



September 2017

## Behind the book

Welcome to the inaugural issue of "Primary Source," the newsletter of the Jean and Alexander Heard Libraries! We created this new way to communicate because we want to share all the good work going on. The past year has been one of



change and transformation, with new faces, new library services, new spaces and new programs in our nine campus libraries. It has also been a year of continuity as we build collections, make resources accessible and offer contemplative and collaborative spaces for research and study.

In short, the library is evolving, while remaining true to its essence as a place of information and knowledge. We work in partnership with those who research, teach and learn. The Vanderbilt libraries are not only relevant, but vibrant. At Vanderbilt, the libraries are central to the educational mission. We teach students and faculty the skills they need to navigate the ever-changing seas of information. We also bring the great ideas in our collections to life through exhibitions, workshops, concerts, readings and even dances in the library.

We have all heard the old saying: "The library is the heart of the university." We believe that—and we want everyone to hear the beat.

If you are receiving this newsletter, we already know that you support the life of the mind. Please share in



### Gaming collection comes to Vanderbilt

The library has acquired The George Clulow Collection, owned since 1903 by the U.S. Playing Card Co., and one of the greatest collections of books about card games, games of chance, playing cards and chess in the world. [Read more.](#)



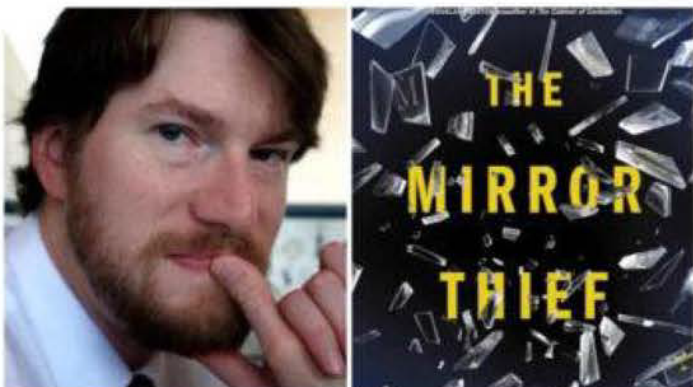
**Vanderbilt libraries to exhibit at Southern Festival of Books**

our excitement by using your library, attending library events and letting us know what you think!

In the words of author Neil Gaiman, "Google can bring you back a hundred thousand answers. A librarian can bring you back the right one."

Valerie Hotchkiss  
University Librarian

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## Vanderbilt Heard Libraries welcome author Martin Seay

Martin Seay, author of the lauded book *The Mirror Thief*, will be reading at Vanderbilt's Central Library at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 17. His novel was chosen by the *New York Times* as a Notable Book of the Year, as well as being named *Publisher's Weekly* and NPR's Best Book of the Year. [Read more.](#)

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## High school interns find opportunity in the library

Three high school interns worked in Special Collections this summer as part of [Opportunity Now](#), a

For the first time, the Vanderbilt Heard Libraries will have a presence at the Southern Festival of Books, a three-day event celebrating the written word. The festival will be held in downtown Nashville Oct. 13-15. [Read more.](#)

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## A special thank you to our donors

Our deepest thanks to all of you who made a gift to Vanderbilt's libraries in fiscal year 2017. As a member of our dedicated community of support, you help to advance education and change lives for our students and faculty. Learn more about the important difference you make and view your name on our donor list at [vu.edu/yourimpact](http://vu.edu/yourimpact).

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job readiness program organized by Mayor Megan Barry's office. [Read more.](#)

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