

the

KERLAN

collection



CHILDREN'S LITERATURE RESEARCH COLLECTIONS

Photo Year 2008 in Review



Jean Stevenson, Walter Dean Myers, Lee Galda, and Archie Givens, Jr. (l-r), at the Kerlan Award luncheon in May.

Book Week lecturer, Joyce Sidman (center), with Becky Rapport, Lisa Westberg Peters, Susan Marie Swanson, and Beth Brendler (l-r) in October.



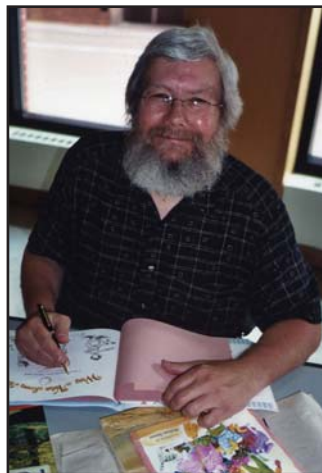
Jane Nicole, freelance designer, and Kim Faurot, KF Board (above l-r), collaborate to fill the display case in the Children's Theatre Company lobby. In fall 2008 they featured Kerlan materials for *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* (below).



The Kerlan Collection 2008 Calendar (left), a new fundraising endeavor by the Kerlan Friends, delighted many art lovers while raising money for outreach and preservation.



Festive crafts and treats (below) at the KF Appreciation event with Lauren Stringer (above) on 15 November 2008.



Chase Lecturer poet Paul B. Janeczko signs books in the Andersen Library Atrium on 24 June 2008.



CONTENTS

Photo Year in Review	1
From the KFCo-Presidents	2
Recent Visitors	3
Research Based on Resources	3
Fellowships & Reports	4
Recent Acquisitions	5
Split Rock Arts	6
In Memoriam	6
“As I See It” Exhibit	6
Kerlan Award History	7
Donors & Membership	7
Coming Events	8

The 2008-2009

Kerlan Friends Board

Christine Alfano	Maythee Kantar
Susan Carr Brown	Robert Nistler
Maggie Cords	Isabell Monk
Kim Faurot	O'Connor
David Geister	Steve Palmquist
Margaret Hall	Lisa Westberg
Karen Hoyle	Peters
<i>-Ex Officio</i>	Julie Reimer
	Joyce Sidman
	Kathy Smola

The Children's Literature Research Collections' Kerlan Collection is an internationally recognized center of research in the field of children's literature. The Collection contains original materials, including manuscripts, artwork, galleys, and color proofs for more than 18,000 children's books. These materials represent eight decades of American children's books and selected titles published in other countries. The Kerlan Collection also includes more than 110,000 children's books.

This Winter 2009 Newsletter is co-sponsored by the Kerlan Friends and the CLRC.

Editor: Karen Nelson Hoyle
Production Editor: Marie J. Harvat
Copy Editor: Linda Berger
Photographer: Karen Nelson Hoyle
Contributors: Meredith Gillies, Marie J. Harvat, Karen Nelson Hoyle, Steve Palmquist

Children's Literature Research
Collections (CLRC)
University of Minnesota
113 Andersen Library
222 - 21st Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55455
T: 612-624-4576; Fax: 612-626-0377
E-mail: clrc@umn.edu
<http://special.lib.umn.edu/clrc/>

FROM THE KERLAN FRIENDS CO-PRESIDENTS

As we considered a topic for this issue, we were reminded of an old Chinese curse: “May you live in interesting times.” The origin of that Chinese curse is cloudy, but it may come from a loose translation of another Chinese quote, “Opportunities are made in turbulent times.” Each quote provides some food for thought.

There's no denying that we live in interesting times. We face a global economic situation that seems to defy the experts, our first African-American president steps into the Oval Office, and we all feel the pressure from encroaching digital communications to be “connected” all the time. Curse... or opportunity?

Difficult times often provide the conditions that can transform our thoughts and attitudes resulting in amazing new literature and art. How will current authors and illustrators choose to create reflections of our times? What voices will emerge to expand our perceptions or lead us to experience our lives in new and original ways? What unexpected works will our talented children's literature community produce?

And that's the opportunity—with your help as a Kerlan Friend, the Kerlan Collection seeks to capture the ephemera of book creation that can so easily be lost or discarded. A comprehensive collection of materials is invaluable for its potential to extend our knowledge beyond the book and enable us to understand the creators of children's books and the culture in which they live...and thereby better understand ourselves.

As we consider current and future users of the Kerlan Collection, “interesting times” can be an avenue to explore. What can we learn about other turbulent times from the gems that are already tucked away in the Andersen Library caverns? What will future generations think of our times as they explore the Collection? A treasure trove of material awaits the curiosity of patrons, whether the pursuit is academic or creative exploration.

It's easy to think negatively with all that we face, but there are opportunities, too. The strength of your support as a Kerlan Friend enables the Kerlan Collection to continue as a deep and substantive collection. Some of us can donate our time as board members and volunteers, others can attend events, and others are generous with financial contributions. Your membership dues are essential for continuing our mission. We greatly appreciate your support as we walk together through interesting times.

— Steve Palmquist and Julie Reimer



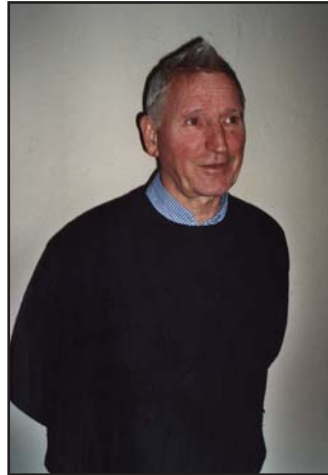
Board Members Maggie Cords and Joyce Sidman with author and Kerlan Friend Debra Frasier.

See page 7 to become a Kerlan Friend or to renew your membership. If you are unsure of your membership status, inquire with the CLRC staff by phone, (612) 624-4576 or email clrc@umn.edu.

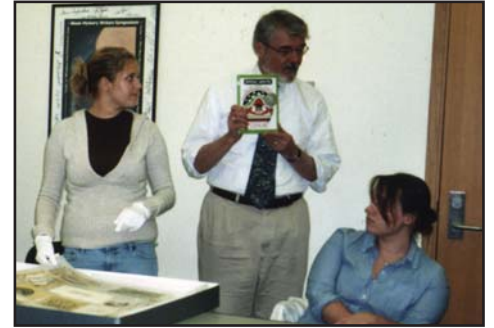
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RECENT VISITORS

Nancy Carlson (below) visited in late Summer 2008 to review original material options for her MCAD illustration students to use during their class visit to the Kerlan. While in the office she also inscribed some of her books.



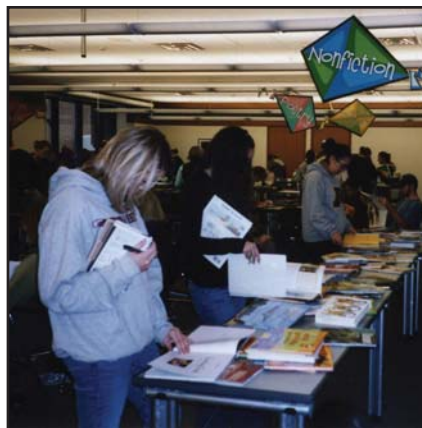
Louis Jensen (left), Danish architect turned children's book author, has begun writing 1,001 tales in square text format. He visited the CLRC November 9 to view some of the several hundred Danish children's books and original work by Virginia Allen Jensen and Ib Spang Olsen.



U of M Professor Michael Hancher (above) and his honors undergraduate students look at original art from Caldecott Award books.



Students from the U of M CEHD department of Curriculum and Instruction (below) reviewed young adult and children's books published in 2008 during Book Week in October.



Author Joseph Slate (above) visited the Kerlan to see his materials and donated books to complete Slate holdings.



Two students from Joan Arndt's summer Hamline class examine Kerlan Collection art.



CLRC staff Meredith Gillies assists two English graduate students with questions.

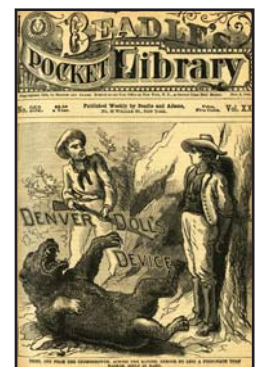
RESEARCH BASED ON COLLECTION RESOURCES

Research conducted in and image scans from the Hess Collection have appeared as illustrations for the following articles and presentation:

Cox, J. Randolph. "Bibliographical Notes: Ned Buntline's Buffalo Bill Stories." *Dime Novel Round Up* 76 (June 2007): 76-87.

_____. "The Comic Backwoodsman in the Dime Novel: Oll Coomes' Old Kit Bandy." Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing Conference, 11-14 July 2007, Minneapolis, MN.

Thomas, Lynne M. "Denver Doll: A Brave Girl in Britches." *Dime Novel Round Up* 77 (April 2008): 47-63. Illustrations from *Beadle's Pocket Library*.



Beadle's Pocket Library, No. 252, 7 November 1888

FELLOWSHIPS TO VISIT THE KERLAN

The **Ezra Jack Keats/Kerlan Memorial Fellowship** provides \$1,500 to a “talented writer and/or illustrator of children’s books who wishes to use the Kerlan Collection for the furtherance of his or her artistic development.” The recipient will receive funds for travel expenses and a per diem allotment. The study visit and written report must be completed during the 2009 calendar year.

This fellowship is intended to provide financial assistance for writers and illustrators who wish to use the original manuscripts, illustrations, and books of the Kerlan Collection in the course of their professional development. Special consideration will be given to those who would find it difficult to finance a visit to the Kerlan Collection.

All applications must be postmarked by December 31, 2008 and sent to:

Fellowship, CLRC, 113 Andersen Library, 222 – 21st Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55455

For online information on the fellowships, please visit <http://special.lib.umn.edu/clrc/kerlan/awards.php>

The **Marilyn Hollinshead Visiting Scholars Fellowship** provides grants-in-aid for travel to the Kerlan Collection. These grants will be available for research study in 2009. The Kerlan Collection is one of the world’s finest research collections in children’s literature and contains over 110,000 books and original art and manuscript material for approximately 18,000 titles.

Applicants may request up to \$1,500. Send a letter with the proposed purpose, a plan to use specific research materials (manuscripts and art), dates, and budget (including airfare and per diem). Travel and a written report on the project must be completed and submitted in 2009.

WORDS FROM THE 2008 KEATS/KERLAN & HOLLINSHEAD WINNERS

Kelly Baptist of Portage, MI, earned the Keats/Kerlan Fellowship for 2008. She is working on a young adult novel and reported the following:

“The purpose of my research was to study the urban dialogue techniques utilized by [Nikki] Grimes and [Walter Dean] Myers in these works. I think strong, true-to-life dialogue is essential to young adult novels, especially those with an urban flair. Dialogue should be believable, but not overdone. ...

In *Slam!*, I noticed that Myers had to make sure his main character’s (Slam) voice was realistic, but he also had to be careful not to succumb to the overuse of urban vernacular. I had the published book with me as I studied his early drafts, so I was able to compare the two and note pertinent changes. One thing I noticed was that in the early drafts, Myers used more vernacular terms, such as the word “ain’t.” In the finished book, I saw that “I ain’t” and “they ain’t” were sometimes changed to “I’m not” or “they’re not.” The great thing about Myers’ writing, though, is that despite these changes, the characters’ voices remained believable. I think this is an amazing feat because I’ve read books where the author seemed to be trying too hard and using too much slang, as well as books where the dialogue didn’t match the character. Studying *Slam!* reminded me to maintain a balance in my dialogue.

... What I got out of studying *Jazmin’s Notebook* was the power of description and the reality of revising and editing. It was amazing to see the different drafts that Nikki Grimes had to go through, sometimes only changing a few words or a sentence.”



Kelly Baptist

Helen Kopec from Toronto, Ont., a musician and author, received the Hollinshead Fellowship for 2008.

“Some years ago, I attended a performance of Mozart’s opera, *The Magic Flute*, with costumes and sets designed by Maurice Sendak. Sendak brought to life the magic, otherworldly aspect of the opera, as though transferred from a child’s picture book to the stage. I felt inspired to read all of Sendak’s children’s books, and eventually began to write my own stories. ...

In *Kenny’s Window*, Maurice Sendak’s first draft tells the story of a boy who wants to recapture a lost dream. In order to do so, Kenny must enlist the aid of his favourite toys, and answer seven questions, each of which allows him to feel a different emotion, including anger, loneliness, joy, love and pride. In the margins of the typewritten draft, Sendak comments: “This is confusing...so what?...clumsy...why do they all have to be sleeping?... obscure...too cute...”

Following the first draft of *Kenny’s Window*, Maurice Sendak writes, “This story is obscure—it should expand and be happy—Kenny’s kind of happy—stay in character and say what you mean—this whole book is devoid of detail!!!! It’s up in your head and not in the story!!!”

This quote encapsulates what I learned during my visit to the Kerlan Collection, and is a daily reminder that releasing a story from one’s imagination is both a process and an end. A writer must experience the emotions herself in order to connect with the reader and ensure that he or she will identify with the characters, and care enough about them to read on.”



Helen Kopec

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

These materials have been donated by the creators, their families, or third parties. Titles of recent acquisitions are not listed if previously reported in a newsletter.

Key: MS – manuscripts, IL – illustrations; published titles are indicated by italics.

Caroline Arnold: MS — *African Animals; Children of the Settlement Houses*



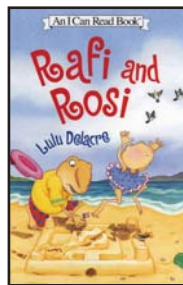
Caroline Arnold

Marion Dane Bauer: MS — *A Very Little Princess; In Like a Lion, Out Like a Lamb; Killing Miss Kitty and Other Sins; Some Babies are Wild*



Marion Dane Bauer

Lulu Delacre: IL & MS — *Rafi and Rosi; Rafi and Rosi: Carnival!; Shake it, Morena!*



Rafi and Rosi by Lulu Delacre (HarperCollins, 2004)

Kate DiCamillo: MS — *Great Joy; Louise: The Adventures of a Chicken; Mercy Watson, Princess in Disguise; Mercy Watson Thinks Like a Pig; Our White House: Looking Out, Looking In*

Kelly Dupre: IL & MS — *The Lion's Share; The Travels of Igal Shidad*



Jenni Holm

Nikki Grimes: MS — *Barack Obama: Son of Promise, Child of Hope*

Jenni Holm: MS — *The Stink Files 001; The Stink Files 002; The Stink Files 003; Middle School is Worse than Meatloaf; Three unpublished manuscripts*

Mildred Lee: MS — *Honor Sands* (Donated by Barbara DuLac)

Carolyn Marsden: MS — *Bird Spring; Blood Miracles*

Claudia Mills: MS — *Being Teddy Roosevelt*

Donna Jo Napoli: MS — *Ready to Dream*

Phyllis Reynolds Naylor: MS — *Cricket Man*

Kadir Nelson: IL — *Coretta Scott*

Janette Rallison: MS — *Fame, Glory, and Other Things on My To Do List; My Fairy Godmother*

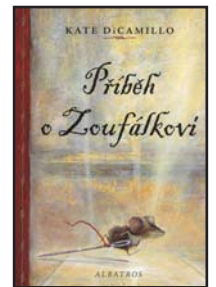
Jane Yolen: MS — *The Mary Celeste: An Unsolved Mystery From History; Miz Berlin Walks; Roanoke: the Lost Colony; The Salem Witch Trials: An Unsolved Mystery From History; Simple Gifts: The Story of the Shakers; The Transfigured Hart*



Kadir Nelson

The CLRC has also received book donations from the following individuals and organizations since June 2008:

Caroline Arnold; M. Lisa Berg; Mary Bogan; Boyds Mills Press; Marcia Brown; Nancy Carlson; Mary Combs; J. Randolph Cox; Kate DiCamillo; Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art; Jim Eyer; Donna Fairbanks; Feiwel and Friends; Lisl Gaal; Nikki Grimes; Elizabeth Hall; Gary Harm; HarperCollins Publishers; Kevin Henkes; Laurel Hillier; Holiday House, Inc.; Houghton Mifflin; The International Library of Children's Literature; Lee and Low Books; Bente Lohne; Claudia Mills; Phyllis Reynolds Naylor; Emilie Quast; Constance Schoppe; Joseph Slate; Southeast Asian Ministry; Lanaya Stangret; Momo Yashima; Ed Young



Kate DiCamillo's *Tale of Despereaux* in Czech translation (Albatros, 2007)

INTERESTING BOOKS & TIMES

Most every election year must be an interesting year, but the year preceding the November, 2008, election must be among the more exciting. The historicism of presidential candidacy of Barack Obama and vice presidential candidacy of Sarah Palin was momentous and exciting in many

ways. The world of children's books is not so far removed from contemporary politics. Nikki Grimes has written (and recently announced she will re-write the ending) a children's picture book biography of Barack Obama (pictured at the left), especially outlining the importance of faith and international family in his life.

Come to the Kerlan to view the published book as well as read the original manuscript materials.

Interested in other times? Let the Kerlan staff help you find your interesting book.

— Marie J. Harvat, CLRC staff



Barack Obama by Nikki Grimes, illustrated by Bryan Collier (Simon & Schuster, 2008)

IN MEMORIAM

Longtime collector, bibliographer, former editor of *Dime Novel Round Up* and Hess collection donor, **Edward T. LeBlanc, Sr.**, died at the age of 88 on 29 September 2008 in Fall River, Massachusetts.

Jeannette Eyerly, author and Kerlan Collection donor, died at her home in Des Moines, Iowa, on 18 August 2008 at the age of 100. She was one of the first young adult novelists to address real-life issues such as divorce, unwanted pregnancy, and drug and alcohol abuse, as faced by young women in particular. The Kerlan holds manuscript materials for twelve of her titles including *Bonnie Jo*, *Go Home*, *Escape from Nowhere*, and *Angel Baker, Thief*.

SPLIT ROCK ARTS

Split Rock Arts Program Summer Workshops

The 2009 schedule features more than 35 workshops and retreats taught by eminent practicing artists and writers. With a wide range of topics, Split Rock workshops serve artists of all interests, backgrounds, and skill levels, and allow for significant one-to-one contact between participant and instructor.

The following workshops relate to children's books. Classes will visit the Kerlan Collection/CLRC:

June 14–19, 2009 / *Stories Into Pictures: Children's Book Illustration* / Eric Rohmann

June 14–19, 2009 / *Tales From the Truth: Writing Biography for Children* / Candace Fleming

July 12–17 / *Drawing on Resources: Research and Fieldwork for Illustration* / Daniel Powers

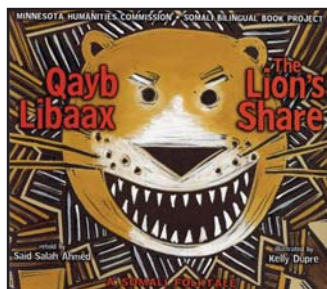
Online and print catalogs with workshop descriptions available in February with registration open late February 2009.

There are no prerequisites. Graduate/undergraduate credit, scholarships, and on-campus housing are available. **Scholarship deadline is May 4, 2009.**

For more information visit:

<www.cce.umn.edu/splitrockarts>, or call 612-625-8100 for a catalog.

RECENT EXHIBITION & EVENT



The Lion's Share retold by Said Salah Ahmed, illustrated by Kelly Dupre, (Minnesota Humanities Center, 2006)

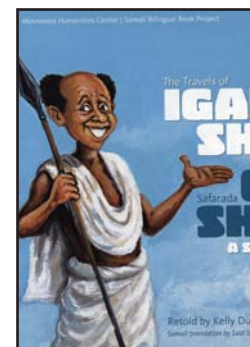
Until December 9th in the Elmer L. Andersen gallery, “As I See It” captured the sights and sounds from the everyday experiences of young people in the Twin Cities, placing Somali culture and traditions in the context of life in urban Minnesota. Participants recorded their lives and community through a documentary photography project led by noted Somali photographer Abdi Roble, whose personal work currently comprises the largest body of archival material documenting Somali identity in the world.

During the run of the exhibition, the neighborhood youth organization Sheridan Shooting Stars will help coordinate several community events. The programs will document ongoing memory projects focusing on Somali and immigrant experiences, allowing “As I See It” to become an evolving “real-time” community exhibition. Some of the events to date included the opening gala, and a poetry slam performed by local teen artists.

The Children's Literature Research Collections displayed art and manuscript materials from some of the bilingual Somali/English books in the collection, including items from *Dhegeeder*, *The Lion's Share*, and *Igal Shidad*.



Benjamin Mogush and his aunt Annie Mason in the reading area of “As I See It”



Cover detail from *The Travels of Igal Shidad* retold by Kelly Dupre, illustrated by Amin Amir (Minnesota Humanities Center, 2008)

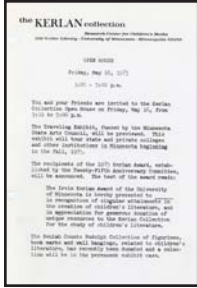
This exhibit is sponsored by the Immigration History Research Center, Arts Midwest, and the CLRC, with exhibition support from Sheridan Shooting Stars.

—Meredith Gillies

HISTORY OF THE KERLAN AWARD

The founding of the Kerlan Award began informally with discussion among University faculty, library staff, and community in 1973 about recognition of the forthcoming 25th anniversary of the Kerlan Collection founding at the U of M. Irvin Kerlan, MD signed a contract with the University of Minnesota in 1949.

Three initiatives resulted: the Kerlan Award recognizing author and artist donors, the Kerlan Newsletter for outreach, and the Kerlan Friends to support these endeavors.



1975 Kerlan Award Invitation

In 1974, the first year, the 25th anniversary committee selected three for the Kerlan Award: Elizabeth Coatsworth, Marie Hall Ets and Marguerite Henry. For 1975, the Kerlan Friends' account provided sufficient funds for a celebration. Author and illustrator, Roger Duvoisin, flew from New Jersey to accept the Kerlan Award certificate in person.

The Kerlan Friends published *The Kerlan Awards in Children's Literature, 1975-2001* (Pogo Press, 2001), edited by board member Ruth Berman. Essays about Dr. Kerlan and a short history of the Kerlan Award precede an introduction and acceptance speech or equivalent for each recipient. For order information, email clrc@umn.edu or call (612) 624-4576.

To date, forty-seven people have received the Kerlan Award including Walter Dean Myers and Robert Kraus (posthumous) in 2008. Jeanette Winter will be honored with the Kerlan Award April 25, 2009. All recipients are listed on our website <<http://special.lib.umn.edu/clrc/kerlan/awards.php>>.



2008 Kerlan Award Postcard

—Karen Nelson Hoyle, Curator

KERLAN FRIENDS RENEWALS, NEW MEMBERS, AND CLRC GIFTS

Thank you to all who became a Kerlan Friend, renewed membership, or donated between 2 August and 15 November 2008:

Emily E. Andersen, Barbara S. Bach, Benedictine Sisters Benevolent Association, Kimberly K. Faurot, Billy W. & Donna L. Fields, Bernard W. & Norma B. Gaffron, Ronald F. Green, Adele A. Greenlee, Jennifer C. Hill, Nancy K. Hof, Torild M. Homstad, Emily Jenkins, Lyn E. Lacy, Adam M. Lerner, Lerner Foundation, Gail D. Nordstrom, Sidney Offit, Donald W. Olson, Jr., Jane A. Paulsen, Anne K. Phillips, Cleone F. Pritchard, Dianne Rhein, Judith E. Rys, M. Sarah Smedman, Norma J. Sommerdorf, Susan W. & John B. Stanford, Cynthia A. Steinke, Jean M. Stevenson, Sue Wolslegel, X. J. & Dorothy M. Kennedy, Ltd.

Thanks also for these other gifts and endowments from 2 August through 15 November 2008:

Donations to the Kerlan Collection:

Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, Inc. (for the *Ezra Jack Keats/Kerlan Memorial Fellowship*), Gary Harm, Red Balloon Bookshop, Debra Mitts-Smith, Charles B. Thurston

Donations to the Hess Collection:

Dr. Fred Erisman

Donations to the Borger Collection:

John Borger



BECOME A KERLAN FRIEND

I/We wish to join the Kerlan Friends (UF 3411 - UM09 LIBR KNEW)*

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_____ I wish to receive my Kerlan newsletters via email

Please charge my Credit Card. Account: _____ Exp.: _____/_____/_____

Signature: _____

Make your check payable to the University of Minnesota & mail to: Kerlan Friends, University of Minnesota Libraries, CM 3854, P.O. Box 70870, St. Paul, MN 55170-3854

* All membership gifts are tax deductible.

COMING EVENTS

First Fridays: CLRC Founders: Irvin Kerlan, MD, and George Hess - 6 February 2009

Noon to 1:00 p.m. in 120 Andersen Library on the University of Minnesota West Bank

A free and open to the public event. Presentations include curator Karen Nelson Hoyle speaking about two of the founders of CLRC collections. Light refreshments are provided and Andersen Library cavern tours will be available at the conclusion of the talk.



George Hess



Irvin Kerlan, MD

17th Annual Hubbs Children's Literature Conference - 28 February 2009

8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota

Registration and schedule information will be at <<http://www.stthomas.edu/education/events/hubbs/default.html>> or from Sonja Runck, event coordinator, at (651) 962-4431.



Art for *Day of the Dead* by Jeanette Winter

2009 Kerlan Award Ceremony and Kerlan Professional Day - 25 April 2009

Andersen Library, University of Minnesota West Bank

Hold this date for the annual Kerlan Award celebration with winner Jeanette Winter. Event details will be in the Spring 2009 Kerlan Collection Newsletter and posted at <<http://special.lib.umn.edu/clrc/whatsnew.php>>.

International Reading Association (IRA) Conference - 3-7 May 2009

The Kerlan will host an event for conference goers and the public on the afternoon of Sunday, 3 May. More information and a registration form will be in the next newsletter and online at

<<http://special.lib.umn.edu/clrc/whatsnew.php>>. *Minneapolis Convention Center* hosts the main convention events, <http://www.reading.org/association/meetings/annual_mn.html>.

2009 Chase Lecture - 7 May 2009

4:45 p.m. in 120 Andersen Library on the University of Minnesota West Bank

Author Chris Raschka speaks. Books will be available for purchase and signing courtesy of Red Balloon Bookshop. For more information, see <<http://special.lib.umn.edu/clrc/whatsnew.php>>, or contact Lee Galda, galda001@umn.edu.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Minneapolis, MN 55455
222 - 21st Avenue South

113 Elmer L. Andersen Library
612-624-4576 Fax: 612-626-0377
Children's Literature Research Collections

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