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

Fall 2013 Volume 9, No. 2

ARCHIVES RESEARCEICEM



Inaugural Seeking to Tell a Story Exhibit

On October 18, 2013, the AUC Woodruff Library celebrated the opening of the inaugural Seeking to Tell a Story: Political Action from Slavery to Civil Rights, an exhibit featuring materials from several collections housed in AUC Woodruff Library's Archives Research Center — including the Atlanta Student Movement Collection and the Mary Ann Smith Wilson - Ruby Doris Smith Robinson Collection on Student Activism. Also on display are cartoons from the Maurice Pennington Political Cartoon Collection, currently on loan to the Library. The exhibit showcases the 1960s Atlanta Student Movement through photographs, flyers, news clippings, political cartoons, and correspondence. The exhibit is part of a five-year initiative to collect, display, and share the Atlanta Student Movement story.

A special public program was held the day the exhibit opened to mark the occasion. Rev. Dr. Otis Moss, III, pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, served as the keynote speaker and was introduced by his father Rev. Dr. Otis Moss, Jr., pastor of Olivet Institutional Baptist Church in Cleveland. Other distinguished speakers included Atlanta's Mayor Kasim Reed, Atlanta City Councilman, Michael Julian Bond, Executive Director of the Atlanta University Center Consortium Dr. Sherry Turner, and alumni of the Atlanta Student Movement - Mr. Lonnie King,

Judge Brenda Cole, and Mr. Johnny Parham. There were more than 250 attendees at the program during which all of speakers touched on the historical significance of the exhibit and collection as well as the importance of continuing the legacy of black political action today.

"We're very excited to open this powerful exhibit honoring the Atlanta Student Movement and black civil rights in the nation," said Loretta Parham, CEO & Library Director. "It is our hope that people visit and view the exhibit both in person and online. We also encourage scholars and educators to research the archival collection. The value in history is not just in its preservation but also in its use."

"I am so glad that we will have a forum to tell Atlantans and the world about the thousands

of young students who were matriculating in the Atlanta University Center in the 1960s and took actions that impacted the United States and beyond," said Mr. Lonnie King, founding chairman of the Atlanta Student Movement. "These students, along with courageous adults, changed the most important city in the South through non-violent means. The ramifications of the change can be seen in the election of African Americans as mayors. congressmen, members of the Georgia legislature, and an assortment of elected officials in metropolitan Atlanta. The sacrifices of these young people in the

1960s, laid the foundation for political, social and economic development for the entire region and the state of Georgia."

The exhibit will be on display outside the Archives Research Center on the Library's upper level through December, 13, 2013. An expanded companion digital exhibit offers viewing of materials from the period of slavery up to the 1960s, and is accessible at http://digitalexhibits.auctr.edu. Contact archives@auctr.edu or 404.978.2052 to learn more.



(From left to right): Mr. Lonnie King, Founding Chairman of Atlanta Student Movement (ASM); Judge Brenda Cole, ASM alum; Johnny Parham, ASM alum; and Loretta Parham, CEO & Library Director. Photo credit: AUC Woodruff Library



Mary Ann Smith at Davison lunch counter with unidentified student, 1960, Mary Ann Smith Wilson-Ruby Doris Smith Robinson Collection on Student Activism. © Archives Research Center, AUC Woodruff Library

Visitors view materials on display in the Seeking to Tell a Story: Political Action from Slavery to Civil Rights exhibit. Photo credit: AUC Woodruff Library

Exhibit Displays the Art of Quilting

On October 20, the AUC Woodruff Library opened the 2013 Brown Sugar Stitchers Quilt Exhibit. Celebrating creativity and artistry in quilt making, the exhibit features more than 75 beautifully patterned contemporary, traditional, and art quilts. Reflecting a diversity of themes, each quilt tells a unique story.

The quilts on display are created by members of the Brown Sugar Stitchers Quilt Guild of Atlanta, Georgia. Founded in 2000 by Jocelyn Carter and Nancy Franklin, the Guild was born out of the vision of bringing together other African American quilters who share a love of what some call art and others call a craft. The Guild is now a diverse group of more than 45 quilters from all over the metro Atlanta area with varying quilting skills, techniques and interests. The Guild has presented several successful quilt shows and has participated in activities with the National Black Arts Festival. the Georgia Quilt show, the Atlanta History Center, the Fernbank Museum of Natural History, Lucy Craft Laney Museum, the Norcross Arts Center, and more.

"The quilts on display are absolute treasures," said Loretta Parham, CEO & Library Director. "When you view them, you see not only the



impressive skill and hard work that went into creating them but also the genuine love and care."

"We're pleased to host our 2013 show at the AUC Woodruff Library," said Jeanette Walton, President of the Brown Sugar Stitchers Quilt Guild. "Throughout the Library, striking quilts are shown which reflect the breadth and depth of quilting, from art quilts to traditional quilts. Woodruff is the perfect place to showcase our quilts because they complement and add to an

already vibrant environment." The exhibit is free and open to the public on display through May 2014. To learn more

on display through May 2014. To learn more about the Brown Sugar Stitchers Guild visit, www.facebook.com/BrownSugarStitchers.

Celebrating the Chautauqua Circle

September 8, 2013 marked the 100th anniversary of the first meeting of the Chautauqua Circle, an Atlanta-area African American women's literary society. Henrietta Curtis Porter, the founder of the Circle, based the organization on the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle in Chautauqua, New York. While the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle is a four-year program, the ladies of the Chautauqua Circle wanted to make learning a lifelong experience so they agreed to meet on a monthly basis. For each meeting, the women would research a topic of interest or related to particular themes and write essays to present at the meeting. Over

the course of the organization's history, the presentations gave way to guest speakers who present on their area of expertise. These speakers have included Clarence A. Bacote, Wiley A. Branton, Aurelia Brazeal, and Pearl Cleage Lomax.

The AUC Woodruff Library's Archives Research Center is home to the Chautauqua Circle Collection, which opened for research to the public in March 1999. The Collection documents programs and members of the Chautauqua Circle, through minutes and reports, correspondence, scrapbooks, photographs and other materials.

During this anniversary year, the Chautauqua Circle is reconnecting with its history through the Collection. Since February, several members have visited the Archives Research Center to research and write their history, under the leadership of President Marilyn Holmes. The members have written a brief history of the organization, compiled a list of officers and themes from the past twentyfive years and created a book of profiles of current and former members. During their anniversary luncheon, they graciously presented the AUC Woodruff Library with a donation for continued preservation of their collection. Additionally, the Chautauqua Circle met at the Library for their October meeting featuring speakers Andrea Jackson, Head of Archives Research Center, and Allison Galloup, Processing Archivist, providing information about preservation of their collection, as well as best tips for preserving family records.

When the research was finished, Ms. Wynelle Scott, a member of the Circle, decided to

volunteer with the Archives Research Center. Thus far, she has helped create exhibits for the 100th anniversary Chautauqua Circle luncheon and for Archives. She will be returning in the coming weeks to help archivists wrap up collections that are currently being processed and will be helping with upcoming additions to the Chautauqua Circle collection.

Contact **archives@auctr.edu** or 404.978.2052 to learn more.



(From left to right): Archives Research Center Head Andrea Jackson, Chautauqua Circle members Marilyn Holmes, Faye Tate and Wynelle Scott, and Processing Archivist Allison Galloup. Photo credit: AUC Woodruff Library

We have a new look!

The AUC Woodruff Library has launched its new website. The redesigned website greatly improves navigation, making the site more user friendly for AUC students, faculty and staff. In addition to prioritizing the Library's most-requested services and resources, the website is more visually appealing with a clean layout that has more photos and color. "Our goal with the redesign was to provide AUC students and faculty with a virtual space that would be an extension of our physical learning and research environment," said Loretta Parham, CEO & Library Director. The Library's website redesign was a nine-month project outsourced to an Atlanta firm and managed by librarians and staff.



(Right) The desktop and mobile versions of the new AUC Woodruff Library website.

AUC Alumni Artists Showcased

Organized and hosted by the AUC Woodruff Library, the AUC Alumni Artists Exhibit features the work of thirteen selected artists who have graduated from an Atlanta University Center school. Bringing together these alumni artists from across schools and across generations for the first time in a single presentation, the exhibit offers a unique opportunity to view the impressive talents of each artist while experiencing the collective power of their creative expression.

The artwork presented is provocative and engaging, weaving together diverse narrative threads to produce a stunning showcase of visual storytelling. Using a variety of materials and reflecting a range of artistic styles, the alumni artists' works explore themes such as Black maleness, ornamentation, Social/ cultural identity and self, survival, journaling, fragmentation, and the human form. Artist Amalia Amaki curated the exhibit.

The AUC Alumni Artists Exhibit is borne out of the Library's Knowledge & Arts Initiative. A rotating installation of works by local and national artists throughout the Library, the Knowledge & Arts Initiative seeks to promote student ownership of the Library, convey the human experience, and inspire student thought and conversations.

The exhibit is located in the Library's Exhibition Hall and will be on display through July 31, 2014.

AUC Alumni Artists

Xavier Daniels, Morehouse College Tina Dunkley, Atlanta University Derek Fordjour, Morehouse College Kojo Griffin, Morehouse College Ross Oscar Knight, Morehouse College M. Akua McDaniel, Spelman College Aimee Miller, Spelman College Althea Murphy-Price, Spelman College Duhirwe Rushemeza, Spelman College Jessica Scott-Felder, Spelman College Freddie Styles, Morris Brown College Dante Yarbrough, Clark Atlanta University Ron Young, Clark College

Preserving the Legacy: HBCU Past Presidents Oral History Project

The AUC Woodruff Library has completed of an oral history project documenting the experiences and administrative contributions of living former presidents of HBCUs. The materials produced from the project—video interviews and an accompanying book titled The Politics of Success: An HBCU Leadership Paradigm—are free and now available to the public. The project was funded by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Eighteen former presidents of HBCUs participated in the project, including Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole (Spelman and Bennett Colleges), Dr. Samuel DuBois Cook (Dillard University), Dr. Nathaniel R. Jackson (Mary Holmes College), and Dr. Joseph B. Johnson (Grambling State University and Talledega College). In roundtable discussions and individual interviews, the presidents converse about issues of American higher education within the context of the HBCU experience and the unique educational value HBCUs provide. Discussion topics include qualities of leadership, institutional mission, governance, fundraising, and issues of gender, race, and national educational policies. The companion book authored by Dr. Barbara R. Hatton, former president of South Carolina State University and Knoxville College, with preface by Loretta Parham, CEO & Director of the AUC Woodruff Library, offers an overview of the development of HBCUs since their inception in the 1860s and the challenges the leaders of these institutions have overcome. Karen Jefferson, records manager at the AUC Woodruff Library, served as the project coordinator and editor.

"It is our hope that these documented conversations will promote additional study of the leadership of HBCUs and that they will generate greater interest in sustaining and preserving the exceptional and necessary legacy of the HBCU and those that lead them," said Loretta Parham. "There is much to gain



(From left to right): Dr. Nathaniel R. Jackson, Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole, Dr. Samuel D. Jolley, Jr., Dr. Barbara R. Hatton, Dr. Samuel Tucker, Dr. Thomas W. Cole, Jr. and Dr. Burnett Joiner participate in a roundtable discussion. Photo Credit: AUC Woodruff Library

from the dialogue of those leaders who in the past and today, despite the odds, produce results contributing to a great society and provide evidence of the value of HBCUs."

The video interviews and a digital copy of *The Politics of Success: An HBCU Leadership Paradigm* are accessible at http://digitalcommons.auctr.edu/hbcupres.



Library Building Hours Fall 2013

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 Information Services Center 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 P
Sunday	CLOSED

Extended Library Hours Final Exam Period

Monday, December 2 – Friday, December 6 (Begins 7:30 AM on Monday; Ends Midnight on Friday)

Saturday, December 7 Noon – Midnight

Sunday, December 8 – Friday, December 13 (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 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**.

Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library

111 James P. Brawley Drive, SW Atlanta, GA 30314 Phone: 404.978.2000 Fax: 404.577.5158 www.auctr.edu

Top Shelf is published twice a year for Library patrons. CEO & Library Director: Loretta Parham Communications Manager & Editor: Nicholyn Hutchinson nhutchinson@auctr.edu

aucwoodrufflib

aucwoodrufflib aucshuttle

Meet Our Newest Member: The VGO Robot

This fall semester, the AUC Woodruff Library debuted its newest staff member – a robot! VGO is a mobile telepresence robot that allows the operator to see, hear, and speak from a remote location. AUC students first met VGO during orientation; the robot was met with a little curiosity and a lot of excitement.

The Library's E-Learning Technologies Unit is exploring ways to implement creative uses of this new technology to enhance the Library's resources and improve its services for patrons. Reference librarians may use VGO to virtually answer questions in the stacks located on the upper level of the building while they continue to physically staff the Information Services Center and Research Consultation Center. Using the robot to provide tours of the Library's physical space is another anticipated application.

"VGO represents an innovative use of technology that breaks traditional models in library services," said Emy Decker, head of E-Learning Technologies Unit. "It also allows us to attract and engage this technology-savvy generation of students."

Two Center for Integrating Technology & Teaching student interns Keith Freeman (Morehouse College) and Esther Moji Olayinka (Clark Atlanta University) have been assisting the E-Learning Technologies Unit in determining different ways the robot can assist library patrons.

A "Name that Robot" contest was held in early October for VGO, with Christina Stanley, a



Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library

TAKE LIBRARY SURVEY. YOU COULD WIN A PRIZE!







With Sparkmore, the VGO robot, from left to right): Ann'Drea Burns, Library Technical Assistant; Moji Olayinka, Center for Integrating Technology & Teaching (CITT) student intern; Christina Stanley, Spelman biology major; Emy Decker, Head of E-Learning Technologies Unit; Keith Freeman, CITT student intern; and Oscar Daniel, Library Technical Assistant. Photo credit: AUC Woodruff Library/Oscar Daniel

biology major at Spelman College, winning with her submission of "Sparkmore."

"Sparkmore is a cool little robot with a lot of potential. It will be interesting to see in what capacity it will serve this Library and its users this school year," said Freeman.

"I'm really excited for the new member of the Woodruff library. I can't wait to see and hear all the comments and reactions from the students," added Olayinka.

As it rolls through the building during scheduled times throughout the week, Sparkmore is sure to become as familiar a face to AUC Woodruff Library patrons as our librarians. Contact **edecker@auctr.edu** for questions about Sparkmore.



Woodi Café

Stop by the Woodi Café where you can enjoy coffee, baked goods, sandwiches and more. Located on the main level.

Hours Monday – Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Saturday & Sunday: Closed

404.978.2134