



Just Friends

University of Washington Libraries Receives Prestigious National Award

The University of Washington Libraries is the proud recipient of the 2004 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award. This award goes to the entire staff of a university library, and it is a most important recognition of excellence of the highest order.

The award is given by the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), an organization comprised of 12,000 members in North America. The award is funded by Blackwell's—the venerable international book seller based in London.

Awards are given annually for the outstanding

university, college and community college library in the United States.

The award recognizes the accomplishments of an entire library staff as they come together to support the mission of their institution. The Libraries was cited for excellence in all three areas stipulated in the criteria:

- Creativity and innovation in meeting the needs of the community
- Leadership in developing model programs which other universities emulate
- Substantial and productive relationships with faculty and students

In particular, the Libraries was lauded for its work in building an “any time, any place” library, the Suzzallo Renovation project, the Orbis Cascade Alliance, ground-breaking digital collections, exemplary assessment and staff training programs, diversity initiatives, model strategic planning efforts, and in educating students to become information smart.

The president of ACRL and a Blackwell representative will travel to Seattle to present the award to University President Lee Huntsman in a grand ceremony/celebration at Noon on May 17. Additional details of the event will be announced in the coming months.

The Gift of Education:

The Story of Laveen Kanal and His Shared Vision

The story of Dr. Kanal began a half-century ago on the steps of Suzzallo. It is a story that illustrates the far-reaching impact this Library has on the world. (Taken from Betsy Wilson's 2003 Gala Remarks.)

India, 1948

Half a world away in India 1948, a 17-year-old boy named Laveen Kanal was encouraged by the independence movement to seek an education in the United States. He wanted to become an aeronautical engineer.

Knowing little about American universities, he wrote to the U.S. Information Agency in New Delhi, India, seeking a list of schools where he could study aeronautical engineering. At the top of that list was the University of Washington. Assuming UW was the best university in the U.S. because it was first on the list, he decided to seek his education there. He wasn't disappointed.

With enthusiasm and naivety characteristic of one's younger years, Laveen applied to the UW without ever looking at a map to locate Seattle. He packed his bags, and began the 48-hour flight to New York. Upon

landing in New York, he learned that he had another 11-hour flight before reaching his destination.

Thanks to the generosity of strangers, he made it to the UW with a little money but no place to stay. As soon as he reached campus, the international office staff took over, got him settled, and made him feel like this was home.

Laveen Kanal was off and running.

Within two years, Laveen, Vikash Kashyap and other UW students established the Indian Students Association, and Laveen was elected president.

With the pain of Mahatma Gandhi's assassination still raw, Laveen and his fellow Indian students wanted to find a way to commemorate the life of Gandhi on the second anni-



Vikash Kashyap, James M. Davis, Harry Bauer, Laveen Kanal

versary of his death. They chose a book drive and gathered 70 books by or about Gandhi, many of which were sent from their families back home in India.

On October 24, 1950, they donated the books to the library in a ceremony on the steps of Suzzallo.

Pacific Northwest Art Display in Allen Library

"There's not one place in the area with an extensive collection of living Pacific NW artists. Wouldn't it be great to have it at the University of Washington Libraries!" This is the vision stated by Anne Gould Hauberg, long-time patron of artists and craftspeople in the Pacific Northwest, and special friend of the Libraries.

Anne recently made a generous gift to the Libraries from her personal art collection, Philip McCracken's sculpture, *Burning Through*. Created in 1967, *Burning Through* is constructed of white canvas with a gold leaf mound at the center, reminiscent of a golden sun emerging through low, dense, Pacific Northwest clouds. This stunning framed sculpture now proudly hangs in the Donald E. Petersen Room on the fourth floor of the Allen Library.

Anne's goal is to have a piece of art exhibited at the Libraries from each of the Pacific Northwest artists featured at the Libraries Artist Images Series. The annual event began in 1989, and in 1999, Anne established an endowment to support the series. Her gift of the Philip McCracken sculpture underscores her lifetime commitment to the arts of the Pacific Northwest and the University Libraries.

About the Artist

Philip McCracken was featured at the 2001 Artist Images event. His career as a sculptor began after graduating from UW in 1954, when he was accepted as an assistant to the great English sculptor, Henry Moore. His debut as an independent artist began with an exhibition at the Willard Gallery in New York, followed by an exhibition at the Seattle Art Museum.

McCracken was awarded Washington State's "First Governor's Invitational Art Show" Award in 1964 as "Artist of the Year." He was recognized in 1994 as the recipient of the prestigious Washington State Governor's Art Award, and received the Cornish College of the Arts Lifetime Achievement Award in 1999. His work is found in many public collections including the Seattle Art Museum, Tacoma Art Museum, Phillips Gallery in Washington, D.C., the Museums of Art in Detroit and St. Louis, the Whitney Museum of American Art and the United Nations Association in New York.

In her book, "Iridescent Light, The Emergence of NW Art," Deloris Tarzan Ament writes, "The key to Phillip McCracken's sculpture lies in its conveyance of the delicacy and strength that coexist in nature. He has delved into areas so complex that the dimen-

sions of meaning in his work have barely begun to be probed."

Wesley Wehr, affiliate curator of the Burke Museum and artist in his own right, admires McCracken as an exemplary artist. "Philip does not get stuck in what's popular, but rather continues to take risks, finding new uses of materials, making them his own, as in *Burning Through*, and moving on to new mediums."

New Friends Board Members

Jim Rupp, President

"Few people realize the number of different libraries that exist at the UW, and how great an asset they are to not only students and researchers, but to the whole region. Friends of the UW Libraries is committed to spreading the word about these gems and I'm happy to help in that effort."

Bob Mierow, Vice-President

"Membership in Friends of the UW Libraries enables me to broaden my knowledge about regional authors and artists. Simultaneously, I am supporting the heart of the University, its library system."

Mike Schemm, Treasurer

"I am happy to be Treasurer. It means I can contribute in my area of expertise."

Alexa Cooper-Thompson, Secretary

"I heartily agree with Will Manley when he says, 'An unused collection of books is simply that—an unused collection of books. It is not a library.' Libraries are meant to be used, and promoting that use by the University and the community that surrounds it is why I serve on the board!"



Jim Rupp, Judy Maleng, Nancy Pearl, Dan Blom and Betsy Wilson at the Annual Meeting January 23. Photo by Jill Weseman

UW Libraries Development Welcomes Three New Faces

Jill Weseman, Program Coordinator

Jill returns to the University community with a background in teaching and non-profit volunteer management. She previously worked in Dentistry Development and Alumni Affairs at the UW, served as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer in Bulgaria, and taught middle school reading in Miami.



Elizabeth Risser, Events & Marketing Manager

Elizabeth previously worked at the King County Library System, where she contributed to raising national awareness of the library system through branding, marketing, advertising and public relations.

Anthony (Tony) Wally, Grants Officer

Tony has previous grants management experience at KCTS Public Television/Channel 9; Seattle University; and as a consultant to several local non-profits. Tony has a Master's degree in English from Gannon University in Erie, Pennsylvania.



Newsletter Contact Information

University of Washington Libraries
Office of Development
uwlibraries@lib.washington.edu

The Gift of Education

(Continued)

Seattle, 2003

Recently, UW Libraries Director Betsy Wilson received an e-mail from Dr. Laveen Kanal, professor emeritus, University of Maryland, CEO of LNK Corporation, and renowned researcher in pattern recognition and artificial intelligence. His e-mail read:

I was a student from India at the UW, in the years 1948-1953, getting a B.S. and an M.S. degree in Electrical Engineering. In my senior year, 1950-1951, the Indian Students Association, of which I was the President that year, gave 70 books on the life of Mahatma Gandhi to the Library.

I wonder if these books have turned out to be of interest to students over the years and if the library has a copy of the publicity photograph taken that day? I wonder if the people in the photograph, other than me, are still on this planet.

A search of the University Archives turned up the photograph, a scrapbook with news clippings, and a list of the 70 books that were donated.

Did the books turn out to be of interest to students?

Yes, and much more. One is more dog-eared than the next from repeated readings. Many titles, such as "For Pacifists," "Self-restraint versus Self-indulgence" and "Women and Social Injustice", have been checked out continuously since 1950. Many are the only copies in North America and have been loaned to other libraries and scholars across the country.

This past summer, Betsy Wilson spent a morning with Dr. Kanal. He regaled her with stories of student life, inspirational professors and his fascinating life path. They even took another photograph to add to the Archives—recreating the pose from 1950, complete with a stack of well-used books on Gandhi.

Laveen Kanal, Vikash Kashyap and their fellow students had the vision to give a gift to the University, 70 books on Gandhi. This small yet powerful gift has benefited students and scholars for over a half century.

At the same time, the University gave the gift of education to a young Laveen Kanal. This gift ultimately allowed him to push the boundaries of knowledge, serve his community and educate the next generation.

The Library has many stories to tell. Stories of gratitude and quiet generosity. The stories begin or end in one of the University's 21 libraries. The story of Laveen Kanal and a gift of books began and continues without end in the Library.

Each day, supporters of the UW Libraries generously give of their time and energy; which is not lost on those who come through our physical and virtual doors.

Last month, an anonymous message came through the Suggestion Box:

The UW Libraries are wonderful. To complain about them would be like a beggar whining about receiving a sack of gold coins instead of gold bars.

—A grateful customer.



Alan Grosenheider, Betsy Wilson, Dr. Laveen Kanal, Irene Joshi



Pass this on to a Friend to become a Friend of the UW Libraries

YES, I want to become a Friend of the UW Libraries!

A donation of \$75 or more qualifies you to receive a UW Libraries card. You can use this card at our 21 campus libraries.

Please complete and return to:

Friends of the UW Libraries, UW Libraries Development, Box 352900, Seattle, WA, 98195-2900

☐ **New Membership** (Minimum \$25.00) (FUWLIB)

Name(s) _____ Signature _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (_____) _____ E-mail _____

☐ **Check enclosed \$** _____
(made payable to **UW Foundation**)

☐ **Please charge my: VISA MC AMEX**

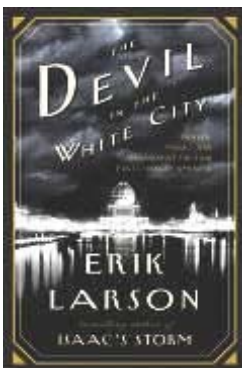
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Erik Larson Featured at March 5 Blom Lecture

Local author Erik Larson will be the featured speaker at the annual **Blom Lecture** held **Friday, March 5 at 7 p.m. in Suzzallo Library Room 101**. His most recent book, "The Devil in the White City," has received wide critical praise, and was nominated for a National Book Award.

Larson is also the author of "The Naked Consumer," "Lethal Passage" and the New York Times bestseller, "Isaac's Storm." His work has appeared in *Time*, *The Atlantic*, *Harper's* and other national magazines.

In an interview, Larson said "I so much enjoy (writing) narrative nonfiction. The research appeals to me—I love looking for pieces of things in far-flung archives—but the beauty is that the complexity of the characters is there. You don't have to make it up."



Larson first came across "The Devil in the White City's" antagonist, Dr. Holmes, during his early phase of research for "Isaac's Storm." According to Larson, taken together, the stories of how Daniel Burnham built the fair and Dr. Holmes used it for murder formed an entirety far greater than the story of either man alone.

The Blom Endowment offers the Libraries a special opportunity to spotlight a contemporary writer who will appeal to a wide audience. Both the Blom family and Larson believe in the inestimable worth of books and libraries, and share an excitement for reading, book collecting and literature as one of the consummate adventures.

This event is free to the public. **To RSVP, please call 206.6168397 or e-mail uwlibraries@lib.washington.edu.**

About the Book

Bringing Chicago circa 1893 to vivid life, Erik Larson's spellbinding bestseller intertwines the true tale of two men—the brilliant architect behind the legendary 1893 World's Fair, striving to secure America's place in the world; and the cunning serial killer who used the fair to lure his victims to their death. Combining meticulous research with nail-biting storytelling, Larson has crafted a narrative with all the wonder of newly discovered history and the thrills of the best fiction.

—*Publisher's description*

Upcoming Libraries Events & Exhibits

March 5, 7 p.m.

Blom Lecture Featuring Erik Larson

May 13, 3-5 p.m.

Student Employee Scholarship Award Ceremony

May 17, Noon

ACRL Award of Excellence Celebration

March 22-May 7

Exhibit: Guild of Bookworkers

Just Friends

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482 Allen Library, Box 352900
Seattle, Washington 98195-2900

