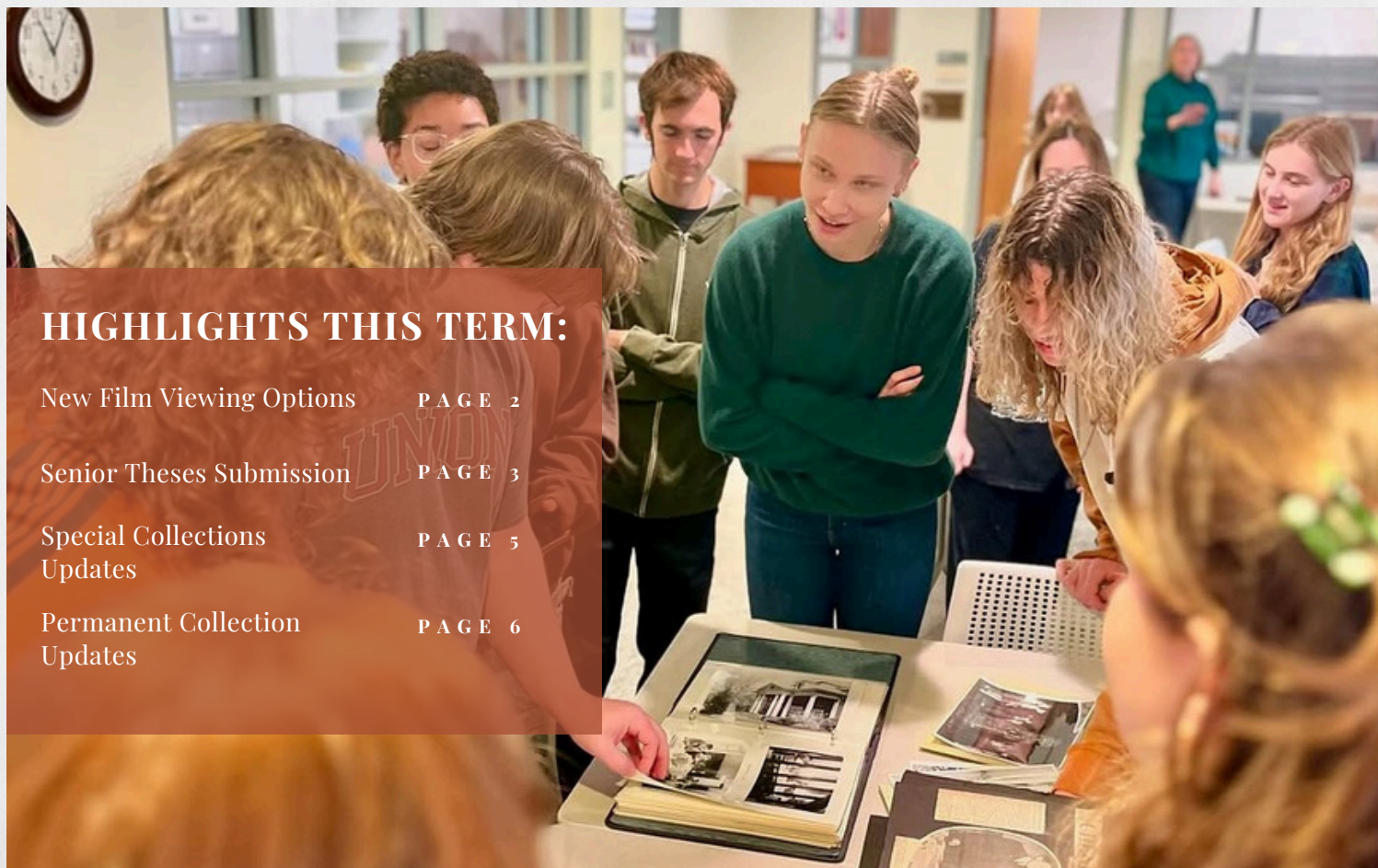


SCHAFFER LIBRARY

UPDATES FOR WINTER 2025



HIGHLIGHTS THIS TERM:

New Film Viewing Options PAGE 2

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Professor Stern's Photo 1 class visits Union's Special Collections to look at examples of photography from across photo history.

STUDENT RESEARCH PRIZE

Have you seen an excellent student research project recently? Did the student utilize library collections and/or resources? The Schaffer Library Research Prize opens for student submissions on February 17th with all entries due by March 17th. The winner will be announced at Prize Day, May 10, 2025. The monetary award this year is \$500.

Students are required to submit 3 components: 1) a reflective essay (500-1000 words) explaining the student's search process, providing insight into how the project contributed to the student's growth as a researcher, and evaluation of the sources utilized, 2) the research project, and 3) a bibliography of the sources utilized for the project.

More information including eligibility and evaluation criteria may be found at [this website](#). Email ResearchPrize@union.edu with questions.

LIBRARY NEWS

NEW FILM VIEWING OPTIONS

Two new options are available to view library film content required for courses:

Film viewing stations

Two brand new viewing stations are available in the Learning Commons on the first floor of Schaffer Library. Each viewing station includes the capability to watch DVDs, use a Roku stick, and access films available through library databases.

Roku sticks

Two Roku sticks are available on Course Reserve to view content from various streaming subscriptions. Roku sticks may be checked out by faculty for in-class screenings, or by students for individual screening on the viewing stations in the Learning Commons.

RESEARCH PARTY

The Research Party returned for the Fall Term, with participation from the whole Research and Engagement team as well as our Peer Research Mentors, current Union College students learning how to coach their peers on the research process. We recorded ten reference interactions that night, but engaged many, many more students in chatting about our research services. Our goal for this event is to show students that we can help them to brainstorm and refine topics, as well as to find, evaluate, and cite sources. Many students left their discussion with our talented team feeling much better about their upcoming final papers. This Winter Term, the Research Party will be held on March 5th from 4:30 to 6:30pm.

LIBRARY EQUIPMENT FOR LOAN

Schaffer Library has a variety of equipment available to faculty, staff, and students for short-term loan: laptops, iPads, device chargers, projectors, and more. Please visit the Library Service Desk to find out more about what's available for your academic and scholarly needs.

NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES WITH FREE PERSONAL ACCOUNTS

Did you know that Schaffer Library provides personal accounts for the Washington Post, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, the Chronicle of Higher Education, The Atlantic, Albany Business Review, Times Union, and Daily Gazette – all with your Union email address? We also have a variety of newspapers and magazines via Flipster. Visit [our Newspapers and Magazines: Personal Accounts](#) page for details and step-by-step instructions to set up your access.

ASK A LIBRARIAN

Need help with your research? Did you know that you can contact a librarian in real time through UChat? Look for the green UChat button on the library website. Chat will be staffed from 1pm to 4pm, Monday-Thursday. Don't worry, we're also still available for more in-depth help through email and in-person meetings. See our [Ask a Librarian page](#) for more information.



U Chat

LIBRARY NEWS

REMINDER: SENIOR THESES SUBMISSIONS AND PERMISSIONS

Seniors have started to submit their honors theses to the library! Please help us ensure that the process is as seamless as possible for everyone by reviewing the information below. For information about the senior honors thesis submission process, as well as links to submission forms, visit the [library's website and click "Senior Thesis Info" under Quick Links](#).

Advisors:

- Please remind students that even if they don't want their thesis available online (Opt out) they still need to submit the .pdf to the library for our archival records.
- Be sure to be on the lookout for emails from formstack to approve your advisee's internet access options.
- A few changes to the form have been made for this year. Only one internet access option (Open Access, Union Only, Opt Out) should be chosen with an optional embargo period in addition to that choice.

Administrative Assistants:

- Please remind students that even if they don't want their thesis available online they still need to submit the .pdf to the library for our archival records.
- Starting in March emails with information regarding submission progress for students and advisors will be sent out weekly.
- Don't get the emails and want to, or know a department chair who would like to? Or have suggestions about better ways of communication? Please let us know!

Questions or suggestions? Email digitalservices@union.edu.

LIBRARY NEWS

HIGH SCHOOL TO COLLEGE TRANSITIONS: CDLC EVENT AT SCHAFFER LIBRARY

In 2023, after seeing some disconnect between student research skills and research expectations in college, we revived the local High School to College transition interest group, a part of the Capital District Library Council (CDLC). Their hope was to create a space to share resources and discuss student needs as they transition from high school to college. These discussions were inspiring, and motivated us to conduct two surveys, asking students about their high school research experiences and asking Union faculty about their expectations for students entering the college.

The survey highlighted disconnects between the skills students bring, and the skills they need to succeed at Union. When the results were shared with the CDLC interest group, K12 colleagues expressed a keen interest in learning more. They asked if we could host a retreat where we demonstrate research instruction in college, and then discuss in person how we can support students' research skills.



Participants engaging with our research and instruction presentations.



The winning escape room group!

Twenty three people signed up for the event, with 22 attending, representing high school libraries, college libraries, library systems, and high school disciplinary classrooms.

The event was an overwhelming success, with participants reporting that they appreciated all of the presented sessions, and found the information directly relevant to their work. Many plan to implement lessons we presented at their own institutions. Attendees are eager to continue the relationship building and discussions that we began at this session, and we look forward to working with our K12 colleagues to improve the transition of our emerging researchers from high school to college.



UPDATES FROM THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES

CALL FOR SUMMER 2025 RUTH ANNE EVANS RESEARCH FELLOWS

Special Collections & Archives staff are beginning to recruit applicants for the Summer 2025 Ruth Anne Evans Fellowship for the Study of Union College History and ask faculty and staff members to consider any students who might be interested. This research fellowship seeks to investigate underexplored topics in Union College's rich history. The combination of a faculty advisor with the librarian training and supervision has resulted in highly successful Evans Fellowships in 2023 and 2024, and we're excited to review applications for 2025. Contact us at specialcollections@union.edu with any questions or to schedule a conversation.

WELCOME MEGHAN WILLIS TO THE DEPARTMENT

Special Collections & Archives is delighted to welcome Meghan Willis as Records Management Librarian. Meghan comes to Special Collections and Archives via Content and Digital Library Systems in Schaffer Library where she was the Metadata Specialist. Meghan will focus primarily on the description of our archival collections and coordinating the transfer of college records of enduring value from departments and others across campus. You can contact her at willism@union.edu.

TEACH WITH SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Teach with Special Collections this Winter Term! Reach out to specialcollections@union.edu to schedule your class visit, ask questions about our collections, and explore creative ways to utilize them during the 10 week term.

EXHIBITS

“Walls (and Fences) at Union College” opens January 6 in Beuth Atrium. This exhibit was curated by the students of Joyce Madancy’s Fall 2024 HST 279 “Walls (and Fences)” class, and documents the histories of the Terrace Wall, Campus Fences, and Campus Gates.

“Birds of the Haudenosaunee” opens January 6 in the Lally Reading Room. This exhibit was curated by Tracy Chen (‘26), offering an immersive exploration of the birds central to the Iroquois Confederacy’s cultural and spiritual heritage. It highlights the bald eagle, blue heron, hawk, and snipe, symbolic birds for the Indigenous population of Northeast America, specifically the land on which Union College resides.

FALL TERM IN REVIEW - HOMECOMING

This October, Special Collections & Archives hosted an open house for Homecoming Weekend with over 130 students, parents, and alumni visiting Special Collections & Archives to take a peek at Union College history and artifacts. The open house featured the research of Evans Research Fellows Clare Reilly and Gabby Baratier.

UPDATES FROM THE PERMANENT COLLECTION & EXHIBITIONS

TEACHING ARTWORKS 2024-25 IN THE MANDEVILLE GALLERY, SCHAFFER LIBRARY, AND FEIGENBAUM CENTER FOR VISUAL ARTS

On View: Fall 2024 – June 2025

This academic year, the Mandeville Gallery, and locations in Schaffer Library and Feigenbaum Center for Visual Arts will display artworks requested by Union College professors for use in teaching. These artworks are part of the College's Permanent Collection, a term used to describe the collection of art that the College has amassed over its more than 200-year history. The works chosen for teaching this year include photos from the Andy Warhol Foundation; a recently gifted collection of Chinese ceramics; works by Native American artist, Jaune Quick-to-See Smith and Greek artist, Chryssa Vardea, as well as by former Union professor of visual arts, Arnold Bittleman. Prints by artists Robert Rauschenberg, Roy Lichtenstein, Robert Graham, and Frank Stella round out the selections.

Artworks acquired throughout the College's past two centuries, feature historical, cultural, scientific, artistic, and political concepts that can be used in the classroom to mirror learning methodologies, theories, histories, and philosophies. Engaging students with thought-provoking works of art broadens knowledge of other cultures, increases critical thinking and historical empathy, and sparks creativity.

In recent years, the Permanent Collection has focused on acquiring modern and contemporary works of art to enrich academic curricula, and give students and faculty opportunities to engage in object-based learning and make connections across disciplines.

For more information, please visit the [Teaching Artworks web page](#).



John D MacArthur Associate Professor of Visual Arts, Laini Nemett's Drawing I class visiting the Mandeville Gallery