

# Bl-Lines

Notes and News from the SWEDENBORG LIBRARY



## SPECIAL SCHEDULES:

(see page 4 for our regular hours)

## CHARTER WEEK

Thu, Oct 9 7:30 am to 6 pm  
Fri, Oct 10 9 am to 5 pm  
Sat, Oct 11 9 am to 5 pm  
Sun, Oct 12 2 pm to 6 pm;  
7:30 pm to 10:30 pm

Bryn Athyn College / Academy of the New Church

<http://www.brynathyn.edu/academics/swedenborg-library>

## To protect and (pre)serve

This summer, the usual, studious calm of the Academy Archives, housed in the lower level of Swedenborg Library, was interrupted by a flurry of activity. Doors were taken off hinges, shelves torn down, carpets torn up and boxes of archival material apparently spirited to other, undisclosed locations. "Vandals?" you ask. "Irate Archivists?" No, it was the first stage of transformation of the archives storage room—formerly known to some as the old college computer lab.

Through the generosity of the Glencairn Foundation, and the hard work of the CPO crew and two dedicated students (SaryLuz Ramos and Phil

Brandt), the room was emptied and gutted in preparation for its rise from an obscure and uncherished storage space to its current lofty status as a technological marvel of archival preservation.

In order to make room for the ever expanding archival collection and to accommodate the growing Swedenborgiana book collection which currently share an existing vault, the Archives will be relocated to the new vault.

This new space is now equipped with the right technology to store, preserve

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Hand-operated compact shelving units use space efficiently.

Photos in this article, courtesy Gregory Jackson.

## Welcome!

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*Although it's always hard to say goodbye to summer, it's also exciting to begin a new academic year. The staff and volunteers of the Swedenborg Library wish everyone a productive, engaging and enlightening term. To those who are returning: it's great to see you again! To new members of our community: we can't wait to meet you, and hope you will soon feel at home. To everyone, please stop by the library often to get to know us better, and to find out how we can help make your school year a successful one!*



## Art Exhibit: Fingal Rosenquist



Photographs by Bill Breisky. Some of the information first appeared in his article "Fingal's Children", published in the *The Sunday Bulletin Magazine*, (Philadelphia) November 4, 1962.



*Girl with kitten*

The Friends of the Swedenborg Library are pleased to present an exhibit featuring the work of local sculptor Fingal Rosenquist.

Ruth Fingal Rosenquist (1901-1980) was born in Gothenburg, Sweden, the daughter of Rev. Joseph Elias Rosenqvist and Beata Rosenqvist. The family had moved to Bryn Athyn in 1903, and by age four, Fingal was already taking drawing lessons.

Fingal discovered her aptitude for sculpture while on scholarship at the Philadelphia School of Industrial Art. Later, she studied sculpture at the Pennsylvania Academy of the

Fine Arts. During the early and mid 1930s, Rosenquist participated in the WPA (Works Progress Administration) Artist Project: part of the country's "New Deal" implemented to boost the American economy during the Great Depression.

In addition to sculpture, Fingal briefly tried her hand at writing. Her book *Three White Horses* was published in 1947; a children's book *Nipper Shiffer's Donkey* was published in 1956.

Fingal Rosenquist is most famous for her charming sculptures of children which she began after moving to Green Lane (Montgomery County, PA) in the early

1950s. Poet Carl Sandburg, who knew Fingal called these sculptures "poems of line and motion." Rosenquist's work appeared in many noted galleries and museums in the Philadelphia area, and one of her pieces can still be seen today in the courtyard of the Huntingdon Valley Public Library.

An opening reception for the exhibit "Fingal Rosenquist" will be held, beginning at 4 pm, on Sunday, September 21 in the library. Carl Rosenquist, nephew of the artist, will give a talk on the life and work of Fingal Rosenquist. Light refreshments will be served, and all are welcome to attend.

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## Director's website tip: World Health News (Harvard)

Want to find out the latest regarding the Ebola outbreak? How safe are e-cigarettes? Are there health concerns related to global warming?

Created by the School of Public Health at Harvard University, this digest of news, television, news websites, etc. is a high-quality online news source

for worldwide public health information. It links to primary sources with access to full-text original articles and scientific reports. It is published weekly and updated daily with RSS feeds or email notices as options for users. Topics are indexed and can be browsed easily.

Even though the site is rather frills-free, the high quality of

the health related information makes it a useful source in academic work or just for your own personal use.

Go to:

<http://>

[www.worldhealthnews.](http://www.worldhealthnews.harvard.edu/)

[harvard.edu/](http://www.worldhealthnews.harvard.edu/)

- Carroll Odhner  
Library Director



## *To protect... (continued)*

and protect the items given into the Archives' care. New compact shelving was constructed to specifications that accommodate archival boxes instead of books. This allows us to properly store 87% more boxes than in the existing vault. In order to preserve our materials, a Liebert™ environmental control system regulates temperature and humidity within a range selected to ensure a long life for a collection consisting of very mixed media (paper, textiles, photographs, slides, film and audio/video tape). To further protect our collections, there is a new gaseous fire suppression system that quickly extinguishes any fire, using a gas that chemically

inhibits combustion without leaving moisture or residue. New fire-proof doors were also installed. Finally, a new security camera and coded keypad will be added to the existing security system.

Many people deserve praise for the quick transformation – too many to mention them all here. But this project couldn't have been kept moving along without the project management skills of CPO's Brian Llewellyn and the cooperation and adaptability of the vendors and contractors who worked on this project.

- Gregory Jackson  
Archivist



*Deep shelves:  
perfect for archival boxes.*



*Fire-suppression system.*

## Meet our newest staff member: Daya Sapkota

I am Daya Sapkota and my house is on the other side of the planet. I am from Nepal. I came to Bryn Athyn College in 2008 as a freshman, and received my BA in biology in 2012.

I first became interested in employment at the Swedenborg Library when I learned my cousin was working there. As an avid reader, I thought to myself

that it must be amazing to work in a building full of books. There are not many libraries in Nepal where one can go to study in a tranquil environment, so when I was offered summer employment at the Swedenborg Library, it was like a dream come true! I spent many summer days at the Swedenborg Library from 2008 to 2012 while in school, and many more following graduation.

I am proud to be a Library Assistant, and I am hopeful that I can continue to serve, learn, and to grow at the Swedenborg Library.

-Daya Sapkota



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## ***Swedenborg Library Mission Statement***

*Our mission is to provide materials,  
information and services  
to support the academic programs  
of Bryn Athyn College;  
and to acquire, preserve and promote  
New Church collections and archives  
for use throughout the world.*

### **REGULAR HOURS**

Monday through Thursday

7:30 am - 6 pm | 7:30 pm - 10:30 pm

Friday 7:30 am - 5 pm

Saturday CLOSED

Sunday 7:30 pm - 10:30 pm

