ANNUAL REPORT 2023
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Public libraries are a critical part of a local community’s fabric. Looking back on all that the Rosenberg Library accomplished in 2023, it is clear that we are continuing to rise to the occasion in providing needed and valued services to Galveston. From supporting early literacy to lifelong learning, bridging the digital divide to preserving and celebrating Galveston history and culture, the Rosenberg is making impacts and connections across the community. The next few pages illustrate the many ways the Rosenberg Library serves Galveston and Galveston County at large.

One exciting accomplishment was the completion of the library’s fourth floor renovations and the opening of Trustees Hall in the historic Rosenberg wing. This beautiful restored space, with features including ornately carved plaster ceilings and a historic, lead-glass skylight, provides a breathtaking hall for showcasing the amazing collections from the Museum and the Galveston and Texas History Center, and for hosting special library programs and events. Trustees Hall opened with the exhibit Faces and Places of Galveston, and will continue to host many traveling and rotating exhibits including the upcoming, semi-permanent exhibit, “The Story of Galveston,” that will delight residents and visitors. We look forward to having you visit the space in the future.

And, speaking of the future, we are in the midst of a comprehensive planning process, working with a consultant team led by Group 4 Architecture to develop Strategic and Facility Master Plans to help Rosenberg Library create Galveston’s “Library of the Future.” The plan will focus our priorities in continuing to develop quality programs and services, and will provide a blueprint for how to reimagine use of the library’s current space and conceptualize new spaces.

The Rosenberg Library continues to be a vital resource for Galveston thanks to the ongoing support of the Board of Directors and Trustees, our donors, our partners, and the community. We are excited about the future of the Library and will continue to provide outstanding and impactful service to the Island.
2023 was an active year for the Friends. Throughout the year, 15-23 volunteers gave hundreds of hours sorting and organizing thousands of books donated by the public or withdrawn from the library.

Boxes of books were donated to nonprofits, retirement/nursing homes, educational organizations, the Little Free Libraries, the Galveston County Jail, and many other places within Galveston County.

Almost 550 of the most valuable books were sold on Amazon, and the rest were either added to the Friend’s Book Shop on the second floor, or provided as special offers to members.

In total, the Friends earned and gifted $72,107.51 to the Rosenberg Library.

We are grateful for all of the incredible volunteers that serve to fulfill our mission. Our contributions to the library would not be possible without the support of our library staff and the Rosenberg Library Trustees, Directors and Administration.

Thank you for another successful year.

Helena Aucoin
President
Friends of Rosenberg Library

**FRIENDS MISSION**

“To support and promote Rosenberg Library as a cultural and educational asset, and to raise money for books, equipment and related materials for the library.”
Connecting with our Community

From left to right, Mike Miller, Janae Pulliam, and Tamara Skillern at Wright Cuney Back to School Fair.
Rosenberg Library works hand-in-hand with local non-profits to help provide for the community and expand awareness of rich library resources. Whether it is by bringing the library and its services to others, or inviting community groups into the library, the Rosenberg Library continues to be a valued community resource.

Presence in the Community
A long line of families wrapped around the Wright Cuney Recreation Center. Turnout was huge for their Back to School Fair, as growing families and rising prices pushed people for solutions. Thanks to a generous donation from Walmart and the work of the Friends of Rosenberg Library and Library Supervisor Tamara Skillern, Rosenberg Library was able to provide approximately 18 large boxes of school supplies and school-age books to families during the fair.

Acts of service like these are one of many ways staff brings the library out to the public. While what’s given may take the form of items, the gift can also be a shared experience. Every May, the Children’s Department invites the families of Summer Reading participants to a special kick off at Moody Gardens at Palm Beach, made possible through Moody Garden’s generosity. In addition to this, the Children’s Department offers families unique, library sponsored programs called Out and Abouts throughout the summer at Galveston locations such as Lasker Park, 61st Street Fishing Pier and Bishop’s Palace.

When community partners hold their own events and drives, the library is often invited to participate! From 2022 into 2023, Rosenberg Library shared information and goodies, and signed people up for library cards at events including the UTMB Community Fair, Galveston College Veteran Resource and Student Fair, Moody Gardens Health and Wellness Fair, Galveston ArtWalk, Galveston’s Own Farmers Market, and the Moody Early Childhood Center Fall Festival.

Community Input
If a Galveston County resident wants to speak with someone from the Social Security office, they have to call, or drive to League City, which is not always feasible. But in 2023, a representative from the Social Security Office personally visited Rosenberg Library to host a free educational series. This was thanks to feedback Adult Program Manager Evelina Williams gained when she reached out to local senior groups. This feedback is just one of many vital pieces of community feedback that produced dozens of programs between 2022 and 2023.

Community Engagement and Communications Coordinator Janae Pulliam surveyed underrepresented groups and the general public as part of the library’s ongoing Strategic Planning process, which will help the library best tailor the library’s building and services to meet the expressed needs of the Galveston area community.

Community Partnerships
As a community hub, libraries reach a wide variety of people. Sometimes that means Rosenberg Library is a location for donations such as the UTMB Resitern Toy Drive and the Future is Us Baby Supply Drive. Sometimes, the library is a place to share public service campaigns from the City of Galveston or United Way. Other times, the library is a place for continuing education like the Early

Equipment Donations
Technology and furniture is kept updated and refreshed regularly at the library. When that happens, the previous equipment is sometimes still useful. Rosenberg Library offers these gently used items to local groups such as the Family Service Center of Galveston County, Ball High School, Helen Hall Library, the Galveston Historical Foundation, Satori School, and the Children’s Center. Thanks to new hire Keightlyn Morris, the system was revamped in 2023 to make it easier for organizations to obtain objects they need.
**Childhood Literacy Workshop** the Children’s Department holds for local preschool workers. Most commonly, the library provides safe and convenient rooms for non-profits to meet on a regular basis.

In each case, it means working hand in hand with local organizations to provide joint services, cross promote services, or bring enriching experiences to communities.

Reaching its sixth year of partnership in 2023, **Circulation staff** members distributed 575 meals to families through the Galveston County Food Bank’s **Kidz Pacz program**. Rosenberg Library is proud to be among the top distributing host sites in Galveston County and looks forward to continuing this important partnership throughout the coming summers.

Partnerships throughout the year include, but are not limited to: Moody Gardens, Galveston Independent School District, Odyssey Academy, Artist Boat, Compudopt, City of Galveston, Nia Cultural Center, The Future is Us, Texas A&M, Galveston Historical Foundation, Bank of America, Galveston Island State Park, the Resource Crisis Center, and the Social Security Office.

**Extension Services**

Although there are many people who cannot physically come to the library, it is important that they still have access to the same materials everyone else does.

As part of the **Galveston County Library System**, Rosenberg Library delivers books and other library items to homebound residents all across Galveston County, including nursing homes and individual residents. Participation and interest in the program grew significantly in 2023, jumping an additional 100+ visits from 2022, and almost an addition 1,000 items delivered.

“I just want to tell you how much the delivery service helps me, as I am sure it does so many in our community! Marilyn is so sweet and she always brings a smile with my books. Thank you for providing this service!”

**Kelly Travers**
Literacy and Reading

Abby Sonstein stands on stage at the Texas Library Associations Bluebonnet Award Luncheon.
People love Rosenberg Library for the vast collection of reading and educational materials available, along with engaging programs to bring them to life. Though libraries are always changing, promoting the love of books and reading will remain the core of what libraries are.

Leaders of Tomorrow
Southeast Texas and the greater Galveston/Houston area is a vast population to represent. But Rosenberg Library’s Children’s Department believed Abby Sonstein was up to the task. The Department nominated the Trinity Episcopal student as Southeast Texas’ - Region 8’s - Student Representative at the Texas Library Association’s Bluebonnet Award Luncheon. Accepting the honor, she stood alongside nine other student representatives from across the state who met the Bluebonnet Award’s winning author and illustrator, saw TLA’s latest library exhibits and experienced some of the best the library world has to offer.

Opportunities like this are one of many impacts the Children’s Department has had on Galveston area youth. Starting young, the library offers early literacy and development focused activities. 1000 Books Before Kindergarten encourages parents to read to their children early and often. Families, like Nick and his grandmother Marcie, learn songs, games, and stories through Baby Talk or Story Time, and large groups, often from schools or daycares, share similar experiences through Story Fair.

“[Marcie] could not stop talking about the presentation and professionalism that the presenter demonstrated,” said grandparent Doug Rogers about Baby Talk. “Marcie, being a retired teacher, understands what it takes to be good at this job, and your staff member has it!”

During the Summer Reading Program, children of all ages log their reading time for fun prizes, with 2023 seeing a 49% increase in participation, according to the logging app Beanstack.

Children also get to meet authors, as Abby did at the Bluebonnet Award Luncheon, or as families did when award winning, bestselling author Chris Barton visited Galveston.

“The Love of Books
The love of books is on the rise! Statistics from the Summer Reading program show that teen and adult participants read and finished their reading goals at a higher rate in 2023.

Turnout was full for the spring series of Galveston Reads, which featured the breakout hit Remarkably Bright Creatures, and a visit from the author.

The Best Little Book Club in Texas has experienced full participation
almost every month, and the Museum Book Club began again, which allows participants to see book-relevant items from the library’s archives in person.

Online Author Talks, offered through Rosenberg Library and the Library Speakers Consortium, has seen increased attendance in 2023. Each Author Talk features an up and coming or bestselling author who answers viewer questions live. Both the live feed and temporarily archived videos of the talks can be viewed from a smartphone, tablet or computer.

Library work as a career received unexpected attention from high schoolers. Instead of just participating in the library’s teen programs, a few have volunteered their time to help put on events, and one shadowed Teen Librarian Dustan Archer as part of a high school assignment. This interest has led staff to consider a part-time position recently-graduated teens can apply for so they can get experience at the Rosenberg Library.

Rosenberg Day
At 2023’s Rosenberg Day, the library unveiled three new library card designs! The new designs brought fresh excitement to those who never had a card, and many who already had one were also eager to get the new designs.

As part of the event, Rosenberg Library held hourly in-person author talks, which allowed people to speak directly with local authors from the greater Galveston County community.

“My family and I finally got to visit the Rosenberg Library. The staff is friendly, from helping us to set up our library cards to providing information about the library and events. The process to check out books is very effortless after our library cards are set up. The website is also full of info and is consistently updated.

I’m most looking forward to bringing my kids here for Story Time. There are also exhibits and special archives on the history of Galveston”

CHERIE DAI

197,816
Library Visitors*

14,682
Active Cardholders

*This number is lower than expected because the “people counter” was malfunctioning for 2-3 months.

206,169
Books, Audiobooks, DVDs, etc. Coming and Going from the Library

236,334
Uses of Digital Resources and Databases
From left to right, Mike Miller, Evelina Williams, and Mercedes Pang hold up winning Library card designs at 2023 Rosenberg Day.
Bridging Tech Divides

Sharon Baron holds Chromebook she received through Isle Connect.
With the digital world more prominent now than ever before, Rosenberg Library offers help to those who feel swept up and away by the constantly changing tech landscape. From computer giveaways, tech camps, free computer labs and computer classes, the Rosenberg Library has made a concerted effort to make Galveston a more digitally literate city.

Isle Connect Impacts
Every week, Sharon Baron comes to the library to work on school assignments. She does it using a Chromebook she received from the Rosenberg Library. She had been nervous about using technology, but the equipment gave her new courage.

“I have learned so much in the past few months. I can really do it,” Baron said.

At the end of May 2023, Rosenberg Library finished giving away 1,500 Chromebooks and Wi-Fi hot spots through the library’s Isle Connect program. Funded by an Emergency Connectivity Fund grant, many Galveston County residents now have the means to hunt for jobs, complete school work, and experience renewed independence. Sign-ups for Isle Connect also contributed to a significant jump in library cardholders.

PLA Grant for Digital Literacy
Rosenberg Library expanded computer classes in 2023 thanks to a generous grant from the Public Library Association and AT&T.

The funds were awarded to libraries across the nation that are working to educate their communities on the constantly changing world of technology.

Classes at Rosenberg Library focus on Internet Basics, Email Basics, Computer Basics, Mobile Device Basics, and Cybersecurity. Also thanks to the grant, Rosenberg Library was also able to offer classes in Spanish for the first time, with help from translator Zurisiday-Robbins Briz.

In addition to these classes, IT Projects Coordinator Courtney Cundall created video tutorials addressing common tech questions that anyone can access anywhere at anytime on the library’s YouTube channel.
Computer Lab/Makerspace

Vince Bruno was searching the library website when he found out Rosenberg Library had **3D printing services**. Excited, he and his son decided to give it a shot, and created a 3D printed axolotl together.

For the average family, 3D Printing has a high cost of entry; a machine and materials can cost hundreds of dollars. Rosenberg Library’s Makerspace provides easy, affordable access to anyone who wants to try and make something new. To continue offering Galveston the best, the library purchased a new 3D printer, a new resin printer, and upgraded its poster printer equipment.

Tech for kids

Compudopt, the same company that helped the library distribute Chromebooks through Isle Connect, also taught tech classes to Galveston’s children in 2023. Partnering with the **Children’s Department**, multiple camps were held during spring break, summer, and the fall. These classes range from coding lessons, how tech can be applied to surprising careers, and always include hands on projects. In many cases, children leave the class with a free computer they can practice with.

“Thank you so much for the class and gifting the laptop to my girl,” said one parent. “She had no tablet or other electronic device; this is exactly what she needed.”

Staying Up to Date

Libraries typically close during major system transitions. But during the library’s overhaul to the new, user friendly cataloging system, Apollo, Rosenberg Library staff managed to keep doors open and systems running throughout the entire process. This transition was successful thanks to the dedicated work of **Computer Services** and **Customer Experience staff** who manage the front desks.

In addition to this change, Computer Services made the library more secure throughout the year. Computer Services fortified internet processes for all users, adding a building access security system, and bringing phone systems up to date.

“Thank you Rosenberg Library! Phillip had an amazing time at Compudopt’s “Rock Paper Scissors” workshop. And what a surprise at the end! Karen Stanley – your library programs never disappoint!”
Children practice assignments from Compudopt classes.
Lifelong Learning

Family discusses how to carve pumpkin at Harry Potter Night of Wizardry
As our community changes and grows, so do their interests and hopes. Whether you are trying to improve your life, learn a new skill, or even want to make new friends, the Rosenberg Library has programs and opportunities just for you. With 843 programs to choose from and more than 26,000 attendees in 2023, you are sure to find your people.

Fun for Everyone
From finance tips to mental health, Rosenberg Library’s Adult Services and Teen Services departments offered a fresh variety of events in 2023 based on community feedback. To do this, they forged a wide range of partnerships with groups such as the Sealy Center on Aging, OLLI, the Resource Crisis Center, Houston ToolBank, Galveston Unscripted, SERJobs, Galveston County Crusaders Against Breast Cancer, Bank of America, the Social Security Office, Workforce Solutions, Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Texas Navy Association! An event calendar can always be found online at Rosenberg-Library.org/events.

Customer feedback also prompted the new, growing collection of 74 board games, card games, and counting that people can now check out from Rosenberg Library. Each month, adults 18 and older get to meet for Game Night, and once a week, teens have gaming meetups to enjoy both videogames and board games with friends.

Feedback also led to Let’s Get Crafty, which offers the chance to try a new creative project at the library each month. Participants have enjoyed painting terracotta planters, crafting holiday cards for the library’s homebound library recipients, and swapping paintings with each other during a canvas swap craft. Every month, teens join up for Teen Artist Alley to create small jewelry and keychains, or paint miniatures.

Let’s Explore!
Grade-schoolers will always find something to spark their enthusiasm when they visit Rosenberg Library. In the past year, children were able to touch snakes and other exotic animals, learn how magicians perform magic, explore STEAM projects, and learn about chemicals with a real chemist. Every Saturday, a volunteer teaches children learn how to play chess, and throughout the year, Children’s staff prepares drop-in activities for children of all ages to enjoy, from simple crafts to a butterfly kit.

In October, many of these interests culminate at the Harry Potter Night of Wizardry. Fashioned after the popular book series, the pavilion space and first floor lobby of Rosenberg Library are decorated like the school of Hogwarts. Families move from station to station to learn something new, from tech crafts with Compudopt, to pumpkin carving (generously donated by Walmart, Kroger and Tom’s Thumb Nursery), or engaging in staff created riddles and games.

Gale Excel High School
The Rosenberg Library proudly sponsored 22 students toward earning their high school diploma through the Gale’s Excel online high school program. Designed for adults 18 and older, this program is completely free of cost to accepted applicants, and offers a 24/7 online accredited program. Although fairly new, two participants became Excel High graduates in 2023, and many more are on their way!
Celebrating and Preserving Galveston History and Culture

From left to right, Sam Collins, III, Sue Johnson, and June Collins Pulliam with the Blank Slate Monument.
For decades, Rosenberg Library has been an essential resource for those seeking to learn about the unique and vibrant history of Galveston and early Texas History. From providing educational programs to supporting in-depth research, the library’s special collections remain a critical resource for preserving and telling Galveston’s story.

Moody Family Archives
In 2023, Rosenberg Library was honored to receive more than 850 boxes of materials dated from 1743 to 1991 from the Mary Moody Northen Foundation. The collection reveals the history of the cotton and insurance industries, the Civil War, slavery, local and national politics, and the social and cultural life of Galveston.

“The Rosenberg Library is a trusted resource for authors, historians, students, teachers and others researching the history of Galveston,” said Betty Massey, the Executive Director of the Mary Moody Northen Endowment. “Our Board of Directors believes placing Mary Moody Northen’s archives in the Library’s care will extend the reach of the collection to new audiences.”

The foundation funded a new position, allowing Rosenberg Library to hire archivist Melinda Pleasant, who works to organize the collection and make it accessible to the public.

Black History Partnerships
Throughout the year, library staff made determined efforts to provide access to the rich history Galveston has to offer. In partnership with the Smithsonian, Visit Galveston and multiple community partners, the library hosted A Slice of History, a program featuring a Smithsonian documentary screening on the origins of Juneteenth, and activities and giveaways for teens who participated.

Galveston and Texas History Center staff provided a tour to Miss Juneteenth contestants and hosted two presentations from Sam Collins, III, one on African-American educators in Galveston, and another titled “Reimagining Monuments and Memorials in Public Spaces” which aligned with the temporary three-month display of the Blank Slate Monument at Rosenberg Library.

Rosenberg Library also partnered with J.R. Shaw to bring his podcast “Galveston Unscripted” to a live audience at the library. Shaw interviewed Tommie Boudreaux and Alice Gatson for an episode on African-American restaurants. He also interviewed Ed Cotham about the Civil War and the history of Juneteenth.

Tanner Ellis, son of artist Ted Ellis, showcased his documentary of his father’s work Juneteenth Champions at the library in early June. Sean McConnell and Kevin Kinney presented on African-American Heritage in the Archives the same month. They gave the same presentation virtually to the federal group Blacks in Government, which was attended by 380 federal workers. Additionally, Project Coordinator Christina Jewell represented the Galveston and Texas History Center at Galveston’s Own Farmers Market Jack Johnson Day celebration.

At the end of the summer, Visit Galveston awarded the library a plaque, thanking the library for being a Juneteenth event partner.
Making Room for History
Within the past year, the library’s archives were updated with high-density mobile shelving, adding 500 extra feet of shelving space - a 45% increase. Iron Mountain packaged, inventoried, and moved the archival collections while Southwest Solutions Group performed the installation. These changes allow for more historical items and materials to be donated and preserved, especially from underrepresented communities.

Meet Rachel Hooper
In 2023, the library welcomed a new Museum Curator. Rachel Hooper is a museum professional with a Master of Arts in Museum Studies from Durham University and has experience in collections management and curation from her time at Fyre Art Museum, Iron Mountain, and Baylor University. She is passionate in continuing the legacy of acquiring, preserving, and displaying the Rosenberg Library’s museum artifacts, all while making them accessible to the public through exhibits and programming.

Digital Access for All
The digitization of items is one of the most commonly requested and important initiatives of any archive. Rosenberg Library made significant leaps in this arena.

Rosenberg Library’s Special Collections department partnered with the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C. and provided digital copies of 295 pages of correspondence from the Illies-McKenzie families papers. The correspondence dates from 1844 to 1863. The German Historical Institute will add the scans to their Migrant Connections database and will also transcribe and translate the materials. The Migrant Connections database features correspondence between German immigrants in the United States and friends and relatives in Germany.

Rosenberg Library also sent 68 cassette tapes from the Ellen Beasley collection to the Northeast Document Conservation Center for digitization. The cassette tapes feature oral histories that author Ellen Beasley conducted in the 1970s and 1990s with corner store owners and residents of alley houses. Many of the oral histories touch on the experiences of African-Americans and immigrants in Galveston.

A grant from the Summerlee Foundation allowed staff to continue sending the Galveston Tribune to the University of North Texas for digitization and inclusion in the Portal to Texas History. Staff later partnered with Moore Memorial Public Library to send its Texas City newspapers to the University of North Texas for digitization as well.

Exploring 1900 Locations
The Great Storm of 1900 remains one of the most asked about topics at Rosenberg Library. To help with people’s exploration, archivist Kevin Kinney created a 1900 Storm Story-Map. This digital map can be followed along on a smartphone or computer, and pinpoints significant buildings and locations affected by the Storm; the map has proven popular with visitors and customers.

“The Galveston Tribune has been quite instrumental in constructing the history of newspapers in Texas City since this paper was more likely to print briefs of the happenings of the mainland communities... This information often is the key, and sometimes only, evidence I have had that there was a particular publication in Texas City.”

Brenda Broussard
Texas A&M Students look over documents presented by Kevin Kinney at the Galveston and Texas History Center.
Virginia Marlett Bedworth donated narratives of enslaved individuals that she found among her family’s papers. The narratives record the biographies of African-Americans born into slavery in the vicinity of Matagorda County and provide a rare look into their daily lives before the Civil War.

“Rosenberg Library’s archives are absolutely the best...comparable to Johns Hopkins.”

Program Attendee

Slave narrative donated by Virginia Marlett Bedworth

Special Collections received numerous new acquisitions, from Mexican imprints to Ball High School senior class photographs. The new acquisitions illuminate the history of Galveston and early Texas. Here is a summary of recent acquisitions the public can now research at the Galveston and Texas History Center.

Photographs, correspondence, and papers regarding Holy Rosary Catholic Church, 1987-2009.

Allen, Thomasine, on behalf of Irenaeus Jordan

News clippings and photographs of Father Ivan Marsh and a copy of his book 30 Day Retreat in the Carmelite Tradition.

Beasley, Ellen

Slave narratives recorded in the vicinity of Matagorda County, undated.

Bedworth, Virginia Marlett

$500 donation

Bostick, Joan

Correspondence, brochures, and clippings regarding the 1987 referendum on dog and horse racing.

Bowman, Inci


Brown, Koby

Born-digital images taken by Carol Warren of the 2022 National Miss Juneteenth Scholarship Pageant program at the Tremont Hotel; 1965 Central High School yearbook.

Collins III, Samuel

Digital copy of a Galveston, Brazos, and Colorado Railroad Co. deed, 1877.

Cummings, Nathan

Ball High School senior class photographs from 1971, 2009, 2011; Red Adair offshore blowout map and other Galveston maps; 1991 Spring Break poster.

Dabney II, Lyman M.

Ursuline Academy, Galveston, TX, January 1, 2003 book.

Daly, Nancy Perch

Born-digital files of presentations from the Beta Study Club, 2018-2022.

Finkelstein, Ruth, on behalf of the Beta Study Club

Saturday Globe publication on the 1900 Storm and a 1987 Revolutionary Texas map.

Forshey, Rockey

Correspondence from Rebecca Austin Newton and a photograph of Dr. Walter T. Newton.

Ganancias, Janice

Fort Crockett souvenir book, military photographs, and photographs of a Galveston school, 1940s.

Goode, Charles and Diane

Beta Study Club minutes, 2020-2023.

Grant, Eleanor, on behalf of the Beta Study Club

Programs, fliers, clippings, and other materials relating to education and politics in Galveston, the Boy Scouts, and the Hoskins family, circa 1950-2005.

Hoskins, Billie

Order book, day ledgers, corporate stock ledger, and employee ledger from E.S. Levy & Co., 1900-1941.

Levy Jr., Julian A.

Mayfield, Theresa, on behalf of Moore Memorial Public Library

Photographs of the Harrison and Richardson families, circa 1948-1950.

McConigle, Lisa Bell

Postcards showing the causeway, the seawall, and damage from the 1915 Storm.

Morris, Susan Farb

William Sheppard Haywood field notes, Galveston surveys, map, and photograph, 1835-1898.

Moseley, Sam

Elizabeth Hughes Nixon’s 1943-1944 Ball High School scrapbook.

Nixon, Alice

Photographs of the opening of the causeway and 1943 Hurricane, 1900 Storm booklets, and Galveston magazines from the 1950s to the 1960s.

Patterson, Dane

Island Elementary School Christmas card, 1951.

Pfeiffer, Maria

$400 donation.

Robinson, Sally

Programs for performances of Frederick Tillis’ music and “Homage: Chamber Music from the African Continent and Diaspora” CD.

Tillis, Pamela

Koby Brown donated ten glass plate negatives featuring images of Galveston architecture. Brown received a Cultural Arts Grant from the Galveston Cultural Arts Commission to create the negatives using a dry plate procedure. The procedure was popular from the 1880s to the 1920s. Brown’s donation is the first example of glass plate negatives in the archive’s collection in over a century.

Two studio portraits of unidentified individuals in the late 1880s, from the studios of Lawrence Thorn and R.R.H. Toelaer.

Tollett, JoAnn


Voller, Morton

African-American Cemeteries in Montgomery County book.

Walker, Cynthia Stubblefield

Harper’s Weekly 1900 Storm lithograph and VHS tape recordings of Rosenberg Day, 1900 Storm commemorations, other Galveston events, 1990s-2000s.

Wygant, Alice.

Notes and materials for a proposed book titled Galveston Babylon, Galveston medical notes and periodicals, and an inventory of the Blocker History of Medicine Collection.

Wygant, Larry


Silver print photograph of Jack Johnson by Maurice-Louis Branger, Paris (France), 1915.

Civil War letter written from Sister de St. Pierre at Ursuline Convent to General Paul Hebert requesting a shoemaker be sent to the convent. 1864.

Republic Era and antebellum Galveston documents (land, legal); photograph of oil ship in Galveston port; and 19th century Galveston store letterhead.

1830s Manuscript letter from Santiago del Valle discussing the terms of the new Mexican immigration law of 1830 and its potential impact on Texas settlements and the Mexican state of Coahuila y Tejas.

Logbook and assorted items from Charles Harris, night watchman for the Galveston Customs House in the 1870s and 1880s.


Map showing mineral claims along the coast of West Galveston Bay.

Mexican broadside related to Texas from Jose Gomez, January 1836. Military decree related to troubles in Texas and appointing military officials within the Texas borders.

Virgil Collins archive – letters of Republic of Texas settler/merchant, including 1838 description of Galveston.

Mexican broadside related to Texas from Valentin Canalizo. Relating to orders of treatment of Texas prisoners.

Mexican document – decree from Agustín Viesca restricting the militia in Coahuila y Tejas shortly before the Texas Revolution.

Archive of Texas Confederate letters, including collection of letters from Ashbel Smith in Galveston.

At a Glance
Rosenberg Library Fiscal Year 2022-23

197,816 visitors between September 2022 and September 2023

36,142 questions answered by library staff

206,169 Books, Audiobooks, DVDs, etc. coming and going from the library

14,682 active cardholders

Friends gifts to the library in 2023 included:

- Annual Book Sale: 60,723.00
- Children’s programs: 5,500.00
- Galveston Reads: 2,000.00
- Water/Newspaper for Staff Lounge: 2,328.25
- Other Gifts: 1,556.26

Total: $72,107.51

Finances

TOTAL REVENUE: $5,671,204.36

- City of Galveston: $3,895,752.18
- Endowment Income: $904,310.17
- Galveston County: $613,030.00
- Miscellaneous: $258,112.01

IN DONATIONS 21/22: $293,657.49

TOTAL EXPENSES: $5,316,719.43

- Personnel: $3,042,056.37
- Collection Acquisitions: $371,722.73
- Library Programs: $189,770.81
- IT: $395,581.91
- Conservation/Special Collections: $86,391.09
- Building Maintenance: $489,230.55
- Administrative: $356,688.23
- County/Mainland Libraries: $385,277.74

*Most donations are part of the library’s Building Fund. This fund is used for capital expenses. These are not reflected in the Total Revenue graph.
Donors who gave $250.00 or more in 2023

Ms. Ann Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Ansell
Madeleine Baker
Mr. and Mrs. Roland L. Bassett
David Bowers
Fredrick J. and Lawren Bradford
Fred Burns
Jin and Kyungsoon Chung
Jack and Jessica Clarke
Mrs. Carolyn Clyburn
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel L. Collins, III
Alison Cox and Rick Grellier
Nancy and Tom Daly
Andrew Delaney Foundation
Dr. Gary Delzer
Weez and Mike Doherty
Meredith L. Dreiss
Lucille Hanus Gondran Foundation, Inc. as designated by
Mr. and Mrs. James B. Earthman, III
Paul and Jeanette Faulkner
Faust Distributing
Dr. and Mrs. Jay C. Fish
Mrs. Marjorie G. Frantz
The Honorable and Mrs. John Froeschner
Edward D. & Sally M. Futch Charitable Foundation
Galveston Insurance Associates - Mr. Garry Kaufman
The Grant Family Fund
Alice Taylor Gray Foundation
George and Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation
Harbourview Foundation
Albert & Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation
Gerry and Gene Hornstein
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