



## What's New at the Library?

### December 2024

#### Regular Hours:

Mon.-Thurs.,

8AM-11PM

Fri., 8AM-5PM

Sat., 10AM-6PM

Sun., 2PM-11PM

[Ask a Librarian](#)[Library Website](#)

### The Gift of Music

#### Handbell Quartet Mini-Christmas Concert

Murray Library will be hosting live Christmas music thanks to the Messiah University handbell choir. Amid the hectic pace of Christmastime, allow yourself this lovely half hour to relax and enjoy the sounds of the season. Performance will be held in the library near the café. Please join us if your schedule allows on

**Wednesday, December 11, 4:30-5:00 PM**

### Visit with Don Tate

Don Tate, acclaimed author and illustrator, visited Murray Library on November 11<sup>th</sup> and gave an engaging presentation that captivated attendees of all ages. The event began with Don sharing stories from his childhood and his journey into the world of illustration, encouraging the young audience to reflect on their own talents and strengths.

One of the highlights of the night was Don's reading from *Poet*, his powerful picture book about the life of enslaved poet George Moses Horton. Don explained how he used whimsy in his illustrations to balance the serious themes of the book, making the difficult topic of enslavement more accessible to young readers. He also highlighted how direct quotes from Horton's poetry are incorporated into the artwork, bringing the historical voice Horton to life in a unique way.

The session concluded with a Q&A, followed by a doodling session where Don invited the young attendees to participate, sparking their imagination.

This event was attended by a diverse group of about forty-two attendees, including alumni, MU employees, families, and students. It was a wonderful celebration of creativity and storytelling! A special thanks to Todd Allen for making this visit possible.





## Exam Cram: Extended Library Hours

The library will be open late for finals! Look for fun and de-stressing activities throughout the library, including puzzles, Lego-building, coloring pages, thank you notes, hula hoops, and free, late-night snacks.

**Sunday, December 15:**

2 PM to 1 AM

**Monday, December 16:**

8 AM to 1 AM

**Tuesday, December 17:**

8 AM to 12 AM

## End of Semester Reminder!

All Library and Interlibrary Loan items must be renewed or returned before you leave campus or by Thursday, December 19. The library's dropbox is open 24/7 for returns. Avoid fees on your account!



## Friends of Murray Library Annual Dinner & Program

The Friends of Murray Library annual dinner and public program was held on Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> in Hostetter Chapel. The evening included dinner served by Two Bridges Catering and a public program featuring a moderated plenary panel of librarians exploring what it means to be literate today, the future of literacy, and the ways that libraries can come together with our communities to develop literacy skills for people of all ages. Friends also presented President Kim Phipps with an honorary lifetime membership for her many years of supporting the library. In addition to recognizing President Phipps, our library student research grant awardee, Michael Azar, presented his research and sang with his family. Michael will graduate in 2025 with a B.S. in Biology (Biomedical Concentration) and B.A. in Music (Keyboard Composition).

We would like to thank our moderator, Sarah Fischer, and panelists, Sarah George, Ryan McCrory, and Janet Vogel, for participating in the evening's program. Many thanks also to Messiah Press, Conference Services, Campus and Building Services, and Dining Services for helping to make this year's dinner a meaningful event! If you missed the event and would like to support student scholarship, please visit [messiah.edu/friendsofmurraylibrary](https://messiah.edu/friendsofmurraylibrary). Friends makes a difference!







## Stream Christmas Music from Naxos Online

Need a festive soundtrack for wrapping presents and trimming the tree? Music streaming database, [Naxos](#), contains many imaginative and beautiful albums of carols and other Christmas music, from ancient to modern. Many of the albums are by critically acclaimed choirs and orchestras. Stream an entire album or create a personal account for setting up playlists. This service is available to all Messiah students and staff, on or off campus. The database contains full recordings for all seasons throughout the year, including over 2.7 million state-of-the-art classical music tracks. Note, off campus access is limited to MU students, faculty, and staff.

## Ancestry.com (library edition)

As the holiday season approaches, you might be curious about your family's history and the branches of your family tree. Murray Library has access to [Ancestry.com \(Library Edition\)](#). By using the link provided here, your Messiah University login information gets you **on- and off-campus access** to census, immigration, marriage, and military records, plus user-submitted family trees.

Please note that this library edition of Ancestry is slightly different than a personal, paid Ancestry subscription. Also, check out our [genealogy research guide](#) for other FREE online resources to help you get started. Family history can be a great conversation starter at the holidays!



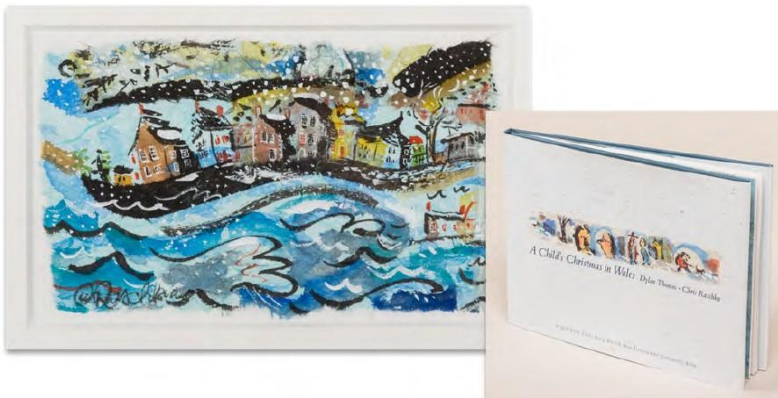
## Research Blog Post

Murray Library gives a shout out to... Emmy Varner, library circulation student worker and member of the Friends of Murray Library Board. Emmy recently had a blog post in Digital Harrisburg about her primary source research on design of the PA state quarter from 1999. She shares her thoughts at this link:

<https://digitalharrisburg.com/2024/11/07/digitally-prioritizing-a-quarter/>

## Engle Memorial Collection

The book, *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, is part of the library's Ruth E. Engle Memorial Collection of Children's Book Illustration. Dylan Thomas is the author and Chris Raschka, the illustrator. The year of publication is 2004.



The Engle Collection is proudly supported by Friends of Murray Library. Visit [messiah.edu/friendsofmurraylibrary](http://messiah.edu/friendsofmurraylibrary) to learn more or give today.

When Chris Raschka creates a picture book, he starts with a very clear understanding of his audience: children. "I consider them to be very much the same as adults," he says. "Which is to say that I consider myself to be very much the same now.... I don't feel that the me of thirty years ago is much different from the me of today.... This view of my childhood definitely influences my work." *School Library Journal* observed that his "simple lines and squiggles of color suggest a child's own drawings, but this is the art of a masterful hand."

Raschka has illustrated more than sixty books, including *Yo! Yes?* in 1994, for which he received a Caldecott Honor, and *The Hello, Goodbye Window* in 2005, which garnered a Caldecott Medal and a host of other awards.

## Coming Soon: New EBSCOhost UI

EBSCOhost has received some exciting upgrades to enhance your research experience. New features for you to explore include intuitive navigation, advanced search parameters and filters, easy access to eBooks and Concept Maps for diving deeper into research topics. We will be going live on January 3, 2025 so stay tuned for more information!



## Celebrate Student Creativity & Writing!



The Small Press Publishing and Editing class is thrilled to announce the launch of *Affinity*, *Yellow*, and *Life and Death*, literary journals showcasing poems and short stories penned by Messiah University students. The event will take place on December 12 from 6:30-8pm in the Steinbrecher Atrium Gallery in the High Center with free food, live music, and copies of the three chapbooks.

## Library Christmas Display

Looking for a good Christmas read?  
Stop by Murray Library to see a selection on display in the Café Diem area. Interested in finding more?  
Search Primo or ask for a librarian at the Circulation Desk!

[www.Messiah.edu/Library](http://www.Messiah.edu/Library)



It's the most wonderful time of the year  
and Murray has decked the halls  
with festive trimmings!  
Come visit and enjoy the holiday spirit!





## Looking for a Christmas movie to enjoy? Check out Murray Library's many choices for the holiday season!

Home Alone / directed by Chris Columbus.  
PN1995.9.C55 H64 2015

Mrs. Miracle / directed by Michael M. Scott.  
PN1995.9.C5113 M77 2010

Christmas Tale = Un Conte de Noël  
PN1995.9.F35 C475 2009

Dog Named Christmas / directed by Peter Werner.  
PN1995.9.C5113 D64 2009

All Mine to Give / directed by Allen Reisner.  
PN1995.9.C5113 A45 2008

Midnight Clear / directed by Dallas Jenkins.  
PN1995.9.C5113 M536 2007

Christmas Story / directed by Bob Clark.  
PN1995.9.C5113 C4755 2006

A Charlie Brown Christmas / directed by Charles M. Schulz.  
PN1997.5 .C43 1994

Elf / directed by Jon Favreau.  
PN1995.9.C5113 E54 2004

It's a Wonderful Life / produced and directed by Frank Capra.  
PN1997.C376 I87 2001

White Christmas / directed by Michael Curtiz.  
PN1995.9.M86 W458 2000

Miracle on 34th Street / directed by George Seaton.  
PN1995.9.C5113 M57 1999

George Balanchine's The Nutcracker  
M1520.T34 N882 1997

Scrooge / produced by Robert Solo.  
PN1995.9.M86 S3766 2003

An Irish Christmas : a musical celebration /  
directed by Anne Makower.  
M1629.3.C5 I75 2002

\*Holiday films are also available on streaming  
through [Swank](#) with Messiah University login.

Murray Library's **Recreational Reading Collection** has both fiction and nonfiction titles in a variety of genres that will provide hours of fun and relaxation. During finals week, books that are checked out will not be due back until the first day of classes, so you'll have the entire break to enjoy your books. Don't forget to look at the additional books on our mini display as well!

### Did You Know?

Candy canes were first given out in the 1600s & had the shape of a shepherd's crook to remind children of the Good Shepherd.



For a child is born to us, a Son is given to us.  
The government will rest on His shoulders.  
And He will be called: Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of  
Peace. Isaiah 9:6

