

Books and Bytes

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A Newsletter of the Hiram College Library

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Jeff Wanser Presents at Music Library Association Conference

Jeff Wanser, Government Documents and Collection Development Librarian, gave a presentation at the 82nd annual Music Library Association Conference, in San Jose from February 27 through March 3. Wanser was part of a panel that spoke on “Local and Regional Music Collections: Issues and Strategies.” Wanser’s presentation, “Linking Collections and Community: Building a Local Music Collection at a Small Liberal Arts College Library,” concerned the library’s “North East Ohio Music Initiative” (NEOMI) project.



Other librarians on the panel were from the University of Washington, the University of Alberta, and the University of Saskatchewan. Wanser helped propose and plan the panel session.

Coming to the Library in April

Library Hours for Spring-12 Exams and Interim – The library will have different hours from April 5 through April 16. Those hours are listed below.



Friends of the Library Spring Program – Thursday, April 18, at 7:00 p.m. in the Pritchard Room of the library. Dr. Daniel Dyer will be the speaker.

Friends of the Library Book Sale – Monday, April 22, through Friday, April 26, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. just inside the library entrance.

Library Hours for Spring-12 Exams And Interim

As is its custom, the library will be extending its hours during the exam period and then reducing its hours during the interim period. Library hours for April 5 through April 16 will be:

Friday, April 5	7:45 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 6	9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 7	Noon – Midnight
Monday, April 8	7:45 a.m. – Midnight
Tuesday, April 9	7:45 a.m. – Midnight
Wednesday, April 10	7:45 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Thursday, April 11	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday, April 12	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 13	9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 14	CLOSED
Monday, April 15	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 16	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.



Friends of the Library Book Sale

The final Friends of the Library Book Sale for this academic year will be held from Monday, April 22, through Friday, April 26, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Hardcover books will be \$1.00 each, while paperbacks will be 50¢ each. Friday, April 22, will be “dollar bag day,” which means you can fill a bag (provided by the library) with books for a total cost of \$1.00.



The Friends book sale, along with the other activities of the Friends of the Hiram College Library, benefits the library so come support the Friends and the library, all while stocking up on your summer reading.

Library Matters

Goin' Digital

In some ways, the library has already moved into a digital world. I cannot remember the last print reference book we purchased. Most of our scholarly journals are online (at least those with a pricing model we can live with), either through the Electronic Journal Center (EJC) at OhioLINK or through a direct subscription with the publisher. Those two trends will continue.

At the same time, we continue to buy print books, as well as physical media such as CDs and DVDs. In some ways, the latter two are the start of the change – they are digital, unlike audio cassettes and VHS tapes. Neither format, however, is online, which makes them much like print in that users must come to the library to get the resources.

Even in these three cases, the library has begun the transition, primarily through OhioLINK. The library currently offers access to some 85,000 e-books (in the Electronic Book Center), nearly 3,000 full-length videos (in the Digital Resource Commons), and more than 81,800 musical tracks (in the OhioLINK Music Center). This trend, too, will continue to grow as the library begins to acquire such resources on its own and OhioLINK continues to increase its digital content.

The biggest area of growth is probably in streaming video. Many video vendors now offer this as an option, although one pays a higher price for the streaming video or is limited to a three-year term. The latter keeps the price down and allows a library to “delete” the film if it is no longer useful.

At the same time, database producers such as Alexander Street Press, are offering more and more package deals build around streaming video. Take a look at Alexander Street Press's offerings at <http://alexanderstreet.com/products/video-collections>. I am aware of at least one other collection that is so new it is not yet on that Web page! Obviously, there are several collections that could be useful at Hiram College.

The same is true of streaming audio, although the number of collections being released is smaller. Still, the full Naxos, Classical Music Library, Contemporary World Music, Jazz Music Library, and Smithsonian Global Sound (the last four from Alexander Street Press at <http://alexanderstreet.com/products/music>) are now available.

The library continues to look for e-book options where the vendor offers unlimited users and charges no annual access fee to use those books we have purchased. We will soon begin acquiring our own e-books through a vendor who meets those requirements, and we are currently looking at a second vendor.

The big questions, of course, are when do we go online rather than buy the physical item, and how do we pay for these online versions, which sometimes cost more than the physical item or

when, as in the case of streaming audio and video, the result is often a one-year subscription that must then be paid annually? One answer is to simply buy fewer physical items, thus shifting the mix of physical and online. The other is to find some funding for several small pilot projects to see how much use such resources really get from Hiram faculty, staff, and students.

An obvious place to start is with courses that are online or blended. If you are teaching one of those courses and know of resources that would be useful to your students, let us know what those resources are. Just contact the librarian who is the liaison to your department or contact me, David Everett, at everettd@hiram.edu. We look forward to hearing from you as to what you might need in the way of online resources.

By David Everett, Library Director

The opinions expressed here are his and do not represent the views or opinions of Hiram College (or even the other library staff!).

Dan Dyer to Present at Friends' Annual Program

Dr. Daniel Dyer will present at the Friends of the Library annual program on Thursday, April 18, at 7:00 p.m. in the Pritchard Room of the library. Dyer's talk, “Do You Like it Here?” Inside the Literary World of John O'Hara,” will explore the life and career of a writer who was once famous, but is now largely forgotten. A winner of the National Book Award, O'Hara produced best-selling novels that were adapted into popular films, such as *Pal Joey* and *Butterfield 8*, as well as short stories and journalism. He even graced the cover of *Newsweek* and featured in the lyrics of a Simon and Garfunkle tune. After his death in 1970, however, his reputation quickly eroded. Illustrated with images from sites important in O'Hara's life, Dyer's talk will explore the reasons for this fall from grace and evaluate O'Hara's works and literary career. The program is co-sponsored by the Lindsay-Crane Center for Writing and Literature.

A graduate of Hiram College (1966) who went on to earn his master's and doctorate in English at Kent State, Dyer taught for many years in Aurora and at the Western Reserve Academy. His excellence as a teacher has been recognized by several awards, including the prestigious Teacher-Scholar award of the National Endowment for the Humanities. His book reviews have been a staple of the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* and *Kirkus Reviews* for many years. Although he has published several memoirs and young-adult novels, and produced an annotated edition of the *The Call of the Wild*, Dyer is perhaps best known for his biographies of literary figures, including William Shakespeare, Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, and particularly Jack London.

by Don Fleming

Hiram College Library: Learning Unshelved