



The Value in Visiting Archives

Recently The King Center made select papers of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. publicly available for viewing online. It is exciting that scholars can conveniently see Dr. King's correspondence, manuscripts, and speeches on their personal computer screens; however, the value of visiting archives and libraries holding the primary resources of treasured collections cannot be overstated.

Archivists teach scholars how to use a collection, an educational component that is somewhat lost in the virtual experience. Of particular note are trained archivists and the important roles they play in helping on-site visitors navigate a collection. In the expert hands of an archivist, records of our past are transformed, and history is given meaning and brought to life. The Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library houses the Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. Collection, and the benefit of researching primary resources on-site in an academic environment can be seen here.

Five years ago, Dr. King's papers were rescued from Sotheby's auction block through a purchase on behalf of his alma mater, Morehouse College. A generous grant to the AUC Woodruff Library from The Andrew Mellon Foundation supported the processing and digitization of the King materials. The Mellon Foundation also supported the processing of the Boston



Located on the upper level of the AUC Woodruff Library, the Archives Research Center is a place of rich history and intellectual discovery.

University King Collection, donated by Dr. King himself in 1964. The Morehouse College and Boston University collections add to the vast amount of Martin Luther King Jr. materials held at The King Center and managed by the King Estate.

At the AUC Woodruff Library, the teaching and scholarship of the King Collection is actively promoted. Archivists in the Library's Archives Research Center deliver instruction sessions on the King Collection for the general public as well as assist college and high school educators in developing curriculum. Encouraging the engagement of the collection in such manner honors and continues the legacy of Dr. King, who was himself a devoted scholar and educator.

Researchers who visit the Archives Research Center will find in addition to the King Collection, other rich collections related to the civil rights movement, including the

Voter Education Project and Atlanta Student Movement Collections. Since many historical papers like the Voter Education Project are not accessible for viewing online, discovering the depth and breadth of what is offered can only be done in person.

As technology continues to offer scholars new paths for access to information, the convenience of one method should not outweigh the immense benefits of another. Archives represent a people's collective history—a record of their stories, their voices, their identities—and students and scholars are fortunate in that they can explore this history online or by stepping through a door of an archival institution.

Contact 404.978.2052 or archives@aucr.edu for more information on the King Collection and the Library's additional archival collections.



The Reading Room offers Archives Research Center visitors a comfortable and quiet space to conduct scholarly research.

Camtasia Studio Puts Users in Production Booth



Camtasia Studio makes it simple to create effective video presentations. Photo credit: Oscar Daniel

In today's multimedia educational environment, Atlanta University Center (AUC) students and faculty often need to create videos for presentations and lectures. In its Technology Design Studio located on the main level, the AUC Woodruff Library offers Camtasia Studio, a video capture and editing software published by TechSmith. As one of many technologies enhancing teaching and learning that the Library provides, Camtasia Studio allows users to easily:

- capture a computer screen for real-time demonstrations;

- upload and edit existing videos;
- record PowerPoint presentations; and
- convert finished projects into shareable formats, such as YouTube videos.

In addition to giving projects a polished, studio-quality look, with Camtasia Studio, students and faculty can add informative narration, eye-catching visuals, and smooth transitions to any raw video. The software is currently available on the computers in the Library's presentation practice rooms, which require a scheduled reservation. For more information, contact 404.978.2010 or visit the Technology Design Studio.

Michael Jackson Exhibit Opens: A Conversation with the Artist

When people hear the name Michael Jackson, everyone has a different perspective of what they think he was like. This sense of familiarity of knowing “MJ” is the result of his status as a global superstar who spent his lifetime in the public eye. Deeply ingrained in pop culture’s collective consciousness, we have seen his face on countless magazine covers, watched his dance moves in music videos, and listened to his distinctive voice on the radio and our iPods. The level of fame Jackson reached is unquantifiable. He was everywhere but always remained an enigma. The line between the artist and the man continues to be blurred even after his death in June 2009.



Dr. Amaki views one of two display cases featuring Michael Jackson materials loaned to the Library from her personal collection. Photo credit: Oscar Daniel

In her photography and mixed media series *MJ: In Blue Terms, Images and Impressions* currently on display at the AUC Woodruff Library, artist Dr. Amalia Amaki seeks to lift the veil on the music icon and share a side of him few people know. Currently a professor of Modern and Contemporary Art at the University of Alabama, Dr. Amaki previously taught at the University of Delaware, North Georgia College and State University, and Spelman College. Her friendship with Jackson and her respect for his talent inform the series, and she recently spoke to the AUC Woodruff Library about her exhibit.

What was the inspiration for your *MJ: In Blue Terms, Images and Impressions* series?

“I did the series to say thank you...to initiate a dialogue about my appreciation

of his uniqueness, his obedience, and his rare ability to love in the face of hatred, anger, and contempt.”

What was your friendship like with Jackson?

“What I experienced was a *real* person, not a fabrication or collection of imagined ideas. I cannot find the words to express what this is like and do not believe I would elaborate if I could, because I feel there is an opportunity for anyone seriously interested with pure motives to make their own discoveries. I feel honored and obliged to speak visually about him because that is my first language.”

What do you want viewers of your exhibit to discover?

“Something they have not tapped into before. I hope that they examine whatever clues speak to them personally about the fact of him as a person – a human being – and not the idea of him as icon, megastar, or larger than life phenomenon because while he was these things and more, a critical part of the “more” involves his humanity, his sameness to us, and his right to be seen as such. Understanding that, despite his complexities, appearances, and seeming contradictions, there is a man embedded in this narrative and its corresponding iconography that navigated a magnificent, spiritual life that, I believe, now allows him to know unfettered peace.”

Could you address what current projects on which you’re working?

“I’m working on additional pieces for inclusion in the *MJ: In Blue Terms, Images and Impressions* series. I’m also working on a second artist book about



Dr. Amaki embraces students who won prizes at the Library’s opening celebration of her art exhibit. Photo credit: Oscar Daniel



Artist Dr. Amalia Amaki’s work has been shown throughout the world. Other Amaki series include mixed media quilts celebrating the lives of African American singers. Photo credit: Oscar Daniel

incredible trees that will financially support A Million Trees for Michael, a nonprofit organization/project honoring his concerns for the Earth that I am closely affiliated with. Another project I’m undertaking is a book related to his work, placing it in historical perspective.”

You recently generously donated books to the AUC Woodruff Library from the Paul R. Jones Collection of African American Art of which you are the former curator. What value do you believe the collection holds for scholars and students?

“Great archives are rapidly becoming the true treasure troves of our history and culture. Books, to me, remain invaluable tangible sources of information and inspiration for students and scholars and I am extremely pleased that the Library could become the caretaker of titles from the Paul R. Jones Archive given its clear mission and rich history.”

MJ: In Blue Terms, Images and Impressions is on display through May 31, 2012 in the Woodruff Gallery on the lower level of the Library.



Artist Speaks Series

Dr. Amalia Amaki discusses her art exhibit celebrating Michael Jackson.

Mellon Grant Supports Recruitment of Tomorrow's Library Leaders

Students at six Historically Black Colleges and Universities are learning about all the diverse career opportunities in the field of librarianship and archives that await them.

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation awarded a grant to the AUC Woodruff Library to implement a two-year project to help address a projected serious national shortage of degreed librarians, with a specific focus on improving diversity by increasing the number of underrepresented groups in the profession, particularly African Americans. The project, entitled "Recruiting Tomorrow's Library Leaders," builds on a previously Mellon-funded consortial library internship program.

"Recruiting Tomorrow's Library Leaders" is targeted toward recruiting undergraduates and providing them with a hands-on immersive educational experience. Components of the project include opportunities for mentoring, internships, field experience, and a summer leadership institute. The objective is to encourage participants to pursue graduate studies in library science and leadership positions in the profession.

"We're approaching a critical crossroads that could determine the future of the library field. Effective leadership will be pivotal. Fortunately, the talent is out there, but the challenge is in reaching undergraduates and having them recognize the library profession as a viable and rewarding career option," said



Mellon interns listen intently during one of the internship program's instructional sessions.

Loretta Parham, CEO and Library Director of the AUC Woodruff Library. "We were pleased to receive the Mellon Foundation's generous support in recruiting and nurturing the next generation of librarians."

Undergraduates from Clark Atlanta University, Morehouse College, and Spelman College were competitively selected for Mellon library internships, as were students from Bennett College, Dillard University, and Johnson C. Smith University, the participating partner institutions in the project. Carolyn Hart, Assistant Director of Planning, Assessment and Communications at the AUC Woodruff Library is principal investigator on the "Recruiting Tomorrow's Library Leaders," and Neely Terrell, a former Mellon library intern, is project coordinator.

"The innovative curriculum developed by the Library staff has been the catalyst for student engagement and excitement

about librarianship and archives," says Hart. "The students have been fully participating and sharing their internship experiences through blogging and formal assessment."

Recruitment for interns for the second year of the "Recruiting Tomorrow's Library Leaders" project will begin in fall 2012. For more information, contact Carolyn Hart at chart@aucr.edu.

Save the Date

Shakur Collection Conference

The AUC Robert W. Woodruff Library and the Tupac Amaru Shakur Foundation present the Tupac Amaru Shakur Collection Conference: "Hip Hop, Education, and Expanding the Archival Imagination." This two-day academic conference convenes scholars, educators, and students to present papers on themes related to the life and works of Tupac Shakur, education, and Hip Hop culture more broadly. Submission deadline for abstracts is April 23, 2012. The conference will be held at the AUC Woodruff Library in Atlanta, Georgia. Visit <http://research.aucr.edu/ShakurConference> or e-mail ShakurConference@aucr.edu for more information.

National Black Women's Life Balance and Wellness Conference

The Second Annual National Black Women's Life Balance and Wellness Conference will be held on July 13 through July 15, 2012 at the Atlanta University Center. The conference's theme this year is "Without Apology: Free and Balanced." Featured panels and presentations will explore work-life balance, healthy lifestyles, mothering, relationships, career development, and more. Presentation proposals are now being accepted. Registration is currently open; early-bird, student, and group rates are available. For more information, visit www.lifebalanceconference.com or e-mail lifebalanceconference@gmail.com.



The Mellon interns from the Atlanta University Center schools represent a diversity of undergraduate majors. Select interns will be embarking on a four-week summer field experience in librarianship and archives at prestigious institutions such as the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian Institution.

Library Building Hours

Spring 2012

Regular Library 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

Archives Research Center access is by appointment only and must be made one business day in advance.

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

Summer 2012

Regular Library Hours

Monday – Thursday	7:30 AM–10:00 PM*
Friday	7:30 AM–5:00 PM*
Saturday	Noon–6:00 PM
Sunday	2:00–10:00 PM

*The Service Desk opens at 8:00 AM.

Archives Research Center Hours

Monday – Thursday	2:00–6:00 PM
Friday	1:00–5:00 PM
Saturday & Sunday	CLOSED

Valid AUC ID is required for entry to the building.

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.

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Event Celebrates Maynard Jackson's Legacy



Head of Archives Research Center Andrea Jackson (far left) with the "Legacy Keepers" host committee. Photo credit: Horace Henry

On February 15, 2012, approximately 200 people visited the AUC Woodruff Library for the event "Legacy Keepers: A Tribute to Maynard Jackson" and to view *The People's Mayor: Maynard Jackson and the Politics of Transformation* traveling exhibit. The event was hosted by an organization for young professionals.

Speakers Daniel Halpern, Rodney Strong, and Eugene McDuffy shared personal stories about their relationships with Mayor Jackson and encouraged the next leaders to be as bold and dynamic as Jackson. Strong and Duffy, also recalled their involvement in planning a 1973 mock trial as Morehouse College freshmen at the time and working on Mayor Jackson's campaign. The mock trial was hosted by UMBA (University Movement for Black Unity) and students and faculty throughout the Atlanta University Center (AUC) participated to gauge which African American candidate they would support for mayor of Atlanta. Jackson won with more than 80 percent of the vote. The flyer was a part of the exhibit at AUC Woodruff Library, and is included in the Maynard Jackson Mayoral Administrative Records archival collection, which is housed in the Library's Archives Research Center.

"Many of the young professionals in attendance at the 'Legacy Keepers' event were moved by the passion, determination, commitment, and leadership Mayor Maynard Jackson brought forth to transform our great city of Atlanta," said Andrea Jackson, head of Archives Research Center. "The

speakers – Jackson's mentees – empowered us to promote the legacy of greatness set forth by him and others. Attendees, and others, are welcome to research within the Maynard Jackson Mayoral Administrative Records to learn more about his trailblazing administration."

Dr. Constance Carter, Mayor Jackson's sister, and her family were in attendance, along with several officials from the City of Atlanta. Several AUC alumni also attended and remarked how impressed they were to see the transformation of the Library.

Visit <http://vimeo.com/37231467> to view the event video *Legacy Keepers: A Tribute to The People's Mayor Maynard Jackson*.

Hosting the Traveling Exhibition

The People's Mayor: Maynard Jackson and the Politics of Transformation traveling exhibition is currently available for loan to eligible schools and organizations.

To request information on hosting the traveling exhibition, contact 404.978.2052 or archives@auctr.edu.



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