


Spring 2012

Criss Chronicles, Volume 2, Issue 2

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Dr. C.C. and Mabel L.

CRISS LIBRARY

FORWARD THINKING BEYOND BOOKS

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

SPRING 2012

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Visiting Artist

His medium, metal and book. His inspiration, a simple index card and a candy bar. Visiting artist, Kyle Carruthers created "Transformed" for his Sculpture 3410 class here at UNO, but the genesis for this project took place years ago before he ever stepped on campus.

Carruthers designed this piece to create the illusion of a wave pouring out of a book. He used a metal frame, covered with the pages of a book torn into strips.

"I wanted to manipulate the paper to give it fullness and volume," explained Carruthers.

He described how the original inspiration for this project started when one of his 8th-grade teachers handed him an index card and told him he could have a candy bar if he could fit his body through the card.

It was really supposed to be a math and problem solving exercise, said Carruthers. I've just always thought about things artistically.

After cutting the index card into connecting strips, sliding through the card and then enjoying his well-earned sweet treat, he marveled at how much more space the card now took up. It would be that same intrigue that would help him create his most current work.

"Transformed" is on display at Criss Library through Feb. 10.



Criss Chronicles Spring 2012

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From the Dean's Desk

Two Trillion Ways to Tie your Shoes



Sometimes the commonplace becomes extraordinary on closer examination. An act as simple as lacing your shoes can lead to a thoughtful examination of possibilities, a mathematical adventure, and a coveted publication credit in the scientific journal *Nature*. That's what happened when Burkard Polster sat staring at his shoes one morning at Australia's Monash University. It would make a better story if he was staring at his shoes in the Monash Library, but we can't be certain of that. What we can be certain of is that Burkard

saw amazing possibilities in the simple combination of twelve eyelets and one shoelace. His calculations can be summarized as follows:

- You can start with any of the twelve eyelets, from one of two directions – 24 possibilities in your very first action
- That leaves eleven eyelets, each possibly laced from two directions – 22 alternatives multiplied by the first 24 starting points, or 528 combinations
- Continuing to the last eyelet, you reach $24 \times 22 \times 20 \times 18 \times 16 \times 14 \times 12 \times 10 \times 8 \times 6 \times 4 \times 2$ or 1,961,990,553,600 ways to lace an ordinary shoe.

Imagine the possibilities then, when confronted with something as complex as Criss Library. You can begin using the library from any of several locations and directions. Once through that first "eyelet" the choices rapidly escalate towards the infinite. Books in the hundreds of thousands, journal articles in millions so numerous we've practically stopped counting, as well as data, media, and software are all available for exploration.

What can we do as librarians and educators to help researchers see the possibilities, appreciate the immense scope of the information world, yet remain undaunted and confident in pursuit of their goals? The simplest lacing patterns, and the simplest approaches to using the library, may not be the most practical or effective. Some very complex approaches work well, but may not be the best use of time for the researcher. Perhaps the key is to do as Burkard did – consider the full range of possibilities, then look at the practical needs of the user. Some would want to use the shortest possible laces, others would want to have the tightest possible fastening. (He, and others, explored these considerations in subsequent articles on the "best" ways to lace). By listening carefully to learners and researchers, we can help them find the most suitable and productive pathways.

It is fitting, I think, that of all the myriad shoe-lacing methods available, the one often considered most effective and efficient is known as the Criss Cross. Best wishes for a happy and productive year at Criss Library.

Resources:

Polster, B. "Mathematics - What is the best way to lace your shoes?" *Nature*, 420:6915 (Dec 5 2002)

Ian's Shoelace Site <http://www.fieggen.com/shoelace/index.htm>



A Conversation With...Jeff Kuskie, Electronic Resources Manager

Where are you from and what are you doing here?

Fremont, NE USA. Just here enjoying the good life.

What do you like most about Criss Library?

The environment and people I work with. All in all, it's a great place to work!

What is the last book you read?

Open Net – George Plimpton

If you were a super hero, what would your super power be, and why?

X-ray vision of course...

What are your hobbies?

Records, Books, Running, Hiking, Skiing

What is your Favorite Quote?

"Every moment is a golden one for him who has the vision to recognize it as such." ~ Henry Miller

Or "The dude abides" ~ Jeff Lebowski

If you could have dinner with anybody, past or present, who would it be and why?

Both of my Grandfathers. I never had the chance to meet them before they passed away.

If a book was written about you, what would the title be?

Flying Blind

If you could change your job title (or if you could pick any job title in the world, what would it be?), what would you change it to?

Chief Functionality Coordinator

What is your favorite place to eat?

Mercury Café – Denver, CO

What is your favorite color?

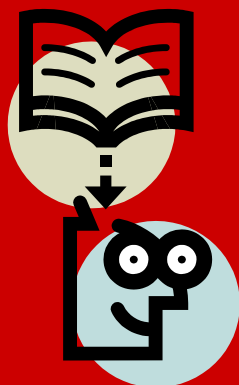
Green

Thanks, Jeff! Look for this regular feature and discover the people of Criss Library!

Focus on Resources

Melissa Cast-Brede,

Reference Librarian



Emily Kesten,

Reference Associate

Changes to ProQuest and CSA databases

If you accessed one of the ProQuest or CSA databases this semester, you discovered that they made some significant changes to their interface over the winter break. The databases were all owned by the same company who decided it was time to bring them all together under one new look. This change will be seen in numerous databases such as ABI-Inform, Physical Education Index, ERIC, Sociological Abstracts, Biological Sciences, the Historical New York Times, GeoRef and many others.

With the changes come new functions such as streamlined alert setups and RSS feeds. Faculty and students can now more easily save searches and individual articles with the My Research account service. *Refworks* users will be pleased to learn that articles saved to My Research will automatically be saved in their *Refworks* accounts.

Academic Streaming Videos Now Available

Starting this past fall, Criss Library is now providing access to over 10,000 streaming videos through Academic Video Online. From Alexander Street Press, Academic Video Online covers a wide variety of subjects from a numerous sources including filmed performances, documentaries, newsreels, field recordings, counseling sessions, raw footage and even some historical commercials such as presidential campaign ads.

Faculty and students will be able to stream the videos from on or off campus and can even make their own clips from the videos. The urls are static, so you can link directly to specific titles from Blackboard. Search results for the videos can be filtered by type of video, geography, people, year, and language.

Academic Videos Online can be accessed through the Criss Library A-Z database list from the library's home page.

Oxford English Dictionary

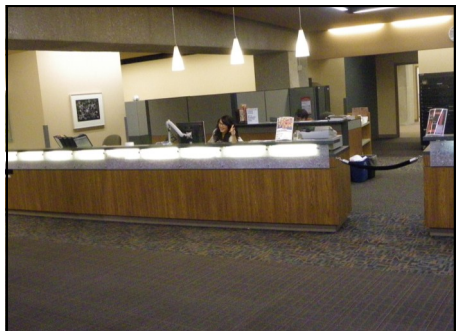
Wondering what is a nyctograph? You can find out in the Oxford English Dictionary – available online through Criss Library!

The online OED includes more than 600,000 words. While it focuses on current English meanings, each entry includes the etymology and history of each word and quotations in literature, film, periodicals. Users can search for a word, by timelines, language of origin, subject, region, and usage.

The OED can be accessed through the A-Z database list from the library's homepage.

Spaces

Criss Library Service Desks

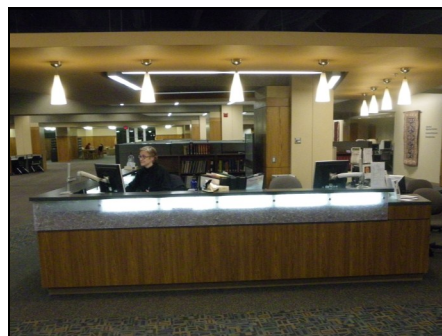


Circulation

Located on the 2nd floor near the main entrance, this is a great place to start if you've never been to the library. We can answer your general library questions, help you find a book, check items in/out on your account, get your class Reserve item, and tell you what's new at Criss.

Reference

Located on the 1st floor at the north end of the main staircase, this is the place to go to find out how Criss Library's vast collection can assist in your research. Whether you need to navigate our seemingly endless list of journals and databases or you're simply trying to refine your research topic, our Reference Associates and Librarians can help.



New Items

Kindle Fire & Touch



Now Available ...

UNO's Criss Library is proud to announce the arrival of the Kindle Fire and Kindle Touch to its collection. Both items are available to check out for a period of two weeks.

The Kindle Fire is an Amazon-based, Android tablet with a full-color display. It has access to Amazon's large collection of movies, TV shows, songs, magazines and books. The Kindle Touch is an e-reader with a full touch-screen interface.

To highlight the library's new e-Readers, "I am a Man": Chief Standing Bear's Journey for Justice", by Joe Starita – the 2012 One Book, One Nebraska – selection is now available on the library's Kindles.

Criss Library has hundreds of e-books for you to browse and they're looking to add more. If interested, stop by the library to request a title.



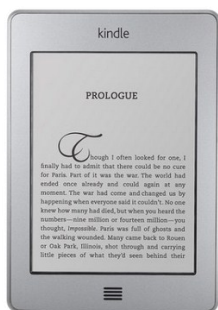
Criss Library by the Numbers

Information comes in many forms at Criss Library.

Kindles and iPads available for 2-week checkouts.

Laptops are available for 3 hours of library use only.

Cameras are available for 3-day checkout.



7 Kindles

4 are new Touches



1 Kindle Fire

5 iPads

2 MacBooks



20 Dell laptops

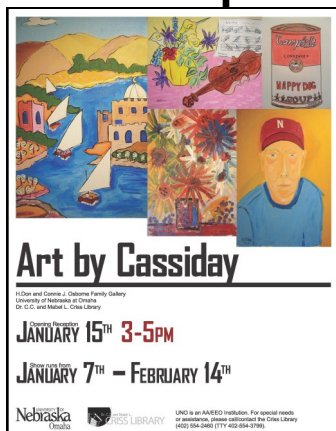
5 netbooks

4 digital camcorders

4 Sony Cybershots



Osborne Family Gallery



Art by Cassidy: an exhibit of Bud Cassidy paintings is on display in the Osborne Family Gallery through February 14, 2011.

Known for his watercolors and colorful acrylics, Cassidy has exhibited his works in several Omaha and Eastern Nebraska galleries. This exhibit features 67 original pieces as well as several examples of Cassidy's book cover art.

Coming Soon:

Unhung: Created by Design
Teonne Wright, Yvette Goodwin

From The Archives

This well-kept Phi Delta scrapbook offers a rare look into sorority life here at UNO in the 1930s and 1940s. Before personal computers and advanced design software, these sisters created hand-made invitations, flyers and advertisements. They kept a record of the important events and information of the time including engagement announcements, completed dance cards, and fundraising efforts and sorority dinners. In 1950, the Phi Deltas joined a national sorority, the Alpha Xi Delta, which is still active on campus today.

This, along with several other important historical collections are kept in the University Archives at Criss Library.



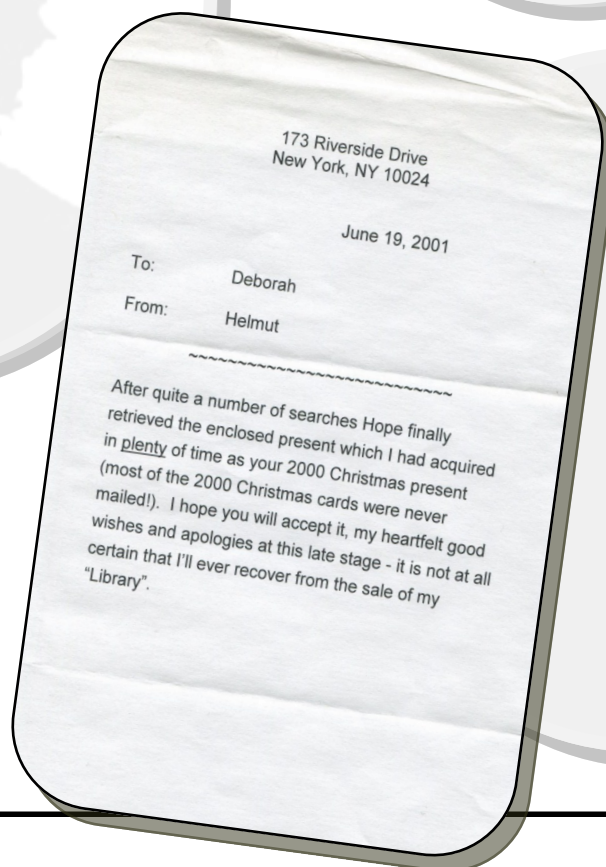
Guest Author ~ *Oliver B. Pollak*

Who are Helmut, Deborah and Hope?

An Ephemeramystery ©

A Saturday in October found me in the library selecting books for the Spring semester. I took a break and sat on the black leather chairs opposite circulation, next to the new book display. The distinctive binding and paper of *Women Bookbinders 1880-1920* by Marianne Tidcombe (Oak Knoll Books and British Library, 1996) reached out to me.

Read the complete unedited document [here](#).



January

- Now through Feb. 14 - Art by Cassiday - H. Don & Connie J. Osborne Family Gallery



February

- Feb. 14 - Valentine's Day and last day for Art by Cassiday
- Feb. 20 - Presidents Day

Osborne gallery:

Unhung: Created by Design

- Feb. 21 - Fat Tuesday/Mardi Gras
- Feb. 29 - Leap Year

February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5	6	7	1	2	3	4
12	13	14	8	9	10	11
19	20	21	15	16	17	18
26	27	28	22	23	24	25
			29			



March 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

March

- March 11 - Daylight Savings Time begins
- March 18-26 - Spring Break; no classes.

Library Hours: Sunday, March 18 - Noon to 9 p.m.

Monday-Thurs. March 19-22 - 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

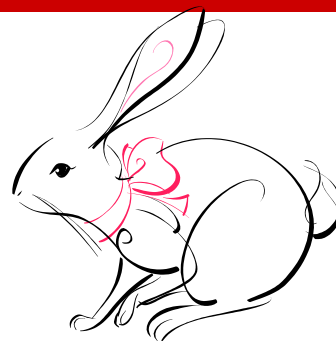
Friday March 23 - 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- March 20 - Spring begins
- March 30 - **Osborne Gallery:**

UNO Bachelor of Arts Student show

April

- April 8 - Easter
- April 17 - Income taxes due
- April 20 - 27 - Prep Week
- April 29 - Library hours: Noon to 1 a.m.
- April 30 - May 3 - Library hours: 7 a.m. to 1 a.m.



April 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



May

- May 1-3, Tuesday through Thursday - Library hours: 7 a.m. to 1 a.m.
- May 4-5 - Spring Commencement
- May 5 - Summer library hours begin:
 Sunday - Noon to 9 p.m.
 Monday-Thursday - 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
 Friday - 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Saturday - Noon to 5 p.m.

May 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



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FRIDAY 7:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
SATURDAY 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
SUNDAY 12:00 P.M. - 12:00 A.M.**

CONSULT WEBSITE FOR HOLIDAY HOURS

**6001 DODGE ST.
OMAHA, NE 68182
PHONE: 402-554-3206**



“It is fitting, I think, that of all the myriad shoe-lacing methods available, the one often considered most effective and efficient is known as the Criss Cross.”

~ Stephen Shorb