

INSIDE



Web Archiving Across Regions

A new approach to web archiving highlights Persian-speaking ethnic populations in Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan and Tajikistan.

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By the Numbers: Fiscal 2020

Despite the disruptions of the pandemic, much was accomplished in fiscal 2020, according to the soon-to-be-released annual report.

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Winning the Gold

In one of the first photo finishes, World War II vet William Harrison Dillard won a gold medal in the 1948 Olympics.

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Researcher Story

George Yu, a Kentucky-based maker of award-winning violins finds inspiration in the Library's rare Italian instruments.

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Joe Kolodrubetz and Shlomit Menashe present examples of their work as junior fellows this summer as part of a virtual display that took place on Wednesday.

Junior Fellows Display Summer Accomplishments Online

Staff were invited to interact with junior fellows, learn more about their projects.

BY LEAH KNOBEL

For 30 years now, the Junior Fellows program has provided an opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students from across the country to experience everything the world's largest library has to offer. This year's program was held virtually for the second year. Through the 10-week program, junior fellows logged on daily, launched their individual research projects, participated in weekly professional development sessions and worked with expert staff across the Library.

On Wednesday, this year's class of 42 fellows shared a glimpse of what they've been working on vir-

tually from across four time zones.

The projects reflect the diversity of the Library's collections, services and programming. They include a data-driven approach to communication and outreach for the Copyright Office; a digitization effort to improve access to a collection of posters amassed from across sub-Saharan Africa; an exploration into the history of arithmetic; a digital Story-Map of Caribbean women poets from the PALABRA archive; and contributions to the Congressional Research Service's ongoing Supreme Court Justice Project.

The virtual format of the display

JUNIOR FELLOWS, CONTINUED ON 7

DONATED TIME

The following employees have satisfied eligibility requirements to receive leave donations from other staff members. Contact Lisa Davis at lidav@loc.gov.

Lynette Brown
Tiffany Corley Harkins
Stephanie Jefferson

Linda Malone
Kenneth Mitchell

STAFF SURVEY: HELP IMPROVE THE OCIO INTRANET

The Office of the Chief Information Officers (OCIO) is conducting a survey to gather feedback about its intranet pages and needs your input. To ensure that staff can find what they need on the site quickly and easily, the survey asks questions about how often you use the OCIO intranet, what information you'd like to see and any additional feedback you want to share.

The survey is available [here](#). It should take between five and 10 minutes to complete, and its results will be used to enhance and improve the features and content on the OCIO intranet.

Questions? Contact Emily Sprouse at esprouse@loc.gov.

PHASED RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS INVITED

The Library is now accepting applications for phased retirement. The deadline to apply is July 29. The 2021 phased retirement timeline can be viewed [here](#).

Phased retirement is a human capital tool used to transfer knowledge and skills from experienced employees to others in a deliberate manner. It allows eligible and approved full-time employees who are planning to retire to work a part-time schedule and engage in knowledge transfer activities while beginning to draw partial retirement benefits.

Additional information on the application process and terms of phased retirement are available on the Human Capital Directorate website.

Questions? Visit the AskHCD portal, send an email to AskHR@loc.gov or call (202) 707-5627.

UPDATED EMERGENCY GUIDANCE

The Security and Emergency Preparedness Directorate has made [available phase 3.1 of its protective action guidance for responding to building emergencies](#). The guidance includes updated instructions about masking and changes to evacuation exits from the Adams Building because of construction.

Staff are encouraged to download the Joint Emergency Mass Notification System (JEMNS) mobile app on their personal devices and register to receive text alerts. For instructions and more information, go to <https://go.usa.gov/xs5mR>. Learn more about the Library's emergency guidance: <https://go.usa.gov/xs5mQ>.

Questions? Call (202) 707-8708 or send an email message to epp@loc.gov.

loc.gov/staff/gazette

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MISSION OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Library's central mission is to engage, inspire and inform Congress and the American people with a universal and enduring source of knowledge and creativity.

ABOUT THE GAZETTE

An official publication of the Library of Congress, The Gazette encourages Library managers and staff to submit articles and photographs of general interest. Submissions will be edited to convey the most necessary information.

Back issues of The Gazette in print are available in the Communications Office, LM 143. Electronic archived issues and a color PDF file of the current issue are available online at loc.gov/staff/gazette.

GAZETTE WELCOMES LETTERS FROM STAFF

Staff members are invited to use the Gazette for lively and thoughtful debate relevant to Library issues. Letters must be signed by the author, whose place of work and telephone extension should be included so we can verify authorship. If a letter calls for management response, an explanation of a policy or actions or clarification of fact, we will ask for management response.—Ed.

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GAZETTE DEADLINES

The deadline for editorial copy for the Aug. 6 Gazette is Wednesday, Aug. 28.

Email editorial copy and letters to the editor to mhartsell@loc.gov and wmal@loc.gov.

To promote events through the Library's online calendar (www.loc.gov/loc/events) and the Gazette Calendar, email event and contact information to calendar@loc.gov by 9 a.m. Monday of the week of publication.

Boxed announcements should be submitted electronically (text files) by 9 a.m. Monday the week of publication to mhartsell@loc.gov and wmal@loc.gov.

Themes of New Web Archives Cross Library Divisions

A regional approach to web archiving extends beyond political boundaries.

BY HIRAD DINAARI

Two web archives recently added to the Library’s website set unprecedented and welcome examples of cooperative digital collection development. One has to do with elections in Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan and Tajikistan, the other with official governmental, nongovernmental and cultural websites in the same countries.

Two years ago, the Islamabad Field Office initiated a web archiving effort for this politically and ethnically complex world region, in consultation with the African and Middle Eastern (AMED) and Asian divisions. AMED has expertise in Afghanistan, Iran and Tajikistan, while the Asian Division collects materials for Pakistan. The three offices worked with the web archiving team in the Digital Content Management Section to develop content frameworks and presentations for release of the new archives on the Library’s user-friendly digital collections platform.

The new archives are the [Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, and Tajikistan Elections Web Archive](#) and the [Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan and Tajikistan Government Web Archive](#).

“Working collaboratively with field offices and area studies divisions ... can be very beneficial for web archiving efforts that require a combination of expertise in multidisciplinary fields,” Lanisa Kitchiner, AMED’s chief, said. She said she envisions working in the future with special format divisions such as the Geography and Map and the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound divisions on other collaborative projects.

The two new archives were assembled based on the shared



Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, and Tajikistan Elections Web Archive

The official campaign website of businessman and politician Abdul Qayum Karzai, the older brother of former Afghan president Hamid Karzai.

cultures and linguistics of the Persian-speaking ethnic populations that reside in the region. Together, the archives contain roughly 530 websites from the region, many in English but also in the local Farsi, Dari and Tajiki dialects of the Persian language, in addition to Urdu, Pashto, Arabic and Russian.

The archives cover the years 2005 to 2016, a crucial time during which a number of socially and politically noteworthy events unfolded. The archives chronicle the U.S. and NATO presence in Afghanistan, the rise of reformist and hardline presidents to power in Iran, the aftermath of the Tajik civil conflict following the fall of the Soviet Union, the rise and fall of elected Pakistani governments and the role of the Inter-Services Intelligence body in Pakistan in relation to Taliban factions.

A number of the websites have ceased to exist and are no longer available online except through the Library’s web archives. These preserved websites are, therefore, some of the few places where researchers can get a sense of the pulse of the societies in the period covered by the archives.

The regional cooperative approach to web archiving aims to collect

content beyond political boundaries to reflect cultural realities. Following this approach, a collection on women and gender in the four countries is in development. Other regional projects that are in the works include a Central Asia election project and thematic projects on South Asia.

“Working with the web archiving team, the talented staff on the ground in the Islamabad Field Office and my knowledgeable colleagues in the Asian Division and AMED has been a labor of love and a true pleasure as we have over time proposed, selected, collected and made available to researchers unique online resources,” Charlotte Giles, a South Asia reference librarian, said.

Special acknowledgments are due to Giles and her colleague Jonathan Loar in the Asian Division and to the staff in the Islamabad Field Office, specifically Fehi Cannon and Salam Abdus, who made the projects possible.

To access the Library’s web archives, [click here](#). For older, ceased Afghan government websites, [click here](#). ■

OIG WOULD LIKE TO KNOW

Report suspected illegal activities, waste, fraud, abuse and mismanagement in Library of Congress administration and operations to the Office of the Inspector General (OIG). A link to all Library regulations is available on the staff intranet at <http://staff.loc.gov/sites/rules-and-regulations/>.

To make a report, contact OIG via the online form at www.loc.gov/about/office-of-the-inspector-general/contact-us/ or report anonymously by mail to 101 Independence Ave., S.E., LM 630, Washington, D.C., 20540-1060.

The Library of Congress, By the Numbers

The Library of Congress is both the nation's library and the largest library in the world, with collections that chronicle centuries of human creativity and achievement.

Soon, the Library will release its fiscal 2020 annual report documenting the Library's accomplishments from October 2019 through September 2020 – a year in which the Library's 3,242 permanent employees achieved much despite workplace disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. In the meantime, here is an overview of some of the statistics.

In fiscal 2020, those already-vast collections grew by more than 1.5 million items through purchase, gift, exchange or transfer from other government agencies, according to figures compiled for the Library's annual report.

The additions brought the total number of items in Library collections to 171,636,507 encompassing virtually all formats, languages and subjects.

Collectively, Library staff members responded to more than 802,000 reference requests from Congress, the public and other federal agencies, a figure that includes direct use of Congressional Research Service reports.

Staff welcomed more than 565,000 visitors to the Library's Capitol Hill campus before Library buildings closed to the public in March 2020 to reduce spread of COVID-19. In addition, staff recorded nearly 175 million visits and more than 805 million page views on the institution's various web properties. And they circulated nearly 360,000 physical items for use in and outside the Library.

The U.S. Copyright Office issued nearly 444,000 registrations and recorded 7,000 documents containing nearly 234,000 titles.

The National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled and its network of state and local libraries

circulated nearly 20 million braille, audio and large-print items to patrons.

The Preservation Directorate performed some 6.8 million preservation actions on items in the Library's constantly growing physical collections.

At the close of the fiscal year, the Library's holdings of more than 171.6 million items encompassed the largest rare book collection in North America and the world's largest collections of legal materials, films, maps, sheet music and sound recordings.

That overall figure includes:

- More than 25 million cataloged books in the Library of Congress classification system.
- More than 15.5 million items in the nonclassified print collections, including books in large type and

raised characters, books printed before 1501, monographs and serials, music, bound newspapers, pamphlets, technical reports and other printed material.

- More than 131 million items in the nonclassified (special) collections, including 74.5 million manuscripts; 4.2 million audio materials such as discs, tapes, talking books and other recorded formats; 5.6 million maps; 17.4 million microforms; 1.9 million moving images; 8.2 million items of sheet music; and 2 million other (including machine-readable) items

It also includes 17,306,670 visual materials, consisting of 15,049,703 photographs and 110,074 posters; 694,438 prints and drawings; and 1,452,455 broadsides, photocopies, nonpictorial material and other items. ■

MOVIES ON THE LAWN ARE BACK



Shawn Miller

The Library's popular outdoor film series attracted hundreds of people – families, friend groups, couples – on July 15 for a screening of "Shrek." The [series continues](#) on Thursday evenings through Aug. 12.

Military Vet Wins Gold Medal in Photo Finish

William Harrison Dillard sprinted to gold at the London Olympics in 1948.

BY MEGAN HARRIS

This article is reprinted in part from the [July-August LCM](#) to coincide with the start today of the 2021 Olympics. Read more about veterans turned Olympians on the Library's [blog](#).

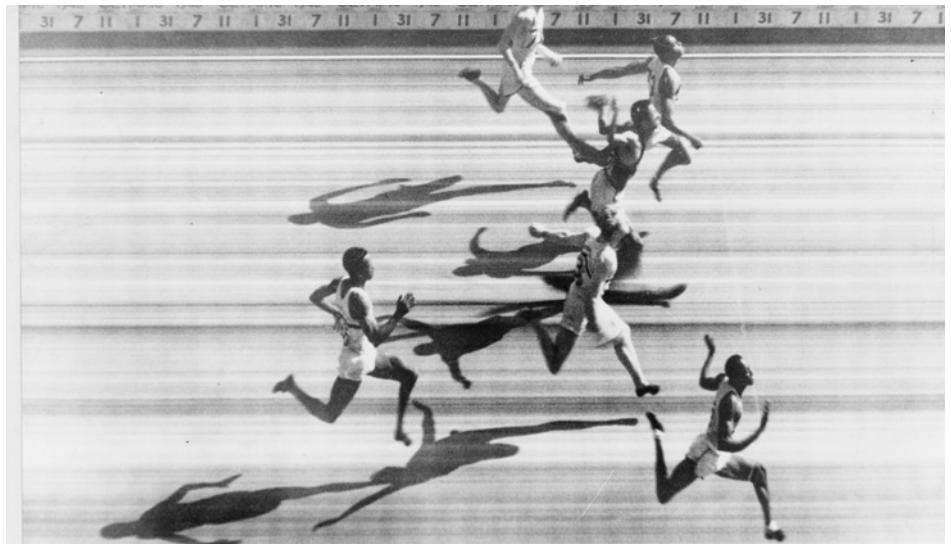
London, summer 1948. All eyes are on the first Olympic Games held since 1936. After years of war, countries from around the world meet not on the battlefield, but on the track, in the swimming pool, inside the boxing ring.

At Wembley Stadium, six sprinters crouch on the track for the finals of the 100-meter dash. The gun sounds, and in 10 seconds it's over. The race is so close that a photograph is used to declare the winner.

But the photo makes it clear: William Harrison Dillard won the gold; he is the “fastest man alive.”

The feat is all the more stirring because, three years earlier, Dillard had been dodging mortar fire in Italy as part of the U.S. Army's 92nd Infantry Division, a segregated unit known as the “Buffalo Soldiers.”

Today, Dillard's story, told in his own words, is preserved at the



Alamy Stock Photo; also in the Prints and Photographs

William Harrison Dillard, bottom, wins the gold medal in a photo finish at the 1948 Olympics in London.

Library in the collections of the Veterans History Project.

Born in Cleveland, Dillard attended the same high school as legendary Olympian Jesse Owens and went to Baldwin Wallace College on a track scholarship. During his sophomore year, he was drafted and later assigned to the 92nd.

By 1944, he was in combat in Italy. For six months, the 92nd slowly advanced, liberating towns as they went. In his Veterans History Project interview, Dillard recalls mortar fire, minefields, the bravery of his comrades and Italian civilians, their villages destroyed, begging U.S. servicemen for food.

With the end of the war, Dillard's focus turned from survival to

running. While stationed in Europe during the occupation, he won four gold medals at the GI Olympics. At the London Games, he won the 100-meter dash and the 4x100 relay. Four years later, at the Helsinki Games, he won the 110-meter hurdles and another relay – making him a four-time Olympic gold medalist, just like his idol, Owens.

Grit and resilience are among the qualities that make Olympic athletes great – many overcome formidable challenges just to reach the games. Few survive the rigors, deprivation and dangers of combat only to arrive, like Dillard, at the medals podium a mere three years later. ■

New Kluge Staff Fellows Selected

The John W. Kluge Center is pleased to announce its 2021 staff fellows. Each year, the center welcomes applications from Library staff, selecting up to two people whose projects are best suited to research in the Library's collections and the Kluge Center's mission.

Susan Lawrence is a social sci-

ence analyst in the Foreign Affairs, Defense and Trade Division of the Congressional Research Service. While at the Kluge Center, she will work on a project titled “Accounts of Life in Communist-Controlled Areas of North China During World War II.”

Julie Miller is a historian in the Manuscript Division. While in res-

idence at the Kluge Center, she will concentrate on her project, “General Washington and Mrs. French: Widows and Power in Eighteenth-Century Virginia.”

Applications will open for the next Kluge Staff Fellowship competition in February 2022. ■



Jon Cherry

George Yu

George Yu is an award-winning luthier based in Louisville, Kentucky, who models his handcrafted violins on rare Italian instruments, including a 1654 Amati violin at the Library.

You started your professional career as a software engineer. How did you end up making violins?

I was lucky to have parents who nurtured both my scientific and my artistic pursuits. I did some growing up in their chemistry labs while they were grad students, often asking, “Why?” – not from defiance, but from wanting to better understand. As a child, I started playing the violin.

Later, I graduated from the University of Waterloo with a bachelor’s degree from the Systems Design Engineering program, which focuses on acquiring and integrating knowledge across multiple disciplines – an approach that would become very relevant to me as a violin maker. After working as a software engineer for nine years, I decided to combine two other disciplines with my scientific one – playing violin and creating with my hands – and become a violin maker.

I was accepted into the Violin Making School of America in Salt Lake City, graduating in 1999. Afterward, I apprenticed with

Ken Meyer and Di Cao in suburban Boston, then established my own workshop in Toronto. In 2018, I moved to the U.S. to marry my husband, the Rev. Dwain Lee, pastor of Springdale Presbyterian Church in Louisville, Kentucky.

How does science inform your violin making?

For me, violin making is a confluence of music, art and science. Science involves constant learning about why violins sound good or bad. It’s an engineering problem that provides no ultimate, neat solution and raises questions. There’s no room for boredom.

Before I start working with a piece of wood, for example, I take measurements to get a good idea of its stiffness and density. While working only with wood that has both good stiffness and good density doesn’t guarantee that the finished violin will have great tone and responsiveness, it is a good starting point.

My choice of drying oils in varnish also draws on science. They vary in their number of double bonds and their sequencing along fatty-acid chains, affecting how the varnish chips, crackles and wears down. This is important to know in the process of antiquing, or making an instrument look like a replica from the 17th or 18th century.

Which instruments in the Library’s violin collection have inspired you?

I became aware of the Library’s collection of rare violins before heading off to violin making school in 1996. Bob Sheldon, who was then the curator of musical instruments at the Library, and Carol Lynn Ward-Bamford, his successor, kindly gave me access on multiple occasions to study, play and photograph them.

Every visit deepened and matured my acquaintance with the violins. The three that stood out for me, in chronological order, were the “Brookings” Amati (1654), the “Betts” Stradivarius (1704) and the “Kreisler” Guar-

neri del Gesù (circa 1730).

In playing them, I found that the Betts required a totally different approach from the others – faster and lighter bow strokes – and coaxing. I could not press or dig into it; otherwise, it would choke. There was no such issue with the Kreisler – I could press more, and it would respond by bringing forth even more of the beautiful, complex tone that was readily available in reserves; there was also an immediacy of sound. But the Brookings was my favorite. While it didn’t have quite the reserves of the Kreisler, it had more than the Betts; it also had a strikingly beautiful, rich, contralto voice.

The Brookings is named after Robert Somers Brookings, founder of what is now the Brookings Institution. He is said to have bought this violin on the advice of the virtuoso Joseph Joachim, a friend of Brahms. In 1938, Brookings’ widow presented the violin to the Library.

Describe one of your award-winning violins.

A violin of mine inspired by the Brookings Amati won double-distinction awards at the 2014 Violin Society of America Competition. Out of 246 violins entered that year, only three won awards in both categories of tone and workmanship. In creating the instrument, I made use of CT scans of the Brookings that were made through a project with the Smithsonian Institution.

Where are your instruments being played?

My instruments are being played by professionals in the New York Philharmonic, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Lyra Baroque Orchestra and other ensembles. They are also being played by students at top music conservatories.

How has it been to do research at the Library?

Bob and Carol Lynn have been a great pleasure to work with! I hope to arrange more visits in the future to further study the Library’s violins – there is always more to learn. ■

JUNIOR FELLOWS, CONTINUED FROM 1

allows for expanded access to the projects that will endure long after the program's end date. The project descriptions, videos and infographics will remain on the Library's [website](#) indefinitely.

This year, a new component of the virtual display allowed for interns and staff to interact directly. On Wednesday afternoon, staff were invited to a Zoom session during which interns presented "lightning talks" about their discoveries using infographics, followed by a brief Q&A session where staff could ask questions directly.

The interactive session provided an opportunity to replicate the experience of speaking in-person, an important feature of end-of-term displays of years past.

"The Junior Fellows program, like most everything in our world, faced unprecedented challenges with the onset of the pandemic," said Kimberly Powell, chief of Talent Recruitment and Outreach Division in HCD. "During this second virtual year, we expanded on lessons learned and stakeholder feedback to prioritize changes and processes to prepare for and expand display day. Interacting with Library staff is a priority for the interns, and we were thrilled that the interns could highlight discoveries and insights and discuss them with the Library's staff."

As a component of their on-boarding in May, interns were equipped with virtual Library workstations and access to Skype for Business and Zoom accounts.

Shlomit Menashe, a rising senior studying information science at the University of Maryland, College Park, spent her summer as a junior fellow working to increase the discoverability of 1,200 uncatalogued Hebrew prayer books. During her work, she came across a Hebrew prayer book printed in Constantinople, or present-day Istanbul, in 1823. As Menashe's own family emigrated from Turkey, her interest was piqued.

For her project, she decided

to learn more about events at the end of the 15th century that brought the Jews to the Ottoman Empire, which in turn became a center of Hebrew printing.

"Working on my project for display day was especially meaningful in that it provided me an opportunity to connect with and learn more about my family's Sephardic heritage," Menashe said. "My grandfather even has a haggadah, a prayer book traditionally read on the first two nights of the Jewish holiday of Passover, which was passed down from his grandfather who used it while living in Izmir, Turkey."

Joe Kolodrubetz will begin the final year of a J.D. program at the George Washington Law School this fall. During his summer fellowship in the Law Library, Kolodrubetz created metadata for the library's foreign legal gazettes collections. A legal gazette is an official source of law published by a foreign government to announce the decisions of courts, legislatures and executives in that country.

Kolodrubetz cites the few days he spent working with Cypriot gazettes as the highlight of his summer. His knowledge of ancient Greek was directly transferable to the Greek of the Mediterranean island.

"It was still a bureaucratic text," Kolodrubetz joked, "but I enjoyed utilizing my Hellenic knowledge!"

Tania María Ríos Marrero is set to complete a master's degree in library and information science at the University of Washington's iSchool in spring 2022. While interning in the Science, Technology and Business Division, Ríos Marrero built a StoryMap contextualizing a selection of Farm Security Administration photographs taken in Puerto Rico in the mid-20th century. The StoryMap seeks to draw connections between aspects of land use, food production and social movement in Puerto Rico at the edges of the industrial and modern era.



Tania María Ríos Marrero displays her work.

"I'm grateful to have had the opportunity to interact with the photographs in a ... tangible way," said Ríos Marrero. "I hope that this StoryMap is just the beginning of my personal research and engagement with this collection."

Two detailees from the Business Enterprises Division supported the Internship and Fellowship Programs Section (IFP) during the 2021 Junior Fellows program – IFP manages the program. Mutahara Mobashar, a reference specialist, served as the display day coordinator, and Alexis Valentine, a customer service representative, was the Junior Fellows program assistant. They were assisted by intern Beck Williams and led by program manager Eric Eldritch.

"The contributions of Mutahara and Alexis allowed IFP to define, document and accomplish the myriad tasks required to make display day a success," Eldritch said.

Also vital to its success were project mentors, the Learning and Engagement Office, the Office of the Chief Information Officer, the Office of the General Counsel, the Copyright Office, the Multimedia Group, the Office of Communications and the Exhibits Office.

The Junior Fellows program is made possible by a gift from the late James Madison Council member Nancy Glanville Jewell through the Glanville Family Foundation and the Knowledge Navigators Trust Fund and by an investment from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. ■