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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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Read the New ULS Impact Report

University of Pittsburgh

LIBRARY SYSTEM

IMPACT REPORT 2025



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Our latest [Impact report](#) is available!

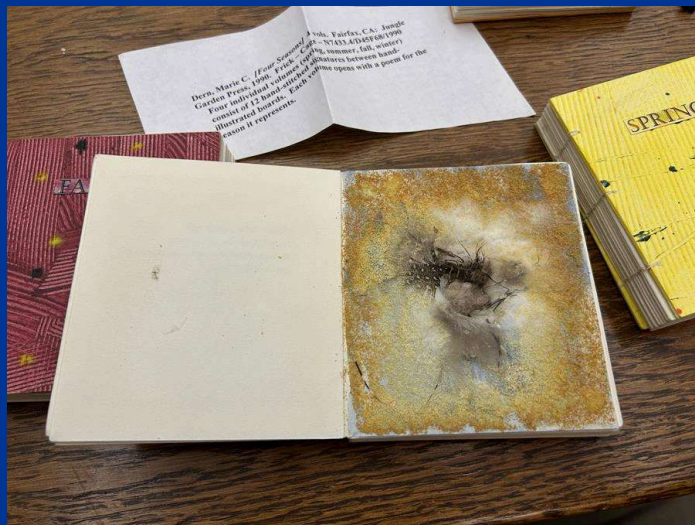
Learn more about:

- Hillman Library's renovated spaces and innovative services
- A mural students created to celebrate communication across time
- Archives & Special Collections' extensive August Wilson Archive outreach
- Entrepreneurship at the George M. Bevier Engineering Library
- And much more!

Artists' Books at the Henry Clay Frick Fine Arts Library



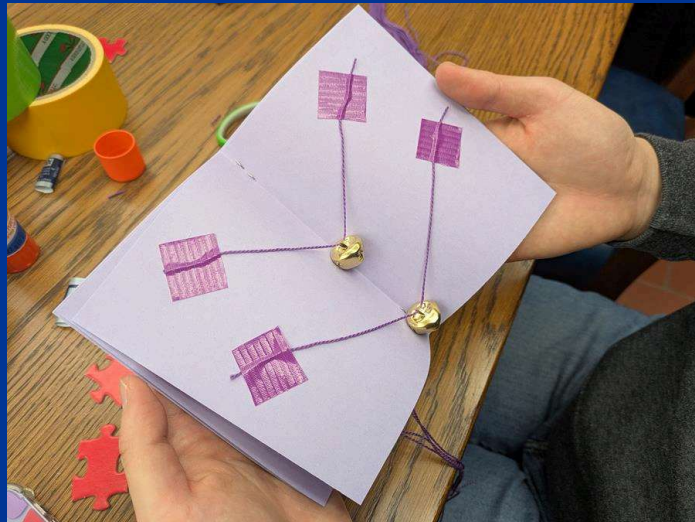
On Nov. 5, the Henry Clay Frick Fine Arts Library (FFAL) hosted, together with the Center for Creativity (C4C), the "Is That a Book? Creating Beyond the Traditional" workshop, inviting attendees to learn about artists' books and make one of their own. Artists' books are works of art in book form, or reimagined ideas of a book. They are designed to be touched, read, or even manipulated. The [FFAL's collection of artists' books and zines](#) encompasses a wide range of artists' books by local, regional, and international artists, art collectives, and independent presses, spanning from the early 1960s to the present day.



Anaïs Grateau, Head of the FFAL, presented a selection of the library's unique and imaginative artists' books, such as a tube of lipstick that opened to reveal slips of pink paper, a book that stretched like an accordion, and another that was cinnamon-scented.



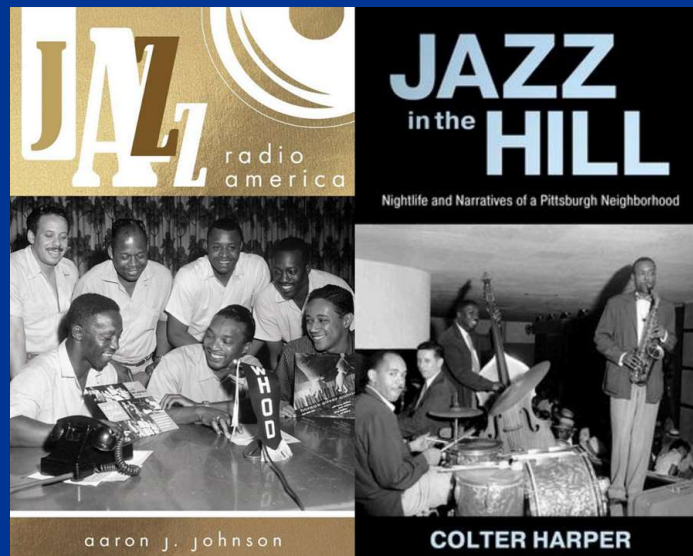
Participants constructed their own books using craft materials, fabrics, and recycled objects. One person asked everyone to collaborate by tracing their hand or finger on the pages of his book. The event was a great opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to learn and create at the Frick Fine Arts Library.



Jazz in the Air, on the Hill, and in the ULS Archives



The ULS hosted a panel discussion of the forces behind jazz on the radio and in Hill District nightclubs, moderated by Kathryn Haines, head of the ULS Center for American Music. Haines posed questions to Aaron Johnson, chair of Pitt's music department and author of "[Jazz Radio America](#)," and Colter Harper, author of "[Jazz in the Hill](#)" and assistant teaching professor at the University at Buffalo. Johnson and Harper drew heavily on archives to write these books, and primary sources played a key role in their scholarship and storytelling.



The items that artists preserve in their archives often pay heed to the people and places that came before them. "Both authors made it clear that archives, both the physical ones and the ones generated by communities through the sharing of stories and experiences, were what made both of these books possible," Haines said. During the discussion, it also became clear that "the only appropriate museum or monument to jazz is the music itself. It's a living entity that can't be recreated in a museum or a historically recreated space." The ULS's Archives & Special Collections play a vital role in sustaining the legacy of

jazz by illuminating the people, places, and sounds that shaped it. Preserving this history is an ongoing collaboration between scholars, archivists, and their communities.

Hillman Library Achieves LEED Platinum Certification



Hillman Library has achieved LEED Platinum certification from the U.S. Green Building Council, the highest level of recognition for environmentally responsible building design. The renovation stands out for its use of recycled and locally sourced materials, innovative energy optimization, and effective construction waste management. Features like two new green roof patios and a rooftop solar array that supplies 7% of the building's annual electricity contributed to its ranking.

With a LEED score of 87, Hillman Library ranks third-highest in Pennsylvania, tied with three other projects. To learn more, read the Pittwire article [here](#).

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

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