



What's New at the Library?

January 2025

Regular Hours:

Mon.-Thurs.,
8AM-11PM

Fri., 8AM-5PM

Sat., 10AM-6PM

Sun., 2PM-11PM

[Ask a Librarian](#)

[Library Website](#)

Meet Murray Library's Newest Librarian

Murray Library is delighted to announce the promotion of Rachael Jasitt to the position of Collection Strategies Librarian as of January 1! Rachael completed her Master of Science in Library Science from PennWest-Clarion in December 2024. This follows a Master of Arts in Cultural Heritage Management from Johns Hopkins University and her 2019 Bachelor of Arts degree in History with minors in Education and TESOL from Messiah (College) University.

In her new role, Rachael will coordinate all aspects of the library's print and digital collections to ensure that the library meets the needs of our students, faculty, and staff. Rachael will also manage the library website and ensure that our digital services are working as they should. This is not an easy task, but Rachael has demonstrated that she is up to the challenge.

Like all Murray Librarians, Rachael will work with specific departments to offer instruction sessions and help faculty and students alike make the best use of library materials. She also provides library instruction to First Year Seminar and Critical Reading and Writing courses. Rachael has demonstrated creativity and innovation in designing activities for students and we are excited to see what other great ideas she generates to help our students use the library to advance their academic goals!

Rachael has held a number of positions at Murray Library since 2020 including Evening Circulation Supervisor and, more recently, Access Services Specialist. Rachael began Murray's Seed Library and has already been managing the library website since 2023. We are grateful for the opportunity to promote Rachael into this role and for the work she has already done for Murray Library. Congratulations, Rachael!



Trivia Night

You're Invited! Put your knowledge to the test on Friday, January 24 at Trivia Night. Doors open at 6:45 and trivia starts at 7 PM at Murray Library! We'll have four rounds of trivia to test your knowledge in a variety of categories. Gather classmates or colleagues to form a team or join up with friendly folks when you arrive. All in the Messiah community are welcome. Teams can include up to six players.

Cool prizes await the top three teams!



Celebrating Jasmine:

A Talented Musician and Library Student Worker

We are excited to celebrate Jasmine Dickson, a music performance major who recently achieved a significant milestone in her musical journey by performing her senior trumpet recital on November 16. Jasmine, who has been playing the trumpet since 4th grade, captivated the audience with a variety of pieces, including her favorite, *Jubilance* by William Himes, which she performed on cornet.

Looking ahead, Jasmine is applying to graduate schools to pursue a Master's in Music and plans to audition during the spring semester. Her ultimate dream is to perform with the Boston Symphony Orchestra. We have no doubt that her dedication and talent will lead her to great success.

In addition to her musical accomplishments, Jasmine has been a valued member of our library team. As a circulation desk student worker, she has especially enjoyed working on Tuesdays and Wednesdays when the library re-shelves music books and scores. This experience has given her a deeper understanding of our music collections, and she has enjoyed learning more about the library's e-resources, such as [Classical Scores Library](#) and the [Naxos](#) recordings, which are excellent tools for music majors.

Jasmine encourages you to take advantage of the many [free music opportunities at Messiah](#), including student recital performances. She believes supporting these events is a wonderful way to engage with the music department and show appreciation for the talent of our hard-working students. We are proud of Jasmine's achievements and look forward to all the amazing things she will accomplish in her musical career! [Jasmine's recital recording](#) can be found in the On Demand section of the Messiah Arts website.

**Need help with finding, evaluating, or citing information?
Connect with your [liaison librarian](#) for instruction options!**

JOIN MURRAY LIBRARY FOR

Pages in Peace

A Read-What-You-Want Book Club

- Bring your own book or choose from our suggestions
 - Grab a snack
 - Read for about 45 minutes
- Share what you're reading with fellow book lovers

Friday January 31st 3:30-4:30pm
Library Athenaeum

MAKING THE MOVEMENT:

How Activists Fought for Civil Rights with Buttons, Fliers, Pins, and Posters

Lecture

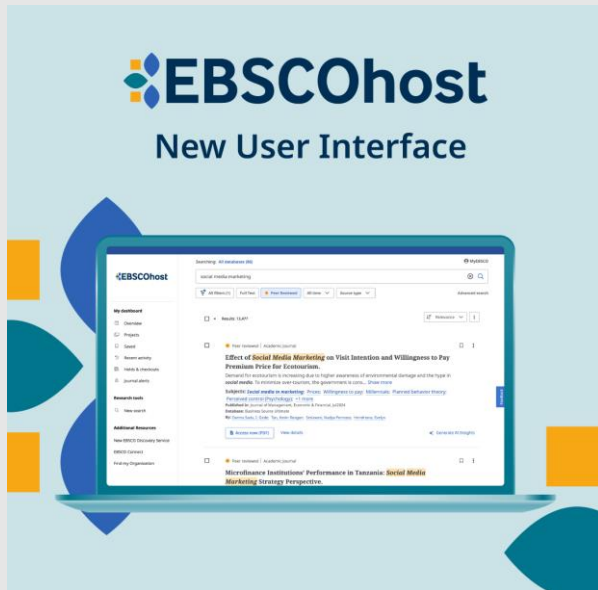
FEBRUARY 3
@ 7PM | Hostetter Chapel

Exhibit on display at Murray Library
January 30 - February 4

Explore the powerful impact of material culture on the Civil Rights Movement with renowned historian David Crane. His traveling Civil Rights Museum showcases rare artifacts that were instrumental in achieving the movement's mission to end segregation and disenfranchisement.

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 live beginning January 3, 2025! If you have any questions or need research assistance, you can reach the librarians at library@messiah.edu.



Liaison Librarian Updates



With the addition of Rachael Jasitt to our librarian team, we are realigning our subject areas to better serve you!

Rachael Jasitt will now work with Art and Design, Engineering, Theater & Dance, Business, Business & Leadership, and the Leadership minor. Janet Vogel will work with Computing, Mathematics, and Physics as well as Athletics. If they have not already done so, librarians will be reaching out to you to introduce themselves. As always, if you have any questions, please contact your [liaison librarian](mailto:liaison_librarian) or library@messiah.edu!

ChatGPT

[ChatGPT](#), launched in November 2022, quickly gained popularity, reaching one million users in its first week. Developed by OpenAI, it is a large language model (LLM) tool that uses deep learning to generate text based on user prompts.

Here are some positive and ethical ways that ChatGPT can enhance the academic research experience. The Murray Library team encourages you to try out these techniques, but remember to check with your professor to ensure that you are allowed to use AI in this way:

- Idea Generation and Research Support:** ChatGPT can help brainstorm research topics, generate keyword lists, and even suggest Boolean search strategies for more effective database queries. For instance, you can ask it to list keywords related to a research topic, such as "Give me potential paper topic ideas related to innovations in vaccine creation," and follow up with additional questions for further refinement on the advancements and approaches in vaccine creation.
- Roleplaying for Focused Assistance:** Users can engage with ChatGPT by setting clear expectations for its role. For example, a student researching the role of interfaith dialogue in promoting global peace might prompt: "*I am an undergraduate student researching the role of interfaith dialogue in promoting global peace. Could you suggest 20 keywords to use in academic databases?*" This focused interaction puts ChatGPT in the role of a content expert.

Tips for Effective Use: To get the best results, ask clear and specific questions. While ChatGPT can assist with many tasks, always verify the information it provides, as it may not be accurate. Additionally, avoid sharing private or sensitive data with the tool. By leveraging ChatGPT in academic research, users can streamline their research process, generate ideas, and refine their searches. This should help users maximize their use of library tools like Primo and subject specific databases, save users time on fruitless searches, and help them find the best resources possible.

ChatGPT helped summarize two articles, linked here, to create the piece above.

- <https://crln.acrl.org/index.php/crlnews/article/view/25821/33770/>
- <https://www.choice360.org/libtech-insight/chatgpt-as-a-tool-for-library-research-some-notes-and-suggestions/>

Have questions about ChatGPT or research? Murray Librarians are always happy to help. Email us at library@messiah.edu or stop by the Circulation Desk and ask for a librarian.

HERE'S THE DIRT



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BRR! HOUSEPLANT CARE IN WINTER

The weather outside may be frightful, but plants that thrive indoors find their environment delightful! Taking care of houseplants in the Winter months is different than taking care of them in the summer. This task can sometimes seem daunting, but there are a number of steps you can take to ensure your plants are healthy during the coldest months of the year!

Take a look at the following list for some helpful tips and tricks on tending to your houseplants in Winter.

1. Check your humidity level so your plants aren't too dry.
2. Determine how much light your plants need, and if necessary, add artificial light.
3. Examine your plants for common pests.
4. Monitor the temperature of your plants' environment by keeping them away from outside drafts and indoor heat sources.

Online Ebooks About Houseplants:

**BEGINNERS GUIDE TO
HOUSE PLANTS**

[Available Online](#)

**THE BIG BOOK OF
HOUSEPLANTS**

[Available Online](#)

**POTTED HISTORY:
HOW HOUSEPLANTS
TOOK OVER OUR
HOMES**

[Available Online](#)

**All can be found on
our online catalog!**

Humidity

Need a guide to houseplant humidity? Wondering what it looks like if your plant has too much or too little humidity in its environment? Check out this helpful guide!

<https://plants.com/en/care/doctor/temperature-and-humidity>

Light

Check out this thorough blog post on lighting for houseplants!

<https://laidbackgardener.blog/2023/12/03/lighting-a-helping-hand-for-our-houseplants-in-winter/>

Houseplant Pest Management

This article goes over basic information on the types of pests, how to spot them and manage them, and includes photos of what to look for.

<https://agsci.colostate.edu/agbio/ipm-pests/houseplant-pests/>

Temperature

The temperature of your plants' environment matters! This handy guide shows the ideal temperature ranges for a wide range of houseplants.

<https://www.uaex.uada.edu/yard-garden/home-landscape/docs/Temperature%20Requirements%20of%20Selected%20House%20Plants.pdf>

News and Events

Would you like to continue receiving our Seed Library newsletter every other month? Sign up through the link below!

<https://libguides.messiah.edu/seed/news>



MORE RESOURCES ABOUT MAINTAINING HOUSEPLANTS:

01

This well-organized article from the University of Wisconsin-Madison describes many aspects of houseplant care, including location, watering, winter care, fertilization, repotting, and more.

<https://hort.extension.wisc.edu/articles/houseplant-care/>

02

This helpful overview of houseplant care not only includes more detailed information on things like drainage, problem-solving, and pests, but has the option to print a printer-friendly PDF for your convenience!

<https://www.gardenary.com/blog/how-to-overwinter-herbs-indoors>

For more information and resources, visit our website by scanning the QR code below.

