The Connecticut Historical Society Museum has received a total of $880,000 in grant funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The grants will bolster essential museum and library collections’ restoration and preservation and important state-of-the-art cataloging and access.

Virginia Commonwealth University Libraries has received a $160,700 three-year grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission to expand its Archive of the New Dominion initiative with the creation of a community outreach archivist position. This position will be working with the local African American, Hispanic, gay and lesbian, and women’s archivist communities to record and preserve the work of their organizations and key individuals.

Maryland ArtSource has received $20,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to expand the Web site’s resources on Maryland artists and broaden its reach to include the state’s photographic heritage. This is the first NEA grant to the Johns Hopkins University’s Sheridan Libraries, where Maryland ArtSource, a multi-institutional collaboration, is based. Maryland ArtSource features comprehensive descriptions of art resources in the region and nation, links to art library catalogs, hundreds of artist profiles, and more than 2,000 images from the painting collection of the Maryland Historical Society. The NEA funds will broaden Maryland ArtSource content by supporting research for new artist biographies and the addition of photography as a medium in the Art Collections Online feature of the site.

The Georgia State University Library Special Collections Department has received an $82,000 award for the processing of an extensive collection of Southern nursing association records. The project begins a groundbreaking collaborative effort between two Atlanta repositories: the Auburn Avenue Research Library on African-American Culture and History and project sponsor Georgia State University. More than 250 linear feet of papers from the Georgia Nurses Association, the South Carolina Nurses Association, the Maryland Nurses Association, the Kentucky Nurses Association, and the Grady Nurses Conclave dating from 1907 to 1991 will be preserved during the 18-month enterprise. Library staff will arrange, describe, and make publicly accessible the nurses association manuscript collections held at the two institutions. In addition, bibliographic records will be created in a national database, and a combined guide to the collections will be made available on the Web.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Library and Information Studies, along with the University of Maryland College of Information Studies and its library partners, have received an Institute of Museum and Library Services grant of $347,019. The grant will be used to research supply and demand of subject specialists in research libraries, develop recruiting approaches, and create and test a curricular structure responsive to the future needs of libraries and librarians. The data will be gathered on a national basis, and the project will develop replicable recruitment and curriculum models.

Ed. note: Send your news to: Grants & Acquisitions, C&RL News, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611-2795; e-mail: agalloway@ala.org.
Acquisitions

A rare 1526 edition of St. Thomas Aquinas’ lecture on the Epistles of Paul, Sancti Thome de Aquino Ordinis Predicatorum Super Epistolas Pauli Commentaria Preclarissima, has been acquired by Marquette University. The book, donated by William and Connie Warren of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, has the bookplate and 1642 signature of Sir Robert Throckmorton, First Baronet of Coughton, the donors’ ancestor.

The archival collections of James P. Johnson, the pioneering African American stride pianist and composer, have been donated to Rutgers University Libraries’ Institute of Jazz Studies (IJS). The collection represents all aspects and eras of Johnson’s career, and comprises music manuscripts, published piano solos and sheet music, photographs, a piano roll, concert programs, news clippings, and many other items. The music manuscripts, which form the bulk of the collection, offer new insights into Johnson’s work as a composer of what he considered his “serious music,” including complete symphonic scores of “Harlem Symphony,” “American Symphonic Suite-St. Louis Blues,” “Dreamy Kid” (with libretto by playwright Eugene O’Neill) and “Jazzaime,” a piano concerto.

Two previously unrecorded Sarah Orne Jewett manuscripts have been donated to Bowdoin College by a private collector. The short stories, bound in separate volumes, were originally drafted for the Bacheller Newspaper Syndicate, which distributed works for publication principally in the northeastern United States. A Dark Night first appeared in the Philadelphia Press in serialization during April 1895. A Village Patriot was purchased by the Syndicate in 1896 and was published in the Boston Evening Transcript (July 3, 1896) and, a day later, in the New York Times. Jewett (1849–1909), regarded by many as the prominent voice of a bygone New England sentimentality, became the first woman to receive an honorary degree from Bowdoin.

The papers of Richard Foreman, playwright and director, have been acquired by the Fales Collection of New York University’s Bobst Library. Foreman is the artistic director of the nonprofit Ontological-Hysteric Theater, which he founded in 1968. The Richard Foreman papers consist of manuscripts, photographs, press materials, scripts, set designs, video, film and audio elements from productions, lighting designs, and all other aspects of the production of Foreman’s plays. In total, there are over 35 linear feet of materials, including hundreds of audiovisual tapes. Among the items in the collection are the 2001 original script from the play Now that Communism is Dead, My Life Feels Empty; photo documentation from 2000 for Bad Boy Nietzsche; and drafts and stage directions for Rhoda in Potatoland, 1975.

The Samuel Bloom World War I Archive has been donated to the Joseph M. Bruccoli Great War Collection at the University of South Carolina’s Thomas Cooper Library. The collection was donated by Bloom’s sons. Bloom (1895–1976), of New York, served in the American Expeditionary Force from 1918 to 1919. The collection includes both sides of Bloom’s correspondence with his family during and immediately after his service in France, letters from friends at City College, diaries, photographs, items from his period of post-war study at the University of Montpelier, and contemporary guidebooks.

The papers of the Russian-American poet Joseph Brodsky, winner of the Nobel prize in literature in 1987 and poet laureate of the United States (1991–92), have been acquired by the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University. The archive includes more than 6,000 pages of autographed and typed manuscripts in Russian and English. The evolution of Brodsky’s poems and prose works is further documented by thousands of additional pages of photocopied typescripts and proofs containing variants, corrections, and annotations.