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Junior Fellows Make Connections In Collections

By Erin Jenkins

With a wide array of treasures from the Library's global collections, the 2010 Junior Fellows summer interns' display was once again "one of the happiest events in Washington in the summer," as Librarian of Congress James H. Billington has described it.

Approximately 100 items from 30 collections housed in 16 Library divisions were assembled and displayed at the Library on Aug. 5 by 41 interns selected from more than 600 applicants from colleges and universities throughout the country.

"This display is a living tribute to Mrs. Jefferson Patterson, who believed in making an investment in young people," said Associate Librarian for Library Services Deanna Marcum who addressed the interns at the event. [The late Mrs. Jefferson Patterson and the James Madison Council generously support the annual Junior Fellows Summer Internship Program].

The 10-week Junior Fellows Summer Internship Program is an opportunity for both undergraduate- and graduate-level students to learn firsthand how the world's largest library acquires, preserves and promotes knowledge and creativity.

"I have been impressed with the cali-



A Civil War tintype from the Liljenquist Family Collection in the Prints and Photographs Division depicts two soldiers.



Photos: Abby Brack

From left, Music Division Junior Fellows Erin Terwilliger, Mark Zelesky, Terri Abney and Megan Martino perform the Civil War-era song "Sherman's March to the Sea." The original manuscript poem written by Samuel Hawkins Marshall Byers in a Columbia, S.C., prison camp in 1864 was set to music by J.O. Rockwell, a fellow prisoner. The verses were smuggled to the North in the wooden leg of an exchanged prisoner named Tower.

ber and enthusiasm of the students," said Sabrina Thomas, a digital reference specialist in Library Services who coordinated the internship program. "With the assistance of the Information Technology Services office, this year's interns produced a webcast about their collections and experiences, which will be accessible on the Library's website at www.loc.gov/webcasts/."

"This was not a regular internship," gushed Anna Kephart, who helped process the Manuscript Division's recently acquired papers of athlete and statesman Jack Kemp. "It gave me a sense of what it takes to be a day-to-day archivist."

Despite being drawn from different divisions and collections, many of the items on display were interconnected, proving that history connects us all, in one way or another.

Items on war included Civil War ambrotypes and tintypes from the Prints and Photographs Division (soon to be shared on Flickr), remembrances of World War I in the Veterans History Project collections housed in the American

Folklife Center, and World War II events from the Japanese perspective housed in the Asian Division. Manuscript Division fellows shared items from the papers of Bernard A. Schriever, who helped develop the Intercontinental Ballistic Missile.

Items on peace found in the Law Library's collections included a Hawaiian periodical written between the World Wars titled "Is International Peace Possible?" and Vatican Gazettes (including Pope John Paul's eulogies), which Law Library fellow Vincent Bennett hopes "will continue John Paul's legacy of promoting peace."

"It's exciting to see the connections that inevitably happen when a critical mass of the Library's collections are displayed together in one space," said Katherine Blood of the Prints and Photographs Division, who coordinated the interns' display.

Three different presentations related to advertising: radio spots produced by advertising Tony Schwartz from his collection housed the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division;

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early advertisements for liquor, tobacco and purported miracle cures in the Rare Book and Special Collections Division; and the evolution of advertising as seen in historic newspapers in the Serial and Government Publications Division.

The fellows worked on many international collections from Russia, Japan, Hong Kong, Spain and Africa. Fittingly, on display was an 1886 pamphlet urging Congress to pass the International Copyright Law of 1891, containing signatures of Mark Twain, Louisa May Alcott, Oliver Wendell Holmes and others. Enterprising interns in the Law Library cross-referenced the famous names with the Library's other resources and found related material in the Manuscript Division.

Perhaps the rarest item on display was an underground copy of Leo Tolstoy's 1883 "Novoe Evangelie" ("The New Gospel), which may be the only copy in existence. Found by European Division fellow Anna Arays, a native Russian speaker, the item was in a backlog of Cyrillic material.

"When libraries, especially those of a massive size like the Library of Congress, store things away, they have no idea what generations behind them are going to uncover," said the Library's Russian specialist Harry Leich. ♦



Clockwise from top: Associate Librarian for Library Services Deanna Marcum addresses those gathered to view the 2010 Junior Fellows summer interns' display. Molly McGrath presents items found in the Science, Technology and Business Division's technical reports collection. European Division fellow Anna Arays displays the title page of Leo Tolstoy's "Novoe Evangelie."