

UMD LIBRARY CONNECTION

Learning Commons Evolution Continues

A construction project during summer 2013 will transform the second floor of the library into a Learning Commons, complete with new furnishings and remodeled spaces to support Reference Services, the Supportive Services Program (SSP)/Tutoring Center, and a writing center.

Interim Library Director Liz Benson Johnson, Paul Treuer, Tom Ambrosi, and the local architectural firm TKDA are coordinating the second-floor project.

Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Andrea Schokker presented the preliminary drawings, architectural renderings, and budget for the Learning Commons to the Chancellor's Cabinet on February 4. She reported that everyone on the cabinet supported the features and services identified.

The UMD Library has been developing the Learning Commons concept for the past several years to better serve the needs of students. The ITSS Multimedia Hub moved from L119 to the second floor to be closer to students working on projects in the area.

The move of the Tutoring Center into the space will further the vision of providing integrated services where students can find the help they

need in a comfortable and productive learning environment.

Library 119 will provide additional teaching space for Supportive Services Program courses.



New furnishings and remodeled dividers will enhance the Learning Commons.

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Kevin Kling to Speak at 25th NEMBA

The Northeastern Minnesota Book Awards will be celebrated the evening of Thursday, May 23, 2013, in Kirby Ballroom on the UMD campus. Presented by the UMD Library in collaboration with Friends of the Duluth Public Library and Lake Superior Writers, this will be the 25th annual NEMBA competition.



Kevin Kling's storytelling will entertain guests at the 25th annual NEMBA awards.

Playwright and gifted storyteller Kevin Kling will headline the free public event, which will begin with a book fair and refreshments from 5-6:30 p.m., followed by the program and awards presentation from 6:30-8 p.m., and the continuation of the book fair from 8-9 p.m.

The book fair offers a wonderful opportunity to meet the authors and publishers of the titles nominated this year. Guests can purchase signed copies of the works and engage in conversation with fellow book lovers.

Featured speaker Kevin Kling is a commentator for National Public Radio's "All Things Considered" and the author of three books: *The Dog Says How*, *Holiday Inn*, and *Big Little Brother*, as well as the Drama Desk Award winning play "Home and Away."

He appears often at the National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, Tennessee, and his plays have been produced at regional theaters throughout the country.

Each May, the regional book community comes together to celebrate NEMBA and honor new titles that "capture the spirit of the northland" and substantially represent northeastern Minnesota.

Volunteer readers are currently reading and evaluating 49 books published in 2012 that were nominated in six categories: Fiction, Poetry, Nonfiction, Memoir/Creative Nonfiction, Children's Literature, and Art/Photography. See the [complete list of nominees](#).

Winning authors will receive a cash prize of \$200. The winning author and the honorable mention in each category will receive a glass plaque as well as 100 NEMBA book seals.

For more information, call 218-726-7889 or visit the NEMBA [web page](#). This event is free and open to the

Thursday, May 23, 2013
Kirby Ballroom, UMD Campus

5:00 - 6:30 PM ~ Book Fair / Refreshments
6:30 - 8:00 PM ~ Speaker Kevin Kling / Awards Presentation
8:00 - 9:00 PM ~ More Book Fair



Film Series Introduces Bookshelf Collection on Muslim Journeys

If you missed the film series, you can still view the films by checking them out at the UMD Library circulation desk.

A free film series for public audiences showcased some of the resources received by the UMD Library as part of a Bridging Cultures bookshelf collection on Muslim Journeys, sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Library Association.

UMD Library was one of over 840 libraries and humanities councils across the United States to receive this bookshelf collection, which includes 25 hardcover books, three full-length films, and a one-year subscription to *Oxford Islamic Studies Online*.

The purpose of the program is to familiarize audiences in the United States about the people, places, history, faith, and cultures of Muslims in the United States and around the world.

The film "Islamic Art: Mirror of the Invisible World" was shown in the first program on **Tuesday, April 9**, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Besides viewing the film, guests were able to browse the collection and

enjoy an opening reception in the UMD Library fourth floor rotunda reading room.

"Islamic Art" takes audiences on an epic journey across nine countries and over fourteen hundred years of history. It explores the richness of Islamic art in objects big and small, offering a window into Islamic culture, themes, and values.

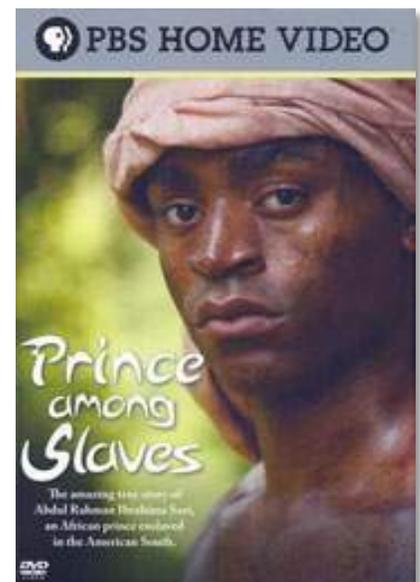
The second film in the series, "Koran by Heart: One Chance to Remember," was screened on **Tuesday, April 23**, 6:30-8:30 p.m., in the UMD Library rotunda.

This documentary follows three young scholars, all ten years old, who travel to Egypt to participate in the Islamic world's oldest Qur'an memorization contest.

The [Duluth Public Library](#) will host the third film, "Prince Among Slaves," on **Saturday, May 4**, starting at 1 p.m., in its Green Room.

This film depicts the true story of a 26-year-old prince named Abdul-Rahman, who in 1788 was captured in West Africa and sold into slavery in America. During his enslavement, he toiled on the Foster Plantation, married, and fathered nine children. The film portrays his

survival through love of family and his deep faith as a Muslim. See a trailer of this film at <http://youtu.be/yVsdlkSVnRI>



For more information, visit the Muslim Journeys web page:

http://libguides.d.umn.edu/muslim_journeys

The Bridging Cultures Bookshelf on Muslim Journeys is a project of the National Endowment for the Humanities, conducted in cooperation with the American Library Association. Support was provided by a grant from Carnegie Corporation of New York. Additional support for the arts and media components was provided by the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art.

Memo from the Interim Director

I want to recognize and thank the UMD Library staff members who are working with staff from the other University of Minnesota libraries to upgrade the libraries' enterprise systems. They are Charlene Brown, Circulation Services; Sunshine Carter, Electronic Resources Librarian; Mags David, Archives & Special Collections; Anne Hovde, Technical Services; Deborah Johnson, Technical Services; Darlene Morris, Computer Systems & Services; and Shixing Wen, Technical Services.

The two systems being upgraded are the "discovery" system that is utilized by library users to search our catalog and the library management system (the staff side), which handles library core functions such as acquisitions, licensing, circulation, and cataloging.

Alma is the name of the next-generation library management service produced by Ex Libris. All seven UMD Library staff members are working on the Alma Implementation Project. Sunshine Carter is leading the UMD Library effort and also serves on the University of Minnesota Alma Leadership Team. Darlene Morris is a key member of the system-wide team responsible for implementing **Primo Central**, our new discovery system.

The Alma Implementation Team recently finalized new circulation-related policies and practices. Library policies and practices are being standardized across the system to improve services. While it is challenging to harmonize system-wide policies, the overarching goal is to improve services for users and to be more efficient.

Efficiencies will also be achieved by utilizing cloud-based services. Basically, this means that instead of installing a new operating system on a computer server owned by the University, the system and all of our data are on computer servers owned and maintained by Ex Libris. There are many advantages to cloud-based systems: increased capacity, enhanced functionality, and the ability to add services without investing in more mainframe computers and the staff to maintain them.

UMD Library users will begin to notice changes in our circulation policies this fall as the library prepares for the switch to Alma in late December. When the switch to Alma is complete, the Classic Catalog will no longer be available. An updated Quick Search (Primo Central) will be the only way to search the catalog.

Implementation of Primo Central will begin this summer. The Twin Cities University Libraries, working with the UMTC Office of Information Technology, will fund and support the implementation. This collaborative effort is another in the long line of projects where University of Minnesota libraries from all campuses work together for the common good of faculty, staff, and students.



Liz Benson Johnson

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Liz Benson Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stress-Less Week Plans

Don't Panic--Preparation for Finals Week Can Be Fun!

As the end of the semester approaches, library staff members are preparing for a new installment of Stress-Less Week, the UMD Library's series of events designed to help students unwind and relax before finals. Beginning Monday, May 6, and extending through Friday, May 10, the following stressbusters have proven to be popular and anxiety-reducing in the past.

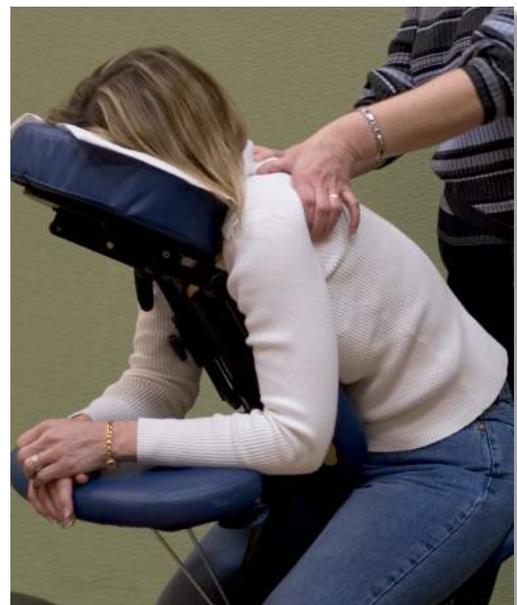
- Monday, May 6: Get an early start on your studies by joining Champ for free coffee at the library's entrance from 8:30 to 10 a.m.
- Tuesday, May 7: Unwind with a free ten-minutes chair massage in Library 119 from 1 to 3 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 8: The ever-popular Pet Away Stress event will return to Kirby Terrace. From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., relieve stress by spending quality time with some friendly canines. This event is sponsored by UMD Health Services and the Office of Civic Engagement.
- Thursday, May 9: This is your second chance for a free ten-minute chair massage with massage therapist Nancy Schwerdt in Library 119, from 1 to 3 p.m.
- Friday, May 10: Find that second wind after your week of dedicated studying. Champ will return to the library entrance to help dispense free coffee from 8:30 to 10 a.m.

If free coffee on Monday and Friday isn't enough, students can indulge in a coffee bean counting contest at the first-floor checkout desk. The prize for

the best guess will be a coffeeshop gift card. A second gift card will go to the person who checks into the library on Foursquare most often during Stress-Less Week. See <https://foursquare.com/umdlibrary> for more information

Through the week, students can take a study break with board games and arts & crafts activities on the library's first floor. Make your own stress ball or relax with a coloring sheet and crayons. There will be no grading on these creations!

Additional details will be announced soon. Watch for updates on our Facebook and Twitter feeds.



Don't miss Stress-Less Week chair massages offered on Tuesday and Thursday, May 7 and 9, in Library 119.

Pop-Up Poetry in the Library

April is National Poetry Month, and in recognition of this, UMD Library invited students, faculty, and staff to read a poem – either an original composition or a classic favorite – under the Chihuly sculpture in the library entryway.



Much like street performance art, Pop-Up Poetry in the UMD Library happened randomly throughout the month, with PA announcements made ten minutes before a reading as the only publicity.

Pop-Up Poetry was an opportunity for UMD students, faculty, and staff to share a favorite poem or their original verse in a public place.

“We first thought about bringing in well-known published poets to surprise library visitors,” said organizer Charlene Brown, “but then we decided that this would be an ideal way to shine light on the creativity of our students at UMD.”

UMD English Assistant Professor Simon Kress was very supportive of the idea, and he announced the opportunity in his classes.

To avoid disrupting study sessions in the library, the poetry readings were limited to the library entryway and to five minutes in duration.

You can view a video interview conducted by *UMD Statesman* multimedia editor Nathan Kruse at one of the readings: <http://youtu.be/rp7IHLVsWPE>

New Databases Purchased by University Libraries

The University of Minnesota Twin Cities has purchased the following resources, including access for all coordinate campuses:

African American Periodicals 1825-1995: African American Periodicals allows users to search more than 170 African American periodicals published between 1825 and 1995. If you would like to know more about this resource or have any questions, please contact Tom Ambrosi at 218-726-7861.

Afro-Americana Imprints, 1535-1922: Created from the Library Company of Philadelphia's Afro-Americana Collection, this online resource provides researchers with 12,000+ printed books, pamphlets, and broadsides concerning African American history, literature, and culture. From early 16th to early 20th century. Contact Tom Ambrosi at 218-726-7861.

eStatement Studies: A resource for financial ratio averages, eStatement Studies is the online replacement for RMA's Annual Statement Studies. It contains a nine-year archive of financial ratios and contains ratios for industries (by keyword or NAICS number) and ratios by region of the United States. This is a good companion database to BizMiner. For more information, contact Jim Vileta at 218-726-6157.

Statistical Abstract of the United States: The online edition of the now-ceased print version of the Statistical Abstract of the United States is the authoritative and comprehensive summary of statistics on the social, political, and economic conditions of the United States. Contact Jodi Grebinoski at 218-726-7880.

Cash-to-Card Print Machines to Be Upgraded

A new cash-to-card system is expected to be implemented in the library and across the UMD campus in June 2013. ITSS is working locally with the Business Office, Library, Auxiliary Services, UMD Stores, and Chemistry to upgrade to a new technology for campus cash.

The new technology will still allow use of the U Card, but the cash value will live in a secure database instead of being magnetically written to the card.

For the past fourteen years, UMD has supported a method of spending, using the U Card and Debitex cards, that relied on a magnetic strip on the card to store cash value.

Students, faculty, and staff have put cash value on their cards at one of several cash-to-card machines around campus. Value on the card could be expended for printing in the labs, making copies in the library, purchasing chemistry supplies, and parking in the pay lots.

The technology to do these types of transactions in the way we have been is no longer supported by any vendor.

U Cards that have been in use for the past several years will support the new technology. These cards have both a "data strip" for the new technology and a "campus cash" strip that stored value. Recently issued U Cards only have the data strip that supports the new technology. Unlike U Cards, legacy Debitex value cards will not work with the new system. A new type of cash value card will be available for users who do not have a U Card.

We encourage users to expend as much of the value from their cards as possible by the end of Spring 2013. There will be a process to move cash value from the old system to the new one, but it will require end users to visit a cashier.

More details will be shared as they emerge. Please email [Jason Davis](#) if you have any questions or concerns.

STAFF NEWS



Shana Aue

Technical Services was fortunate to have a **volunteer, Shana Aue**, working in the department this semester. Shana started on March 26, 2013, and she expects to continue as a volunteer at UMD Library until her graduation from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee's MLS program in May 2014.

Her tasks so far have been related to the Library's digitization project, such as scanning print materials, editing scanned images, performing OCR to convert scanned images to searchable PDF documents, as well as proofreading and editing the digitized documents.

Shana also works part time at the Duluth Public Library. She currently serves on the planning committee for the Lake Superior Libraries Symposium.

Symposium Wins Award

The planning committee for the Lake Superior Libraries Symposium regional professional conference received a 2013 "Standing Up for Rural Wisconsin Schools, Libraries, and Communities" award on February 1. UMD Library is also represented on the committee by Reference Librarians **Gabriel Gardner** and **Kim Pittman**.

UMD Library Hours

Finals Week Hours

May 11-19, 2013

Saturday, May 11	Noon – midnight
Sunday, May 12	Noon – 2:00 a.m.
Monday-Thursday, May 13-16	7:30 a.m. - 2:00 a.m.
Friday, May 17	7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Saturday-Sunday, May 18-19	CLOSED

Summer Hours

May 20-August 29, 2013

Monday-Thursday	7:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Friday	7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday	CLOSED
Sunday	Noon - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday-Monday, May 26-27	CLOSED
Thursday-Friday, July 4-5	CLOSED
Monday-Friday, throughout August	7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Saturday-Sunday, throughout August	CLOSED

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We're on the Web!
www.d.umn.edu/lib/

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