Rio Hondo College has received $20,000 from Verizon to fund “Children’s Story Time @ Rio Hondo College: A Campus Collaboration,” a collaboration between Rio Hondo College Library and the Rio Hondo College Child Development Department and Child Development Center/Lab School. “Children’s Story Time @ Rio Hondo College” will teach students how to identify and use the children’s learning resources provided by the Rio Hondo College Library. These resources include books, puppets, and felt board stories. The library is working with Child Development Department instructors to select story time materials and educate students. In coordinating the Verizon grant, librarian Monique Delatte developed and taught classes that focused on subjects such as selecting story time books, developing activities to enhance the stories shared at story time, discovering art through children’s literature, and coordinating opportunities to volunteer with children in the community. The grant also funded a Very Hungry Caterpillar-themed carpet and matching child-sized furniture setting.

University of Pittsburgh School of Information Sciences and Health Sciences Library System were awarded a $991,311 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to support the creation of a post-master’s health sciences librarian certificate program to help address a national need for librarians and information managers in the health sciences. The 15-credit program provides a focused curriculum addressing current issues in health sciences librarianship and is offered online to lend working students flexibility. University of Pittsburgh’s program will prepare students for positions in health sciences libraries in academic medical centers, hospitals, public health agencies, research institutes, and other health care settings.

Acquisitions

A collection of illustrator Edward Gorey’s (1925–2000) materials have been donated to Keene State College’s Mason Library. The collection consists of more than 60 items, including books, magazines, and broadsides. Gorey is best known for his gothic style illustration in black-and-white, and his numerous children’s books, although he did publish adult books, as well. He published works under his own name and also under many playful pseudonyms. Some of his most famous works are The Doubtful Guest (1957) and The Guilded Bat (1966).

The papers of Peter Maas (1929–2001), journalist and author, have been acquired by Columbia University Libraries. A native New Yorker, Maas came to public attention in the 1960s as an investigative reporter and one of the first representatives of the “new journalism,” a movement that included Hunter Thompson, Gay Talese, and Tom Wolfe. The new journalism introduced the techniques of fiction into reporting and developed a unique hybrid style of journalism. Maas’ big break as a reporter came when he obtained access through the FBI to Mafia hitman, Joe Valachi in the 1960s. Although plagued by lawsuits and controversy, Maas’ interviews with Valachi eventually saw light in 1969 as The Valachi Papers, a popular book that also had great critical acclaim. Maas was able to trump the success of the Valachi book with Serpico (1973), his account of the New York City detective who blew the whistle on rampant police corruption. Both books were made into movies. Maas is the author of more than 12 books, including an account of one woman’s war against state government corruption, two exposés of government spying as well as another book on organized crime, Underboss (1997). The Maas Papers include his correspondence files, published and unpublished manuscripts, notes, and printed matter.

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