A YEAR IN THE LIBRARY

Snell Library is truly the heart and hub of Northeastern’s Boston campus. From workshops in our state-of-the-art recording and 3D printing studios, to helpful research consultations and, stress-relieving fun activities for finals week, the library provides a full range of support for the university community. We are committed to supporting the research life of the university in every way possible.

2ND ANNUAL GIVING DAY – AN INCREDIBLE 24 HOURS!

Snell Library far exceeded last year’s NU Giving Day efforts, raising $11,140+ from more than 200 donors...and still counting! Not only does this represent 5 times more than the number of gifts received last year, but we also unlocked the Club Snell Challenge, receiving an additional $500 to support the Dean’s Innovation Fund.

Thank you to all the alumni, parents, spouses, partners, friends, faculty and staff whose enthusiasm and generosity is making a significant impact at our library.
The library is the heart of the university, and nowhere is this more so than at Northeastern. Snell Library not only sits at the center of our campus, but it serves as a hub of activity, collaboration, and study.

It’s thrilling to watch this hub evolve to meet the needs of students and faculty in the twenty-first century. In addition to providing an ever-expanding array of resources, from unique archival materials to millions of digital articles, books, audio, and video, our library houses recording studios, visualization labs, maker spaces, brainstorming rooms, and other sites for unbounded creativity and group projects.

Indeed, Northeastern University has recognized that the greatest problems and opportunities we face as a society will require us to work together to develop breakthrough innovations and solutions. We believe that the library is the glue for those efforts, providing space, services, and expertise that join researchers from different disciplines with sources of knowledge and data into unified and potent initiatives.

It is a joy to walk into the library every day and encounter something new: an undergraduate with an innovative idea on a whiteboard, graduate students collaborating to forge new ideas in their fields, and faculty interpreting images and the written word, with all of them receiving constant help from our top-notch staff.

Our library is a place of constant renewal, profound thought, and exciting progress. I know you share that excitement, and hope you will join me in supporting this essential institution.
Advancing Knowledge with Science and Culture

INVESTIGATING NORTHEASTERN’S ONLY MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPT

INTERVIEW WITH PROFESSOR ERIKA BOECKELER, LAURA PACKARD, AND ZAKARY GANHADEIRO

This Spring, students coordinated an X-ray fluorescence (XRF) analysis on Northeastern’s only Medieval manuscript, the Dragon Prayer Book through a collaboration with the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. This is what they had to say about the experience.

What inspired you to take a closer look at Dragon Prayer Book?
We were inspired by the mystery of the manuscript; very little was known about it before we began our research. As Northeastern’s only medieval manuscript, the book is an original object which has become a hub of interdisciplinary research.

What did you discover about the Dragon Prayer Book via XRF analysis?
The analysis mostly confirmed what we suspected about the inks—that they were fairly typical for a southern German late medieval manuscript... (This) led us to consider investigating the geologic composition of the mines around Regensburg, Germany, where we think the manuscript may have originated.

Why is collaboration important when doing research in 2018?
There are so many different kinds of scholarly questions we have about this manuscript... We need a diverse team of experts and different tools... to piece together this knowledge puzzle: experts on bindings, on late fifteenth century music cultures, on ink composition... to name just a few.

How did the Library impact you/your research?
Giordana Mecagni, NU’s archivist has promoted student research on this manuscript. She found the funds to digitize it, sent it to restoration, and has granted permission to perform scientific analysis. Library staff (have) been incredibly supportive and they truly made the collaboration with the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum possible.

SCANNING THE PAST FOR FUTURE ANSWERS
(above), Northeastern Professor Erika Boeckeler chooses what page to analyze, (upper left) the Dragon Prayer Book in its specialized book cradle, (center left) Jess Chloros, Associate Objects Conservator at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum begins the X-ray Fluorescence analysis, (lower left) Students Zakary Ganhadeiro (left) and Karl Slavatore (right) examine the results of the analysis.
Who knew that looking for a book could lead to the recording of a full-length album?

This was the experience of Tirelle Barron, a New York based artist majoring in design at Northeastern. As Tirelle was perusing Snell Library, he walked into Snell Library’s Recording Studio, located on the second floor. The studio’s laid back aesthetic and professional grade equipment immediately clicked with Barron, leading him to record his Fourth studio album *Blossom* in its entirety at Snell Library.

Tirelle’s studio moniker, The Noise Above, reflects his eclectic taste in music and a drive to remap the sonic boundaries of the traditional three-and-a-half-minute track. But he somehow finds a way to keep it all in perspective “I do it just to have fun,” choosing not to focus on the glamor and relishing the grind. Barron’s influences run the gamut, from soul legend Stevie Wonder and avant-garde jazz composer Sun Ra, to hip-hop superstar Pharell Williams and rapper Kanye West.

**STUDENT RECORDS**

**FOURTH ALBUM AT SNELL LIBRARY RECORDING STUDIOS**

“**At the center of Northeastern’s favorite study spot, Snell Library serves as not only the ultimate resource for academic help, but is also brimming with opportunities for students to de-stress from the anxiety of exam season.”**  
–Melissa Wells, AMD, CJ’21

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**CREATIVITY BLOSSOMS IN SNELL**

The cover of Tirelle Barron’s fourth album, *Blossom*, shown in the above right, was recorded in the library recording studio.
On Monday, April 23 – five years and a week after tragedy struck Boston – faculty, staff, students and members of the community gathered to share reflections on remembering traumatic events and processing grief through collections and digital archives. The event commemorated five years of collecting objects and memories and featured a panel of scholars whose work has been grounded in collecting and preserving so-called “grief archives.” Participants included: Dan Cohen, Northeastern University, Ashley Maynor, New York University, Elizabeth Maddock Dillon, Northeastern University, Kristi Girdharry, Johnson and Wales University, and Jim McGrath, Brown University.

Elizabeth Maddock Dillon, the project’s principal investigator, highlighted the collective nature of the archive. These aspects, she said, along with the desire to enable the community to reclaim the narrative, drove the project’s name, “Our Marathon.”

“Our Marathon: the Boston Bombing Digital Archive,” is a project of the NU Lab for Texts, Maps and Networks, the College of Social Sciences and Humanities, and the Northeastern University Libraries. The archive is viewable at marathon.library.northeastern.edu

“I grew up reading the Boston Globe and as it was for me, so it was for millions of people an incredible record of Boston’s history and culture” – Dean Dan Cohen

THE BOSTON GLOBE ARCHIVE: 120 YEARS OF BOSTON HISTORY

A vast collection, consisting of over a million photographs, unprinted negatives, and 120+ years of newspaper clippings from the Boston Globe, the Boston Herald, the Boston Phoenix and other area and national newspapers is now housed in the Archives and Special Collections at Northeastern University Libraries.

The collection will be open to all researchers with wide-ranging interests, from Red Sox statistics and legislative debates to Melnea Cass’ relentless pursuit of racial and economic justice.

Former Northeastern Distinguished Professor of History William M. Fowler, Jr. observed, “Since 1872 the Boston Globe has observed and recorded the history of this community. Its voice has been heard in times of depression and war; its pages have recounted moments of joy and sadness… This collection is a powerful prism through which we can examine and reflect on the past, and by such reflection we can come to a better understanding of our own identity.”

CO-OPS AT THE GLOBE

Photo of a Northeastern co-op student and journalists at the Boston Globe from circa 1935, preserved in the University’s archives.
Since Fall 2014 the Neighborhood Matters series has engaged Northeastern students, faculty, and staff as well as members of our surrounding communities in dialogue about community activism and the areas of Boston that Northeastern students call home.

Screenings this year addressed The Bay State Banner, an independent newspaper that has served Boston’s Roxbury neighborhood and African-American community for more than 50 years, cultural perseverance in the Wampanoag community in Mashpee Massachusetts, and how transportation has changed the fabric of the city including key flashpoints: “I-695,” a highway rejected by community activists in the 1970s; the “Big Dig”, one of the nation’s largest infrastructure projects ever completed; and the “Silver Line.”

Neighborhood Matters events have provided excellent way to connect Northeastern students to activists and community members in our neighborhoods.

This year’s series was produced in partnership with the Northeastern Center for the Arts, Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion, Department of City and Community Affairs, and Department of History.

These events have provided an important way for Northeastern students to meet and learn from activists and community members in our neighborhoods.

Based in the Snell Library, the Boston Research Center will leverage Northeastern’s expertise at the cross-section of data-driven disciplines, including journalism, network science, and the digital humanities, and will draw on unique archival resources and data sets. Northeastern students, scholars, and outside collaborators will work together to combine historical material and contemporary data in an effort to better understand the past and envision the future.

“We deeply appreciate the Mellon Foundation’s generous support for this effort,” said Dean Dan Cohen. “As a city that has been evolving over hundreds of years, Boston is incredibly rich in both history and data. We look forward to the insight that will come out of synthesizing the past and the present.”
We appreciate and express our gratitude to all donors who have supported Snell Library. Your name is now (temporarily due to construction) included on our scrolling Honor Roll located on the second floor kiosk and proudly displayed in our lobby. Your gift has a significant impact on current and future generations of Northeastern students and we are grateful. Thank you.

**60 YEARS FULL CIRCLE**

**Eleanor Goldman Lurensky**  
CSH, CPS ’47 joined alumni and parents in Naples, FL to welcome Dean Dan Cohen to the NU community and to learn about his vision for the 21st century library.  
Eleanor was particularly delighted to hear news about the partnership between The Boston Globe and NU’s Libraries and plans to launch the Boston Research Center. Quite coincidentally, her very first co-op experience, over six decades ago, was at The Globe where she worked in the “morgue”, aka archives. Eleanor was “in heaven” - a reading enthusiast surrounded by hundreds of newspaper clippings. She lost herself in the articles and stories housed in the very same file cabinets now in Snell Library’s basement - awaiting display and digitization.  
She believes the collection, consisting of 120+ years of clippings, 1M+ photos and 30 years of unpublished negatives, will help students stretch their minds, expand, and enhance their understanding of Boston’s history - social movements, civic and political rights, and urban and environmental justice.  
Eleanor is proud of her Northeastern education and is encouraging her grandson to attend. Her advice to him and all NU students? “Read, read, read! Read everything!” Great advice from Eleanor (and William Faulker, too.)

**43 STUDY ROOMS**  
2,117,962 SNELL ENTRIES

**INCREASE THE IMPACT OF YOUR GIFT**

What do Google, Chevron and American Express have in common? They are the top three Matching Gift Companies! Hundreds of employers sponsor matching gift programs and will match charitable contributions made by their employees. Some companies also match gifts made by retirees and/or spouses. To find out if your company has a matching gift policy, please visit: www.matchinggifts.com/neu and enter your employer’s name. If your company is eligible, simply request a matching gift form, complete, and send with your gift (or note online). We will do the rest. The impact of your gift to Snell Library may be doubled, or possibly tripled, generating additional funds for Northeastern students. Thank you!
ALUMNI READING ROOM
This beautiful reserved space is available for alumni to conduct personal research, relax, while visiting campus, attend special functions, and network with other alumni.

BORROWING PRIVILEGES
Borrow books, videos, CDs, and other library materials with your NU Alumni ID card. NU Alumni ID cards are available at Husky Card Services in 4 Speare Commons.

VISIT THE UNIVERSITY ARCHIVE
The University Archives and Special Collections contain historical records and publications of Northeastern University as well as from local social justice organizations and Boston urban development projects. Browse our collection of digitized Northeastern University course catalogs and yearbooks from the 1920s through the 2000s.

ONLINE RESOURCES AND DATABASES
Register to gain remote access to a selection of the library’s online research resources including a number of databases and e-journals.

Inquire at the first floor Help & Information Desk or visit library.northeastern.edu for more information.

SAMPLE OF YOUR GIFT AT WORK

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One hour of Library Student Worker employment

$50
add a book or e-book to our collection

$1000+
Study Carrel

$100
Equipment Support

$250
Computer Software and Media Hardware

70 LIBRARY STAFF
718,297 EBOOKS
2,400 SEATS
262 COMPUTERS
“Nobody graduates from a library, but nobody graduates without one.”

– ANONYMOUS