

USC Libraries

ANNUAL REPORT

2025 | 2026

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 and
Area Studies

USC Digital Library

Wilson Dental Library

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Giving

FALL 2026



As you'll see in our 2025–26 annual report, the people of our libraries are going above and beyond to help USC meet this pivotal moment for our university and larger society. Together with President Beong-Soo Kim and colleagues across the entire USC community, we are helping our university meet today's challenges while positioning for long-term success.

Our library faculty and staff are also contributing their expertise to help students, researchers, and others across the university navigate the many changes in our information environment due to rapidly evolving AI technologies. Thanks to their efforts, we are developing courses, tutorials, workshops, and other resources to equip Trojan students to find reliable information, use these AI tools effectively and responsibly, and better understand the social implications of these dramatic changes in our global society.

During periods of transformation like the one we're experiencing, USC students need our support more than ever. Among the many highlights from the past year were student-focused programs like Study On!, the Paperpalooza events we offer with the USC Writing Program, and the updates we are making—thanks to generous donor support—to our study spaces in Doheny and Leavey Libraries.

We also expanded our resources for USC researchers. These include the USC Dataverse we launched with the USC Center for Advanced Research Computing, the transformative agreements that we expanded with academic publishers, and the specialized expertise we offer to USC's biomedical researchers—ranging from instruction in cutting-edge evidence synthesis methodologies by our medical librarians and consultations by our bioinformatics service to impactful partnerships with clinical units of Keck Medical Center of USC.

We also contributed to the understanding of historical truth. In partnership with the USC-Huntington Early Modern Studies Institute at USC Dornsife College, we presented *LA2026*, a suite of cultural programs on the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. We also collaborated with the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center and the USC Shoah Foundation on *Voices of Survival*, which includes interactive interviews with survivors of the Holocaust and the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda.

Every accomplishment described in this report reflects the creativity, expertise, and dedication of our library faculty and staff. Their commitment—along with our university leadership and campus partners, our Board of Councilors and library supporters, and our many collaborators—makes our work possible.

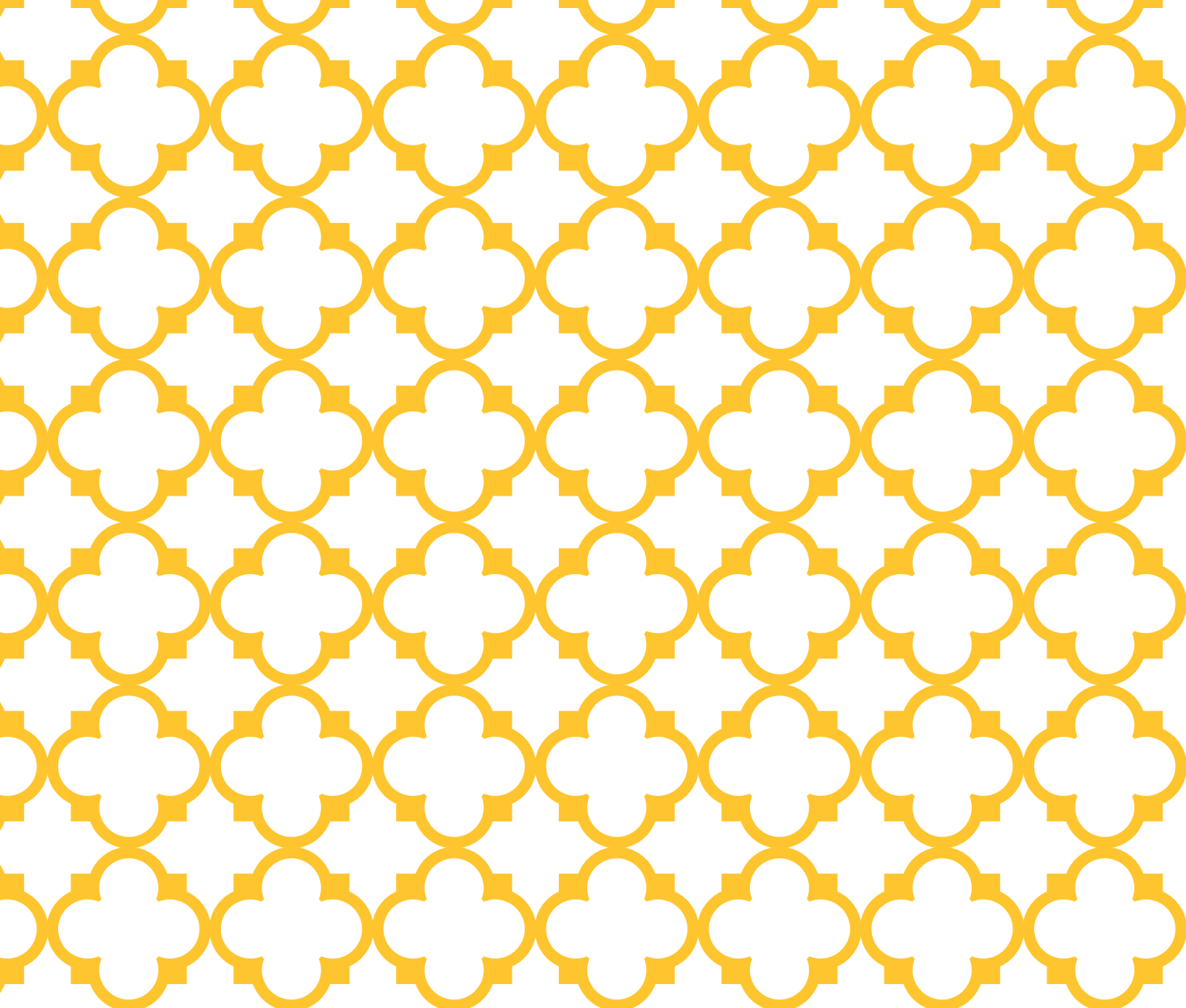
Thank you for everything you do to ensure the success of the USC Libraries and for helping us fulfill the timeless mission of libraries as providers of trusted knowledge while pioneering new ways to engage and inspire our communities.

Sincerely,

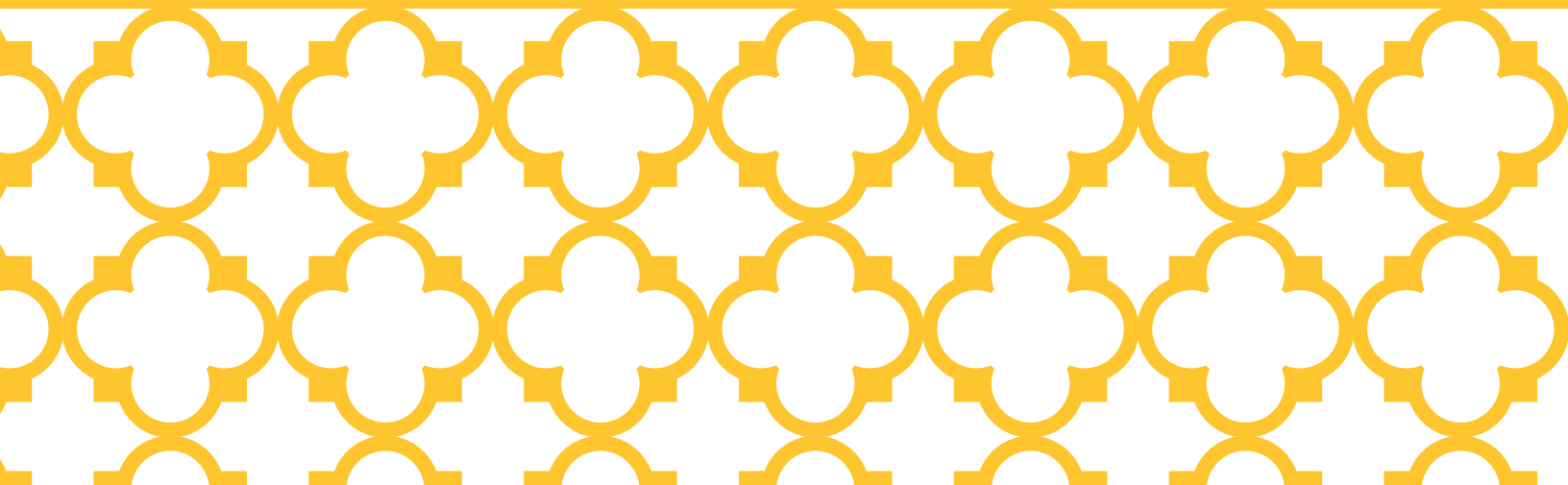
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melissa Just'.

Melissa L. Just, MLIS, EdD

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



STUDENT SUCCESS





3 million

visits to
libraries.usc.edu

In May, we celebrated the induction of **34 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 Sophie Mei Sullivan reflected on how diverse the fellows were: "This incredibly accomplished group of people are already leading communities and research to make a more ethical, more understanding, empathetic world. Students working at complete opposite ends of the spectrum of life and scholarship, but who are united by a love of learning."

As home to USC's chapter of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the USC Libraries support PKP's mission of recognizing academic excellence across the disciplines. At a May 13 ceremony in Bing Theatre, **160 USC students were initiated into PKP**, the university's oldest fully interdisciplinary honor society. The event featured a keynote address by USC Dornsife dean and astrophysicist James Bullock.

1.4 million

visits to library
locations

For students, the end of the semester can be a fraught time, as final papers come due—papers many of them have put off until the 11th hour. For the past seven years, **the USC Libraries have co-hosted a student-focused event called Paperpalooza**. Held in Doheny Library's Friends of the USC Libraries Lecture Hall, the event is a one-stop shop where librarians collaborate with colleagues in the USC Dornsife Writing Program and the USC Dornsife Writing Center to offer students personalized help on their final papers, including advice on researching resources and the proper use of citations.



Fellows of the USC Sidney Harman Academy for Polymathic Study at the May Induction Ceremony

Our librarians taught 451 in-person and virtual instruction sessions for 11,220 USC students according to our most recent report to the Association of Research Libraries. Collaborating with instructors across the university, our library faculty teach 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 develop asynchronous digital learning modules, tutorials, and how-to guides for students in all disciplines at USC.

One of the best ways our students get **firsthand experience with rare and unique materials** is when library faculty members are embedded in classes taught in our Special Collections space. In spring 2026, regional history librarian Suzanne Noruschat worked with USC Dornsife professor Sean Fraga on an Infrastructure and Environmental Justice class. The students met in Special Collections throughout the semester, with final research projects that drew from our Esther Feldman and Yvonne Brathwaite Burke collections.

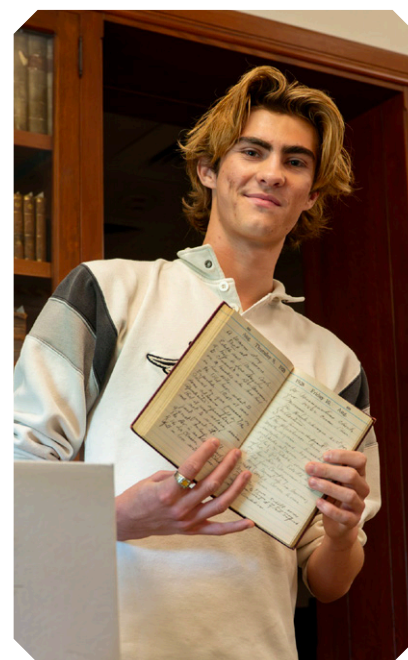
39,760
reference
consultations



Dean James Bullock of USC Dornsife College welcomes initiates of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, administered by the USC Libraries.



At the twice-annual Paperpalooza event in Doheny Library, students find a one-stop shop for all their research paper-writing needs.



Students in a spring 2026 class on infrastructure and environmental justice spent time researching primary sources in Special Collections.

31.4 million

searches in online
library databases

2.3 million

full-text articles
accessed

11,220

participants in
library instruction

21.8 million

page views in
the USC Digital
Library

Leavey Library offers a wide range of programs to support our Trojan students during the most challenging parts of each semester—including our Study On! programs that help with stress relief, academic focus, and well-being during final exams. **This year, 1,400 students benefited from our Study On! activities** ranging from board games and coloring to chair massages and therapy dogs. We also continued our pop-up mental health moments at Leavey Library with USC Student Health and even hosted a silent disco with the USC Office of Residential Education.

On April 14, we **honored the winners of the annual USC Libraries Research Award**. The award honors exceptional research that uses any of the resources available to students through our libraries—including books, journals, electronic databases, primary sources, reference consultations, and interlibrary loans. First prize in the graduate category went to Mohin Chanpura for “Spillover Effects of Public School Integration in the Southern United States.” In his accompanying reflective essay, Chanpura thanked the services we provided, noting how “the trajectory of my research would not have been possible without the USC Libraries.” First prize in the undergraduate category went to Val Whitten for the paper “What Laws Don’t Say Out Loud but Our Handwriting Does.” Her work, focused on the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II, utilized primary source materials in Special Collections. She described the physicality of the research process thus: “Walking into the archives with my class shifted something immediately, because this was not a lecture about history but an invitation to step into it, to touch it, and to sit with it in a way that felt intimate and serious at the same time.”



Our Study On! events held outside Leavey Library before finals every semester offer students an opportunity to unwind with activities and refreshments.



Student winners of the 2026 USC Libraries Research Award



Faculty advisors Mehdi Mohammadi (on the left) and Rebecca Ortiz Bodensteiner (on the right) flank the 2026 Dr. Clifton & Lois Dummett Research Award winners Farzaneh Delpisheh Mobashery, Saige Culler, and Hannie Tran.

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. This year, the winners were Farzaneh Delpisheh Mobashery, Saige Culler, and Hannie Tran for “Missed Dental Appointments Among Unhoused Adults,” which highlighted the significant hurdles unhoused people face in receiving basic dental care.

Our Wilson Dental Library recently **added a third collaborative space** by converting its Rare Book Room into an attractive group study room. Multipurpose collaborative study spaces remain in high demand across campus, even with dozens available through the USC Libraries.

Two of our libraries **expanded their popular fiction offerings** during the academic year. The Hoose Library of Philosophy launched a Popular Reading Collection developed in partnership with the School of Philosophy, using beloved fiction as a gateway to exploring ethics, identity, and moral reasoning. At Leavey Library, the existing Popular Reading Collection was relocated to a more prominent spot on the first floor, just steps from the circulation desk, making leisure reading more visible and accessible to students.



Digital re-creation of the Bunker Hill neighborhood, an ongoing project of the Ahmanson Lab

2.7 million

visits to LibGuides
created by USC
librarians

Leavey Library recently **welcomed its 38 millionth visitor** in 2026. During our last reporting year to the Association of Research Libraries, our campus libraries received 1.4 million visits. Usage of our online resources continued to ramp up—we recorded 31.4 million searches using our online library databases, and our library users accessed 2.3 million full-text articles. Our USC Digital Library drew 21.8 million page views, and our LibGuides created by USC librarians drew 2.7 million visits from students, researchers, and other members of our community.

25,400

cumulative
participants in our
“Study On!”
programs

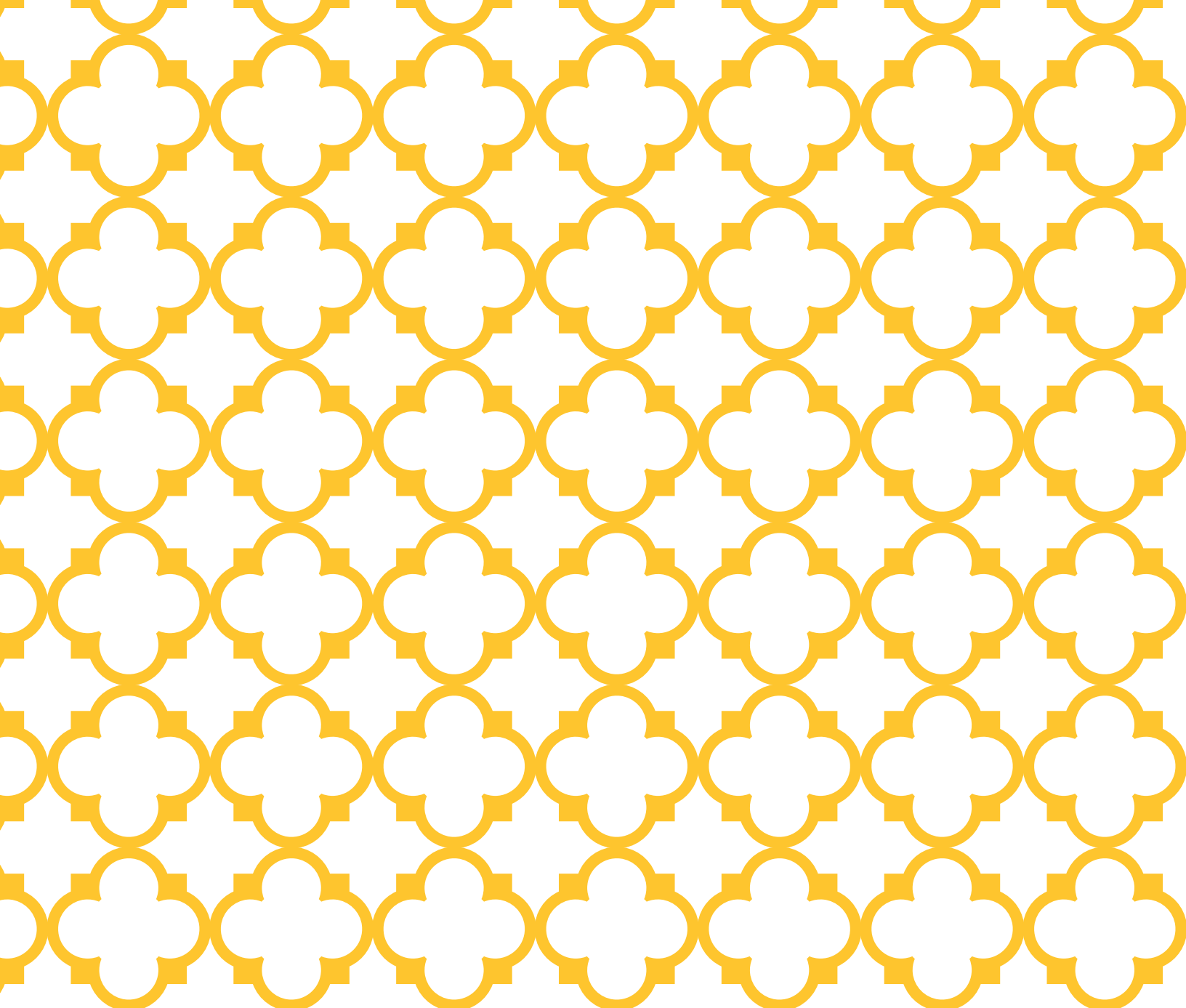
In November, the Ahmanson Lab at the USC Sidney Harman Academy for Polymathic Study co-hosted the **Immersive Technologies and Cultural Heritage (ITCH)** Symposium with USC Dornsife and the UCLA XR Initiative. Held at the USC Libraries, the event brought together humanities researchers working with immersive technologies to showcase innovative projects, including virtual reality experiences, digital cultural heritage initiatives, and experimental research using XR tools. Discussions explored both the opportunities and challenges of using immersive technologies for research, teaching, and public engagement.

38.5 million

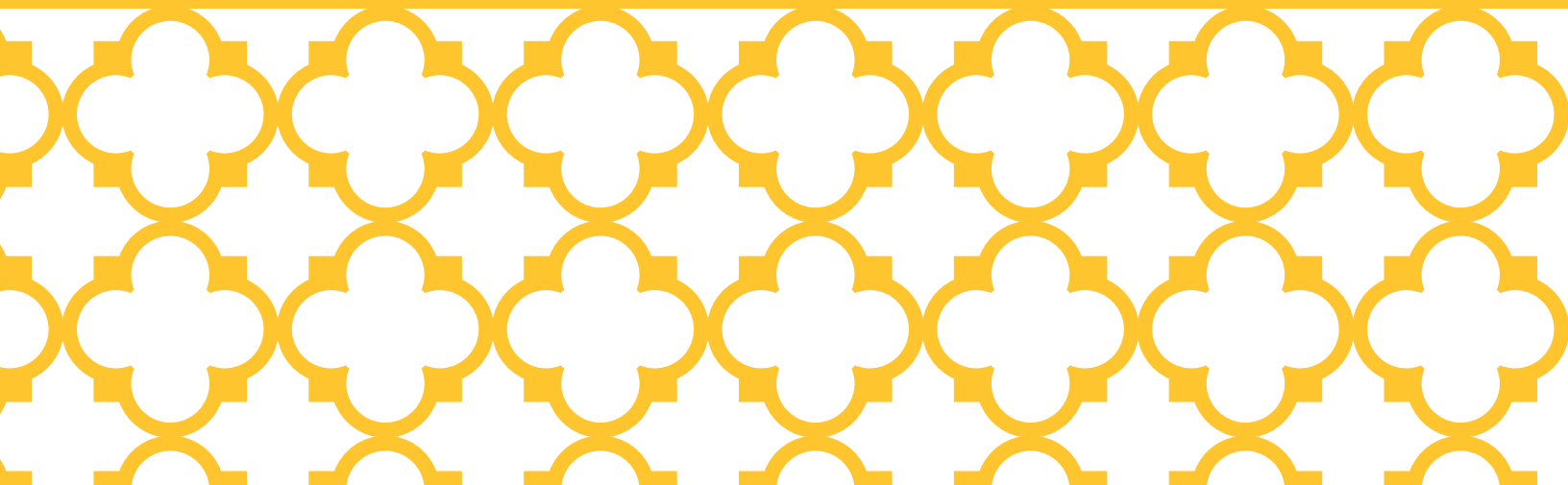
visitors to Leavey
Library since it
opened in 1994

During the fall, the Ahmanson Lab also offered **hands-on workshops in 3D modeling, 3D printing, and simulation and game development**, providing students with technical skills applicable across a wide range of disciplines. The Lab continued development of *Bunker Hill Refrain*, an interdisciplinary digital reconstruction of Los Angeles’s lost Bunker Hill neighborhood built from historical photographs, maps, architectural drawings, and community stories; the completed model was released on Sketchfab. In addition, the Lab’s student-driven journal, *Simulation & Society*, published its latest issue, *An Echo Chamber of One*, featuring essays examining the cultural and social impacts of generative AI.





SUPPORTING RESEARCH





We added SAGE Publishing to our roster of **transformative agreements with academic publishers**, bringing the total number of such agreements to twelve. Transformative agreements, or TAs, expand global access to USC research by allowing faculty to publish their work through an open access model 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.

6.5 million
total volumes

Since it was launched twenty years ago, **our Bioinformatics Service has offered consulting and specialized software** to more than 4,000 USC researchers—contributing to the publication of 950 research papers. In 2025 alone, the team provided more than 1,500 consultations to USC students, faculty, and research staff—and taught workshops, for-credit classes, and orientation sessions. Our expertise and bioinformatics software tools played an integral role in biomedical research grants awarded to USC principal investigators at the Keck School of Medicine of USC, Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC, USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology, and other schools, units, and departments across our university.

85,000
linear feet of archival
collections

For centuries, libraries have guided students and scholars through information revolutions, from the printing press to the digital database. Today, as artificial intelligence transforms how knowledge is created, accessed, and evaluated, we're **helping the university community make sense of AI**. Our librarians have developed an AI literacy webpage, research guides, tutorials, videos, and workshops addressing the responsible use of generative AI in academic work, including research workflows, literature mapping, citation practices, USC policies, and ethical considerations. Across the libraries, groups such as the USC Libraries AI Taskforce and AI Information Literacy Working Group are coordinating guidance on the critical use of AI in research and instruction. Meanwhile, the Ahmanson Lab at our USC Sidney Harman Academy for Polymathic Study extended this work through student conversations on AI's social impacts, a Critical AI Studies Reading Group, and collaboratories that combine hands-on experimentation with ethical reflection.

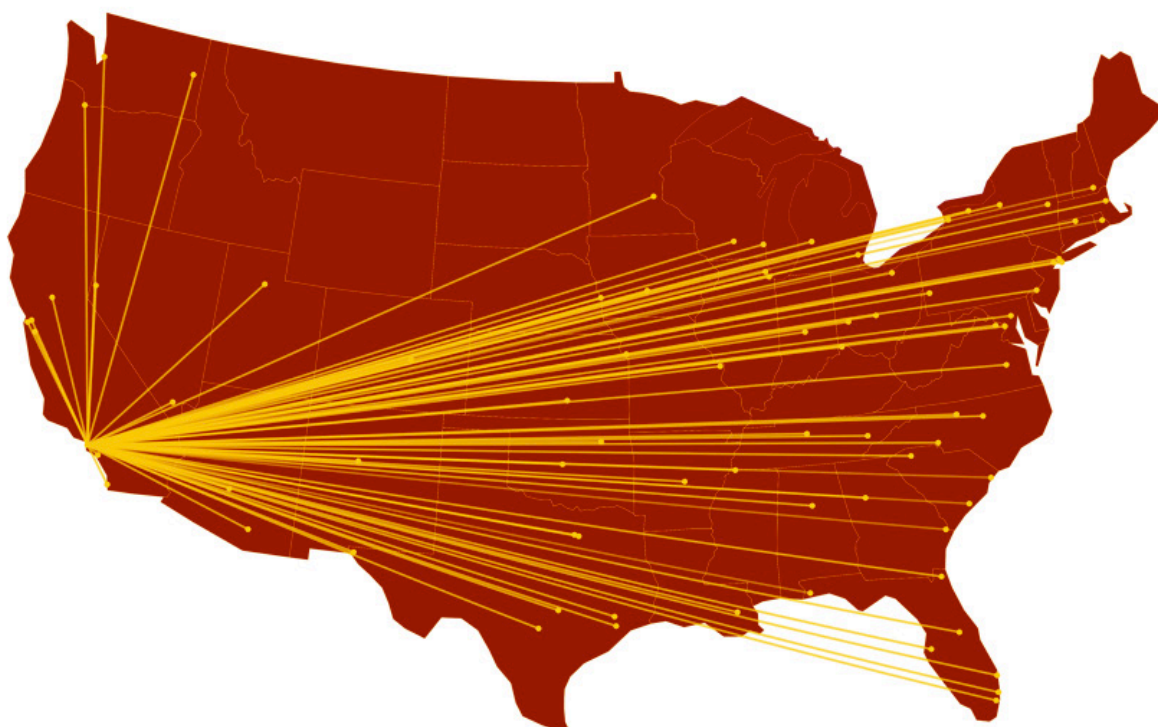
3.1 million
electronic books

Business librarian Benjamin Hall joined university and industry leaders in a **campus-wide conversation about artificial intelligence** at USC's inaugural AI Summit on November 11. The event featured USC president Beong-Soo Kim in conversation with former Google CEO Eric Schmidt, along with presentations from faculty, staff, students, and business leaders. Hall's presentation, "Information Literacy in the Age of AI," examined how AI tools are reshaping research and information consumption—and why students need information, algorithmic, and AI literacy to use them responsibly.

An archival collection documenting Los Angeles's creative underground and its connections to mainstream cultural journalism was processed and opened to research. The **Kristine McKenna papers**, part of our Special Collections, preserve the work of the writer who chronicled the city's emerging punk rock scene for the *Los Angeles Times* and interviewed artists, musicians, and filmmakers who shaped late-twentieth-century American culture.

An archival collection documenting a pivotal moment in American Catholic history was processed and opened to research. The **Anita M. Caspary papers**, part of our Special Collections, illuminate the life and career of the nun, educator, scholar, and activist who led the Immaculate Heart Sisters through reforms inspired by Vatican II. In May, we co-hosted a one-day conference, sponsored by the USC School of Religion within the USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, titled "Free Thinking Catholic Women." It celebrated the archive's opening and explored the legacy of women who reenvisioned Catholic life, including Caspary and the medieval poet and mystic Hadewijch of Brabant.

We collaborated with the USC Center for Advanced Research Computing to launch **the USC Dataverse**, which enables USC researchers to securely manage, preserve, and share their data with a global research community. The USC Dataverse supports ambitious collaborations with other universities in a number of fields and enhances the global visibility and impact of USC research. It enables USC researchers to meet the stringent data management requirements of NIH, NSF, and other federal agencies to make data findable and accessible for analysis and reuse by other researchers.



Visualization for domestic airline schedule dataset preserved in the USC Dataverse



Nardos Solomon and Alyssa Edling, members of the Global Health Policy Scholars Program, in which medical librarian Jennifer Dinalo taught systematic search methodology



Marine biology researchers from the 1930s in the Allan Hancock Foundation collection in the USC Digital Library

Our medical librarians build capacity for rigorous, evidence-informed scholarship at USC across multiple areas of the health sciences by offering research education and training. One example is the ongoing collaboration between our health sciences research and data librarian, Jennifer Dinalo of Norris Medical Library, and the Global Health Policy Scholars Summer Program, a partnership between the Keck School of Medicine of USC and the USC Institute on Inequalities in Global Health (IIGH). For the third consecutive year, Dinalo taught systematic search methodology for the program, which places rising second-year medical students at the USC Capital Campus in Washington, DC, where they gain policy-related experience while developing scholarly projects focused on IIGH's three priority areas: sexual and reproductive health, climate and sustainability, or health and longevity.

600,000

streaming film,
video, and sound
recording titles

The **USC Digital Library is home to vast collections totaling more than 3.2 million items** in areas ranging from archaeology, art history, and marine biology to Korean studies and the history of Los Angeles, California, and the West. In the past year, its collection of USC dissertations and theses received nearly 1.4 million views and 900,000 downloads, and researchers cited collections in the USC Digital Library nearly 5,500 times. Among the intriguing uses of its collections are studies by environmental scientists of changes to ecosystems documented by photographs taken of animal and plant life and natural landscapes during the early 20th century.

2 million

items on LGBTQ+
history at ONE
Archives

USC Libraries East Asian Librarian Tang Li launched ***Sinophone Studies: An Annotated Bibliography***, an online research platform developed in collaboration with colleagues at the University of Hawai'i and supported by an ALA Carnegie-Whitney Grant. The site brings together 310 curated and annotated bibliographic records spanning monographs, journal articles, theses, and primary sources in English, Chinese, and other languages, and features AI-assisted search and discovery tools, thematic browsing, and geographic mapping to support scholars and students exploring Sinophone literature, culture, and diaspora communities worldwide.

Annotated Bibliography for Sinophone Studies

A collaborative hub for Sinophone studies research spanning literature, culture, and diaspora worldwide.

310

Curated Records

274

Authors

382

Topics

Clinical librarian Andrea Harrow from our Norris Medical Library collaborated with Keck Medical Center of USC's nurse scientist Kimberly Sanchez and USC Keck's eight-member clinical nurse specialist team to **develop a health literacy curriculum and scholarly communication framework to help USC bedside clinicians share their work more broadly with the scientific community**. To date, 88 USC clinicians have attended the workshops, and 25 have submitted abstracts to professional audiences. Harrow and Sanchez have shared the results of their collaboration at regional, national, and international conferences and symposia. They recently published a journal article on their partnership in *Clinical Nurse Specialist* and co-authored a chapter, "A Clinical Librarian—Nurse Scientist Collaboration Case Report" in a forthcoming new edition of *The Clinical Medical Librarian's Handbook* to be published by Bloomsbury in 2026.

\$2 million

cumulative savings
for USC authors
from transformative
agreements

The **Overseas Korean Studies and Heritage Foundation (OKSHF)** travel grants offered by our **USC Korean Heritage Library** support work by a global community of Korean studies scholars who consult our collections. Last year's OKSHF travel grants enabled visits to our USC Korean Heritage Library by faculty and doctoral students from Rutgers University, Seoul National University, and Vanderbilt University to explore varied topics related to Korean culture and a global Korean diaspora.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS USING LIBRARY COLLECTIONS AND SERVICES

AMERICAN STUDIES AND ETHNICITY

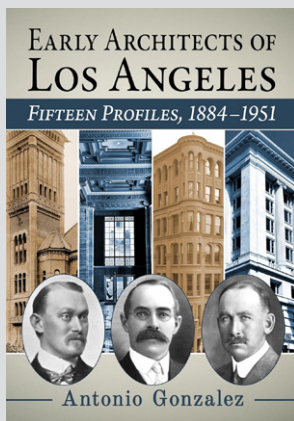
Frederick Bode, "A Room in the Film Capital: The Social Economy of Lodging and Urban Change in Hollywood during the 1930s," *Journal of Urban History* 51, no. 5 (Sept. 2025), 992–1011.

Yve Chavez, *Indigenizing California Mission Art and Architecture* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2025).

Brian Hallstoos, *Sol Butler: An Olympian's Odyssey through Jim Crow America* (Champaign: University of Illinois Press, 2026).

Rahim Kurwa, *Indefensible Spaces: Policing and the Struggle for Housing* (Oakland: University of California Press, 2025).

ARCHITECTURE



Antonio Gonzalez, *Early Architects of Los Angeles: Fifteen Profiles, 1884–1951* (Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2026).

Gonzalez is not only a two-time author; he's also the manager of our Architecture & Fine Arts Library, and for this book he consulted the library's extensive book collection to trace the lives and achievements of fifteen architects and architectural firms that shaped early Los Angeles. Illustrated with images from our USC Digital Library, it reveals the stories behind such L.A. landmarks as the Bradbury Building and the now-demolished Ambassador Hotel.

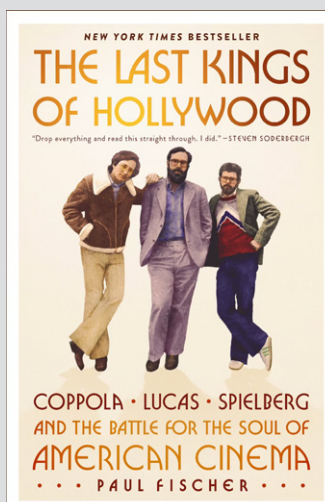
BUSINESS

Ricardo Delao et al., "The Return of Return Dominance: Decomposing the Cross-section of Prices," *Journal of Financial Economics* 169 (July 2025).

Gerard Hoberg et al., "Leaky Director Networks and Innovation Herding," *The Review of Financial Studies* 39, no. 1 (January 2026), 158–97.

Richard Sloan et al., "Do Sustainability Reports Contain Financially Material Information?" *Review of Accounting Studies* 31 (2025), 1–36.

CINEMA STUDIES



Paul Fischer, *The Last Kings of Hollywood: Coppola, Lucas, Spielberg—and the Battle for the Soul of American Cinema* (New York: Celadon, 2026).

In chronicling the rise of these three iconic filmmakers, Fischer drew on the production files of producer Gary Kurtz at our USC Cinematic Arts Library. The collection preserves scripts, press kits, financial records, and other materials from films Kurtz produced, including George Lucas's *American Graffiti* and *Star Wars*. In the contracts for *Star Wars* sequel *The Empire Strikes Back*, Fischer found that Lucas had negotiated an unusually lucrative share of the film's profits, on a sliding scale that ranged from 52.5 percent to 77.5 percent, in perpetuity. The documents gave Fischer a rare window into the financial arrangements behind Lucas's growing power in Hollywood.

Wes Gehring, Irene Dunne: *First Lady of Hollywood* (Lanham: Scarecrow Press, 2026).

Lea Jacobs, *John Ford at Work—Production Histories, 1927–1939* (East Barnet, UK: John Libbey Publishing, 2025).

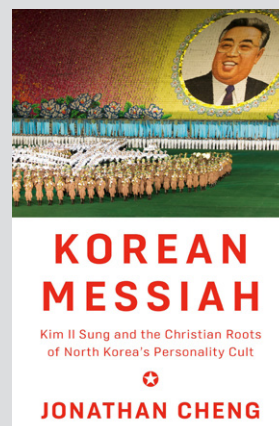
CULTURAL STUDIES

Alberto Castelli, *The Self on Trial: Literary Form and Psychological Analysis* (New York: Routledge, 2026).

Ángela Vergara, "The Chinchilla's Journey: From the Andes to California's Breeding Farms, 1880s–1950s," *Animal History* 2, no. 2 (2026), 19–38.

EAST ASIAN STUDIES

Di-ki Chao, *Exploring Sinophone Liminality in Contemporary Chinese Fiction: Ghost Narratives and the Contouring of Invisible Realms* (New York: Routledge, 2025).



Jonathan Cheng, *Korean Messiah: Kim Il Sung and the Christian Roots of North Korea's Personality Cult* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2026).

In tracing the roots of North Korea's Kim dynasty, historian Jonathan Cheng consulted the Won Tai Sohn papers in our Korean Heritage Library. Those papers preserve an unusually personal record of the relationship between Sohn, a Korean American physician, and his longtime friend and North Korea founder Kim Il Sung. The collection includes multiple drafts of Sohn's memoirs, along with correspondence, clippings, personal papers, and photographs documenting his 1992 visit to North Korea, where he renewed his friendship with Kim.

Nak-cheong Jeon, *The Tale of Hong Jung-rae: Annotated Edition* (Seoul: Seoul National University Press, 2026).

Eun-jin Jung, “Language Practices and Korean Language Education among Early Korean Immigrants in the United States: A Microhistory of the Paik, Sin-koo and Park, Kyeong-su Families,” *Hangugeohak (Korean Linguistics)* 111 (May 2026), 207–52.

EDUCATION

Sarah Caliboso-Soto et al., *Emerging Trends in School Social Work Practice: Responding to Rapid Change in Educational Ecosystems* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2026).



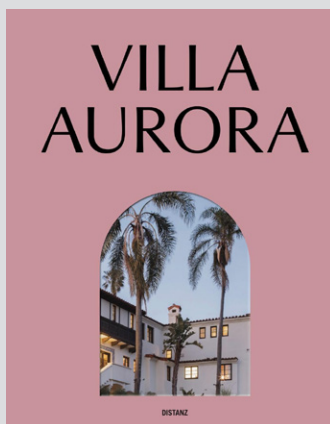
Huriya Jabbar and Danfeng Soto-Vigil Koon, “Researching the Far Right in Education Policy,” *Educational Researcher* (2026), 1–8.

Using our tools and databases, USC Rossier professor Huriya Jabbar and her co-author conducted a systematic review of research on far-right activism in education policy. They identified eighty empirical and historical studies for their analysis that connected recent campaigns against critical race theory, LGBTQ+ inclusion, and other equity initiatives to a longer history of conservative activism in schools, while revealing their effects on curricula, teachers, and marginalized students.

Jennifer L. Nelson, David Diehl, and Huriya Jabbar, “Racial Homophily in Context: Tie Types and Organizational Composition in Teacher Networks,” *American Journal of Education* (June 2026).

EXILE STUDIES

James Clements, *Beauty Freak* (2026). World premiere, cell theatre, April 2026.



Claudia Gordon, Jakob Scherer, eds., *Villa Aurora: Exile, Art, and Freedom in Los Angeles* (Berlin: Distanz, 2025).

Marking the thirtieth anniversary of Villa Aurora as an artists’ residence, this richly illustrated book draws on archival materials from our Feuchtwanger Memorial Library to trace the Pacific Palisades home’s history as a refuge for Lion and Marta Feuchtwanger and as a hub of artistic and intellectual exchange. It includes a chapter by Marje Schuetze-Coburn, who retired on June 30 after serving as our Feuchtwanger Librarian since 1991.

George Kovalenko, “The Boulevard of Sunset: Adorno’s Lyric Subject,” *New German Critique* 52, no. 2 (2025), 185–207.

HEALTH SCIENCES

Theresa Cleary et al., “Efficacy of Dental Varnishes and Gels for the Prevention and Management of Dental Caries in Older Adults—A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis,” *Gerodontology* (2026), 1–23.

Kazi Helal Hossain, Timothy Chuong, Emily Abad, Justin Lin, Chenchen Xia, Meng Li, Yibu Chen, Xianghong Arakaki, and Anju Vasudevan, “Selective Vulnerability of GABAergic Neurons in Chronic Migraine,” *The Journal of Headache and Pain* 26, no. 1 (2025): 266.

David K. Jones et al., “Improving Outcomes from Pain Management Programmes in Aotearoa New Zealand: Listening to the Voices of Māori,” *AlterNative: An International Journal of Indigenous Peoples* 21, no. 2 (June 2025), 364–74.

Zarko Manojlovic, Cindy Okitsu, Timothy Okitsu, Jordan Wlodarczyk, Michael R. Lieber, Yong Hwee Eddie Loh, and Chih-Lin Hsieh, “High-depth Whole Genome Sequencing of Single Human Colon Crypts Uncovers New View on Crypt Clonality,” *bioRxiv* (September 2025).

Jared Vagy et al., “Musculoskeletal Injuries in Rock Climbing: A Scoping Review,” *BMJ Open Sport & Exercise Medicine* 12, no. 1 (February 2026).

Linda Yaron Weston, “The Confidence to Cope: Building Well-Being Tools in a University Mindfulness Course,” *Journal of American College Health* 74, no. 2 (Feb. 2026), 424–32.

LGBTQ+ STUDIES

Ryan Adelsheim, “Staging the Queer Archive: Soldiergirls in Process,” in *Dramaturgy and History: Staging the Archive* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2025), 60–67.

Nayland Blake et al., *No Wrong Holes: Thirty Years of Nayland Blake* (Los Angeles: Institute of Contemporary Art, 2025).

Jacob Bloomfield, “‘Little Richard: Down, Not Out’: The Quasar of Rock’s LGBTQ Iconicity and the Historical Reception to His Sexuality and Gender Presentation, 1955–Present,” *Journal of the History of Sexuality* 35, no. 1 (2026), 28–59.

Stacy Brensilver Berman and Robert Cohen, *Teaching LGBTQ+ History in High Schools: Practical Strategies and Voices of Experience* (New York: Routledge, 2026).

Ben Miller, “Parody, Punk, and ‘Terrorist Drag’: Inside the World of Vaginal Davis,” *New York Times*, September 9, 2025.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Sook Jong Lee, “The Role of Think Tanks in Public Diplomacy: The Cases of South Korea and Japan,” in *Public Diplomacy between Asia and the Middle East* (London: Routledge, 2025).

Lucas Perelló et al., “Shade-grown Authoritarianism? Revisiting Coffee as a Curse in Latin America and the Caribbean,” *Democratization* (2025), 1–25.

SELECTED EMPLOYEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Recent graduates of USC's MMLIS program pose with some of our USC Libraries faculty members.

AWARDS AND PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Jacquelyn Amaro, Michael Atkins, Augustin Castaneda, Gabriel Contreras, Katie Ehrbar, Ileana Hill, Eugene Skibinsky, Travis Viera-Liden, and Felicia Xa studied in the USC Bovard College Master of Management in Library and Information Science program during this past year. Atkins, Skibinsky, and Viera-Liden graduated from the program, and Viera-Liden was awarded the Order of Arête in recognition of his academic excellence, leadership, and contributions to the university community.

Quetzal Arévalo completed their term as Getty Foundation Curatorial Assistant at ONE Archives with support from the foundation's Emerging Professionals grant program. Arévalo curated two exhibitions in the past year and led ONE's development of cultural programs for USC's Visions & Voices initiative.

Nicolette Breski was honored by USC's Staff Assembly as Employee of the Month in November 2025 for "enhancing the quality of life at the University by exemplary performance far beyond title or job description."

Sam Gustman was inducted into the National Academy of Inventors (NAI) for his extensive contributions to the field of cultural heritage preservation, digital access technologies, and education. Gustman joins a distinguished body of 945 senior members worldwide.

Dean Melissa Just began her one-year term as president of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) in January of 2026. Her role builds on many years of leadership in the organization. A signature initiative for Just was the February 2026 ARL President's Institute, "Unlocking Innovation," which investigated practical approaches to sustainable innovation in improving library services, optimizing workflows, and building partnerships.

Cari Kaurloto won the MLA EBSCO Collaboration for Information Literacy Prize. She shared the award with USC Viterbi faculty member Helen Choi, for a class they co-developed on navigating digital misinformation.

Frances Lezcano continued her service in the USC Staff Assembly, representing the USC Libraries in Senate Seat 23.

Tang Li earned the Excellent Paper Award for "Sinophone Scholarship: Highlights from an Annotated Bibliography Project 华语语系学术研究辑要: 注释书目阶段性成果展示" at the 8th Sino-U.S. Academic Library Forum for Cooperation and Development in July 2025.

Kun Lin has been elected to the Ex Libris Users of North America (ELUNA) Steering Committee for a three-year term.

Nathan Masters received a National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Award for hosting the "Animation" episode of *Lost LA*, our co-production with PBS SoCal. The series was also named as a finalist for ten SoCal Journalism Awards by the Los Angeles Press Club and was nominated for two Los Angeles Area Emmy Awards by the Television Academy.

Melissa Miller graduated with a master's degree in Heritage Conservation from the USC School of Architecture, and earned a Graduate Certificate in Landscape Architecture. In addition, she was inducted into Tau Sigma Delta, the National Collegiate Honor Society for Architecture and the Allied Arts.

Renée Rau was selected for the 2025–2026 Medical Library Association's Rising Star Program cohort, designed to cultivate the next generation of medical library leaders.

Karin Saric was selected to be on the *Journal of the Medical Library Association* editorial board.

Hannah Schilperoort and Jennifer Silverman were awarded an MLGSCA Research Grant for a qualitative interview research project: "Information Practices of Dental Students in Mobile Clinic Rotations: Insights into Information Use for Community Dental Care."

Hannah Schilperoort and Annie Thompson both received Doctor of Education degrees in Organizational Change and Leadership from USC and were inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi for their extraordinary academic achievements.

Win Shih was awarded a Fulbright US Scholar grant to Vietnam. He spent the spring 2026 semester collaborating on research and teaching initiatives with partners at two universities. Additionally, Win serves as a reviewer on the USC Fulbright US Student Program Campus Committee, where they mentor students and assist in strengthening their applications.



Associate Dean Sam Gustman, recently inducted into the National Academy of Inventors



View of the *Fairy Prince* installation at ONE Archives

EXHIBITIONS

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.

Inside the Operation: The Work of Medical Libraries (July 2025–ongoing), Norris Medical Library. Created by Annie Thompson, Karin Saric, Renée Rau, and Luis Franco.

A Pop-up Reading Room on Queer, Trans, and Nonbinary Music History (September 6, 2025), Getty Center. Curated by Quetzal Arévalo.

Sanctuary and Scrutiny: German-Speaking Exiles and the Politics of Belonging (October 2025–March 2026), Doheny Memorial Library. Curated by Taylor Dwyer and Lola Jalbert.

Holding Patterns by Alexandra Juhasz (October–December 2025), ONE Archives. Organized by Alexis Bard Johnson and Quetzal Arévalo.

Not All Fun and Games (January–September 2026), Doheny Memorial Library. Curated by Susan Luftschein.

NEED ME, or, (de)mystifying the Myth of the Modern Primitive (February–June 2026), ONE Archives. Curated by Quetzal Arévalo.

1776–1976: USC, Los Angeles, and the US Bicentennial (March–September 2026), Doheny Memorial Library. Curated by Amy Braden, Laura Dominguez, Tyson Gaskill, Anne-Marie Maxwell, and Suzanne Noruschat.

PRESENTATIONS

Stella Castillo, Jennifer Dinalo, Christine Preimesberger, and Shannon Robinson co-presented “When Research Funds Disappear: Building Research Support Through Time, Connections, and Practice” at the Empirical Librarian Conference, held at Clemson on May 14, 2026.

Amy J. Chatfield, Renée A. Rau, Karin Saric, and Annie Thompson co-presented “Development and Testing of the CAAIS (Critical Appraisal of AI Summaries) Tool” at the Medical Library Association Annual Meeting, held in Milwaukee on May 22, 2026.

Rebecca Corbett gave a public talk for the Smithsonian National Museum of Asian Art, “Women Gathering for Tea: Global Perspectives from Edo to Meiji,” February 24, 2026.

Rebecca Corbett presented “A Reading Journey Through Japan: An American Woman’s Perspective” at the Western Conference for the Association for Asian Studies, held on November 7–8, 2025, at El Colegio de México in Mexico City.

Taylor Dwyer presented a paper at “40 + 40 = 80 Years of Images about the Shoah (1945-1985-2025)” about USC Libraries Special Collections material, held on November 17–18, 2025, at Roma Tre University in Rome.

Taylor Dwyer presented about the German-Jewish exile writer Lion Feuchtwanger at Shabbat services on March 27, 2026, at USC Hillel.

Katie Ehrbar and Louise Smith presented “‘We Thought It Was One Tape, One Record’: Metadata Mayhem and Workflow Lessons from a Large-Scale A/V Digitization Project,” at the Digital Library Federation (DLF) in Denver on November 18, 2025, about digitizing the Jerry Brown collection.

Bridgid Fennell presented “Disability Visibility: Making Inaccessible Digital Materials Visible,” for the Tampa Bay Library Consortium, on February 5, 2026.

Bridgid Fennell presented “Begin at the End: Using Retrospective Pre-then-Post Tests to Gauge Learner Motivation” at the SCIL (Southern California Instruction Librarians) Works, on February 20, 2026.

Benjamin Hall presented “Information Literacy in the Age of AI” at USC’s AI Summit on November 11, 2025.

Benjamin Hall gave the keynote presentation “Making It Official: Why Libraries Should Formalize Cost-Sharing Agreements with MOUs,” at Southern University and College Academic Business Librarians Conference (SOU CABL) in Nashville, on May 14, 2026.

Andrea Harrow gave a presentation “Cultured Collaborations: A Case Study and Comparison of Academic Library Relationships with Associated Clinical Organizations,” as part of the MLA Annual Meeting, held May 6, 2026.

Andrea Harrow gave a presentation “Interprofessional Partnerships: Elevating Information Literacy and Scholarly Communication within a Healthcare Setting,” at the Empirical Librarian Conference, held at Clemson on May 14, 2026.

Alexis Bard Johnson presented “Lesbian Visual Artists in Lesbian Magazines from the 1950s to the Present” at the Lesbian Lives conference in New York, held on October 24–25, 2025.

Alexis Bard Johnson presented on “Campus-Based Museums and PST ART: Stories of Adaptation and Collaboration” at the California Association of Museums annual conference in Los Angeles, held March 10–13, 2026.

Alexis Bard Johnson presented at the symposium “Tales of Superstition and Magic” hosted by LUMA Arles from December 12–14, 2025.

Robert Labaree gave a presentation with Dornsife Associate Professor Doug Becker on their research project entitled “Beyond Plagiarism: Positive-centered Citation Literacy.”

Tang Li presented “Discovering the World of Sinophone Studies: A Digital Initiative” at the Pacific Rim Research Libraries Alliance (PRRLA) Annual Meeting, held in Sendai, Japan, in October 2025.

Tang Li presented “A Living Bibliography for Sinophone Studies: AI-Supported Scholarly Discovery,” at the Society for Chinese Studies Librarians Annual Meeting, held in Vancouver, on March 13, 2026.

Kelly Maldonado presented “Automating Technical Services and Collection Development Workflows with FreshService” at the Charleston Conference, held November 3–7, 2025.

Danielle Mihram presented “Artificial Intelligence’s Transformative Research Methods and Techniques in the Digital Humanities” at the NSF ACCESS Regional AI Workshop–SoCal Edition on January 22, 2026.

Renée Rau co-presented “Experiences of Middle Managers and Middle Management at Health Sciences Libraries: A Survey and Retrospective Analysis,” in Milwaukee on May 21, 2026, at the Medical Library Association Annual Meeting.

Renée Rau co-presented “Collaborating Across Perspectives: Graphic Medicine and Community Health Outreach Influencing Library Collections” in Milwaukee on May 22, 2026, at the Medical Library Association Annual Meeting.

Hannah Schilperoort gave a presentation “Assessing a Popular Reading Mental Health and Well-being Collection in a Dental Library,” at the Medical Library Association Annual Conference, held in Milwaukee, May 19–22, 2026.

Hannah Schilperoort presented the poster “Advancing Information Literacy and Citation Accuracy in the Age of AI,” at the Medical Library Association Annual Conference, held in Milwaukee, May 19–22, 2026.



Taylor Dwyer, curator of our Feuchtwanger Memorial Library



USC librarians Shahla Bahavar, Hannah Schilperoort, Dean Melissa Just, and Annie Thompson at the May 2026 Phi Kappa Phi initiation ceremony, where Schilperoort and Thompson were inducted into the honor society



USC librarians Sophie Lesinska (in light blue) and Win Shih (second from the right) meet with professional counterparts in Vietnam

Hannah Schilperoort and Jennifer Silverman

presented a poster “Empowering Student Research to Address Oral Health Disparities” at the American Dental Education Association Fall Meeting in Colorado Springs on October 15, 2025.

Win Shih presented “Preserving Living Heritage: Coffee Culture and the Digital Future of Vietnam,” at the World Coffee Heritage Forum: From Diverse Traditions to a Living Global Heritage, held at the World Coffee Museum in Vietnam, from April 17–19, 2026.

Win Shih co-presented “Expanding Accessibility—How Publishers and Librarians are Collaborating to Meet New Legal Mandates and Deliver Meaningful Change,” at the Charleston Conference Asia, held January 26–28, 2026, in Bangkok.

Jennifer Silverman, “Cracking the Case: A Survey on Resource Usefulness and Librarian Assistance among First-year Health Sciences Students,” April 2026, CARL Meeting.

Chimène Tucker co-presented “Claiming Our Narratives: Feminist Resistance in Educational Spaces” at the National Women’s Studies Association, held in San Juan, Puerto Rico, from November 13–16, 2025.

Jade Winn co-presented “Best Practices and LLM-Based Approaches for Conducting More Efficient and Higher Quality Meta-Analyses in Marketing” at the American Marketing Association Summer Conference, in Chicago on August 23, 2025.

PUBLICATIONS

Amy Chatfield, review of *Managing Crises in the Academic Library: Past, Present, and Future*, in *Medical Reference Services Quarterly* 44, no. 3 (2025), 343–44.

Rebecca Corbett, “Green Gruel? Pea Soup? What Westerners Thought of Matcha When they Tried it for the First Time,” *The Conversation* (September 3, 2025). Republished as “Matcha’s Popularity Has Skyrocketed, but it Was Initially Met with Skepticism in the West,” *PBS News* (September 13, 2025).

Antonio Gonzalez, *Early Architects of Los Angeles: Fifteen Profiles, 1884–1951* (Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2026).

Benjamin Hall et al., “Deal or No Deal? Tips for Cost Sharing Business Data in Higher Education,” *Ticker: The Academic Business Librarianship Review* 10, no. 2 (2026).

Andrea Harrow, Karin Saric, Hannah Schilperoort, and Annie Thompson, “Trauma-informed Approaches to Academic Library Hiring and Onboarding,” in *Advances in Library Administration and Organization* (Leeds: Emerald Publishing, 2025).

Kevin Klipfel, *Thinking Critically about What Matters: A Punk Rock Guide* (Chicago: ALA Editions, 2026).

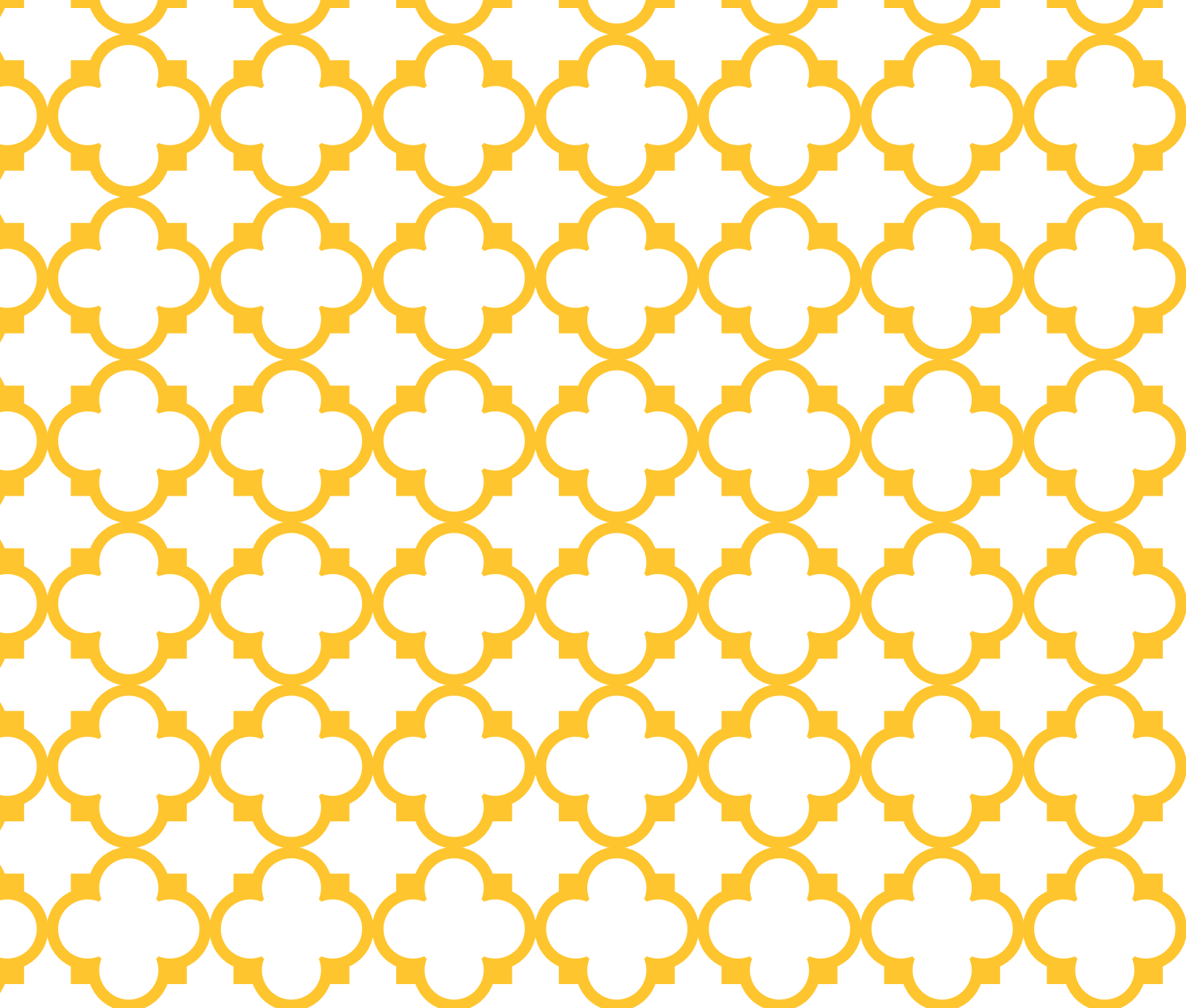
Tang Li co-launched *Sinophone Studies: An Annotated Bibliography*, an online resource dedicated to Sinophone research.

Clarissa Moreno and Jade Winn et al., “Vicarious Racial Discrimination and Mental Health among Adults: A Scoping Review of Literature Published between 2010 and 2023,” *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities* (January 15, 2026).

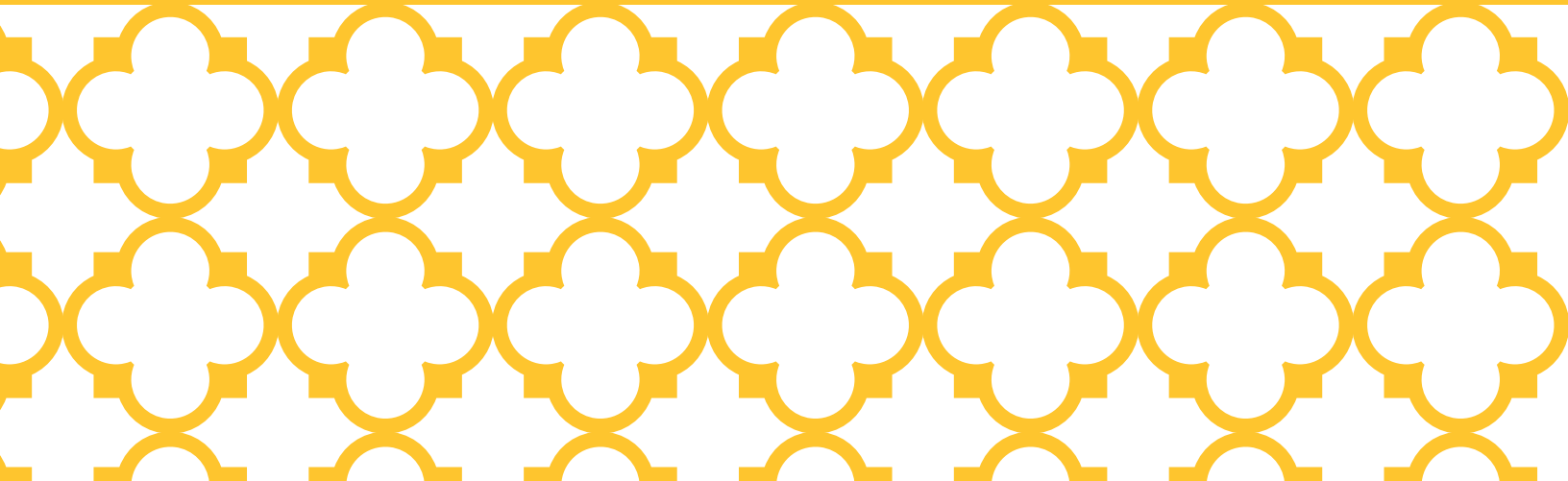
Renée Ann Rau et al., eds., *Information, Power, and Reproductive Health* (Sacramento: Library Juice Press, 2025).

Jennifer Silverman, “Problem-based Learning (PBL) Library Resources and Support: Survey Insights from First-year Dental Students,” *Medical Reference Services Quarterly* (2026), 1–17.

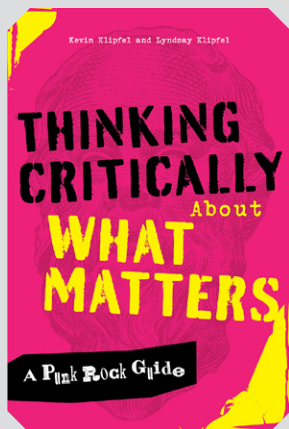
Jade Winn et al., “Use of Generative AI in Academia: Autoethnographic Perspectives from NNES and NES Scholars,” *The Qualitative Report* 30, no. 12 (2025).



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT







In the fall, teaching and learning librarian Kevin Klipfel taught **a seven-week philosophy course through the USC Dornsife Prison Education Project**. The course drew on ideas from Socrates, Plato, Taoism, Zen Buddhism, and other traditions to help students at the Santa Fe Springs Women's Facility reflect on the values that shape their lives. Klipfel developed the class after writing *Thinking Critically about What Matters: A Punk Rock Guide* (ALA Editions, 2026), a book he co-authored with Lyndsay Klipfel, which argues that the role of libraries is to democratize access to information and empower people to make thoughtful decisions about what to believe and how to live. Klipfel soon returned to the Prison Education Project, teaching in person at Amistad de Los Angeles, a men's re-entry facility near USC's University Park Campus.

The authors and screenwriters behind **the film *One Battle After Another* and the series *Death by Lightning* won the 38th-annual USC Libraries Scriptor Awards**. The awards recognize each year's most accomplished film and series adaptations. Screenwriter Paul Thomas Anderson took home the film award for his work adapting Thomas Pynchon's Reagan-era satire *Vineland* into *One Battle After Another*. For episodic series, screenwriter Mike Makowsky and author Candice Millard won for *Death by Lightning*, based on Millard's nonfiction book *Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine, and the Murder of a President*. The series revolves around the 20th president of the United States, James A. Garfield, and his assassin, Charles Guiteau. Anderson, Pynchon, and Makowsky had all previously been Scriptor nominees. USC president Beong-Soo Kim accompanied Thornton School of Music students on a cello performance of music from the Scriptor finalist film *Hamnet*.



Left to right: USC Libraries dean Melissa Just; Scriptor Selection Committee chair Howard Rodman; Scriptor Award winner Mike Makowsky (*Death by Lightning*); Michael Connelly, 2026 recipient of the Literary Achievement Award; actor Titus Welliver; and USC President Beong-Soo Kim.



Seasons eight and nine of our public television co-production aired in 2026.



Materials from 1776–1976: USC, Los Angeles, and the US Bicentennial on display in Doheny Memorial Library's main foyer

Two new seasons of *Lost LA* premiered in 2026. A co-production of the USC Libraries and PBS SoCal, the Emmy Award-winning public television series explores Southern California history through the region's libraries and archives, including our own regional history collections and those of our partners in the L.A. as Subject research alliance. Season eight included episodes on auto racing, science fiction, true crime, and colorful plants—and prominently featured our ONE Archives and the Edward S. Sullivan papers in our Special Collections. Season nine explored Southern California landmarks, landscapes, agricultural industries, and cultural icons, from lost neighborhoods and transportation networks to agricultural history, public art, and popular culture. Episodes aired on PBS SoCal and can be streamed on the PBS app, at pbssocal.org, or on YouTube.

In the spring, we hosted **1776–1976: USC, Los Angeles, and the US Bicentennial**, an exhibition exploring how Southern California communities used the nation's 1976 Bicentennial festivities to assert visibility, belonging, and political identity. Part of the regional LA2026 collaboration spearheaded by the USC-Huntington Early Modern Studies Institute, the exhibition drew from our Special Collections, USC University Archives, and ONE Archives to examine Chicano/a student activism, LGBTQ+ organizing, Black history programming, and other Bicentennial commemorations on and near USC's campus. Doheny Memorial Library also hosted two related public humanities discussions—"Innovators and Movers at USC in 1976" on April 8, and "Heroes and Founders" on April 22—which brought USC alumni, scholars, and community voices into conversation about memory, identity, and civic belonging.

1 million

steps recorded by 13
USC Libraries employees
during a health challenge
organized by our
Culture Committee

In the fall, we presented ***True Crime, History, and the Stories We Tell***, a two-part Visions & Voices series exploring the enduring appeal of true crime. It opened on September 15 with an advance screening of a new *Lost LA* episode about the genre, followed by a panel discussion with author and former prosecutor Marcia Clark, author and *New Yorker* staff writer Susan Orlean, and *Lost LA* host Nathan Masters. On October 4, students returned to Doheny Memorial Library for an immersive staging by Theatre 40 of *The Manor*, the award-winning play inspired by the 1929 murder of Edward L. “Ned” Doheny Jr., with actors in period dress reenacting key moments as the audience moved through the library.

Throughout the past year, USC’s Marine and Environmental Biology department celebrated its 125th anniversary, culminating in a public celebration on February 17, 2026, in the Torrey-Webb room within the Allan Hancock Foundation building. In conjunction with the special occasion, **the USC Libraries exhibitions team created a permanent display** in the space featuring materials from the university archives that highlight the groundbreaking oceanic research conducted by USC scientists since 1901.

On October 18, we co-hosted with **Cal State LA the 20th-annual Los Angeles Archives Bazaar**, where keepers of archival collections come together to help us understand our history. More than eighty institutions from the L.A. as Subject collective were on hand to introduce researchers to their collections. The year’s theme was “community,” highlighting the collective resilience of our region despite the multiple civic and environmental challenges we faced. A highlight of the day’s programming was a special advance screening of a new *Lost LA* episode on the development of science fiction and its fan base in Southern California in the middle of the twentieth century.

In late October, USC Libraries Special Collections hosted ***Doheny After Dark***, a Halloween-themed event developed in partnership with USC Dornsife professor of history Lindsay O’Neill and curator of the Feuchtwanger Memorial Library, Taylor Dwyer. Students explored rare books and manuscripts through a series of object-based riddles. The event, created with the USC history department, gave students a hands-on introduction to primary source research and information literacy wrapped in an evening of eerie tales and haunted histories.



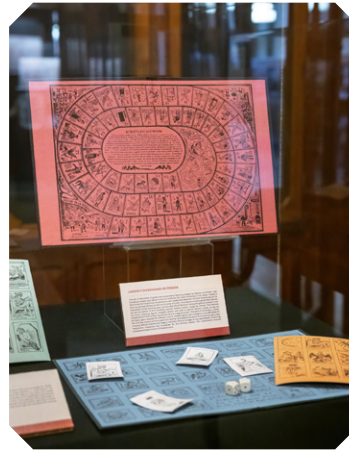
A new display highlights 125 years of marine and environmental biology at USC, using materials from the University Archives.



An exhibitor and visitor talk at the 20th-annual Los Angeles Archives Bazaar.



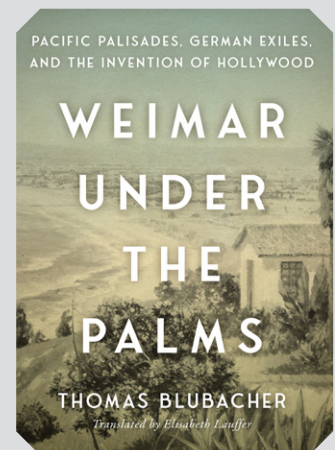
Students explore rare books and manuscripts from our Special Collections at *Doheny After Dark*.



Games from our collections on display in *Not All Fun and Games*

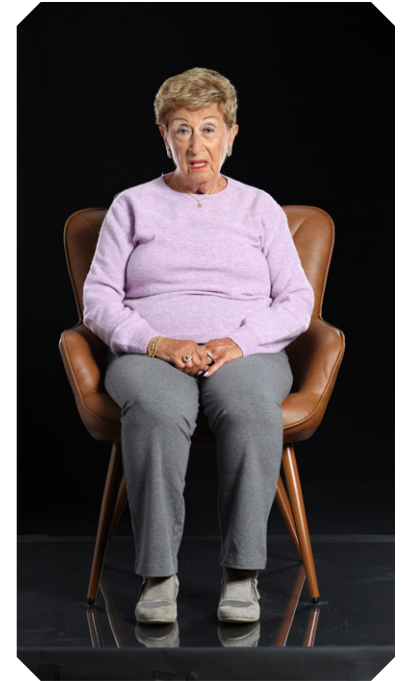
In the spring, **Doheny Library and the USC Game Innovation Lab co-hosted *Let's Play***, a Visions & Voices program comprising a three-part series examining how tabletop games can inspire social change. The series, organized by Anne-Marie Maxwell, opened with a *Game Tasting* featuring fifteen stations of modern classics and newer releases, including *Monarch*, which examines themes of gender, power, and colonization, alongside student-designed prototype games making their public debut. A panel discussion moderated by USC Game Innovation Lab director Tracy Fullerton brought together award-winning inventor Mary Jo Reutter, narrative designer and screenwriter Lauren Bello, and scholar-artist Mary Flanagan to explore how games can confront inequality, critique dominant narratives, and function as tools for social transformation. The series culminated in the exhibition titled *Not All Fun and Games*, which drew on the USC Libraries' collections to trace how games have developed beyond social interaction to serve as media for propaganda, social justice, artistic expression, and political commentary across history and cultures.

In the fall, Doheny Memorial Library presented ***Sanctuary and Scrutiny: German-Speaking Exiles and the Politics of Belonging***, an exhibition drawing on the USC Libraries Feuchtwanger and Cinematic Arts collections to explore how German-speaking exiles, many of Jewish heritage, who fled fascism during World War II, went on to face political persecution during the McCarthy era. The exhibition was organized by Taylor Dwyer, curator of the Feuchtwanger Memorial Library, and co-curated by Special Collections intern Lola Jalbert. In conjunction with the exhibition, the USC Libraries and Max Kade Institute co-sponsored a conversation between Doris Berger, vice president of curatorial affairs at the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures, and Swiss theater scholar Thomas Blubacher, whose recently translated *Weimar under the Palms* examines the ambiguous fates of Jewish intellectuals who fled Nazi Germany for Southern California in the 1930s and 1940s, creating a unique cultural sanctuary even as some felt trapped in a "sun prison" far from home.





Visitors at the opening reception of *NEED ME*, held at ONE Archives



Holocaust survivor Rodi Glass shares her testimony as part of *Voices of Survival*.

ONE Archives at the USC Libraries presented a wealth of cultural programs over the past year. These included exhibitions like *The Space We Take: Portraits from the Archive*; *Holding Patterns* by Alexandra Juhasz; *A Pop-up Reading Room on Queer, Trans, and Nonbinary Music History* at the Getty Center; and *NEED ME, or, (de)mystifying the myth of the modern primitive*. ONE also hosted curator tours, public conversations and virtual studio visits with artists, film screenings, and the L.A. Queer Zine Fest—which brought 500 people to ONE’s location on the USC campus. ONE collaborated with USC’s Visions and Voices Arts and Humanities Initiative, the California African American Museum, Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles, TRANS·FORM, Visual AIDS, the UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center, and a variety of other cultural organizations.

30 and counting

Interactive Interviews
on cultural heritage topics
using conversational
AI agents

The USC Libraries recently partnered with the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center and the USC Shoah Foundation to launch ***Voices of Survival***, an immersive online platform that allows visitors to have real-time conversations with genocide survivors. The innovative, richly historical interactive experience deepens empathy and encourages personal connections to the survivors’ experiences. *Voices of Survival* includes interactive video testimonies from Holocaust survivors Marion Deichmann, Aaron Elster, Fritzie Fritzshall, and Rodi Glass; and Kizito D. Kalima, a survivor of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda.

One of the ways we activate our collections is through creative partnerships with faculty on campus. Our exile-related archives, which focus heavily on the 20th-century German-Jewish writer Lion Feuchtwanger, his wife Marta, and their circle of fellow émigrés, have provided frequent inspiration for our USC School of Dramatic Arts. On April 22, **Professor Oliver Mayer led a group of actors performing “Feuchtwanger Refreshed: Road to Yosemite”**—a series of short plays written by MFA students and inspired by Marta’s solo ski trip to Northern California for her fiftieth birthday in 1941.

In February, USC Visions and Voices hosted a presentation and panel featuring Karen Tang, board-certified gynecologist and digital health advocate known for using TikTok, podcasting, and short-form video to combat reproductive health misinformation. Organized by Renée A. Rau and Annie Thompson of USC Libraries, Pamela Schaff, Erika Wright, Danica Liberman, and Ronan Hallowell of the Keck School and HEAL, and Jane Steinberg of Population and Public Health Sciences, the event reflected a broad collaborative effort across USC. Drawing on her book *It’s Not Hysteria: Everything You Need to Know about Your Gynecologic Health (But Were Never Told)* and a social media following of over 400,000 across platforms, Tang spoke to how **digital tools can advance health equity, dismantle stigma around taboo topics, and expand access to accurate reproductive health information for diverse communities.**

634,500

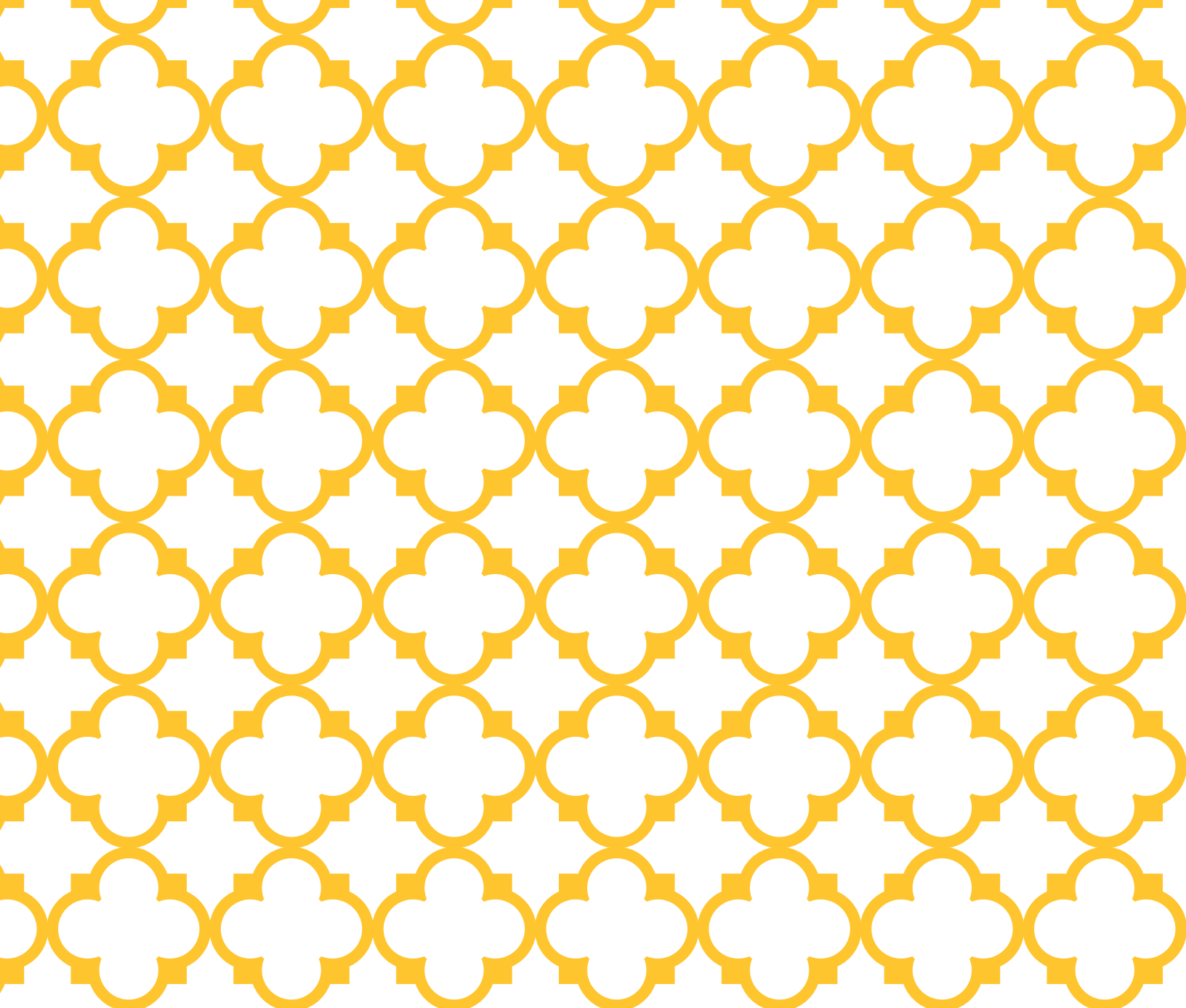
viewers of the “Is That a Waterslide on the 5?” YouTube short from season seven of the *Lost LA* series coproduced by the USC Libraries and PBS SoCal



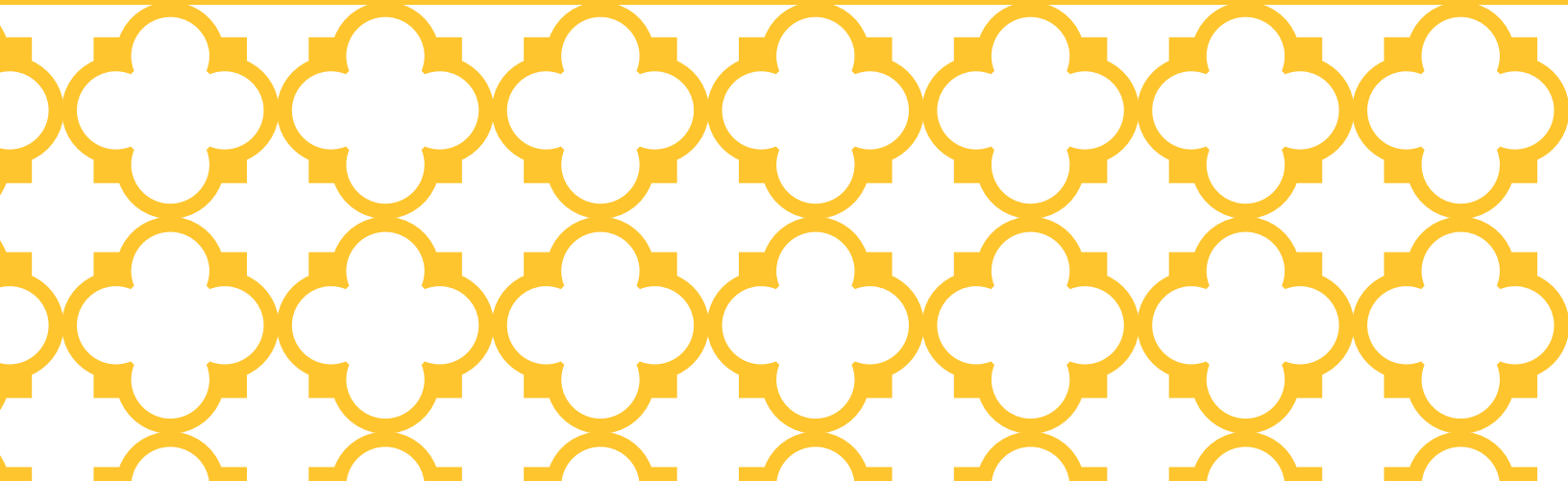
Actors perform in “Feuchtwanger Refreshed: Road to Yosemite.”



Karen Tang visited the USC Health Sciences Campus for a Visions & Voices program on reproductive health misinformation, cosponsored by Norris Medical Library.



GIVING





Recent gifts have revitalized our student-focused spaces inside Doheny Memorial Library, Leavey Library, and Norris Medical Library. A generous gift from the family of Patsy Z. Dewey is helping us restore one of our most treasured study spaces, the historic card catalog room inside Doheny Library. In the past year, library donors have also supported the restoration of rare books, recognition of student excellence at our USC Libraries Research Awards, the mental health and well-being of students who participate in our Study On! programs, new collections in our USC Digital Library, our arts and cultural heritage programs at ONE Archives, and signature events like our USC Libraries Scriptor Awards.

Theodore Hsi-en Chen (1902–1991) and his wife Wen-Hui Chen (1903–2010) leave an enduring legacy at the University of Southern California. Both earned doctorates from the university and held faculty positions at the USC Rossier School of Education and the sociology department at USC Dornsife College, respectively. Theodore Chen helped to establish East Asian studies at USC during the 1940s, teaching in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures and later serving as founding director of the East Asian Studies Center. **The Chens' daughter and son-in-law, Helen and Jesse Cheng, and their grandchildren David, Michael, and Robert Cheng recently made a \$1 million gift to establish the Dr. Theodore Chen and Wen-Hui Chen East Asian Library** in honor of the couple's extraordinary contributions to advancing cross-cultural understanding through programs across the university. During their lifetimes, the couple supported a pioneering international scholarship program for graduate students from China, the USC Libraries, and the USC Rossier School of Education.



Theodore Hsi-en Chen teaches an Asian studies course at USC.



The Patsy Z. Dewey and Family Card Catalog Alcove in Doheny Memorial Library

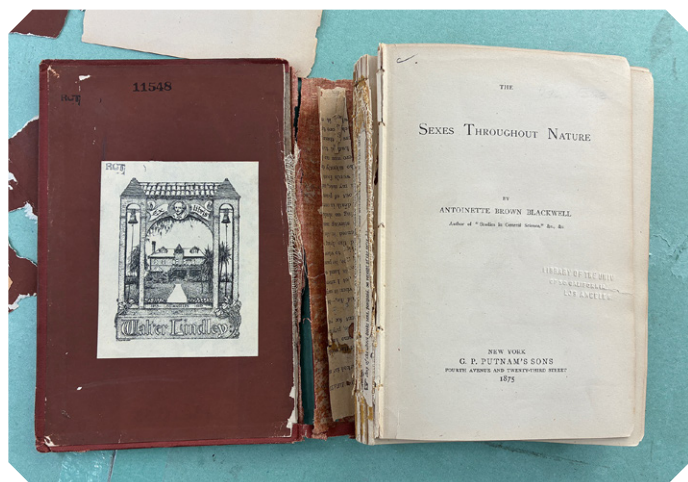


One of the new study pods in Leavey Library

Thanks to the generosity of donors who attended the USC Libraries Scriptor Award ceremony, **we recently added six new study pods to the second- and third-floor study spaces of Leavey Library.** The state-of-the-art pods provide students with an ideal environment for focused, individual study and include supporting technology for remote classes, meetings, job interviews, and collaboration.

In the past year, significant cultural heritage projects at the USC Libraries were made possible by institutional support from the American Library Association, the California State Library, the Joanne Marie and Marcel George Foundation, the Getty Foundation, the John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation, the Henry Luce Foundation, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Overseas Korean Studies and Heritage Foundation, and the Terra Foundation for American Art. These included **projects to create a digital catalog of 1,000 rare artist books in our collections, digital collections of materials held by the California Social Welfare Archives, research on the social impacts of AI in online spaces, and upcoming cultural programs by ONE Archives.**





Prior to conservation, some of our Special Collections materials may have broken covers, detached spines, and loose pages.



A photo after restoration shows how the generosity of our library supporters helps preserve our rare materials for centuries to come.

The rare books in our Special Collections and Area Studies department have come to us down the centuries through purchases and donations. Thanks to the generosity of our donors and initiatives like **our Adopt-a-Book program**, the USC Libraries are able to restore and preserve these treasures for our Trojan scholars for centuries to come. Some of the books restored in the past year with support from donors to the libraries include a 1524 edition of Homer's *Iliad* produced in Venice; a 1676 edition of the *History of the Grecian Wars* by the ancient Greek historian Thucydides; a Spanish-language cookbook by the renowned nineteenth-century French chef Jules Gouffé; and a first edition of Antoinette Brown Blackwell's 1875 *The Sexes Throughout Nature*—a landmark work in women's equality.



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



(In)Versions (2000) by Julie Chen and David Turner from a collection of more than 1,000 artist books in our Special Collections



Throughout the year, students get first-hand experience with primary sources in Special Collections thanks to courses co-taught by our librarians.

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