Spring Update

Six weeks into the project and the elevator’s renovation proceeds apace. Members have reacted with good humor to the noise, with patience when awaiting book delivery, and with spirited aplomb to the extra walk required by lacking elevator access to the third, fourth, and fifth floors.

We remind you that those upper floors remain available, and the fifth floor terrace will now be open as well to reward those who walked up. Now that the plaster work is complete, the fifth floor reading room can return to its normal state of silence. If you are unable to take the stairs or are interested in discovering other spaces to study and read, then consider the silent Albert Gordon Newspaper Reading Room on the first floor, where laptop use is now allowed. The basement Art Department is another quiet alternative to consider during this renovation period.

Mary Warnement
William D. Hacker Head of Reader Services

Credit for image above: Arrival of materials for elevator renovation on first floor, (Emily Anderson, 2014).
Last month the conservation lab gave some very special tours to a select group of patrons from the Commonwealth Children's Center. Although tours are not rare for the lab, the age range of this group was: three to five years old. We dubbed them our Book Babies.

Escorted by Children's Librarian Suzanne Terry, a string of children less than three feet tall marched into the heart of the lab. When preparing for their visit, the conservators had to decide what would a three-year-old child most want to do? The answer: Touch stuff.

Conservators gathered all the most interesting tactile, non-sharp tools they could use on any given day. Handmade paper and lighter than air Japanese tissues called "washi," bone folders of all shapes and sizes, 19th-century long handle brass-wheeled tools for leather decoration, and an array of brushes: long, bushy ones for paste; wide ones made from soft Japanese sheep hair; and thick and prickly boar hair brushes. All of the items were set on a small, two-foot high table assembled for our visitors to sit around on our iconic brown stools which were procured earlier in the week from the first and second galleries.

Chief Conservator Dawn Walus spoke to the children about what book conservators do and the kinds of items treated in the Athenæum's lab as the children played with and used the tools. She then invited them to help her with a conservation treatment. It seems that the conservation lab mascot, a drawing of a dog named Spot, had gotten dirty. Could they help clean off the spots? Using the same tools all conservators use to dry clean paper, the kids vigorously attacked the dirt covering Spot with vinyl erasers, dry-cleaning sponges, and eraser crumbs.

To wrap up the session, Dawn briefly demonstrated how to make a pamphlet with the help of project conservator, Evan Knight. Each child took home a small swag bag containing a pamphlet making kit with instructions, an Athenæum pencil, and bookmark.

Jeanne Goodman
Von Clemm Fellow in Book Conservation

Credit for image above: Tour group from the Commonwealth Children's Center in the Conservation Lab (Jeanne Goodman, 2014).
Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Book Talk: Anthony Sammarco, *Lost Boston*
Monday, May 22,
Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Book Talk: Nicholas Money, *The Amoeba in the Room: Lives of the Microbes*
Thursday, May 29,
Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Lecture: Ellen Kanner, *Feeding the Hungry Ghost: Life, Faith and What to Eat for Dinner*
Saturday, May 31,
Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Watch Online

Missed an event? Trying to remember exactly what was said during the lecture you attended last fall?

Certain events from 2013 and 2014 are available to view online, in the comfort of your own home. You will need to use your name and membership identification number (which appears on the front of your membership card) to login, discover the password, and then select what you want to watch.

Children's Library

*Family Story Time*
Tuesday, May 6 and May 20
3:30 p.m.

*Stories, Songs, & Activities*

Readers' Advisory

Since the release of Wes Anderson's recent film, "The Grand Budapest Hotel," Stefan Zweig’s books have been absent from their customary spaces on Athenæum shelves.

Anderson has mentioned in interviews how Zweig’s work influenced his films. Members must navigate all levels of the library to find Zweig’s books: the second floor for Library of Congress PZ3 (fiction); drum 1 for Cutter VGG (German literature); drum 1 down for Cutter X (biography and writing); the basement for Cutter B (description and travel); basement drum for Cutter 2 (religion); and finally ascending to 3G for Cutter 5 (biography eastern-hemisphere). In the search for Zweig’s works, one can feel as if a movie star in an Anderson film with a map in hand, a notebook, and a pile of books circling around and around till arriving, book in hand to check it out at the circulation desk.

Remember, when you set out on your search, you can check the floor plans and consult librarians who are ready to help you find your way.

Carolle Morini
Caroline D. Bain Archivist, Reference Librarian

Credit for image above: Space for Zweig's books in the Cutter VGG shelves on drum 1, (Mary Warnement, 2014).

Credit for image below: Floor plan, (Alice Platt, 2012).

Terraces Open

Some may think "opening day" occurred in April, but at the Athenæum, it is May first, when the terraces on the fifth and second floors are open to the members to enjoy.

If only the weather would cooperate.
**Thursday in May**

10:30 a.m.

Puppet Show: *Mathilda’s Bath & Cow and Mouse’s Picnic*

Saturday, May 10
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Young Readers’ Book Group**

Monday, May 19
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**Readers Advisory**

The Athenæum staff recommendations for spring 2014 are available.

**Selected New Books at the Athenæum.**

**Discussion Groups**

Discussion groups meet monthly and are open to members only. Most groups do not require advance registration and meet evenings and Saturdays; look at each group’s webpage for information on meeting times and availability.

These groups represent a broad range, including: fiction, Classics, mysteries, New England topics, the Civil War, poetry, Shakespeare, Proust, Trollope, world history, and both World Wars I and II.

---

**John Lannon**  
Associate Director

Credit for image above: Fifth Floor Terrace, (Mary Warnement, 2014).

### Electronic Resources: Online Music

As of May 31, 2014, Naxos will no longer be available among the Athenæum’s electronic resources. Naxos offers several subscription options to individuals; however, there are many ways to listen to music on the go without paying. The suggestions below may require users to register and will include advertisements. If you wish to find a specific piece, YouTube will offer the ability to search, stop, start, etc. Some of the suggestions below allow searching but many act as online radios and may lead you to new pieces.

**Livestreaming of Multiple Genres**

- Grooveshark
- Jango
- Live365 Internet Radio Network
- Pandora

**Classical Music**

- WWFM Classical Network
- 99.5 WGBH Classical New England
- 91.5 KUSC (Los Angeles)
- 95.3 Harvard Radio Broadcasting

**Jazz**

- Jazz24.org
- Jazz 88.3 (San Diego)

Happy Listening!

Mary Warnement  
William D. Hacker Head of Reader Services

---

*The Boston Athenæum does not sell, trade, or rent personal information. You are receiving this message because you have granted the Athenæum permission to send Athenæum-related news and information to this email account.*

*If you would like to unsubscribe from this e-newsletter or change your email address, please click [here](#), and we will gladly update your information for you. Please allow approximately two week’s*
time to process the update. Membership changes may also be made by calling the Membership Office at (617) 720-7629.