



# UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON LIBRARIES

**LIBRARY**  
PLACES & SPACES

FALL 2014





FROM LEFT: NATHAN STABENFELDT (MFA, POETRY) AT POETRY AND PROSE | KEYNOTE SPEAKER MARSHALL BREEDING AT DISCOVERY CAMP  
| LISA MARTIN AND LISA CRUCES AT THE LIBRARIES OPEN HOUSE | PAT BOZEMAN WITH CHARLES KROHN AT THE ALLEY THEATRE EXHIBIT  
OPENING RECEPTION | KRISTINE GREIVE AND JESSE SHARPE AT UNIQUE HOLDINGS BROWN BAG LECTURE.

DEAN OF LIBRARIES AND  
ELIZABETH D. ROCKWELL CHAIR  
DANA ROOKS

SENIOR ASSOCIATE DEAN  
LINDA THOMPSON

ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR PUBLIC SERVICES  
MARILYN MYERS

ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR PERSONNEL,  
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UH LIBRARIES NEWSLETTER FALL 2014

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LETTER FROM THE DEAN

“ WE ARE STRENGTHENING  
OUR ROLE AS A CATALYST OF  
CONNECTION ON CAMPUS. ”



The University of Houston Libraries is the heart of the campus. It is a hub of ideas, creativity and collaboration, and we are excited and honored to provide enhanced services, collections and spaces that empower our students, faculty and researchers.

This issue of the *UH Libraries Newsletter* highlights just a few of the people, places and programs that define us. Our talented and forward-thinking librarians continue to lead and inspire in service and scholarship, generating transformative change for the benefit of all users. We are strengthening our role as a catalyst of connection on campus, with new programs and events that bring the scholarly community together.

If you haven't visited us in a while, please drop by to say hello! In the meantime, I hope you enjoy our "Library Places and Spaces" feature, which lends a fresh perspective on the design and function of the Libraries.

Thank you for your generous support of UH Libraries. We are grateful for your partnership in our journey of providing a superlative experience for our students and scholars.

**Dana C. Rooks**  
Dean of Libraries and  
Elizabeth D. Rockwell Chair



# NINA VANCE AND THE ALLEY THEATRE: A LIFE'S WORK

A new exhibit at the University of Houston Libraries illuminates the life of visionary Alley Theatre founder Nina Vance, and provides a contextual history of the theatre's rise to prominence.

In October 1947, Vance mailed 214 postcards featuring the simple question: "Do you want a new theater for Houston?" More than one hundred people met in a crowded room a few days later to confirm that yes, in fact, they did. This was the birth of the Houston's Tony Award-winning Alley Theatre. From its modest beginnings in a dance studio on Main Street, to a converted fan factory on Berry Avenue, to a state-of-the-art building downtown, the road to becoming the nationally recognized theatre it is today was paved with talent, generosity, and hard work. The woman behind it all remained the same, Nina Vance. As the theatre's founder and artistic director for more than thirty years, Vance was a guiding force for the theatre and worked tirelessly to see it become a Houston institution.

The exhibit features programs, photographs, articles, correspondence, and other memorabilia from the UH Special Collections Nina Vance Alley Theatre Papers.

Visitors are invited to view the exhibit at the MD Anderson Library starting October 25, 2014 through May 8, 2015.

For more information, contact Catherine Essinger at 713.743.2337, and Stacey Lavender at 713.743.9605.

## LEADERS IN THE LIBRARIES: RACHEL VACEK

**Rachel Vacek**, head of Web Services, began a new term as president of the Library Information Technology Association (LITA), part of a three-year commitment as vice-president, president, and past president.

LITA is one of 11 divisions of the American Library Association (ALA), with approximately 3,000 members representing academic, public, school and special libraries, as well as vendors and information professionals.

### What are your responsibilities as LITA president?

The LITA president is the chief spokesperson for the association and works closely with both LITA's executive director and the board of directors in identifying and promoting information technology issues that are of interest to all kinds of libraries. The president leads the board and executive committee meetings, and works closely with the 20-plus committees that serve the association. The president also coordinates with appointed representatives to external groups and advocates for library technology issues.

### What are your goals for your presidential year?

I am focusing on member experience and financial stability.

As someone who has worked in the systems and web librarianship field for years, user experience has always had special meaning for me. The ability to look at a person's behaviors, attitudes, and emotions about being a member of LITA is especially important when examining and improving member experience. People join LITA because they want to learn something new, help their colleagues, grow their network, and advocate for librarians working with technology.

The other goal is financial stability. The LITA Financial Strategies Task Force presented a report that is packed with practical and creative solutions for addressing challenges that all ALA divisions are facing. LITA also recently established a Financial Advisory Committee, and I believe that their work, with the efforts of other LITA committees, are crucial to ensuring that LITA remains viable and relevant for years to come.

**Rachel Vacek**  
Head of Web Services



## FROM ANALOG TO BORN-DIGITAL

**Mary Manning** ('98) has earned a Digital Archives Specialist Certificate from the Society of American Archivists. The certification program was developed by experts in the field of digital archives, and provides archivists with the skills and technology needed to manage born-digital records.

University Archives in Special Collections coordinates and organizes institutional archives, including administrative and department records, alumni and student organization records, faculty papers, university publications, budgets, official reports, the Daily Cougar student newspaper, and Houstonian yearbooks. Recently, the majority of these records have shifted from traditional paper and analog formats to born digital materials.

Born digital records are fragile and can potentially be lost forever without careful intervention by trained archivists. They are also the most challenging for which to provide access. "A main focus of my work

at UH has been to preserve these challenging and delicate materials, and thus, to connect the past to the future, and researchers to these varied resources," Manning said.

Since her arrival at UH in 2012, Manning, who serves as the Society of Southwest Archivists president-elect, has led the development of accessioning policies for born digital archival materials, resulting in an accessioning manual and the completion of a pilot program to accession all electronic records received by University Archives on portable media, such as CDs, DVDs, flash drives, and hard drives. These procedures have been adopted across all incoming Special Collections digital materials.

**Mary Manning**  
University Archivist





# FEATURE



Part gallery and part lounge, the **A2Alcove in the William R. Jenkins Architecture and Art Library**, located in the College of Architecture building, is a welcoming space for visitors to view student artwork and browse architecture and art publications.



Open to all, **Special Collections** organizes, preserves and promotes rare archival items, including books, manuscripts, photographs and other ephemera.

## LIBRARY PLACES & SPACES

The University of Houston Libraries offers students and scholars an enhanced user experience, with next-level tools and resources within reimagined spaces tailored for finding, creating and sharing knowledge.



The **Music Library**, located in the Moores School of Music building, is home to an excellent voice and opera collection. Students have access to a substantial score selection, CDs, DVDs, books and streaming music.



The **Learning Commons** has specialized multimedia and data analysis resources.



The **Weston A. Pettet Optometry Library**, located in the J. Davis Armistead Building, provides resources and collections in support of College of Optometry programs.



**Kenneth Franzheim II Rare Books Room** features collections ranging from the 17th to the 21st century. Visitors can request to view unique works covering diverse subjects in architecture and art.



The **Hamill Foundation Multimedia Studio**, located in the Learning Commons, features audio recording booths and professional-grade equipment to help students create high-quality productions.



With over 117,000 square feet of study space, students can choose from a variety of environments, from tech-ready group work areas to silent zones.  
**Regents Reading Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**



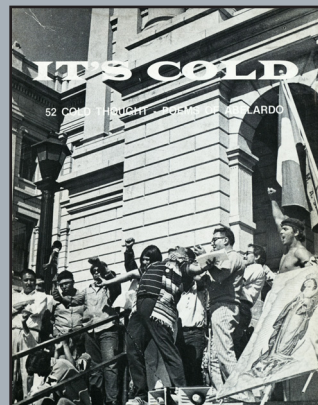
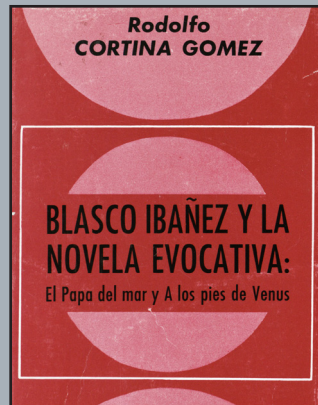
The **Leisure Reading Collection**, located on the first floor of MD Anderson Library, allows students to relax and recharge with a variety of newer titles in fiction and nonfiction.



# KANELLOS

## Latino Literary Movement Book Collection

Nicolás Kanellos is the Brown Foundation Professor of Hispanic Studies at the University of Houston, and the director of Arte Público Press. Over the years in this role, Kanellos has amassed a rare collection of works by pioneering Latino authors and poets, including Arte Público Press publications, as well as never-before-published materials, that paints a vivid portrait of Latino history and culture. Kanellos has passed this rich compilation on to UH Special Collections for preservation and accessibility to students and scholars.



**UH Libraries:** Please discuss a few works from the collection. In what ways are these works significant to the advancement of Latino literary heritage?

**Kanellos:** In the 1960s and 70s I was an activist for the Latino rights movement. Out of that activism came a cultural rights movement which took the form of participating in Latino guerrilla street theater and publishing some very early magazines and works of literature. There were hundreds of writers and artists that had no place to get their work published, so in 1972, a colleague and I founded Revista Chicano-Riqueña, one of the longest-lasting Latino literary magazines. We became the central place for writers and artists to publish their work. In fact, the art in our works became the subject of museum exhibits and other types of fame for artists building their career.

On the literary front, we published some of the foundational writers of Latino literature that carried through when we founded Arte Público Press in 1979. We maintained a literary community through correspondence and activism, festivals, street fairs, exhibitions, and the writers would send me their books, and quite often, they would dedicate them to me.

I got a steady stream of works that very few libraries have, because the writers were self-published, or published by small presses that no longer exist. The collection grew to approximately 6000 books. It represents a collection that probably no other university will have, or has had, especially since it's a broad collection.

Cecilio Garcia-Camarillo was a poet from San Antonio who couldn't make a living as a poet, so he worked as a disc jockey and drove a truck. In the low times, he would be writing and he would write often haiku-type, but sometimes more extensive, poetry while he was seated in the truck. He would typeset it himself, and sew the pages into limited editions of maybe 50 or 100 copies that he had hand-illustrated. No one that I know of has a complete collection of those poems.

Another poet who was quite renowned was one of the early Chicano poets of El Paso, Abelardo Delgado. He published his first book in 1968, which we have. Throughout the 1970s, he was a great performer, an oral poet, a bard of the movement, performing at rallies and marches. He would go around to friends and ask them to invest five dollars in the publication of a book of poetry, and he assembled the poetry written on hotel stationery that he collected from his travels. He'd then print the limited edition and, after he sold them at his performances for five dollars apiece, he'd go back to his investors and pay them six dollars.

We have some of the very early, rare books of poetry. One of the first epic poems that set off the Chicano literature movement was Yo Soy Joaquín, composed by Rodolfo González. We have a few copies of that poem, which was published in 1967. We have the early works of El Teatro Campesino songbooks, the most famous Latino theater group in the United States. We have literary magazines heavily representing the 60s, 70s and 80s. You name it, we've got it. And now we're passing this on to Special Collections for all scholars to use, and of course for my current students to use. We're the university that has a PhD program specializing in Latino literature and culture. We're very active users of that type of material.





# LIBRARIAN NEWS

**Kelsey Brett** presented “Choosing a Discovery System to Meet Diverse Needs: A Case Study” at the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference.

**Jackie Bronicki, Cherie Turner, Shawn Vaillancourt** and **Irene Ke** presented “University of Houston Collection Gap Analysis by Subject Area” at the North American Serials Interest Group 2014 Annual Conference.

**Lisa Cruces** was appointed as editor of the Society of *Southwest Archivists* quarterly newsletter, *Southwestern Archivist*. Cruces also chairs the Publications Committee.

**Cruces** presented “The Challenges and Value of Preserving and Integrating 19th Century Spanish Language Periodicals into Archival Instruction” at the Recovering the US Hispanic Literary Heritage Conference: *Prensa, latinidad y legado*: Spanish Language Press and Print Culture.

**Cruces** also received a scholarship to attend the Association of College and Research Libraries Rare Books and Manuscripts Section Preconference: Retrofit: Exploring Space, Place and the Artifact in Special Collections.

**Kelli Getz** serves as member at large on the ALA Association of Library Collections and Technical Services Acquisitions Section Executive Committee; and chair of the North American Serials Interest Group 2014 Program Planning Committee.

**Julie Grob** presented “One Day by UGK: A Hip Hop Journey through Loss” at the

Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference in Chicago; and presented “Assessment and Primary Source Literacy” at Association of College and Research Libraries Rare Books and Manuscripts Section Preconference.

**Grob** serves on the Association of College and Research Libraries Rare Books and Manuscripts Section Seminars Committee and the 2015 Preconference Planning Committee.

**Richard Guajardo** and **Annie Wu** co-presented “RDA is Here: Full Scale Implementation of RDA at UH System Libraries” at Amigos Online Conference.

**Guajardo** also presented “Converting Your e Resources to RDA” at North American Serials Interest Group; “RDA Conversion by Resource Types” at American Library Association Annual Conference; and co-presented “RDA Implementation: What, Why and How in One Hour” with Stephanie Rodriguez at Innovative Users Group.

**Dan Johnson** is an Association of Research Libraries/Society of American Archivists Mosaic fellow.

**Irene Ke's** review of “Higher Education Outcomes Assessment for the Twenty First Century, edited by Peter Hernon, Robert E. Dugan, and Candy Schwartz” appeared in *Journal of Academic Librarianship*.

**Ke** serves as chair of ALA Association of Library Collections and Technical Services Collection Development Issues for the Practitioner Interest Group.

**Ke** and **Jackie Bronicki** co-presented an expanded study of a presentation titled “Psychology Researchers’ Citing Behavior for Collection Development” at the American Library Association Annual Conference.

**Drew Krewer's** article “Digitizing Color Photographic Materials: A Resource List” appeared in *Visual Resources Association Bulletin*.

**Krewer** was elected co-chair of ALA Association of Library Collections and Technical Services Preservation and Reformatting Section Preservation Metadata Interest Group. Krewer also serves on the ALA Library and Information Technology Association Publications Committee.

**Andrea Malone** presented “Use of Foreign Language Collections by International Students, Faculty and Staff” at the Association of Research Libraries Program at ALA Annual Conference. **Malone** also presented “Academic Library Instruction for International and ESL Students” as an invited speaker at Texas Library Association Annual Conference.

**Mary Manning** was chosen as the Society of Southwest Archivists president-elect for a three-year term; and is chair of the Program Committee.

**Manning** is also chair of the Reference, Outreach, and Access Section of the Society of American Archivists; and founding member of the Access to Erecords Task Force.

**Manning's** article titled “Exhibition and Cross-Campus Collaboration at U of Houston” appeared in *Southwestern Archivist*.

**Lisa Martin** serves as chair of the Association of College and Research Libraries Instruction Section Management and Leadership Committee. **Martin** also serves on the ALA Reference and User Services Association Business Reference Services Discussion Group.

**Martin's** review of “Management Basics for Information Professionals, by G. Edward Evans and Camila A. Alire” appeared in *Journal of Academic Librarianship*.

**Marilyn Myers** serves as chair of the University Libraries Section of Association of College and Research Libraries.

**Valerie Prilop** presented “Rusty Reels and Fragile Floppies: Surveying Audiovisual and Digital Materials in Special Collections” at ALA Annual Conference.

**Prilop** serves as assistant web editor of Association of College and Research Libraries Rare Books and Manuscripts Section; member of the Association of College and Research Libraries University Libraries Section Communications Committee; and member of the University Hearing Board.

**Alex Simons** co presented “Lean and Mean: 10 Free Government Sites to Help You Serve Your Customers” with Sarah Naper at TLA Annual Conference. **Simons** also presented via webinar “I didn't know I could do that!” Government Resources for All Citizens” for

University of North Carolina at Greensboro's *Help! I'm an Accidental Government Information Librarian* series.

**Mike Thompson** was an invited panelist for a 2014 Texas Library Association Conference session titled “Acquisitions 101: Connecting with Vendors.” Thompson also served as co-chair of the Association of Library Collections and Technical Services Acquisitions Section Acquisitions Managers and Vendors Interest Group.

**Thompson** also co-authored a report (accepted) for the Technical Service Quarterly titled “Report of the ALCTS AS Acquisitions Managers and Vendors Interest Group (AMVIG); American Library Association Midwinter Meeting; Philadelphia, January 26, 2014.”

**Santi Thompson** and **Annie Wu** co-authored “Metadata Overhaul: Upgrading Metadata in the University of Houston Digital Library” which was published in *Journal of Digital Media Management*.

**Thompson** also co-presented “Automating the Audit: Updates from the Metadata Upgrade Project at the University of Houston Libraries” with **Andy Weidner** and **Annie Wu** at the CONTENTdm User Group Meeting; “Finding Roots, Gems, and Inspiration: Understanding Ultimate Use of Digital Materials” with Michele Reilly at Texas Conference on Digital Libraries; and “Finding Roots, Gems, and Inspiration: Understanding the Ultimate Uses of Digital Materials” with Michele Reilly at Personal Digital Archiving 2014 Conference.

**Thompson** co-authored “Understanding Ultimate Use Data and Its Implications on Digital Library Management: A Case Study” in the *Journal of Web Librarianship* with Michele Reilly.

**Cherie Turner** presented “Utilizing Curriculum Mapping to Identify Information Literacy Needs and Opportunities in Chemistry Courses” at the Science and Technology Section Research Forum at ALA Annual Conference.

**Turner's** review of “The Burning Question, by M. Berners Lee and D. Clark” appeared in *Chemical and Engineering News*.

**Rachel Vacek** presented “Hacking the Digital Public Library of America” at the Texas Conference on Digital Libraries Preconference with Danielle Plumer, Ben Brumfield, and **Sean Watkins**.

**Andy Weidner, Annie Wu** and **Santi Thompson's** “Automated Enhancement of Controlled Vocabularies: Upgrading Legacy Metadata in CONTENTdm” was accepted for International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Application proceedings.

**Annie Wu** co-presented “Collaborating for Better Metadata: Upgrading Metadata in the UH Digital Library” with **Santi Thompson** at the Digital Library Federation Conference.

## NEW TO UH LIBRARIES



**Marissa Aiello**  
Financial Assistant 2



**Joshua Been**  
Social Science Data Librarian



**Stephanie Lewin-Lane**  
Coordinator of the Music Library



**Hayley Moreno**  
Resource Description Coordinator



**Robert Newell**  
Web Services Coordinator



**Abra Schnur**  
Evening Supervisor



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## SUPPORT UH LIBRARIES



### CREATING AN ENDOWED LEGACY

The recently established Houston Saengerbund Endowment for Special Collections will provide perpetual support for the preservation and distribution of Houston Saengerbund's historic records at the University of Houston Libraries.

Through generous donations of books, papers, and other articles of historical value, Special Collections is able to provide unique, original resources for our students, faculty, staff and the scholarly community.

For more information on establishing your gift to the University of Houston Libraries, contact:

**Todd Marrs** | Director of Development

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