ARE YOU
Picking Up
WHAT THEY'RE
Putting Down?
Inciting Change with Student Insights

Carla-Mae Crookendale
ARTS RESEARCH LIBRARIAN
The Artist’s Library

Library as Subject
Inspiration in Collections
Creative Research
Space to Work
Arts Venue
• In an art school with several disciplines, if a few seem to be heavy library users and others seem to be largely absent - why?

• Do we have needed resources that are not being connected to the right users?

• How relevant is the library to their work?
THE Art Student & Library
Art Education
Art Foundation
Art History
Cinema
Communication Arts
Craft & Material Studies
Dance & Choreography
Fashion Design & Merchandising
Graphic Design
Interior Design
Kinetic Imaging
Music
Painting & Printmaking
Photography & Film
Sculpture & Extended Media
Theatre
• Survey in Fall 2017
• 362 students completed
• 16 VCUarts programs*

* Only 2 from Photography & Film
Survey Questions

1. On average, how often do you physically visit the library?
2. Are you aware of the following library resources?
3. How often do you use each of the following library resources?
4. How important is each of the following library resources to you?
5. How do you typically find out about VCU Libraries resources and services?
6. What best represents your major or concentration?
7. Which of the following best describes you? (Academic Status)
8. What do you value MOST about VCU Libraries resources and services?
9. How could VCU Libraries resources and services be improved?
Resources & Services I asked about…

- Print Books
- Print magazines and journals
- Music CDs
- DVDs
- Library website (e.g. VCU Libraries Search, course guides)
- Databases (e.g. Art Full Text, JSTOR)
- Streaming Music
- Streaming Video
- ILL (Inter-library Loan)
- Librarian assistance in person
- Librarian assistance via e-mail/chat/text
- Library instruction in a class
- Library Events & Workshops
- Computers and printers
- Study rooms /Reading areas
- Special Collections and Archives
- The Workshop (Innovative Media)
The Big Question:

In an art school with several disciplines, if a few seem to be heavy users and others seem to be largely absent - why?
Assumption:

I can gauge library use based on how much they interact with me.
Resources & Services I asked about…

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Once upon a time
an art student went to the library…
Question: On average, how often do you physically visit the library?
Assumption:

Who needs the library when I have my studio?
On average, how often do you physically visit the library?

76%
- Daily (26%)
- Weekly (50%)
On average, how often do you physically visit the library?

- Daily: 26%
- Weekly: 50%
- Monthly: 17%
- Once a Semester: 5%
- Never: 2%

**Weekly: 50%**
Assumption:

Art Scholars will be the most frequent library users
On average, how often do you physically visit the library?

#1 Cinema
#2 Art History
#3 Art Foundation
On average, how often do you physically visit the library?

#16 Dance
Question:
Are you aware of the following library resources?
Assumption:

Students think library, they think books
Are you aware of the following library resources?

1. Computers & Printers
2. Study Rooms/Reading Areas
3. Library Website
4. Print Books
Are you aware of the following library resources?

#17 Streaming Music
Question:
How often do you use each of the following library resources?
Assumption: Databases are used the most.
How often do you use each of the following library resources?

#1 Library Website
#2 Computers & Printers
#3 Study Rooms/Reading Areas
How often do you use each of the following library resources?

#17 Music CDs
VCU Libraries: Collections used most

Print Books:
1. Theatre
2. Art History

Print magazines & journals:
1. Art History
2. Art Foundation

Music CDs:
1. Music
2. Graphic Design

DVDs:
1. Cinema
2. Dance

Library website:
1. Art History
2. Interior Design

Databases:
1. Art History
2. Interior Design

Streaming Music:
1. Music
2. Graphic Design

Streaming Video:
1. Cinema
2. Sculpture

ILL:
1. Art History
2. Craft
Question:
How important is each of the following library resources to you?
Assumption:

Frequency of use = importance.
How important is each of the following library resources to you?

#1 Computers & Printers
#2 Library Website
#3 Study Rooms/Reading Areas
How important is each of the following library resources to you?

#17 Streaming Music
Question:
How do you typically find out about VCU Libraries resources and services?
How do you typically find out about VCU Libraries resources and services?

73% The Library Website
Question:
What do you value MOST about VCU Libraries resources and services?
Assumption:

Importance = Value
What do you value MOST about VCU Libraries resources and services?
What do you value MOST about VCU Libraries resources and services?

#1 Resources
- Access
- Variety & Volume

ALL THE THINGS!
What do you value MOST about VCU Libraries resources and services?

#2

- Equipment Loan
- Workstations
- Studios
- Makerspace
- People
- Instructions & Guides
The Innovative-Media Department is well-staffed and making waves in innovation.

By FAR the Workshop. I can get so much done in there, and the resources available are so helpful to the students, especially art students.

I like how you can find/use things that aren’t major restricted like The Workshop.
What do you value MOST about VCU Libraries resources and services?

Print Books aren’t Dead!
I love the amount of books on such a wide variety of topics that are available to us. The amount of art books always blows my mind, they almost always have an obscure art book I'm looking for.

I love that I can just peruse through and find books about quilts and ceramics and Pakistani contemporary artists and look at them whenever I want.

FOR FREE!!! I really, really love our library
Question:
How could VCU Libraries resources and services be improved?
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#1 Access
- Make easier to use
- Promote resources more
Giving us some sort of basic how to/telling us what there is? I didn't know that we even had a ton of this stuff, and I honestly have no idea how to check out a book since I dk where the librarians are any more?? I think we do it with our ID at kiosks but I would be terrified that I was accidentally stealing a book since no one ever told me how to actually go about taking out a book?
How could VCU Libraries resources and services be improved?

#2 Equipment & Technology
  • The Workshop
I would love for there to be more items to check out in the Workshop. Maybe not more variety, but more quantity. I typically go to check out items to help with my assignment long before the assignment is due, but because people tend to never return the objects on time or because of other deadlines, I end up scrounging to get my assignment done on time.
How could VCU Libraries resources and services be improved?

#3 Books

- Discipline-Specific
The moral of the story...
For **VCUarts**:

- The Library is an important 3\(^{rd}\) place
- The depth and breath of our collections is valued
- The Workshop – love it, want more of it
- Print books are still relevant
- More promotion of resources & services needed
Following Up:

• Survey results reports for faculty in each program
  - Meeting with department chairs
  - Visiting faculty meetings for departments
Art Foundation Newsletter Takeover

Look, Learn and Create: The Art Browsery

A dedicated book display on the fourth floor of James Branch Cabell Library offers new, beautiful books that can inspire your creativity. Marked with colorful labels, browsery books are visually rich titles on art, craft and design topics available for checkout. A dedicated section area a few steps away encourages on-the-spot perusal. The Art Browsery is re-focused as new titles arrive, so come by now and find some inspiring new materials, and come again to find many in the future.

Contact your Arts Research Librarian Cathy More Chidester if you want to be added to the Art Browsery Fan newsletter to hear about new additions: cmorechidester@vcu.edu.

Special Collections & Archives

Cut and Fold: Paper Engineering in Special Collections and Archives

This exhibit, on the 4th floor of Cabell Library, deconstructs some of the classic forms of books and book art. Each segment of the exhibit details the form of the book and showcases examples of the form in illustrations of the technique. A companion online exhibit, which includes printable instructions for do-it-yourself book making, is in development and will be launched in the spring semester 2019.

Questions about accessing materials in Special Collections & Archives? Contact Andrea Kehais, Special Collections Librarian at michaelk@vcu.edu.

Mark Your Calendars

February
04-10: 2020 VCU Undergraduate Juried Exhibition Submissions Open
06-09: AFO Exploration Main Opening
20: AFO Pop-Up
March
03-15: Spring Break
15: AFO Application to Main is due at noon
15-28: The Anderson Undergraduate Juried Exhibition
01-26: Up to 100 works will be selected
15: AFO Application to Main is due by midnight
04: AFO Application to Pop-Up
April
30: Last day of classes
May
07: Graduation day, no day classes held
07-09: AFO Final events
07: Memorial Day AFO Clean-up

Featured Resource: Kanopy

Streaming documentaries, feature films, shorts, and more. Includes films from The Criterion Collection, First Run Features, Green Planet Films and many more. Stream from anywhere, anytime for free on your preferred devices with the Kanopy app. Titles include: Moonlight, Lady Bird, Ronan and The Miseducation of Cameron Post.

kanopy

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Following **Up:**

- Survey results reports for The Workshop, Special Collections & PR colleagues
  - Collabs with the Workshop & Special Collections
  - Art Librarian PR Campaign
Pop Up Library
w/ Special Collections:
Andrea Kohashi
Art Librarian PR Campaign
Artwork: Jeff Bland
PR: Sue Robinson

Visual Arts Poster
Performing Arts Poster
Art students don’t only need my help researching papers. I can help them with their creative research for ideas and inspiration.

An artist and a librarian, Carla-Mae Crookendale can help art students and faculty create and teach.

Carla-Mae Crookendale can help you explore:
- the history of movements, styles and materials
- techniques and technologies
- samples and examples for inspiration
- encouraging and forward-thinking conversations

Ask Carla-Mae about …
- The Art Browsey
- VCU Libraries’ world class book art collection
- How to get your work featured on the Cabell Screen

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Her background
M.L.I.S., Library and Information Science, West Virginia University
M.F.A., Fashion Design, Savannah College of Art and Design
B.F.A., Metals and Jewelry, Savannah College of Art and Design

Art Libraries Society of North America. She’s been active in the fashion textile and costume special interest group.

Performing Arts Postcard

guides.library.vcu.edu/performing-arts
Art Student Library Use Survey

362 VCUarts students completed the survey in Fall 2017

According to the survey, students:
- Visited the Library:
  - Daily, 26%
  - Weekly, 50%
  - Monthly, 17%
  - Never, 2%
  - Once a semester, 5%

Most aware of
- Computers & printers
- Study rooms/reading areas

Least aware of
- Streaming music

Used most frequently
- The library website
- http://
Questions?
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