

Greetings from Our Acting Director, Shoshana Kaufmann



Shoshana Kaufmann

It gives me great pleasure to send greetings to our many friends on this special occasion, the 10th anniversary edition of PageDown. Congratulations to Richard Wall, Chair, Publications Committee, Lisa Flanzraich, Editor, and all the past and present members of the Publications Committee who have worked tirelessly to publish our semi-annual newsletter in a timely manner so that friends, donors, faculty, and the college community are informed about Library news.

I have been Acting Chief Librarian since Sharon Bonk's retirement in October 2005 and have not experienced a day of boredom yet! Without the help of dedicated and hard-working library faculty and staff, who we have come to rely on in recent years, I would not have been able to run the library and continue our essential fund-raising and development efforts.

Together, we have lived through the extensive damage caused by the flood in August 2004. After many months of negotiations, along with the help of

Campus Facilities, Buildings and Grounds, and the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY), we finally have new ceiling tiles and carpeting in the damaged areas. All services, which were disrupted while the work was in progress, are now back to normal.

We have also used this time to rethink library space in relation to students' needs. As members of the Internet and Google generation, their learning and study habits have changed dramatically. Students like to study in groups and use electronic technologies—cell phones, blackberries, chat-rooms, e-mail—to communicate with faculty, classmates, friends, and family. The older, traditional Media/Microform Center will now become a Multi-Media Commons where students can collectively, or individually if they choose, view and evaluate media as well as incorporate it into their research. (See article at right.)

In December, some of our generous donors were invited to a special dinner in President Muyskens' beautiful home. He and Mrs. Muyskens graciously entertained and spoke of the importance and centrality of the library.

We hosted our annual donors' reception during National Library Week in April to honor our generous friends and donors and show our appreciation of them. It is not too late to join this wonderful group and meet others who, by contributing, support all Queens College students.

Please feel free to call me with questions or comments (718-997-3741) or e-mail me (shoshana.kaufmann@qc.cuny.edu).

Shoshana Kaufmann
Acting Chief Librarian

NEW MULTI-MEDIA COMMONS



21st-century Multi-Media Room

A new Multi-Media Commons is in the works for Rosenthal Library where 21st-century instructional technology facilitates and encourages learning styles and research objectives. Our plan has been developed concurrently with service changes and post-flood renovations of the current Media Center. Our mission is to provide Queens College students, faculty, and staff with community-wide access to state-of-the-art media environments and a broad array of audio, visual, and digital collections and equipment. Highlights of the plan include: collaborative learning spaces, group viewing facilities with wireless audio, wireless connectivity, individual media viewing spaces, digital editing stations, a media format conversion facility, equipment, and formats.

Stop by the Multi-Media Commons (BRL Level One) and take a look at the recovered public space, the fresh new interior and addition of group viewing areas. Also note that the laptop loan program now operates out of this area. As the library administration shares the "New Multi-Media Commons" proposal with college leaders and friends, we hope to be able to meet all of our goals. For more information, please contact Prof. Michael Miller at 718-997-3761 or michael.miller@qc.cuny.edu.

Michael Miller
Coordinator of Access Services

Lisa Flanzraich, Editor, with the Library Publications Committee:
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Izabella Taler

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Simor, Rolf Swensen, Izabella Taler

Photos: Nancy Bareis

PAGEUP

We'd like to hear from our readers. Please address your suggestions or comments about PAGEDOWN to Acting Chief Librarian Shoshana Kaufmann at her Rosenthal Library Office. And watch for our next issue.

Unsung Heroes



Rosenthal Library has more than a few unsung heroes. One of them is **Lois Afflerbach**, who is a volunteer who has a passion for books and bookselling. "I like to see people buying books," says Lois, our dedicated and trusty stalwart. "I assume they are going to read them." Lois has a long-standing relationship with the Library. She started as an undergraduate at Queens and worked as a student aide when the Library was located in Jefferson Hall. Lois earned her library degree at Columbia in 1945 and second master's degree in Latin at Columbia in 1951. She served as Social Sciences and Serials and Documents Librarian from 1951–1986 in what was then Paul Klapper Library.

Usually perched by one of our computers with a booktruck full of books by her side, she checks to see if they should go into the Friends of the Library semi-annual booksale. "I am an order person and I like to arrange and classify," she says. Being an avid reader of classics and mysteries, Lois often previews books and reads them before they are ready to be sold. Lois has boundless energy and guarantees that the wooden bookshelves that occupy the Rosenthal Lobby during the sale will have an assortment of books to fit different tastes.

*Lisa Flanzraich
Reference Services*

We are always on the lookout for volunteers. Please visit our Web site at: shoshana.kaufmann@qc.cuny.edu or contact Shoshana Kaufmann at 718-997-3640 to learn more about joining our cadre of helpers.

DIGITIZATION GRANT UPDATE

Would you like to know how many men and women were in the first Queens College graduating class? What was the orchard and where was it located? Thanks to the Digital Metro New York Grant Project answers to these historical questions are now more readily accessible.

A collaborative venture between Rosenthal Library and the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies (GSLIS) at Queens College, the digitization project began in the spring of 2005 and was completed in early 2006. Its objectives were to explore the growing field of digitization and to make available online information on the history of the college, drawn from a representative sampling from the College Archives that would show the integral place of the college in the Borough of Queens and New York City communities.

The archival materials scanned, cataloged, and uploaded to the Web site of the funding organization, Metro, were drawn from typescript correspondence in the College Presidential records, *The People's College on the Hill*, a book of essays and photographs published by the College on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary in 1987, part of the college's first yearbook, the 1941 *Silhouette*, containing historical reminis-



cences from the period, and photographs of the campus and college community, student magazine covers, flyers for student events, and archival transparencies and photographs.

In addition, images were digitized from two of the largest non-institutional collections in the Archives, the New York State Assembly Speaker



Benjamin Rosenthal

Saul Weprin Papers and Congressman Benjamin Rosenthal Papers. Several dozen visual and textual images were produced by GSLIS and the Library/ Archives. The project also produced instructional documentation for the software that was employed.

In the coming months, links to a portion of the image material will appear on the new College Archives Web page, a direct result of this project. Go to Library Departments, then College Archives at <http://qcpages.qc.cuny.edu/Library/>.

*Stephen Barto, College Archivist
with assistance of Rolf Swensen,
Social Sciences Bibliographer*

LibQual+ Update

In April 2005, Queens College Library participated in LibQual+, a nationwide survey administered and analyzed by CUNY. The survey provided library users the opportunity to give feedback about their expectations and ratings of services, collections, and library spaces.

Of the 7000 respondents, CUNY-wide, 711 were Queens College undergraduates, graduates, and faculty. Not surprisingly the results of this survey validated what we have learned from our own statistical studies, a previous user survey, and various focus groups.

The following were CUNY-wide findings:

- Libraries are still very relevant for the services, collections, and space where users want to study.
- There is a need for greater investment in CUNY libraries.
- Faculty and graduate students consider library collections, especially monographs, insufficient for study and research.
- There is a need to learn how to access information.
- Faculty place high value on information control, especially making electronic resources easily available from off campus.
- Undergraduate students rate library services highly and place a high value on modern, well-functioning equipment that enables them to access information.

In addition to completing the survey's 26 questions, 254 Queens College respondents also submitted free text



Survey Winners

comments. The positive comments related to library staff attitude and competency, the physical environment, and services.

Negative comments addressed computers and printers (not enough, not in working order); resources (not enough discipline-specific print collections), especially monographs; the physical environment (uncomfortable, too noisy, not enough group study). Some of the negative comments were also about service.

We are grateful to the many Queens College students and faculty who completed the survey and provided us with valuable information to help us improve. As a token of appreciation, we awarded nineteen prizes which included Amazon.com gift certificates, food gift certificates, and memory keys to students whose names were randomly drawn from the survey respondents.

*A.B. Chitty, Shoshana Kaufmann,
Evelyn Silverman, Izabella Taler
Library Assessment Performance Committee*

ENHANCED CUNY+ AND HOW TO GET THE MOST FROM IT

The latest feature in patron-empowered CUNY+, the library's public online catalog, allows you to search and generate a list of new books acquired by the Queens College Library within the last six months. To do this, go to CUNY+ Guided Search screen. Type in your search terms—use any combination of keywords in all fields, or limit it to title, author, or subject field—and check off the “New” books box. To find out what new books (definition of “new books” will vary among libraries) are available at other CUNY libraries, follow the same commands.

Other CUNY+ patron-empowered features include “My Account.” It allows you to view information about the items you have borrowed (such as due dates and fines), renew books, run alerts for search strategies and frequencies of your choice, and place holds on books in use by others. The use of these enhancements requires a log-in with your library barcode via “My Account” in CUNY+. For other features, as well as useful hints on improving your search strategies, visit the CUNY+ help screen.

Izabella Taler
Reference Services

LINCOLN EXHIBIT WOWS ROSENTHAL PATRONS

Queens College History Professor Leo Hershkowitz, with the assistance of Dr. Theodore Cohen, has installed an impressive and well-received exhibit on the life and death of Abraham Lincoln. Drawn from Prof. Hershkowitz's personal collections, the exhibit features full-page and double-page illustrations from contemporary publications, and focuses, where possible, on New York City.

Included in the exhibit are: “Grand Procession of Wide-Awakes at New York at The Evening of October 3, 1860,” *Harper's Weekly*, October 13, 1860; Draft Riots in New York City, *Illustrated London News*, August 8, 1863; wood engravings of the Lincoln assassination, *Harper's Weekly*, April 29, 1865; “Awful Event. President Lincoln Shot by Assassin,” *New York Times*, April 15, 1865, in mint condition and featuring dramatic black borders between the columns; and “President Lincoln's Funeral Procession in New York City,” *Harper's Weekly*, n.d.

To add more color to the exhibit, we have chosen meaningful texts from the Hal and Ida Gross Lincoln Collection, which are housed in Alcove 2 on the

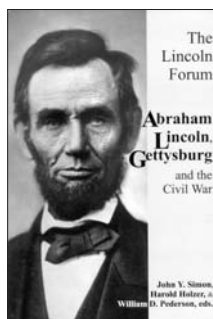
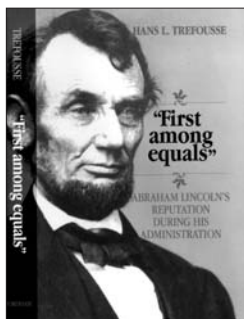


Abraham Lincoln reading Emancipation Proclamation to his cabinet

third floor of Rosenthal. Notable books such as Harold Holzer's *Lincoln at Cooper Union: The Speech that Made Lincoln President* (2004) and Albert Furtwangler, *Assassin on Stage: Brutus, Hamlet and the Death of Lincoln* (1991) are on display. A bronze life mask and hands of Lincoln, originally cast by Leonard Volk on March 1, 1860, are also on view.

As an added bonus, Richard Sloan, a member of the Lincoln Group of New York City, presented a slide show on April 4 featuring Lincoln's funeral in New York City. Well-known for his Manhattan walking tours of sites connected to Lincoln, Sloan has allowed us to “witness” the scenes around City Hall, on Broadway, and Canal Street as the somber Lincoln cortege slowly wound its way through the city streets past grieving spectators.

Rolf Swensen
Social Sciences Bibliographer



Music That We Just Can't Forget

Nostalgia, whimsy, and a penchant for music and musical instruments connected with our youth and Queens College are bound together in one of our latest exhibits, “The Music We Just Can't Forget,” now on view in the stand-alone case in the Rotunda on Level Three and in the glass cases in the Lobby on Level Two.

Syd Lefkoe (QC Financial Aid Services) and her able curatorial and acquisitions assistants, Jeff Castelan, Ellen Rondot, and Nancy Williams take us on a tour down memory lane that touches the generations, especially baby boomers. “In this exhibit, we share images of different generations enjoying their music,” Syd says. The exhibit is “Another Beyond-the-Box Program of Voices of Old Technology—A Museum in the Making,” of which Syd is the founder.

Artifacts, such as a child's Fisher Price tape recorder, a hand-painted, hand-crankable victrola replete with a 45-rpm record, turntables, transistor radios, Walkmans, cassette decks, and boomboxes allow us to remember the technological developments of the last half of the twentieth century while we walk over the bridge to the 21st century where an advertisement for an iPod is on display.

Syd and company have also gathered photographs from the *QC Silhouette* yearbook to show us how important music has been to the college community.



A rare photograph from 1955 shows bobby-soxers dancing in I building. In 1968, six world-class musicians, Ravi Shankar, Vladimir Horowitz, Charles Aznavour, Ferrante and Teicher, and Phil Ochs gave concerts in Colden Center.

A 1991 *Silhouette* photograph features the dedication and installation of the five bells in Rosenthal's Chaney-Goodman-Schwerner Clock Tower.

The exhibit also pays tribute to Queens College graduates and Queens luminaries, such as Louis Armstrong, Carole King, Paul Simon, Marvin Hamlisch, Art Garfunkel, Tony Bennett, and Robert Moog—all musicians who have made indelible marks in the music industry.

A coveted ticket to “Join First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and Special Guest Wynton Marsalis in the Initiative to Save America's Treasure and Preserve the Louis Armstrong House and Archives” on December 3, 1998 at Colden Center is on display along with the flyer announcing the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the opening of the Louis Armstrong House on October 15, 2003.

Visit <http://qcpages.qc.cuny.edu/techmuse/> to learn more about the Beyond-the-Box Program of Voices of Old Technology.

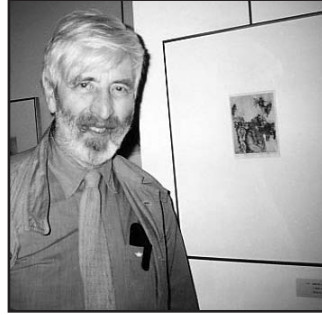
Lisa Flanzraich
Reference Services

Exhibit: Abraham Lincoln in New York, 1860–1865, February 1–May 31, 2006

Tribute: Jolyon Hofsted, Marvin Bileck, Rosemarie Beck, and Richard Miller



Jolyon Hofsted
(1942–2004)



Marvin Bileck
(1920–2005)



Rosemarie Beck (1923–2003)
Self Portrait on the Connecticut River
(detail), 1950, oil on linen, 1993, courtesy
of The Rosemarie Beck Foundation



Richard McDermott Miller
(1922–2004)

In the last few years, Queens College and its Art Department have lost four dear colleagues, legendary artists, and committed educators who in many years of teaching left a lasting impact on generations of artists. Each was unique, and students loved them. The Art Center remembers them with deep affection and gratitude as its cherished artists and friends and salutes their lives in art. We continue to be nourished by their art, that constant source of dazzled delight and prodding inspiration, by the legacy of their thoughtful engagement with the world, and by their spirit of giving.

Professor Hofsted, a ceramist who taught at the college for thirty-eight years (QC 1966–2004), marked his anniversary in 1997 in an electrifying Art Center retrospective of *30 Years at Queens College: Ceramics and Mixed Media* that opened a door on the mastery and exuberance of his powerful, energetic, ever-inventive work. (Catalogue: *Jolyon Hofsted: The New York Years, 1963 to 1997*, New York: Gilmore Press, 1997).

Professor Bileck, a passionate draftsman, graphic artist, and illustrator (at QC 1967–1990), allowed us to show his eloquent, virtuoso prints and drawings twice, each time in a joint exhibition with his wife and art partner, Emily Nelligan. Both exhibitions, the first in Klapper Library in the mid-1980s

and the second in Rosenthal in 1992, also turned into unforgettable reunions of several generations of his students.

The same was true of Professor Beck's (at QC 1967–1992) *Paintings: A Retrospective*, in 1999. A consummate weaver of enchanting, haunting painterly tales, she included work created after her retirement, and the exhibition both surveyed the life work of a master and pointed to yet new advances. We look forward to presenting, in a future "school of Rosemarie Beck" show, the work of her former students.

Richard McDermott Miller (at QC 1967–1992), whose sculpture we regrettably were not able to exhibit, remains present in

the Art Library's reading room through his donation, a bronze portrait head of the late Professor Louis Finkelstein modeled when the two friends worked in neighboring Canal Street studios in the early 1970s. Like an enduring conversation, the likeness appropriately keeps company with a Finkelstein painting installed right above (*Nan's World II*, 1997, donated by the artist's widow, the painter Jane Culp [Art Center exhibition *Jane Culp: Landscape Paintings and Drawings*, 1998]). Professor Finkelstein taught at QC from 1964–1990; the Art Center exhibited *Louis Finkelstein: Recent Paintings* in 1995.

Suzanna Simor
Coordinator of Art and Music Library Services
Director, Art Center



~~Many~~

~~ALL WE NEED ARE A FEW GOOD FRIENDS . . .~~

At Queens College we are proud of our friends. You can help by becoming a friend of the Library today! If you are already a friend, please share this newsletter with a friend or colleague. We thank you for your donation.

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