

MU Libraries Library Connections

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Rajmohan Gandhi, Research Professor and Grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, to Speak at the Library Society Dinner, April 12, 2013.

The MU Libraries are pleased to announce that Rajmohan Gandhi will be this year's speaker at the annual Library Society Dinner April 12, 2013. Gandhi is a research professor at the Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He also is the grandson of Indian political and spiritual leader Mahatma Gandhi.

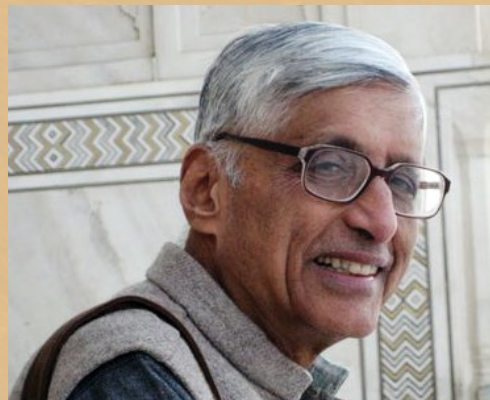
Gandhi was born in India in 1935 and attended St. Stephen's College in New Delhi. In 1956 he began working with Initiatives of Change, a nongovernmental

organization with a primary objective to build trust across the world's divides of culture, nationality, belief and background.

Since becoming involved with Initiatives for Change, Gandhi has been engaged in international efforts for trust-building, reconciliation and democracy, and in battles against corruption and inequalities. His efforts have included speaking, performing public interventions and organizing dialogues. He served as the president of the organization from 2009 through 2010.

Gandhi is known not only for his humanitarian and peacemaking initiatives but also for his writing. He has written extensively on the Indian independence movement, great Indian leaders, Indo-Pakistan relations, human rights and conflict resolution.

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Rajmohan Gandhi, the grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, will speak at the Library Society Dinner April 12. He is a research professor at the University of Illinois and author of several books, including *Mohandas: A True Story of a Man, His People and an Empire*. Photo by Rajmohan Gandhi.

Carnegie Biographer to Speak at Friends of the Library Luncheon

Steven Watts, a history professor at the University of Missouri specializing in the cultural and intellectual history of the United States, will speak at the Friends of the Libraries Luncheon April 20 at noon in the Reynolds Alumni Center. Watts has won two prestigious teaching awards

at MU and has published work in the *American Quarterly*, *Journal of American History*, *Journal of the Early Republic* and *American Studies*. He also is the author of biographies covering the lives of Walt Disney, Henry Ford and Hugh Hefner. His biography of Dale Carnegie is scheduled for publication in 2013.

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A Letter from the Director

Now that 2012 has come to a close, I can report that the past year was both eventful and successful. Thankfully, the year was not as eventful as 2011, when the disastrous fire in Ellis Library occupied our entire fall semester, so I am especially happy to share some of the successes of 2012 and a few upcoming events in 2013.

- On April 13, 2012, the annual Library Society Dinner was held in the Grand Reading Room of Ellis Library. The event featured a fascinating talk by Nicholas Basbanes, author of eight books about books and the people who collect them, write them, sell them and care for them. We now look forward to this year's dinner on April 12, featuring Rajmohan Gandhi, grandson of Mahatma Gandhi and noted speaker on conflict resolution and human rights. [See calendar of events on Page 6]
- In May, U.S. Rep. Blaine Leutkemeyer, UM President Tim Wolfe, and U.S. Superintendent of Documents Mary Alice Baish were among the dignitaries on hand to celebrate 150 years of the MU Libraries as a public depository of U.S. federal documents. Of the more than 1,200 such libraries in the country, MU Libraries has the distinction of being the 15th oldest.
- During the fall semester, the MU Libraries hosted four colloquia in the digital humanities. The combination of computing technology and humanities scholarship has resulted in new methods of research and teaching, reflection on new media, and new modes of scholarly communication and collaboration. Each month, the series hosted presentations and meetings of MU faculty, staff and students interested in these areas.

- Our Faculty Lecture Series has continued with presentations in the Ellis Library colonnade. This fall, we hosted lectures by Professor Devoney Looser, speaking on contemporaries of Jane Austen, and retiree Emma Jean McKinin, on humorists of the 19th century.
- In November, we co-sponsored the Mizzou Advantage symposium **Cultural Bricolage: Artist Books of Cuba's Ediciones Vigía**. This multidisciplinary conference explored various topics surrounding the work of a unique artists' collective in Matanzas, Cuba, that produces limited edition handmade books by Cuban and international authors and artisans.
- This spring we will co-sponsor with the MU Department of Theatre, **Angels in Performance: Documenting LGBTQ Lives in Theatre & Performance**, April 24-27. This conference also will feature a celebration of the recent bequest to the university of papers from the estate of Lanford Wilson, Missouri's own Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright, who died in March 2011. This notable collection of letters, photographs, recordings and other unique artifacts is currently being catalogued by our University Archives for use by students and scholars.

I hope to see many of you at these and other upcoming events. As always, I offer everyone a standing invitation to visit Ellis or any of our branch libraries to experience first-hand the many wonderful things happening here. Thank you for your continued support of the MU Libraries.

Jim Cogswell
Director of Libraries

Unique Endowment Supports the MU Libraries Borrowing and Lending

Thanks to the support of Katherine Hunvald, PhD '91, the MU Libraries have the only endowment in the country devoted to Interlibrary Loan (ILL). ILL is a service whereby a user of one library can borrow books or receive copies of documents that are owned by another library. The user makes a request with the local library, which, acting as an intermediary, identifies owners of the desired item, places the request, receives the item, makes it available to the user and arranges

for its return. Although books and journal articles are the most frequently requested items, some libraries will lend audio recordings, video recordings, maps, sheet music and microforms. In many cases, nominal fees accompany interlibrary loan services.

Hunvald, who graduated with degrees in art history from Vassar in 1952 and Radcliffe in 1953, had always wanted to finish her research and complete a doctoral program. After raising a family with her

husband Edward H. Hunvald Jr., professor emeritus of law at MU, she decided it was her time to complete her studies.

While doing research for her dissertation on early medieval metalwork, she found that the MU Libraries art history collection was excellent and comparable to the collections of Vassar and Harvard. But she also found there were quite a few materials she needed that

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Meet the Librarian: Mary Ryan, Head of Reference

Can you tell us a little about your background and experience and what led you to MU Libraries?

After graduating from St. Louis University with a bachelor's in history, I worked in the U.S. government for two different agencies but the experience left me yearning for a career that had more academic appeal. After four years in civil service, I went to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to work on a master's degree in political science and history. I had the good fortune to meet other graduate students, including students working on beginning and advanced degrees in library and information science from a variety of disciplines and backgrounds. Although this was a new field to me, I already had an interest not only in liberal arts but also presidential libraries. I completed my master's and returned a year later to the University of Illinois to pursue a master's degree in library and information science.

Upon graduation, I answered a posting for a reference librarian at the MU Libraries for an opening in the undergraduate library (which no longer exists). I started in February 1972 and knew I had found the ideal career that matched my interests and aptitude.

What are some of the unique aspects of your job?

The reference department provides the important public interface and library assistance that students need as they pursue their education. Knowing how our department impacts their educational lives through individual reference assistance, library instruction, collection management and web development provides a sense of personal satisfaction to me. We also work with faculty and the general public providing assistance in countless ways. The underlying constant is that you get to work with a diversity of interesting people and you deal with a wide array of library issues. It has

been my good fortune to interact with students more directly in my earlier years and to supervise reference librarians who carry out that work today. Even though our libraries have subject specialists, all of the reference librarians are comfortable dealing with a variety of questions and concerns. We are simultaneously subject specialists and generalists. Our work provides a constant intellectual challenge.

How has the role of the reference department changed since you first started working in reference?

The most remarkable change is the role technology has played in transforming the field of library and information science. In 1972 when I came to MU, there was no Internet, no Google capability; reference resources were primarily indexes, books, newspapers and government documents searchable via hard copies or microfiche. We had print and even handwritten catalog cards to search manually as we helped patrons find needed books and journals.

Electronic searching of databases, Internet resources, online searchable catalogs with new discovery tools and e-books have brought rapid change to our field and to the work of the reference department. Online information and instruction content provided by the reference staff has expanded rapidly. We also have seen the migration of books, journals and manuscripts scanned and stored in databases for access in this explosion of information and knowledge. In addition to providing face-to-face, mail and telephone reference as we did in the early days, we now also provide email, chat and text reference services. Mobile devices are changing how we provide our services. The MU Libraries is also part of a state and countrywide system of resources networked for Interlibrary Loans many of which are delivered electronically. All these technological advances have changed how students, faculty and librarians work with one another.



Photo by Marie Concannon

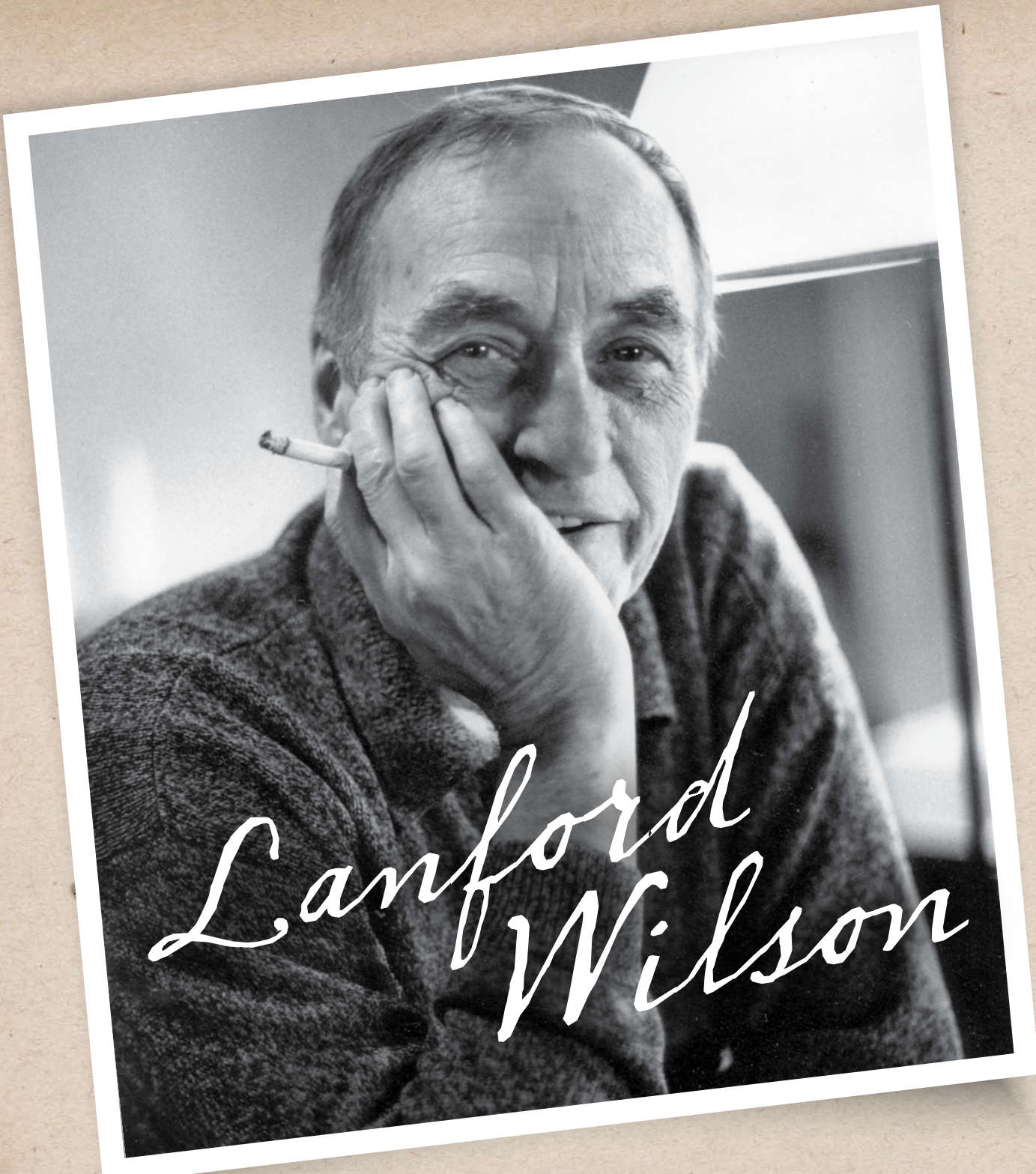
Mary Ryan is head of the Ellis Library reference department.

After serving 43 years at the MU Libraries, you have plans to retire this year. What are your plans after you retire?

I would like to volunteer to help low literacy adults develop better reading skills whether it is English as a second language or others who for a variety of reasons have reading difficulties. Literacy deficits are likely to limit these individuals' functionality in their lives. I also would like to do some additional traveling. I have been to Ireland three times and would enjoy going back!

What has been your favorite thing about working for the MU Libraries?

My favorite part of my career has been working with the university students and knowing I am making a difference in their education in such a positive way. It also has been gratifying to work with faculty who depend upon library resources and who work with the reference staff to help shape the collections. I have a passion for education and that gets to play out every day. I sometimes stop and think about how grateful I am to have worked on the University of Missouri campus and to have made many friendships over the years.



Early in 2011, the MU Libraries received the papers and manuscripts of Lanford Wilson, one of the premier American playwrights of the last half of the 20th century, as a bequest. Considered one of the founders of the Off-Off Broadway movement, Wilson earned the 1980 Pulitzer Prize for the play *Talley's Folly*, the second in his trilogy of works dealing with familial relationships in small-town Missouri. Wilson is known for exploring the themes of alienation, loneliness and cultural illusion in his works, and he has been compared to influential playwrights such as Tennessee Williams and William Inge. Though not a graduate of the University of Missouri, Wilson was a speaker and participant in the Missouri Playwright's Workshop program of the MU Department of Theatre in 2006.

The collection of more than 45 boxes is currently being prepared for public use by the staff of the Special Collections, Archives & Rare Books division. The collection includes extensive correspondence and numerous play and short story manuscripts. Some of the materials in his manuscripts have neither been published nor produced, making the scholarly research value of this collection truly remarkable.

Lanford Wilson was born in 1937 in Lebanon, Mo. After the divorce and remarriage of his mother, Wilson moved to Ozark, where he graduated from Ozark High School. Wilson began his collegiate studies at Southwest Missouri State College (now Missouri State University). In 1956, Wilson moved to San Diego to live with his biological father, a situation that would provide material for his autobiographical play, *Lemon Sky*. While in San Diego, Wilson worked in an airplane manufacturing plant and enrolled in art and art history classes at San Diego State University. In 1957, Wilson moved to Chicago and worked as a graphic artist for

Opposite page: Early in 2011, the MU Libraries received the papers and manuscripts of Lanford Wilson, one of the premier American playwrights of the last half of the 20th century, as a bequest. Image courtesy of MU Libraries Special Collections.

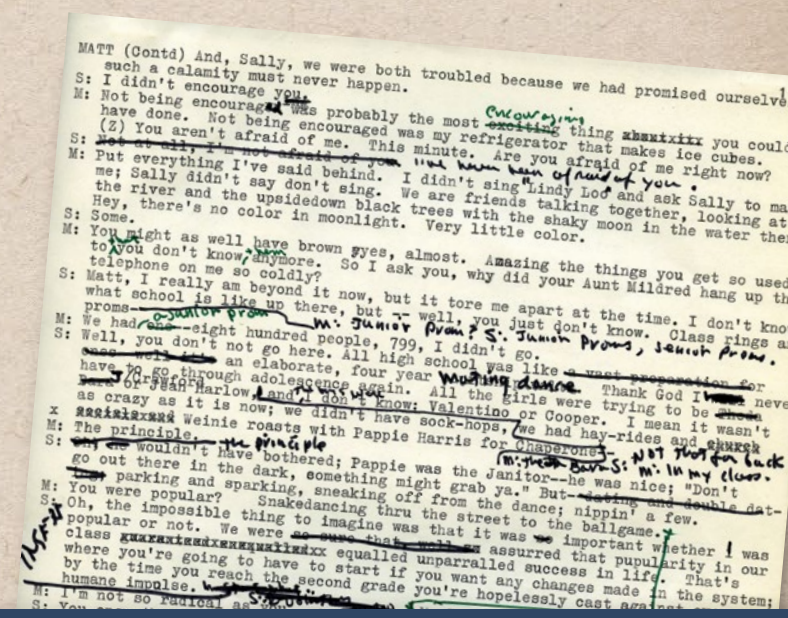
Right: The collection that Wilson left to the MU Libraries includes a first draft of *Talley's Folley*, his 1979 one-act play that takes place on a Missouri farm. Image courtesy of MU Libraries Special Collections.

an advertising agency. It was in Chicago that Wilson realized the short stories he had been writing actually worked better in play form. Wilson also attended a class in playwriting at the University of Chicago. Because of a lack of live theatre opportunities in Chicago, Wilson relocated to New York City in 1962.

It was in New York that Wilson encountered playwriting success at a small Off-Off Broadway coffee house/theater, Caffe Cino, where his play *So Long at the Fair*, was produced in 1963. Many of his early plays were produced at Caffe Cino and at La Mama Experimental Theater Club. He would later have his most famous plays premiere at the Circle Repertory Company in New York City, an Off Broadway theatre company that Wilson co-founded and for which he was resident playwright.

Among the works Wilson wrote for the Circle Repertory Company were *The Hot L Baltimore* (which won the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for the Best American Play in 1973), *The Mound Builders*, *Serenading Louie*, *Fifth of July* and *Talley's Folley*. He also was the winner of several Tony Awards for other plays. Actors who portrayed Wilson's characters on Broadway include Judd Hirsch, Christopher Reeve, Swoosie Kurtz and Jeff Daniels.

The Special Collections, Archives & Rare Books Division anticipates the Lanford Wilson papers will be available for research sometime in 2013.



The life of Lanford Wilson at a glance

1937
Lanford Wilson is born in Lebanon, Mo.

1963
Wilson's play *So Long at the Fair* is first produced at Caffe Cino in New York City.

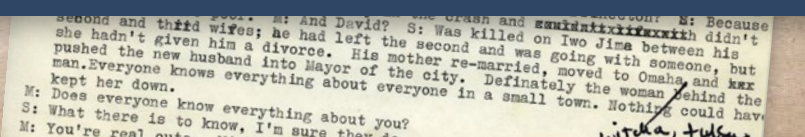
1969
Wilson co-founds the Circle Repertory Company, a highly regarded collective of actors, playwrights and directors.

1980
Wilson is awarded the Pulitzer Prize for his play *Talley's Folly*.

2001
Wilson is elected into the Theatre Hall of Fame.

2011
Wilson dies in Wayne, N.J. of complications from pneumonia.

2013
Wilson's manuscripts will be available for research at the MU Libraries.



Calendar of Events

APRIL 12

Library Society dinner

Keynote speaker Rajmohan Gandhi
6–9:30 p.m.
Ellis Library Grand Reading Room

APRIL 20

Friends of the Libraries annual meeting

8:30–10:30 a.m.
Reynolds Alumni Center

MU Libraries donor appreciation ceremony

10:30 a.m.–noon
Ellis Library Colonnade

Friends of the Libraries annual luncheon

Noon–2:30 p.m.
Reynolds Alumni Center

APRIL 24-27

“Angels in Performance: Documenting LGBTQ Lives in Theatre & Performance” MU Campus

IN MEMORIAM

Martha Mares Lebo died June 25, 2012, in San Antonio. She is survived by her brother, Kenneth R. Mares of St. Louis. After graduating from high school in University City, she attended William Woods College. She continued her education and graduated from MU in 1961, where she was a member of Chi Omega sorority. After graduation, she began a long and rewarding career in education. After receiving her master's in education in 1986, she worked as an elementary school librarian until retiring in 1999. For many years, Lebo was a supporter of the MU Libraries, as a member of the Friends of the Libraries and the Library Society.

Fall Events at Ellis Library

Kaden Clerkley, right, 9 years old from Temecula, Calif. decorates a mini pumpkin at the annual MU Libraries Open House on Homecoming Saturday. Kaden's brother, Keenan, is a junior accounting major at MU who served on the 2012 Homecoming Steering Committee. Photo by Shannon Cary.



Anastacia and Victoria Gibbs, left, show their Mizzou spirit by donning sparkly headbands and working diligently on Mizzou-themed pumpkins. Photo by Shannon Cary.

Laura Ling, far right, a journalist for Current TV who was detained in North Korea in 2009, speaks to admirers during a reception for Ling at Ellis Library. Photo by Sharon Gaughan.



Libraries Co-sponsor Conference with Theatre Department

In concert with the scheduled MU Department of Theatre production of Tony Kushner's *Angels in America* (First Part: “The Millennium Approaches”), the MU Libraries are sponsoring an interdisciplinary mini-conference titled “Angels in Performance: Documenting LGBTQ Lives in Theatre & Performance” April 24–27. The conference will feature guest artist Tony Kushner, as well as two major scholars in the field of LGBTQ theatre and performance history: Robert Schanke, professor emeritus of theatre at Central College, Iowa, and editor of *Theatre in the Americas* book series, Southern Illinois University Press; and Kim Marra, Schanke's collaborator on several books and professor of theater and performance history at the University of Iowa.

The conference will feature an onstage interview with Kushner, as well as workshops and conference presentations on the nature of documenting LGBTQ lives in theatre and performance. Presentations will include papers on theatre and performance history, ethnography, theory, interactive theatre and creative presentations keeping within the conference theme of documenting LGBTQ lives in theatre and performance. The conference events will be held in the Rhynsburger Theatre and the Corner Playhouse.

The conference also will include an announcement and a celebration of the bequest of papers from the estate of Lanford Wilson, Missouri's own Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright, to the MU Libraries.

Gandhi

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Gandhi also has written several books about his grandfather including *Mobandas: A True Story of a Man, His People and an Empire*, which was published in 2007. In this work, he paints a portrait of what Mahatma Gandhi was like in his daily life and personal relationships. Rajmohan Gandhi received the prestigious Biennial Award from the Indian History Congress in 2007 for the book.

Gandhi met his grandfather only a few times during his life, saying that much of his knowledge of Mahatma Gandhi in a personal context came from his own father. Through these personal connections and his in-depth research, Rajmohan Gandhi is considered by many to be the final authority on his grandfather's life. Many have asked “what would Mahatma Gandhi be saying now in this post 9/11 world?” Rajmohan Gandhi has urged

western society not to demonize Islam. At a 2007 conference at Emory University, he listed three things he believes Mahatma Gandhi would be saying now.

“He would say, ‘Let people first of all throw a searchlight on the deeds of their own side.’ Secondly, ‘Do not let us fall into the temptation of believing that one faith community out of all is uniquely fallen, uniquely infected, uniquely dangerous to the rest. Can peace building be reconciled with the notion of one flawed religion, race or community?’ Finally Gandhi, Hinduism's exponent, would say to people of all religions, ‘Is the hate, fear or greed around you going down or going up?’ That would be his test for a peacemaker,” Rajmohan Gandhi said.

Gandhi's latest work is *A Tale of Two Revolts: India's Mutiny & the American Civil War*. In this book he examines the similarities between two simultaneous wars occurring on opposite sides of the globe.

Endowment

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weren't in the MU Libraries. MU Libraries' ILL department was able to request materials from libraries throughout the world. But Hunvald finally put in an ILL request for an article from a Swiss archaeology journal that could not be filled because the cost of borrowing the item was too expensive. This led Hunvald to create an endowment for ILL so that researchers would be able to access the materials they need regardless of the expense.

“We are very grateful to Ms. Hunvald for her generous gift to the MU Libraries. Our users rely on Interlibrary Loan as an extension of the collection. Because of the ever-increasing publication of materials and the impossibility of one library owning everything, the importance of Interlibrary Loan has intensified,” June DeWeese, head of MU Libraries access services

department, says. In addition, changes in technology have created faster and more efficient ILL operations over the years. Instead of photocopying articles and sending them by mail, libraries scan articles and provide electronic copies by email. Increased use of databases, such as WorldCat and Google, means that users are turning to Interlibrary Loan more often. Hunvald's gift is vital in helping the MU Libraries provide high-quality ILL service to its patrons.

Hunvald says she was happy to give back to the libraries that had been so helpful in getting her the documents she needed to complete her research. She was especially grateful to the staff members, including DeWeese and Delores Fisher, head of the ILL-borrowing unit, for being so friendly and helpful. “Without the MU Libraries' ILL service and their dedicated staff, I would not have been able to complete my research.”



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