

The Liaison Connection

Keep in the know about University Libraries collections, services, and research/instruction.

University of Denver | University Libraries | Fall Quarter 2021 Issue 14 | Peggy Keeran, Editor

From the Deans' Suite

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Appreciation for the University of Denver Libraries' Faculty and Staff during the Pandemic

We recently asked LLAG members to send us some feedback about your experiences with the Libraries during the pandemic, and the responses we received were deeply gratifying. You thanked us for our efforts to get you the resources you needed at a time when many libraries were closed, and for setting up new services such as locker and curbside checkout. You called out a number of librarians by name, and we've been sure to share those tributes with each of them. Understandably, the librarians who interact directly with faculty and students were most frequently mentioned, but all staff in the Libraries worked diligently over the last year and a half to make it possible for our collections, services, and facilities to be as accessible as possible, given the constantly changing circumstances. We'd like to share with you our deep appreciation for the library faculty and staff who make the University Libraries run so well.

Behind the scenes in the Libraries are teams of experts with a variety of overlapping knowledges, from the social to the technical and back again. Before you ever touch a book or click on a resource, along the way Libraries' faculty and staff have worked within a complex ecosystem of stakeholders in scholarly communications, including other DU units, publishers, platform providers, indexing services, multi-institutional library partnerships and non-profits, and others, to:

- Design, build, and integrate systems and webpages
- Study user behaviors to optimize discovery
- Steward our collections budget responsibly
- Engage in user-centered troubleshooting and improvement processes
- Maintain environmental control systems to maximize the life of paper
- Manage digital preservation systems to maximize the life of a file
- Think generations into the future in order to ensure the integrity of the scholarly record
- Advocate for improved accessibility, equity, and financial responsibility and stability in scholarly publishing

Every time you picked up a book, DVD, or other item curbside or in a locker during the pandemic, someone behind the scenes made it possible by:

- Paying for the item, one of over a thousand invoices we process per year
- Cataloging the item, describing its subject and "aboutness," and assigning it a unique call number
- Preparing the item for shelving, assigning it another unique identifier in an inventory system
- Shelving it based on its unique call number
- Retrieving the item, in some cases from the Hampden Center facility ten miles away, and delivering it to the Lending Desk for pick up
- Confirming your appointment, checking it out to you, waiting for your call, and bringing it to your car or your locker
- Moving it to quarantine after you returned it, per industry best practices, and readying it for the next user

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Appreciation for the University of Denver Libraries' Faculty and Staff during the Pandemic *(continued from previous page)*

Or perhaps you requested an item through interlibrary loan, in which case, someone:

- Determined whether we had it in our collection
- Identified a library to borrow it from and then placed a request
- Communicated with one or more libraries as necessary to find an available copy
- Received that physical book or scanned article and notified you that it was available
- Checked books and other returnable items out to you and, once you returned them, packed and mailed them back to the owning library

Whenever you used any of our electronic resources, someone behind the scenes made it possible by:

- Negotiating complex pricing and license terms with a content provider
- Paying for the resource (again, one of over a thousand invoices per year)
- Cataloging or uploading metadata in large batches, reconciling and improving data in the process
- Configuring a variety of systems to make the resource appear in our catalog and/or on our website
- Configuring technologies to provide access to authenticated users but not to others, based on license terms
- Testing, re-testing, improving, and optimizing all systems to make it as simple as possible for you to access the information you need

If you used a digitized version of a document, someone:

- Made a copyright determination to see how much could be scanned
- Retrieved the volume(s) from the shelves
- Scanned the relevant pages, documents, photos, chapters, or articles to create a PDF or image and uploaded them into a retrievable system
- Notified you that the PDF was available
- Reshelfed the volumes so they'd be available for the next user

Our staff also managed access to course reserves, working with you to:

- Identify resources required for your courses and determine whether we could link to e-resources already available in our collections or if we needed to scan a physical item
- Investigate copyright restrictions and secure necessary permissions for scanning
- Scan relevant materials
- Arrange those materials to be accessible through Canvas or another online platform

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Appreciation for the University of Denver Libraries' Faculty and Staff during the Pandemic *(continued from previous page)*

All of that labor is intended to provide seamless access to our collections so that you can find the resources you need to support your teaching and research. That behind-the-scenes work should be invisible to you, but we hope that we've been able to shine a little light on all of the incredible people who make the Libraries function.



Group photo of some library faculty and staff from 2018, pre-Covid times.

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From the Deans' Suite

DU Libraries' Open Access Fund

For several years, DU researchers have expressed a need for support in funding article page charges (APCs) when submitting to open access journals. We are pleased to announce that University Libraries is now in a position to do it. The Provost's Office provided funding in FY 2022 for the Libraries to pilot a centralized, formal, and equitable process for securing APC support. A committee of faculty with representation from every school and college will work with the Libraries to manage the requesting process, and we invite requests from any member of the DU community.

Eligibility requirements

- Current faculty, staff, and students are eligible for up to \$3,000 per year per article, until pilot funds are spent
- Journals must be fully open access and compliant with the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association Code of Conduct; or be listed in the [Directory of Open Access Journals](#)
- Funding is intended to support open access to research articles where publication fees are not covered by grants or other funding sources
- Chair, dean, or governance body approval is required before the committee approves funding
- Acceptance of an article by a journal will not be immediately required; funding for successful proposals will be encumbered for three months while the author prepares the manuscript for submission
- Authors are required to submit articles to the Libraries' [Digital Commons @ DU](#) (institutional repository) and attribute support to the university

We hope this support removes barriers to researchers publishing in the venues of their choosing and results in more DU research being freely and immediately available worldwide.

Please visit the [University Libraries page](#) for more information, and contact Jack Maness (jack.maness@du.edu) if you have any questions about the fund or anything related to open access publishing.

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For an archive of *The Liaison Connection* newsletter, as well as past Library Liaison Advisory Group meeting minutes, announcements, and a directory of the members, please visit the [Library Liaison Advisory Group webpage](#).



LIBRARY LIAISON
ADVISORY GROUP

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Access & Services

University Libraries' Website Redesign

The Libraries' website is migrating to the Drupal platform hosted by the DU Marketing and Communications department. Our user groups have different priorities compared to the primary user groups of most DU websites. We are working with Marketing and Communications to ensure our new site meets those priorities while maintaining the look and feel that Marketing and Communications has for the University's web presence.

The goal of the Libraries' new site is to meet the needs of our library users by making collections, services and information available and easy to find. Within this goal, we are working on the following objectives:

- Highlight the services for which a majority of users come to the site, while still making other services easy to find
- Highlight the tools and collections that are aimed at our primary user groups, while making tools and collections aimed at secondary user groups easy to find
- Make hours and contacts easy to find and understand
- Balance place, collections, and services in proportions that reflect the extent users look for each
- Focus on meeting the needs of primary user groups (students and faculty); meeting the needs of other user groups, but not at the expense of overcomplicating it for the primary groups
- Prioritize the needs/wants of underrepresented populations within each broad user group

Over the past year, we have used various methods to gather user feedback from the DU community. These included card sorting sessions, moderated usability testing, surveys, and feedback provided during instruction sessions or reference interactions. At times we have asked some of you to share our call for feedback session participants with your students and faculty. We get much larger participant pools when you do so, so a big thank you to those who have shared those calls!

The Liaison Connection will also be incorporated into the new website. Rather than providing access to newsletters via a linked document on the site, we will be utilizing the News function to present the newsletters and minutes. This will be the last Liaison Connection using the current format.

The new website is scheduled to launch on December 9th.

Question and feedback on the website are always appreciated!

Erin Elzi
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DU Libraries Goes Fine Free!

University of Denver Libraries has gone fine-free! After eliminating fines for overdue materials during the pandemic, staff and faculty in the library decided to permanently extend the program. This reprieve from fines applies to regularly circulating monographs and media items. Short-term, high-usage materials (such as circulating gadgets and course reserves) will continue to be charged fines, due to the necessity for prompt returns based on their high demand, as well as recalled materials. This move helps to address the documented disproportionate impact that fines have on students from low-income and historically marginalized backgrounds, and the resulting impact that transcript and registration holds have on students. We are excited to have made this change and look forward to thinking about how the services offered through DU Libraries can create a more inclusive and equitable environment for students at the University of Denver.

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Instruction/Research

Visual Literacy Workshop

At the University of Denver, faculty have incorporated visual literacy into instructional sessions across multiple disciplines. [Visual literacy](#) is defined by the Association of College and Research Libraries as “a set of abilities that enables an individual to effectively find, interpret, evaluate, use, and create images and visual media.” In August, the University Libraries hosted a well-attended virtual panel discussion on visual literacy, providing the opportunity for faculty to learn from their colleagues who have incorporated visual literacy into assignments and lessons in their courses.

Panelists offered interdisciplinary perspectives on the challenges and benefits of teaching visual literacy, sharing their experiences working with librarians to support student learning. The panel was comprised of Ramona Beltrán from the Graduate School of Social Work, Rob Gilmor from the University Writing Program, Esteban Gómez from Anthropology, Carol Helstosky from History, Krystyna Matusiak from the Library and Information Science Program, and Andrea Stanton from Religious Studies. Attendees left the session with ideas and best practices for how to incorporate visual literacy into their teaching.

Bridget Farrell
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University of Denver Libraries' Information Literacy Grants Awarded in Fall Quarter 2021

Two information literacy grants were awarded by the University Libraries' in fall quarter for courses being taught during this academic year:

Dr. Shannon Murphy, Biology
Meg Eastwood, University Libraries
BIOL 3085 Insect Ecology and BIOL 3095 Global Change Biology

Dr. Nancy Sasaki, Dr. Dhaval Vyas, Kristin Andrud, and Angela Hebel, Biology
Meg Eastwood University Libraries
BIOL 122X The Molecules to Humankind and BIOL 127X Living in a Microbial World course sequences

The overall goal of the Information Literacy grant program is to foster collaboration between librarians and faculty to work towards the full integration of research education into all undergraduate majors and graduate degrees. The program awards instructional development stipends to instructors who would like to design or revise a course or series of courses in order to incorporate assignments, readings, and library workshops focused on information literacy and research/library skills. Throughout the design and teaching, the instructor collaborates closely with a librarian/archivist to integrate library resources and services and information literacy concepts as appropriate.

We will be sending out a call for proposals for Spring Quarter 2022 classes in the winter quarter. Contact your [library liaison](#) if you would like to discuss a potential undergraduate or graduate class for incorporating information literacy.

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Collections

New Faculty Library Fund

All new Tenure Track and Teaching and Professional Track faculty are eligible for \$1,000 in one-time purchases of physical or digital information resources in support of research and teaching for up to two years following their start date at the University of Denver. Made possible through an annual gift from the University Library Association (ULA), the New Faculty Library Fund (NFLF) is available for one-time purchases and does not apply to journal or database subscriptions.

Examples of materials eligible for purchase through the NFLF include books, e-books, DVDs, streaming video, maps, images, data sets, and archival and manuscript materials. The Libraries anticipates that NFLF materials will complement the collections and be accessible to all users. In addition, NFLF acceptances made in any given fiscal year will depend on funding availability. As the NFLF process is intended to be a measured, thoughtful one, new faculty members interested in making use of the NFLF are encouraged to first contact their [library liaison](#) and Shannon Tharp, Collections & Content Management Librarian, for further details.

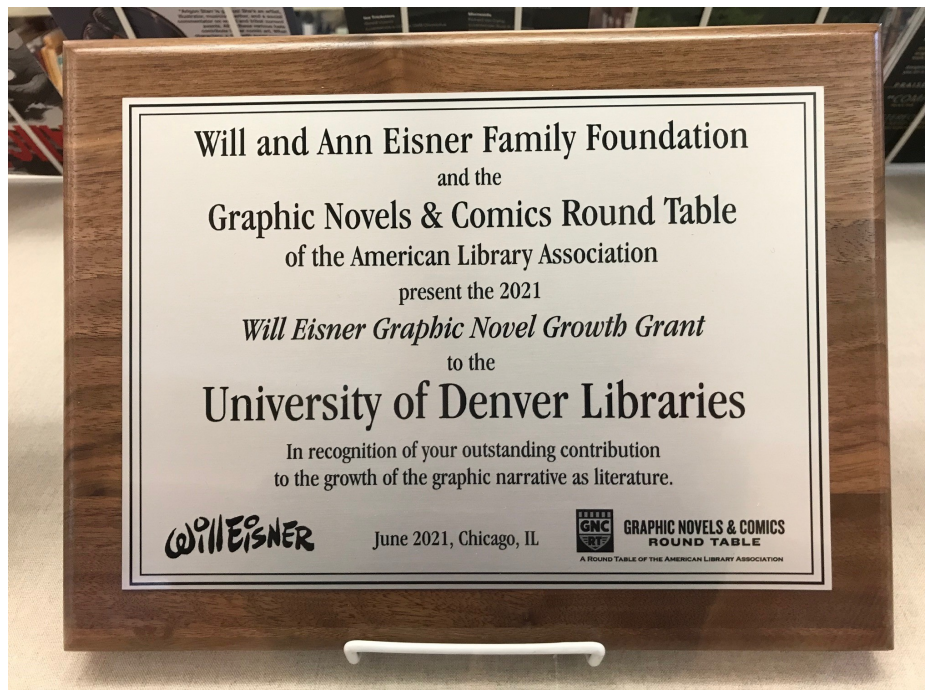
In collaboration with Subject Librarians and the Curator of Special Collections & Archives, the Collections & Content Management Librarian makes the final determination on NFLF purchases. As always, if there are materials you'd like the Libraries to acquire in the more immediate future, whether you're a new faculty member or a longer-term faculty member, contact your library liaison.

Shannon Tharp
Collections & Content Management Librarian
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Building our "Native American, First Nations, and Indigenous Graphic Novels Collection" with the Will Eisner Graphic Novel Growth Grant

This past spring, the University Libraries was awarded one of two 2021 Will Eisner Graphic Novel Growth Grants for Libraries, which is funded by the Will and Ann Eisner Family Foundation and selected by the American Library Association Graphic Novels and Comics Round Table. Often referred to as the "Father of the Graphic Novel," Will Eisner was instrumental in the development of the genre with his 1978 graphic novel, *A Contract with God and Other Tenement Stories*, as well as for teaching with comics and graphic novels during his career at the School of Visual Arts.

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Collections

Building our "Native American, First Nations, and Indigenous Graphic Novels Collection" with the Will Eisner Graphic Novel Growth Grant

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Our project, "Building Past to Present: Developing a Native American, First Nations, and Indigenous Graphic Novels Collection," seeks to develop our nascent collection of Indigenous-created graphic novels in order to address our institution's legacy of the Sand Creek Massacre, and align with the Task Force on Native American Inclusivity and the Libraries' goals to diversify our collections, specifically of Native American authors. The \$4000 grant will enable the Libraries to purchase Indigenous-created graphic novels and hold a graphic-novel themed special event. As part of the grant, we will also receive the Will Eisner Library, a graphic novel and biographical collection of 75 titles, as well as a selection of the winning titles from this year's Will Eisner Awards at Comic-Con International, comprising approximately 100 books. You can preview some of these titles in the current exhibit, "It's the most revolutionary text there is" Will Eisner Graphic Novels Grant and the 'Native American, First Nations, and Indigenous Graphic Novels Collection,' located on the Main Level of the library, and on display through December, or review our current list of Native American, First Nations, and Indigenous graphic novels on this collection guide (<https://libguides.du.edu/indigenousgraphicnovels>).



If you are interested in teaching with the Native American, First Nations, and Indigenous Graphic Novels collection or have recommendations about titles to purchase, please contact your liaison librarian. We also welcome title suggestions for other diverse graphic novel collections we might build at the University Libraries.

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Social Sciences Librarian
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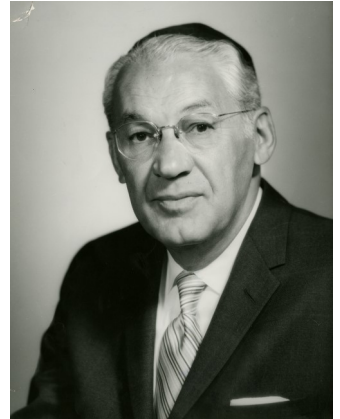
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Special Collections & Archives

Beck Archives Acquires the Papers of the Rabbi Manuel Laderman

In early 2020, just as the Covid pandemic began to make its unwelcome presence felt in the United States, the Beck Archives, part of the DU Libraries Special Collections, was fortunate to acquire the papers of the late Rabbi Manuel Laderman, one of the leading members of the clergy in Denver during the 20th century. Rabbi Laderman moved to Denver in 1932 to become the first spiritual leader at the newly formed Hebrew Educational Alliance (HEA), which originally stemmed from a movement in the 1920s, to build an educational center for youth in the West Colfax section in Denver, then a largely Jewish immigrant community. Born in New York City in 1909, Laderman began his career at the HEA as a young man of 23, and matured and developed his extraordinary talents along with the congregation. He married Bessie Mallin in Kansas City, August 6, 1933, and the couple became the parents of two children.

Rabbi Laderman was typical of a new generation of American-born and educated modern Orthodox rabbis who served mostly Eastern European immigrants and their families, and who wished to maintain Jewish tradition but also play an active role in the wider civic and cultural secular community. Laderman received his rabbinical ordination in the early 1930s from the Hebrew Theological College, and then earned a Ph.D. in Theology. He served as a professor of Religious Studies at the Denver campus of the University of Colorado and the University of Denver for many years.



Rabbi Manuel Laderman, c1970

Laderman, who served the Hebrew Educational Alliance for 57 years, the last decade as rabbi emeritus, died in Denver on November 27, 1989. He was not only beloved by his congregants but was highly respected in the wider community. The Denver General Hospital (now Denver Health) dedicated its Regional Trauma Center to his memory on April 12, 1994, and for many years Laderman's name was prominently displayed on the outer wall of the hospital, clearly visible from Speer Boulevard. A bas relief of Rabbi Laderman was re-dedicated on February 21, 1998 in the lobby of Denver Health.

He spent over half a century as a rabbi and was widely recognized as one of the top-ranking Denver clergymen from all faiths. Laderman spent his life working for civil rights and improving relations between Jews and Christians. He helped the Denver Allied Jewish Community organization to enlist the widest possible support through the United Jewish Appeal in order to help bring much needed economic and medical relief to Jews in Europe after World War II. He also served with great distinction as chairman of the Denver Board of Health and Hospitals, president of the Adult Education Council of Denver, and as a Board member of the Denver Symphony Society, the Allied Jewish Federation, the American Red Cross, and the American Medical Center.



Rabbi Manuel Laderman being greeted in the 1930s by some of his congregants in the Jewish community at Union Station. He was a tall, handsome, imposing man, and he really stands out in the crowd in this photo.

The Laderman Papers in the Beck Archives serve as a significant source of information for researchers who wish to study the evolution of America's Jewish community, as well as the subjects of immigration, acculturation, religion, and culture. Although the collection is not yet fully processed, the Beck Archives welcome DU faculty and students who would like to view some of the fascinating materials in the collection, which include correspondence, photographs, printed sermons, lectures, notes, and speeches, news clippings, writings, and memorabilia. To make arrangements, please contact Dr. Jeanne Abrams, Beck Curator.

Jeanne Abrams
Beck Curator

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Event & Exhibits

Exhibits on Display

A goal for the exhibitions of the Fall 2021 quarter is to make the AAC welcoming and engaging for students returning to campus. Featured here are four exhibitions that are on display now or will be on display this quarter.

No More Pios: The Legacy of Settler Colonialism and the University of Denver

This timeline, curated by Katherine Crowe, Associate Professor and Curator of Special Collections and Archives, and Elia Trucks, Assistant Professor and Student Outreach Librarian, shows DU's history of mascots, nicknames, and branding, and their changes over its 150-year history, which often took place alongside related social and cultural changes.

February 18, 2021 – November 12, 2021

Story Line: A Visual History from Poland to USA

The Story Line art installation explores changes in time and place of Susan Cooper and her family from Poland, a country of pogroms and the Holocaust, to the safety of America, then on to lives well lived.

September 27, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Travels with Wyn: Collages by Michael Pulman

This art installation is a collection of collages of travel images that feature a surprise. Wyn, the cat, is placed into the pictures using Photoshop. The goal of this exhibition is to inspire students to study abroad.

November 12, 2021 – April 22, 2022



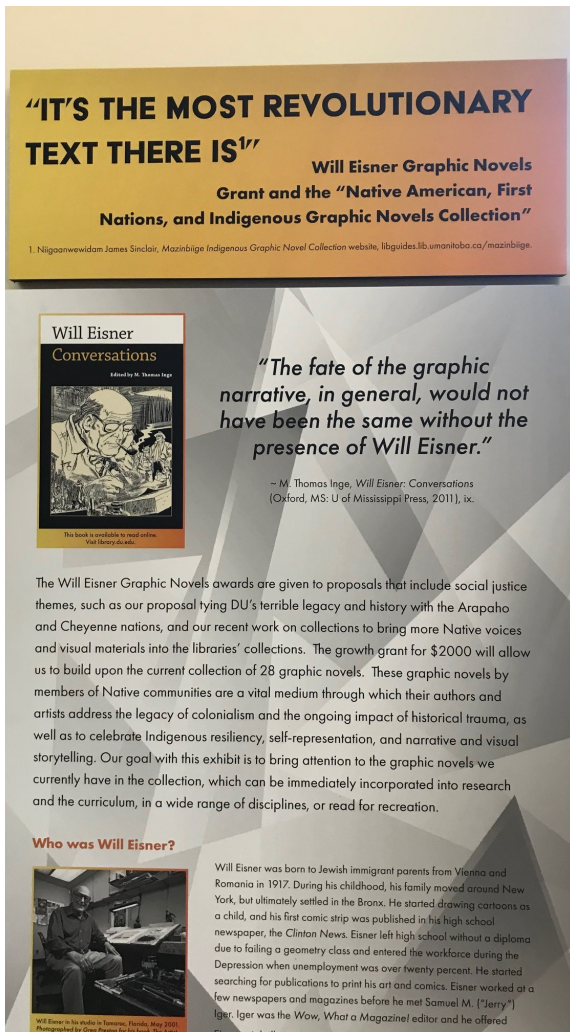
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Event & Exhibits

Exhibits on Display (continued from previous page)



"IT'S THE MOST REVOLUTIONARY TEXT THERE IS!"
Will Eisner Graphic Novels Grant and the "Native American, First Nations, and Indigenous Graphic Novels Collection"

1. Niigaanweewidam James Sinclair, Maziinige Indigenous Graphic Novel Collection website, libguides.lib.umanitoba.ca/maziinige.

Will Eisner Conversations
Edited by M. Thomas Inge

"The fate of the graphic narrative, in general, would not have been the same without the presence of Will Eisner."

— M. Thomas Inge, *Will Eisner: Conversations* (Oxford, MS: U of Mississippi Press, 2011), ix.

The Will Eisner Graphic Novels awards are given to proposals that include social justice themes, such as our proposal tying DU's terrible legacy and history with the Arapaho and Cheyenne nations, and our recent work on collections to bring more Native voices and visual materials into the libraries' collections. The growth grant for \$2000 will allow us to build upon the current collection of 28 graphic novels. These graphic novels by members of Native communities are a vital medium through which their authors and artists address the legacy of colonialism and the ongoing impact of historical trauma, as well as to celebrate Indigenous resiliency, self-representation, and narrative and visual storytelling. Our goal with this exhibit is to bring attention to the graphic novels we currently have in the collection, which can be immediately incorporated into research and the curriculum, in a wide range of disciplines, or read for recreation.

Who was Will Eisner?

Will Eisner was born to Jewish immigrant parents from Vienna and Romania in 1917. During his childhood, his family moved around New York, but ultimately settled in the Bronx. He started drawing cartoons as a child, and his first comic strip was published in his high school newspaper, the Clinton News. Eisner left high school without a diploma due to failing a geometry class and entered the workforce during the Depression when unemployment was over twenty percent. He started searching for publications to print his art and comics. Eisner worked at a few newspapers and magazines before he met Samuel M. ("Jerry") Iger. Iger was the *Wow*, *What a Magazine* editor and he offered Eisner job illustrations for his book, *The Art of*

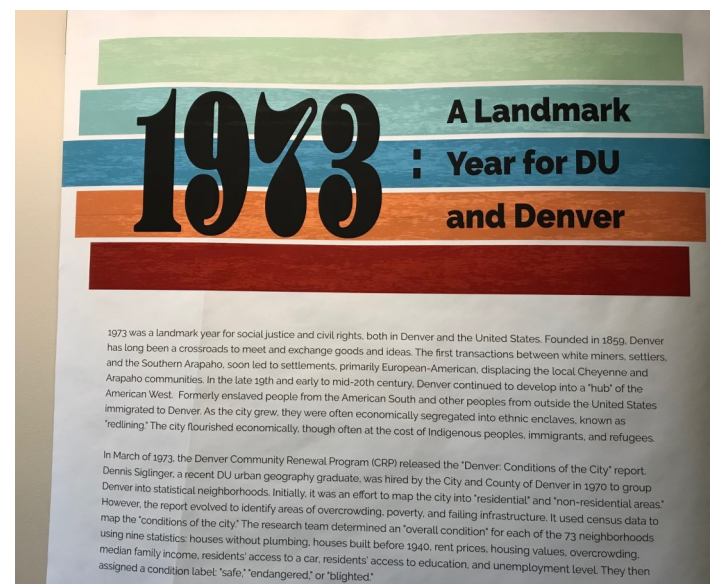
"It's the most revolutionary text there is:" Will Eisner Graphic Novels Grant and the "Native American, First Nations, and Indigenous Graphic Novels Collection"

The Will Eisner Graphic Novels awards are given to proposals that include social justice themes, such as our proposal tying DU's terrible legacy and history with the Arapaho and Cheyenne nations, and our recent work on collections to bring more Native voices and visual materials into the libraries' collections. This exhibit was curated by Peggy Keeran, Professor and Arts & Humanities Librarian.

September 1, 2021 – December 10, 2021

Art and Observation in Health Care: A Student Art Installation features five group works of art. Each student/artist group employed critical thinking skills to create an artwork that embodied their observations and interactions while looking at medicine through diverse, equitable, and inclusive lenses.

Coming in November 2021



1973 **A Landmark Year for DU and Denver**

1973 was a landmark year for social justice and civil rights, both in Denver and the United States. Founded in 1859, Denver has long been a crossroads to meet and exchange goods and ideas. The first transactions between white miners, settlers, and the Southern Arapaho, soon led to settlements, primarily European-American, displacing the local Cheyenne and Arapaho communities. In the late 19th and early to mid-20th century, Denver continued to develop into a "hub" of the American West. Formerly enslaved people from the American South and other peoples from outside the United States immigrated to Denver. As the city grew, they were often economically segregated into ethnic enclaves, known as "redlining." The city flourished economically, though often at the cost of Indigenous peoples, immigrants, and refugees.

In March of 1973, the Denver Community Renewal Program (CRP) released the "Denver: Conditions of the City" report. Dennis Siglinger, a recent DU urban geography graduate, was hired by the City and County of Denver in 1970 to group Denver into statistical neighborhoods. Initially, it was an effort to map the city into "residential" and "non-residential areas." However, the report evolved to identify areas of overcrowding, poverty, and failing infrastructure. It used census data to map the "conditions of the city." The research team determined an "overall condition" for each of the 73 neighborhoods using nine statistics: houses without plumbing, houses built before 1940, rent prices, housing values, overcrowding, median family income, residents' access to a car, residents' access to education, and unemployment level. They then assigned a condition label: "safe," "endangered," or "blighted."

Visit the Anderson Academic Commons to view these exhibitions and the other physical exhibits on display, such as *1973: A Landmark Year in the Struggle for Civil Rights in Denver and at DU*. Visit <https://exhibits.library.du.edu/librariespresents/> to view the online exhibitions.

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