

The logo for USC Libraries, featuring the text "USC Libraries" in a serif font. The "USC" is in a dark red color, and "Libraries" is in a dark grey color. Above the text are four vertical decorative elements, each consisting of three horizontal stripes in shades of red, orange, and yellow, with a dashed vertical line passing through the center of each.

USC Libraries

# Annual Report



2024/2025

# USC Libraries

Accounting Library

Architecture & Fine Arts Library

Cinematic Arts Library

Doheny Memorial Library

East Asian Library

Education, Gerontology, &  
Social Work Library Services

Gaughan & Tiberti Business  
Library

Grand Avenue Library

Hoose Library of Philosophy

Leavey Library

Library for International  
& Public Affairs

Music Library

Norris Medical Library

ONE Archives

Science & Engineering Library

Special Collections

USC Digital Library

Wilson Dental Library

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## Fall 2025



I am proud of the work we do every year in our libraries to uplift the ambitions of our students, offer inspiring teaching and cultural programs, strengthen our university's research enterprise, and build meaningful connections across our university and beyond.

We've created our first USC Libraries annual impact report to share just a few of our highlights from the 2024-25 academic year.

In 2024, we celebrated the thirtieth birthday of the Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Library, which has supported the achievements of USC students since 1994. The library—affectionately called “Club Leavey” by USC students—also welcomed its 37 millionth visitor!

Leavey's innovative spirit—launched as a technology hub that brought library expertise to USC students and faculty in new ways—lives on today. Last year, USC librarians led 458 instruction sessions for 10,595 students. We created research guides and tutorials on the ethical use of generative AI for research papers and led workshops on how to use these tools responsibly and effectively.

Our USC Sidney Harman Academy and its Ahmanson Lab led thoughtful conversations for USC students on the philosophy of sound, the social impacts of AI, and numerous other topics. We built forward-looking resources for teaching and learning like the material sample library—which includes everything from banana fiber fabric to L.A. River terrazzo—at our USC Architecture and Fine Arts Library.

We also signed new transformative agreements that extend the reach of scholarship by USC researchers and worked closely with our peer university libraries in the Big Ten Academic Alliance (BTAA) to expand access to the 145 million volumes held by BTAA university libraries for USC students and researchers through initiatives like the BIG Collection.

We also drew upon our expertise and archival collections to tell important stories and contribute to the greater understanding of human experiences. Our USC Digital Repository collaborated with the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York on AI-powered interactive interviews allowing visitors to ask questions of Holocaust survivors. ONE Archives drew critical acclaim for its exhibition on LGBTQ+ communities and science-fiction fandom at the USC Fisher Museum of Art for the Getty Foundation's PST ART initiative.

The USC Libraries are able to deliver impactful services and pioneer new ways to engage and inspire our communities because of our dedicated library faculty and staff, our university leadership and campus partners, our Board of Councilors and library supporters, and our many collaborators.

Thank you for everything you do to ensure the success of the USC Libraries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melissa Just". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Melissa L. Just, MLIS, EdD

Dean and Holder of the Valerie and Ronald Sugar Dean's Chair



EXIT

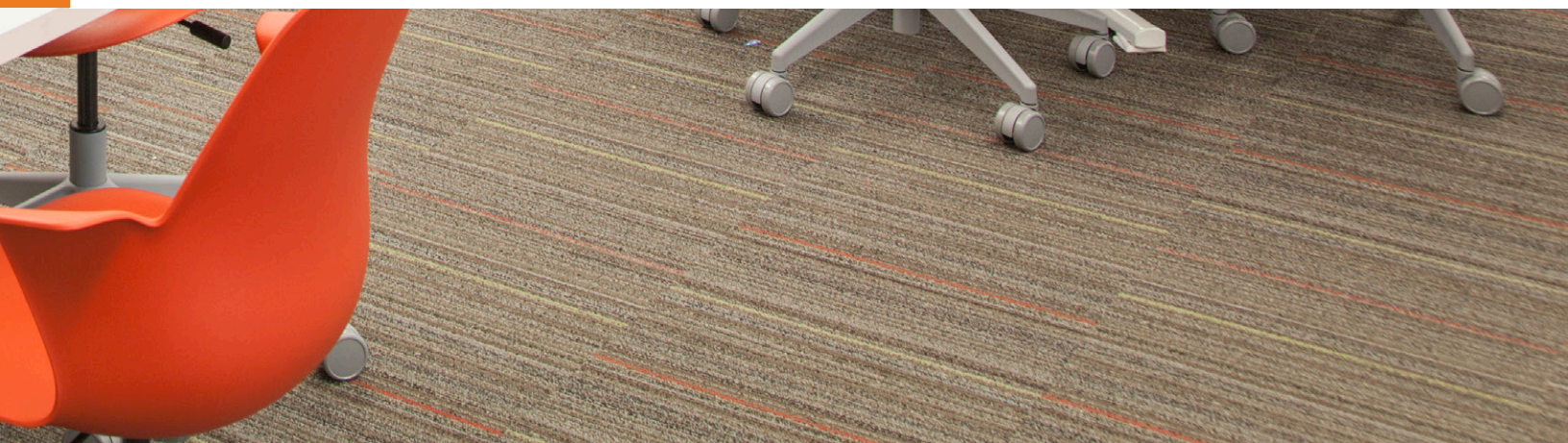
PRINT FROM SLIDE

World Map





# STUDENT SUCCESS





Miniature therapy horses at Norris Medical Library's Horses and Resources event

In May, we celebrated the induction of **twenty-two new USC Sidney Harman Academy for Polymathic Study fellows**. Headquartered on Doheny Memorial Library's second floor, the Academy brings students and eminent faculty together in conversations designed to integrate multiple fields of learning. Newly inducted fellow Isadora Swann '25 (Dramatic Arts, NGOs and Social Change) reflected: "The Academy has provided us a space to collaborate, be curious about one another's specialties and stretch our imaginations and hearts... May we all embrace the pillars of the academy: critical and integrative thinking, appreciation for the polymaths before us, the tapestry of humanity, and rich communication."

We hosted a wide range of successful outreach events last year, including **Horses and Resources** at Norris Medical Library and **Study On! programs** in December and May at Leavey Library. Our outreach programs featured pet (and horse!) therapy, wellness resources, and a USC Libraries-themed Monopoly board game.

Our librarians taught **458 in-person and virtual instruction sessions for 10,595 USC students** in 2024. Collaborating with instructors across the university, our library faculty taught subject-specific information literacy and research skills to graduate and undergraduate students in anthropology, business, engineering, gender studies, medieval art history, public health, writing, and everything in between. We also developed asynchronous digital learning modules, tutorials, and how-to guides for students in all disciplines at USC.

Our Science & Engineering Library head Cari Kaurloto developed **the Information Literacy: Navigating Digital Misinformation course** with USC Viterbi School of Engineering faculty member Helen Choi. Featured in *Inside Higher Ed*, the spring 2025 course



A Study On! event outside Leavey Library

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**Leavey Library recently welcomed its 37 millionth visitor in 2025.** Continuing the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, Leavey and other USC Libraries locations received 1.9 million visits during the 2023-24 academic year. Visits to our online resources were also robust—our *libraries.usc.edu* website drew 3.2 million visits, and we recorded 32.9 million searches in our online library databases. The USC Digital Library drew 17.2 million page views of its digital collections of archival photographs, documents, rare books, and other materials.

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helped USC engineering students critically engage with online information and build ethical, research-based strategies to address misinformation. Choi and Kaurlotto were awarded an interdisciplinary teaching grant to develop the course.

Our library faculty and staff are developing LibGuides, workshops, and other resources to **help USC students understand the ethical uses of generative AI tools** for their research papers and other class assignments. Each semester, our librarians lead workshops for students and faculty on how to use these tools effectively, and our Ahmanson Lab developed a thoughtful series of conversations for students on the social impacts of AI, disinformation in online spaces, and other technology topics.

In addition to their work at the libraries, our faculty and staff **teach classes in their areas of expertise for the USC Master of Management in Library and Information Science program** at USC Bovard College. Last year, our library faculty and staff also taught courses for students at the USC Dornsife College, USC Thornton School of Music, and USC Viterbi School of Engineering—as well as institutions outside USC such as the Art Center College of Design, Cal Poly Pomona’s College of Environmental Design, and UCLA’s California Rare Book School.



**37.6 million**  
Visitors to Leavey Library since it opened in 1994



**24,000**  
Participants in our Study On! programs since they were established



**32.9 million**  
FY23-24 searches in online library databases



**17.2 million**  
FY23-24 page views in the USC Digital Library

Our Ahmanson Lab—a part of the USC Sidney Harman Academy for Polymathic Study—**advanced its role as a campus hub for student innovation, creative technology, and interdisciplinary learning.** Through the Collaboratories program, students tackled real-world challenges from online misinformation to extremist rhetoric. The Lab also contributed to the Bunker Hill Refrain project, blending historical research with digital storytelling, and expanded its academic offerings with CORE 499: Simulation and Society, exploring XR, generative AI, and brain-computer interfaces. Workshops in Unity, UX design, and 3D printing also gave students hands-on experience with emerging tools.



Norris Medical Library **opened a Wellness and Reflection Room** to provide a quiet space for USC health sciences students to meditate, stretch, or just find a few moments to reduce stress. The room features a book collection, yoga mats, foam rollers, and other wellness resources, and it can be reserved online for up to an hour.

On April 29, we **honored the winners of the annual USC Libraries Research Award.** First prize in the graduate category went to Xiangyi Hou for “Becoming the King of Japan—Diplomatics Between Japan and other East Asian States, 1268–1368.” In the accompanying reflective essay, Hou noted how having access to Diaolong, a library database featuring more than 30,000 digitized classical texts from China and Japan, was instrumental in writing the paper. First prize in the undergraduate category went to Hudson Bishop Fey for “Disaster’s Silver Linings: Mineral King, Community, and Environmental Justice.” Fey thanked Special Collections librarians Suzanne Noruschat and

Derek Quezada for their help in navigating our Mineral King development records collection.

In 2023, Shannon Robinson, head of the USC Art and Architecture Library, began building **a material sample collection grounded in student research on sustainability** in art, design, and the built environment. With donations from regional and international makers, the collection now holds about twenty-five materials, including local wood, low-carbon concrete, banana fiber fabric, recycled plastic, cork, and terrazzo sourced from the Los Angeles River. Students contribute research, cataloging, and public-facing projects such as zines, ensuring that inquiry and practice develop together. The collection highlights the stories materials tell and their cultural, ecological, and scientific significance.

The annual **Dr. Clifton & Lois Dummett Research Award** recognizes dental students and residents at the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC who demonstrate exemplary research that addresses

social determinants of health, equitable access, and community health issues—and use the resources and services of the Wilson Dental Library. Dummett (1919–2011) taught dental history and led the community dentistry department at USC. An author, researcher, and civil rights leader, he focused on public, social, and community issues surrounding oral health—and the history of Black dentists in America. This year, the winners were Sheiva Hodjati, DDS '28, along with team members Parastoo Saljoughian (pre-dental) and Mehdi Mohammadi (faculty advisor) for their poster “Oral Health Disparities: DMFT Score Analysis of Unhoused vs. General Population.”

In 2024–2025, we awarded five students the USC Libraries **Summer Primary Source Research Fellowship in Sustainability Studies**. Established in 2023, the fellowships foster student engagement with our collections and support public-facing research at the intersection of history, gender studies, and sustainability studies. Our fellows advanced this mission through a range of projects. Sharon Salgado Martinez, Celia Woods, and David de Rozas presented their research on community activism and urban development in public talks at the USC Sustainability Hub in spring 2025. In addition, Halo Starling developed *Fairy Prince*, an exhibition and artist talk emerging from a year-long process of archival research that employed collage methodologies and trans aesthetic tactics. The exhibition was hosted by the ONE Archives.



2025 Dr. Clifton & Lois Dummett Research Award winner Sheiva Hodjati (left) with research team members Mehdi Mohammadi (center) and Parastoo Saljoughian (right)



USC Cinematic Arts PhD student and USC Libraries summer sustainability fellow Halo Starling (center) at the opening of his exhibition, *Fairy Prince*



**10,595**  
FY23-24 participants  
in library instruction  
sessions

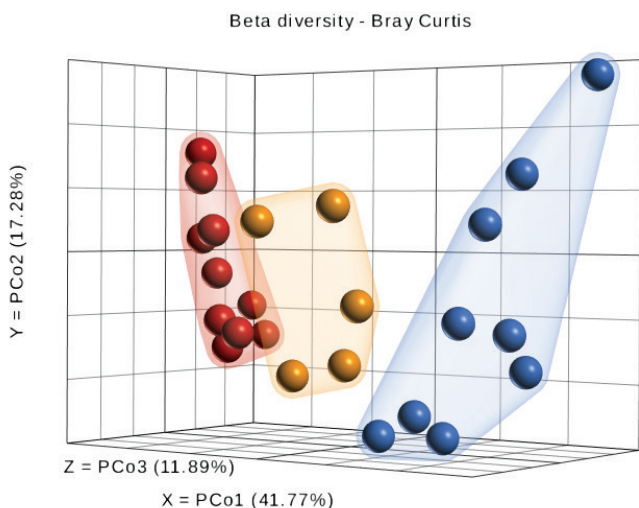


**3.1 million**  
FY23-24 visits to  
LibGuides created  
by USC librarians





SUPPORTING RESEARCH



An example of an output from bioinformatics software tools made available to USC researchers by the USC Libraries



**3.3 million**  
Items in the USC  
Digital Library



**\$2 million**  
Savings for USC authors  
from transformative  
agreements

We **entered into transformative agreements** with two academic publishers—Emerald Publishing and Oxford University Press—bringing the total number of such agreements to ten. Transformative agreements, or TAs, expand global access to USC research by allowing faculty to publish open access without paying article processing charges, while the libraries cover costs through negotiated subscription contracts. This model removes financial barriers for USC authors, makes their scholarship freely available to readers worldwide, and strengthens the university’s impact on research and discovery.

USC health sciences research and data librarian Dr. Jennifer Dinalo continued to offer **consultations and workshops to USC health sciences researchers** on data-related topics across the research lifecycle, including helping USC faculty and graduate students track and optimize their research impact. She generates impact reports for faculty showing their research outputs, collaborations, publications, citations, funding, and other key information. Dinalo

Since it was launched twenty years ago, our Bioinformatics Service has **provided consulting and specialized software to more than 3,800 USC researchers**—contributing to the publication of nine hundred research papers. In 2024, the team taught seven hundred USC students, faculty, and research staff through eleven workshops, credit-bearing classes, and orientation sessions. Our bioinformatics software tools were used by more than six hundred USC research projects and analyses in 2024 to process twenty-five terabytes of research data over more than sixty thousand computing hours.

completed a PhD in microbiology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center and held a post-doctoral fellowship at Stanford University, where she investigated the effects of the antibiotic tetracycline on the human microbiome. “I was particularly drawn to health sciences librarianship because of my training in biomedical research,” she said. “I saw an opportunity to support graduate students and researchers not just with literature searches, but also by providing a deeper understanding of their subject areas and the research process itself.”

Our East Asian Library’s **unique collection of Chinese commercial posters** was featured in a survey by Natsuko Tajima, curator of the Ome Municipal Museum of Art in Tokyo. In her survey, “Republican-Era Chinese Posters as Seen from the University of Southern California Library Collections,” Tajima analyzed the production techniques and other features of the collection to date the posters, which she believes were collected in present-day Indonesia or possibly along shipping routes linking the Indonesian island of Java with Keelung, Hong Kong, Singapore, and ports in Japan. The forty-three posters in the collection were recently digitized and made publicly accessible in the USC Digital Library thanks to a grant from the USC Office of Research & Innovation.



A 1921 poster from our East Asian Library’s collection of Chinese commercial posters



**2.9 million**  
Electronic books



**6 million**  
Total Volumes



**2 million**  
Items on LGBTQ+  
history at ONE  
Archives



**400,000**  
Streaming films,  
videos, and sound  
recordings

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Last year, **we joined the Big Ten Academic Alliance (BTAA)**. We're working closely with our peer libraries to expand access to the 145 million volumes held by nineteen BTAA university libraries for USC students, faculty, and staff through initiatives like the B1G Collection—which includes 25% of all print titles in North America.

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We collaborated with the USC Center for Excellence in Research to present **Open Access Week 2024**. Librarians Bridgid Fennell, Alyssa Resnick, and Jade Winn joined two panel discussions for the USC research community on open access journal publishing—including transformative and read and publish agreements—and open access book publishing.

Thanks to a generous grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the USC Digital Library published **a dataset tracing social, economic, and demographic changes** across Los Angeles County from 1950 to 2010. Created by historian Becky Nicolaides for her 2024 book, *The New Suburbia: How Diversity Remade Suburban Life in Los Angeles After 1945*, the dataset covers eighty-eight different L.A. communities and represents more than a decade of meticulous research. It offers a powerful tool for scholars to explore trends like rising housing costs and shifts in the demographics of homeownership.



**12,789**

**FY23-24 interlibrary loan requests filled for USC users**

In February, our partners at the USC Annenberg Charlotta Bass Journalism & Justice Lab, unveiled **two new Interactive Interviews with prominent voices for social justice**. These video-based conversations, developed by a team from the USC Libraries and USC Digital Repository, are the latest installments in the Bass Lab's Voices of a Movement: The Second Draft Project series. Using advances in video, display, and machine learning technologies, these two Interactive Interviews put users in direct conversation with civil rights attorney Lee Merritt and Philonise Floyd, the younger brother of George Floyd. Previous installments featured Dr. Ilyasah Shabazz, daughter of Malcolm X; and Lora King, daughter of Rodney King.



An Interactive Interview with civil rights attorney Lee Merritt is part of the latest installment in the Bass Lab's Voices of a Movement: The Second Draft Project series.



Graduate and undergraduate courses at USC often feature guest presentations by librarians like Andrew Justice, pictured here, on subject-specific information literacy and research skills.



Several of our librarians participated in Open Access Week 2024 programs.



Students learning how to conduct research with rare materials in Doheny Library's Special Collections.

## Selected Publications Using Library Collections and Services

### Biomedical Research

Youngjoo Lee et al., “Pharmacological inactivation of a non-canonical gp130 signaling arm attenuates chronic systemic inflammation and multimorbidity induced by a high-fat diet,” *Scientific Reports* 14 (2024).

Deepthi S. Rajendran Nair et al., “Extrinsic Electric Field Modulates Neuronal Development and Increases Photoreceptor Population in Retinal Organoids,” *Frontiers in Molecular Neuroscience* 18 (2024).

Dimitrios Pollalis et al., “Dynamics of MicroRNA Secreted via Extracellular Vesicles During the Maturation of Embryonic Stem Cell-derived Retinal Pigment Epithelium,” *Journal of Extracellular Biology* 3, no. 9 (2024).

Yonghwan Shin et al., “VprBP Regulates Osteoclast Differentiation via an Epigenetic Mechanism Involving Histone H2A Phosphorylation,” *Epigenetics & Chromatin* 17 (2024).

Andres Stucky et al., “Single-Cell Molecular Profiling of Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma Reveals Five Dysregulated Signaling Pathways Associated With Circulating Tumor Cells,” *Cancer Control* 31 (2024).

Ben Yi Tew et al., “Transcorneal Electrical Stimulation Restores DNA Methylation Changes in Retinal Degeneration,” *Frontiers in Molecular Neuroscience* 17 (2024).

Mingyi Zhang et al., “ARID1B Maintains Mesenchymal Stem Cell Quiescence via Inhibition of BCL11B-mediated Non-canonical Activin Signaling,” *Nature Communications* 15 (2024).

### Business

Patricia Dechow et al., “Media Attention and Event-Based Grouping of Stocks: An Examination of Stocks Hyped by Media Outlets as Benefiting from the Olympics,” *Management Science* 70, no. 8 (2024), 5157–86.

Ricardo Delao and Sean Myers, “Which Subjective Expectations Explain Asset

Prices?” *Review of Financial Studies* 37, no. 6 (2024), 1929–78.

John Eklund et al., “Attention Focus and New Opportunities: The Moderating Role of Managerial Attention to Alternative Issues,” *Organization Science* 36, no. 1 (2025), 21–39.



USC Marshall professor John Eklund and his co-authors drew on the Capital IQ database—available through the USC Libraries—to analyze corporate investments in distributed electricity generation. Access to this resource enabled the researchers to capture detailed data that supported their study of how managerial focus shapes strategic decision-making.

Matthew Shaffer, “Are Third-Party Fundamental Valuations Relevant in Public Company Takeovers?” *Management Science* 70, no. 9 (2024), 6356–73.

Richard Sloan and Annika Wang, “Predictable EPS Growth and the Performance of Value Investing,” *Review of Accounting Studies* 30, no. 1 (2025), 33–78.

### Cinema Studies

Samuel Garza Bernstein, *Cesar Romero: The Joker is Wild* (Lexington: Univ. Press of Kentucky, 2025).



In chronicling the life of actor Cesar Romero—best remembered as the Joker in the 1960s television series *Batman*—author Samuel Garza Bernstein depended on rare news clippings preserved in scrapbooks from our USC Cinematic Arts Library’s Cesar Romero papers. “The scrapbooks are particularly vital to tracking Romero’s professional life before his arrival in Hollywood,” Bernstein writes in his book’s introduction. “With vivid, colorful language in the vernacular of show business from almost a century ago, these articles reveal so much about Romero’s New York life as a dancer and stage actor.” Bernstein also notes that he’s “indebted to the...[library] staff, especially the inestimable Billy T. Smith and Sandra M. Garcia-Myers.”

Scott Eyman, *Joan Crawford: A Woman’s Face* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2025)

Stephen Rebello, *Criss-Cross: The Making of Hitchcock’s Dazzling Subversive Masterpiece Strangers on a Train* (Philadelphia: Running Press, 2025).

### Cultural Studies

*Everything at Once: Post-Modernity 1967–1992* (Munich: Hirmer, 2024).

## East Asian Studies

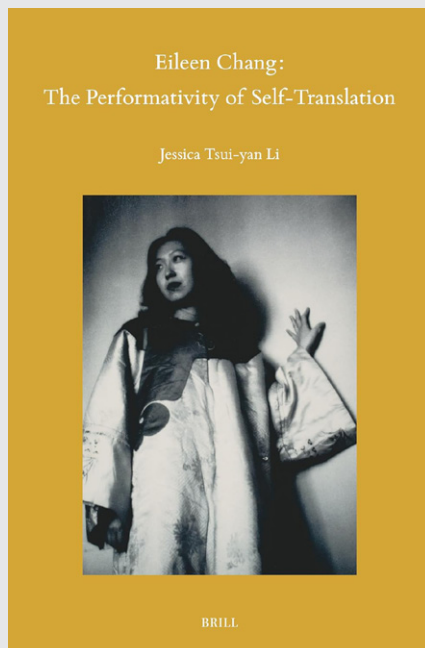
Ursula Deser Friedman, “Self-Translation as Method: Modern Sinophone Self-Translators and their Transmediated Afterlives,” PhD diss., UC Santa Barbara, 2024.

Ursula Deser Friedman, “Transwriting as Method: Eileen Chang’s ‘She Said Smiling’ (Xiangjian huan),” *Prism: Theory and Modern Chinese Literature* 22, no. 1 (March 2025).

Chanhee Heo, “Thy Kin-Dom Come: Imagining the First Christian Nation in the East,” PhD diss., Stanford University, 2025.

Lisa Kochinski, “Mugai Nyodai: The Woman Who Opened Zen Gates,” *Hualin International Journal of Buddhist Studies* (2025).

Jessica Tsui-yan Li, *Eileen Chang: The Performativity of Self-Translation* (Leiden: Brill, 2025).



Our East Asian Library is home to the papers of the Chinese-American writer Eileen Chang, whose works are considered among the most important Chinese literature of the 1940s. Author Jessica Tsui-yan Li, in her study of how Chang translated her own writings into English, drew heavily from the collection. Especially illuminating was a previously unknown English version of Chang’s short story “Xiang Jian Huan,” translated as “She Said Smiling,” which a patron discovered in Chang’s papers in 2017.

Yasuji Nagai, *Manshū supaisen hishi: kantōgun shōkōra no shōgen de semaru nomonhan jiken kara nisso sensō made* (Tokyo: Asahi Shimbun Shuppan, 2025).

Younghun Park, “The Depoliticization and the ‘Reconstruction Plan’ of Korean National Association of North America in 1958–1961,” *The Historical Journal* 90 (October 2024), 73–99.

Narae Seo, “Between a B.A. Generalist and an Expert: Challenges and Improvements in the Training Curriculum and Implementation of Peace Corps Health Auxiliary Program in Korea (1967–1970),” *Daehan Yisa Haghoeji* 34, no. 1 (2025), 121–50.

Paula Yoo, *Rising from the Ashes: Los Angeles, 1992: Edward Jae Song Lee, Latasha Harlins, Rodney King, and a City on Fire* (New York: Norton, 2024).

## LGBTQ+ Studies

Thomas R. Dunn, *The Pink Scar: How Nazi Persecution Shaped the Struggle for LGBTQ+ Rights* (Penn State Univ. Press, 2025).

Marie-Amélie George, *Family Matters: Queer Households and the Half-Century Struggle for Legal Recognition* (Cambridge Univ. Press, 2024).

Paul Martineau et al., *Queer Lens: A History of Photography* (Los Angeles: J. Paul Getty Museum, 2025).

Museum of Transgender Hirstory & Art, *Trans Hirstory in 99 Objects* (Munich: Hirmer, 2024).

David A. Reichard, *Here Are My People: LGBT College Student Organizing in California* (Athens: Univ. of Georgia Press, 2024).

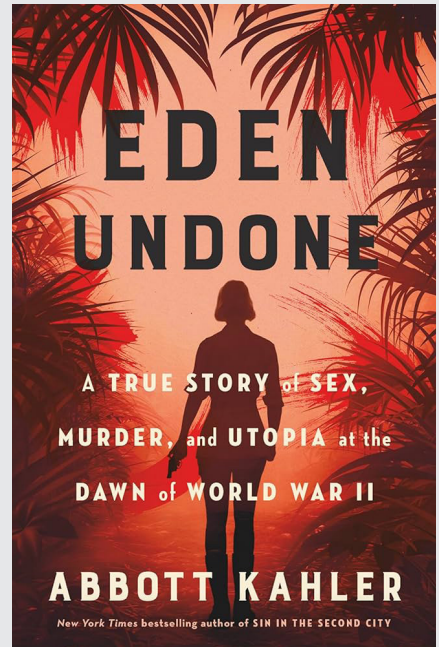
## Philosophy

Jonathan Strassfeld, “Reestablishing Phenomenology in America,” in *American Philosophy and the Intellectual Migration* (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2025).

Sander Verhaegh, “Introduction: American Philosophy and the Intellectual Migration,” in *American Philosophy and the Intellectual Migration* (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2025).

## Southern California History

Abbott Kahler, *Eden Undone: A True Story of Sex, Murder, and Utopia at the Dawn of World War II* (New York: Crown, 2024).



The stranger-than-fiction story of a Nietzschean utopian colony in the Galápagos Islands was first documented by Captain G. Allan Hancock, an explorer, scientist, and filmmaker whose archive is now part of our Special Collections. In her modern-day retelling, author Abbott Kahler relied on materials in the Allan Hancock Foundation Archive, which preserves not only memoirs by the colonists, but also film footage shot by Hancock and his film crew in 1934. She also drew heavily from a related collection of interviews and other research materials compiled by playwright Lorenzo DeStefano and donated to the USC Libraries Special Collections in 2020.

Amy Murphy, “Now Before Then: Ed Ruscha’s Streets of Los Angeles Project and the Anticipation of an Archive,” in *Ed Ruscha’s Streets of Los Angeles: Artist, Image, Archive, City* (Los Angeles: Getty Research Institute, 2025)

Becky M. Nicolaidis, *The New Suburbia: How Diversity Remade Suburban Life in Los Angeles after 1945* (New York: Oxford Univ. Press, 2024).

## Selected Employee Accomplishments



2025 Los Angeles Area Emmy Award winners Micaela Rodgers (left) and Anne-Marie Maxwell (right) with *Lost LA* director Matt Bass (center)

### Awards and professional achievements

**Nicolette Breski, Minyoung Chung, Joshua Hutchinson, and Junjiro Nakatomi** have become members of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging, a pilot project of Entity Management Cooperative—created to establish standards and best practices for other authority name registries, such as Wikidata, ISNI, WorldCat Entities, and VIAF.

**Olivia Carreón** was awarded the Medical Library Group of Southern California and Arizona Staff Excellence Award, which honors outstanding library staff in a health sciences library and recognizes the critical role and important contributions they make to the development and evolution of modern health sciences libraries and librarianship.

**Joseph Hawkins** celebrated twenty-five years of service to ONE Archives at the USC Libraries. Throughout his tenure as director of ONE, Hawkins helped to modernize and expand the largest collection of LGBTQ+ cultural materials in the world and launch ONE's highly regarded arts and cultural programs.

*Lost LA*, our co-production with PBS SoCal, received a Belva Davis American Scene Award from SAG-AFTRA; a Golden Mike Award from the Radio and Television News Association (RTNA) of Southern California;

and a Los Angeles Area Emmy Award from the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. The *Lost LA* production team includes **Bill Dotson, Nathan Masters, Anne-Marie Maxwell, and Micaela Rodgers.**

**Joy Kim** retired in September of 2024 after 39 years of service to the USC Korean Heritage Library (KHL). Kim played an integral role in establishing the KHL and building ties with prominent collections of Korean studies materials across North America and Korea-based cultural heritage institutions.

**Frances Lezcano and Louise Smith** held leadership positions for the USC Libraries in the USC Staff Assembly. At the close of the 2024-25 academic year, Lezcano was elected to succeed Smith and now holds Seat 23 in the Staff Assembly.

**Frances Lezcano and Jade Winn** were awarded \$2,900 from the Libraries Research Grant for their July 2024–June 2025 project entitled “Identifying Affordable and Open Learning Resources Initiative.” The purpose of this project was to establish a baseline for strategic acquisition and adoption of Open Educational Resources by comparing textbook adoptions with library holdings, identifying high-enrollment, high-cost courses, and collaborating with the textbook company Follet on funding opportunities.

The Jerry Brown Digitization project, a joint effort between the Digital Library and Digital Repository, saw 2,783 tapes in seventeen AV formats successfully digitized. **Zoë Nissen** and **Kelsey Raidt** created the metadata records for each asset before uploading to the Digital Library.

**Renee Rau** was accepted into the Medical Library Association Rising Stars leadership development program.

**Jennifer Silverman** was awarded the Medical Library Group of Southern California and Arizona Professional Development Award to attend the Medical Library Association's Annual Conference from April 29–May 2, 2025.

**Christal Young** was selected as a 2024 Leadership and Career Development Program (LCDP) Fellow. The LCDP is a thirteen-month fellowship under the auspices of the Association of Research Libraries, which aims to create a community of leaders in research libraries and archives. The program builds upon the existing knowledge and skills of the fellows while encouraging critical exploration of fellows' individual awareness and attitudes as well as facilitating fellows' development and advancement of their leadership goals.



Olivia Carreón, 2024 recipient of the Medical Library Group of Southern California and Arizona Staff Excellence Award



*Sci-fi, Magick, Queer L.A.: Sexual Science and the Imagi-Nation* was on display at the USC Fisher Museum of Art from August 2024 to March 2025.

## Exhibitions

*Robert Andy Coombs: No Content Warning* (June–September 2024), ONE Archives. Curated by Cyle Metzger and Alexis Bard Johnson with assistance from Quetzal Arévalo.

*Sci-fi, Magick, Queer L.A.: Sexual Science and the Imagi-Nation* (August 2024–March 2025), USC Fisher Museum of Art, part of *PST Art: Art and Science Collide presented by the Getty*. Curated by Alexis Bard Johnson and Kelly Filreis with assistance from Quetzal Arévalo.

*Spectral Science: Visions of the World Beyond* (October 2024–June 2025), Doheny Library. Curated by Tyson Gaskill, Franziska Kohlt, Derek Christian Quezada Meneses, Anne-Marie Maxwell, and Micaela Rodgers.

*Portrait of a Publisher as a Political Project: 30 Years of Kaya Press and Kaya Micro Operas: Alternatives to Archiving* (February–May 2025), ONE Archives. Curated by Kays Press, Alexis Bard Johnson, and Quetzal Arévalo.

*Pioneering Women of Ukraine* (March–September 2025), Doheny Library. Organized by Tyson Gaskill, Sophie Lesinska and Anne-Marie Maxwell.

*Walk in Memory—Echoes of March 1st, 1919: A Personal Journey Through the March 1st Movement and Its Diasporic Legacy* (March–September 2025), East Asian Library. Curated by Jungeun Hong and Sunyoung Park with assistance from Tyson Gaskill, Anne-Marie Maxwell, and Micaela Rodgers.

*Fairy Prince: A Solo Show by Halo Starling* (June–September 2025), ONE Archives. Curated by Alexis Bard Johnson and Quetzal Arévalo.

*The Space We Take: Portraits from the Archive* (June–December 2025), ONE Archives. Curated by Alexis Bard Johnson and Quetzal Arévalo.

## Presentations

**Stella Castillo** and members of L.A. as Subject presented “Sustainable Support: The L.A. as Subject Archives at Risk

Committee” at the Society of California Archivists Annual General Meeting, April 2–4, 2025.

**Taylor Dwyer** co-organized and moderated two panels at the 11th Conference of the International Feuchtwanger Society, held in London, September 12–14, 2024.

**Bridgid Fennell** presented “Disability Visibility: Making Inaccessible Digital Learning Materials Visible” at the California Conference on Library Instruction, May 30, 2025.

**Bridgid Fennell** presented “Take a Closer Look: The Efficacy of Dyslexia Typefaces” at Accessibility Summer Camp, June 13, 2025.

**Marta Golbano** and **Josh Hutchinson** presented on the panel “Cataloging Today, Tomorrow and Forever” at INFOCon, November 13–14, 2024.

**Alexis Bard Johnson**, participated in the “Looking for Lesbians” roundtable discussion at My Evidence: Creating LGBTQ+ Art and Archives, held in Amsterdam, October 3–4, 2024.

**Cari Kaurlot** co-taught “Information Literacy: Navigating Digital Misinformation,” which was featured in *Inside Higher Ed* (May 16, 2025).

**Frances Lezcano** presented “Libraries as Allies: Student-Led Advocacy for Textbook Affordability,” at the LOEX Conference held in Pasadena, May 16, 2025.

**Tang Li** presented the poster “Navigating the Sinophone World: Highlights from an Annotated Bibliography Project” and delivered a talk entitled “Beyond the Official Record: Exploring Republican China (1911–1949) Through Overseas Private Archives” at the Association for Asian Studies Conference, held in Columbus, Ohio, March 14, 2025.

**Susan Luftschein** presented “To Collect or Not to Collect: Archival Debt and Implications for 21st Century Collecting” at the Society of California Archivists Annual General Meeting, April 4, 2025, North Hollywood.

**Alyssa Resnick** presented “Unexpected Spending Reduction: Opportunistic Decision Making for Cancellations” at the Acquisitions Institute, Timberline Lodge, Oregon, May 19, 2025.

**Marje Schuetze-Coburn** presented “Feuchtwanger’s Publishing Network in Britain” at the 11th Conference of the International Feuchtwanger Society, held in London, September 12–14, 2024.

**Michaela Ullmann** presented “Felix Guggenheim: Literary Agent and Business Entrepreneur. Exile in London, March 1939–August 1940” at the 11th Conference of the International Feuchtwanger Society, held in London, September 12–14, 2024.

**Ruth Wallach** chaired the panel “Best Lessons Learned: New Practitioners Panel,” at the Internet Librarian Connect conference, held October 22, 2024.

**Jade Winn** et al., “Best Practices and State-of-the Art Approaches for Conducting More Efficient and Higher Quality Meta-Analyses,” *Association for Consumer Research Conference*, held in Paris, September 28, 2024.



Health sciences research and data librarian  
Dr. Jennifer Dinalo

## Publications

**Amy Chatfield** et al., “Outcome of Pregnancy in Women With Congenitally Corrected Transposition of the Great Arteries: A Systematic Review,” *The American Journal of Cardiology* 250 (2025), 9–16.

**Amy Chatfield** et al., “The Impact of Medical Insurance on Health Care Access and Quality for People with Multiple Sclerosis in the United States: A Scoping Review,” *Multiple Sclerosis Journal* 30, no. 3 (2024), 299–307.

**Yibu Chen** et al., “Neuronally Differentiated Macula Densa Cells Regulate Tissue Remodeling and Regeneration in the Kidney,” *Journal of Clinical Investigation* 134, no. 11 (2024), e174558.

**Rebecca Corbett**, “Arts of the Tea Ceremony,” *Oxford Bibliographies in Art History* (New York: Oxford Univ. Press, February 19, 2025).

**Jennifer Dinalo** et al., “Pre-Clinical Models of Penetrating Brain Injury: Study Protocol for a Scoping Review,” *NeuroSci* 6, no. 2 (2025), 37.

**Jennifer Dinalo** et al., “APOE ε4 and Dietary Patterns in Relation to Cognitive Function: An Umbrella Review of Systematic Reviews,” *Nutrition Reviews* 83, no. 7 (2025), e2113–e2126.

**Jennifer Dinalo** et al., “Clinical Outcomes and Interventions Related to Sedentary Behaviours in Childhood, Adolescent, and Young Adult Cancer Patients and Survivors: A Scoping Review Protocol,” *BMJ Open* 15, no. 8 (2025), e100965.

**Bridgid Fennell**, “Overdue for Accessibility: New ADA Title II Rules Require Libraries to Make their Digital Content Accessible,” *Information Outlook* (spring 2025), 11–15.

**Benjamin Hall**, “A Second Compilation of Business Vendor Use Cases among Corporate Clients,” *Academic BRASS* 20, no. 2 (2025).

**Benjamin Hall** et al., “The State of Cost Sharing and Collaborative Collection Development at AACSB-accredited Universities,” *The Journal of Academic Librarianship* 51, no. 3 (2025).

**Andrea Harrow** et al., “Building Confidence in Dissemination: Collaborative Abstract Writing Workshops,” *Clinical Nurse Specialist* 39, no. 3 (2025), 154.

**Alexis Bard Johnson**, “Queer Visibility: Photography in American Print Culture, 1945–1980” in *Queer Lens* (Los Angeles: Getty Museum, 2025).

**Alexis Bard Johnson**, “The Kepner File: Queer Art and Science Fiction Fandom,” in *Sci-fi, Magick, Queer L.A.: Sexual Science and the Imagi-Nation* (ONE Archives and Inventory Press, 2024).

**Meng Li** et al., “Non-canonical Wnt Pathway Expression in the Developing Mouse and Human Retina,” *Experimental Eye Research Journal* 244 (July 2024), 109947.

**Meng Li** et al., “The Mitochondrial TSPO Ligand Atrio Mitigates Metabolic-associated Steatohepatitis by Downregulating CXCL1,” *Metabolism* 159 (2024), 155942.

**Eddie Loh** et al., “CRISPRi Screen of Long Non-coding RNAs Identifies LINC03045 Regulating Glioblastoma Invasion,” *PLoS Genetics* 20, no. 6 (June 10, 2024), e1011314.

**Hannah Schilperoort** et al., “Concept Validation and Clinical Application of Social Determinants of Health in Dental Education Curriculum,” *Journal of Dental Education* (2025), e13946.

**Hannah Schilperoort** et al., “Development and Validation of LGBTQIA+ Search Filters: Report on Process and Pilot Filter for Queer Women,” *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 113, no. 2 (2025), 123–32.

**Hannah Schilperoort** et al., “Beyond the Rainbow: Integrating Cultural Humility into LGBTQIA+ Health Inclusion Initiatives,” in *Cultural Humility in Libraries* (Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 2024).

**Hannah Schilperoort** et al., “A 13-year Review of Triple Jump Examination at the Ostrow School of Dentistry of the University of Southern California,” *Journal of Dental Education* (November 15, 2024).

**Jade Winn** et al., “Redefining Searching in Non-Medical Sciences Systematic Reviews: The Ascendance of Google Scholar as the Primary Database,” *Journal of Librarianship and Information Science* (2024).



Joy Kim (center) retired in 2024 after thirty-nine years of service to our Korean Heritage Library.



30<sup>th</sup> Happy Birthday





# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT





Our public television co-production, now in its seventh season, debuted in 2016.

In January, the **seventh season of *Lost LA*** premiered. A co-production of the USC Libraries and PBS SoCal, the public television series explores Southern California history through our collections and those of our partners in the L.A. as Subject research alliance. This season's four episodes explored the stories of our region's role in the space shuttle program; the L.A. roots of the modern animation industry; the 1928 St. Francis Dam disaster; and secret Cold War installations. Full episodes can be streamed on the PBS app, at [pbsocal.org](http://pbsocal.org), or on YouTube.

The ONE Archives at the USC Libraries organized ***Sci-Fi, Magick, Queer L.A.: Sexual Science and the Imagi-nation*** for the Getty Foundation's PST ART: Art & Science Collide initiative. Tracing how 1930s–1960s science fiction and occult communities paved the way for LGBTQ+ civil rights and cultural movements, the exhibition drew more than 4,200 visitors during its run at the USC Fisher Museum of Art and won accolades

from national press and arts publications. In conjunction, ONE Archives presented a full suite of public programs, including a Halloween-themed Visions and Voices event for USC students featuring DJs, drag artists, curator-led tours of the exhibition, and musical performances.

USC social and behavioral sciences librarian Clarissa Moreno created a LibGuide cataloguing a wealth of **resources for Southern California residents impacted by the January 2025 Palisades and Eaton fires**—along with volunteer and donation opportunities for people to help with L.A.'s recovery efforts.

Dean Melissa Just was named **president-elect of the Association for Research Libraries (ARL)**. Her term as vice president began on January 1, 2025, and her term as president begins in 2026. ARL is a nonprofit organization of 127 research libraries in Canada and the United States whose vision is to create a trusted,

equitable, and inclusive research and learning ecosystem and prepare library leaders to advance this work in strategic partnership with member libraries and other organizations worldwide.

On September 13, 2024, the USC Libraries welcomed guests from China’s Ministry of Culture and Tourism and National Academy of Arts for the opening of **Reunion: Mei Lan-Fang and the United States**, an exhibition celebrating the lasting cultural impact of the iconic Peking Opera star and his historic US visit in the 1930s. On that trip USC awarded Mei an honorary doctorate—the first such honor for a Chinese performing artist. The event included remarks from USC faculty, Mei’s descendants, and Chinese cultural officials, underscoring Mei’s role as a cultural bridge between our two countries. Live performances by young opera artists offered a vivid continuation of his legacy. The exhibition highlighted USC’s long-standing commitment to fostering cross-cultural dialogue through academic and artistic exchange.



USC’s Bunker Hill Refrain project introduced students to materials from our Special Collections.



*Sci-fi, Magick, Queer L.A.: Sexual Science and the Imagi-Nation* featured a re-creation of Forrest Ackerman’s “Futuricostume,” worn in 1939 to a science fiction convention and generally acknowledged as the first-ever cosplay outfit.

In February, we launched **Survivor Stories: An Interactive Dialog** with the Museum of Jewish Heritage and the USC Shoah Foundation. This interactive installation and web resource uses advanced video, display, and non-generative AI technologies to let visitors engage in real-time conversations with ten Holocaust survivors. Debuting as more than two hundred survivors gathered to commemorate International Holocaust Remembrance Day and the eightieth anniversary of Auschwitz’s liberation, the project ensures these firsthand accounts remain accessible for generations. Built on the Interactive Interviews platform developed by the USC Digital Repository, the project was made possible through the expertise of Catherine Gao, Mike Jones, Neha Rao, Craig Stubing, and Svetlana Ushakova.



Lisa Baer (right) is among the ten Holocaust survivors who shared their stories through Interactive Interviews.

Over the summer of 2024, the Bunker Hill Refrain project, spearheaded by a USC team including Mats Borges, Curtis Fletcher, Suzanne Noruschat, and Andy Rutkowski of the USC Libraries, convened **a series of workshops at the Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL)’s Octavia Lab makerspace**. With funding from a USC Arts in Action grant, the six-week program brought together seven college and high school students, LAPL librarians, and project team members to interview former residents of Bunker Hill and their descendants. Once a thriving downtown L.A. neighborhood, Bunker Hill was razed in the mid-twentieth century in the name of urban renewal. The project, inspired by the USC Libraries’ collection of 1939 WPA survey cards documenting residents’ living conditions, seeks to recover personal stories and build a “rebel archive” that challenges official narratives of blight and redevelopment.

In January, eleven works of art from our collections—including paintings, sculptures, and a medieval scroll—were **evacuated under police escort as the Palisades Fire threatened Villa Aurora**. Once the home of Lion and Marta Feuchtwanger, German-Jewish exiles who made the villa a cultural gathering place during World War II, the house is now an artists’ residence administered by the Federal Republic of Germany. Thanks to the efforts of firefighters, Villa Aurora was spared, and the rescued works continue to honor the Feuchtwangers’ legacy and the émigré community that enriched Los Angeles’ cultural life.

In fall 2024, we presented **Spectral Science: Visions of the World Beyond**, a multidisciplinary series exploring the boundaries between the natural and the supernatural. The program included a panel

discussion, performances by the USC Student Magic Association, an immersive theatrical magic lantern show by artist Melissa Ferrari, and the exhibition *Spectral Science*, which brought together photographs, rare books, magic lanterns, and artifacts that blur the line between science and the supernatural. We also organized a student excursion to Hollywood’s Magic Castle, home of the Academy of Magical Arts—an experience that one student described as “one of the best things I’ve gotten to do through USC.”

The authors and screenwriters of the film *Conclave* and the series *Say Nothing* won **the 37th-annual USC Libraries Scriptor Awards**. The awards recognize each year’s most accomplished adaptations of the written word for the screen, including both feature-length films and episodic series. Novelist Robert Harris and screenwriter Peter Straughan took home the award for *Conclave*, a fictional description of a politically fraught papal election process. For episodic series, Joshua Zetumer ’03 and Patrick Radden Keefe won for the episode “The People in the Dirt” from the series *Say Nothing*, which Zetumer adapted from Keefe’s nonfiction book about the Troubles in Ireland. Zetumer is an alumnus of the USC School of Cinematic Arts screenwriting program and no stranger to the USC Libraries. He told guests that “projects like these reminded me of why I wanted to become a writer when I was sitting in USC’s Leavey Library dreaming of becoming a screenwriter.”



**848,000**  
Viewers of Season 6 of the *Lost LA* series during its premiere in January and February of 2024



**4,200**  
Visitors to ONE Archives exhibition for the Getty Foundation’s PST ART initiative



*Spectral Science: Visions of the World Beyond* was on display inside Doheny Memorial Library’s Treasure Room from October 2024 to June 2025.



Left to right: Scriptor Award winner Peter Straughan (*Conclave*); USC Libraries dean Melissa Just; Scriptor Award winner Joshua Zetumer (*Say Nothing*); and Scriptor Selection Committee chair Howard Rodman, 2025 recipient of the Ex Libris Award



Our *Voices of Freedom, Voices of War in Ukraine* series included hands-on creative workshops with Ukrainian artists and writers.

Visions and Voices supported our spring program ***Voices of Freedom, Voices of War in Ukraine***, a series of creative workshops, readings, and conversations, which brought contemporary Ukrainian artists to USC to share their work and lived experiences of displacement, loss, and cultural resilience in times of war. Students and community members participated in workshops with Lviv-based essayist Sasha Dovzhyk, Halych-born and Santa Monica-based painter Marina Malyarenko, and Lviv-based poet and author Iryna Starovoyt. In dialogue, these artists reflected on how Ukrainian writers and artists shape independent, multi-cultural identities in the face of oppression.

On October 19, 2024, we hosted the **19th-annual Los Angeles Archives Bazaar**, Southern California’s premier celebration of regional history and the archival

collections that help us understand it. Like a true medieval bazaar, wondrous finds could be had around every corner as dozens and dozens of institutions that form the L.A. as Subject collective showed off remarkable items from their holdings. The year’s theme was water, explored through a full slate of programming, including an advance screening of a *Lost LA* episode about the 1928 St. Francis Dam disaster, panels on the L.A. River and the city’s “lost” waterways, and a workshop on readying collection materials for destructive atmospheric river storms.

In May, with our partners at the Thomas Mann House, Goethe-Institut Washington, and USC Dornsife Center of Advanced Genocide Research, we co-presented “An Appeal to Reason: A Celebration of Democracy, Freedom, and Culture” at USC’s Capital Campus in Washington, DC. This extraordinary event **marked the 150th birthday of Thomas Mann and explored the power of literature in times of democratic crisis**. The program featured acclaimed authors Azar Nafisi, Clint Smith, Daniel Ziblatt, and others in a timely conversation about Mann’s legacy and the ongoing challenges to freedom of expression. Librarian Michaela Ullmann delivered welcoming remarks on behalf of the USC Libraries, offering her thoughts on the enduring power of our extensive exile studies collections.





Our Doheny Memorial Library hosted the 19th-annual Los Angeles Archives Bazaar.



Jungeun Hong of the USC Korean Heritage Library collaborated on the development of the K-Trail, an immersive historical journey through Korean heritage on the USC campus for students.



Our Ahmanson Lab hosted an Ethical XR Hackathon with ShiftSC and the Neely Center for Ethical Leadership and Decision-Making.



**LEAVEY LIBRARY**  
**30th Anniversary Celebration**



GIVING





USC celebrated Leavey Library’s thirtieth birthday in August 2024. Back row, from left to right: USC life trustee Michele Engemann, USC president Carol Folt, USC Libraries dean Melissa Just, USC trustee Amy A. Ross. Front row, from left to right: USC Libraries Board of Councilors member Carol Fox, former Leavey Library student worker Jada Cobbett, USC life trustee Kathleen Leavey McCarthy; and Leavey Library head Christal Young.

### The ONE Archives at the USC Libraries celebrated two major gifts

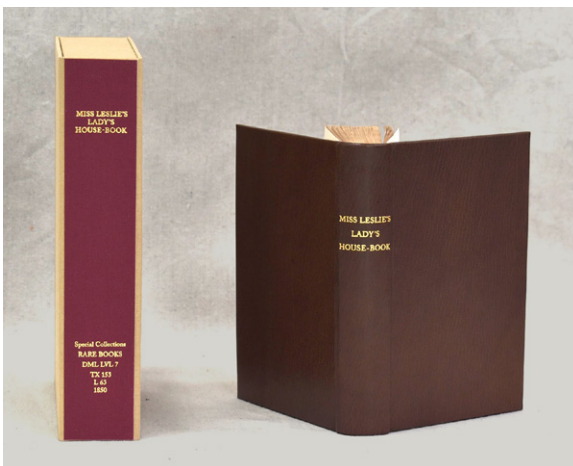
endowing key positions within the world’s largest repository of LGBTQ+ materials. A \$2.5 million donation from Paul D. Lerner and Stephen Reis endowed the ONE Archives’ directorship, and a \$1.7 million donation from Edward McKittrick in memory of his late mother, L. Frances McCaulley-McKittrick, endowed the archives’ curator position. “We feel that we are fortunate people who have benefited from the blood, sweat, and tears of early LGBTQ+ activists who opened up opportunities we enjoy today,” said Lerner and Reis. “It’s important for us to give back, and we hope our gift will inspire others to support ONE Archives so it can reach its full potential.”



From left: USC associate senior vice president of university advancement Brandon Baker; donor Edward McKittrick; retiring ONE Archives director Joseph Hawkins; and donors Stephen Reis and Paul D. Lerner

### Recent gifts to the USC Libraries

have supported new features at our libraries like study pods at Leavey Library, the recognition of student excellence at our annual USC Libraries Research Awards, our Study On! programs at Leavey Library, new collections in our USC Digital Library, arts programs and operations at ONE Archives, the restoration of rare books held by the USC Libraries’ Special Collections, and signature cultural events like our Scriptor Awards.



This rare book was restored through our Adopt-a-Book program.

### In August we celebrated the thirtieth anniversary of the Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Library,




reflecting on three decades of transformation, service, and community. When the library opened in 1994, the World Wide Web was still a novelty, and the building’s interior featured vibrant colors drawn from McCarthy Quad—a symbolic connection to campus life and innovation. At the anniversary event, Dean Melissa Just, President Carol Folt, and Trustee Kathleen Leavey McCarthy offered remarks, and we honored original Leavey Library team members Shahla Bahavar, Deborah Holmes-Wong, and Suhair Kasem. We also recognized librarian Christal Young, now head of Leavey Library, whose connection to Leavey began as an undergraduate and continues through

initiatives like Study On! and events like our silent disco that honor the ongoing “Club Leavey” spirit.

The rare books in our Special Collections department have come to us through purchases and donations from a variety of sources. Over the centuries they have not always been treated as carefully as they are now, and have had to contend with the usual enemies of printed matter, including fire, water, and pests—not to mention rough handling, which may cause paper to rip, covers to come off, and the spine binding the paper together to fail. One of the ways we offer our Friends of the USC Libraries a chance to engage with our collections is through our **Adopt-a-Book program**. By supporting the conservation and/or restoration of our most at-risk volumes, you preserve them for our Trojan scholars for centuries to come. Everyone who “adopts” a book gets a permanent bookplate inserted in a protective box made by expert conservators.



**Scan the QR code to** support the resources we offer to our Trojan students and researchers.

	FY24	FY25
	<b>\$5.3 million</b> Total gifts	<b>\$5.4 million</b> Total gifts
	<b>155</b> Total number of donors	<b>230</b> Total number of donors
	<b>207</b> Total number of gifts	<b>270</b> Total number of gifts

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