

# BI-Lines

Notes and News from the SWEDENBORG LIBRARY



## SPECIAL SCHEDULES

### EASTER

Fri, Mar 25 7:30 am - 5 pm  
Sat, Mar 26 - Mon, Mar 28  
CLOSED

Tue, Mar 29  
RESUME REGULAR HOURS

### EXAM WEEK

Mon - Thu, May 16-19  
7:30 am - 6 pm  
and 7 pm - 11 pm

Fri, May 20 7:30 am - 5 pm  
Sat, May 21 CLOSED

Sun, May 22 2 pm - 6 pm  
and 7 pm - 11 pm

Mon - Thurs, May 23-26  
7:30 am - 6 pm  
and 7 pm - 11 pm

Fri, May 27 7:30 am - 5 pm  
Sat-Mon, May 28-30

(Commencement/Memorial  
Day) CLOSED

Tue, May 31  
SUMMER HOURS BEGIN

Mon - Fri 9 am - 1 pm  
Sat - Sun CLOSED

**The Library will be CLOSED  
on Monday, July 4 and  
Monday, June 20.  
College Grounds Café will be  
closed for the summer.**

Bryn Athyn College / Academy of the New Church

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

## Capstone season in the library

Spring is Capstone Season in the Swedenborg Library! On Wednesday, March 16, 2016 we welcomed seniors from the Interdisciplinary, and Psychology majors as they presented the staff with their completed Capstone papers, which will become part of our collections. Lemonade and cookies were provided to help us celebrate the many hours of thoughtful research, discovery, and composition that went into this very challenging academic endeavor.

At the same time, our librarians have been meeting with faculty and students in their Junior year, as those students begin to shape their research questions and start their preliminary research. The Capstone projects will demand

their intense focus as they are developed over the coming year.

It's exciting and fascinating to have the chance to participate in the exploration of such wide-ranging topics. As we work with student researchers, we keep in mind the bigger picture of what library research is: not just a search for answers, but a way of creating a path to knowledge.

In teaching the research process, one text we highly recommend is Andrew Abbott's *Digital Paper* (The University of Chicago Press, c. 2014.) In the introduction he states:

*"The key to all knowledge is not out there on some ultimate website [...] Indeed, in the humanities and the social sciences we do not ask questions to which final answers already exist [...] We seek to adjust the questions we can ask and the answers we can find into*

*harmonious writings that explore again and again the subtleties that constitute human existence."*

What better place to extend this journey than at the Swedenborg Library this spring?

-Andi Sibley

*Dean Allen Bedford, with President Brian Blair, addresses the senior Interdisciplinary students as they present their Capstone papers to the library.*

(For more photos, see page 2)



Photo courtesy of Andi Sibley.

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## Spring art exhibit: Paintings by Debra Lermitté

The Friends of the Swedenborg Library are pleased to announce a new exhibit of paintings by Debra Lermitté.

It's easy to see why the artist titled the exhibit "Storied Paintings." Each of the pieces convey the sense of a moment captured from a longer

narrative, leaving the viewer to imagine the rest of the story.

An opening reception with a talk by the artist will be held on Sunday, March 20 from 4 pm -6 pm. All are invited to attend.

The paintings will be on display in the Library until May 27.



"Magnolias" by Debra Lermitté

## Director's website tips: The American President Project



John Woolley and Gerhard Peters

**The Papers of the Presidents**  
The American Presidency Project is the only online resource that has consolidated, coded, and organized into a single searchable database:

- The Messages and Papers of the Presidents: Washington - Taft (1769-1913)
- The Public Papers of the Presidents: Hoover to G.W. Bush (1929-2007) & Obama (2011-Book I)
- The Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents: Carter - G.W. Bush (1977-2009)
- The Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents: Obama (2009-2015)

Our archives also contain thousands of other documents such as party platforms, candidates' remarks, Statements of Administration Policy, documents released by the Office of the Press Secretary, and election debates:

search our archives

From the homepage of The American President Project.  
Accessed 3-17-2016 at:  
<http://www.presidency.uscb.edu/>

Tired of the drama and concerned about the looming Presidential race? Want to know the facts not just the campaign rhetoric? Want to be an informed voter that is aware of the history of the office of the President? Then you might want to look into the largest public archives of the American presidency at:

Find The American President Project by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley at:

<http://www.presidency.uscb.edu/>

Key features of the site include:

- Supports searching across presidencies from 1789-2015 with over 100,000 documents.

- Allows users to conduct comparative analyses of administrations; study the dynamics of elections; cover the history of political parties; follow the evolving relationship between presidents and the Congress.

- Enables full-text searching of media events, illustrating the growing importance and changing nature of communication in the presidency.

- Allows for simple key word searching or advanced search options.

The site is still building its coverage of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, but keeping that in mind, this is an essential research tool for anyone interested in the making of the modern presidency!

- Carroll Odhner  
Library Director



## Congratulations, Graduates!



Photos courtesy of Andi Sibley.

Dr. Soni Werner congratulates Nicole Smith as Ethan King, Dean Bedford, and Dr. Kristin King look on.



*It takes courage to grow up and become who you really are. -- e.e.cummings*

*It's the same bittersweet feeling each year ---  
happy for your achievements, sad to see you go!*

*The Staff and Volunteers of the Swedenborg Library wish all of our graduates much happiness and success as you begin the next stage of your journey. Congratulations! We're proud of you!*



## “Long Night...” returns

Thanks to the great success of the winter term event, the “Long Night Against Procrastination,” sponsored by Bryn Athyn College, is returning to the library in April.

Tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, April 19, the session is focused on providing support and space for all students -- whether studying for tomorrow’s math test, putting the finishing touches on that English paper or research project, or *finally* catching up on all those reading assignments.

But, it’s not just a night of drudgery! There are contests and challenges, motivation and inspiration, prizes and food.

Members of BAC faculty, the ACE program, and library staff, will all be on hand to provide assistance, tutoring, and encouragement throughout the evening.

The “Long Night” begins at 7:30 pm and continues until 2 am. If you didn’t attend our first event,

be sure to join us this time around --you’ll be amazed at how fast the time flies, AND how much you get done!

See you there!

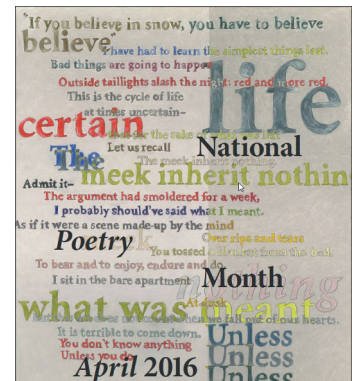


## April is National Poetry Month

With the returning warmth, the lengthening days, and the blossoming trees and flowers, even the most prosaic of us can be inspired to poetry in April.

Sponsored by the Academy of American Poets, and Poets.org, “National Poetry Month is the largest literary celebration in the world, with tens of millions of readers, students, K-12 teachers, librarians, booksellers, literary events curators, publishers, bloggers, and, of course, poets marking poetry’s important place in our culture and our lives.” (from the website: <https://www.poets.org/national-poetry-month/about-celebration>)

The library will be posting poetry-related items throughout the month on our Facebook page. How do you plan to celebrate?



Detail of 2016 poster by Chip Kidd, from the Poets.org website.

## Lavater’s “Essays on physiognomy...”

The library is very pleased to announce the acquisition of a three-volume work by Johann Caspar Lavater (1741-1801.) Presented to the library by Rev. Stephen D. Cole, it is a 1797 English translation of “*Essays on physiognomy: calculated to extend the knowledge and the love of mankind.*”

Lavater was a Swiss writer, Protestant pastor, and founder of physiognomics, an antirational, religious, and literary movement. (Accessed 3-17-2016 from:

<http://www.britannica.com/biography/Johann-Kaspar-Lavater>)  
Lavater also knew Emanuel Swedenborg and corresponded with him.

“*Essays on physiognomy...*” established Lavater’s reputation in Europe. With wonderful engravings throughout, this book provides insight into the 18th century idea of assessing the character or temperament of a person or animal by their facial features and expression. It is a thought-provoking addition to the Swedenborgiana collection.



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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 2 pm - 5 pm | 7:30 pm - 10:30 pm