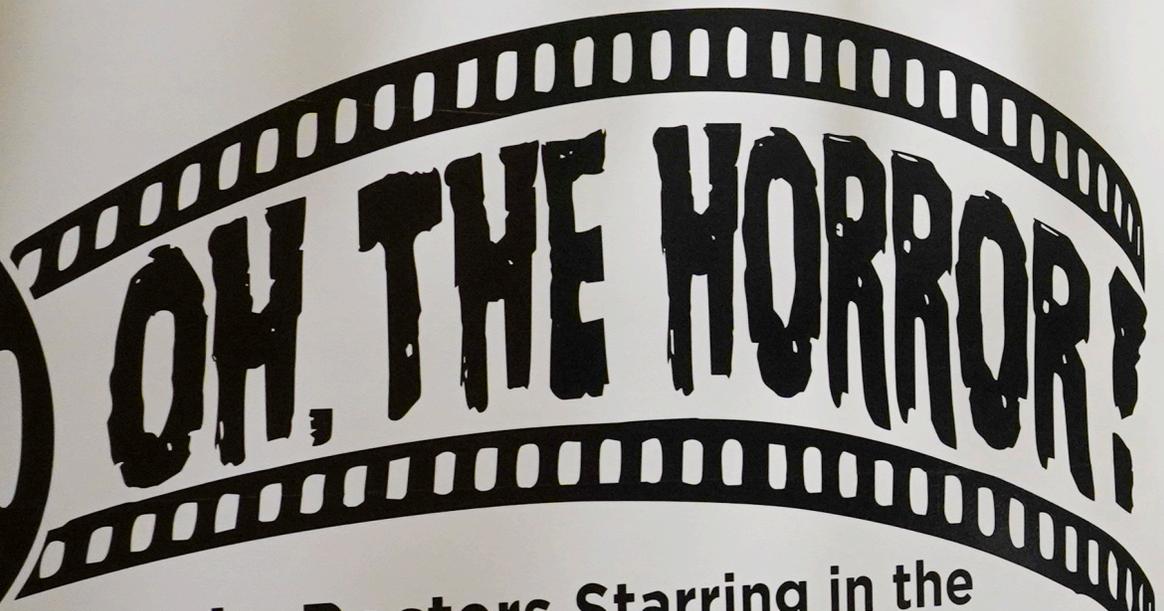


University of Pittsburgh

# Library System

IMPACT REPORT 2019



A thick black curved line representing a film strip, with small rectangular perforations along its top and bottom edges. The text "OH, THE HORROR!" is written in a large, bold, black, hand-drawn font across the center of the strip.

# OH, THE HORROR!

Movie Posters Starring in the  
George A. Romero Archival Collection





## OH, THE HORROR!

A library visitor studies the movie poster for *Night of the Living Dead*. This poster is part of a free exhibit at Hillman Library, featuring highlights from the George A. Romero Archival Collection. Pittsburgh served as the setting for many of Romero's films and the city became an integral part of his storytelling. Today his name is synonymous with both the horror and zombie genres. (Photo/Donald Henderson, University of Pittsburgh)

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## ULS LIBRARIES

Archives & Special Collections  
Center for American Music  
Chemistry Library  
Engineering Library  
Frick Fine Arts Library  
Hanley Library (Bradford)  
Haskell Library (Titusville)  
Hillman Library  
Langley Library  
Millstein Library (Greensburg)  
Finney Music Library  
Owen Library (Johnstown)

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## A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

# Welcome to the ULS



Dear Friend of the Library,

This is a period of incredible change for libraries in general and the University of Pittsburgh Library System (ULS) in particular. Hence, we thought it an ideal time to reach out with an update on the many exciting initiatives we have underway.

Hopefully, we have already had a chance to cross paths in one form or another but, if not, let me introduce myself. I am Kornelia Tancheva, the (relatively) new Hillman University Librarian and

Director of the ULS. I have been at the ULS for just over two years, and I could not be more delighted to share what we have been up to.

As you will see, we have been very busy reimagining the Library, both literally and figuratively. Hillman Library, which many of you are likely familiar with, is in the midst of a top-to-bottom renovation. The new fourth floor has been open for over a year, and the third floor will be opening in the spring of this year.

As important as the changes to the physical spaces are, the more foundational changes we have made include developing librarian expertise in strategically important areas such as digital scholarship, research data management, and entrepreneurship. We are also actively collecting and supporting the use of unique archival material in research and classrooms, and are building spaces for and expertise in the creation of digital outputs like film, podcasts, maps, and virtual reality. We are partnering with Pitt researchers to help them find funding, manage their data, and ensure their research reaches the widest audience possible in the most impactful way.

Our libraries today are vibrant places, physical as well as virtual, of creation, collaboration, discovery, and creativity. We are delighted to count you as a friend of the Library as we continue to forge ahead on this exciting new path.

**Kornelia Tancheva, PhD**

*The Hillman University Librarian and  
Director, University of Pittsburgh Library System*

## 2019 ULS SNAPSHOT

**1,892,263**  
LIBRARY VISITORS

**25,174**  
participants  
*attended*  
**1,305**  
classes &  
workshops

**4,314,549**  
database  
searches

**5,650,831**  
electronic materials  
downloaded

**72,072**  
print materials  
loaned

**9,977,452**  
COLLECTION ENGAGEMENTS

*All University of Pittsburgh Libraries*

# We Are Building the Library of the Future

If it has been a while since you last visited Hillman Library, you might be surprised at all the activity. Not just the many students creating and collaborating, but construction activity as well.

Hillman Library is currently undergoing a complete renovation and reinvention. Why do we say reinvention? Because we are doing more than just creating inviting new spaces.

We are creating a vibrant 21st-century library focused on:

- People and their expertise
- Unique special collections
- Digital scholarship
- Knowledge creation
- Research partners
- Local and global community

New spaces in the reinvented Hillman Library will include:

- Forty technology-enhanced group study collaboration rooms
- Graduate student commons equipped with reservable carrels
- An Archives & Special Collections exhibit area and digital interactive wall
- Open study areas for scholarly research
- A digital scholarship lab, supporting a broad range of digital and data-intensive activities
- A book lab, in partnership with the Center for Creativity, to bridge the gap between physical and digital text materials
- Media creation rooms for audio and video recording

The Hillman Library Reinvention emphasizes the depth of distinct collections, strengthens the role of librarians as information managers, and advances our leading position in Open Access publishing.



## RAVE REVIEWS

The 4th floor of Hillman reopened in 2018. It was recently voted “Best Place to Study on Campus” by readers of the Pitt News student newspaper!

The Reinvented Hillman Library brings distinct value to the University through:

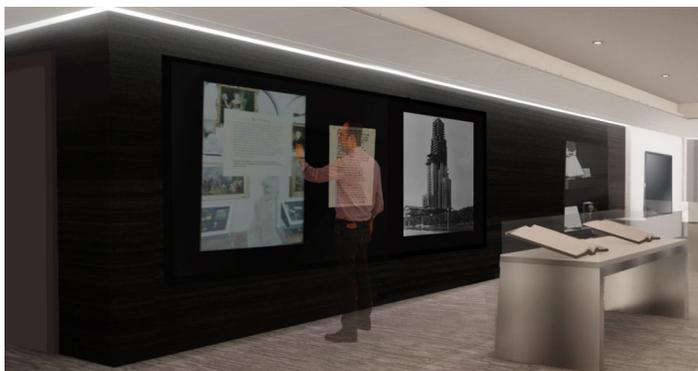
- Facilitating student success by creating opportunities for active, collaborative, multimodal, experiential learning, not just information consumption; and
- Empowering faculty and researchers by partnering in all stages of the research lifecycle and leveraging librarian expertise.

Visit [library.pitt.edu/hillmanreinvention](https://library.pitt.edu/hillmanreinvention) for more information and updates!





A rendering of the proposed Hillman Library interior.



**COMING SOON**

The 3rd floor of Hillman is scheduled to reopen in 2020. It will house Archives & Special Collections, including a reading room, a dedicated classroom, and a large digital interactive wall.

**2019 COLLECTIONS SNAPSHOT**



**3,848,436**  
print books



**1,748,499**  
e-books

**108,837**  
print journals

**280,450**  
e-journals

*All University of Pittsburgh Libraries*

**HIGH-DENSITY STORAGE FACILITY**

first module **100%** full  
new module **3%** full  
material requests fulfilled in under **24hrs**

# Archives & Special Collections (A&SC) at Pitt Libraries



When you think of Archives & Special Collections (A&SC), you might imagine dusty old books or photographs, rare objects kept behind glass that you are discouraged from touching. Today that could not be further from the truth.

While treating them with the care and respect they require, we increasingly work to bring these materials into the classroom, or to bring the classroom to these materials. Why? Because engaging with primary sources develops strong analytical, interpretive, and creative thinking skills.

In support of archival research at Pitt, we have actively

partnered with faculty to integrate archival materials into the curriculum.

## HIGHLIGHTS

The **Erroll Garner Archive (EGA)** documents the social, legal, and musical experiences of the renowned African American jazz pianist and composer, most famous for his composition “Misty.” His story is told through correspondence, contracts, sheet music, publicity materials, photographs, and audio-video materials. The EGA also uncovers a remarkable professional and political partnership between Garner and Martha Glaser, his manager.

The **Nesbitt Collection** contains a wealth of children’s literature and material related to the



history of children’s media. It encompasses more than 12,000 items dating from the 1600s through the present day and includes books, magazines, audio-visual materials, manuscripts, and artifacts.

Our **Artists’ Books Collection** at the Frick Fine Arts Library



## ARCHIVE OF THE LIVING DEAD

The newly acquired **George A. Romero Archival Collection** is a first step towards creating a Horror Studies Collection at the ULS. Called the father of the zombie genre, Romero made thirteen films and wrote over sixty unproduced scripts. He is best known for directing *Night of the Living Dead*. The Collection has already attracted additional donations from artists influenced by Romero.

consists of over 1,200 books. These books are made by artists and are art objects in and of themselves. The collection includes books that are unique and handmade, as well as those that are in the tradition of the democratic multiple, made with few resources and widely distributed. Collection highlights include artists' books from the 1960s-1980s, LGBTQ+ zines, and comics.

The Theodore M. Finney Music Library houses the **Mirskey Collection**, a collection of salon orchestra music used in the early twentieth century by Nek Mirskey's Polonia Orchestra. The collection includes a large amount of photoplay music, accompaniment for silent films, and it has lately attracted the interest of silent-film-music scholars. Most recently, Gillian Anderson, a film scholar, used items from this collection to score the soundtrack for *Rosita*, a 1923 film directed by Ernest Lubitsch. She is now using

material from our collection to score another Lubitsch film, *Forbidden Paradise*. The Museum of Modern Art in NYC holds several restored Lubitsch films.

In partnership with the Office of Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity, we proudly offer **Archival Scholar Research Awards (ASRA)** to undergraduate scholars and researchers from the humanities. ASRA students receive a stipend of \$1,000 for their research. Previous projects have examined our holdings of the Black Panther publication, the Elizabeth Nesbitt Children's collection, and underground newspapers.

### RECENT ACQUISITIONS

In addition to the **George A. Romero Archive**, we acquired several notable collections in the past year, including five unique handwritten manuscripts by Argentine writer and poet **Jorge**

**Luis Borges**. We also purchased the first edition of **Jane Austen's Emma: A Novel**, the fifth and final novel published in her lifetime.

In addition, we bought **Nogu Taikan**, a single volume consisting of 100 woodblock prints by celebrated Japanese artist Yamaguchi Ryōshū. The prints depict stage props and instruments of the Noh Theatre. We secured a wooden printing block to demonstrate how these prints were created.

### AREAS OF SPECIAL COLLECTIONS STRENGTH INCLUDE:

20th Century Urban Renewal, Audio-Visual Materials, American Schoolbooks, Business and Industry, Children's Literature, Ethnic Groups in Pittsburgh, History of Books and Printing, Horror, Labor, Philosophy of Science, Politics, Pop Culture, Social Action, Theatre and the Performing Arts, Underground and Alternative Press, and University Archives.

## 2019 A&SC SNAPSHOT



**100+**  
archives  
class visits  
in 2018



**52**  
Archival Scholar  
Research Award  
scholars since 2016





LEARNING BY DOING

# Going Beyond the Term Paper

When you think of college, you may recall poring over articles and books to produce a term paper. While students still write their fair share of term papers, other forms of scholarly output now live alongside the paper as evidence of their facility with an idea or topic.



Today's students create podcasts, websites, digital games, films, and other outputs, many digital, as their primary projects for a class. The library is an active hub for this type of new scholarship, where a historian and a computer science student, along with help from library staff, can collaborate to create virtual reality walk-throughs of antiquities, for example.

This type of learning, called active learning, fosters:

- Critical thinking
- Collaboration and flexibility
- Communication skills
- Curiosity
- Innovation

Within the footprint of the current Hillman Library, we created spaces that support multimodal and experiential learning, including an easy-

to-use video production studio and a sound-isolated recording booth for creating podcasts.

The **Open Lab at Hillman**, a partnership with the University Center for Teaching and Learning, provides opportunities for exploring virtual reality, demonstrating 3D printing, and consultations on digital making. A similar partnership exists between the English Department and our Research & Educational Support unit to establish a **3D Film Viewing Station**.

To complement these spaces, we lend high-quality **audio and video equipment**. The **equipment collection**, available to all students, staff, and faculty, includes everything from GoPros and lighting kits to professional digital cameras. Plans for the renovated Hillman include expanded spaces and services to accommodate their

increased use.

Librarians at the ULS are actively engaged in all forms of learning. Last year alone, we hosted 1,210 classes and workshops. Class visits to Archives & Special Collections increased more than eight-fold in the past five years, allowing students to engage directly with primary source materials.



### CURIOSITY DISCUSSIONS

We established and hosted a Curiosity Discussion Series, in which panelists from a variety of academic and professional backgrounds have a free-ranging discussion about the nature, capacity, and challenges of curiosity. Each event brings together a range of campus and community members. There have been nine curiosity discussions since 2015, reaching approximately 500 people.

## 2019 MEDIA CREATION SNAPSHOT



**6,112**

multimedia kits  
borrowed



**583**

podcast booth  
bookings



**399**

video studio  
bookings

# Exploring New Possibilities



The University of Pittsburgh ranks among the top research universities in the U.S. In addition to teaching classes, our professors passionately engage in high-impact research. We support their work at every stage, from discovery to publication, in a variety of ways.

## ULS support for Pitt research includes:

### PLANNING RESEARCH

- Ensuring general collections meet researcher needs in preferred formats
- Curating a rich trove of unique materials for original research
- Working with researchers to illuminate topics by identifying all relevant published research

### DESIGNING RESEARCH

- Identifying potential collaborators using bibliometrics services
- Consulting on data description, storage, preservation, and reusability, often a requirement for funding
- Offering funding opportunities for undergraduate, graduate, and independent researchers
- Advising around and creating metadata

### CONDUCTING RESEARCH

- Providing expertise in the use of digital scholarship tools and techniques, including data visualization and geographic information systems
- Consulting about author rights, responsibilities, and intellectual property

### SHARING RESEARCH

- Articulating the benefits of Open Access publishing and providing guidance on license options that maximize sharing and reuse
- Identifying opportunities for translation and commercialization of research

## HIGHLIGHTS

We currently publish forty-six **Open Access digital journals**, and the list continues to grow. In 2018, we flipped (converted from print subscription to online Open Access) two society journals: *Japanese Language and Literature* and *Journal of Child and Youth Care Work*. Additionally, we published the inaugural issue of the *August Wilson Journal*, which features material related to the life and work of Pittsburgh-born playwright August Wilson.

Our **Geographic Information Systems (GIS) service** provides one-on-one support for spatial data analysis. This service offers spatial literacy workshops covering everything from the basics of mapping to specialized visualization software.

We also offer **bibliometrics services** to help researchers quantify outputs, demonstrate impact, identify new trends, and better understand the research landscape in their fields.

We recently released a website for the **Contemporary Chinese Village Gazetteer Data project**. This initiative, the first of its kind, allows researchers to analyze administrative data from Chinese villages.

Through our **Summer Digital Scholarship Graduate Internships**, we host Pitt PhD students in the Digital Scholarship Services Unit. The interns learn about contemporary digital scholarship approaches and contribute to digital projects hosted by the Library. **Digital Scholarship Graduate Student Appointments** build on the summer program by providing an opportunity for more in-depth contributions to digital scholarship practice.



## BRINGING UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCHERS INTO THE ARCHIVES

The **Archival Scholars Research Award (ASRA)** program, a partnership with the Office of Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity, allows undergraduates to conduct original research in Archives & Special Collections.

One recent ASRA student said, "Conducting my own independent research project has given me a sense of fulfillment that I would not have otherwise received from completing the requirements of the history major, which includes a capstone paper, but does not include independent research."

## 2019 RESEARCH SNAPSHOT



**50,215**  
questions  
answered



**2,253,516**  
institutional repository  
items downloaded

**769**  
ULS research  
consultations

**46**  
Open Access journals  
published by ULS

*All University of Pittsburgh Libraries*

# Thank You

It is with tremendous gratitude that we thank the 207 donors who contributed a total of \$452,344 to help further the University Library System’s mission. Your gifts ensure we have the resources necessary to provide opportunities for learning, skill-building, teaching, scholarly research, and community outreach. Contributions include, but are not limited to, support for the Hillman Library Reinvention, acquisitions, endowments, the Archival Student Research Awards, and the Textbook Project. This Honor Roll recognizes individuals, organizations, foundations, and corporations that gave \$100 or more to the University Library System between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2019.

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For more information, please contact Renée Pekor, Director of Development, University Library System at (412)648-7739 or at [pekor.renee@pitt.edu](mailto:pekor.renee@pitt.edu).

## Visit us online

library.pitt.edu

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### LOOKING AHEAD

# What is Next?

We have big plans. Here are a few bright spots on the horizon for 2020:

- The third floor of Hillman Library will reopen this spring, featuring a new Archives & Special Collections area.
- We will complete a full digital renovation, including the ULS catalog, website, and storage platform.
- Our team is busy preparing the George A. Romero Archival Collection for research access, and a new exhibit is coming soon.
- In partnership with the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area, we are hosting two NEH History and Landmarks Workshops entitled *The Homestead Steel Strike and the Growth of America as an Industrial Power*.

