Dear Friends,

The bookplates on the cover of this calendar come from images held in our collections at MSU Libraries. You’ll see bookplates that belonged to a Supreme Court Justice, a World War II code breaker, a famous novelist, and the daughter of R.E. Olds. The earliest bookplates (as we think of them) date to the 15th century, but ideas of ownership preceded the use of bookplates. Some people used simple inscriptions. Some used gold stamps on bindings. Provenance is important to scholars, researchers, and all kinds of curious readers, and we are committed to being responsible stewards of this history. We’re also committed to expanding access to information and transforming notions of ownership, which is why you’ll see a new bookplate on the cover, printed on our iron hand press just outside the Special Collections Reading Room with the help of our friend, campus letterpress expert Arie Koelewyn.

The new bookplate (Ex Libris Everyone) celebrates our commitment to equal access to information and spaces for all. We’re leading meaningful initiatives in accessibility, diversity, equity, and inclusion, and these initiatives mean that more people have more opportunities for discovery and creation. This is the real work of MSU Libraries, and it’s reflected in our Open Educational Resources (OER) program and our Affordable Textbook Program. The OER program gives financial incentives to instructors to create or adapt OER course materials, which reduce costs for students, improve access to required texts, and increase student success. The Affordable Textbook Program also increases access to course materials by offering students enrolled in certain courses with costly textbooks a way to read those books without buying them. In the last year, we spent nearly $20,000 to acquire multiple copies of textbooks for nearly 25 courses. Books are on reserve at the MSU Main Library and the William C. Gast Business Library, and we’ve seen how much they are used and appreciated.

Private libraries have their pleasures. I know the satisfaction of browsing my own shelves, but we wouldn’t have vaccines or computers or effective cancer screenings if we didn’t share knowledge. Libraries are the quintessential model for sharing information, and we are always reimagining how libraries serve our communities. Older models sometimes framed the library as a cabinet of curiosities — a place of delights. Other models reimagined the library as a more utilitarian structure — a place of practicality, a place to seek specific answers, and a place to improve the self. We support many models of what a library means, and we understand that any one person might use the library in different ways — sometimes for delight, sometimes for practicality. We welcome all to use our resources. MSU Libraries belong to everyone.

Joseph A. Salem, Jr.
Dean of Libraries
The accordion book of cookbook spines is part of Laura Davidson’s larger Bookshelf Project. The work is drawn with pigmented ink on paper and includes drawn ephemera related to or found in the books. The ephemera in this book includes Davidson’s replications of handwritten recipes found tucked inside the cookbooks on scraps of paper. She reproduced the original handwriting as well as the cooking stains. The books featured on this “shelf” belong to her partner, ceramicist Gabrielle Schaffner.

Book Arts Collection

lib.msu.edu/spc/collections/bookart
Davidson's accordion book represents something from our collection of artists books and represents (in a more symbolic way) our collection of cookbooks. MSU Libraries have more than 30,000 cookbooks held in Special Collections. This tremendous collection offers opportunities for all to research food history and think more deeply about the connections between food and culture.

Cookery Collections
lib.msu.edu/spc/collections/cookery
The center image here is part of a larger poster, which is part of a collection of more than 500 radical and leftist posters we recently acquired from a book dealer in Europe. “Kiest Communisten” (Elect Communists) is included in the original poster, which is from the Netherlands, circa 1965.

Radicalism Collection

lib.msu.edu/spc/collections/radicalism
The new collection of political posters represents a wide variety of underground and militant groups in Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and Latin America. It joins our larger Radicalism Collection, which includes books, pamphlets, periodicals, posters, and ephemera covering a wide range of viewpoints on political, social, economic, and cultural issues and movements in the United States and throughout the world; and it will be a meaningful contribution to SIRO (Studies in Radicalism Online), an aggregation of research materials from around the world related to the study of radicalism.
This image features part of a larger glacial painting, which is part of a set of paintings by artist LeNeil Nolen. The paintings were completed in 1941 and were designed to show the recession of the last great ice sheet through Michigan and the history of the glacial lakes that preceded our modern Great Lakes. The project was supervised by Head of Geology Dr. Stanard Bergquist and funded by the WPA Federal Art Project. For many years, the paintings were used as teaching aids in the Geology Department and in the MSU Museum.

Selma D. and Stanley C. Hollander MakeCentral  [ lib.msu.edu/about/division-hollander/ ]
The Map Library houses a collection of general and thematic maps and atlases for every area of the world, with over 250,000 sheet maps, 14,000 folded geologic maps, and 4,000 atlases, gazetteers and other reference aids including wall maps, globes, CDs and internet-accessible resources. The collection is especially strong in Michigan, United States, Canada, Africa, Asia, and Latin America, though all areas are collected.

Maps Library  lib.msu.edu/maps
Conservation Librarian Garrett Sumner cleans a page from a 1535 edition of *Ptolemy’s Geographicae enarrationis libri octo* with a Chinese Hake brush. The soft bristles remove surface dirt and debris from the paper of this important volume of cartography.
Ptolemy's Geographicae was once owned by an Italian orphanage and later donated to the MSU Libraries in 1951 by the E.K. Warren Foundation. It sat unused on the shelf for many years because of its poor condition and the presence of mold. Now, almost 70 years later, the library has the skilled personnel and conservation laboratory resources to make this valuable book available to students and researchers.
I knew someone had to take the first step, and I made up my mind not to move.

- Rosa Parks
This picture celebrates the powerful short film, “Turn the Light of Truth Upon Them,” which honors Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s legacy, celebrates the voices of women, and features art by MSU MFA student Lillian Young. The film was produced by Digital Scholarship Librarian Andy Peterson to show in the Library’s 360 room. It includes images of the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Alabama taken by African Studies Librarian Erik Ponder.

Digital Scholarship Lab & DSL 360 Room  
lib.msu.edu/dslab/
Artist Carl Lundgren created this famous "Vanessa" poster for a pair of 1967 concerts at the Grande Ballroom featuring James Cotton and MC-5. Lundgren worked from a photograph of Vanessa Redgrave taken by Victor Skebnewski. The poster is part of a 25,000-piece collection of 1960s—1970s rock & roll history rooted in Michigan and featuring posters, handbills, band photos, protest buttons, recordings, and underground newspapers documenting musical history.
This music history collection was recently acquired from Melissa and Jack Bodnar and is one of the largest and most extensive collections of its kind in the world. The acquisition represents the Libraries’ commitment to building collections that support specialized research. As Special Collections moves into a new decade, the goal is to expand the popular culture, comic book, and radicalism collections and to help more people discover these collections.
This book, like much of Kentridge’s work, is collected in our Art Library but also represents the strength of our African Studies Collections. The Library’s Africana Collection is one of the largest in the United States.
The image above is of the cover of *Streets of the City* by William Kentridge. The material in the original work includes mohair, silk, and embroidered tapestry. Kentridge is a South African artist known for his prints, drawings, and animated films that engage with the social and political struggles of South Africans and address atrocities related to apartheid. Last year, the Broad Museum and the RCAH LookOut Gallery featured exhibits of Kentridge's work.

**Art Library**

[lib.msu.edu/art](http://lib.msu.edu/art)
Manuscript painting was an art form that flourished in pre-Hispanic Mesoamerica. Known today as codices, these pictorial records are important as sources for understanding the cultural history of the region’s indigenous peoples, and as works of art. The *Codex Borgia* contains images and glyphs documenting ritual and divination practices of Central Mexico’s ancient Mixtec civilization. It is one of very few surviving pre-Conquest codices. This facsimile of the *Borgia* reproduces the screenfold construction of the original, measuring more than 30 feet wide when unfolded. It is painted on both sides.
The *Borgia* is housed in Special Collections and is part of our Latin American and Caribbean Studies Collections. We are committed to emphasizing under-represented perspectives in all of our collections, and we have specialized collections relating to Chicano culture. The Midwest Chicano/Latino Activism Collection (MICHILAC) is significant to researchers and students who require primary sources of Midwestern Chicanx and Latinx politics and life missing from American history, and Chicanx and Latinx texts that focus on Southwestern United States activities and events.
In 1881, the library moved to the Library–Museum Building, now known as Linton Hall, the oldest academic building on campus. By 1916, the collection had more than doubled and stack space had to be created by excavating underneath the building. A new structure was clearly needed, and in 1919 the governor of Michigan signed a bill appropriating $300,000 for that purpose.
This picture is held in University Archives & Historical Collections. More than 160 years of MSU history can be explored in UAHC, including original letters and diaries, photographs, and oral histories. Our collections span the entirety of MSU’s history and also contain historical materials not related to MSU. Some of our collection highlights include materials that document the physical campus and grounds, early student life, the lumber industry, and the Civil War.
LINDOS OLHOS
BOCCA DELICATA
CÔRDES LUMINOSAS
DENTES DE PEROLAS

TRANSLATION: BEAUTIFUL EYES / DELICATE MOUTH / RADIANT COMPLEXION / PEARLY TEETH
This frame from a Brazilian comic represents something from our collection of more than 350,000 comics and graphic novels, and it represents something from our growing collection of Latinx comics. MSU Libraries have the largest publicly accessible collection of comics in the world. Of our holdings, 50,000 are international, and these international comics offer a great way to practice language skills and engage with history.

We can learn a lot about a culture by studying its comics. This frame in *O Tico-Tico* includes more content (“Placed before the queen’s face, the mirror soon began to praise her beauty. The queen began to listen with pleasure to the compliments, but...”), which was trimmed for this calendar. The text reveals cultural attitudes about beauty, women, and class structure, and it provides opportunities for students and scholars to consider the role of comics in popular culture. Everyone is welcome to visit the Special Collections Reading Room to research and enjoy the comics during open hours.
This image is a composite of several pages from a scrapbook made by a student for an agricultural course in 1891. Forage blends hand-drawn art with pressed flowers and dried samples of 56 varieties of grasses. It is held in Special Collections and represents one of our collection strengths: the Turfgrass Information Center (TIC). The TIC houses the most comprehensive publicly-available collection of turfgrass research and educational materials in the world and provides resources for students, researchers and professionals around the world who are responsible for maintaining golf courses, lawns, athletic fields, and managing landscapes of every kind, helping fulfill MSU’s land-grant ideal.
We thought we’d leave you with something beautiful (and green & white) for the final month of 2021. This book with its leather binding and brass clasp was made in 1746 and is one of many gems in Special Collections. Go Green! Go White!
“Immersion” was created by Jordan Taylor, who won the MSU Libraries Student Art Contest in 2012—2013. The work is on display in the Main Library. The annual contest is a way for MSU Libraries to support students, create welcoming spaces in the Library, and collaborate with campus partners. The competition began in 2010, and previous winning work also is on display in the Main Library. We invite those interested in exploring more art to visit the MSU Libraries Art Library, housed in a newly renovated area on 3 West of the Main Library.
## CORE VALUES

### User Engagement
We place users at the forefront of our work. We engage with and learn from our users and adapt to meet their evolving needs.

### Staff Empowerment
We trust each other to do our best work. We celebrate and create opportunities for growth, experimentation, and feedback. We cultivate respect, open communication, and connection.

### Expertise
We are leaders in our field. We use our collections, resources, dynamic skills, and knowledge to help our community. We are approachable, informed, and engaged in our work.

### Inclusivity
We provide welcoming spaces where everyone can work, discover, and create. We advance accessibility, diversity, equity, and inclusion in our workplace and in the services and resources we provide.

### Partnership
We invest in collaborative relationships. We actively build positive connections and lead with mutual respect by sharing our expertise and valuing the contributions of our partners.

### Stewardship
We are responsible caretakers of our collections. We recognize the power of information collection and description. We consider the impact of our work on creators, researchers, and communities.
WORKS CITED

JANUARY
Davidson, Laura, artist. *She Cooks*. Boston, MA, 2016. Purchased with funds provided by the Beatrice V. Grant Endowment Fund.


FEBRUARY
Leftist political poster collection, MSS 719, Stephen O. Murray and Keelung Hong Special Collections.

MARCH
Glacial Paintings by Works Project Administration Artist LeNiel R. Nolan (1941), held in the Maps Library, 2 East.

APRIL
Ptolemy, active 2nd century. *Claudii Ptolemaei Alexandrini Geographiae enarrationis libri octo / Ex Bilibaldi Pirckiemhleri tralatione, sed ad Graeca et prsca exemplaria à Michaèle Villanovano iam primum recogniti. Adiecta insuper ab eodem scholia. ...Quinquaginta ... quoque ... tabulae adnectuntur ... Lugduni: Ex officina Melchioris et Gasparis Trechsel, 1535. MSU Special Collections Rare Books G87 .P812 1535. Gift of E. K. Warren Foundation (1951).

MAY
“Turn the Light of Truth Upon Them.” Go to lib.msu.edu/mlk_faq to read more about this MLK 360 Presentation.

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER
Linton Hall (“Library and Museum”) A000246. Photo courtesy of MSU Archives & Historical Collections.

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER
Moore, J.S. *Forage*. 1891. MSU Special Collections Rare Books SB197 .M66 1891.

DECEMBER
Rider, Cardanus. *Rider’s British Merlin: for the year of our Lord God 1746. Being the second after bissextile or leap-year. Adorn’d with many delightful and useful verities, fitting all capacities in the islands of Great Britain’s monarchy. With notes of husbandry, fairs, marts, and tables for many necessary uses / Compiled for his country’s benefit, by Cardanus Rider*. London: Printed for R. Nutt, for the Company of Stationers, 1746. MSU Special Collections Rare Books BF1681.R54 1746.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2021
A YEAR OF GIVING

MSU Libraries depend on generous contributions to help build and maintain scholarly resources and to help increase access to resources. We appreciate the investment in higher education our donors make when they give to our Libraries. Here’s a quick look at numbers for the 2019/2020 academic year.

$7,465,762
TOTAL RAISED

$5,842,711
IN CASH SUPPORT

$1,020,680
IN GIFT-IN-KIND VALUATION

$602,371
IN ESTATE COMMITMENTS

If you’re interested in giving to the Libraries, please contact the Office of Development at 517-884-6446 or visit:

\[ giving.lib.msu.edu \]

This 2021 calendar, like all of our projects, is the result of great collaboration among colleagues at MSU Libraries. The collage of bookplates featured on the cover was inspired by a Special Collections pop-up exhibit created by Curator and Cataloger of Rare Books Tad Boehmer in February of 2020. The entire calendar is designed to share information about how we served users during our 2019/2020 academic year, and it’s designed to showcase some of our collections, spaces, and services. Ideas and comments are welcome. Please direct those to Communications Manager Cindy Hunter Morgan at chmorgan@msu.edu. If you’re interested in giving to the Libraries, please contact the Office of Development at 517-884-6446 or visit giving.lib.msu.edu. For general information about the Libraries, please contact 517-353-8700 or visit lib.msu.edu.

Dean of Libraries Joseph A. Salem, Jr.
Director of Development Seth Martin
Communications Manager Cindy Hunter Morgan
Graphic Design Theresa Moore
Photography Austin DeRaedt, Leslie McRoberts, Cindy Hunter Morgan, Harley J. Seeley
Letterpress Printing (Ex Libris Everyone Bookplate) Arie Koelewyn