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Booth Library

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Recommended Citation
Booth Library’s Web Resources Committee is pleased to debut a completely new version of the library website. Not only has the homepage (seen above) been revamped, but all of the secondary pages have also been updated and improved. The primary goal of the redesign has been to improve the library experience for our users. This new site is the culmination of over a year of assessment and usability research. Focus groups, surveys, and card-sorting exercises were utilized to receive feedback from a wide range of library users including students, faculty, and EIU staff members.

As more and more published materials transition to digital formats, we continue to work diligently to provide a platform that delivers these materials in the most user-friendly way possible. We are confident that users will like both the looks and usability of our new site, and we enthusiastically invite user feedback. Options include using the “site feedback” survey available on the homepage, sending us an email at library@eiu.edu, calling (217) 581-6072, or just stopping in! Please let us know how we are doing and how we can keep improving.

In order to make the transition as convenient as possible for those familiar with our current site, we introduced the new site at the beginning of this semester as a “beta” test. Those interested in trying the new site can simply click on the green “try our new website” button at the top of the current homepage. Once there, users will find a fully functional new site with selection tabs for the most common searches. Additional new features include a dynamic hours display that shows our open hours for the current day and for the next two days, and easy-to-find links for renewing materials, borrowing and downloading MyMediaMall materials, and off-campus user authentication.

The “Research by Subject” pages have also been completely redone, providing easy access to databases, e-books, journals, reference sources, library guides, and web resources — all arranged under broad subject categories. New sources of information about the library and its collections have also been introduced. For more information on these, see the story on page two. The new version of the website will replace the current site in mid-January, during the semester break.
Booth Library Launches *Reference News* and *GovNews*

At the start of the fall semester, Booth Library launched two new information services: *Reference News* and *GovNews*. Since August of this year, Booth’s reference librarians have been contributing content to *Reference News*. Among the postings are reviews of reference resources, booklists, “virtual displays,” and other information pieces that showcase the resources and research tools available at Booth Library.

Recent *Reference News* posts include booklists on 1960s New York Times bestsellers (to complement the library’s current *Revolutionary Decade* exhibition), travel fiction, theatre arts and the craft of acting, and Rachel Carson and the beginnings of the modern environmental movement.

Another information service, *GovNews*, was also launched in August. *GovNews* shares interesting and topical stories featuring information found in the Booth Library Government Documents collections. We hope this service will enhance your knowledge and assist you in utilizing important and often hard-to-find information published by the many agencies of the State of Illinois and the Federal Government.

*Reference News* and *GovNews* can both be found by clicking the *InfoBooth: Library News* link on the current library website. On the new site (launching in mid-January), they will be found in the Resources and News menu, on the lower left of the homepage. New posts to these services are also announced on Booth Library’s Facebook and Twitter feeds.

**Quanah and Cynthia Ann Parker: A Man in Two Worlds and a Woman of Two Worlds**

The saga of Cynthia Ann Parker, born circa 1827 near present-day Charleston, and her son Quanah Parker, the last Comanche chief in America, is well-known in Texas history.

But the Parker story has its roots right here in East Central Illinois. Join Booth Library during the spring semester of 2015 to learn more about this fascinating family through a variety of related exhibits and programs.

Scholars from all disciplines and community members interested in participating or proposing a program for this series are asked to contact Beth Heldebrandt at emheldebrandt@eiu.edu or (217) 581-6064.
Many entertaining and enlightening events have been held so far in Booth Library’s fall-semester exhibition. Here we present images from just a few of them. It has been a wonderful time so far — don’t miss out on what is still to come! At the end of the semester, the library will post an online photo archive of images from Revolutionary Decade events.

**Revolutionary Decade Highlights**
Revolutionary Decade: Reflections on the 1960s
Exhibits Are Located Throughout the Library

New Online Research Guides
Booth’s librarians have developed a new series of research guides. They are available through our current website under the “Help” menu; on the new homepage they are listed under “Resources.” To find guides by subject, select one from the menu:

![Research Guides](image)

Upcoming Fall Semester Events

| Jazz in the 1960s: Divergence of Styles | Wednesday, Nov. 12 | Repeat of presentations by Dr. Key and Dr. Robertson (at left) |
| Dr. Andrew Cheatham, assistant professor of trumpet | 3 p.m. | Room 4440 |

| Reflections on Sixties Music | Wednesday, Nov. 12 | A Phoenix Rising: American Indian Activism in the 1960s |
| Dr. Newton Key, professor of history | 4 p.m. | Room 4440 |

| Global Influences on the American Pop Charts of the Sixties and Influential British Film Scores of the 1960s | Room 4440 |
| Dr. Jemmie Robertson, assistant professor of music |

| Reception for exhibit: From Pop Art to Op Art | Thursday, Nov. 13 | 1960s Restaurant and Food Trends: Modern Day Influences |
| Mattoon High School students Janahn Kolden and Rob Niemerg, art teachers | 6:30 p.m. | Room 4440 |

| Reflections on Sixties Music | Thursday, Dec. 2 | Tuesday, Dec. 2 |
| Global Influences on the American Pop Charts of the Sixties and Influential British Film Scores of the 1960s | 4 p.m. | Room 4440 |

Booth Wins Library Innovative Award
Booth Library is the recipient of the 2014 Illinois Library Association Demco Library Innovative Award. This award recognizes a library’s achievement in planning and implementing an innovative or creative program or service that has had a measurable impact on its users. The award is sponsored by Demco, one of the nation’s leaders for library supplies.

The award was presented at the Illinois Library Association Annual Conference in Springfield on October 14. Specifically, the award recognizes Booth Library’s 2013 program, America’s Music: A Film History of Our Popular Music from Blues to Bluegrass to Broadway. The program was funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Library Association and the Tribeca Film Institute.

Booth Library greatly expanded the scope of the original program, reaching out to educate and entertain the larger area community through a wide variety of unique programming offered both on the EIU campus and in six communities in the region. Further information on the program and award can be found on the Booth Library website.