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"In its library more than in any other place the story of a college is recorded: its small beginnings, its slow progress, its ultimate success." - Sr. Agnes Somers

The Library sponsored three events this year featuring author & ornithologist, Laura Erickson. In September, Laura led a birding walk for members of the academic and monastic community on Duluth’s Western Waterfront Trail. For our Love Your Library Week in March, Laura gave a talk with her Eastern Screech Owl, Archimedes, which was attended by Dr. Doug Walton and students from his course on Vertebrate Biology. And in May, Erickson led a campus birding walk which the Library co-sponsored with the College’s wellness program, WellU.

Laura is the author of six books, including her most recent publication, *Into the Nest: Intimate Views of the Courting, Parenting, and Family Lives of Familiar Birds*, which was released in April. Laura has been the recipient of several awards in ornithology including the Roger Tory Peterson Award, a lifetime achievement award from the American Birding Association.

On April 24, the Library presented its second annual Bede Award for Undergraduate Library Research to senior, Paul Wojack. Paul's winning essay described his research process for "Vaughan Williams, Folksong, and English Musical Identity," which he wrote for Dr. Penny Schwarze's course, MUS 3312: History of Romantic and 20th Century Music.

Paul is a Webster Scholar in the CSS Honors Program and graduated Summa Cum Laude in May with a major in Music and minors in Biology and Chemistry. Paul has recently been admitted to attend the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York this fall.

Our distinguished judges this year were Dr. John Schifsky, Dr. Diane Kessler, & Sister Sarah Smedman. The intent of the Bede Award is to recognize excellence in undergraduate research and to highlight the role of the Library & its resources in the research process.
One of the items to come out of St. Scholastica’s recent Higher Learning Commission visit was the need to more robustly assess the academic programs the College offers. Over the last year, Sr. Edith Bogue, Dr. Iwa Else, and I have been working on a project to assess information literacy instruction at St. Scholastica. Our project has focused on the effectiveness of current information literacy instruction in the first-year experience and the ability of non-library faculty to support and amplify the instruction given by library faculty. We developed an information literacy assessment tool that uses authentic performance tasks to assess learning. Over 250 first-year students completed it at the beginning of Spring Semester. Students in upper division, writing-intensive courses were also asked to complete it. The data gathered from this project will help inform the Library regarding the effectiveness of the information literacy instruction program. This project has been accepted for presentation in a poster session at the American Library Association annual meeting at the end of June in San Francisco. The data from this study will be used in three ways. They will guide Library faculty in revising and improving the existing first-year student instruction. They will contribute to assessing integration of the library within the Dignitas Program (first-year program for traditional undergraduates), and will also allow the Library to assess the need for support and training of the faculty who reinforce students' learning in this area — Kevin McGrew.
On October 20, the Library and Music Department will present a piano recital by the internationally-known Bach expert, Angela Hewitt. The project has rich connections to our Friends as well as to our archival work and research projects at the Library.

Our decision to invite Hewitt came about through a project to archive the papers of James Franklin Lewis, a poet and chemist who taught at the College from 1930 to 1937. The papers were donated to us in 2010 by Lewis’s sons, David and Frank, both of whom are dedicated Friends of the Library. Among Lewis’s papers are 25 letters written by the Dutch-Italian pianist, Jan Chiapusso, who served briefly as a visiting faculty member at CSS during the early 1930s. In addition to being a well-known pianist of the time, Chiapusso was also an early mentor to the American pianist, Rosalyn Tureck. Tureck was a chief figure in popularizing the performance of Bach on the piano. After one of her all-Bach recitals in 1960, the New York Times critic, Harold Schonberg, would call Tureck the “high priestess of Bach,” a moniker with which she was associated for the rest of her career. We have discovered that it was Chiapusso who first encouraged Tureck to specialize in Bach—hence, the all-Bach recital by Angela Hewitt this fall. The recital is underwritten by a grant through the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council.

The Legend of Scholasticat

The time came when our Lord called Scholasticat home. The monks buried his small body in the shade of an oak near the cook’s garden and many a secret tear was shed that day, for all knew in their hearts there would never be a cat again like Scholasticat. And if you visit the land around Blarney to this day, the grave of Scholasticat will be pointed out to you. And you might well see some small offering left on his grave from those who know that the love that we might hide in our hearts for the animals in our lives will never equal the love they hold in their hearts for us.

It is said that Scholasticat, in his life, was so saintly that he never hacked up a hairball, and especially never on the Abbot’s pillow at night. This is obviously erroneous, since God has never created a cat that did not hack up something.

Our book catalog is named after this famous feline – bibliotheca feles (the cat of the library) - who, according to legend, among his many miracles, drove out all the rats from the granary of the Monastery of Blarney. Now you can own this great shirt with its visual homage to the Lindisfarne Gospels and those crazy Irish dudes who saved Western Civilization. Tees-shirts are $10 + postage, with all proceeds going to the Friends of the CSS Library.

NOW IN SWEATSHIRTS, TOO! Order yours at: http://libguides.css.edu/LibraryFriends/apparel

A harmonic convergence brought together Love your Library Week & St. Patrick’s Day, turning the Library a greener shade of green! Events included visits by ornithologist Laura Erikson with her friend Archimedes the screech owl, the folks from Wildwoods of Duluth, & the children of the Benedictine Day Care Center (for some Irish story time). Music for St. Patrick’s Day was provided by Library Friend Meridith Schifsky and her Celtic harp. Library staff member Karen Ostovich helped students start flower seeds in hopes Spring would soon be near. Taylor Boelk won the edible book contest for her culinary rendition of Dr. Seuss’s Oh, the Places You’ll Go! Special thanks to our sponsors: CSS Admissions, CSS Alumni Relations, Saint’s Shop, Einstein Bagels, Fitger’s, Grandma’s, Great Lakes Candy Kitchen, Tavern on the Hill, Walmart, and the Whole Foods Co-op.
“Whatever book I want to have I can get on loan from any library, while if I wanted to borrow money to buy these books I should find no one who would lend it to me.”
-Ibn Hyyan, 13th century historian

And Friends Don’t Get Old, Either!
Join us for our fourth annual Friends of the Library Get-Together at homecoming, Saturday, October 3rd from 1:00—2:00 p.m. in the Library. Take in the parade, shop for some spirit-wear, catch a little soccer action, do some tailgating, and then wander over to the Library for post-tailgate snacking and some conversation with fellow Friends of the Library before the big game against Martin Luther College. Remember, latecomers get the healthy snacks!

Don’t Worry About Finding a Chair!
Don’t worry about not finding a good chair at our Friends Get-Together at Homecoming. Through a generous gift from the estate of Elaine Alexander Adams we were able to replace our circa 1938 chairs with new (non-squeaky) chairs. This fall, with a little help from our Friends, and in the spirit of stewardship, we re-upholstered 12 oak chairs dating from the renovation of the Library in 1986. Maybe fresh paint isn’t a dream, either!