

SCHAFFER LIBRARY

UPDATES FOR FALL 2023



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The Lally Reading Room was recarpeted this summer, along with much of the building.

WELCOME BACK! MANY NEW IMPROVEMENTS AWAIT YOU.

Schaffer Library is undergoing a multi year recarpeting project. This summer the study areas and office areas were recarpeted throughout all four floors.

As part of that project, the **Circulation and Help Desk** was renovated with new flooring and furniture to provide a more open and engaging space for support. Our open hold shelf area is more centrally located so you can quickly find your requested items. Stop by the new desk to check out a book, get tech support, or find answers to your questions.

Our **Current Reading Area** has also moved. Located at the center of the Learning Commons, the area features newly acquired items in fiction and nonfiction. Over the Fall 2023 term, we will be featuring a variety of books in new ways. Keep visiting this space each month for your next great read!

We're not quite finished with the renovations. Between Thanksgiving and Christmas, office areas and part of the stack areas will be recarpeted. Summer 2024 will finish the remaining stack areas and Special Collections. We will keep you updated as the project progresses and work to minimize disruptions. Please stop in to experience our updated look!

LIBRARY NEWS

WELCOME, PATRICK CASSIDY!



The library welcomed Patrick Cassidy this June as our Systems & Discovery Librarian. In this role, Patrick focuses on ensuring that the library's discovery platform (Primo) as well as other library systems are accessible, streamlined, and optimized for the research and teaching needs of the Union community. Welcome, Patrick!

OUTREACH EVENTS

Plans are underway for some fun, engaging, and informative events for the 2023/24 academic year from Schaffer Library Outreach.

We'll be sending out invitations to **New Faculty** shortly for our first annual **Library Tea**, scheduled for **September 20th, during common hour**. New faculty can learn about many of our library services and resources, while enjoying tea, coffee, and assorted comestibles.

As the days begin to darken in October, Schaffer Outreach will shine a little light on **Banned Books Week**. Working with the Office of Intercultural Affairs, we will raise awareness about this very current issue through book displays, educational posters, and other activities. **Banned Books Week is October 1-7**.

We'll also have an event on the evening of Samhain (Halloween). Preparations are being made to host a **Haunted Union, Haunted Schenectady walking tour** with a member of the library faculty serving up spooky tales about local apparitions. Stay tuned for more information.

In November, students will be invited to our second **Schaffer Research Party**. We're going to party like it's finals week 2023. We have tasty refreshments and plenty of research help on deck for the festivities.

JOHN BIGELOW COLLECTION AVAILABLE ONLINE

With support from a National Historical Publication and Records Commission (NHPRC) / National Archives grant, the library was able to digitize the vast collection of correspondence and scrapbooks from John Bigelow (UC 1835). We are pleased to report that the materials are now available online using our new repository system, ARCHES. To access, visit <https://arches.union.edu/bigelow/>. The extensive finding aid for the Bigelow papers has also been released and is available online.

NEW & UPDATED ILLIAD

ILLiad, our Interlibrary Loan system, has a new look! The updated interface is more accessible and mobile-friendly, making it easier to navigate and renew your requests. For more information on ILLiad and Interlibrary Loan, please visit our [website](#).

ASK A LIBRARIAN

Need help with your research? New this term, you can contact a librarian in real time through UChat. Look for the green dialogue bubble on the library website. Don't worry, we're also still available for more in-depth help through email and in-person meetings. See our [Ask a Librarian page](#) for more information.



LIBRARY NEWS



WELCOME, KIM MITCHELL!

In September, the library welcomed Kim Mitchell as Collection Development Librarian. In this role, Kim will select materials for the general collection, bringing the best information resources possible to the Union community. Kim will also focus on our government documents collection and review open-access materials for incorporation into the library's discovery system, Primo. Welcome, Kim!

REMINDER: PERIODICALS WITH FREE PERSONAL ACCOUNTS

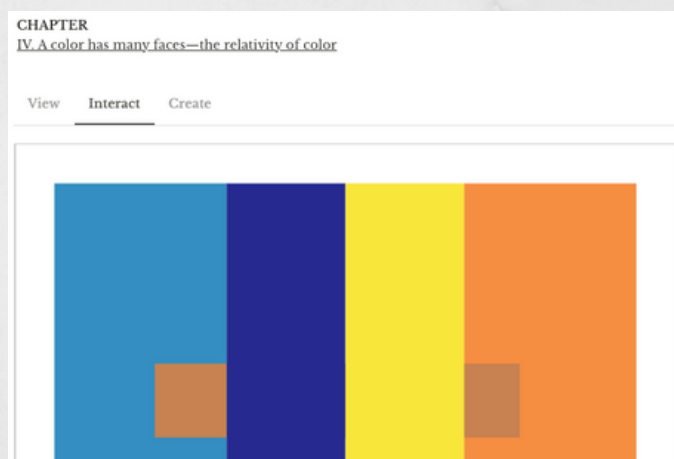
Did you know that Schaffer Library provides personal accounts for the *Washington Post*, *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and the *Chronicle of Higher Education* with your Union email address, as well as a variety of newspapers and magazines via Flipster? Visit [our Periodicals with Free Personal accounts page](#) for details and step-by-step instructions.

DATABASE SPOTLIGHT: A&AEPORAL AND THE INTERACTION OF COLOR

The [A&AePortal](#) is an authoritative ebook resource that features important works of scholarship in the history of art, architecture, decorative arts, photography, and design. With innovative functionality and extensive metadata, the site offers students and scholars an engaging experience, encouraging critical thinking skills and supporting rigorous academic research. The site includes many out-of-print titles, key backlist, and recent releases from some of the world's finest academic and museum publishers.

More than 350 titles are currently available, and the website provides the ability to search by item or image, as well as highlight, annotate, and save items to a bookshelf.

Included in our subscription is [Josef Albers's classic, *The Interaction of Color*](#), now a full-featured interactive website. Create an account and learn more about this resource! You can read the complete edition, explore plates, and create your own plates. Use your union.edu email to create your account.



A screenshot from The Interaction of Color.

LIBRARY NEWS

NEW LOOK AND FEEL FOR LIBRARY WEBSITE AND PRIMO

The library has been busy updating our website and Primo (the library's discovery platform) with new features and a streamlined look and feel. Highlights include:

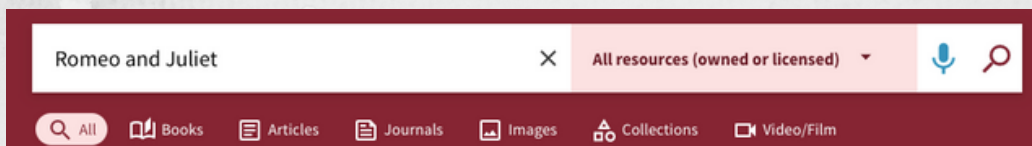
✓ Improved search features: preset your search results

Looking for a specific book or article? Need a film – and only a film? You can now preselect filters for your searches before you begin searching. On the [library's website](#), use the “Show Advanced Search Options” link to get an additional menu:



Once you click on the advanced search option, you will have the ability to limit by book, video, or item in Special Collections.

In Primo, you can also pre-set your search by using the icons below the search box:



✓ Library quick links

We've highlighted our top features in a “Quick Links” area for ease of use. Interlibrary loan, library guides, and our newest acquisitions are just below the search area.

✓ Faculty Resources page

Features and services with faculty in mind are now gathered on one page just for faculty. Head to our [Faculty Resources page](#) to learn more!

✓ New Primo features

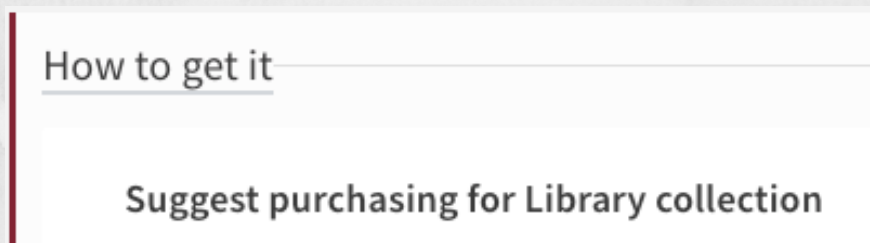
Schaffer Library has been working hard to update Primo, the library's discovery tool, to take advantage of new features and help improve your user experience. While we've highlighted many features on our news page, three important new features include:

- Chat with a librarian - you and your students can ask questions and discuss materials with a librarian in real time using our chat feature. Look for the green dialogue bubble to start chatting!
- Improved search result screens - "Explore Results" has moved to the right side of the screen, consistent with other Union navigation. Icons are more illustrative of what is available in search results.
- Better integration with the library's homepage - when choosing "New Search," all of the quick links from the library's website will appear in Primo as well.

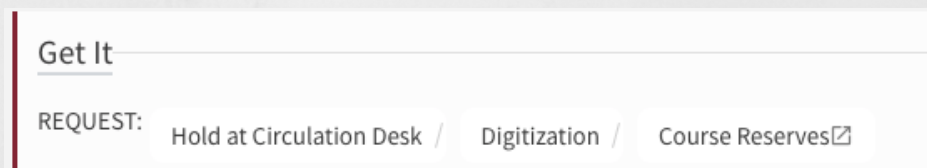
NEW COURSE RESERVES FORM + SUGGEST A PURCHASE = EASY READING LISTS

Did you know that the library will purchase copies of the books, videos, and other items that your students need for success in your courses? Use our Suggest a Purchase form to find out whether we own an item. Then:

- **If we don't own the item**, submit a Suggest a Purchase request! View the record, then click "Suggest purchasing for Library collection" to start your request. We will let you know if we are able to acquire the item.



- **If we own the item**, use the Course Reserves button to request that it be placed within the Course Reserves area for your students to borrow.



TIP: Don't forget to log in to see these options! Please note that only faculty are able to submit course reserve and purchase requests.

UPDATES FROM THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES

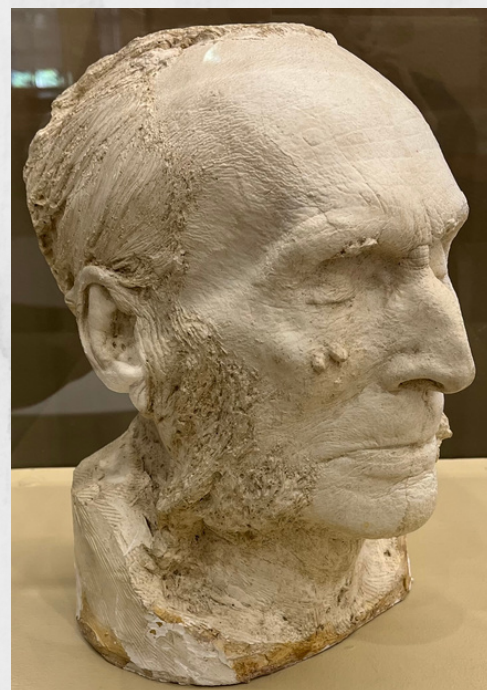
NEW JOHN BIGELOW EXHIBITION

Visit Lally Reading Room to take a look at Quietly Shaping History: John Bigelow's Influence on 19th Century Politics.

John Bigelow (1817-1911, UC 1835) was an American author, diplomat, lawyer, and distinguished man of letters. His work in politics and diplomacy involved him in many significant historical events, such as discouraging France from building ships for the Confederacy during the Civil War, assisting with the construction of the Panama Canal, and helping to expose the political corruption of Tammany Hall's William "Boss" Tweed in New York City.

Despite his remarkable contributions and impact on 19th century world history, Bigelow remains relatively unknown in popular historical narratives.

Built around collection items found in the John Bigelow papers (SCA-0022), Quietly Shaping History: John Bigelow's Influence on 19th Century Politics brings Bigelow's story to light and offers new insights on his pivotal role in American history. You can search for these and other materials from the John Bigelow papers on [ARCHES](#).



Death Mask of John Bigelow (1817 - 1911), 1911 from the Union College Permanent Collection (1953.1 UCPC)

AN EXPLORATION OF LGBTQ+ HISTORY AT UNION COLLEGE

Inaugural Ruth Anne Evans Research Fellow, Gabriella Baratier '25, completed their term as an independent researcher in Special Collections and Archives this summer. Their research interest, guided by Jennifer Mitchell '04, Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Mellon Leadership Fellow and Associate Professor of English, was on past experiences of LGBTQ+ students, staff and faculty while they were at Union College. Gabby found the process of pulling together disparate materials in the college archives "truly exhilarating" and plans to continue their research over the next two years to help, "...Special Collections acquire more papers and materials from the LGBTQ+ identifying individuals, conduct oral histories and expand the scope of our work." The exhibition, "An Exploration of LGBTQ+ History at Union College," currently on view in Beuth Atrium in Schaffer Library, is their capstone research project. See more information and an accompanying digital exhibition at the [Digital Collections @ Union website](#).

UPDATES FROM THE PERMANENT COLLECTION & EXHIBITIONS

TEACHING ARTWORKS AY23-24 IN THE MANDEVILLE GALLERY AND SCHAFFER LIBRARY

On View: September 2023 – June 2024

This academic year, the Mandeville Gallery, and locations in Schaffer Library will display artworks requested by Union College professors for use in teaching. Many of these artworks are recent additions to the College's Permanent Collection, a term used to describe the collection of art that the College has amassed over its more than 200-year history.

In recent years, the Permanent Collection has focused on acquiring modern and contemporary works of art that can be integrated within established academic curricula to give students and faculty opportunities to engage in object-based learning and make connections across disciplines. Such artworks feature historical, cultural, scientific, artistic, and political concepts that can be used in the classroom to expound learning methodologies, theories, histories, and philosophies. Engaging students with thought-provoking works of art serves to broaden knowledge of other cultures, increases critical thinking and historical empathy, and sparks creativity. When students observe art objects first-hand, the learning experience is amplified.

Please contact Sarah Mottalini (mottalis@union.edu) for more information about how to request artworks for instruction and independent study. Further details may be found at union.edu/gallery by clicking "About" under the "Permanent Collection" tab.



Chitra Ganesh, Sultana's Dream: City in Broad Daylight, 2018, linocut on BFK Rives, ed. 4/35, 20 1/8 x 16 1/8 inches, printed and published by Durham Press, purchase of the Union College Permanent Collection, 2019.17.4 UCPC, © Chitra Ganesh and Durham Press, image courtesy of Durham Press

COMING SOON! PERMANENT COLLECTION DATABASE ACCESS THROUGH ARCHES

With the help and expertise of the Schaffer Library's Content and Digital Library Systems department, the entire Permanent Collection will soon be available for faculty, students, and scholars to browse online using ARCHES. Stay tuned for an email blast when the site is ready to view!