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The Newsletter for South Carolina Libraries



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Thousands attend StoryfestSC

Over 2000 children, parents and volunteers attended the sixth annual [StoryfestSC festival](#) on June 4, some traveling from as far away as Georgia and North Carolina to celebrate the start of the summer reading season with the South Carolina State Library.

Residents from 28 counties made the drive to the South Carolina State Museum for the event, spending their Saturday reading books, listening to storytellers and gaining information on state and non-profit programs from 11 different vendors. Children were also able to get their faces painted, create crafts and hang out with local college mascots.

As event attendees enjoyed themselves at StoryfestSC, SCSL staff was working to make sure children's literacy continues to increase in South Carolina.

According to the National Summer Learning Center, children show reduced academic performance if if they do not continue to read over extended holiday breaks. Events like StoryfestSC help public libraries create programs designed to combat this holiday "slide." Four thousand were given out to StoryfestSC attendees this

year, making sure children have access to quality reading material during the summer months.

StoryfestSC also aimed to preserve South Carolina's rich oral tradition, which ranges from family histories to ghost stories. StoryfestSC celebrated this heritage by hosting oral story telling sessions during the event.

The SCSL considered this year's StoryfestSC a major success, and is looking forward to launching another next year!



StoryfestSC

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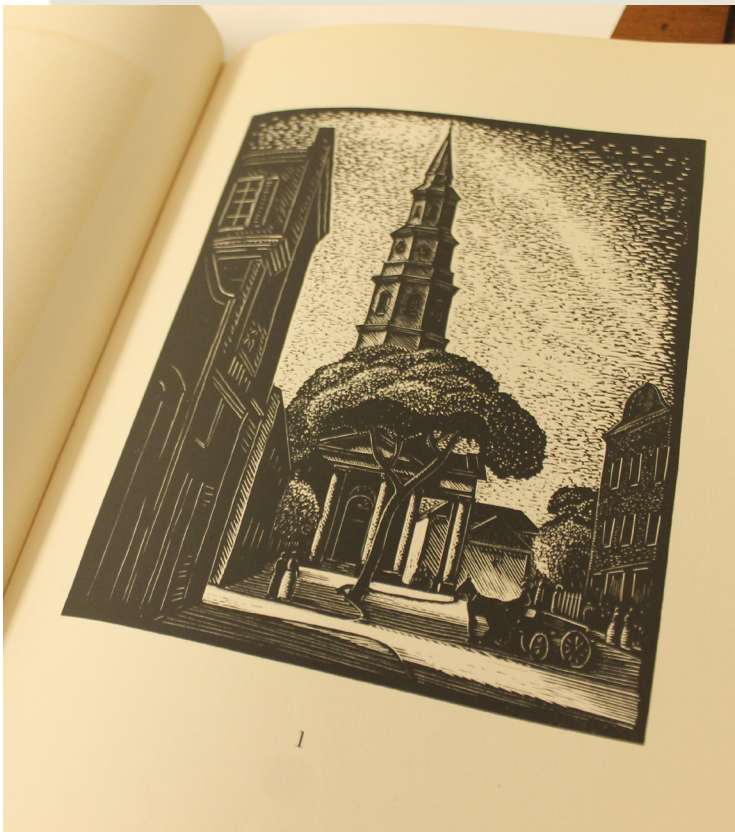
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south carolina
STATE LIBRARY

From Our Collection: Old Charleston by Charles W. Smith



This month's selection from the South Carolina State Library's rare book collection captures the natural beauty, historic architecture and daily life of the city of Charleston.

Charles W. Smith, born in 1893, published this slim volume of 24 woodcuts in 1933. His goal, stated in his preface to the book, was to depict scenes from the city that "delight the soul" and accurately convey the majesty of Old Charleston. Many of the blocks feature famous landmarks, like Saint Philip's Church and Fort Sumter. But Smith also had an eye for the peninsula's natural beauty, and many of the book's woodcuts feature

salt marshes, ancient oaks and views of Charleston Harbor. The SCSL's copy was autographed by the artist.

Smith used both linoleum block and wood block printing processes to create his work, converting skills he learned from his father to his augment his techniques. He also taught art classes at three universities, including the University of Virginia, over the course of his career.

He retired from teaching in 1963 and died in 1987.

Visitors may request to view this book by contacting Amanda Stone, Manager of Collections and Digitization at 803-734-4816 or astone@statelibrary.sc.gov.

Winner of Name Our Wren Contest Announced



Contest winner Claire Hood

The South Carolina State Library's first [Winter Reading Program](#) was a success with 15 public libraries participating. A Name Our Wren contest was part of this year's program.

We received over 500 entries from 13 South Carolina counties. Judges, comprised of State Library staff members narrowed the field to 5 and then took a final vote. The winning name

was Rosey, which was submitted by Claire Hood.

Hood received an autographed book and poster from [Will Hillenbrand](#), the author/illustrator who created the artwork for this new public library program.

Rosey the Wren will be featured in some of our upcoming podcast episodes of our new podcast series titled "[LibraryVoicesSC](#)."

Leesa Aiken Biography

Before accepting her new position, Aiken worked at the SCSL in other capacities, including a Deputy Director position responsible for human resources, finance, administration, library development, and talking book services.

Aiken has also served on numerous boards, including FirstSteps, Rolling Readers, International Public Management Association, South Carolina State Employee Association, Partnership Among South Carolina Academic Libraries, K-12 Technology Board, and several others.

Aiken received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Child and Family Studies with an emphasis on Early Care and Education from Columbia College, a Master of Arts degree from Columbia College in Organizational Change and Leadership and a Master of Library and Information Science degree from the University of South Carolina.



Leesa Aiken became SCSL Director on May 16

Leesa Aiken accepts SC State Library Directorship

Leesa Aiken became the Agency Director of the South Carolina State Library May 16, the latest milestone in her nearly nine years of service to the state agency.

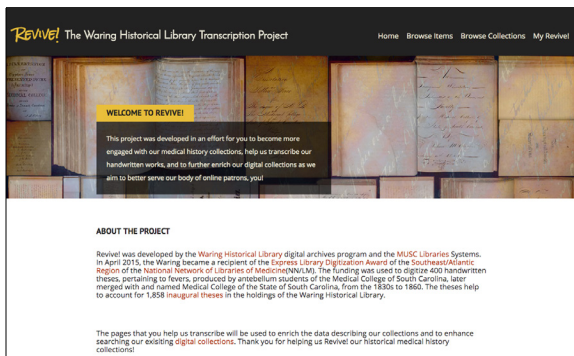
Aiken said that she was “grateful and excited” to be offered her new position, adding that she enjoys creating programs that have a statewide impact and that provide equal access to information for all South Carolinians.

“The State Library is a high-performing workplace with innovative, creative, service-oriented staff who genuinely want to provide essential resources that impact South Carolinians’ personal and work lives in positive ways,” Aiken

said. “My work at the South Carolina State Library has been both rewarding and meaningful. I believe in the programs that we offer and the products that we provide...the South Carolina State Library is a premier institution and I am honored to be associated with it.”

South Carolina State Library Board Chair Debbie Hyler said she felt the SCSL will benefit from Aiken’s leadership abilities.

“Ms. Aiken’s dedication and commitment to the State Library has been proven over the last nine years,” Hyler said. “The Board appreciates her willingness to lead the agency and we look forward to an exciting future at the State Library.”



The Revive! Project: Crowdsourcing transcription of the Waring Historical Library's digital collections

This summer, the [Waring Historical Library](#) of the Medical University of South Carolina will launch Revive!: The Waring Historical Library Transcription Project, an online transcription portal it has developed to crowdsource the transcription of its digital collections. Revive! will allow the Waring's digital users to edit and submit transcriptions for handwritten archival and manuscript materials accessible through the online module. This project will allow the Waring to further enrich its digital collections and increase user engagement with it and its materials.

Revive! will primarily feature more than half of the untranscribed works of the digital collection, Waring Historical Library Inaugural Theses. In 2015, the Waring received an Express Digitization Award from the Southeast/Atlantic Region of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN\LM). The funding was used to digitize nearly 400 handwritten theses, which were produced by students of the

Medical College of South Carolina between 1830 and 1860. While the Waring has received other NN/LM Express Digitization Awards, this cycle differed as the Library decided to explore crowdsourcing as a means to transcribe the digitized theses. By adding the crowdsourcing feature, the Library eliminated costs dedicated to outsourcing transcription while still ensuring full-text searchability of the collection over time. The Waring also anticipates that this project feature will allow the library to engage with its users in different ways.

The online module was developed utilizing Omeka, the open source application created by the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media (CHNM), and modeled after the transcription projects of the University of Iowa Libraries and the Virginia Memory efforts of the Library of Virginia, DIY History and Making History – Transcribe, respectively. The Waring started its development of Revive! in early 2016, installing Omeka, MediaWiki, and Scripto,

an Omeka plugin developed by CHNM which employs MediaWiki to enable user input and to allow users to obtain personal accounts for maintaining progress and contributions. Registered users will be able to transcribe materials uploaded to Revive!, and transcriptions will be added to the Waring's digital collections to enable full-text searchability of the manuscripts.

As the number of Revive!'s users and their contributions increase, the Waring will make other collections available for transcription. The Library is excited about the potential for user engagement that this project brings and digital projects it might support. For more information about Revive! and the digital collections of the Waring, please contact Digital Archivist, Tabitha Samuel at samuel@musc.edu.



Intern Spotlight: Mir Parvin

Hometown:

Dhaka, Bangladesh

Program(s) of study:

Library and Information Science

Hobbies or special interests:

I enjoy DIY activities, fishing at Lake Murray, tubing at Congaree River, cooking various cuisines, as well as watching movies. I love travelling.

What projects have you worked on as an intern at the SCSL?

- South Carolina Historical Book Digitization Project
- South Carolina State Library Photograph Archive Project
- South Carolina State Library Photograph Digitization Project
- Rare Book Shelf Reading and Catalog Update Project

What did you enjoy most? What were some challenges?

I loved most of the responsibilities I have during my internship. Particularly I was very delighted to create metadata elements for diverse collection items. I was also excited for the opportunity to publish the digitized items into SCSL online platform through DSpace. Apart from the personal duties, I really enjoyed the collegial and friendly work environment of South Carolina State Library.

I faced few technical challenges during this internship. Specially, the rare book scanning was very sensitive as the pages were very fragile and I had to pay extra attention so that I get perfectly scanned items in the end. Moreover, describing the South Carolina State Library photographs was a little bit challenging for me. I applied personal judgments, followed the

standard SCSL guidelines, and researched similar SCSL projects to overcome this challenge.

What have you learned from your internship?

I have a deep interest in metadata and digital collections. This internship has enabled me to apply my theoretical digital collection and metadata knowledge into practice. Currently I am taking one metadata course and a digital library course. Both of these two courses have become easier for me to comprehend after learning practical work at SCSL. I have learned how to handle and manage sophisticated materials such as historical rare book items. By working in various projects I have gathered experience of adaptability particularly during digitization of SCSL photographs. It has taught me how and when to apply personal judgments.

How does the internship fit with your long-term career goals?

My long-term goal is to become an information professional in an academic or public library setting with responsibilities of managing digital collections.

What advice would you offer your peers about getting the most out of an internship?

I recommend my peers to be proactive in learning more about the overall library environments so that they get an overview of the total library work experience.

For more information about internship possibilities at the SC State Library, please contact Dr. Curtis R. Rogers, Communications Director, at 803-734-8928 or crogers@statelibrary.sc.gov.

About the South Carolina State Library

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The South Carolina State Library is the primary administrator of federal and state support for the state's libraries. The Library is a national model for innovation, collaboration, leadership and effectiveness. The Library's mission is to optimize South Carolina's investment in library and information services.

In 1969, as the result of action by the General Assembly, the State Library Board was redesignated as the South Carolina State Library and assumed responsibility for public library development, library service for state institutions, service for the blind and physically handicapped, and library service to state government agencies. Headquartered in Columbia, S.C., the Library is funded by the state of South Carolina, by the federal government through the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and other sources.

For more information, visit statelibrary.sc.gov or call 803-734-8666.

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