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**June 2021**



*We acknowledge and respect the ɫəkʷəŋən peoples on whose traditional territory the University of Victoria stands, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.*

### **& LIBRARY DIGITAL ARTWORK**



*Telidon artwork by Glenn Howarth (sherry3, top left; starfish2, top right; matt, bottom left; enoptic, bottom right)*

### **OBSOLESCENCE LEADS TO PASSION PROJECT FOR DIGITAL ARCHAEOLOGIST**

Head of Library Systems John Durno has paved the way for a major retrospective of a digital medium that flourished, and fell into obsolescence, at the dawn of the internet age. John's efforts to recover artworks made with Telidon, an obscure and long-obsolete technology, will provide an opportunity to view a set of newly recovered, uniquely Canadian digital creations with the 2023 launch of a national exhibit.

Over 40 years ago, UVic faculty members [David Godfrey](#) and Ernest Chang were at the forefront of [Telidon](#) research – part of a national effort to create what has since been described as the Canadian precursor to the world wide web.

The visual opportunities of Telidon were not lost on artists. [Glenn Howarth](#), a prominent artist and educator, used Chang's Telidon software to produce a major body of artwork while serving as a Canada Council artist-in-residence in UVic's Department of Computer Science – producing images in the flourishing art form.

But the pace of digital change was unforgiving. By 2015, Telidon was a footnote – an obscure curiosity – when Durno was asked to restore Howarth's work for a [retrospective](#).

The resulting 2016 [Legacy Art Gallery](#) exhibit, *The Averted Eye Sees*, and the libraries' subsequent 2019 publication [\[untitled\]: The Artists' Archives at the University of Victoria Libraries](#), gave Durno an opportunity to tell the tale of Telidon art – a creative medium embraced, and then abandoned.

Read the full [Ring story about the 2023 exhibit](#).



## BLESSING CEREMONY - NEW LIBRARY MURAL

On June 4, UVic Libraries held a blessing ceremony for a new mural in the Mearns Centre for Learning - McPherson Library, located between the third and fourth floors. Created by the [Kinship Rising Collective](#), the [Fearless Sisters Rising](#) mural honours the fearless, healing medicine of Indigenous bodies and land relations. Completed in 2018, the mural was imagined and created by Coast Salish artist Brianna Bear from the Songhees/ləkʷəŋən Nation and the Kwa Kwa ka'wakw/Namgis Nation, Diné artist Nicole Neidhardt, and the Sisters Rising network, including Indigenous youth from across Canada and South Africa. Prior to the blessing ceremony, stewards of the mural received their blankets.

Pictured above (L-R): Anna Chadwick (art therapist and clinical counsellor), Director of Special Collections & University Archivist Lara Wilson; Administrative Officer/Building Administrator Louise Labonte; Associate University Librarian - Reconciliation Ry Moran; Director, Academic Commons &

Strategic Assessment Shailoo Bedi; and, Assistant Professor, School of Child and Youth Care,  
Mandeep Kaur Mucina.

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## & MESSAGE FROM UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN JONATHAN BENGTON

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Dear Friends,

On June 1, a Sacred Fire ceremony was held on campus in front of the main library as we honoured and remembered the 215 Indigenous children found by the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation at a former residential school in Kamloops, BC. Hundreds of people came by and wrote messages to the children.

The Mearns Centre for Learning - McPherson Library and university road entrances were lit orange for the entire month of June as a visual symbol of our awareness of the need for ongoing reconciliation. The colour orange has become an important symbol of the collective call to ensure that all children remain safe and protected. In speaking the words *every child matters*, we challenge the racism, prejudice and violence that continues to harm the children of today and tomorrow.



photo: Christine Walde

### Media coverage:

[Washington Post](#)  
[TV Ontario](#)  
[Times Colonist](#)  
[CBC](#)  
[Capital Daily](#)  
[CHEK TV](#)  
[CTV Vancouver Island](#)

### Library resources:

[Every Child Matters: Honouring the Missing Children](#)

[Indigenous Education, including Language Revitalization](#)

[Indigenous Approaches to Holistic Wellness](#)

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## & ACROSS THE CAMPUS

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*Uvic Libraries team member, Cedar Rain, cleans laptops ready to be loaned out. Photo: Uvic Photo Services*

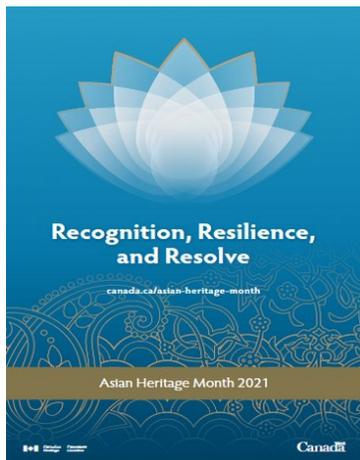
## **DIGITIZATION AND ENRICHMENT**

### **Two Cornerstones of donor support proved essential in bolstering a pandemic response plan**

Throughout the years, donors to the Digital Initiatives Fund and the Library Enrichment Fund have strengthened Uvic Libraries' ability to meet the constantly evolving needs of the academic environment. The COVID-19 pandemic caused a sudden and intense shift in these needs. Support from donors swelled in response, helping Uvic Libraries maintain its vital support role for students, faculty, and community members.

Suddenly users needed enhanced access to quality digital material quickly and efficiently. Drawing on the two funds, Uvic Libraries increased its digitization capacity, greatly increased access to eBook content through license agreements, and added more streaming content. This expansion of access to online resources ensured students and researchers continued to have exceptional and adaptive learning experiences, whether remotely or in-person. Donors also subsidized the creation of Open Education Resource (OER) textbooks—which students can freely download and use—giving cost-free, equitable access to course materials for all students. In addition, Uvic Libraries used donor funding to expand the mail-out service of print resources to graduate students across Canada.

[Read the full story: Giving to Uvic](#)



## ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH

The month of May is over, but you can still celebrate Asian Heritage Month. Our [library guide](#) highlights resources that celebrate the beliefs, history, and culture of people of Asian descent, and the resilience and sentiments of the Asian people in Canada. [More resources](#) are available from the UVic community.



## LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION & 3D PRINTING SUPPORT

Using our 3D printers, library staff have been working with educators from the Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ First Nations to design and print sets of magnetic letters for their alphabets, for use in K-12 classes to support language revitalization efforts.

More about 3D printing at the [Digital Scholarship Commons](#).



## CAMPUS KUDOS

Congratulations to librarian Michael Lines for receiving [Campus Kudos](#) from UVic President Kevin Hall for his passion and commitment to teaching bookbinding workshops for kids. Michael has been making connections between local elementary schools and UVic since 2014, reaching up to 350 children each year. His workshops offer children a hands-on opportunity to learn about the structure, durability, history, and creative potential of the book. Learn more about Michael's [bookbinding workshops](#).

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## & IN THE VAULT

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The hand tools for embossing materials such as leather are made of bronze, date of manufacture likely early 1900s.  
Photo: Lara Wilson

## **BOOKBINDERY AMONG FATHER CHARLES BRANDT'S ENDURING LEGACIES**

by: Lara Wilson and Heather Dean, Special Collections & University Archives

Hermit priest, environmentalist, spiritual teacher, and prominent bookbinder, Father Charles Brandt leaves behind many enduring legacies following his death on October 25, 2020, at the age of 97. Among them is his bequest to the University of Victoria Libraries of equipment, tools, and materials from his Hermitage's conservation lab and bindery, located on the Oyster River at Black Creek on Vancouver Island.

Father Brandt was inspired to move to Vancouver Island to join the Hermits of St. John the Baptist, established in 1964 near the Tsolum River at Merville. Brandt, originally from Kansas City, Missouri, obtained a divinity baccalaureate from Nashotah House Theological Seminary in Wisconsin. Prior to moving to Vancouver Island, Brandt lived in a number of abbeys in the U.S, including St. Gregory's Abbey (Shawnee, Oklahoma) where he worked as a bookbinder. Brandt sustained his life as a hermit priest through his bookbinding work. Trappist monks in Oregon sent Brandt the bookbinding equipment, which provided Brandt with the foundations to establish his own bindery on Vancouver Island.

Brandt, who had a Bachelor of Science from Cornell University (1948), was passionate about the environment. He eventually moved his hermitage from the Tsolum River to its present location on the beautiful Oyster River, where he lived for nearly 50 years. From his hermitage, Brandt engaged in conservation activities, not only preserving books and historical documents, but also advocating for preserving the natural world. The interconnection between his spiritual life and the natural world can be found in his books *Meditations from the Wilderness* (1997) and *Self and the Environment* (1997).

UVic Libraries was among Brandt's clients and his bookplate can be found tucked into a number of volumes. The business card for the Brandt Conservation Centre, lists the following services:

Restoration & Conservation of:  
Works of Art on Paper  
Archival Materials: Maps, MSS, Parchments, Photographs, Newspapers, Broadsides.  
Books and Pamphlets

Fine Binding  
Encapsulation  
Emergency Recovery Services  
Surveys of Libraries, Archives & Fine Art on Paper Collections

Prior to the recent pandemic restrictions, UVic Libraries staff oversaw the packing and transport of the bequeathed materials to their new home, in the nascent print room of the Mearns Centre for Learning - McPherson Library. In the coming years, these materials, along with equipment and supplies from additional bequests and gifts, will be utilized through experiential learning opportunities for UVic students, as well as through workshops and other public programming. Among the materials received were book presses, binding leather, marbled endpapers, a skiving machine, Fr. Brandt's custom watermarked archival paper, papermaking screens, embossing tools, gold leaf, and a massive "Robust" paper cutter.



*The "Robust Cutter" is for cutting cardboard, date of manufacture c. 1970s. Photo: Lara Wilson*

The Hermitage will live on as a spiritual retreat, with the 27 acres placed in a land conservancy and the property bequeathed to the Comox Valley Regional District. Fr. Brandt's bequests will enrich our communities now and in the future. To learn more about Father Brandt, please see Brian Payton's article in *Hakai Magazine*, "The Oracle of Oyster River."

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## & IN THE NEWS

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photo: Nardella Photography

### **RY MORAN: "ADVENTURER, FATHER, LIFELONG LEARNER"**

Associate University Librarian - Reconciliation  
Ry Moran is featured in the Spring 2021 issue of the *Torch*.

"UVic is at the cutting edge of some incredibly important work in the area of Indigenous resurgence, reconciliation and decolonization. I would absolutely encourage alumni to explore the work happening across UVic and to get involved by attending lectures and events or exploring ways to support these initiatives by volunteering or becoming a donor."

Moran's involvement with *Every Child Matters*, a co-production with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, and Insight Productions, won a gold award for education programming and the "Hand in Hand" special award at the *World Media Festivals*.

*The Globe and Mail* spoke to Ry Moran for comment on the residential school system. Citing the work of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, Moran reflects on the barriers and challenges that the centre encountered in multiple attempts to access records.



### **DAVID BOUDINOT: MISSION POSSIBLE**

Librarian **David Boudinot** has accomplished his goal of litter picking every street in the Fernwood neighborhood in his free time and is now expanding the clean-up drive to other neighborhoods in Victoria.

Read more about David as a plastic pellet researcher in the *National Observer*.

## & OUR PEOPLE, YOUR LIBRARY IN CONVERSATION WITH...



### EMILY NICKERSON BALANCES A DUAL ROLE IN LAW AND BUSINESS

**You are the Law and Business Librarian. What does a typical day look like for you at the [law library](#)?**

Typically, I will start my day by checking my email to see if I have received any research help requests or other queries from students or faculty. I also share responsibility at the law library for working the research help desk each week to address any questions students may have in person. Right now, this work is happening virtually! Depending on the week, I will provide instruction on topics related to legal or business research, work on projects related to evaluating or developing the law and business collections, attend committee meetings within both faculties and the library, and update guides and other learning materials for students.

Read the [full interview with Emily](#).



### LIBRARIAN CHRISTINE WALDE LOOKS TO THE FUTURE FOR INSPIRATION

**UVic Libraries was the first library in North America to create and hire a Grants & Awards Librarian. What does it mean to have this unique role?**

Liaison roles for academic librarians have been steadily evolving from subject-based portfolios to more functional roles that align with institutional priorities in providing advanced research support services for some time. As an academic librarian with a background in the private and public sector, with experience in community development and arts and heritage organizations, being the Grants and Awards Librarian has, in many ways, been an evolution of my professional career and aspirations.

Read the [full interview with Christine](#) and her published article in the [Association of College and Research Libraries](#).

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The [Stories of the Holocaust: Local Memory and Transmission exhibit](#) is the result of collaboration between students in a combined undergraduate and graduate seminar on Holocaust and Memory Studies at UVic, members of the community, and UVic Libraries. "Working together, these community members and student scholars engaged in a process of storytelling, active listening, and dynamic memory work to present unique and diverse stories of the Holocaust." Library work study student Paula Raimondi Cantú interviewed two students involved with this project.



### **EXPLORING HOLOCAUST TRAUMA THROUGH VISUAL ART**

An interview with student Kästle Van Der Meer (History, Gender Studies)

#### **Why did you choose this particular project, and what were your expectations before taking it on?**

The project was Dr. Helga Thorson's idea, and her goal in creating it was to give local survivors and their family members the opportunity to tell their story and have it be preserved in a public forum. The project was also designed to show how memory transmission spans generations. For example, my partner Hinda did not experience the Holocaust directly, nor did her mother, but the trauma her mother experienced as a result of her family being murdered in the Holocaust was passed on to Hinda, who has lived with it her entire life. The project is really an example of just how extensive the legacy of the Holocaust is. It has impacted lives everywhere in the world, including right here in Victoria.

Initially, I wasn't quite sure what to expect from this project. It was my first opportunity to work side by side with the relative of a survivor, so I was very excited. At the same time, I was nervous about conveying their story, because telling your own story is easy, but it is a huge responsibility to speak about someone else's life using your own words.

Read the [full interview with Kästle and Hinda's story](#).



### **AMPLIFYING VOICES TO FIGHT FOR JUSTICE**

An interview with student Linnet Chappelka (Germanic Studies, Art History and Visual Studies)

#### **Why did you choose this particular project, and what were your expectations before taking it on?**

I worked on this project because I have an interest in the progression of the narrative of historical events, particularly at the individual level, so I was very eager to examine the lives and stories that make up this community, but aren't being told at the moment. Before taking it on, I didn't realize just how intense and personal it would be. At the onset, I thought there would be a barrier of academia between myself and my community partner, but it became a partnership that worked on each others' strengths to create this really stunning project.

#### **Did you choose who to be paired with? If so, what drew you to them?**

We were introduced to all the community members in Dr. Thorson's course, and they told us a little bit about themselves and the stories they wanted to pursue. Dr. Thorson then asked us who we were interested in working with, and I was lucky enough to be partnered with Micha Menczer. I was drawn to him and his story because he wanted to focus on his parents and their experiences, and I was curious about the individual in the midst of these life changing and historic events. What really drew me in was Micha's desire to look at his parents' life before, during, and after the Holocaust.

Read the [full interview with Linnet and Micha's story](#).

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## & LAST WORD

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*Image I-01680 courtesy of the Royal BC Museum and Archives*

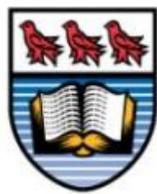
### THE STORIES OF TWO CHINESE-CANADIAN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS: A DIGITAL EXHIBITION

by: Ying Liu, Asian Studies Librarian

Launched in October 2020, *Glimpses into Chinese Immigration history in Canada: The New Republic (1911?-1984) and the World Journal Vancouver (1991-2016)* is a digital exhibition of selected articles, video interviews, historical photos, and documents. All content has been transcribed and translated into English to reach a broader audience.

There are rich stories behind both newspapers. In January 1911, *Sun Yat-sen* came to Canada to raise funds for the anti-Qing uprisings in China. His trip might have directly caused the initiation of *The New Republic*, which was probably started in 1911 in Victoria, and became the Canadian KMT (Kuomintang; lit. Chinese Nationalist Party) party's newspaper. The publication history is full of marks left by key historical figures on the Chinese political stage, including Chen Shuren and Feng Ziyou, and local community leaders such as Simon Ko Bong, and David T.H. Lee. The *World Journal Vancouver*, in contrast, was one of the three main Chinese newspapers in Vancouver.

With support from a Karl Lo Grant from the Pacific Rim Research Libraries Alliance and UVic Libraries, Asian Studies Librarian Ying Liu led the project. Next steps include digitizing the complete Canadian news in the *World Journal Vancouver*. Making this important source open and available online will not only support multidisciplinary research about Chinese immigration, but also give voice to the "silent" Chinese-Canadian communities which were traditionally not well-represented in the mainstream media, and will help to improve inter-cultural competencies and understanding to create an inclusive society.



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