Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum

2016 Ohioana Book Awards

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Dear Friends,

It’s summer, the time when, according to Dayton poet Paul Laurence Dunbar, “all the world is in a magic thrall.” For anyone who loves to read, books are definitely part of a magical summer. In this issue of the Ohioana Quarterly, we have a list of recent books for readers of all ages that will make any season more special.

We also think of summer as a time to hit the road, see the sights, and visit special places. One such place is the fabulous Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum, housed at The Ohio State University in Columbus. We are delighted to bring you an inside look at the library and museum as part of our “Ohio Literary Landmarks” series that began with Louis Bromfield’s Malabar Farm. Many thanks to the BICLM’s associate curator, Caitlin McGurk, for her help in putting the article together.

Finally, for the Ohioana Library, summertime means preparing for the presentation of the annual Ohioana Book Awards, recognizing the best in literary achievement by Ohio writers and on Ohio subjects. In this issue we introduce the six award winners and salute the twenty-four outstanding books and authors who were this year’s finalists. The awards will be presented in the beautiful atrium of Ohio’s historic Statehouse on September 23. We’re celebrating the 75th anniversary of the awards, a major milestone. First presented in 1942, the awards are among the oldest and most distinguished state literary prizes in the country.

In addition to the book awards, in September we’ll also present the 27th annual Walter Rumsey Marvin Grant, a special prize given to a writer aged 30 or younger who has not yet published a book. You’ll meet the winner, Eliese Colette Goldbach, in the fall Quarterly. The Marvin Grant has helped launch a number of authors, including our 2000 recipient, Anthony Doerr, who has gone on to win multiple literary awards, including the 2015 Pulitzer Prize.

We hope to see you at the Ohioana Awards on September 23. It is people like you who make the awards and all our programs, publications, and events possible. Thank you.

David Weaver
Executive Director

ON THE COVER
This issue’s cover showcases Billy Ireland’s Sunday comic The Passing Show, which ran in the Columbus Dispatch from 1908 until Ireland’s death in 1935. Credit: Billy Ireland Collection, The Ohio State University Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum.
The Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum is housed on the Ohio State University campus in Columbus, Ohio. From modest beginnings in two journalism classrooms, it is now home to the world’s largest collection of comic strip tear sheets and clippings as well as original artwork, graphic novels, biographical files, and more. Read more about this exceptional library and museum below.

HISTORY
In 1977, Ohio State University alumnus Milton Caniff, creator of the popular comic strips *Terry and the Pirates* and *Steve Canyon*, was looking for a permanent home for his artwork and papers. Although he was courted by the Library of Congress, he decided to leave the materials to his alma mater instead. This founding gift led to the establishment of the Milton Caniff Reading Room in two converted classrooms (one used as a reading room and one for storage) in OSU’s School of Journalism, and the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum was born.

Lucy Shelton Caswell worked at the journalism school at that time. When funding became available, Caswell was given a six month appointment to administer the collection—and stayed for thirty-three years. The initial batch of materials had been stored at Caniff’s mother’s house in Dayton; additional batches arrived over a period of years from his Palm Springs studio, his estate (after his death in 1988), and his longtime assistant.

Caswell wrote to other institutions with cartoon collections to see how they processed and provided access to materials, but quickly discovered that there wasn’t another collection with similar volume and content (which included both artwork and manuscript materials). She, however, saw the historical and educational value of the collection, and set about growing it.

Expanding the collection beyond Caniff’s initial donation was challenging; other academic institutions had accepted cartoon collections, but had then stopped providing access. However, during his lifetime Caniff was a tireless advocate for the library among his peers. Through his efforts, the museum acquired the papers of cartoon greats Walt Kelly (*Pogo*) and Will Eisner (*The Spirit*) and the archives of the National Cartoonists Society. These donations helped build the library’s visibility and credibility.

Two very large acquisitions significantly expanded the library’s collection. The first came from the San Francisco Academy of Comic Art, founded by Bill Blackbeard in 1968. Blackbeard loved reading the Sunday comics as a child, and began to collect the comic pages from newspapers. His interest in popular culture and comic strips continued into adulthood. By the late 1960s, popular culture was starting to be recognized as a legitimate academic study, and Blackbeard decided to write a scholarly history of the comic strip. However, no archive existed that would allow users to study the complete run of individual strips; syndicates regularly discarded original art and proofs, and the extensive newspaper collections held in libraries were unindexed, making it difficult to follow the entire “life” of a given strip.
Furthermore, at this time libraries around the country were microfilming their newspaper collections and discarding the originals to save space. Blackbeard founded the San Francisco Academy of Comic Art as a nonprofit organization and began collecting discarded newspapers from libraries around the country, including the Library of Congress, the Chicago Public Library, and the Los Angeles Public Library. However, Blackbeard did more than just gather the newspapers. Working with volunteers, he clipped comic strips out of the newspapers in order to assemble complete, chronological runs of each strip.

Blackbeard ran the Academy out of his home and stored its collection there as well. When he learned in 1997 that his lease would not be renewed, the BICLM was able to purchase the entire collection and move it to Columbus. With more than 2.5 million Sunday and daily strips as well as comic books, pulp fiction magazines, and other items, the collection filled six semi trucks and gave BICLM the largest collection of newspaper comic strip tear sheets (full-page comics) and clippings in the world.

The second major acquisition came in 2008 from the International Museum of Cartoon Art, founded by Mort Walker, creator of Beetle Bailey and Hi and Lois. Unlike the San Francisco Academy of Cartoon Art, Walker’s collection focused on original comic art instead of published strips. When he saw that publishers and syndicates often failed to properly care for or even keep comic art, he began collecting it himself in order to preserve it. He founded the museum in 1974, but was forced to close it in 2002 due to funding difficulties. The 200,000 pieces of original comic artwork remained in storage until the library acquired them six years later.

The library had several name changes as it grew over the years, including Library for Communication and Graphic Arts; Cartoon, Graphic, and Photographic Arts Research Library; and Cartoon Research Library. In 2009, it became the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum in recognition of a $7 million gift from the Elizabeth Ireland Graves Foundation to renovate Sullivant Hall, the library’s current location. Jean Schulz, widow of Peanuts creator Charles Schulz, donated an additional $3.5 million.

The Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum is a perfect example of the impact a single individual, or a few key individuals, can have in the preservation of cultural heritage. Without the efforts of Bill Blackbeard and Mort Walker, the collection that now forms the core of the library’s holdings might never have been preserved.

William Addison Ireland (1880-1935) was born in Chillicothe, Ohio. Shortly after his high school graduation in 1898, he was hired by the Columbus Dispatch, where he spent his entire career. His early years there focused on editorial cartoons and spot illustrations. However, he was best known for The Passing Show, a full-page, full-color Sunday comic that debuted on February 9, 1908. Ireland commented on everything from the weather and local politics to Ohio State University football. Each title panel was a work of art; Ireland never repeated a panel during the comic’s 30-year run.

Although Ireland was well-known nationally and could have made more money in a larger city, he remained loyal to Columbus and his Ohio roots his entire life. He was also a major proponent of community improvement; the Scioto Mile was largely inspired by his efforts. Ireland’s last page of The Passing Show appeared on June 2, 1935, the Sunday after his death.
Walker, huge parts of U.S. comics history (and parts of the country’s cultural history as well) would have been lost. Without Lucy Shelton Caswell’s vision and determination and Milton Caniff’s advocacy, the BICLM may not have grown past its original two-room space in the journalism school.

Instead, the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum has become “the largest and most comprehensive academic research facility documenting printed cartoon art.” Its collection contains more than three million items, including:

• 2.5 million comic strip clippings and newspaper pages
• 300,000 original cartoons
• 67,000 serials (including the Jay Kennedy Collection of nearly 10,000 underground comic books—one of the largest in the world)
• 6,000 boxes of manuscript materials
• 45,000 books
• a collection of manga (Japanese comics) so extensive that researchers travel from Japan to study it
• ephemera ranging from early handmade cosplay costumes from the 1930s to Garfield plushies

Although the library does have a small purchasing budget to help fill holes in its collection, materials are generally acquired through donations. BICLM holds original art and manuscript materials of many cartoon legends, including collections for Nick Anderson (Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist and Toledo native), Jim Borgman (political cartoonist, creator of the Zits comic strip, and Cincinnati native), Eldon Dedini (Playboy and New Yorker cartoonist), and Edwina Dumm (Ohio native and the nation’s first female editorial cartoonist), as well as the Woody Gelman Collection of Winsor McCay cartoons and the Bill Watterson Deposit Collection. Today, the majority of donations come from private collectors.

BICLM also holds the archival records of several professional cartoonists organizations and

Milton Caniff was born in Hillsboro, Ohio, in 1907. As a boy he would watch test pilots fly their airplanes at McCook Field in Dayton; this love of aviation would inform his work for much of his adult life. Caniff drew cartoons for local newspapers while attending high school in Dayton, and later illustrated his fraternity magazine while attending Ohio State University.

After graduating from OSU in 1930, Caniff began working for Billy Ireland at the Columbus Dispatch. (Caniff remained grateful to Ireland for that first job and considered him a mentor.) After his position at the Dispatch was eliminated due to the Great Depression, Caniff moved to New York City in 1932 to take a job with the Associated Press, where he did general art assignments and later drew the comic strip Dickie Dare.

In 1934 Caniff was hired to create an adventure strip set in Asia for the Chicago Tribune New York News Syndicate. Terry and the Pirates featured a boy named Terry Lee who traveled the Orient with adventurer Pat Ryan. Terry grew up during the strip’s twelve-year run, and during World War II served in the Army Air Force.

During World War II Caniff also created a second strip titled Male Call. Caniff donated his work on this strip to the U.S. armed forces; Male Call was only available in military newspapers. The strip featured a beautiful main character named Miss Lace, who Caniff created to “remind service men what they were fighting for.” However, the strip
maintains more than 10,000 biographical and subject files on cartoonists and cartoon-related subjects.

**FACILITY AND PROGRAMMING**

Before moving to its current location in 2013, the library was located in 6,000 square feet in the basement of Ohio State University’s Wexner Center, requiring a large part of the collection to be stored offsite. The new space in Sullivant Hall offers 30,000 square feet. The first floor space includes the reading room; staff offices; a digitization room; and secure, climate-controlled collection storage. Most of the collection is now housed on-site, with ample room left for future growth.

The second floor contains a lecture hall and three museum galleries. The first gallery contains a permanent Treasures from the Collection exhibit that uses items from the library’s collection to provide an overview of the history of comics in the U.S. Although individual items in the exhibit periodically change, the story they tell is the same, tracing comics history from eighteenth-century hand-painted cartoon art to contemporary zines and minicomics. Visitors may see items ranging from original artwork to bound books, and from a Steve Canyon lunchbox to a Little Orphan Annie decoder ring.

The second and third galleries are used for rotating exhibits that change two to three times per year. Past exhibits have featured individual artists, magazines, and comic strips (such as Calvin and Hobbes by Ohioan Bill Watterson); historical periods and events (such as the role of cartoons during World War I and the Civil Rights era); international comics; and cartoons as a medium of expression for topics ranging from sports to the American experience.

was also notable for its realistic depiction of issues faced by servicemen returning home after battle. Caniff continued Male Call until the spring of 1946.

Also in 1946, Caniff ended his work on Terry and the Pirates, the strip that had made him famous. At that time it was the norm for comic strips to be owned by the distribution syndicate instead of the creator. Caniff had grown increasingly frustrated with his lack of ownership in his creation, and accepted an offer from Marshall Field to produce a new strip for Field Enterprises. Caniff drew his last Terry and the Pirates strip in December of 1946; Steve Canyon debuted in more than 100 newspapers, including the Chicago Sun-Times, the following month.

The new strip’s title character was an adventurous former Air Force pilot running a charter company. However, Canyon returned to the Air Force during the Korean War and stayed in the military for the remainder of the strip.

Steve Canyon ended on June 4, 1988, two months after Caniff’s passing. On the first anniversary of his death, the U.S. Air Force officially discharged Steve Canyon and presented his service record, personnel file, and service medals to the Caniff Collection at BICLM.
The Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum is currently featuring two exhibits with Ohio connections. *Little Nemo: Dream Another Dream* (June 4, 2016 - October 23, 2016) is an artistic tribute to Winsor McCay (1867–1934). McCay worked in Cincinnati for several years at the start of his career, creating artwork for dime museums and illustrations for the *Cincinnati Commercial Tribune* and the *Cincinnati Enquirer*. He was one of the most significant American artists of the twentieth century, known for his groundbreaking newspaper comics and early animated films. Much of his most beloved work appeared in *Little Nemo in Slumberland*, a full-page comic that ran every Sunday from 1905 to 1926. It was on these pages that McCay expanded the world of visual narrative: his stunning sequences, expressed through vivid illustrations and inventive panel compositions, became a cornerstone of modern comics.

In 2014, Locust Moon published *Little Nemo: Dream Another Dream*, a huge, full-color anthology featuring work by 100 comic artists and illustrators. Each of these artists was asked to create a new version of McCay’s famous strip, resulting in a rich and diverse collection of tributes to a remarkable man.

This exhibit presents original artwork from the book; featured artists include Peter Bagge, David Mack, Ohioan Paul Pope, Carla Speed McNeil, Farel Dalrymple, and more. Ohio State’s iteration of this traveling exhibit, curated by Josh O’Neill, Andrew Carl, and Chris Stevens, will also include McCay originals from The Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum collection.

*Good Grief! Children and Comics* (June 4, 2016 - October 23, 2016) examines the history, role, and tensions of child characters in comic strips and comic books. Many of the most beloved comic strip characters in history have been children. Similarly, boys and girls have also constituted one of the primary readerships of and target audiences for this artistic form. The exhibit explores questions such as the following: In what ways do child characters in comics represent actual children, in both their explorations of fantasy and their realistic lives? How do child characters serve as stand-ins for adult concerns and desires, becoming mouthpieces for engaging with adult topics? How have comics navigated the seemingly competing objectives of providing simple, escapist fun and serving as substantive educational reading?

In exploring these and other themes dealing with the child, *Good Grief! Children and Comics* features characters, cartoonists, and strips spanning the history of American comics. The exhibit includes well-known titles such as *Peanuts, Little Orphan Annie, Calvin and Hobbes, Archie, Dennis the Menace, and Little Lulu* along with lesser-known gems like *Madge the Magician’s Daughter, Luther*, and *Space Kid*. The exhibit is co-curated by Karly Marie Grice and Michelle Ann Abate.

In addition to exhibits, the BICLM sponsors year-round public programming including artist appearances, lectures, and workshops for both adults and children. It is also the founding sponsor of Cartoon Crossroads Columbus (CXC), a multi-day celebration of comics that includes an expo and marketplace, panel discussions, an academic conference, exhibits, special guest speakers, and more. CXC had its roots in the Festival of Cartoon Art, held triennially between 1983 and 2013. The festival included panel discussions, exhibitions, and special events that attracted cartoonists, scholars, and fans from around the world. In 2015, the Festival of Cartoon Art grew into CXC, a city-wide festival co-sponsored by multiple arts and cultural organizations. CXC 2016 will take place October 13-16; visit www.cartooncrossroadscolumbus.com for more information.

Our sincere thanks to Caitlin McGurk, Susan Liberator, and Marilyn Scott at the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum for their help with this article. To learn more about BICLM’s collection and programming and to view online exhibits, visit https://cartoons.osu.edu/.
In addition to Billy Ireland and Milton Caniff, Ohio has been home to both historic and contemporary legends in the fields of newspaper, superhero, and underground and alternative comics. Just a few of the artists and writers who have called the Buckeye State home are listed below.

**Frederick Burr Opper** (1857-1937)
A native of Madison, Ohio, Opper was one of the most prolific and popular cartoonists of the early twentieth century. After years of successful work as a magazine cartoonist, he was hired in 1899 to draw comic strips for the *New York Journal*. Among the strips he created there was *Happy Hooligan*, which ran from 1900 until 1932, when Opper stopped the strip due to declining eyesight. A party celebrating Happy’s thirtieth birthday was attended by Herbert Hoover and Calvin Coolidge.

**Charles Nelan** (1858-1904)
Akron native Charles Nelan is considered the country’s first syndicated editorial cartoonist. He began his career in 1888 at the *Cleveland Press*, and later worked for newspapers including the *New York Herald* and the *Philadelphia North American*.

**Richard F. Outcault** (1863-1928)
Outcault was born in Lancaster, Ohio, and early in his career worked as a technical illustrator for Thomas Edison. He is known for creating the comic strips *Hogan’s Alley* (featuring the Yellow Kid) and *Buster Brown*. Outcault was one of the first artists to use speech balloons with sequential illustrations (setting a standard that is still used today), and was also the first to successfully merchandise a comic character (turning comics into pop culture).

**Winsor McCay** (1869-1934)
McCay lived in Cincinnati for nine years early in his career. In addition to creating the innovative and successful comic *Little Nemo in Slumberland*, McCay was also an early animation pioneer. BICLM has the world’s largest collection of original McCay artwork, including animation cells.

**Edwina Dumm** (1893-1990)
Born in Upper Sandusky and raised in Columbus, in 1915 Dumm was hired as a staff illustrator at the *Columbus Monitor*, where she became the first female editorial cartoonist in the U.S.

**Jerry Siegel** (1914-1996) & **Joe Shuster** (1914-1992)
After the death of Siegel’s father, these two Cleveland high school students created a character that became arguably the most important superhero in the U.S.—Superman.

**Harvey Pekar** (1939-2010)
Pekar, a lifelong Cleveland resident, struck up a friendship with Robert Crumb, the father of the underground comics movement, in the 1960s. Pekar conceived the idea of a “diary comic” that would describe real life as it was happening, and created *American Splendor*, which documented daily life in aging Cleveland neighborhoods. Pekar was considered the city’s unofficial poet laureate, but kept his day job as a file clerk at the VA hospital even after he became famous.

**Bill Watterson** (b. 1958)
Watterson, who grew up in Chagrin Falls, worked briefly as an editorial cartoonist and graphic designer before creating *Calvin and Hobbes*. In 1986 he became the youngest recipient ever of cartooning’s highest honor, the National Cartoonists Society’s Reuben Award. BICLM holds all original *Calvin and Hobbes* artwork.

**Jeff Smith** (b. 1960)
Jeff Smith’s love of comics started in childhood as he was growing up in Columbus. After graduating from Ohio State, Smith started an animation company with two friends, but soon realized that he wanted to work in the comics medium. In 1991 he launched Cartoon Books to self-publish *Bone*, which, unlike traditional comics being produced by major comics publishers at the time, was conceived with a specific beginning, middle, and end in mind. Smith published fifty-five issues of *Bone* between 1991 and 2004; it is perhaps the most successful self-published comic in history.

Ohio is the most important state in comics history.

—Caitlin McGurk, Associate Curator, Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum
The Ohioana Library is pleased to announce the winners of the 2016 Ohioana Book Awards! The awards, established in 1942, honor Ohio authors in Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry, Juvenile Literature, and Middle Grade/Young Adult Literature. The final category, About Ohio or an Ohioan, may also include books by non-Ohio authors. New this year is a Reader’s Choice award, selected by readers across the state via online voting.

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Ohioana Book Awards—a truly significant milestone. From the beginning, the list of winners has been truly impressive; nearly every major Ohio writer in every literary field has been honored—from James Thurber and Lois Lenski to Toni Morrison and Tony Doerr. This year’s Ohioana Book Awards reception and ceremony will be held on Friday, September 23, in the beautiful atrium of Ohio’s historic Statehouse. We’ll share highlights of what promises to be a memorable evening in the fall edition of the Ohioana Quarterly.

The winners of the 2016 Ohioana Book Awards are:

**FICTION AND READER’S CHOICE**

- **Mary Doria Russell**
  - Epitaph: A Novel of the U.K. Corral

**NONFICTION**

- **Wil Haygood**
  - Showdown

**ABOUT OHIO OR AN OHIOAN**

- **David McCullough**
  - The Wright Brothers

**POETRY**

- **Nin Andrews**
  - Why God Is a Woman

**JUVENILE LITERATURE**

- **Loren Long**
  - Little Tree

**MIDDLE GRADE & YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE**

- **Shelley Pearsall**
  - The Someday Most Important Thing
Congratulations also to the 2016 Ohioana Book Award finalists! This year’s finalists included a Pulitzer Prize winner, a National Book Critics Circle Award recipient, two winners of Mystery Writers of America’s Edgar® Award, a five-time Coretta Scott King Literary Award winner, a Cleveland Arts Prize recipient, and nine previous Ohioana Award winners. Look for these titles at your local library or bookstore.

FICTION

*Roses in December: A Story of Love and Alzheimer’s* by Tom Batiuk and Chuck Ayers

*circling the Sun* by Paula McLain

*This Earth You’ll Come Back To* by Barbara Roether

*The New Neighbor* by Leah Stewart

NONFICTION

*Stealing Sisi’s Star: How a Master Thief Nearly Got Away with Austria’s Most Famous Jewel* by Jennifer Bowers Bahney

*Browsings: A Year of Reading, Collecting, and Living with Books* by Michael Dirda

*Pauline Frederick Reporting: A Pioneering Broadcaster Covers the Cold War* by Marilyn Greenwald

*Between You & Me: Confessions of a Comma Queen* by Mary Norris

ABOUT OHIO OR AN OHIOAN

*William Wells and the Struggle for the Old Northwest* by William Heath

*The Triumph of William McKinley: Why the Election of 1896 Still Matters* by Karl Rove

*My Life on the Road* by Gloria Steinem

*The Other Trail of Tears: The Removal of the Ohio Indians* by Mary Stockwell

POETRY

*Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude* by Ross Gay

*Once You Had Hands* by Tasha Golden

*Selected Poems* by William Greenway

*Abandoned Homeland* by Jeff Gundy

JUVENILE LITERATURE

*Kindergarten Luck* by Louise Borden

*Click!* by Jeffrey Ebbeler

*Crow Made a Friend* by Margaret Peot

*One Today* illus. by Dav Pilkey

MIDDLE GRADE & YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE

*Stella by Starlight* by Sharon M. Draper

*A Madness So Discreet* by Mindy McGinnis

*The Tale of Rescue* by Michael J. Rosen

*Like a River: A Civil War Novel* by Kathy Cannon Wiechman
Meet this year’s winning authors...

**Nin Andrews**

**Wil Haygood**
Wil Haygood is the Boadway Distinguished Scholar-in-Residence at Miami University, Ohio. Before turning to full-time book writing and teaching, he was a national and foreign correspondent at the Boston Globe, where he was a Pulitzer Prize finalist. He then spent a decade at the Washington Post, where he wrote a story about White House butler Eugene Allen that was later adapted into the award-winning motion picture *The Butler*.

Haygood is the author of seven nonfiction books, among them a quartet of prizewinning biographies that tell the story of twentieth-century America against the backdrop of politics, race, and history. He is also the author of *The Haygoods of Columbus*, a memoir about his youth in Columbus, Ohio, which won the Ohioana Book Award for nonfiction in 1998.

**Loren Long**
Loren Long is the author and illustrator of the *New York Times* bestselling picture books *Otis, Otis and the Tornado, Otis and the Puppy, An Otis Christmas, Otis and the Scarecrow*, and *Otis and the Kittens*. He is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling illustrator of President Barack Obama’s picture book *Of Thee I Sing*, the re-illustrated edition of *The Little Engine That Could* by Watty Piper, and *Mr. Peabody’s Apples* by Madonna. Loren’s *Little Tree* is a picture book for all ages.
**David McCullough**

David McCullough has been acclaimed as a “master of the art of narrative history.” He is twice winner of the Pulitzer Prize, twice winner of the National Book Award, and has received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation’s highest civilian award.

His most recent book, the widely praised *The Wright Brothers*, was a #1 *New York Times* bestseller and remained on the list for nine months. His other works include *Greater Journey: Americans in Paris, 1776*, *John Adams*, *The Johnstown Flood*, *The Great Bridge*, *The Path between the Seas*, *Mornings on Horseback*, *Brave Companions*, and *Truman*. His books have been published in nineteen languages, and none has ever gone out of print.

**Shelley Pearsall**

Shelley Pearsall is the author of six books for middle grade and teen readers. Her inspiring and thought-provoking novels are used in classrooms nationwide, and she is a popular school speaker. Prior to becoming a full-time author, Shelley was a teacher in the public schools and also worked in the education departments of several parks and history museums.

Shelley’s first book, *Trouble Don’t Last*, was published in 2002 and received the Scott O’Dell Award for Historical Fiction. *All of the Above* and *The Seventh Most Important Thing* are American Library Association Notable Books. All six of Shelley’s books have appeared on numerous state reading award lists. Frequently, her novels feature themes of personal courage and overcoming adversity in unexpected and surprising ways.

**Mary Doria Russell**

Mary Doria Russell has been called one of the most versatile writers in American literature and one of our greatest contemporary storytellers. Her novels are studied in literature, theology, and history courses in colleges and universities and are often chosen as book club and “community read” selections.

Russell’s first novel, *The Sparrow* (1996), was chosen as one of the Ten Best Books of the Year by *Entertainment Weekly* and won the Arthur C. Clarke Award (Britain’s most prestigious science fiction award) for Best Novel in 1998. *Doc*, her fictional biography of Doc Holliday, was one of the *Washington Post*’s Three Best Novels of 2011. Its follow-up, *Epitaph*, examines how the gunfight at the O.K. Corral became central to American mythology about the Old West.
Perrysburg native Douglas Brinkley is a professor of history at Rice University, a contributing editor at *Vanity Fair*, and CNN’s official presidential historian. Six of his books have been selected as *New York Times* Notable Books of the Year, and the *Chicago Tribune* has dubbed him “America’s new past master.”

Recently Brinkley talked with the *Ohioana Quarterly* about his new book, *Rightful Heritage: Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Land of America*, which sheds light on the environmental legacy of FDR.

Q When we think of the name “Roosevelt” and conservation, the name that immediately comes to mind is Theodore Roosevelt. Why do you think FDR’s accomplishments—which as *Rightful Heritage* shows, were substantial—are not as well known to the public as those of TR?

A Theodore Roosevelt wrote eloquently about all of his adventures in the Great Outdoors. Whether TR was grizzly bear hunting in Wyoming or rattlesnake handling in Arizona or discovering new flora and fauna in Brazil’s Amazon wilderness, he self-promoted his swashbuckling antics as if a combination of Davy Crockett and Charles Darwin. FDR, by contrast, never wrote books or essays about his kinship with the natural world.

But it was FDR—more so than TR—who built the modern national park service. Give FDR credit for saving such treasured landscapes as Big Bend, Joshua Tree, the Great Smokies, and many more. It’s also true that World War II came along and overshadowed FDR’s astonishing conservation achievements of the 1930s and early 1940s. After Pearl Harbor, “Dr. New Deal” became “Dr. Win-the-War.”

Q You wrote about Teddy’s conservation efforts in *The Wilderness Warrior*. As you worked on that book, did you know that you’d also write about FDR’s exploits in this area?

A When writing *The Wilderness Warrior* on TR, I kept bumping into FDR. In many ways FDR completed the public lands preservation system that his fifth cousin started. For example, TR established fifty-one federal bird reservations between 1901 and 1909. FDR took those and added around 200 to the grid. It was FDR who established the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service of today.

Q I find it interesting that Cleveland, the site of this year’s GOP convention, is where FDR made the speech in the closing days of the 1940 campaign from which you drew the book’s title. Had you been aware of that speech prior to beginning your research? And how well do you think that line and that speech sum up FDR’s guiding philosophy in conservation?

A I always try to sneak Ohio into my books. When I read FDR’s Cleveland speech declaring pristine landscapes and historic places our “rightful heritage,” I knew I had found my book title. It was FDR who started the process of saving today’s Cuyahoga National Park and made the Oliver Hazard Perry memorial on Put-in-Bay a national monument.
If you had to pick just one accomplishment of FDR’s environmental policies and programs as the single most important, what would it be?

The fact that his Civilian Conservation Corps work-relief program planted over 3 billion trees between April 5, 1933 and June 30, 1942. There were over 4,500 camps. These CCC-ers constructed 13,000 miles of hiking trails and developed 800 state parks (many in Ohio). Hats off to Roosevelt’s “Tree Army.”

What draws you to a subject? How long will it take something to go from an idea to a finished book? Was this book (and the one on Teddy Roosevelt) a subject you had wanted to tackle for a long time?

My focus is always on American history. I won’t really write about other places in the world. I’m an avid reader of biography. As a writer I try to choose a topic that will keep my curiosity in overdrive for a few years. Right now I’m very invested in Neil Armstrong and John Glenn, two Ohio boys. I’m hoping to make them major characters in the book I’m currently writing: The Greatest Adventure: John F. Kennedy and the Moon Shot.

You grew up in northeast Ohio and got your undergraduate degree in Columbus at OSU. How did growing up as a “Buckeye” influence your life and career?

Growing up in Perrysburg, Ohio, just outside of Toledo, had a major impact on me. History is really Perrysburg’s stock-in-trade. Going sledding at Fort Meigs or taking part in Fourth of July parades down Louisiana Avenue allowed me to feel part of the past. I was keenly aware about the heroics of William Henry Harrison, Oliver Hazard Perry, and Anthony Wayne. At Ohio State University I wrote my first article—on U.S. labor history—as a sophomore. So, yes, coming from Ohio—the Mother of Presidents—certainly influenced my career trajectory.

I’ve read that The Wilderness Warrior and Rightful Heritage are part of what is intended to be a three-part series. What or who will be the focus of the next book, and when can we expect to see it on bookshelves?


You’re also working on a book about Bob Dylan. What else is in the future?

Bob Dylan is my favorite poet-muse. I saw him perform this past summer at the Toledo Zoo with Mavis Staples. I’ve interviewed him a few times. One of these days—God willing—I’ll write a book on him. But no exact timetable is set. Likewise, I’m slowly writing a book on jazz with Wynton Marsalis. It’s anchored around the life and times of Albert Murray, our great philosopher of the blues. My main bread-and-butter is writing on political figures. But I’m enjoying dabbling in the music world on the side.

We always say, “Every writer is first a reader.” Was there one particular author or book that influenced your path toward becoming a historian?

Walt Whitman’s Leaves of Grass is almost a bible to me. A copy is never far from reach. But John Steinbeck’s Grapes of Wrath, Henry David Thoreau’s Walden, and Ralph Ellison’s Invisible Man all resonate with me deeply. As does Sherwood Anderson’s Winesburg, Ohio (which all Buckeyes must read). When I was working in high school at the Holiday Inn in Perrysburg a friend gave me Jack Kerouac’s On the Road. That novel made me want to drive from coast to coast, soaking up the sights and sounds of America. The other Kerouac novel that still excites me is The Dharma Bums. Every page of that novel sparkles with truth about connecting environmentalism and spirituality.
NONFICTION

Harper (New York, NY) 2016. HC $35.00.

During his remarkable career in public life, Franklin D. Roosevelt was a New York state senator, assistant secretary of the Navy under Woodrow Wilson, vice-presidential nominee on the 1920 Democratic ticket, governor of New York, and, for twelve extraordinary years, the thirty-second president of the United States, when he led our nation through two of the most momentous crises in its history: the Great Depression and World War II. In spite of this array of impressive titles, when FDR was asked to list his occupation, he usually answered “tree grower.”

This is just one of the fascinating facts presented in Douglas Brinkley’s new book *Rightful Heritage: Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Land of America.* Brinkley, a professor of history at Rice University and CNN’s official presidential historian, calls his latest work “a biography of FDR from an environmental history perspective.”

Generally when we think of conservation and the name Roosevelt, it is Franklin’s cousin Theodore who comes to mind. Brinkley chronicled TR’s legendary exploits to save America’s natural resources in his acclaimed 2009 book *The Wilderness Warrior.* But as Brinkley makes the case in *Rightful Heritage,* FDR equaled and in many cases surpassed TR as a champion in protecting and preserving America’s natural treasures.

Brinkley traces FDR’s love for nature back to Springwood, the historic Roosevelt estate in Hyde Park, New York. From the time he was a boy, FDR relished being outdoors, whether he was walking, fishing, hiking, or birdwatching. Being out in nature always renewed and invigorated him, even more so after he was stricken with polio in 1921 at age 39, which left him unable to walk without assistance for the rest of his life.

FDR’s deep appreciation for the natural world was coupled with a keen awareness of how easily that world could be exploited in the massive industrialization that was taking place in America. FDR was determined to do all he could to stop such exploitation, and in his very first public office as a New York state senator, he sponsored legislation aimed at promoting conservation.

*Rightful Heritage* is divided into four sections, with the first section covering the first fifty years of FDR’s life through his service as governor of New York and his 1932 election as president of the United States. Beginning with the second section, which covers FDR in the White House, Brinkley chronicles the staggering list of accomplishments that makes FDR arguably our nation’s greatest environmental president.

Most interesting was reading about the Civilian Conservation Corps. FDR sold the program to Congress as a means to provide work to unemployed youth. And that it did: 3.4 million men, mostly under the age of twenty, were enrolled between 1933 and 1942. They built roads and foot trails; reclaimed farmland devastated by soil erosion; and planted an estimated two to three billion trees, earning them the nickname “Roosevelt’s Tree Army.” It was a brilliant plan by FDR—combating unemployment while at the same time preserving the environment.

But as Brinkley notes, the CCC was only one of FDR’s accomplishments. He established wildlife refuges and national forests. He created national monuments, including one of Ohio’s best-known landmarks, the Perry Victory and International Peace Memorial at Put-in-Bay on Lake Erie. He reorganized and expanded the national park system, including the creation of the Everglades, Mammoth Cave, and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks, which are visited and enjoyed by millions of Americans every year.

Brinkley’s choice of a title for the book comes from a speech FDR made in Cleveland, Ohio, in November
“I see an America whose rivers and valleys and lakes—hills and streams and plains—the mountains over our land and nature’s wealth deep under the earth—are protected as the rightful heritage of all the people.”

Franklin D. Roosevelt was always one of my favorite presidents, and I thought I knew a lot about him. But before Rightful Heritage I had never thought about FDR’s contributions to conservation. Reading it made me admire him even more. In this thoroughly researched and well-written book, Douglas Brinkley has made one of his most important contributions to date to the American story.

REVIEWED BY DAVID WEAVER


By now, most people have heard of the hit Netflix series Orange Is the New Black. What many people don’t know is the story behind the very real people who are fictionalized in this show. While Piper Kerman (Piper Chapman in the show) had the chance to tell her story, many of the other characters did not. Kerman’s memoir paved the way for the very real Cleary Wolters (Alex Vause in the show) to tell her side of the story.

Wolters’s memoir, Out of Orange, is poignant, funny, and emotional. She opens with her reaction to realizing that her life was going to become a TV show, expressing both her rage and excitement as she binge-watched most of the first season the day it was released. The fictionalized version of her life has similarities to what really happened all those years ago, but also contains some key differences. Wolters did serve a sentence at a women’s prison for both carrying drugs and enlisting others to carry drugs across borders. However, the show’s writers took many liberties while creating a fictionalized character; in this memoir, the real “Alex Vause” shines through.

Wolters is honest and sometimes heartbreaking as she recounts the years she worked as a drug mule, her efforts to get her life back on track, and the years she spent in prison. She describes how scared she was each time she carried drugs and explains the covert blackmailing that led her to continue her life of crime. However, she is also honest about the fact that she liked some of her experiences. Although she does not glamorize the criminal world, she admits that a several-week stay at a luxury resort is enjoyable even when it is funded by an African drug lord.

Whether you’re a fan of the show or looking for an intriguing memoir, Out of Orange will make you laugh, bring you to tears, and have you wanting more.

REVIEWED BY LISA RACINE

FICTION

Grant, Kelley. Desert Rising.

In a world ruled by sacred, telepathic cats (felis) of the One god who bond with their priestesses, revolution is brewing. Sulis, a young woman from the Southern Desert, is pledged to serve the One in the Northern Territory’s Temple at Illian. When she tries to affect change within the Temple, her heretical path begins to gain followers. At the same time her twin brother, Kadar, has fallen in love with a woman from the Forsaken caste and is using his charisma to gain freedom for her clan. It is never a good idea to attract a god’s attention, let alone the One god and the four other deities on this sandy planet. Sulis and Kadar find their revolutions clashing and the world changing around them as they foment self-determination and self-discovery.

As world building goes, Grant creates a believable, quasi-medieval world with castes and classes, families and clans, and priests and gods. Sulis and Kadar’s family is more thoughtful and egalitarian than most in this world; revolution begins when people think outside social norms, and that describes their family in a nutshell. Pair revolutionary thinking with Sulis’s bond to a telepathic cat, and you have the complex plot of the first installment of this new fantasy series.

REVIEWED BY MIRIAM KAHN

In the third and final installment of her *Ellis Island* series, Cindy Thomson recreates the world of Italian immigrants living in New York’s Little Italy in the early 1900s. Sofia Falcone has only been in New York a short time when she uncovers a dark family secret that sends her mother to a mental institution. As Sofia struggles to keep her job and care for her mother, she meets Antonio, a pianist who is searching for the truth behind his father’s death. As they look for clues to help them understand their pasts and their families, they inadvertently discover a dangerous underworld in Little Italy that threatens Sofia’s mother, Antonio’s livelihood, and the entire neighborhood.

Thomson weaves mystery into this story of immigrants and finding love. The two earlier books in the *Ellis Island* series revolve around Grace McAffery, an Irish lass who discovers photography in her new homeland, and Annie Gallagher, who comes from a family of storytellers and sets out to publish her father’s folktales. Thomson’s passion for genealogy fuels all three novels and helps scenes of early twentieth-century immigrant life ring true. Written in an easy-to-follow narrative that is full of dialogue, the *Ellis Island* books are great rainy-day reads.

REVIEWED BY MIRIAM KAHN

**You might also like:**


In a mystery set in the small town of Brilliant, Ohio, two best friends, Mitch Malone and Travis Baron, set out on a quest to find the truth about Travis’s mother Amanda. The official story is that Amanda Baron died, along with her lover, in a boating accident on the Ohio River in 1953 when Travis was a baby. No bodies were ever found, and rumors abound that the two did not die but ran away together. Travis grew up knowing nothing about his mother other than what was whispered behind his back.

Travis lives with his father, Big Frank, who is generally absent and, when he is home, emotionally and physically abusive to the boy. Travis is searching for more than just facts about his mother’s death. He has wondered all his life if she did in fact survive, and if so, why she left him behind.

Finding out what happened to her is a question that Travis is compelled to answer. And, as his best friend Mitch soon discovers, Travis will go to great lengths to do so. As Mitch and Travis grapple with the information they discover and try to decide what to do, they learn that the truth does not always hold the answer you are seeking.

The significance of the prologue to *A Brilliant Death* was somewhat puzzling, and some of the plot twists, especially near the end, felt contrived. But despite that, I found myself caught up in the story and interested in the lives of these two small-town boys, their friendship, and their quest to find out what really happened to Amanda Baron.

REVIEWED BY MELANIE STANLEY
Dinan, Kurt. *Don’t Get Caught.*
Sourcebooks Fire (Naperville, IL) 2016. PB $10.99.

Five students are busted on a freshly vandalized water tower when they respond to an anonymous invitation from the mysterious Chaos Club, a secret group that has been pulling pranks at their high school for forty years. No one ever knows who has been tapped, but the pranks are legendary; there’s even a website documenting the shenanigans.

The Water Tower Five, as they take to calling themselves, are recognizable high school personas but with enough back story to give them identities. First there’s Max, the humdrum heist movie lover who becomes the de facto leader of the group. Ellie, the good daughter of a conservative preacher and school board member, has a future as an actress, while Tim is the star lacrosse player using his strength to intimidate others. Everyone thought Kate Malone, the incredible artist, was a lesbian until she was caught in a sexting scandal with a boy. Finally there’s Dave, a slacker with one thing on his mind.

None of the five are friends before the incident, but humiliation brings them together, and they form a friendship that grows as their escapades escalate. Having vowed revenge, they ultimately decide to usurp the identity of the Chaos Club. By pulling bad pranks in the name of the club, their hope is to make Chaos look ridiculous, flush them out, and compel the administration to take disciplinary action. To up the ante, the five agree to a competition amongst themselves to see who can pull the most outrageous prank.

The pranks are pretty epic; for example, one involves a crude graphic comprised of the student body in formation on the football field that was supposed to spell out the high school initials for an aerial photo. But some of the pranks are becoming too personal in Max’s opinion, and he wrestles with his uneasiness over justice vs. revenge, being accepted vs. being true to oneself, and whether the means always justify the ends.

Fans of irreverent fun and coarse dialogue with a hint of insight will find this one appealing. The flip-book cows at the bottom of each page are a bonus. Recommended to high schoolers who love Dan Calome or Brent Crawford.

REVIEWED BY TRACIE STEELE

McGinnis, Mindy. *A Madness So Discreet.*

Mindy McGinnis’s *A Madness So Discreet* begins in a Boston asylum in the 1890s with Grace Mae, a taciturn girl with a bulge in her belly. At the asylum, Grace is mistreated for her reticent ways until she can stay quiet no longer. As a reward for her boldness, the wardens kick Grace to “the cellars,” an underground dungeon-like place where she makes friends and plans her ultimate escape. With the assistance of the phrenologist, Dr. Melanchthon Thornhollow, she makes it to her next “home,” a more humane asylum in Ohio.

In Ohio, Grace joins Thornhollow in his odd hobby: solving murders. When a series of strange and fatal occurrences happen, Dr. Thornhollow is eager to find the culprit. He drags Grace to the crime scenes, hoping she can use her sharp senses and deceptive appearance to find clues he may have missed.

I enjoyed this book. In particular, I liked the way the set of mysteries surrounding Grace herself unfolds. These mysteries involve the heavy weight of family shame, and Grace struggles to solve and expose those mysteries to the world even as she assists Dr. Thornhollow. Grace’s unpredictable decisions go all kinds of directions and are truly surprising for the audience. Each decision leaves you wanting more in Mindy McGinnis’s *A Madness So Discreet.*

REVIEWED BY CHLOE SULLIVAN, GRADE 6
Jones, Sarah. *Lloyd Llama.*

Lloyd Llama knows what he likes: lollipops, rollercoasters, cellos, bullfrogs, and anything yellow. If a word is spelled with a double _L_, you can bet he’s head over hooves in llove with it! Al Alpaca doesn’t agree with Lloyd Llama’s tastes. He prefers apples, art, and apricot jam. To Al, words that start with _A_ are much more appealing.

It’s hard for Lloyd and Al to hang out when they have so little in common. They can’t even agree on whether to see a thriller or an action movie when they go to the theater! But they find they have more in common than they thought when a kitty makes them both sneeze. Maybe there is a way they can become allies after all...

*Lloyd Llama* is an adorable picture book written and illustrated by Sarah Jones. The play on double _L_ and _A_ words throughout the story is oodles of fun, and allows children to learn about spelling and alliteration in a unique way. The themes of friendship are also great for children, and Lloyd and Al show how common ground can be found in unexpected places. I especially enjoyed Jones’s illustrations. The cast of animal characters is charming and full of personality, and the soft watercolor technique is beautiful. Both kids and adults will have a wonderful time looking for the tiny and humorous details on every page.

Whether you’re a reader who prefers ants and asparagus or gazelles and marshmallows, *Lloyd Llama* is a treat.

REVIEWED BY KATHRYN POWERS


What if you could visit your loved ones after they die? Would it be a blessing or a curse?

Twelve-year-old Charlie Price can solve any equation he faces on the Mathletes team, but even he has a hard time answering that question. When his mother passes away from cancer, Charlie’s family is ripped apart. His father buries himself in work and his little sister, Imogen, compares everything to how life was before Mom died. After Charlie cooks a disastrous birthday dinner for Imogen, she declares that she wishes she could be with Mom instead of them.

The wish has unexpected consequences, opening a passageway to another world beneath her bed. When Charlie follows her to the other side, he finds a dimension where Mom is still alive, Imogen is happy, and everything is perfect again. But there’s a price to pay to stay in this strange place, and a darkness looming behind Mom’s eyes. Imogen is desperate to stay and leave her grief and loneliness behind her. It’s up to Charlie to figure out how to bring Imogen back to the real world before he loses her forever. But can he fight his own desire to stay before he loses himself, too?

*The Remarkable Journey of Charlie Price* is a unique and touching book by debut author Jennifer Maschari. Seeing the world through Charlie’s eyes puts readers in his shoes as he deals with the tragedy of losing his mother. Sadness and happiness take turns sharing the pages, just as they fill the memories of someone who has lost a loved one. While the story deals with heavy themes of grief and pain, there’s a nice counterbalance created through the imaginative world, suspenseful mystery, and dash of humor. The realm beneath Imogen’s bed is full of surprises, and readers will be eager to discover what’s going on in this unusual place. Charlie himself is a heartwarming protagonist. I found myself cheering for him as he braves the unknown, faces his regrets and desires, and fights to save his little sister.
The challenges he faces seem bigger than life, but he shows readers that despite the darkness, there is always hope.

With moving themes, compassionate characters, and an exciting plot, The Remarkable Journey of Charlie Price is a book that shouldn’t be missed.

REVIEWED BY KATHRYN POWERS

Sable Creek Press (Glendale, AZ) 2015. PB $10.99.

Karen Meyer combines fact and fiction to present a suspense-filled, historically informative, young adult novel about the importance and role of the Underground Railroad in Ohio. The novel focuses on two families—the Underground Railroad family of Will Butler and the slave cousins Moses and Tom.

At the beginning of the book, the reader meets Tom and Moses, slaves living in Maysville, Kentucky. Life is miserable for them, especially with Cyrus as the cruel slave master, so the two decide to run away to find freedom in Canada. With their grandfather’s encouragement and direction, they set out at nighttime on their road to freedom. Along the way, they encounter many life-threatening obstacles as well as many acts of kindness. They adopt a dog that helps them through some precarious situations, and they connect with people who help them secretly travel through Ohio. The first person they meet is Will Butler, who helps them cross the Ohio River. This is Will’s first time to be involved with the Underground Railroad, and his compassion and concern for Moses and Tom’s safety is revisited throughout the book, concluding with a positive, touching ending.

Meyer has woven historical facts with fiction to tell her tale. Abolitionists, both real and imaginary, help lead Moses and Tom to Canada, while bounty hunters are always close at their heels. Readers learn more about some of Ohio’s Underground Railroad stops and the people involved. Important abolitionists, such as John Rankin, Benjamin Hanby, and Fernando Kelton, provide stops for Tom and Moses, which encourages the reader to see and experience the possible pathways of escape on the Underground Railroad and helps the reader empathize with the value placed on freedom by these abolitionists and slaves. This book is a perfect way for all ages, and especially young adults, to learn more about the Underground Railroad movement and to appreciate an important piece of Ohio’s history.

REVIEWED BY CHARLOTTE STIVERSON

Mora, Pat. The Remembering Day: El Día de los Muertos.
Piñata Books/Arte Público Press (Houston, TX) 2015. HC $17.95.

The Remembering Day is a book written in two languages, English and Spanish. It is about a young girl named Bella who loves her grandmother, Mamá Alma, more than anything. Bella and her family live in a two-room house on a farm. Bella and her Mamá Alma have played, weaved, and taken care of the garden together since Bella was little. Now Mamá Alma is getting old, and Bella and her family take care of her. One night, a tragedy happens that leaves Bella sad but leads to a new tradition called the Remembering Day.

Tessa thought that it was clever how the author wrote the book in two languages, English and Spanish, so people who speak Spanish can also read the book. Charlotte liked how the author had Bella and her family celebrate Mamá Alma by having a Remembering Day. Tessa was interested in the book because it had a lot of detail and was really well described. Mamá Alma talks about her and Bella’s memories together using descriptive words and phrases. Charlotte was fascinated by the book because the pictures were so realistic. We would recommend The Remembering Day for older kids or adults to read aloud to younger children because of it being a sad story about death and grieving over loved ones.

REVIEWED BY CHARLOTTE OWEN AND TESSA DARKE, GRADE 4

Do you want to learn about peregrine falcons? Well, this is the graphic picture book for you. *City Birds* is a book about the peregrine falcon family in downtown Cleveland, Ohio, who live on a very tall building. The baby peregrine falcons are the main characters.

Before the chicks are born, there is going to be a July 4th celebration with fireworks, but people worry that the peregrine falcons will be scared away when the fireworks go off. When the show starts, the falcons are calm in their nest. An orchestra is playing “Stars and Stripes Forever,” so the chicks are named Stars and Stripes. (How cute!)

While the chicks’ mama goes to find food, one of them wants to explore, but he actually ends up falling off the tower when he tries to fly! This is all seen on the television camera that films the birds’ nest twenty-four hours a day. The State Wildlife Department keeps an eye on the chick and goes to save him. Luckily, he is okay. There is even a part where the mama bird thinks a baseball is a feeder bird, brings it back to her babies, and tries to eat it like food. She thought it was a bird she could eat when she saw it flying out of the ballpark and someone shouted, “FOWL!” Unfortunately, her babies just think it tastes “foul.” So, she goes off to catch a real bird to feed them.

We think this book is good and very entertaining for little kids. It has multiple fun comic strips. It is also very educational for kids to learn the story of the peregrine falcons in Cleveland. Also, the book uses homophones as humor (*fowl* and *foul*). One concern we have is that the reader is required to infer a lot of things, so some kids might not get it. For example, the book doesn’t say when the parent birds come and go from the nest; and when wildlife workers tag the birds, the author doesn’t explain what the tags really are (to identify the birds). Instead, the mama bird just says they are jewelry. Perhaps an explanation of the tags could have been included in the beginning or end of the book with other information.

If you read this book you will enjoy it like our class did. Read *City Birds* by Dean Norman; you won’t regret it.

REVIEWED BY MACKENZIE GIBSON AND JUSTICE JOHNSON, GRADE 4


Spook is a cat that was turned into a Halloween cat by a witch named Hexabell. Hexabell was getting her mail when she saw Spook and took him home so she could turn him into a Halloween cat. But then along comes Karen, a girl who wants to keep Spook. Karen finds Spook when he falls off Hexabell’s flying broom and lands in the yard where Karen is trick-or-treating for Halloween. Hexabell and Karen both want Spook, but Spook has to make up his mind to either live with Hexabell or Karen.

Mia liked this book because it was about both friendship and choices, such as choosing to live with Hexabell or Karen. Della liked how this book was put into comic form, but still had a good story format. Overall, we think this is a good book. We would not recommend this book for preschoolers and first graders at an independent reading level because they may not understand the quirky humor. Unless an adult was reading it to them and pointing out the humor, younger readers may be confused. We would recommend this for second grade and up. This book would make a good Halloween read-aloud for the family or classroom.

REVIEWED BY MIA DONALDSON AND DELLA JONES, GRADE 4

The book *The Ant and The Pancake* is a great We Both Read book. This means that the adult reads the left page and the child reads the right page.

The first story in the book is called “The Ant.” It is about Miss Grant’s fancy pair of pants that attract a curious ant. The ant may be smaller than Miss Grant, but it still causes the same amount of trouble. For example, the ant makes Miss Grant trip, fall in mud, and finally jump into a lake. The vet says the pants need to go, but Miss Grant says, “No!”

The second story the book, “The Pancake,” is told in sequence. The book starts out with a chef who is trying to teach the reader how to make a pancake. The chef tries to get the reader’s parents involved, but sometimes parents are too busy. Instead, the chef tells the reader to look around the house and try to find some mice. After that, the book goes through the process making pancakes. All you need is milk, an egg, oil, and flour. Keep your eye on the pancake while it is in the pan! When the pancake starts to look dry it is time to flip the pancake and cook the other side. Put the pancake on a plate and top it with plums, and you’re good to go.

We like the book because of the fun, detailed illustrations and funny adventures. Although we wonder why Miss Grant goes to a vet instead of a doctor, we love how energetic the chef is in “The Pancake.” Olivia thinks “The Pancake” should have an actual problem and plot, even though the description of events is colorful and funny. Elizabeth thinks "The Ant" is a great story, but she thinks it would be nice if there were more text for the children’s part of the read-aloud and wishes the text were more challenging so older students might enjoy it. The book says it’s for levels K–1, but the child on the front page looks like he’s in fifth grade, so the publisher may want to consider this. Overall we thought this was a fantastic book!

REVIEWED BY OLIVIA GRAHAM AND ELIZABETH BURGESS, GRADE 4


Cody’s best friend Spencer is moving into his grandmother GG’s duplex right around the corner. Cody has so many plans for them, including showing Spencer the ropes at their school. But when Spencer arrives, Cody’s plans for their reunion are challenged almost immediately. Since when does Spencer play the violin? He never told Cody that, although he insists she just forgot. Because Spencer is cranky on moving day, spying on a mysterious neighbor and eating the cookies Cody and GG made for his arrival will have to wait.

Expectations can bring disappointment, and the two friends experience their share. GG’s mysterious neighbor, Mr. Meen, has two daughters that seem aptly named. Cody feels left out as Spencer spends more and more time practicing his violin. Meanwhile Spencer’s parents are trying to launch a start-up, and GG’s small home is filled to the brim with people. Cody misses her traveling dad, and her teenage brother’s moods seem to depend on his girlfriend.

This is a sweet story that isn’t cloying. Young readers will find realistic situations along with reassurance that life is full of possibilities. These characters love each other even through their problems, and while not everyone is lucky enough to have such support, it is a delightful respite to read about people caring for each other in this sometimes mysterious universe.

Second in a series for early elementary readers, this is a fine stand-alone book and would be a solid read-aloud. Recommended especially for readers who enjoy the *Eleanor* series by Julie Sternberg or the *Cam Jansen* series by David Adler.

REVIEWED BY TRACIE STEELE

You might also like:
The following books were added to Ohioana’s collection between February and April 2016. Look for them at your local library or bookstore!

NONFICTION

The University of Cincinnati: Soaring into Our Third Century. Univ. of Cincinnati Press (Cincinnati, OH) 2015. HC $40.00. This book tells the story of the University of Cincinnati in a coffee table book format, providing a link to the university’s upcoming bicentennial while discussing its academic roots.

Aft, Richard N. Grassroots Initiatives Shape an International Movement: United Ways Since 1876. Philanthropic Leadership 2004. PB $10.00. Grassroots initiatives and community organizing have become buzzwords used during election cycles. However, the United Way and similar organizations have been utilizing this kind of community outreach for decades. Richard Aft provides an insightful look into how these local innovations have developed and come together to meet community needs nationwide and worldwide.

Aft, Richard N. Painful Decisions, Positive Results: United Way & Community Chest 1915-2000. Symphony Communication (Cincinnati, OH) 2000. PB $20.00. A lack of resources in the nonprofit world often leads to difficult choices. However, community leaders make these painful decisions so they can create positive results and lasting change. This book shares some of the decisions made by the United Way over eight decades in order to meet community needs in the best and most comprehensive way possible.

Aft, Richard N., and Mary Lu Aft. 100 Years of Uniting a Caring Community: United Way of Greater Cincinnati 1915-2015. 2015. The United Way has dutifully served the city of Cincinnati, among others, for a century. In this book the Afts document how the organization has changed during the past 100 years and the amazing impact the nonprofit has made on the city since its inception.


Bright, Heidi. Thriver Soup. Sunstone Press (Santa Fe, NM) 2015. PB $34.95. This book discusses many of the self-care options available for cancer patients who are seeking holistic strategies for cushioning chemotherapy and softening surgery. Each topic begins with an inspirational quote, offers a story on self-care, and provides useful tips. With passion, authenticity, and a little humor, this book explores medical topics and holistic care and provides guidance for those suffering from cancer.

Dawidziak, Mark. Mark Twain’s Guide to Diet, Exercise, Beauty, Fashion, Investment, Romance, Health and Happiness. Prospect Park Books (Altadena, CA) 2015. HC $16.95. This collection of quotations was compiled by a well-known Twain expert and draws on lesser-known texts, speeches, and notebooks. The book contains the curmudgeonly writer’s thoughts on diet, exercise, medicine, smoking, drinking, and parenting, among other things, and is a perfect read for anyone who’s had enough of the self-righteous ramblings of the blogosphere.

Doane, Kathleen. Cincinnati Boychoir: The First 50 Years. 2015. For fifty years, thousands of young boys have participated in the Cincinnati Boychoir, which has won praise on stages all over the world. This homage takes a look at the choir through the years and provides some of the music they have performed.

Ohio’s craft beer industry has boomed in recent years. This book takes you on a tour through more than forty of the Buckeye State’s larger breweries while providing interesting perspectives on brewing, regional history, and the distinctive culture of a rapidly growing industry.

Howe, Eber D. Mormonism Unvailed. Signature Books (Salt Lake City, UT) 2015. HC $37.95.
Eber D. Howe (1798-1885) was a newspaperman who helped found the Cleveland Herald and later founded and ran the Painesville Telegraph. His 1834 book Mormonism Unvailed “was the single most influential critical book on Joseph Smith in the nineteenth century.” This edition reprints Howe’s original work; an introduction, notes, and cross references by Dan Vogel (author and editor of several books on Mormonism) add historical context to help modern readers weigh the historical text.

Keirns, Aaron J. Ariel-Foundation Park: The Story of an Ohio Town that Preserved Its History and Transformed an Abandoned Industrial Site into a World-Class Park. Foundation Park Conservancy (Mount Vernon, OH) 2015.
The small town of Mount Vernon, Ohio was able to preserve its history while transforming an abandoned industrial site into a beautiful park. This book provides lovely images and explanations of how the town was able to tackle such a massive undertaking without the use of any public funds.

“As Ohio goes, so goes the nation,” or so says the political adage. Khoury takes readers on a journey through post-recession Ohio to meet residents from all walks of life and discuss how the recession has affected their daily lives. Anecdotes combine with data from larger national trends to provide insight into how Americans are faring and where the state and the nation are going.

Inside this tour guide, readers will find maps with detailed directions, essential information about parking and transportation, and facts about historical, architectural, cultural, and culinary sites. Grab this guidebook and get lost in the lovely neighborhoods of the Queen City!

In ancient Egyptian mythology, it was believed that the tears of the sun god, Re, fell to Earth and turned into honeybees. As a result, bees were renowned in ancient times, and their honey was used in many types of rituals. In this book Kritsky tells the fascinating tale of these early Egyptian beekeepers.

In this anthology Matthias melds drama and poetry to create six short plays that serve as performance poetry with multiple readers.

Although seventy percent of the workforce might be physically at work on a given day, their minds and hearts may never show up. Make It Matter provides a framework for managers to create meaning for their subordinates through the three pillars of “directory, discovery, and devotion.”

Both volumes of McBride’s biographical sketches were published posthumously by his...
eldest daughter. The collection provides insight into early pioneer life in rural Ohio and pays tribute to the ordinary men who put down roots in the 1800s.

McKeown, Denny. *Ohio Getting Started Garden Guide: Grow the Best Flowers, Shrubs, Trees, Vines & Groundcovers*. Cool Springs Press (Minneapolis, MN) 2015. PB $24.99. Ohio’s climate can be as challenging as it is beautiful, so choosing the right plants and knowing how to care for them can be tricky. In this guide, McKeown divides plants into easy chapters and discusses methods for preparing soil, watering, applying fertilizer, and managing pests. His practical advice is enough to inspire anyone to get their hands dirty!

Motz, Doug, and Christine Hayes. *Lost Restaurants of Columbus Ohio*. American Palate (Charleston, SC) 2015. PB $21.99. Columbus, Ohio has a vibrant restaurant culture and history. In this tribute to the city’s culinary past, Motz and Hayes take readers on a tour of long-forgotten eateries—several of which hosted famous historical figures—through old photographs and heartwarming tales.

Mould, David H. *Postcards from Stanland: Journeys in Central Asia*. Ohio Univ. Press (Athens, OH) 2016. PB $24.95. Central Asia has been the crossroads for many historic and recent events, but the story of the people who live there is often left untold. This book creates a tapestry of place and contributes to the understanding of a post-Soviet world.

Patterson, Karen A. *Recipes from Ohio’s Must Places to Eat: A Collection of Famous Favorites from the Restaurant Travel Guide Eating Your Way Across Ohio*. Acclaim Press (Morley, MO) 2015. HC $26.95. Restaurant owners and managers from across Ohio have generously provided well-loved recipes so that readers can create their own masterpieces at home. More than 200 recipes from every region of the state grace these pages, and most ingredients are easily found (although some may come from the gourmet section of the grocery store).

Popp, Cheryl, and Peter Bronson. *Legacy of Courage: True Stories of Honor Flight Veterans*. Honor Flight Tri-State (Cincinnati, OH) 2015. PB. The Honor Flight Tri-State’s mission is to thank and honor veterans, take them to visit their memorials in Washington, D.C., and share their experiences. In this book Popp and Bronson compile the stories of many amazing veterans as a way to remember and honor those who risked their lives for our country.

Powell, Rachel E. *Lighting the Fire, Leading the Way 1965-2015: Volume Two of One Hundred Years of History*. Woman’s City Club of Greater Cincinnati (Cincinnati, OH) 2015. PB. The Women’s City Club of Greater Cincinnati has evolved and changed over the past century. Rachel Powell’s book provides a carefully researched history of the past fifty years of both the Women’s Club and of American feminism.

Reis, Sherry. *Basic Quiltmaking Techniques for Divided Circles*. Martingale & Company (Bothell, WA) 1998. PB $14.95. This guide to complex circular quilt designs provides step-by-step lessons that show readers how to expand their design options, draw and piece their own divided-circle patterns, and more.

Reis, Sherry. *Basic Quiltmaking Techniques for Eight-Pointed Stars*. Martingale & Company (Bothell, WA) 1999. PB $14.95. Learn the simple secrets of how to create eight-pointed stars with seven different quilt projects. This book provides step-by-step instructions for creating precise star shapes, allowing readers to create complex stars that will add an element of intrigue to any quilt.

Shannon, Mike. *Legends of Giants Baseball*. Black Squirrel Books (Kent, OH) 2016. HC $29.95. The Giants have been blessed with numerous Hall of Fame—worthy players over the years. Forty of the greatest Giants players of all time are profiled in this collection for fans.

Simpson, Craig S., and Gregory S. Wilson. *Above the Shots: An Oral History of the Kent State Shootings*. The Kent State Univ. Press (Kent, OH) 2016. PB $28.95. On May 4, 1970, the Ohio National Guard fired on student protesters, killing four and wounding nine. With more than fifty narrators and spanning five decades, *Above the Shots* chronicles the events that led to the shooting, explores conspiracies, and discusses the search for healing.
Smythe, Kathleen R. *Africa’s Past, Our Future*. Indiana Univ. Press (Bloomington, IN) 2015. PB $30.00. The past offers alternative models for thinking about our collective future, and this book provides a perspective of African social, economic, and political systems that offers different ways of thinking about a sustainable future.

Sroufe, Del. *The China Study Quick & Easy Cookbook: Cook Once, Eat All Week with Whole Food, Plant-Based Recipes*. BenBella Books (Dallas, TX) 2015. PB $19.95. Del Sroufe makes it easy to eat a plant-based diet, even with the busiest of schedules. His cookbook provides pantry lists, menu plans, and more than 100 plant-based recipes that range from snacks to full and hearty meals. This cookbook is based on *The China Study* and encompasses the nutrition standards from LeAnne Campbell’s original cookbook.

Suess, Jeff. *Lost Cincinnati*. The History Press (Charleston, SC) 2015. PB $21.99. Founded in 1788, Cincinnati has a long and colorful history. Suess’s book commemorates the cornerstones of the Queen City’s past and takes readers on a trip to famous landmarks, uncovering unique quirks that even born-and-raised Cincinnatians may not know.


Wolters, Cleary. *Out of Orange: A Memoir*. HarperOne (New York, NY) 2015. HC $26.99. Alex Vause from *Orange Is the New Black* finally gets to tell her side of the story. Wolters was the inspiration for the character of Alex on the critically acclaimed TV show, and here she shares what really happened, filling in the blanks while answering fans’ questions. Wolters not only reflects on the past, but also looks to future in this provocative and entertaining memoir.

Black, Lisa. *That Darkness*. Kensington Books (New York, NY) 2016. HC $25.00. When forensic investigator Maggie Gardiner works on her most recent case, she’s shocked not only by the girl’s injuries, but also by the fact that no one has reported her missing. She and her fellow detectives run down every lead, but the monster is closer than they imagine and nearly impossible to catch. Jack Renner doesn’t kill for fun or for power, but to make the world a better place. When he tracks Maggie’s newest victim back to a seedy apartment, he knows that something must be done. As the case unfolds, everything Maggie believes about truth and justice will be challenged.

Bog, Justin. *Wake Me Up*. Gravity (A Booktrope Imprint) (Seattle, WA) 2016. PB $18.95. Chris Bullet is trapped in a coma, the victim of a terrible hate crime. As he floats above his town in a phantom state, he tells the tale of his circumstance and airs dark family secrets that have been hidden for generations.

Bollen, Christopher. *Orient*. Harper (New York, NY) 2015. HC $26.99. Orient is a typically quiet small town on Long Island—until it is hit with a string of strange and violent events. At the heart of it all is a lonely teenage drifter, and as the town turns their eyes to him, he struggles to unravel the mystery before it’s too late.

Castillo, Linda. *After the Storm*. St. Martin’s Paperbacks (New York, NY) 2015. PB $7.99. Chief of Police Kate Burkholder thought she left her life in the Amish community behind, until a tornado tears though Painters Mill and unearths human remains. While dealing with her own romantic turmoil, Kate finds herself plunged into a thirty-year-old case only to discover that the death was no accident, and that people will go to extraordinary lengths to protect one of their own.
Chappell, Connie. *Wild Raspberries*. Black Rose Writing (Castroville, TX) 2015. PB $17.97. After the tragic and sudden death of her lover, Callie MacCallum’s only wish is to fulfill her promise to visit their cabin in the West Virginia mountains. Instead, she must protect Jack’s grandson from his emotionally manipulative grandmother and his power-usurping mother. As the story unfolds, secrets are revealed, and the women discover that more than grief runs between them.

Ellis, Mary. *What Happened on Beale Street*. Harvest House Publishers (Eugene, OR) 2016. PB $14.99. A standalone addition to the Secrets of the South mysteries, this complex crime drama follows private detectives Nate and Nicki Price as they travel from New Orleans to Memphis after receiving a cryptic plea from Nate’s childhood friend Isabelle. Nate must move past his complicated relationship with Isabelle and reign in his partner to save the subject of their investigation from a terrible fate.

Hawley, Richard. *The Three Lives of Jonathan Force*. Fomite (Burlington, VT) 2016. After escaping the American Midwest, Jonathan Force becomes a famous psychologist and social critic whose ideas guide public opinion around the world. A personal revelation in late middle life causes him to abandon his famous persona and move beyond the idea that one person can truly know everything.

Kachuba, John B. *The Savage Apostle*. Sunbury Press (Mechanicsburg, PA) 2015. PB $16.95. When John Sassamon’s body is found in Assowampsett Pond in 1675, speculation about who killed him runs wild. A Christian Indian, John was caught between two worlds. As people on both sides call for retaliation, missionary John Eliot and Indian leader Metacom struggle to preserve their fifty-year peace. Kachuba artfully describes the events that led to King Philip’s War, the bloodiest war per capita ever fought on U.S. soil.

Noble-Sanderson, Gail. *The Lavender House in Meuse*. Green Darner Press (Seattle, WA) 2015. PB $19.95. Marie Durant Chagall’s privileged childhood ends abruptly when World War I hits France. After serving as a nurse on the brutal battlefield of Verdun, she returns to life through an unexpected gift from her deceased mother: a beautiful home among the lavender fields along the Meuse River. Marie opens up her home to wounded victims from the war, and also begins to heal herself.

Scalzi, John. *The End of All Things (Old Man’s War #6)*. Tor Books (New York, NY) 2015. HC $24.99. After the events of Scalzi’s *The Human Division*, the Colonial Union and Earth are at risk from alien attacks, an unknown assailant, and each other. Lieutenant Harry Wilson races against time to discover who is behind the new attacks, seek peace with Earth, and save humanity from oblivion.

Smiles, Terri-Lynne. *Common Ground*. PlotForge (Columbus, OH) 2016. PB $16.00. Kinzie Nicolosi thought she was protecting the world at the Rothston Institute. Now that she knows the truth, she joins with the “commons” to protect humankind from the institute and the adepts. This fourth and final installment of the Rothston series pushes Kinzie to her limits to see just how far she will go to win, and at what cost.

Snyder, Lucy A. *While the Black Stars Burn: Collected Fiction*. Raw Dog Screaming Press (Bowie, MD) 2015. PB $13.95. This unique collection of stories features a blend of science fiction, horror, and fantasy. The stories touch on pop culture phenomena while taking the reader on an unforgettable journey through places ranging from outer space to the Deep South.

Stewart, Leah. *The New Neighbor*. Touchstone (New York, NY) 2016. HC $24.99. Margaret Riley is content with her solitary life in Tennessee. However, the elderly woman takes notice when a young mother and son move in nearby. Margaret hopes to find a companion for her loneliness in Jennifer, but she refuses to open up about her past. As Margaret’s desire for friendship turns to obsession, she threatens to unravel the new life that Jennifer has painstakingly created and reveals secrets better left alone.

Hodgson and her deputy Martha Hawkins receive a mysterious letter that brings them back to London. Forced into service as a spy, Bridget investigates a terrifying murderer who is determined to revive the civil wars and destroy England forever.

Welsh-Huggins, Andrew. *Capitol Punishment: An Andy Hayes Mystery*. Swallow Press (Athens, OH) 2016. HC $27.95. Columbus private eye Andy Hayes, broke as usual, signs on to provide protection to a reporter pursuing a story in the midst of a presidential election. When murder strikes at the Statehouse, Andy finds himself in the middle of the chaos. Everyone has a motive for murder, and Andy has his hands full trying to solve the case.

Yocum, Robin. *A Brilliant Death*. Seventh Street Books (New York, NY) 2016. PB $15.95. Travis Baron was just a baby when his mother died in a boating accident and his father erased all traces of her from their home. Now in high school, Travis and his friend Mitch begin a search for information about the mother he never knew. With the help of a disgraced former detective, they discover the dangerous truth about Amanda Baron’s death and find their own lives threatened as well.

**POETRY**

Bryner, Jeanne. *Both Shoes Off*. Bottom Dog Press (Huron, OH) 2016. PB $16.00. Bryner’s poetry highlights the simple beauty of rural life. Her poems tell stories of plumbers and milkweed, and her honest perspective allows the reader to be a part of personal moments of everyday domesticity.

Collins, Martha. *Admit One: An American Scrapbook*. Univ. of Pittsburgh Press (Pittsburgh, PA) 2015. PB $15.95. In this poetry collection, Collins shines a light on scientific racism in the early twentieth century, from Ota Benga (who was “exhibited” at the 1904 St. Louis World’s Fair and in 1906 at the Bronx Zoo) to sterilization victim Carrie Buck (whose forced sterilization is the subject of a famous Supreme Court eugenics case).

Demaree, Darren C. *The Nineteen Steps Between Us*. a...p press (St. Paul, MN) 2016. PB $7.00. Demaree crafts a poetic experience that explores human relationships, with each poem representing one of nineteen steps toward understanding and change. The use of couplets and short lines creates a stark image on the page that accentuates the meaning of each poem.

Ignatius, Bucky. *Fifty under Fifty*. Finishing Line Press (Georgetown, KY) 2015. PB $12.49. Tight, short, free verse poems tell a story of love, nature, and creativity. These poems contain a rich interplay of imagery with an undertone of quick wit.

Looney, George. *Meditations Before the Windows Fail*. Lost Horse Press (Sandpoint, ID) 2015. PB $18.00. Each of these stand-alone lyrical poems addresses the human desire to understand the world and give meaning to the subtle messages we receive from the world around us. Although the poems are beautiful individually, they’re loosely connected through an underlying narrative in which the subject of the poems discovers that meaning comes from other people rather than the physical world.


Siegel, James J. *How Ghosts Travel*. Sputyen Duyvil (New York, NY) 2016. PB $15.00. Siegel’s dark and lyrical poems channel the past through crumbling maps, Ouija boards, and a childhood in suburban Ohio. The ghosts of his poems are an old Ferris wheel or a dilapidated Skyline drive-in, evoking feelings of nostalgia and a little fear.

Sirkin, Jeff. *Travelers Aid Society*. Veliz Books (El Paso, TX) 2015. PB $14.95. Each one of Sirkin’s poems will whisk readers away to a different part of the world with a different mindset. The poems, which have political undertones, are filled with trust and belief but also skepticism.

Stever, Margo Taft. *The Hudson Line*. Main Street Rag (Charlotte, NC) 2012. PB $10.00. Stever’s poems capture the stories of individuals traveling along the route of a suburban commuter train. Each poem is like a parable filled with emotional meaning, and each person is much more than meets
the eye. Stever’s poems reflect the inner turmoil and complexity of the human condition.

Stever, Margo Taft. *The Lunatic Ball*. Kattywompus Press (Somerville, MA) 2015. PB $12.00. A chaotic and heartbreaking look at the world of mental illness, *The Lunatic Ball* provides an empathetic yet humorous view while maintaining respect for those suffering from mental illness. Stever’s poems cover topics from asylums to her own family history.

Moe, Laura. *Breakfast with Neruda*. Merit Press (Blue Ash, OH) 2016. HC $17.99. Michael Flynn is good at keeping secrets, including the fact that he lives in his car to escape his mother’s hoarding. As if things weren’t bad enough, he has been expelled and sentenced to community service after a high school stunt. There he meets Shelly, who has a difficult past of her own. She discovers not only Michael’s secret, but also his good heart. Can she help him choose the right path?

Murray, Elizabeth A. *Overturning Wrongful Convictions: Science Serving Justice*. Twenty-First Century Books (Minneapolis, MN) 2015. HC $33.32. Every justice system has flaws, and mistakes can lead to innocent people spending years behind bars. In this book, readers learn about the legal processes that can cause mistakes, discover the Innocence Project, and read about cases that have eventually been overturned. Since 1989 nearly 1,500 Americans have been exonerated from wrongful convictions, but can we learn from our mistakes to prevent more unjust convictions in the future?

**MIDDLE GRADE & CHILDREN’S**

Altman, Joel. *Rosie’s Run through Reds Country*. Mascot Books (Herndon, VA) 2013. HC $14.95. Join Rosie, the Cincinnati Reds mascot, on her adventures through Ohio, Indiana, and West Virginia. Her journey begins at the Great American Ball Park and takes her on a trip through many exciting Midwestern landmarks and historical locations.


FitzSimmons, David. *Curious Critters: Marine*. Wild Iris Publishing (Bellville, OH) 2015. HC $16.95. David FitzSimmons’s award-winning photos of North American marine animals populate this gorgeous picture book. Twenty common and fascinating animals from the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans make an appearance, accompanied by narratives that highlight the natural history of these curious critters.

Poppy is so excited to join her best friend Millie’s soccer team! She loves the new uniform and snacks after the game but isn’t too happy about all the practice. After a bad day at the field, can Poppy decide if soccer is really worth all that extra effort?


After throwing a brick at the “Junk Man,” Arthur T. Owens has two options: juvenile hall or community service supervised by the Junk Man himself. Arthur is given a rickety shopping cart, a list of “important” things, and a chance to make amends. As he hunts through other people’s trash, he discovers that there’s more to the Junk Man than meets the eye and that beauty can come from the most ordinary objects.


The latest installment in the *Biographies for Young Readers* series tells the story of Geraldine “Jerrie” Mock. After developing a love of flying as a young girl and studying aeronautical engineering at Ohio State University, she settled into married life until a suggestion from her husband helped her rediscover her childhood dream. In a Cessna named *The Spirit of Columbus*, Jerrie raced another pilot, Joan Merriam Smith, nearly 23,000 miles in her attempt to be the first woman to fly solo around the world.


When Kat and Gram volunteer to help clean up the nearby park, Kat finds more than she bargained for—copper and silver coins, and even a dollar bill! Will she spend the money on a treat for herself, or donate it to the park? Children can learn about money and decimals as they follow Kat’s adventure.


As Clyde the cat sits at his window perch, he quietly observes his animal friends in the yard. The sleepy artwork combined with whimsical limericks make this a fun bedtime book or classroom story time option.


This beautifully illustrated picture book provides a fun insight into a child’s first word. Henry searches high and low to find what his first word should be, and once he finds it, he’s not afraid to use it.

**Remembering Floyd Dickman**

During Floyd Dickman’s long and remarkable career as a librarian and educator, he touched many lives. Children’s literature was his special passion. He served several times as a member on both the Caldecott and Newbery Award committees and founded the Mazza Museum Children’s Book Center. Floyd was also a great friend and a dedicated volunteer for Ohioana, serving as a juror for the Ohioana Book Awards in juvenile literature. He particularly enjoyed the Ohioana Book Festival and supervised the volunteer check-in every year until ill health made that impossible.

One of Floyd’s other joys was serving on the selection committee for Choose to Read Ohio, a project that grew out of the Ohioana Book Festival. It is fitting that when the list of twenty Choose to Read Ohio titles was announced for 2017-18, there was an additional book: Loren Long’s *Little Tree* was named the inaugural “Floyd’s Pick.” Nothing would please Floyd more, for he wanted to pass on his enthusiastic love of books and inspire children to become lifelong readers.

Ohioana is very grateful to Stella Dickman for her generous donation of books from Floyd’s collection (listed on the following pages), and also to Janet Ingraham-Dwyer at the State Library of Ohio for donating additional titles.


Haddix, Margaret Peterson. **Among the Free.** Aladdin Paperbacks (New York, NY) 2006. PB $5.99.


Pimm, Nancy Roe. *Colo’s Story.* Columbus Zoological Park Association (Columbus, OH) 2011. HC $18.95.


**FROM THE STATE LIBRARY OF OHIO**


**Thurber House**  
**Evenings with Authors**  
Columbus Museum of Art,  
Columbus, Ohio

The 2016 series of author readings features outstanding writers across all genres, including Ohioan Candice Millard. For schedule and ticket information, visit http://thurberhouse.org/evenings-with-authors.html.

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**Ohioana Book Awards**  
September 23, 2016  
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
Ohio Statehouse, Columbus, Ohio

Join us as we celebrate the winners of the 2016 Ohioana Book Awards. The event begins at 6:00 p.m. with a reception followed by the awards presentations and book signing. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.ohioana.org.

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**Books by the Banks**  
October 15, 2016  
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Duke Energy Convention Center,  
Cincinnati, Ohio

This regional book fair features a book sale, author signings, children’s and teen activities, panels and workshops, a writing contest, and author awards. For more information visit http://booksbythebanks.org.

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**Buckeye Book Fair**  
November 5, 2016  
9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Fisher Auditorium, Wooster, Ohio

The 29th annual book fair is a great chance to get a jump on holiday shopping. For more information visit www.buckeyebookfair.com.

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**The Write Stuff**  
October 15, 2016  
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Upper Arlington Main Library,  
Upper Arlington, Ohio

The second annual day of information and inspiration for writers will feature sessions and workshops by local authors as well as an expo of local publishers and literary organizations. For more information, visit www.ualibrary.org.

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Do you have a literary event you’d like to list in the next edition of the Ohioana Quarterly? Contact us at ohioana@ohioana.org.
SAVE THE DATE!

Ohioana Annual Meeting
Sept. 23, 2016

Join us for the 87th annual meeting of the Ohioana Library Association on Friday, September 23, 2016, at 3:00 p.m. in Davis Hall at the Columbus Foundation, 1234 E. Broad, Columbus, OH 43205. All members of Ohioana are eligible to attend and participate; the agenda will include the election of trustees. There is no admission charge and refreshments will be served.

RSVP by e-mail to ohioana@ohioana.org. For more information, visit www.ohioana.org.