

# News from the Bowdoin Library Spring 2021



Even a year as difficult as this could not mask the staff's enthusiasm for supporting the work of faculty and students. Nonetheless, we are all looking forward to seeing everyone's uncovered smiling faces.

## Judy Montgomery (1952-2021)

The Bowdoin Library lost a beloved member of its family with the death of Judy Montgomery, who was killed in a tragic car accident along with her husband Paul D'Alessandro and their cherished dog Sparrow, on May 26<sup>th</sup> in Lewiston. Read more.



## **Library Summer Hours**

Hawthorne-Longfellow Library: 10am-5pm (Bowdoin community only)

#### **Planning Ahead**

<u>CBBcat</u> will be unavailable most of the **Special Collections & Archives**: 1pm-5pm, by appointment

Hatch Science Library will undergo renovations this summer, with the construction of two classrooms on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the building. To accommodate the construction project, the library will be open to the Bowdoin community only by appointment throughout the summer. Staff will be available Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm, for consultations or to provide access to the library's collections. For further information contact the library at (207) 725-3004 or email Sue O'Dell.

All libraries will be closed on Friday, June 18<sup>th</sup> in observance of Juneteenth, and Monday, July 5<sup>th</sup> in observance of Independence Day.

#### All Bowdoin Library Hours

day on Tuesday, June 8<sup>th</sup> due to a scheduled upgrade. The library's collections can be searched via MaineCat, however CBBcat patron and request functions will not be available during the system's downtime (Take-Out and hold requests, and library account access).

Questions? Contact the Circulation Department at (207) 725-3280 | lib\_circ@bowdoin.edu.

#### Leaders in All Walks of Life: Summer SC&A Curatorial Intern

In 1971, Bowdoin College welcomed and officially enrolled women students for the first time. Starting Fall 2021, the College will commemorate this anniversary with a yearlong initiative "Leaders in All Walks of Life: Fifty Years of Women at Bowdoin." The Bowdoin College Library's Fall 2021 exhibit will delve into



the College Archives to explore the past fifty years (and beyond) of women's experiences, contributions, and leadership at Bowdoin. The exhibition will be curated by Special Collections & Archives' summer curatorial intern, Katie Reid, Class of 2023. Reid is a Sociology and Psychology major and is interested in the societal structures and phenomena that influence Bowdoin students' experiences and serves as a leader of fEMPOWER, the student group that produces "RISE: Untold Stories of Bowdoin Women." Reid will work closely with Special Collections Education and Engagement Librarian Marieke Van Der Steenhoven to research and curate the exhibition, which will be on view in the second-floor gallery of the Hawthorne-Longfellow Library throughout the fall semester as well as online.

### **Celebrating Literature, Interpreting Collections, Gathering Our Community**

Read to Me, a weekly series of readings by Bowdoin

staff, began in December as a way to cheer all of us during the winter pandemic doldrums. The series continued through the spring semester with a staff member sharing a favorite poem or story every Friday, along with their personal reflections on the literature they chose. Reading from home, office, and a variety of outdoor locations, contributors provided



all of us with a few moments of solace and delight each week, and for that we are most grateful.

Poetry was the focus for the library in April in observance of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of National Poetry Month. Each day throughout the month we posted a recording of a poet reading



their own work on our Poetic License webpage and at a display in H-L Library, providing the Bowdoin community with the opportunity to experience a broad array of poetry from the past 100 years. This was coupled with the library's annual Pop-Up Poetry event, once again held virtually, with readings by Bowdoin students broadcast on Facebook Live daily during the last week of the month.

April also saw the launch of the library's inaugural **BIPOC** collection display, located in the New Book Alcove at the entrance to H-L Library. Curated by Thando Khumalo ('23), the display provides a student perspective on collections and supports the library's efforts to increase the representation of marginalized communities and BIPOC voices among its holdings. Thando's choice of titles focuses on themes of motherhood and speaks to her childhood disappointment in not finding someone like herself among the literary characters she most



admired. She hoped to "increase representation and show children of color everywhere that they can see themselves slaying dragons and saving the world in a way I never could have dreamed." Thando spoke about her selection of books and read passages from several titles during a conversation with Carmen Greenlee, Humanities and Media Librarian, broadcast on Facebook Live on April 22nd.

# **COVID-19 at Bowdoin College: An Oral History Project**

Bowdoin is embarking on an oral history project to document how the College responded to the enormous pedagogical, technological, logistical, economic, and emotional challenges wrought by COVID-19. By collecting and preserving the stories of key staff, faculty, trustees, and student leaders, the project aims to build a



nuanced understanding of how the College responded to this 21st-century pandemic. The project is being administered by the Library's George J. Mitchell Department of Special Collections & Archives. Interviews will be conducted by Andrea L'Hommedieu, director of the Oral History Program at the University of South Carolina, who served as interviewer for the George J. Mitchell Oral History Project (2008-2011), and will be published online as part of the library's digital collections program. Questions can be directed to Meagan Doyle, Digital Archivist, who is managing the project.

### **Cambridge University Press Read and Publish**

The library's most recent journal subscription license with Cambridge University Press includes a Read and Publish program that supports scholarly open access publishing. Under the CBB Read and Publish Agreement, Cambridge will waive article-processing charges (APCs) for articles published by Bowdoin faculty in eligible Cambridge OA or hybrid journals. At present, over 370 journals are covered by the agreement. Faculty who are interested in more information about the program or have questions about a particular journal should contact their research librarian for assistance.

#### **Staff Transitions**

After more than 21 years of distinguished service as the College's Archivist, Caroline Moseley will retire at the end of July. In her years at Bowdoin, Caroline has been instrumental in implementing a records management program for the College, administering its substantial historical record, and processing and providing reference for the papers of Senator George J. Mitchell. She has also



overseen the acquisition and processing of countless other collections, provided oversight over the Department of Special Collections & Archives' research and digital archiving services, and, in 2015, served as Acting Director of the Department. Caroline's expansive knowledge of College history, her adroit and generous approach to assisting colleagues and researchers, and her expertise in arranging and describing even the most challenging collections are just a few of the countless reasons we will miss her. Please join us in congratulating Caroline and wishing her well on the next adventures ahead. Was this email forwarded to you? <u>Sign up</u> to receive your own Library newsletter.

