Top Shelf The Newsletter of the Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library

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Tupac Amaru Shakur Collection Opens



On September 13, 2011, the AUC Woodruff Library announced the opening of the Tupac Amaru Shakur Collection.

Born in East Harlem, New

York, Shakur first came to prominence in the early 1990s as a featured rapper for the vocal group Digital Underground and went on to become one of the most significant cultural icons of the hip hop generation. Prior to his untimely death at the age of 25, Shakur released five record albums and appeared in four motion pictures. Ten albums, numerous compilations and four feature films have been released posthumously, including *Tupac: Resurrection*, which received an Academy Award nomination for "Best Documentary (Feature)" in 2005.

Spanning a period from 1969 to 2008, the collection includes song lyrics, poems, track lists and video treatments, as well as manuscripts by Shakur family members

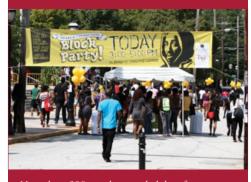
and members of the rap groups Dramacydal and the Outlawz. Memorabilia, correspondence to and from Shakur, fan mail, media clippings and publicity materials are also included.

The Shakur Collection represents a partnership between the AUC Woodruff Library, Amaru Entertainment, Inc., and the Tupac Amaru Shakur Foundation to make the manuscript writings and other papers of Shakur available for scholarly research.

"We're honored to preserve the artistic legacy of Tupac Shakur through this collection. He transformed the landscape of hip hop culture and was one of the most compelling voices and talents of his generation," said Loretta Parham, CEO and Library Director. "Our Library has rich archives of primary resources, and the addition of the Shakur Collection has gained the interest of students across the AUC schools. We're finding that excitement surrounding Tupac's materials encourages students to participate in undergraduate research, and the Shakur Collection also serves as an entryway for them to explore the other collections in the Archives Research Center."

For inquiries about how to access the collection for research, e-mail **archives@auctr.edu** or call 404.978.2052.

As part of the announcement of the Tupac Amaru Shakur Collection's opening, the AUC Woodruff Library held a block party on September 13, 2011, for AUC students and faculty to celebrate Shakur's life and work. Sekyiwa Shakur, Tupac Shakur's sister, spoke at the event, encouraging AUC students to stay on path and earn their degrees.



More than 300 people attended the afternoon celebration, which included free food and drink as well as raffle giveaways of prizes.

Photo credit: Oscar Daniel

Explore the Legend of John Brown

The travelling display Jacob Lawrence and The Legend of John Brown is on exhibit at the AUC Woodruff Library through November 18. Comprised of twenty-two digital images of silkscreen artwork, the exhibit presents an artistic narrative on the radical abolitionist John Brown's historic raid on Harpers Ferry, Virginia, in 1859. The travelling exhibit was created by the Wayne State University Library Systems in collaboration with the Wayne State Art Collection and generously funded by the Detroit Area Library Network.

In addition to featuring powerful artwork of Jacob Lawrence's *John Brown* series,

the exhibit panels provide a descriptive overview of Lawrence's life and career; and John Brown's life and involvement in the struggle to end slavery in the United States. Also on display and complementing the exhibit are select publications and original correspondence from the Archives Research Center's John Brown Collection.

AUC faculty members interested in student assignment opportunities can visit http://research.auctr.edu/JacobLawrence. For more information about the display or to schedule a tour, contact askref@auctr.edu or call 404.978.2067.



Lawrence, J. No. 15 in The Legend of John Brown series. 1977. Washington State Arts Commission. The piece depicts Brown organizing the raid on Harpers Ferry. Artwork courtesy of Francine Seders Gallery.

Library Presents AUC Faculty in Video Series

The AUC Woodruff Library is hosting an exciting new video series showcasing the latest scholarly work of Atlanta University Center (AUC) faculty and staff. The AUC Authors Series, produced by librarians Brad Ost and Daniel Le, features engaging and informative author interviews that cover a diversity of topics across academic disciplines.

Interviews have included Clark Atlanta University's Dr. Abi Awomolo discussing her book, *Wanna B Prez? 10 Life Strategies from President Barack Obama's Journey to the White House*; Morehouse College's Dr. Duane M. Jackson on his awardwinning article, "Recall and the Serial Position Effect;" the Interdenominational Theological Center's Dr. L.H. Whelchel, Jr. addressing his most current work, *The History and Heritage of African-American Churches: A Way Out of No Way*; and Spelman College's Dr. Tarshia Stanley sharing insights from her book *The Encyclopedia of Hip Hop Literature*.

"The series really allows the Woodruff Library and faculty to collaborate in a substantive way, and we're able to showcase the great scholarship happening here at the AUC," said Ost. "The interviews are fascinating, and you're hearing this fascinating information from the experts in the fields."

Le added, "We're excited about the AUC Author Series because we're doing our jobs as librarians – providing a good resource for information. The response has been overwhelmingly positive."

Ost and Le produce the videos using a number of technology resources at the Woodruff Library, such as Camtasia, a screen video capture and editing software that is available in the Library's presentation studios. Currently, Ost and Le have completed fourteen author interview videos. Since the AUC Author Series debuted in June 2011, the videos have received more than 1,000 views collectively.

Loretta Parham, CEO and Library Director, is pleased by the series' success and how it has helped the Library engage with the scholarly community at the AUC. "This new series represents another way in which we support the educational missions of the AUC schools and encourages academic collaboration between the Library and faculty," said Parham. "It also provides a unique opportunity for our librarians to demonstrate their skill and creativity in other areas in which you traditionally might not expect."

To view the AUC Author Series, visit http://research.auctr.edu/aucauthors.

The books of authors who appear in the series can also be found in a special section of the Library's Browsing Collection, located on the building's main level. AUC faculty or staff with a work published within the past two years and who are interested in being featured in the AUC Author Series should contact their subject librarian to schedule an interview.



Brad Ost (left) and Daniel Le (far right) greet Dr. James T. Gillam, History professor at Spelman College who discussed his latest book, Life and Death in the Central Highlands: An American Sergeant in the Vietnam War, 1968-1970.

Archives Research Center Hosts GAI Interns

In June 2011, the Archives Research Center hosted two interns from the Georgia Archives Institute (GAI), which is one of four archives institutes in the country. The Institute's internship is an intensive two-week program that provides instruction in basic archival functions, including arrangement, description, and preservation of documentary materials. Attendees participate in a three-day practicum at a participating organization and earn a certificate upon completion.

Deborah Tritt, Instruction and Reference Librarian at the University of South Carolina-Aiken, and Cheryl Peltier-Davis, Associate Cataloging Librarian at Nova Southeastern University's Alvin Sherman Library, Research, and Information Technology Center, worked in the Archives Research Center on the Major J. Jones Papers. Jones was a faculty member at the Gammon Theological Seminary and a chaplain at the Atlanta University Center.



Interns Cheryl Peltier-Davis (left) and Deborah Tritt (right) process materials in the Archives Research Center.

The interns processed Jones' materials and entered data into the Archivist Toolkit, which is an archival data management system. Both Tritt and Peltier-Davis found the internship rewarding and educational.

"I really enjoyed being able to apply the theory learned at the GAI. Hands-on experience with archival materials really helped make what we learned in the classroom click," said Tritt.

"The three days of internship at the Woodruff Library were very instructive with in-depth coverage of all the areas beneficial to entry-level archivists," added Peltier-Davis. "I enjoyed this experience as it provided practical reinforcement of the theoretical work provided during week one of the Archives Institute."

Woodruff Library's Archives Research Center has served as host to several GAI interns for more than six years. "We're very pleased to participate and hope to do so every year," said Courtney Chartier, Assistant Head of the Archives Research Center. "It also allows us to contribute back to the community at large."

Events and Happenings



Dr. Hassimi O. Maiga delivered a lecture on the Timbuktu manuscripts and Gao manuscript project at the Nile Valley Conference II.

Nile Valley Conference II: From the Nile to the Niger to the Mississippi

Held September 20-24, 2011 at the AUC Woodruff Library and Morehouse College, the Nile Valley Conference II: From the Nile to the Niger to the Mississippi brought together an international community of scholars who presented groundbreaking research on Nile Valley civilizations. The conference was held in commemoration of renowned Pan-African scholar Dr. Asa Grant Hilliard, III. A publication of the conference proceedings as well as a video will be available for distribution at a later date. For more information, visit www.thenilevalleyconference.org.



Conference participants engage in a stretching activity during a storytelling workshop. Photo credit: Travis Tatum.

National Black Women's Life Balance and Wellness Conference

The AUC Woodruff Library hosted the inaugural National Black Women's Life Balance and Wellness Conference on July 15-17, 2011. In addition to speakers who addressed the emotional, spiritual, and physical impact of the strong black woman stereotype, the conference included workshops on meditation, weight loss, family-career balance, mentorship, stress management, job searches, and much more. The second conference will be held in summer 2012. For more details, visit www.lifebalanceconference.com.



Sixty library directors from academic institutions across the country attended the annual Oberlin Group Library Directors' meeting. Photo credit: Oscar Daniel.

2011 Oberlin Group Library Directors' Annual Meeting

The AUC Woodruff Library and Agnes Scott College jointly hosted the Oberlin Group Library Directors' Annual Meeting on October 6- 8, 2011. The Oberlin Group is a consortium representing 80 prestigious liberal arts colleges that convene annually to discuss library issues of common concern, share information on best practices in library operations and services, explore ways to collaborate in resource sharing, and establish communities of practice. To learn more, visit **www.oberlingroup.org**.

Save the Date

National Gaming Day 2011

On Saturday, November 12, 2011, the AUC Woodruff Library will celebrate National Gaming Day with free activities and food to give students a well-deserved break from studying. Students are invited to come to the Library from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and enjoy Wii games, board games, card games, and improv games. This is the Library's second

year participating in the event which is celebrated by thousands of libraries across the country. Encouraging students to engage with libraries in a different way, National Gaming Day promotes the social, educational and recreational value of games. For more information, contact askref@auctr.edu.

Collaboration Meets Technology with TeamSpot

At the AUC Woodruff Library, the days of students having to huddle around a single computer screen for group work are gone. In select group study rooms, the Library offers TeamSpot, a software program that allows people to collaboratively create documents, develop presentations, share files, and research information online all in real-time. TeamSpot is a product developed by Tidebreak, Inc.

Through TeamSpot, each group member connects his or her personal laptops to

a central main screen located on the study room's wall. Each collaborator can then instantly and simultaneously make changes to a single document that can be seen on the central screen. Documents such as images, PDFs, and spreadsheets can also be sent from one's personal laptop to the laptops of other group members. In addition, TeamSpot users can also surf the Web and share websites on the central screen. For more information or to reserve a TeamSpot study room, stop by the Information Services Center.



Brainstorming and group work is made easy with TeamSpot.

Fall 2011 Library Hours

Regular Building Hours

Monday – Thursday 7:30 AM–Midnight*
Friday 7:30 AM–6:00 PM*
Saturday Noon–6:00 PM
Sunday Noon–Midnight
*The Service Desk opens at 8:00 AM.

Archives Research Center Hours

Monday – Thursday 1:00–7:00 PM Friday 1:00–5:00 PM Saturday Noon–5:00 PM Sunday CLOSED

Extended Library Hours

Final Exam Period

Monday, November 28 – Friday, December 2 (Begins 7:30 AM on Monday; ends Midnight on Friday)

Saturday, December 4 Noon-Midnight

Sunday, December 4 – Friday, December 9 (Begins Noon on Sunday; ends 6:00 PM on Friday)

NOTE: Service Desk hours are 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. during the 24-hour exam period extended library hours.

Valid AUC ID is required for entry.

Remote access to the AUC Woodruff Library website and its electronic resources is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Visit **www.auctr.edu**.

Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library

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Library Acquires Papers of Pan-African Scholar Dr. Asa G. Hilliard, III

The AUC Woodruff Library recently acquired the papers of Dr. Asa G. Hilliard, III, a world-renowned Pan-Africanist educator, historian, and psychologist.

In his distinguished career, Dr. Hilliard served on the faculty at San Francisco State University for eighteen years. During that time, he was department chair for two years, the dean of the School of Education for eight years, and a consultant to the Peace Corps and Superintendent of Schools in Monrovia, Liberia for six years. Later, he became a Fuller E. Callaway Professor of Urban Education at Georgia State University, with joint appointments in the Department of Educational Policy Studies and the Department of Educational Psychology and Special Education, where he served for thirty years.

Throughout his life, he consulted with many of the leading school districts, universities, government agencies, and private corporations on valid assessment, curriculum equity and teacher training. Several of his programs in pluralistic curriculum, assessment, and valid teaching have become national models. He was also the author of more than 1,000 publications on topics including testing, ancient African and African American history, African cultural power, teaching strategies, public policy, cultural styles, and child growth and development.

Donated by his wife, Patsy Jo Hilliard, and their children, the Asa G. Hilliard, III Collection will provide public access



Scan this QR Code with your smart phone to hear from Atlanta University Center students on what

makes Woodruff a great library! If you do not have a code-reader app or a smart phone, you can visit **www.auctr.edu/greatlibrary** to view the video.



The scholarly work of Dr. Asa G. Hilliard, III remains influential across diverse disciplines. Photo courtesy of Asa G. Hilliard, III Family.

to Dr. Hilliard's scholarly research, writings, and correspondence. Archivists will begin organizing and describing nearly 70 boxes of documents, subject files, photographs, and audio-visual materials that have been added to the Woodruff Library's Archives Research Center.

"I'm excited about the collection of my husband's work," said Mrs. Hilliard. "I couldn't think of a better place for it to be. The Woodruff Library is a special kind of academic library where people can come and learn about all these wonderful people who have made such important contributions to the world. I'm particularly happy that soon students will have access to much of the information, research and writings that my husband devoted most of his life compiling."



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