Belafonte.” Myra Blank’s face lights up as she talks about music. “My mother owned a store in Brooklyn and was not at home after school, and when my brother came home in the afternoon he turned on the radio. I started listening to music because of him.” Myra’s brother, who later became an optometrist, worked summers in the Catskills as a percussionist in a Latin band that played a lot of Rumba and Cha-Cha, and music has always been a part of both their lives. Myra has collected over 2,000 LPs and CDs. Thanks to satellite radio, she is still discovering new music that she enjoys. “Satellite radio tells you who is playing and I’m always writing it down and buying new albums.”

Although she loves all types of music, Jazz is a favorite of Myra’s. She and her husband Jason attended the Newport Jazz Festival nearly every year, where Myra took photographs of the performers. “When I took up photography I used to develop the pictures while listening to music, so going to the jazz festival to take pictures was a natural thing for me.” She recalls that “Miles Davis always had his back to the audience as he played, and I kept waiting for him to turn around.” In 1999, Myra and Jason were hosts to George Wein, promoter of the festival, and his wife at the occasion of George being awarded an honorary degree from RIC. When she showed him the photographs she had taken at the festival, and told him how much she enjoyed jazz, he arranged for Myra to have a photographer’s badge so she could stay right in front of the stage for every festival. A few years later, Myra’s photographs were featured in an exhibit in the Adams Library lobby.

Before coming to RIC, Myra was a children’s librarian at Providence Public Library for 10 years. She recalls that she had a wonderful relationship with librarians Virginia Fooks and Cynthia Neal, “two of the finest mentors anybody could ask for. I



am grateful for the time I spent with them.” She worked at the Smith Hill branch and, later, the Mount Pleasant branch, one of the busiest in the PPL system. “It was so busy I had to step over kids, I had no room to walk.” She left PPL to have her children. When she returned to work, it was in the Cataloging Department of the James P. Adams Library. A few years later, she moved into Inter-Library Loan. While the move was not one she had planned on, Myra says, “I began to like Inter-Library Loan and still do. My role in ILL is on the borrowing side. I get books and journal articles from other libraries around the world. I like the research and I find it very satisfying.”

Myra met her husband Jason when they were both students at Boston University. “We met in Abnormal Psychology class. When I told this to my children, my son David said, ‘It’s so perfect!’” Myra and Jason have been married for over 48 years, and have two sons; David, who is Head of Technology at Northeastern University, and Steven, a Rabbi in Des Moines, Iowa. Carrying on in the family tradition, both David and Steven played the drums. Myra and Jason have lived in their home in Warwick for 40 years. Myra came to RIC in 1985, joining her husband who had already been teaching here for twenty years. “It’s very nice that we work in the same place; we understand what one another are talking about and we know the same people.” They commute to campus together every day. ■



Myra with husband Jason taken while he stopped in for a visit, as he often does.



# In their own words...

*Nearly fifty student employees contribute to the excellent service provided at Adams Library and they are an important part of our team. Many stay with us through graduation from RIC; some, even longer as they become part-time weekend supervisors. And still others go on to pursue careers in library science. Please read about the outstanding students we are highlighting below.*

**Sabrina Conroy**  
**Rhode Island College Senior**  
*Psychology & Communications Major*

Hi Everyone! My name is Sabrina Conroy, formerly Bugli. You may recognize me when checking out a laptop, headphones, or textbook from the Reserve Desk. Or maybe at Circulation when checking out your mountain of books or weekend DVD's? That's because this gal has been behind those desks for 4 years!

I'm currently in my 5th year at Rhode Island College and (still) enjoying every moment. I began here in 2007, starting with a major in Secondary Education English. Just after my sophomore fall semester it occurred to me that teaching wasn't necessarily what I wanted. I found my real interest in the fields of Psychology and Communications where I could work with and influence the lives of high school-aged students. I love my fields of study and look forward to becoming a guidance counselor.

My time spent at RIC has been eventful. Like many students here, I've worked multiple jobs to help pay for school, and even taken off a semester. But, I have been at the library the longest, because it has never been just a library or a job to me. This is, undoubtedly, a family that has witnessed so many changes. I have watched the library expand and update in so many aspects these past few years to accommodate students' needs and I'm so proud to be a part of it. I'm happy to work at the library and as a campus tour guide through the admissions office. I recently got married this past October to a wonderful man. Together, we have a wonderful dog named Dunkin, and two cats; Misha and Bosco. We are working hard on renovating our home, as well as balancing school and our jobs. ■



**Heather Socha**  
**Rhode Island College Junior**  
*Biology/Psychology Minor*

I have had the privilege of working at the RIC Adams Library since the spring semester of 2010. I started off working at the Reference Desk and getting to know all of the services the library has to offer its students. Working at the Reference desk introduced me to many of the reference librarians as well as taught me the fundamentals needed to thrive there. Upon returning for the fall 2010 semester, I was invited to work on the fourth floor with Kresten Jespersen, uploading and organizing the library's Digital Commons. One of the major projects that our team is undergoing at the moment is uploading the Smolski images and texts onto the Digital Commons website. My particular contribution to the collection is taking the scanned Smolski images and collecting research on each of the images' crucial element(s). I then input this metadata into the library's Digital Commons so that the public can easily access it.

Working in the library has been such a rewarding experience for me. Over the time I have spent working here, I have acquired so much knowledge of the world around me. It's such an exciting and gratifying experience diving into a certain area of the world and piecing together all the significant culture that they have contributed to the rest of the world.

I want to thank the RIC Adams Library staff for welcoming me into their arms and allowing me to learn from them. I hope to take some of the knowledge I've gained these past few years and apply it to my future endeavors. ■

**Kristin Apuzzo**  
**Rhode Island College Senior**  
*Education w/concentration in Special Ed.*

I am in my fourth year at RIC, but cannot seem to call myself a senior because like many students at RIC my fourth year is not my last. After completing my last 5 courses I will spend three semesters student teaching. This will certify me to teach elementary school and special education in both Mild/Moderate and Severe/Profound settings. The Feinstein School of Education has been tough, but I have gained tremendous insight and experience into the teaching community. I am not sure exactly what type of classroom I want to have, but hope having three certifications will give me the flexibility to teach a wide range of students.

Originally from Guilford, CT, I came to RIC to have a new experience and meet new people. I have met many amazing people here whom I have the deepest respect for. I also have such admiration for my peers, most of whom successfully manage to juggle full time school with work and their personal lives. I am lucky to have worked at the James P. Adams Library all four years that I have been at RIC. The library has endless resources for students and continues to increase their support to meet the needs of the students.

I look forward to the rest of my time at RIC: student teaching, working at the library, working as a peer mentor through the ACE (A College Experience), program and mentoring at Henry Barnard Elementary School. As a peer mentor for ACE, I provide students with intellectual disabilities opportunities to become involved in the typical college experience by attending clubs and student activities on campus. I am glad I chose RIC for my higher education. ■



## The E-Column: E-Books

by Judith Stokes

When it comes to reference books, -- encyclopedias, dictionaries, handbooks, directories, etc., -- everybody likes e-books. They can be accessed from home any time of day or night, relevant pages downloaded in seconds, entire books or series of books searched through faster than we could flip to the index of a printed book, saving both time and effort. For example, not only did I read an essay in the e-book *Encyclopedia of Drugs, Alcohol & Addictive Behavior* at home last night, but I found the article within moments of clicking on the link to the Encyclopedia itself.

Some academic e-books are organized into large databases, like Oxford Reference Online, Ebrary, CREDO Reference, and The Humanities E-Book Project of the American Council of Learned societies (ACLS), allowing you to search across hundreds of e-books at once. Links to these aggregations are found on the library's Online Resources list <http://ric.libguides.com/a-z>. While no list is comprehensive, it is possible to search the HELIN catalog and discover hundreds of e-books on all topics, whether they are part of a large collection or direct from a small publisher. When you click on a title which is marked "electronic resource," for example *Walt Whitman & the class struggle* [electronic resource], the link to the electronic full text will be shown in the catalog record.

We have found that most readers find and download desired pages very quickly, so seldom is there waiting to use an e-book. For example, last year the Oxford English Dictionary was accessed 726 times by RIC students or faculty who used it for an average of 6 minutes and 10 seconds each to find and view 3027 pages. Faculty who remember wrestling with *British Writers (BW)*: volumes 1-8; *BW Classics*, volumes 1-2; *BW Retrospective Supplement*, volumes 1-3; and *BW Supplement*, volumes 1-15; on paper, will be delighted to know that they can search across all 28 volumes of this set in a matter of moments. And, if they want a whole class to read the essay on Willkie Collins in supplement volume 6, they know that students can do that any time of day or night regardless of library hours. ■



## And More on E-books

by Carla Weiss

There is so much to say on this topic, especially as the library continues to add e-books and e-book collections. In addition to our A-Z list of resources ( <http://ric.libguides.com/a-z> ), please also consult the libguides on e-books, <http://ric.libguides.com/eBooks> and <http://ric.libguides.com/electronicbooks>. See below for a closer look at some of our latest additions.

New e-books for reference and the general collection have been purchased from Gale Press. These can be retrieved by searching the HELIN catalog under *Gale Reference*.

The 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Corsini Encyclopedia of Psychology* (2010) is a new addition to Credo Reference. Three reference book sets published by Salem Press have also become available in print and electronically: the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of *Magill's Medical Guide* (2011), *Survey of American Industry and Careers* (2012) and the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of *Masterplots* (2011).

Below follows a list of e-book collections which are retrievable through the A-Z list, as well as individually in the HELIN catalog:

**Humanities E-Book (HEB)** is an online collection of over 3,300 books of high quality in the humanities, offered by the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) in collaboration with twenty learned societies, over 100 contributing publishers, and librarians at the University of Michigan's Scholarly Publishing Office. Approximately 500 books are added annually. The collection features unlimited multi-user access and is available 24/7 on- and off-campus through standard web browsers.

**Stat!Ref** is a collection of selected nursing e-books (textbooks, handbooks, etc.), *MedCalc 3000* and *Stedman's Medical Dictionary Online*. The database enables cross searching of these e-books as well as giving access to the full-text through their tables of contents.

The **UPCC Book Collections on Project MUSE**, launched in January 2012, offers top quality book-length scholarship, fully integrated with MUSE's scholarly journal content. The Library will be receiving books published in 2012 in the areas of global studies and history. ■

# EDUCAUSE

NMC

Horizon Report > 2012 Higher Education Edition

by Debra Thomson

Several members of the library staff joined Library Director Hedi BenAicha for a webcast discussion of the 2011 Horizon Report presented by Educause. Issued annually since 2005, The Horizon Report describes areas of emerging technology that will have a significant impact upon higher education over the next one to five years. The 2011 report lists Electronic Books, Mobile Devices, Augmented Reality, Game-based Learning,

Gesture-based Computing and Learning Analytics as the key trends which will have an impact upon teaching and learning in the immediate and near future.

The speakers emphasized the "ever" trend, in which people expect to be able to work, learn, study and socialize whenever, wherever, and however they choose to. This trend permeates all aspects of life, and the increased availability of mobile devices of all types feeds the expectation that access will be available everywhere, at all times.

The full Horizon report can be read at <http://net.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/HR2011.pdf> and the Educause website at <http://www.educause.edu/> offers many other opportunities for those of us in higher education to learn, discuss, and participate in ongoing research that will assist us in meeting the challenges of teaching and learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. ■



## ***Sunshine, Shorts and Bermuda Shorts: The Shorts Regulation of 1965***

With the arrival of Spring come thoughts of lighter colors, fewer layers, and the warmth of sunshine on skin. So it is not surprising that an angry *Anchor* (Oct. 5, 1965, p.2) editorial entitled "Dress Right, Dress!" caught my eye. The issue was shorts, "The administration has found it necessary to issue statements indicating that while shorts may have been permissible during the summer session, such is certainly not the case during the academic year." A student-faculty-administration committee would be formed to examine current dress regulations and to recommend policy to the President. Until then, the Dean of Students had declared, "The regulation in the handbook pertains."

The *regulation*? I turned to the 1965 Student Handbook, and there it was on page 32 of the "Academic and Social Obligations" section (see right).

This rule, I learned, had been longstanding, but the leniency of the summer of 1965 had been a breakthrough. "College Standards Concerning Student Dress" replaced the shorts regulation in the 1966/1967 handbook. "Specific situations require specific patterns of dress," it acknowledged; it

was up to the students themselves to make the right choice, using "acceptable standards of neatness, cleanliness, attractiveness and modesty."▪

### THE WEARING OF SHORTS AND BERMUDA SHORTS

*The students of the College shall not wear shorts or bermuda shorts to any college classes or to the Henry Barnard School. Faculty are expected to enforce this regulation.*

*Shorts or bermuda shorts may not be worn in the College Library or in Roberts Hall, except in the stage area at appropriate times.*

*Shorts or bermuda shorts may not be worn in the Mixed Lounge or Cafeteria before 5:00 p.m.*

*Men and women may wear bermuda shorts, or, in the case of women, slacks, to their final examinations. Women with short shorts, ending four inches or so above the knees are not to be permitted to take examinations and should be referred to the office of the Dean of Students. This regulation applies only to the final examination period and to the summer session.*

## ***Saying Goodbye to an Old Friend: Remembering Joseph R. Muratore***

With the passing in February of Joseph R. Muratore, Special Collections lost a major donor and a friend, someone who has been a part of the Library for a very long time. He was on the Board of the Friends of Adams Library and a longtime member of the Rhode Island College Foundation. During the Bicentennial celebration period he worked with Professors Carmela Santoro and Renato Leonelli on the College's Ethnic Heritage Project which resulted in the receipt of many special collections documenting the history and contributions of the many cultural groups of our state.

Researchers, young and old, filmmakers, or anyone who wanted to know anything about Federal Hill or the Italian community sought out the Commendatore. All were treated with respect and generosity. Born and raised on Federal Hill, the son of Italian immigrants, and proud of his heritage, he wrote numerous articles on Christopher Columbus, Italian genealogy, and Italian Americans.

In the late 1980's he began donating to RIC not only his personal papers, evidence of his participation in numerous civic, cultural, educational, and community activities, but also much more, including:

- Book collections on Italian Genealogy, Christopher Columbus, and Italian Americans
- Copies of his newspaper columns ("Landmarks of Federal Hill," "Paese," "The Italo-Americans of Rhode Island," etc.)
- The Columbus Heraldic Library (the results of his genealogical research for RI families)

He completed two volumes of *Italian Americans in Rhode Island* for Arcadia's "Images of America" Series and was working on a third when he died at the age of ninety.

We shall miss Joseph R. Muratore, a self-taught scholar and a true gentleman of the old school.▪

**Joseph R. Muratore Obituary:** <http://tinyurl.com/7vmjkzt>  
**Guestbook:** <http://tinyurl.com/7nma2qo>



Joseph R. Muratore at a dinner held in his honor on St. Joseph's Day, March 19, 2009 when The Friends of Adams Library presented him with a commemorative plaque inscribed, "Per il Commendatore Muratore con profondo apprezzamento, Joseph R. Muratore, Honored as a Loyal Friend & Gracious Supporter of the James P. Adams Library, The Rhode Island College Foundation & Rhode Island College, 2009." see *From the Steps of Adams Library*, Spring 2009: <http://digitalcommons.ric.edu/fromthesteps/3/>



# BOOK REVIEWS

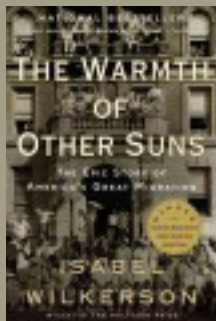
*Your Book  
Review Here!*

Read something  
worth talking  
about? We  
welcome your  
reviews for  
consideration in  
this column. Send  
submissions of  
approximately 400  
words or less to  
Ellen Morais:  
[emorais@ric.edu](mailto:emorais@ric.edu)

## *The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration*

by Isabel Wilkerson

A Review by Judith Stokes



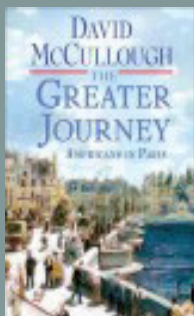
Isabel Wilkerson is hardly new to the craft of narrative nonfiction, but *The Warmth of Other Suns* is her first full length book, and it culminates nearly 20 years of research. 1,200 interviews with African Americans who began life in the Jim Crow South and made their way north or west to improve their lives taught her that, while everyone that packed up and moved was trying to escape from the same problem, there was tremendous diversity among them in their circumstances and their stories. Far from a rag-tag movement of opportunists, The Great Migration was, for most, a carefully planned family project in which settled families sent word south and more relatives left home, over the course of decades, building new communities on old ties of blood and friendship.

Wilkerson brought together the facts and feelings of this multitude by selecting three true stories and interweaving them with her findings from the content of her interviews, as well as scholarly sources. Ida May Gladstone, a Mississippi sharecropper's wife, moved with her family to Chicago in 1937, after a violent incident on the plantation convinced her husband they must secretly prepare themselves and leave their home for freedom in the North. George Swanson Starling had to catch a train in a hurry to get out of Eustis, Florida in 1945, as did two of his fellow fruit pickers who had helped him to organize other fruit pickers to demand higher wages than the grove owners wanted to pay. Starling found his way to Harlem and made his living as a Pullman Porter, a position from which he witnessed the hordes of African Americans riding North to escape Jim Crow. The ambitious Dr. Robert Pershing Foster, drove his new Buick roadster out of Monroe, Louisiana, on his way to Los Angeles, with box lunches and his first two stops planned ahead, knowing that no motels and very few restaurants would serve African Americans in Texas in 1957. Little did he know that beyond the Texas border, the situation would be the same. One motel owner after another would claim that their lodgings were full. The de facto segregation of the rural West would keep him on the road, night and day, throughout the long dangerous drive to the California coast, where he would finally achieve the success he craved. ■

## *The Greater Journey*

by David McCullough

A Review by Debra Thomson



American historian David McCullough begins this account of Americans in Paris in about 1830 and follows Parisian history, through the eyes of the Americans who experienced it, into the beginning of the 20th century.

While thousands of Americans were heading west in covered wagons to settle the North American continent, others

chose instead to journey eastward, crossing the Atlantic in sailing ships to experience life in another country. What they found in Paris was a culture that was so different from the one they knew that each of them was irrevocably changed by the experience.

Focusing on a variety of individuals such as American Ambassador Elihu Washburn, medical students Elizabeth Blackwell and Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sorbonne student Charles Sumner, sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens, close friends and students Samuel F.B. Morse and James Fenimore Cooper, and art students John Singer Sargent and Mary Cassatt, McCullough chronicles the effect of Parisian art, culture, education,

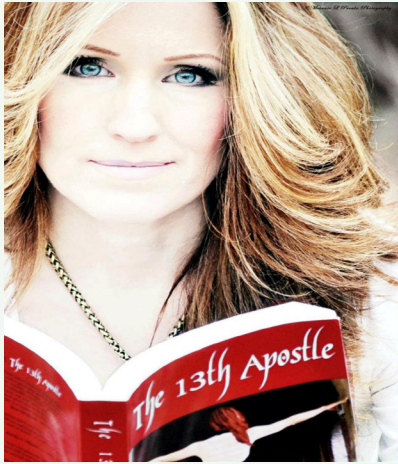
politics and society on these Americans and, through them, on the history of American diplomacy, medicine, literature, invention, engineering, and art.

I found the most fascinating aspect of the book to be the history of the city itself. During the years covered by McCullough, Paris underwent several transformations, beginning with the cholera epidemic which killed about 18,000 Parisians, the overthrow of Louis Philippe, the last king of France, the Franco-Prussian War, the Siege of Paris, and the brutal Paris Commune. But, with each of these, the city and its people endured, and Paris continued to be "the center of the world." ■

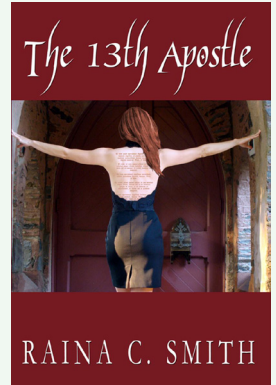


# Library Lecture Series

## RIC Alumna Raina Smith Talk and Book Signing



On Wednesday, March 21st RIC alumna, Raina Smith, will talk about her recently published book, *The 13th Apostle*. In this religious thriller, which takes place at the end of days an angel has descended to Earth to find the last pure soul while his counterpart, Falene, is sent from the underworld to place a wager with the angel: if this person can be found, turn them over to her for testing; if they pass her tests all of mankind will be saved; if not, doomed. The book explores the age-old question: Is man inherently good or evil? *The 13th Apostle* will be available for purchase and signing after the talk. Ms. Smith, a native Rhode Islander, earned her B.A. in Communications from RIC in 1997. She has spent most of her career working in broadcasting as a television news reporter for ABC6 News and WPRI-TV and radio talk show co-host and executive producer for the Ron St. Pierre and the WPRO Morning News shows. The talk will take place in the Fortes Room of the Library (4th floor, room 409) from 4:00-7:00 pm. Light refreshments will be served. This is sure to be an entertaining event, we hope that you can join us! Visit: [www.rainasmith.com](http://www.rainasmith.com) .



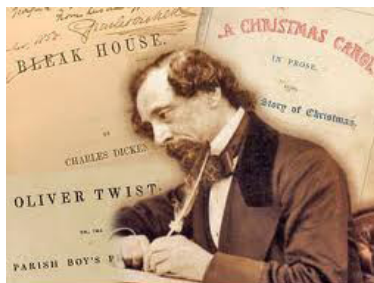
Wednesday, March 21st, 4:00-7:00 pm Adams Library Fortes Room (4th floor, room 409)

## LIBRARY EXHIBITS



Rose Butler Brown, graduated from the Rhode Island Normal School, in 1919.

March is Women's History Month and the theme for 2012 is *Women's Education--Women's Empowerment*. Adams Library will celebrate with an exhibit of materials from our collections, selected and arranged by RIC Alumna, Liz Warburton. The exhibit will highlight Rhode Island College women throughout the early years of the institution, with special emphasis on RIC's beginnings as the Rhode Island Normal School. Please see the LibGuide to learn more: <http://ric.libguides.com/womensed> .



2012 marks the bicentenary of the birth of Charles Dickens, the great Victorian novelist, whose books have been popular even into the later centuries. Works such as *Oliver Twist*, *David Copperfield*, *The Old Curiosity Shop*, and *A Christmas Carol* continue to inspire films, musicals and stage performances. Many commemorative events are planned this year internationally and in his native England to celebrate his achievements. The library exhibit, including biographical information, works by Dickens and about his life, and illustrations from his books, will be on display through the end of March. Please see the LibGuide to learn more: <http://ric.libguides.com/charlesdickens> .

"When the Civil War broke out in 1861, nineteen year-old Henry Jarvis Cole, of Warren, RI, enlisted to fight for the Union. He would not survive the war. Revealing the range of interactions between the home-front and the front, this exhibit displays private letters between Cole and his sister, diaries kept by Cole during high school and his years at war, Rhode Island newspaper clippings related to young soldiers' deaths, poetry written to eulogize the fallen Cole, and special postal envelopes and other items printed and sold to support the war effort."

--Dr. Erik Christiansen, History Department

## EVENTS

March 21	Raina Smith Talk and Book Signing <i>see details above</i>
March 22	The Addams Family, Providence Performing Arts Center
April	National Poetry Month <i>see: <a href="http://ric.libguides.com/poetryevents">http://ric.libguides.com/poetryevents</a> and <a href="http://ric.libguides.com/Poetry">http://ric.libguides.com/Poetry</a></i>
April 2-30	Haiku Returns to the Library Lobby
April 8-14	National Library Worker's Week

## EXHIBITS

March	Women's History Month: <i>Women's Education, Women's Empowerment</i> (main exhibit cases) <i>Dickens Bicentenary Celebration</i> (aluminum cases)
April	Poetry Month (main exhibit cases) Yom Ha Shoah (aluminum cases)
May	The Private Letters of Henry Jarvis Cole and other items from the Civil War (aluminum cases) <i>see details at left</i> May Day: International Workers' Day (main exhibit cases)



Professor emeritus, Richard Dickson, with library director, Hedi BenAicha, during a visit to the library. Adams Library thanks Professor Dickson for his continued support.



# PUTTING ON A NEW FACE: *Upgrades at Adams Library*

by Brian Baker, David Maine & Carla Weiss

If you've been to the library lately you've probably noticed some changes. Since last May the library has been part of a number of capital improvement projects which were funded by Federal ARRA stimulus money. While most of these projects took place during normal hours of operation, the most disruptive occurred after closing. Upgrades inside and outside the building continue, though most have reached completion. In addition, we've made technology upgrades and reconfigured spaces for optimal use. The library is very appreciative of the collaborative efforts that took place with Physical Plant, User Support Services, Office Services, and Campus Card; and would like to thank in particular, Don Tencher, Mark DeLellis, Kevin Fitta and the capital project team, Samantha Marshall, Ken Coulbourn, and Dennis Sousa for their roles in making these very important and necessary upgrades and for helping to make the library a safer place. Read more about these projects below.

## • CAPITAL PROJECTS

New fire alarm and sprinkler systems were installed; as well as fire code safety updates which included: emergency exit signs, code compliant stairwell doors, new entrance doors, and emergency exit doors. In addition, code compliant hand railings were placed in all stairwells and ramps, both inside and outside the building. New stairs on the west side of the building were installed as well as new concrete walkways including one to the emergency exit from level 1B. A new emergency phone was added to the level 1B emergency exit and the existing emergency generator is slated for replacement sometime later this year.

## • RECONFIGURED SPACES

In January, the Curriculum Resources Center (room 410) on the fourth floor was reconfigured to include kits and visual file materials formerly located in room 406 and the Juvenile Collection (children's literature) which was moved from level 1. A photocopier has been added to this space which also houses the CRC's main non-fiction collection. The Young Adult Literature collection, formerly located on level 1, now lines the walls of room 406

which has been converted into the Student Group Study Room. Room 406 has also been equipped with three new desktop computers which print to the printer release station on the third floor. If you need assistance using the Center, ask at the Reference Desk.

## • TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES

A new color copier has been installed in the Reserves Reading area. Color copies can be made for \$.50 a page or \$1.00 for 11x17 using the *Go Print* copy card system. We have also purchased a new microfiche/

film scanner and reader. Equipped with a 24" wide-screen monitor, and application presets for ease of use with the following media: 16 and 35mm film, negative fiche, newspaper fiche, and positive fiche. There are zoom and adjustment controls for selecting and snipping portions of the page as well as coloration controls. You can scan to PDF, save on a USB, send via email, or scan-to-print to the library's print release station.

## • RESERVES

Beginning last fall Reserve staff have the capability to scan books and bound journals for posting to electronic and course reserves. Faculty need only provide a citation for book chapters and journal articles via the Reserve Request Form (available from the library's web page). In addition, faculty may send electronic files to [adamsreserves@ric.edu](mailto:adamsreserves@ric.edu) to add e-books, journal articles, streaming audio/video, and web links to their e-reserves. E-reserves will be designated on reserve lists with "electronic copy available" and are available 24/7 to students and faculty with an active library account from the library's web page.

• **Springshare**, host of LibAnswers and LibGuides, has twice this year featured Adams Library in their newsletter, *Springy News!* Visit: <http://tinyurl.com/6mkwe7d> and click on "LibAnswers Widgets" and <http://tinyurl.com/7tygdsd>, click on Rhode Island College to read more. ■



ABOVE: Capital projects conducted in the past year included new handrails for the stairways at the main entrance, as well as throughout the inside of the building. BELOW: Students studying in the newly configured Student Group Study Room with three new computers (seen in the background at right).



FROM THE STEPS is a publication of the James P. Adams Library PR Committee

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