

**BPL's Ryan Resigns,
 Artwork Misfiled**

Two valuable works of art were thought to have disappeared from the print collection at Boston Public Library's (BPL) flagship Copley Square central branch. The pieces—a Rembrandt etching, *Self Portrait with Plumed Cap and Lowered Sabre*, and a 1504 Albrecht Dürer engraving titled *Adam and Eve*—were reported missing by then-BPL president Amy Ryan on April 15, triggering a police investigation and prompting BPL officials to take stock of internal security and collection management practices. Ryan resigned on June 3, in the wake of the resulting controversy. The following day, the missing items were located, misfiled within the print stacks.

BPL's chief of collections strategy first became aware that the Dürer print was missing—and possibly had been for several months—on April 8. Ryan was informed of the situation two days later, after the print department staff were unable to find the artwork through an internal search. Ryan notified Jeffrey Rudman, chair of the BPL Board of Trustees, and after further internal investigation the print department determined on April 15 that the Rembrandt was missing as well. Ryan

then contacted Mayor Martin Walsh and police commissioner William Evans. A police report was filed, and a probe launched on April 29.

Susan L. Glover, BPL's keeper of special collections, was placed on paid administrative leave on April 20. BPL declined to comment further.

Police have estimated the Rembrandt, created in 1634, to be valued at an estimated \$20,000–\$30,000, and the Dürer is estimated to be worth more than \$600,000.

The artworks' disappearance highlighted several long-standing security and inventory issues within BPL's special collections. In a May 28 interview with the *Boston Globe*, Ryan acknowledged that staff members had known the prints were missing as early as June 2014.

While the prints were still believed missing, several other possible lapses in security at BPL came to light. The *Boston Herald* reported on May 28 that a rare 18th-century political pamphlet was nearly discarded. "The Prospect Before Us," by James T. Callendar, had been marked as a duplicate and given to the City-Wide Friends of the Boston Public Library for a book sale in March. The Friends group flagged the work and contacted the library to make sure the donation had been intentional, at which point BPL took it back.

Prior to her resignation on June 3, Ryan also revealed that library officials were looking into another possibly missing item: pages from a manuscript donated to the music department. The pages were not part of a police investigation, Ryan said.

In addition, a retired BPL employee sent an email to the city con-

Interview

Kyle Courtney

In our first 2015 In-Depth Interview with *Library Journal Movers & Shakers* from academic libraries (*LJ* 3/15/15), we spoke with Kyle Courtney, Harvard University's copyright advisor and founder of the Copyright First Responders (CFRs).



How do you implement a vision within the university setting?

In academia, we shouldn't be afraid to push the big ideas. If you can

identify a need inside your system, then the sky's the limit. If you find that you have spotted an area [in which] the potential for a greater outcome [and] a more knowledgeable library environment is the end result, you'll get the support you need. Thankfully, we've had support from every level.... The faculty are as pleased as the students that we have this service.

How will you make the CFR program sustainable?

Ideally cohort one, who have taken live questions this entire year, will become the hubs at their own libraries, and they will be able to...offer help [and] nuggets of vision and maybe even train other folks. Instead of just me as the hub and my many spokes of the CFR, we have the CFRs themselves feeling empowered enough, educated enough, and confident enough to be able to train [others] in their libraries. If they have a question they can always come to me. But a lot of them are at a point now where they can handle some of the traffic that's coming in with confidence.

Photo by Bob Stehno.

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cerning valuable gold coins that had been placed in a time capsule in the McKim Building's original cornerstone in November 1888 and which were now apparently lost.

An independent audit of BPL was commissioned by the mayor's office in December 2014 as part of a program to conduct performance audits of various city agencies. The report, released May 27, found strengths in many areas, including BPL's strategic vision,

People

Sandra Astleford was promoted to Assistant Director of Bellevue Public Library, NE. She was previously Head of Technical Services and Systems Administrator.

Nancy Brockman, Gulf County Coordinator for the Northwest Regional Library System, received the Outstanding New Librarian Award from the Florida Library Association.

William H. Harmer was appointed Executive Director of Westport Library, CT, effective July 27. He is currently Director of Chelsea District Library, MI.

Carol Lombardo announced her retirement as Director of Garwood Public Library, NJ, effective July 1. She first took the position in 1998.

Stasia Motuzick retired as Director of Harwinton Public Library, CT. She has been in the position for 38 years.

Tim Pyatt was appointed Dean of Z. Smith Reynolds Library at Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC, effective August 3. He is currently Head of the Eberly Family Special Collections Library at Penn State University, State College.

In Memoriam

Jo Wahdan, former Librarian at San Benito County Library, CA, died on June 2. She was 78 years old.

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breadth of services, and outreach.

However, among its areas targeted for improvement were inventory and collections management, particularly for BPL's research and special collections. In addition, it was discovered that the library had no digital images of the missing prints. Ryan stated that the library's collections had outpaced its digitization capacities.

Ryan feels that BPL's methods conform to best practices for similar collections. Special collections committee chair William Stoneman, a curator of early books and manuscripts at Harvard, agrees, Ryan said.

However, Ryan did express concern about the lack of clear communications involving the artwork. "One of the administrative review areas of concern...is that our print staff did know that the Dürer engraving had been missing for almost a year before I found out about it," she said.

BPL is pressing forward to step up security in the future. After a special meeting with the BPL board on June 3, Ryan announced plans for an expanded inventory and assessment of the library's special collections; the transfer of 24,000 physical catalog cards to the electronic catalog over the coming year; and a comprehensive systemwide safety and security plan by the end of July 2015. According to a BPL statement, changes have also been made to security protocols.

Dan Koh, Walsh's chief of staff, leveled criticism at the Board of Trustees. Rudman told reporters after the meeting that the board continues to support Ryan. Nonetheless, hours later, Ryan announced her resignation, effective July 3.

The prints were located June 4, after an eight-week search. "We're thrilled to have found these treasures right at home," Ryan said. "BPL is still committed to enhanced security and a full inventory, but today is a day of celebration for the entire team."

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Brian Selznick on Inspirations, Challenge, a New Book

“Librarians offer a window onto the world,” Brian Selznick said during a dynamic, humorous, and heartfelt speech that kicked off *School Library Journal’s* Day of Dialog, held on May 27 at New York City’s Fashion Institute of Technology. Recalling his elementary school library in East Brunswick, NJ, the Caldecott Medal–winning author said, “I loved the wonder of the library, the fact that all of those books could be mine.”

The illustrator, storyteller, and author of groundbreaking visual novels, including the 2008 Caldecott Medalist *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* (Scholastic), opened by paying tribute to librarians who have supported him over the years. He went on to talk about his creative process, his personal challenge to make each book better than the previous one, and the theme that runs through his three latest books: a quest to create a family.

“It was a librarian who first reached out to me, letting me know that [my first book] might be a success,” Selznick said. Barbara Gross, an assertive school librarian in Pennsylvania, called Selznick at his day job at the now-closed bookstore Eeyore’s Books for Children in New York City after *The Houdini Box* came out.

“She said that it was the best book she’d read in a long time, and I was going to come to Pennsylvania and her school and talk to her kids,” he said. “Before I knew it, I was unpacking my luggage in Barbara’s spare bedroom,” Selznick told the amused crowd; he met authors Jerry and Eileen Spinelli at the promised party. “I’ve met librarians from all over the country,” Selznick continued.

Hugo Cabret, hailed for its innovative format, is a 550-page tale told in alternating prose and Selznick’s signature black-and-white pencil drawings. In his next work, *Wonderstruck* (Scholastic, 2011), “Pictures reflect the experience of the main character,” a deaf girl named Rose who encounters the world visually, Selznick said. *The Marvels*, at 660 pages, is comprised of two connected tales, one told entirely in illustrations, followed by another in narrative prose, set centuries later.

Selznick said that he doesn’t necessarily notice themes in his books until other people point them out. “When I was on tour for *Hugo*, I loved that someone told me that the book was about a person creating his own family,” he said. “I didn’t know that’s what it was about.”

He reflected on this idea and his own experience growing up gay. “I didn’t know any gay people until college,” he told the audience. “I made the connection between growing up gay and maybe deaf people don’t meet other deaf people until college, and then I realized that in the back of my head I wanted that theme of creating your own family to be in *Wonderstruck*.”

In closing, Selznick described going down to the Thames River during a recent visit to London and “mudlarking”—looking at things that had washed up on the shore. It made him think about “the vast power of storytelling—stories passed down from generation to generation and the ability to transform life into a story over powerlessness. That’s what *The Marvels* is about—the triumph of storytelling.”



Brian Selznick with a document describing the four awards bestowed upon his books by students at the Helen Lemme Elementary School in Iowa City.

ODILO and Findaway Announce Partnership

ODILO, a company that offers products for the discovery, management, and distribution of library print and digital materials, announced a new partnership with Findaway, a provider of digital audiobooks and technology solutions. The ODILo Digital Library will soon debut approximately 60,000 popular and bestselling digital audiobooks from every major publisher in the audiobook space.

“We are dedicated to providing our customers with the best digital content lending platform for their staff and patrons,” said Rodrigo Rodriguez, CEO of ODILo.

Discovery, checkout, and listening capabilities will be powered by Findaway’s AudioEngine. As with ebooks, library patrons will only need to register using their library login credentials and will be able to listen on any device using OdiloTK and OdiloAPPS. The access model is a one-copy, one-user perpetual license.

“The continuing explosion of mobile devices has significantly expanded the audiobook market. The format is quickly gaining mainstream popularity, and we are proud to be a leader in driving adoption of audiobooks to listeners around the world,” said Mitch Kroll, cofounder and CEO of Findaway.

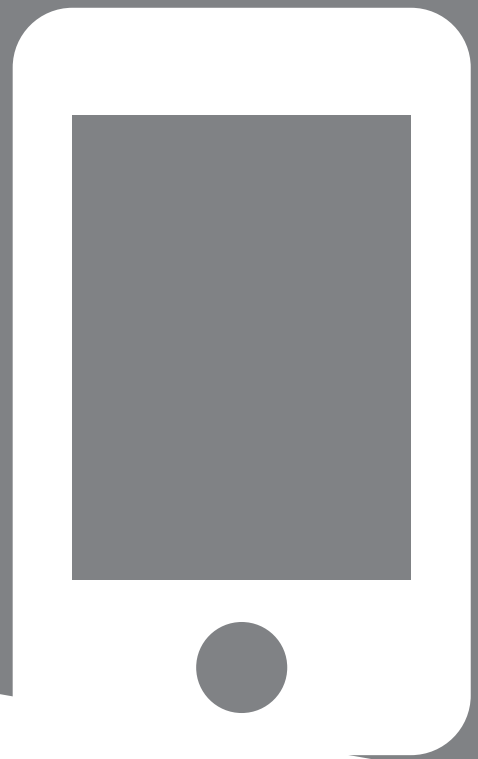
San Antonio Standoff Ends in Partnership

The San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) and BiblioTech, the all-digital library operated by Texas’s Bexar County and also located in San Antonio, have reached an agreement that will let the county reduce its payments to the city by hundreds of thousands of dollars annually and instead reinvest that cash in digital content that will be accessible to users of both library systems. The compro-

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mise marks the resolution of a funding fight that stretches back to last year, when city officials complained that the county was not footing its fair share of the bill for library services.

Under the new agreement, Bexar County will reduce the annual payments it makes to the city to ensure residents in outlying areas are served by SAPL libraries. The new plan will see Bexar County shave its pay-

ments—\$3.78 million in FY15—to \$3.48 million a year from 2016 to 2019. That \$300,000 won't go back into county coffers, though. Instead, it will be re-invested in digital content accessible to users of both BiblioTech and SAPL.

The deal marks a serious turnaround from last October, when SAPL director Ramiro Salazar described funding negotiations between Bexar County and San Antonio as “a stale-

mate.” The last three months, though, has seen them become less adversarial, with an increased emphasis on finding places in which the two library systems could collaborate.

Previous complications stemmed from the geography of San Antonio, which takes up much, but not all, of Bexar County. Of the county's 1.8 million residents, about 400,000 live in unincorporated municipalities outside of the city limits. For decades, the county has paid the city an annual fee to ensure those residents had access to SAPL services and facilities.

When the county-funded BiblioTech opened in 2013, it threw the terms of that long-standing arrangement into question, resulting in long negotiations over how Bexar County should remunerate the city for library services, now that it provided its own. The plan ensures that citizens in Bexar County will retain access to SAPL's 26 branches and their printed material, while the county's savings on slimmer payments will go toward shared digital content.

Both systems have already begun reviewing their digital offerings to reduce duplication, and Laura Cole, special projects coordinator for BiblioTech, anticipates the partnership rolling out over the course of the new plan and bringing digital services for SAPL and BiblioTech patrons more in sync.

“Incrementally over the next four years, we will provide a more seamless library experience for patrons, with the goal of eventually creating a joint website for digital services where patrons can enjoy reciprocal borrowing as either a BiblioTech or an SAPL patron,” Cole told *Hotline*.

Book Trip with Bill Clegg | Day of Dialog 2015

During the week of BookExpo America (BEA), when it seemed as if everyone was talking about product,

Branching Out



Renovations to the 1921 two-story stone building that houses the Gladwyne Free Library (rendering) are inching forward. On May 20, the Board of Commissioners approved an agreement with the library to settle obligations for the \$1.8 million project to upgrade the 4,160 square foot member of the Lower Merion Township Library System, according to *Mainline Media News*. Concerns over the stipulations regarding a \$500,000 Keystone Recreation Park and Conservation grant had delayed the go-ahead, but parties are now in accord on this next construction effort in the system's makeover of its six branches. The work on Gladwyne, which is expected to be put out to bid by the end of this year, will encompass the installation of an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant restroom on the main floor; an ADA-compliant elevator in conjunction with stone and glass exterior

walls; security cameras in the children's reading room; a dedicated teen zone; and a courtyard garden.

The Columbus Metropolitan Library, OH, broke ground on June 2 for its new **Parsons Branch**. The facility will measure 19,000 square feet, more than twice the size

of the existing library, originally built in 1956. The new branch will feature 64 parking spaces (it currently has 20), a larger Homework Help Center, a dedicated Ready for Kindergarten Area, and an enlarged community gathering space. The building is expected to open in 2016.

An agreement has been signed between ARC Construction and the **Alexandrian Public Library**, MountVernon, IN, for a makeover to the 21,000 square foot library, originally established in 1895, according to the *Evansville Courier & Press*. The \$1.8 million effort will include the addition of several small meeting rooms, a dedicated teen space, a tech bar with extra electrical connections, enlarged staff areas, lighting fixtures, new flooring, a new vestibule, an updated HVAC system, and an outdoor plaza. The project is expected to take six months to complete.

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Library Journal's (LJ) Day of Dialog took some time out to focus on process. Publishing a book is a journey, and the aptly named Book Trip panel that gathered at New York University's Kimmel Center on May 27 to tell the story of Bill Clegg's forthcoming debut novel, *Did You Ever Have a Family* (Scout Pr: Gallery), gave attendees a good look at the road it traveled.

Clegg began this particular journey at the beginning, with the book's genesis. When his brother was in heating and plumbing school, he said, he would tell terrible stories of propane explosions. Clegg began imagining: "What if I was the one who left the gas on.... How would you move on from that?" From there, he started with the main character—the survivor of the aforementioned explosion—and used her "regret and guilt and grief" to generate the rest of the book's many characters.

Moderator LJ Prepub Alert editor Barbara Hoffert praised the way the novel's ensemble told a single story with "jigsaw-like perfection" and wondered how writing nonfiction—ac-

claimed memoirs *Portrait of an Addict as a Young Man* (2010) and *Ninety Days* (2012, both Little, Brown)—had informed Clegg's fiction. The two were actually similar, he answered, and the memory of the writing process itself, having hit walls then gotten through them, was helpful.

Panelist Karen Kosztołnyik, executive editor of Scout Press and Gallery Books, recalled having an overwhelmingly emotional response to the manuscript when she first read it. Everyone at Gallery, an imprint of Simon & Schuster (S. & S.), was similarly passionate. Although technically Clegg's manuscript was to go through an auction, Gallery made the first offer and essentially preempted the process. Because the book was a departure from the commercial work Gallery customarily publishes, it created a literary fiction imprint, Scout Press, to release the title and others like it.

IN-HOUSE

With regard to the editing, Kosztołnyik said, Clegg made clear

and concise choices from the start and was great to work with. Clegg pointed out that while they didn't always agree on every change, the process was handled with care and respect. The two worked through six or so rounds of editing, and Clegg was pleased with the finished product.

Kimberly Burns, an independent publicist, took care of publicity. With extensive experience representing literary fiction for Knopf and Random House before hanging out her own shingle, Burns was a good fit for Clegg's book.

Hoffert noted that the book hit a strong note between literary and commercial—in other words, a good choice for book clubs. And Michelle Leo, VP and director of education and library marketing for S. & S., agreed, noting that it has all the right ingredients: small-town gossip, mother-daughter relationships, family bonds, and life after tragedy.

Leo's focus is on marketing to librarians, and she began promoting it in January—at the American Library Association Midwinter Meeting in Chicago and the Texas Library Association conference and on EarlyWord's GalleyChat. She also asked anyone posting about the book on social media to send along quotes.

When it comes to getting the word out, Burns added, social media has become as important as its mainstream counterpart. Ten years ago, social media was a separate phenomenon, she said, but no longer.

S. & S. unveiled Scout Press in January. The imprint is currently acquiring new titles, though its focus is very much on quality over quantity, said Kosztołnyik. In the meantime, Clegg is making the rounds before his September 8 publication date. While publicizing a debut novel can be a challenge, Burns said, it's a plus that Clegg's memoirs are well known—not to mention that the

News in Brief

The **University of Florida**, Gainesville, has partnered with **YBP Library Services** for its collection development. YBP will serve as a vendor for academic content for the university and will provide acquisition through its GOBI interface.

North Carolina State University Libraries, Raleigh, received a Library Services and Technology Act grant from the **State Library of North Carolina**. The money will fund its "Better Living in North Carolina: Bringing Science and Technology to the People" digitization project.

The **Library of Congress** selected 36 college students to participate in its 2015 Junior Fellows Summer Intern Program. Winners

receive a ten-week paid internship to experience a variety of library work.

Credo launched a new Essentials Collections to offer its users curated content in nonfiction. It also updated its Academic Core Collection to include videos from INTELECOM's National Geographic Collection.

The **National Endowment for the Arts** awarded Big Read grants to 34 libraries. The money will be used to host a Big Read project between September 2015 and June 2016.

Duke University, Durham, NC, selected the **Altmetric for Institutions** platform, which allows the university community to browse, filter, and report on the online mentions of their research.

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book generates such strong feelings. Added Kosztołnyik, “I’ve read this thing 20 times, and I still cry.”

Portland Public Schools Want Librarians

Portland Public Schools (PPS), OR, is looking to hire a few good librarians. A proposed increase to its 2015–16 budget by PPS superintendent Carole Smith includes \$3.1 million to ensure that school libraries are open throughout the school day, starting in fall 2015.

“The intention was always to bring back appropriate staffing, but there hasn’t been any funding,” said Susan Stone, a teacher librarian with PPS library services and a teacher on special assignment for the past eight years. “The economy has turned around, but frankly, this was a surprise.”

Stone, whose role is to support

about 100 PPS teacher librarians and library assistants in K–12 schools, said that Smith had kept library programming “on her radar since she came on board.” A ten-year veteran of PPS, Smith took over the superintendent’s role in October 2007.

Stone says that every school currently has at least one half-time library assistant—or what’s known as a .5 position. Additional funds will now be provided to allow school libraries to open full-time, with 20 schools allocated funds for a full-time position for the coming school year.

Principals will have some discretion over how to spend the money on staff—whether to allocate funds to a teacher-librarian, a library assistant, or another combination, Stone said. While libraries don’t have to be staffed full-time, they must be open for the full school day to provide library services and must have a teacher-librari-

an present at least half the time.

Stone said the new hires couldn’t come at a better time. Oregon adopted new School Library Standards in January, which include support for information literacy, reading engagement, social responsibility, and technology integration. New hires will be expected to teach according to these new standards, said Stone.

The listing posted by PPS for Media Specialist went live April 10, with a start date of August 17. Stone says that she has already heard from applicants from as far away as Wisconsin and Florida. Applicants must hold a Teacher Standards and Practices Commission license with a Media Specialist/Educational Media endorsement/Library endorsement, according to the listing.

Stone said upward of 30 positions will be filled, and there is no closing date for the listings. School starts on August 27.



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