Library Art Gallery Exhibit

The Sonoma State University Library is showing Queeries: Queer Artists & Identity from August 19 to December 13, 2019. The multimedia exhibit—located on the 2nd floor of the Jean and Charles Schulz Information Center—commemorates the 50th Anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising and the following decades of LGBTQ+ liberation, and features Bay Area artists Jerome Caja (the Jerome Project), Jeffrey Cheung, Seth Eisen, Jeremy Novy, the Queer Ancestors Project, and Silky Shoemaker. Also on display is the LGBTQI History: A Sonoma County Timeline 1950s-1999, located on the South wing of the 2nd floor.

Please join us in commemorating this stunning artwork at the gallery reception on Thursday, October 3, 4:00 - 5:30pm. All are invited, and light refreshments will be served.

Dinner Table Talk: Educated

Join us in the University Library for dinner and a discussion of Tara Westover’s best-selling memoir, Educated. Born to radical survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, Westover chronicles her own astounding journey in obtaining an education, from covertly teaching herself algebra to ultimately earning a PhD from Cambridge University. The memoir powerfully explores the struggle for self-invention and what it means to strive beyond the limitations of birth and environment.

Come to Schulz 3001 at 6:00pm on Monday, November 4, 2019 for (free!) dinner and a great conversation. All are welcome. RSVP by emailing library@sonoma.edu.

Congratulations to Laura Krier upon Receiving Tenure

Laura Krier, our Systems and Metadata Librarian, has deservedly received promotion to Associate Librarian as of Summer 2019. Beyond her functional role, Laura also serves as liaison to the School of Arts & Humanities, provides direction to the Library’s technical services team, sits as the Department Chair, and is an invaluable leader and mentor to many Library personnel. Laura has worked in libraries for 10 years. She received her MS in Library and Information Science from Simmons College in Boston, MA, and has a BA in Literature and Women’s Studies from UC Santa Cruz.

In the last six years at SSU, Laura helped migrate the library to a new, CSU-wide library management system, oversaw several updates and redesigns of the library website, briefly coordinated the library’s marketing and outreach efforts, and chaired the recent strategic planning task force. When she’s not working, Laura has many hobbies including sewing, cooking, writing, crafting, reading, and running. She’s currently obsessed with mixed-media art journaling and training to run the Santa Rosa 10K in late August. A hearty congratulations to Laura for earning tenure!
Building Updates

The first floor of the Library is undergoing an exciting transformation! In addition to welcoming a suite of student-facing support services, the “commons” of the first floor, a popular place for students to study, relax, connect, and hang out, is being refurbished with new furniture and carpeting—the first major refresh of this wing of the Library since the Schulz Information Center opened in 2000. This renovation is supported by the Jean and Charles Schulz Endowment, the School of Extended and International Education, and the Provost.

The first floor is currently closed to general foot traffic while construction in the student services offices is being completed, but when the space reopens, we will plan a grand opening to celebrate the new services and updated space.

The Cesar Chavez mural in the first floor breezeway recently relocated to a new, better location on the second floor, a project approved by the campus Art Committee and overseen by Johanna Poethig, the mural artist. Stop by to see this beautiful artwork in its new location, just outside the current location of Faculty Center, across from the Makerspace.

As a reminder, the SSU Makerspace is open for drop-in use Monday through Thursday noon to 8pm and noon to 5pm on Friday, and can be reserved by appointment on weekday mornings for class visits. Email maker@sonoma.edu at least two weeks prior--space fills up fast.

Thank you for your patience with the dust, noise, and dislocation associated with the Stevenson construction in Schulz. At the end of the process there will be a beautifully updated building that will serve our campus well for years to come.

What’s New in Special Collections

Did you know that some of SSU’s early students rode horses to class? And that the college’s nickname in the 1970s was “Granola State”?

These fun facts, and many more, are on display in the Library’s new exhibit, “From the Pasture to the Present: Sonoma State University’s First Thirty Years,” highlighting our unique Special Collections and University Archives. Photographs, posters, and artifacts tell the story of SSU between 1961 and 1991, from rural beginnings to enthusiastic entrance into the computer age. Be sure to take a look in the display case to see a 1962 Sonoma State College flag, a cheerleader uniform, an early yearbook, and other memorabilia.

Also on view is the exhibit “John LeBaron: A Lifetime of Photography.” LeBaron was the chief photographer for the Press Democrat newspaper and an instructor at Santa Rosa Junior College, where he mentored many future shutterbugs. His wife, historian and writer Gaye LeBaron, donated his archives to Special Collections.

Visit the Library’s third floor to enjoy these new exhibits.