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Libraryinsider

Welcome to the University of Pittsburgh Library System's *Library Insider*. Here, we share brief updates on library spaces, services, programs, and people, and extend invitations to library-hosted events we hope you will find interesting. Thanks for reading!

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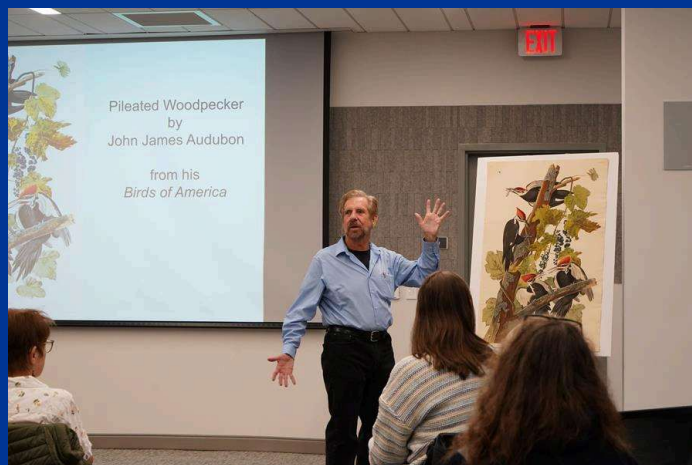
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What's Happening Next at the ULS

Celebrating the ULS's "Birds of America" Audubon Collection



The ULS's Archives & Special Collections holds an entire set of James J. Audubon's "Birds of America"

double elephant folios, although only 120 complete editions are known today. To showcase these iconic 19th-century plates, Archives & Special Collections (A&SC) hosts an annual Audubon Day, which has attracted the Pitt community and people from the Pittsburgh area since 2011. Last month, attendees filled the A&SC Instruction Room in Hillman Library to hear author and naturalist Kenn Kaufman share his expertise on Audubon and his recent book, "The Birds That Audubon Missed."



A selection of Audubon plates was displayed in the A&SC Reading Room for participants to view, including the [Californian Vulture](#), [American Flamingo](#), [Canada Goose](#), and [Ivory-billed Woodpecker](#). After the talk, guests were encouraged to visit the Text & Context Lab for an experiential learning activity, creating their own prints.





Audubon's "Birds of America" plates and "Ornithological Biography" are both available online via our ULS Digital Collections, along with many other collections preserved by A&SC, including the Fox Chapel Garden Club Records, the Erroll Garner Archive, and even the journal of a Québec fur trader!

Students Begin Creating in the Media Film Lab



Photographed by Julia D'Ovidio

The Media Labs in Hillman Library are a suite of spaces designed to support film, audio, and digital media

creation. These specialized labs, operated by Media Services at the ULS, are available for Pitt students, staff, and faculty. The Film Media Lab is a 900-square-foot black box studio designed for instructional and experiential learning in media production and photography. It is equipped with multiple backdrops for various shooting scenarios and lit by a customizable lighting grid and console, making it an ideal space for photography, filmmaking, recording interviews, instruction, workshops, and more.



Photographed by Isabel Corica

The first film project created in the Film Media Lab was completed by students in John Cantine's Filmmaking 3 course. Students held a full-day group shoot and used all of the lab's technology, putting everything to the test, including new equipment from the Media Lab's collection and gear from Media Services.

"Everything from the lights to moving the table was super easy," remarked one of the students producing the film project. "I think everyone is going to love this space because we certainly did."



Photographed by Julia D'Ovidio

Their instructor, Cantine, said, "The shoot went well, the space is amazing, and everyone was really helpful."

From recording and editing to experimentation with new technologies, the Media Labs in Hillman Library provide hands-on opportunities to learn, create, and collaborate.

The ULS Empowers Global Scholars to Map Historical Change


World Historical Gazetteer
linking knowledge about the past via place

The World Historical Gazetteer is a platform for linking historical place records and making spatial connections across time and language.

 Overview

 WHG Community

 Query our index

 Build and publish collections of places

 Teach about places

 Documentation

 News & Announcements

Search 2,221,977 Places



Selected Data Publications
 [BROWSE ALL](#)

Buddhist monasteries of the Western Ghats
Locations of early Buddhist rock-cut monasteries in the Western Ghats and Konkan coast regions of India. Only the caves cut between.

The ULS is helping the Institute for Spatial Innovation (ISHI) support collaborative scholarship and teaching on historic places described in their World Historical Gazetteer (WHG). The enhancement ULS facilitated enables researchers to securely verify and manage their contributions.

"We appreciate the University Library System's support in helping us implement this important modernizing step," said Stephen Gadd, the technical director and lead developer of WHG.

By providing secure authentication to WHG researchers, the ULS helps advance the study of place names over time, bringing new, deeper, and broader connections to our understanding of patterns and historical change. Learn more about [WHG in Pittwire](#).

Opening Reception for Nationality Rooms and Intercultural Exchange Programs Centennial and A&SC Exhibits



Thurs. Feb. 26

Celebrate 100 years of Pitt's Nationality Rooms and Intercultural Exchange Program (NRIEP) with the grand opening of two new exhibits in A&SC's Hyland Gallery: "Read the Room! Uncovering the Italian Room's Transnational Traces" and "The Women Behind the Walls," which reveals the hidden labor women made creating the French Nationality Room. Both exhibits will feature a gallery talk. This milestone event honors

a century of global understanding and cultural exchange fostered by the NRIEP.

5-7 p.m.

The Hyland Gallery, Hillman Library, third floor

Register here

See our [events and workshops calendar](#) to find upcoming programs of interest.

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