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Among Friends Library Newsletter

Library and Archives

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Spring 2022

## Among Friends Spring 2022 Vol 22 No 2

Friends of the Bethel University Library

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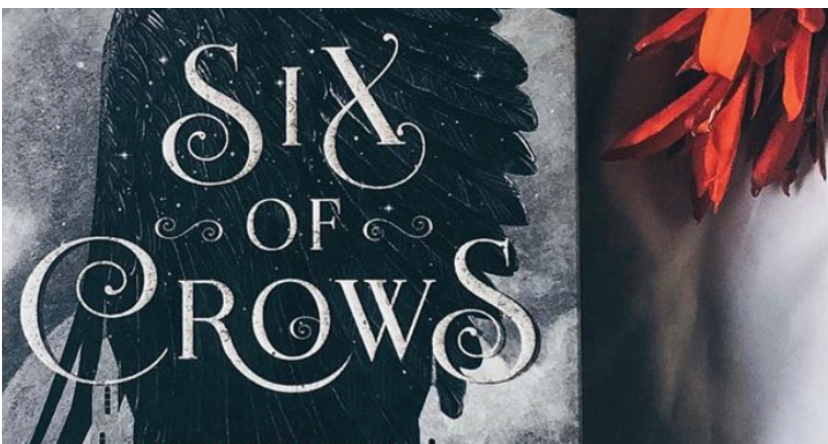
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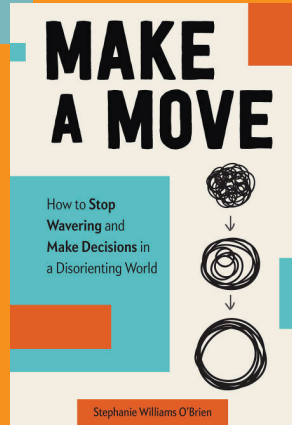
## NEW BOOKS FROM THE FRIENDS



"With extraordinary honesty and humor, Erin French's incredible memoir takes us on a profoundly personal journey through her highest highs and her lowest lows. It was her love of cooking and bringing people joy that gave her the strength to build the life she'd always dreamed of. I'll never forget this book and neither will you."  
—Ina Garten

"The way most Christians talk about God's will makes it feel like a burdensome search for a mysterious holy grail. Luckily, Stephanie Williams O'Brien is not like most Christians. *Make a Move* is a practical and powerful guide for those who are wading through uncertainty and in need of divine direction."

—Jonathan Merritt  
Contributing writer for "The Atlantic" and author of *Learning to Speak God from Scratch*

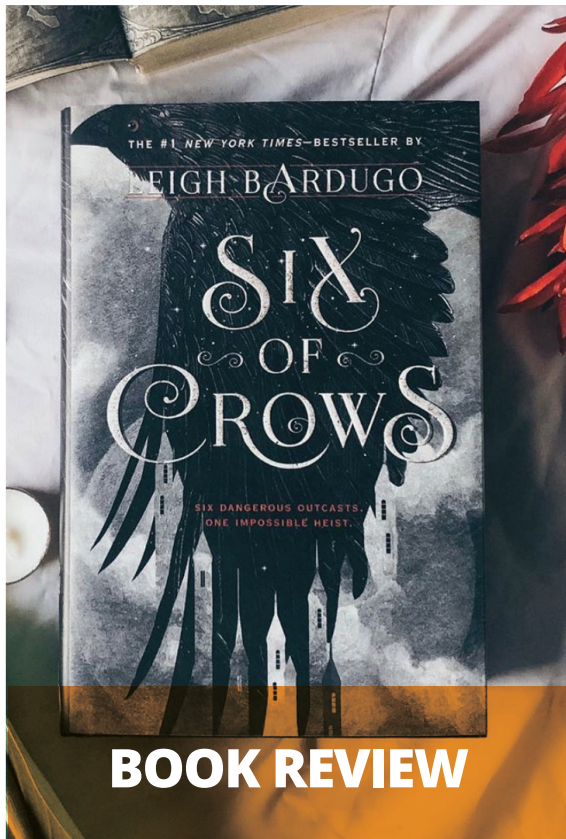
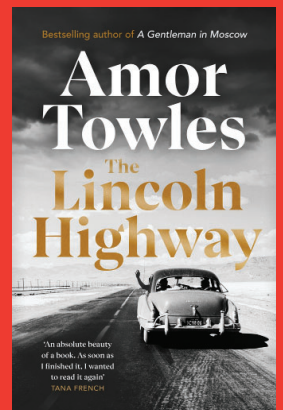


"Welcome to the enormous pleasure that is *The Lincoln Highway*, a big book of camaraderie and adventure in which the miles fly by and the pages turn fast. Set over the course of ten riveting days, the story of these four boys unfolds,

refolds, tears, and is taped back together.

When you aren't actually reading the book, you'll be worrying about the characters, so you might as well stay in your chair and keep reading."

—Ann Patchett  
Author of *The Dutch House*



### BOOK REVIEW

*Six of Crows* is a gritty blend of the heist, revenge, and fantasy genres set in a city called Ketterdam (loosely based on Dutch Republic-era Amsterdam).

The plot follows a crew of six thieves—each of them bringing their own unique skillset and compelling backstory—as they attempt to free a high value prisoner from an impenetrable military fortress called the Ice Court.

The author masterfully rotates between all six thieves' perspectives as the job unfolds, and unlike many heist and revenge stories in which it is easy to forget that you're rooting for a charismatic protagonist to succeed in committing a crime, *Six of Crows* never really lets you

get completely comfortable with the amorality of its characters. The reader sees just enough of each character's inner monologue to remain sympathetic, but never so much that reservations about their flaws disappear. This is clearly a cast of antiheroes doing what they think they need to do to survive.

The pacing is quick, driven along by the author's affinity for cliffhangers, so much so that if the reader doesn't know that *Six of Crows* is the first book of a duology, coming to the end without the second (*Crooked Kingdom*) already in hand may be a frustrating experience. A very entertaining read.

Scott Kaihoi

Image courtesy of [www.bibliovort.com](http://www.bibliovort.com)



Ma Kouth  
Josh Vana, '23  
Foam, glue, wood, cardboard, wire, plastic wrap, paint, tissue paper  
2021

## WHY IS THERE A DRAGON IN THE LIBRARY?

It's not every day that you walk into a library and see a 10-foot tall dragon. Yet, that's what you could find in the BUL for four months this winter!

It all started in early October, when Senior Art major Josh Vana, politely emailed the library asking if we would be willing to consider hosting a dragon sculpture he wanted to create as part of a directed study with University Professor of Art, Ken Steinbach.

We asked Josh to present his idea to our gallery team for consideration. He impressed the team with three smaller clay studies and a

proposal of where in the library he would display his piece.

We walked the space with him and suggested the footprint he could fill. When we checked in with him later in the semester, we found his plan had grown and that we would be blessed to display a one-story masterpiece.

*Ma Kouth* was installed in time for December finals week and watched over the library until mid-April, to the delight of students, staff, and faculty.

Thanks to Josh and his dragon for providing a dragon delight to brighten our winter!

### Learn More About It

Josh Vana, University Professor of Art Ken Steinbach, and Dr. Jim Lewis, Religious Studies shared more about the culture and history of dragon imagery in a Primetime presentation this spring. You can learn more by watching it! Find it in the Community Video Collection in the BU Digital Library.

<https://cdm16120.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p15186coll14/id/894/rec/1>

## A NOTE ABOUT THIS ISSUE

One of the first things I noticed when I first stepped into the Bethel Library was a tall obelisk sculpture in the atrium. It's a lovely, glowing tower filled with texture and shapes and color.

When you step into the library today, the obelisk, which I now know is called *Metanoia* is still on display, and if you were to further explore, you would find wonderful, colorful, interesting art within a few feet of anywhere that you stand.

The Bethel Library has built a vibrant relationship with the Bethel Art Department through the years and with several large walls to work with, have become a gallery for many pieces from the Bethel Permanent Art Collection.

If you haven't figured it out yet, this issue of *Among Friends* is all about the Library's art. We hope you'll visit us and explore the beauty we have to share!

Ann Gannon



# LIBRARY ART ON DISPLAY

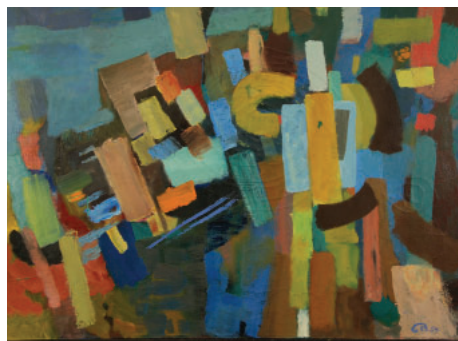
The Bethel University Library is the home to a large selection of the Bethel Permanent Art Collection which includes faculty and student work, as well as the work of notable artists from throughout the U.S.

Several years ago, the Library created a gallery space that, in collaboration with Michelle Westmark Wingard (Bethel's Art Gallery Director) allows us to exhibit curated shows of Bethel community artists, the History Center and more.



Emmundecio' la lita / The Verse Silenced  
Christina Gutierrez  
Acrylic paint on canvas, 2005  
Raspberry Monday Performance Award  
Bethel Permanent Art Collection

Christina was a Library student worker  
from August 2002 – May 2005

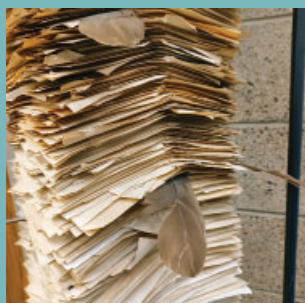


Masses of a Similar Size  
Cameron Booth  
Oil paint on canvas, 1954  
42" x 54"  
Bethel Permanent Art Collection



Sand Basket #1  
James Henkel  
Gelatin Silver Print, 1999  
24" x 24"  
Bethel Permanent Art Collection

Four Seasons -Winter  
Wendy Red Star  
Archival pigment print on  
Sunset Fiber rag, 2006  
21" x 24"  
Bethel Permanent Art Collection



At The Bindery (Detail)  
Ken Steinbach  
Bethel University Professor of Art  
Wood, paper, feathers, 1995  
82.75" x 13.75"  
Bethel Permanent Art Collection



Spoonbridge & Cherry (Color) –  
Minneapolis Sculpture Garden  
Jay Rasmussen  
Photograph on aluminium, 2014  
Gift of the Friends of the BU Library



**(LEFT) THE ST. JOHN'S BIBLE:  
PRINTS AND BOOKS FROM THE  
BETHEL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY  
COLLECTION  
EXHIBIT, FALL 2021**

tion

**Verdure**  
Cameron Booth  
Oil paint on canvas, 1957  
60" x 72"  
Bethel Permanent Art Collection



**Akwaaba**  
African Wood Carving  
Ghana, West Africa  
Gift of Richard and Donna Peterson  
Lifetime Friends of the BU Library



**Metanoia (Detail)**

**Metanoia**  
Bilhenry Walker, Charlie Girsch  
and Students  
Resin, wood, cement, neon  
lamps, 2004  
Bethel Permanent Art Collection



**Land/Sky Interplay 20 Bands**  
Dale Johnson  
Oil on canvas, 1978  
Bethel Permanent Art Collection



**Location (N. by NW. Left and  
Right Panel) Diptych**  
Wayne Roosa  
Acrylic and spray enamel  
on wood, 2014  
Gift of the Friends of  
the BU Library



# LET THERE BE LIGHT

An art critic once remarked that when Rembrandt was young and cocky, his portrait subjects were dramatically lit from the outside, but as he got older and wiser, his subjects became lit from within.

My alma mater back in Canada had as its motto the Latin phrase *Fiat Lux*, which translates as “let there be light,” drawn, of course, from the words of the Almighty in Genesis 1:3.

## Fiat Lux! Let there be light!

I can’t say that I gave even a moment’s thought to that phrase while a student, but on later reflection it has made more and more sense to me, as an image of the learning, enlightenment, illumination, etc. that is essential to living wisely and well.

Even less could I have predicted ending up in a vocation which is — in every way — shaped and framed by this theme: whether consciously or not, people use libraries because they want to be enlightened, i.e., they are curious about something.

A little further into my twenties, I made a point of noting this verse from the Psalms:

**“For with You is the fountain of life; in Your light we see light ....”**

Psalms 36:9

Possibly the idea was beginning to dawn on me that this is what libraries were really about, and

that this would be a career worth exploring.

Even many years later, it still amazes me how libraries can serve as a point of convergence, where human curiosity constantly intersects with the wealth of learning — insight — from both the past and the present. All the best resources our library has to offer — technology, personnel, collections, visual art, all of them — are dedicated to that pursuit.

Amidst all that keeps us busy it’s easy to take for granted the spatial and physical dimension of our libraries — for example, the visual art on temporary or permanent display — as simply “what’s on the

walls,” rather than as an integral part of our learning spaces. I’m deeply grateful for what we have in the Library and the History Center, the generosity and foresight that brought it here, and for the creativity expressed in how these materials enhance our Library.

An art critic once remarked that when Rembrandt was young and cocky, his portrait subjects were dramatically lit from the outside, but as he got older and wiser, his subjects became lit from within: may our Library continue to foster just such learning, and illumination of the heart and mind.

David Stewart, Director of Libraries



Self-Portrait with Two Circles  
Rembrandt van Rijn, 1665  
Iveagh Bequest, Kenwood House,  
London, England

## WELCOME LINDSEY



Lindsey is currently reading  
"Project Hail Mary" by Andy Weir

The BUL is excited to welcome Lindsey Long as our new Public Services Manager as of March 21!

A former Library student worker, Lindsey worked all her college years in the BUL. Her connections to the Library never really ended as she has served on the Friends of the BU Library Board since graduating.

"I have always loved the environment of libraries, and the Bethel Library in particular."

She came back to the BUL after working in public accounting for several years and

"was excited about the possibility of coming back to a place that impacted me so much in college."

In her short time as their manager, she has particularly enjoyed getting to know and work with the current student workers.

In her spare time, Lindsey enjoys reading, walking her dog, crossword puzzles, paint-by-numbers, traveling, and spending time with friends.

## FOOTNOTES



### 01. So Long!

We said good-bye to Lauren De Cleene, Public Services Manager, at the end of January.

We're grateful to Lauren for her contributions to the Rapido ILL project, her excellent mentorship of our student workers, and her leadership through the Covid-19 shut-down and reopening.

We wish Lauren all the best for her next endeavours!

### 02. Happy Retirement!

Earleen Warner, Research and Instruction Librarian, is retiring at the end of May after 19 years of service!

Earleen shared her many talents in service on the Friends of the BU Library Board, with the Zero Cost Course Resources initiative, as the general library liaison to the CAPS/GS program, and her expertise and teaching of the APA Style citation format to scores of students. We'll miss you!

### 03. Staff Retreat

In January, the BUL staff held a two day staff retreat. The first day — a work day — included tours of the Bethel/Converge Archives and a talk with a guest archivist from the University of St. Thomas.

The second day was spent touring the Hmong Cultural Center and Hmong Village market in St. Paul, thanks to a gift from the Friends of the BU Library.





### Address Service Requested



[www.bethel.edu/library/friends-university-library/](http://www.bethel.edu/library/friends-university-library/)



Library

3900 Bethel Drive - Saint Paul, MN 55112-6999  
Email [bul-friends@bethel.edu](mailto:bul-friends@bethel.edu)  
Website [www.bethel.edu/library](http://www.bethel.edu/library)

The Friends of the Bethel University Library enhance the quality of the library collections, facilities, and services by encouraging gifts, awareness of library resources, and participation in library programs.

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Newsletter: Ann Gannon