



LIBRARY LETTERS

University of Northern Colorado Libraries

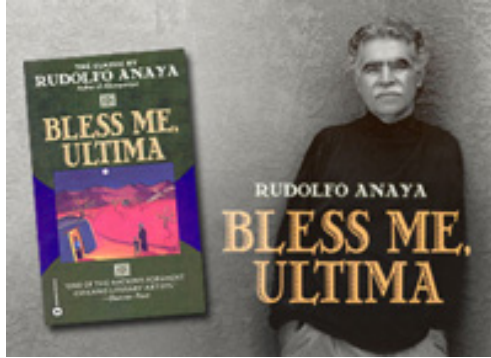
UNIVERSITY of
NORTHERN COLORADO

www.library.unco.edu

JAMES A. MICHENER LIBRARY • HOWARD M. SKINNER MUSIC LIBRARY

Weld County Big Read

During September and October, UNC Libraries joined the Weld Library District in sponsoring "Weld County Reads," a grant-funded program designed to promote reading for pleasure. The program was built around the book *Bless Me, Ultima* by Rudolfo Anaya, and Michener Library served as a distribution point for giving away a number of copies to members of the campus community. Events sponsored by the Libraries included bilingual readings



from the book at the Celebration of Intellectual Freedom during Banned Books Week, the screening of a documentary film about Anaya accompanied by lectures from UNC Professor of History Michael Welsh and UNC Professor of Hispanic Studies Alfonso Rodriguez, and a book discussion group for UNC faculty, staff, and students.

- Lisa Blankenship

Libraries Participate in Embracing Community Forum

By their very nature, libraries reach out to their constituent communities, offering materials in print and online, providing places to study and computer access. The University Libraries are no exception, providing contemporary library users the services, collections, and resources that all academic libraries provide. But the Libraries also reach beyond the traditional boundaries, working on service projects to provide comfort, culture and sustenance to those in need. Frequent readers of *Library Letters* will recall quilts crafted for local women's shelters, landscaping projects, and more.

In late November, the Libraries participated in a forum coordinated by Michael Kimball, current occupant of the Robert O. Schulze Chair in Interdisciplinary Studies. Titled *2007 Embracing Community, Together: Greeley/Weld County and the University of Northern Colorado*, the forum

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brought together campus and community organizations to showcase and encourage collaborative projects. The Libraries' created a poster that featured recent projects, including a letter-writing campaign for troops serving in Iraq, ice cream socials with Greeley children involved in the Community Outreach Program (COPs), and a quilt project donated to a local women's shelter. Many of these projects have been coordinated by the Michener and Music Morale Society (the M&Ms), a volunteer group of library employees who also orchestrate social events within the Libraries. The poster was well-received and those library staff attending the forum enjoyed interacting with the diverse audience of participants. For more information on the Embracing Community, Together forum, visit www.unco.edu/mind/schulze/index.html.

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Music Notes

Skinner Music Library Building is Ten Years Old

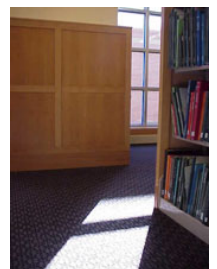
In 2007, the Skinner Music Library building celebrated its ten-year anniversary.



Groundbreaking for the current structure began in 1996. The library was relocated from cramped quarters in Frasier Hall into the Skinner Music Library building in 1997.

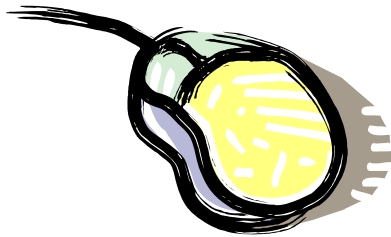
The dedication of the Howard M. Skinner Music Library was held at a ceremony unveiling the new sign in front of the library on May 6, 2005. Addressing those present were UNC President Kay Norton, Dean of Libraries Gary Pitkin, and Dr. Howard Skinner.

For more information, visit the Music Library's website.



Summer Closure Followed up with Survey

The unexpected closure of Michener Library because of remodeling fumes (see Library Letters, 2:1) was an inconvenience to many faculty and students, but many of the 65 respondents to an online survey of their experiences were sympathetic and appreciative of the Libraries' concern for staff and patron health. See the Assessment Committee's report under "About Us" on the Libraries' website for more.



Contact the Friends of the University of Northern Colorado Libraries
 Phone: 970-491-2601
 Visit their website:
library.unco.edu/friends/index.htm

Want to give to the Libraries?
 Visit:
library.unco.edu/about/giving.htm

We welcome your comments, complaints and compliments.
 Contact the Libraries' Administration via email, telephone, or postal mail, with your ideas for Library Letters. See below for contact details.
 Thank you!

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Annual Reception Welcomes New Faculty

Cheese & Chat is an annual University Libraries open house to welcome new and returning campus faculty for the ensuing academic year. It is a chance for faculty to meet their subject librarians, learn more about library services for both faculty and students, and to enjoy chatting with their colleagues at the beginning of the semester. Over 1,000 instructors, faculty and administrators from across campus were invited to Cheese & Chat 2007. Food, beverages, and information packets were enjoyed by attendees. Look for Cheese & Chat in early fall semester of 2008!

- Stephanie Wiegand

Banned Books Week: **F**READ**OM**

Observed since 1982, Banned Books Week is an annual event sponsored by the American Library Association that recognizes the freedom to choose what one reads. This year University Libraries staged a rally in support of the freedom to read and hosted a *Celebration of Intellectual Freedom* lecture. The lecture began with readings in English and Spanish from the banned and challenged book, *Bless Me, Ultima*, and continued with a discussion of intellectual freedom by Jamie LaRue, author of *The New Inquisition: Understanding and Managing Intellectual Freedom Challenges* and director of Douglas County Libraries. University Libraries continued the tradition of hosting readings by students, faculty, and staff from banned or challenged books.

The University's Athletics Department

Exhibit Opening Concludes 2007 Celebration

The permanent exhibit of the James A. Michener Special Collection opened on the mezzanine of Michener Library on October 5th. While the exhibit currently focuses on Michener's writing career, with cases devoted to topics such as Michener's critics and Michener as popular writer, the exhibit was designed so each of the cases is independent of the others. Therefore the contents of any case can be changed to display other material from the collection. The space was also designed for students. Funds are being raised to purchase new furnishing for the mezzanine. Since the space does not have adequate lighting for serious studying, the new furniture will be chosen for comfort.

- Kacy Guill

generously supported the Libraries by allowing the Libraries to feature Klawz, UNC's mascot, in a *READ a Banned Book* poster. In addition to being prominently displayed in Michener Library, a copy of the poster was given to Klawz and to the Athletic Department at the UNC men's basketball game against Johnson & Wales.

- Sarah Naper



Photo: Jerry Hudson
 Mascot Klawz and Professor Michael Mills, faculty representative to the Board of Athletic Control, accept copies of poster from University Librarians, Lyda Ellis and Sarah Naper. Ellis is the Libraries' representative to the Board of Athletic Control.