

2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT

New Hires & Promotions

New faces! New positions! Our people are what make every single thing in this report possible. Meet our new employees, and join us in congratulating everyone who was promoted this year.

Sophia Pressler, Library Information Specialist, Circulation (New hire)

Ariel Newman, Student Services and Reference Librarian, Law Library (New hire)

Aubrey Kobayashi, Digital Projects Fellow, Digital Projects (New hire)

Luke Scheil, Senior Library Information Specialist Student Supervisor, Circulation (Promotion)

Olivia Kays, Library Fellow, Teaching & Learning (New hire)

Stuart Hinds, Librarian III (Promotion)

Coryell Deege, University Archives Assistant, University Archives (New hire)

Robin Sommer, Library Associate, Interlibrary Loan (Promotion)

Laura Theel, Library Information Specialist, Health Sciences Library (new hire)

Marie Thompson, Librarian III (Promotion)

Lisa Gooden, Circulation and Operations Librarian, Law Library (New hire)

Cynthia Flanagan, Librarian II (Promotion)

Nikki L'Amour, Library Information Specialist, Marr Sound Archives (New hire)

Tracy Hughes, Librarian III (Promotion)

Brenda Linares, Associate Dean of Library Services, Services and Resources Division (New hire)

Paul Wagner, Library Information Specialist, Senior Supervisor, Circulation (Promotion)

Lindy Smith, Librarian III (Promotion)

Christie Webb, Senior Library Information Specialist, Interlibrary Loan (New hire)

Mardi Mahaffy, Librarian IV (Promotion)

Kelly McEniry, Library Associate, (Promotion)

Library Student Workers

Yasaswini Allaparthi

Seth N. Hofheins

Marion (Seven) Murray

Nikathyasmeen Shaik

Sai Sharmila Bonam

Hadley Jarvis

Datta Teja (DT) Nalluri

Julia Smith

Abbie D. Brown	Jasmin Joy	Cameron L. Nollman	Sai Mrudula Reddy Sodam
Chandana Burremukku	Daniel (Max) Koehn	Joseph O. Olaoye	Fabiola Sore
Ranga Reddy Chaparapu	Justin M. Kraus	Mavis Parks	Prathyusha Swarna
Sraawya Chintala	Jeffrey Leafblad	Khushi B. Patel	James L. Taylor
Ian Y. Chung	Colin A. Levins	Vishnuvardhani Pinnareddy	Brandon S. Thibodeau
Wei Dai	Srinivas Gowtham	Sai Teja Pulluri	Varalaxmi Thota
Gwendolyn N. DeLaney	Majeti	Mohamed B. Refaat	Olivia Unseth
Marie L. Gallardo	Shreya K. Menon	Grace (Gray) Robison	Sree Ganesh Vaidya
Luke P. Gilbreth	Hanad A. Mire	Katilyn Sanders	Brianna S. York
Mahipal Reddy Gumireddy	De'onna Moore	Melanie J. Rodriguez	Xu Zheng
	Abhinay Reddy Mothe	Diaz	

Gratitude For This Year's Supporting Gifts

The libraries received \$267,153 in gifts from 39 donors.

Special thanks to a \$251,142 gift from the Miller Nichols Charitable Foundation.

Scholarships & Awards

- *Friends of the Library 2023 Scholarship* - Mya Jones
- *Martha Jane Starr Library Research Award 2023* - Jessica Sapien
- *American Library Association Core PR XChange Award for born-digital 2021-2022 Annual Report* - UMKC Libraries
- *UMKC Libraries 2023 Living the Values Award* - Jeni Mills
- *2023 Chancellor's Award for Embracing Diversity* - Gail Williams, awarded posthumously
- *Clinical Medical Librarian Services Award from the Health Sciences Library Network-Kansas City* - Kristy Steigerwalt and Cindi Flanagan

- *2023 Emerging Leader, Network of the National Library of Medicine* - Brenda Linares
- *Rainbow Award (inaugural) from the Mid-America LGBT Chamber of Commerce for "outstanding impact on the LGBTQ+ community of Kansas City"* - Gay and Lesbian Archive of Mid-America (GLAMA)



Maya Jones, 2023 winner of the Friends of the Library Scholarship

Friends of the Library Scholarship Essay Quotes

"...UMKC Library has been and will continue to be a fundamental part of my academic success." – Taygan O.

"...The librarians at Miller Nichols were dependable, resourceful, and kind." – Mya J.

"The library...has played a major role in my degree progression and academic success." – Kristina E.

"The library has been the backbone of every research paper I submitted in college..." – Michelle D.

"For me, the UMKC library is more than just another building on campus – it is representative of the very heart of UMKC." – Daisy F.

Stories of the Year

Starr Women's Hall of Fame Internships

In addition to serving as the home of the [Starr Women's Hall of Fame](#), LaBudde Special Collections collects the papers and memorabilia of inductees and makes them available for research and study. The Hall of Fame recognizes extraordinary Kansas City women and preserves the history of their accomplishments as social reformers, volunteers, philanthropists, civic leaders, activists and educators. Access to and preservation of the inductees' collections is only possible after library staff appraise, organize, house, and describe the materials. To facilitate this labor-intensive work, the Starr Women's Hall of Fame Internships were created. This year our first intern, History graduate student Katy Anielak, made it possible for the LaBudde team to achieve considerable progress on processing a number of Starr collections. Thanks to the Internship, the LaBudde team will be better able to facilitate ongoing growth of collections connected to the Starr Women's Hall of Fame.

- Dorothy Johnson Collection: Processing completed by Dr. Anthony LaBat, Operations and Processing Associate
- Carol Marinovich Collection: Processing completed by Katy Anielak, SWHOF Intern
- Myra Christopher/Center for Practical Bioethics Collection: Processed by Katy Anielak, SWHOF Intern

- Lucille Bluford Collection & Martha Jane Starr Collection: “Starr Women’s Hall of Fame” designation added to online photograph collections by Garth Tardy, Metadata Librarian
- Linda Hood Talbott Collection & Marjorie Powell Allen Collection: Finding aid newly published online



Artwork from Megan Darley's exhibit, "Physica"

Student Art Exhibits Program

UMKC Libraries believe that public exhibits are an enriching and stimulating part of any community. For the first time ever, we began exhibiting artwork by UMKC students. Importantly, the Libraries' Student Art Exhibits Program is not just open to students in Fine Arts programs; any UMKC student can apply to show their creative or intellectual work in a library gallery, and we have dedicated the gallery spaces on the first floor of our main library and at the Health Sciences Library primarily for student exhibits. In our inaugural academic year, we hosted eight student art exhibits by students in degree programs ranging from education to foreign language to jazz studies.



Student workers in the Digital Collaboration Studio

Center for Digital and Public Humanities

After opening our new Digital Collaboration Studio on the third floor of the library in 2021, the university took the next step toward fully realizing the potential of the Studio space with the launch of a new Center. The purpose of the [Center for Digital and Public Humanities](#) is to provide resources to students, faculty, and staff as they develop digital and public humanities projects and conduct original research that integrates digital methods with creative work and scholarship; to offer a robust curriculum that provides students with opportunities for high-impact learning experiences and transferable skills that they can apply in the twenty-first century workforce; and to partner with the community in collaborative research and creative projects. The Center brings together our library's spaces and technologies with expertise from faculty across campus departments, giving digital humanities projects the support they need and setting a direction for this discipline at UMKC. The library will co-direct the Center, ensuring exciting changes to come.



Shining a Light Concert

This April 2023 concert was the inaugural Shining a Light Concert, during which UMKC students performed works from the library's Shining a Light Collection, created to highlight the works of 21st century composers from underrepresented groups.



Active Study Room

To support the physical and mental wellbeing of UMKC library users, we transformed a room formerly dominated by an enormous conference table into a new Active Study Room in the Health Sciences Library. It offers two treadmill desk stations and a standing desk, one of several placed throughout the library. Each low-speed Walkstation has an adjustable-height desk, allowing library users to walk while they read, study, write, or participate in an online class or meeting. The Active Study Room is on the south side of the Health Sciences Library, facing large windows overlooking the Health Sciences Campus quad.



Welcoming Our New Associate Dean of Library Services

Our new Associate Dean of Library Services, Brenda Linares, joined us in November 2022 and spent the year getting to know all of us – our library workers, departments, spaces, services, and resources – and diving into understanding our mission and values. The Associate Dean is primarily responsible for the operations of our Miller Nichols Library and Health Sciences Library, and provides leadership and oversight on the collections, teaching, learning and research mission of the libraries in support of the UMKC curriculum and research agenda. Every year is exciting around here – just look at this report! – but it was extra exciting for us to have Brenda's added voice on our library leadership team.

This Year's Numbers

- **473,301** Total library visits
- **261,370** Website page views
- **1,329** Database searches per day
- **14,790** Items borrowed through Interlibrary Loan
- **255,069** Unique page views for archival collections
- **5,429** One-on-one research consultations
- **371.848** Full-text article views