

# Bl-Lines

Notes and News from the SWEDENBORG LIBRARY



## SPECIAL SCHEDULES

### SPRING TERM BEGINS

Mon, March 29

Regular hours resume

### EASTER

Fri - Sun, Apr 2 - 4    CLOSED

Mon, April 5

Regular hours resume

### MEMORIAL DAY

Mon, May 31    CLOSED

### Regular Hours

Mon, Tue, Thu    7:30am - 6pm

Wed    7:30am - 9pm

Fri    7:30am - 1pm

Sat, Sun    CLOSED

### SUMMER HOURS

Virtual services through email, chat, and phone during regular hours.

In-person visits by appointment.

**The Library will be CLOSED on Friday, June 18, and Monday, July 5.**

**College Grounds Café will be closed for the summer.**

### In this issue:

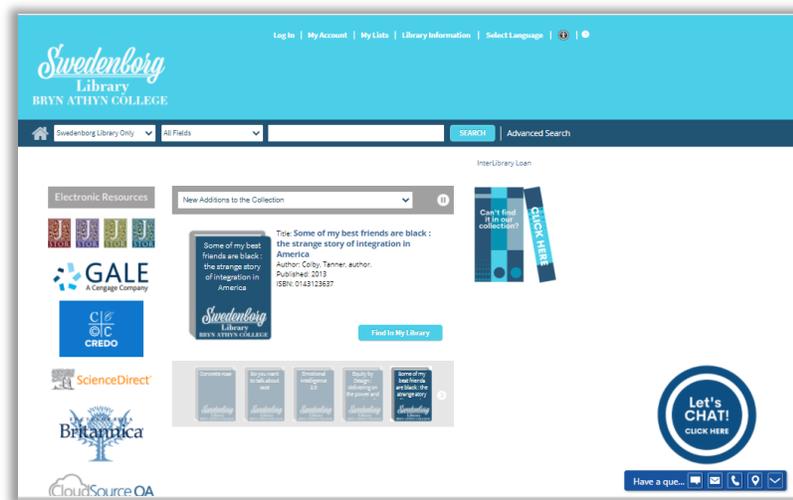
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<http://www.brynathyn.edu/academics/swedenborg-library>

## Updating Our Online Catalog

### Experience to Serve Students and Faculty Better

We are happy to announce our online catalog display has been recently updated! Along with improved search functions, we have customized many parts of the *SirsiDynix Enterprise* interface and revamped and modernized the look and colors. This is a powerful web-based tool is ready for all devices -- computer, tablet, or phone. *Enterprise* allows you to intuitively search the library's catalog as well as other resources and is user-friendly and accessible.



### Improvements:

- Added a library logo to identify ourselves and changed the color scheme to modernize the look.
- Combined the 'physical items' catalog with E-resources for easy access to both collections.
- Links to popular E-resources for academic research are displayed prominently.
- Included a link to our new feature CloudSource OA, an expanding, scholarly, peer-reviewed, open access (OA) content collection, which is free of cost to users.
- A link to our *Interlibrary Loan* service is available on every page.
- The "Let's Chat" feature pops up automatically, so you can ask questions or seek help directly from one of our staff.
- The default search targets the Main Library to see locally available items.
- Peer-reviewed and scholarly journal articles can be searched in the catalog.
- *Project Gutenberg* allows electronic access to thousands of classics in the public domain.
- From the *My Account* area at the top of the page, patrons can view their checkouts and edit their personal information.
- Patrons can narrow their search results using a variety of filters—no advanced search techniques necessary.
- ADA compliant

The updates have been well-received by our students. They are thrilled with the ease of use and "the pretty colors". Let us know what you think!

## Swedenborgiana Updates

Our volunteers in the Swedenborgiana and the New Church collections give hours each week to sorting donations of New Church books. Let's meet them:



**Peggy Rogers:** *I retired and moved back to the Bryn Athyn area several years ago. I had a conversation with Carroll and mentioned that once I was settled in my home, I would be looking for some volunteer work. She immediately said she thought she could find some work for me to do. I thoroughly enjoy volunteering here as there is something special about holding a very old New Church book!*



**Kris Odhner:** *I went back to earn my MLS (Masters in Library Science) after raising a family. The Library was one of my favorite places to work, where I was the circulation and reference librarian. Since retiring five years ago, I have loved sorting through New Church donations, scouting for treasures, and learning more and more about the New Church collections from the expert.*

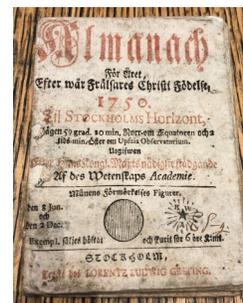


**Tim Kopistansky:** *I learned about and found the New Church five years ago and have been part of the community ever since. I work for SnapCab in the marketing department. I am an assistant coach for the ANC baseball team. I enjoy reading and studying New Church collateral books, the truths of doctrine, and expanding my understanding. Books are such a powerful resource to have.*

My heartfelt gratitude to our volunteers and the wonderful use they perform for the Swedenborg Library, helping to maintain and

grow our unique New Church collections.

- Carroll C. Odhner  
Director of Swedenborgiana  
and New Church Research



*Rev. Chris Barber shows the Swedish almanac that was owned by Swedenborg which Chris acquired at auction so the library could purchase it for Swedenborgiana.*

*Photos by Marvin Clymer.*

## News From the Friends of the Library

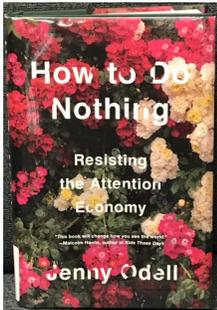
We have now endured one full year of life since the outbreak of COVID-19. Many FOSL events including the art exhibits and our Annual Meeting have been cancelled or postponed. Sadly, our volunteer activity has also been reduced, and our President and Treasurer have resigned. The Executive

Committee has not yet met to discuss replacement of the President, however Rosanne Bostock has agreed to step in as Acting Treasurer. Meanwhile, used book sales continue on a limited, by request basis. The Friends of the Swedenborg Library has been vital to library operations.

Since 1990 almost \$138,000 has been donated for special projects. The installation of glass-walled seminar rooms on the upper level, and café-style tables and chairs in the north corridor are just two of the latest enhancements made possible through Friends' financial assistance.

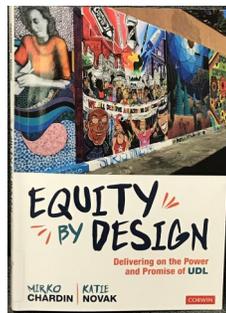
We value our Friends members and your involvement in making the Library a friendly and inviting place for scholarship, research, and community. We hope that everyone continues to care about the Library -- your support is always gratefully welcomed! Thank you!

## New Non-Fiction Books in the Library



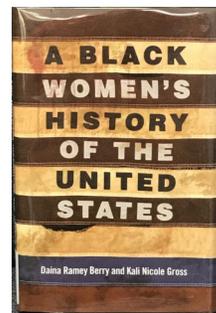
*How to Do Nothing* by Jenny Odell. This book is about how to reclaim our time, attention, and enjoyment of life through connection to the people and places we inhabit in real time. Odell says, "I propose that rerouting and upending one's attention to place will likely lead to awareness of one's participation in history and in a more-than-human community. From either a social or ecological perspective, the ultimate goal of 'doing nothing' is to wrest our focus from the attention economy and replant it in the public,

physical realm." The author covers the development of her thoughts on reclaiming attention and grounding in our places in four phases: the need to "do nothing" at times, the usefulness of retreats, how to refuse to lose control of one's attention, and how to use art to think about the relationship between attention and volition. We'd love to chat with others who have found this book thoughtful and exciting! (HM851 .O374 2019)



*Equity by Design* by Mirko Chardin and Katie Novak. This book comes highly

recommended by Dr. Kelly Ballard, head the Masters in Special Education Program. It is based on Universal Design for Learning, which is a science-based framework for guiding educators in creating flexible, accessible, and challenging curriculum for all types of learners. Connecting UDL practice with a desire to promote student learning makes this volume particularly important. We look forward to conversations with faculty, staff and students as we explore these ideas in the coming months. (LC192.2 .N68 2021)



*A Black Woman's History of the United States* by Daina Ramey Berry and Kali Nicole Gross. This 2020 book is an excellent introduction to some of the outstanding contributions of Black women to American history. Dr. Berry and Dr. Gross highlight twelve women in a wide spectrum of occupations and spheres of influence who contributed to the spiritual, civic, economic, social, political, and educational development of our county over the past 400 years. It is written in an accessible narrative style that draws readers in to listen to fascinating stories of courage, creativity and heroism. This book is for all of us, whether read for wonder, enrichment, curiosity, or celebration. (E185.86 .B475 2020)

## Black History Month Book Display

Nora Connolly, English and Communications major, put together this gorgeous, interactive book display for us this past month. She also recommended a few new books for our collection, which we were happy to purchase.

We were also delighted to be able to give away some of the art patches she designed and produced, as well as free copies of Toni Morrison's award-winning novel *Song of Solomon*.



Photos by Andi Sibley

## 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.

*BI-Lines* is published 3 times a year and is made available in print and online by The Swedenborg Library.

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While we look forward to returning to “normal,” the Library still grapples with some visitor restrictions. We miss seeing you in the library, but we are also concerned for your health, and the health of our students, faculty, and staff. We can allow visitors on a limited basis, but all visitors to the library and to campus must follow the following procedures:

Visit by prior appointment only, please. You must wear a mask. You must make arrangements with someone on the library staff ahead of your visit, and you will need to complete a simple health screen questionnaire before you arrive. Please visit the Bryn Athyn College website at [www.brynathyn.edu](http://www.brynathyn.edu) and click on COVID-19 Update to find the “Visitor Screen” button under “Daily Screening Forms.”



Chat with a librarian from our library webpage!



Follow us on Instagram and Facebook!

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