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Last Day & Farewell... Sort Of!

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Abstract

My summer internship experience at the library is officially done. It's odd to think about just how much I've accomplished this summer—I've researched Civil War genre painters, learned about nineteenth-century sheet music, installed frames, arranged Union soldiers' swords—the list goes on. I truly am fortunate to have had such a unique and stimulating experience this summer. [*excerpt*]

Keywords

Musselman Library, Gettysburg College, Exhibits Intern

Disciplines

Library and Information Science | Museum Studies

Comments

The Interns at Gettysburg College's Musselman Library captured their internship experiences since the spring of 2011. Over time the blog has featured Fortenbaugh, Smith, and Holley interns. They shared updates on semester long projects, responded to blogging prompts, and documented their individual intern experience.

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Blogging the Library

The Interns @ Gettysburg College's Musselman Library

Last Day & Farewell... Sort of!

Sunday, August 5, 2012

By: Emily Francisco '14

My summer internship experience at the library is officially done. It's odd to think about just how much I've accomplished this summer—I've researched Civil War genre painters, learned about nineteenth-century sheet music, installed frames, arranged Union soldiers' swords—the list goes on. I truly am fortunate to have had such a unique and stimulating experience this summer.

I installed the last bits of several exhibits on Friday. I took tons of photos—I've included pictures of each below, so you can see the final results. I've also included a few sentences about each one, to give you a recap of what I did and what I liked most about each project.

James A. Beran Collection of Civil War Artifacts



This is a collection of Civil War artifacts from Special Collections. It was actually curated into an exhibit a few years back by Joshua L. Stewart, who graduated in 2011. The items are really interesting—my favorite part was definitely getting to hold all the swords! Arranging the display was a blast. I didn't do as much research for this exhibit since we recycled most of Josh's materials, but I still got to revise some things, like when we decided to clarify which items were models/replicas versus authentic.

[Webpage](#)

NOTE: I did NOT design this webpage—this is all recycled from Josh's work.

Mort Künstler & Dale Gallon: Painting the Battle of Gettysburg



Künstler and Gallon! I've talked about this exhibit frequently in past posts. Here you can see the text and title I installed on the wall—I have to say, seeing my handiwork up there was pretty rewarding. I loved this exhibit because it was probably the most traditional "art exhibit" that I got to work on this summer, but it also gave me a lot to think about in terms of high art standards versus kitsch.

[Webpage](#)

The Race for the Presidency: Then & Now



This was an especially rewarding end result for me, as it was the one exhibit that I had complete control over from start to finish. I chose the artifacts, did the research, planned the display, compiled the text—everything. It was also interesting because it gave me a very different kind of "curatorial" experience, because it forced me to consider current events and politics in relation to my exhibit material. I love how it turned out.

[Webpage](#)

Civil War Sheet Music



Not as strong a picture due to the glare, but I wanted to give you an idea of what the space looks like for this one. I struggled a lot with the arrangement of the sheet music, but I'm pleased with the end results. What was cool about this exhibit was that it related more to my Art Historical interests than I originally thought—there's the whole cover art aspect. Did you know that middle-class families made up a significant portion of patrons in the nineteenth-century sheet music industry? People kept extensive collections!

[Webpage](#)

I'm sad that my summer here is drawing to a close, but I'm excited to see what kind of new projects I'll be working on in the fall! I'm sure I'll keep nitpicking at some of these exhibits, but I'm anxious to get started on other things as well.

I'm so glad I was able to be the Exhibits Intern "guinea pig" this summer. It was wonderful to be part of such a fun team, and to get to know each of the Exhibits & Programs committee members—thank you so much Meggan, Lisa, Jim, and Susan! I'd like to say thank you to Robin too, for helping me to forge this amazing connection with Musselman Library. I look forward to the fall and the further adventures to come!

<http://bloggingthelibrary2012.blogspot.com/>