

LANDMARK ACQUISITIONS

# ONE IN A MILLION



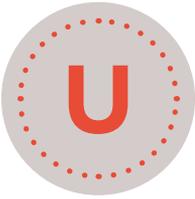
**I**LLINOIS LIBRARY



Edmund J. James

Courtesy of the University of Illinois Archives

# University Library Millionth Volumes Exhibit

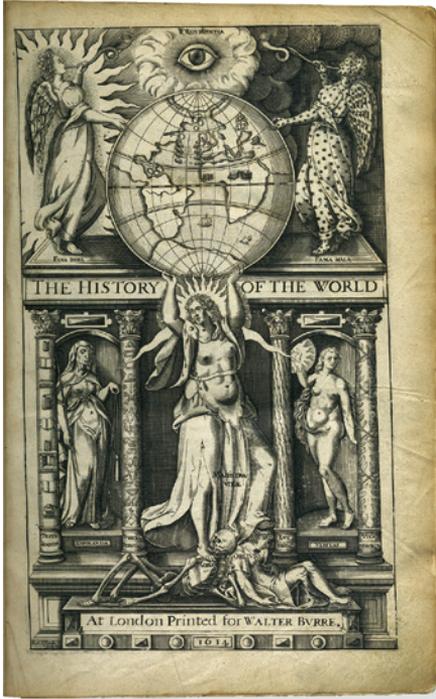


University President Edmund J. James, in a speech to the Board of Trustees in 1912, proposed creating a research library on par with those at the great German academic institutions. He said the Library should accumulate “... at least a million of books as rapidly as is at all possible...” and that the state spend a million dollars to build a new building to house the collection.

Today, the University Library is home to more than 14 million volumes, is the largest public university library, and boasts the largest publicly-accessible rare book collection in the United States. Beyond books, it offers students, faculty, and the public a collection that includes maps, photographs, films, sound recordings, and more. This collection is an indicator of a deep commitment to education, research, and knowledge on the part of the University of Illinois and the people of the state.

While much is changing—from how research and education are done to the dramatic shift to digital materials—the end goal of the University Library and its staff remains the same: collect, protect, and make accessible the world’s knowledge as a leader in supporting world-class research and education.

This special exhibit showcases each of the treasured millionth volumes of the University Library.



## 1 MILLION

**Sir Walter Raleigh.** *The History of the World.* London: Printed by William Stansby for Walter Burre, 1614.

The sheer ambition of a project titled *The History of the World* mirrors the adventurous spirit of its author, Sir Walter Raleigh, who undertook this gargantuan task while imprisoned in the Tower of London. The massive, million-word tome, written over twelve years and published in 1614, describes the world from Creation to the second century B.C.E. Unfortunately, circumstances interrupted the completion of his work, and Raleigh was executed in 1618. A first edition of this treatise augments the Library's vast collection of Renaissance imprints, the largest and most extensive at a public university in America.

1935

ACQUIRED FROM  
JOHN NEEDELS  
CHESTER

PREFACE

The ultimate responsibility for our nation's policy rests on its citizens and they can discharge such responsibilities wisely only if they are informed. The average citizen cannot be expected to understand clearly how an atomic bomb is constructed or how it works but there is in this country a substantial group of engineers and scientific men who can understand such things and who can explain the potentialities of atomic bombs to their fellow citizens. The present report is written for this professional group and is a matter-of-fact, general account of work in the United States since 1939 aimed at the production of such bombs. It is neither a documented official history nor a technical treatise for experts. Secrecy requirements have affected both the detailed content and general emphasis so that many interesting developments have been omitted.

References to British and Canadian work are not intended to be complete since this is written from the point of view of the activities in this country.

The writer hopes that this account is substantially accurate, thanks to cooperation from all groups in the project; he takes full responsibility for such errors as may occur.

H. D. Smyth

July 1, 1945

2 MILLION

**Henry De Wolf Smyth. *A General Account of the Development of Methods of Using Atomic Energy for Military Purposes under the Auspices of the United States Government, 1940–1945.* [Washington, D.C.: Printed in the Adjutant General's Office, 1945].**

In 1945, less than a week after striking Japan with atomic weapons, President Harry Truman released what was unofficially called *The Smyth Report*—a detailed accounting of the research that developed the first nuclear bombs used in war. Written by Princeton University Professor Henry De Wolf Smyth, a consultant to the Manhattan Project, *A General Account of the Development of Methods of Using Atomic Energy for Military Purposes under the Auspices of the United States Government, 1940–1945* describes the administrative history of atomic research since 1939 and explains declassified scientific facts.

1946

ACQUIRED  
FROM THE  
UNITED STATES  
GOVERNMENT



D hu<sup>9</sup> tabule expositionē duo oportet sci-  
re primū modū eiusdē cōpositionis. secundo  
scire modū opatiōis & utilitatis. quoad pri-  
mū oportet imaginari lineā super terram que extendā-  
tur p̄ insulas de canaria uersus septētrionē & meridiē  
extendatur alia ex parte orientis ultimi similiter ue<sup>9</sup>  
septētrionem & meridiem. iste due linee includūt ter-  
re medietatem in longitudine. tunc tota ista medietas  
diuidatur in cētum octoginta partes equalēs & que li-  
bet pars dicatur unus gradus. & linee diuidentes tran-  
scanta septentrione ad meridiem: que linee si libet di-  
cantur meridiani. in tabella tamen proceditur de qui-  
q̄ in quinque propter loci stricturam: qd̄ numer<sup>9</sup> infe-  
rior tibi denotabit. & incipiūt iste linee ab occidenti cū  
numeri annotationibus: quia oēs longitudinē locorū  
incipiūt ab eodem. extra istas duas extremas plurima ſi-  
uentur. nam uersus occidentem serenissimus hispania-  
rum rex Ferdinandus & helisabeth terrā habitāā distā-  
tē ab occidenti p̄. xlv. gradus iuenerūt. que abusiue in-  
dita a quibusdā dicitur. & alij uersus orientem per totidē  
grad<sup>9</sup> & tu cōsidera errorē de hoc per alfonsum & ali-  
os sibi cōtemporaneos. Extēdāt iterū alie due linee ab  
orientem in occidentem. una dicat equinoctialis que inter du-  
as magnas lineas situatur in tabella: duab<sup>9</sup> lineis sulci-  
ta. altera distet ab equinoctiali p̄ sexaginta & tres p̄tes  
seu gradus uersus septētrionem & portione inter me-  
diā diuide per sexaginta & duas lineas. quas partes de-

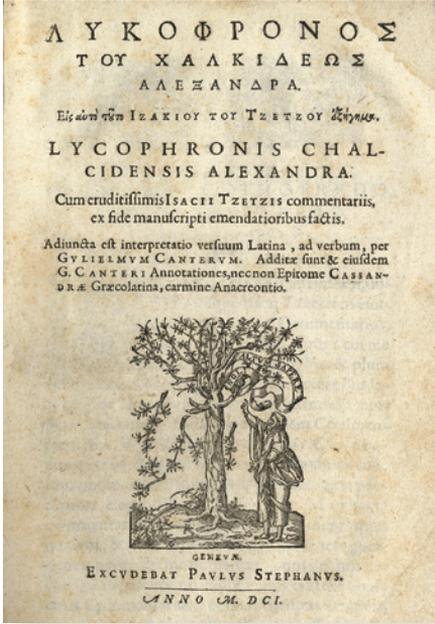
## 3 MILLION

**Pomponius Mela. *Cosmographia, sive, De situ orbis*. Salamanca: [Printer of Nebrissensis, Gramática], 1498.**

Around 43 or 44 C.E., Roman geographer Pomponius Mela described well-known regions of the globe in *Cosmographia, sive, De situ orbis*, the earliest surviving geographical work in Latin. Circulated in manuscript form for more than 1,400 years, the influential text—which indicates knowledge that the planet is round—was first printed in Milan in 1471. The Illinois copy, from a later edition in 1498, truly is an update—it references New World discoveries in its introduction. The University holds more than 1,200 incunabula (the earliest books printed with moveable metal type), among the largest such holdings in North America.

1956

ACQUIRED FROM  
C. A. STONEHILL

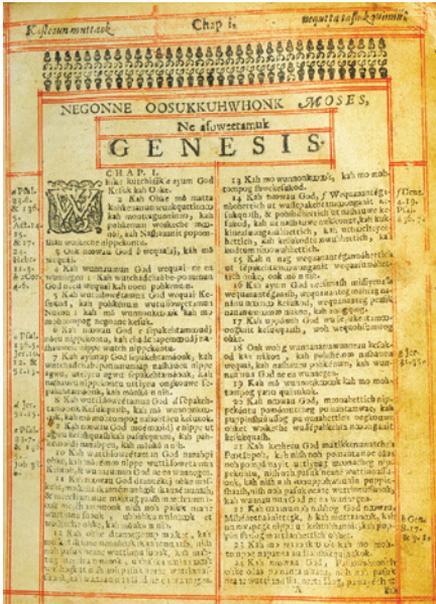


4 MILLION

**Lycophron. *Lycophronos tou Chalkideōs Alexandra*. Geneva: Paul Estienne, 1601.**

Standing out among the many treasures of The Rare Book & Manuscript Library is the epic poem *Alexandra* by the Greek poet Lycophron—a volume noted not only for its classical nature but for the owner of this particular publication. Scribbled throughout this 1601 edition are handwritten comments from a renowned talent of another age—John Milton. The book is one of only about a dozen known to have been personally owned by the great English poet, author of *Paradise Lost*, who even recorded the price he paid for this volume (three shillings). The Library holds the world's largest collection of first editions of Milton's works.



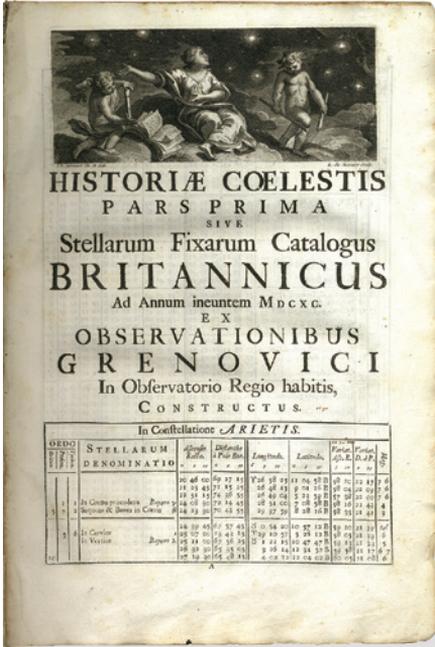


# 5 MILLION

***The Holy Bible: Containing the Old Testament and the New: Translated into the Indian Language and Ordered to be Printed by the Commissioners of the United Colonies in New-England, at the Charge and with the Consent of the Corporation in England for the Propagation of the Gospel amongst the Indians in New-England = Mamusse Wunneetupanatamwe Up-Biblum God Naneeswe Nukkone Testament Kah Wonk Wusku Testament. Cambridge, [Massachusetts]: Samuel Green and Marmaduke Johnson: 1661–63.***

1974  
ACQUIRED WITH ASSISTANCE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LIBRARY FRIENDS AND RESEARCH BOARD

It may be a surprise to learn that the first Bible printed in America—indeed, the entire Western Hemisphere—was not in English but in Natick (or Massachusetts), the language of the Wampanoag people. With the aid of Native Americans John Nesutan and James Printer, this 1661-63 imprint was produced by John Eliot, a British missionary and teacher. The Wampanoag, who come from the Algonquian community that helped the Pilgrims weather the winter of 1620, number some 2,200 today and continue efforts to revive the Natick tongue.



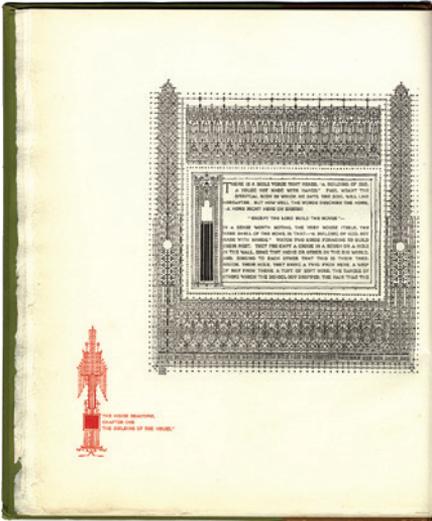
## 6 MILLION

**John Flamsteed. *Historiae coelestis libri duo: quorum prior exhibet catalogum stellarum fixarum Britannicum novum & locupletissimum.* London: J. Matthews, 1712 AND John Flamsteed. *Atlas coelestis.* London: [s.n.], 1729.**

For millennia, people have gazed skyward at night, contemplating the majesty of the heavens. Among them was John Flamsteed, England's first Astronomer Royal. His highly prized tables of stars and other celestial objects were published—much to his displeasure—by Sir Isaac Newton and Edmond Halley in *Historiae coelestis libri duo* in 1712. The Library holds this unauthorized version as well as a lavishly conceived and engraved *Atlas coelestis*—complete with 25 stylized charts representing the constellations—which accompanied an approved edition of Flamsteed's work, organized later by his widow.

**1982**  
ACQUIRED  
THROUGH THE  
GENEROSITY OF  
JOHN E. "BUD"  
VELDE, JR.





## 8 MILLION

**William C. Gannett. *The House Beautiful*. [River Forest, Ill.: Auvergne Press, 1897].**

*The House Beautiful*, published in 1897, is the only book completely designed and decorated by famed U.S. architect Frank Lloyd Wright. A product of Auvergne Press—a private, Chicago-area enterprise—the exquisite volume conveys a message from Unitarian minister William C. Gannett on the relationship between house design and the health of its inhabitants. Featuring Wright’s intricate and repeating linear borders, screens with floral motifs, and a text rendered in small capitals, the Illinois edition comes from the collection of Wright’s sister, Jane Porter, and is number 8 of just 90 copies.

1992

ACQUIRED  
THROUGH THE  
GENEROSITY OF  
JOHN E. “BUD”  
VELDE, JR.

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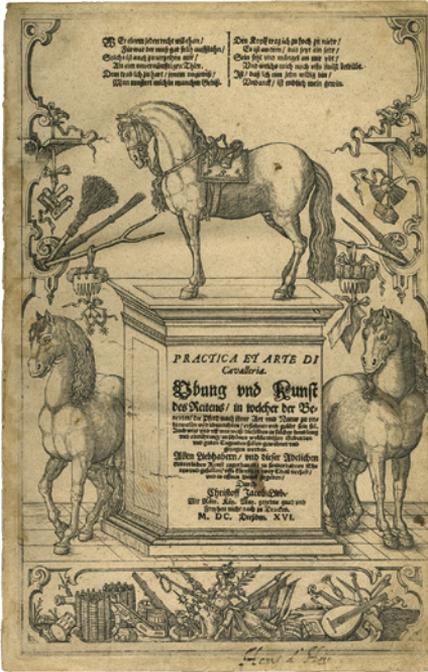
## 9 MILLION

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**Christophorus Lieb. *Practica et arte di cavalleria = Übung und Kunst des Reitens in welcher der Bereuter die Pferd nach ihrer Art und Natur zu unterweisen und abzurichten erfahren und geubt sein sol.* Dresden: Gimel Bergen, 1616 TOGETHER WITH Christophorus Lieb. *Gebissbuch, oder, Kurtzer und gruendlicher Bericht, von Gebiss und Zeumung der Pferd.* Dresden: Gimel Bergen, 1616.**

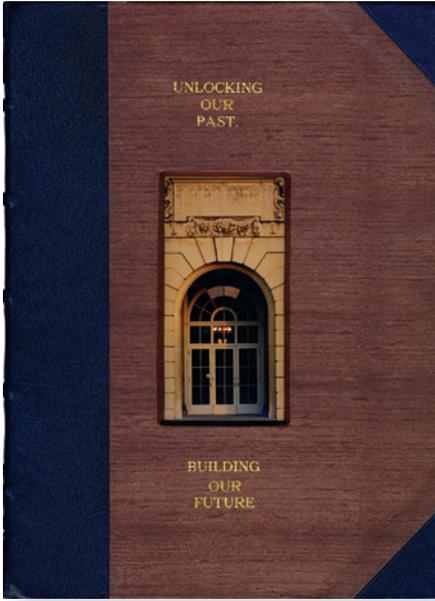
Two remarkable volumes on horsemanship and riding equipment spring from the extensive knowledge of author Christophorus Lieb, who served as Equerry, or master of horses, for Johann Georg I, Elector of Saxony. Graced by detailed engravings of horse tack, pacing diagrams, and appropriate positions for reins and bits, the extremely rare texts offer in-depth looks at the military importance of properly trained horses. First published in 1616, the Library's edition is signed by none other than Lieb himself and was donated to honor Waco W. Albert, a renowned professor of animal science at the University of Illinois.

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1998

ACQUIRED  
THROUGH THE  
GENEROSITY OF  
BETTY JEAN PETERS  
ALBERT IN HONOR  
OF WACO W.  
ALBERT



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## 10 MILLION

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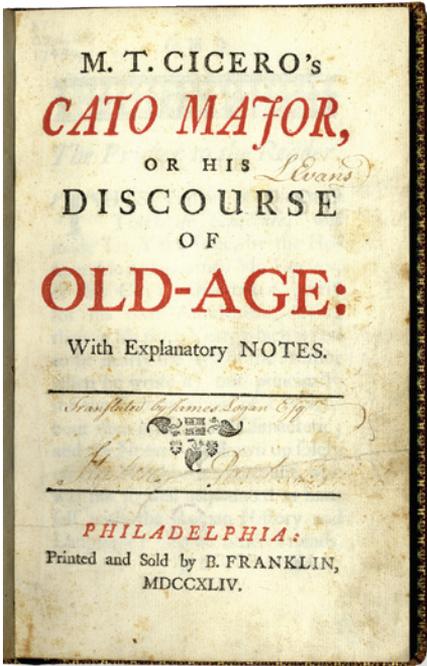
*Unlocking Our Past, Building Our Future: A Commemorative Publication Celebrating the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign as Resource, as Place, and as Experience.* [Urbana: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library], 2003.

To celebrate the Library's acquisition of ten million volumes, a unique approach produced a unique book. Rather than acquire a previously printed work, University Librarian Paula Kaufman commissioned a hand-crafted publication comprising poems, essays, and art by Library employees and others linked to the institution. Of *Unlocking Our Past, Building Our Future*, Kaufman said, "The book epitomizes not only the great collections we have, but the great people we have been associated with in the past and those who are here making the library what it is today." The volume also contains a brief history of the Library by University historian Winton Solberg.

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2003

PRODUCED  
THROUGH THE  
GENEROSITY  
OF ALAN M.  
AND PHYLLIS W.  
HALLENE



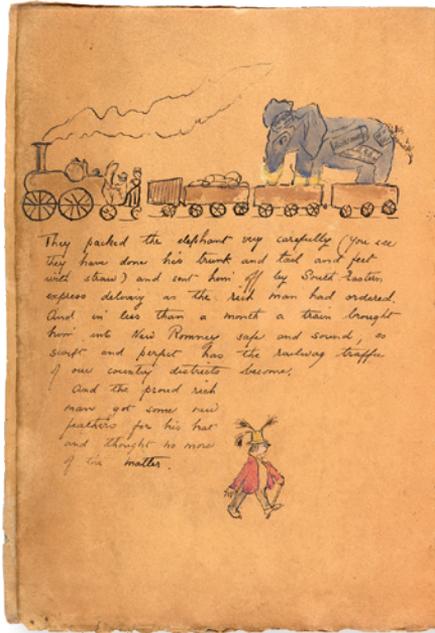
## 11 MILLION

**Marcus Tullius Cicero. *M. T. Cicero's Cato Major, or, His Discourse of Old-Age.* Translated by James Logan. Philadelphia: Benjamin Franklin, 1744.**

With this 1744 translation of Cicero's *Discourse of Old-Age*, Benjamin Franklin printed not only what he considered his best-made book, but perhaps his kindest as well. "I have, Gentle Reader," the Founding Father wrote to his presumably sight-impaired audience, "printed this Piece of Cicero's in a large and fair Character." The first translation of a classical Latin text published in English in the American colonies, the University's copy is considered among the finest in American colonial printing. The book also touts another rarity—it's from the first edition, which was later corrected when an error was discovered.

2009

ACQUIRED  
THROUGH THE  
GENEROSITY OF  
ROBERT A. AND  
EMILY S. WATTS



## 12 MILLION

**H.G. Wells. *The Adventures of Tommy. Book the First, Telling All About the Proud Rich Man and About the Present He Gave to Tommy.* [Autograph Manuscript] Kent, England, 1898.**

Perhaps few people know that, once upon a time, H.G. Wells—author of such masterpieces as *The Time Machine*, *The Invisible Man*, and *The War of the Worlds*—wrote and illustrated a children’s story. While recuperating from an illness, the British writer created *The Adventures of Tommy* for his newborn goddaughter, Marjory Hick. The charming tale remained in private hands until the grown-up girl requested permission to publish it in order to fund her education. The book complements the Library’s already vast holdings of Wells’s letters and manuscripts, the largest such collection in the world.

2010

ACQUIRED  
THROUGH THE  
GENEROSITY OF  
JIM AND DIANE  
STAES



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## 13 MILLION

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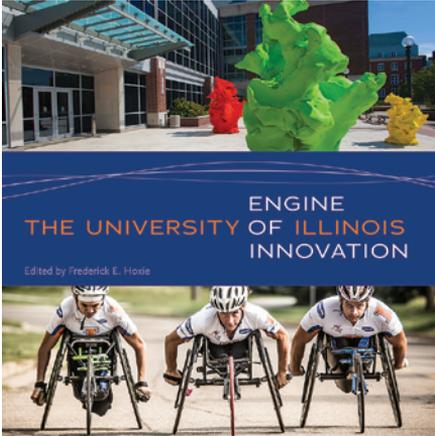
***Ise monogatari* 伊勢物語 (*Tales of Ise*).**  
**Kyoto-fu (Saga): Suminokura Soan,**  
**with Nakanoin Michikatsu and**  
**Hon'ami Kōetsu, 1608.**

*Ise monogatari* is a remarkable book in many ways— it is the earliest printed edition of the enormously popular *Tales of Ise*, the first printed Japanese book to include illustrations and among the earliest to use moveable wooden type. The anonymous compilation of poems and episodes, published in 1608, recounts the amorous exploits of an unnamed lover/poet, referred to simply as “a man.” Prized for their high quality and artistic merit, the elegantly printed characters and delicate woodcuts of this edition appear on several varieties of lightly colored handmade paper. The adventures are considered essential texts for students of Japanese culture.

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2012

ACQUIRED  
THROUGH THE  
GENEROSITY OF  
THE SIMPSON  
FAMILY



**2017**  
ACQUIRED  
THROUGH THE  
GENEROSITY OF  
PAUL LISNEK

14 MILLION

**Frederick E. Hoxie. *The University of Illinois, Engine of Innovation.* Urbana, Illinois: University of Illinois Press, 2017.**

In commemorating the sesquicentennial of the campus, *The University of Illinois: Engine of Innovation* examines the accomplishments of the University's first 150 years. Illustrated with more than 100 images, the book explores the University's remarkable legacy through a collection of essays on topics that have defined the University's history— including the Mosaic web browser, the discovery of Archaea, the development of library and information science, and pioneering triumphs in women's education and wheelchair accessibility. Written by experts and students, the book is edited by a University of Illinois professor emeritus and published by the University of Illinois Press.

## This exhibit made possible through a generous gift from Library Friend Dr. Paul Lisnek

Paul Lisnek, '80 LAS, MA '80 LAS, JD '83 LAW, PHD '86 LAS, of Chicago, Illinois, is a multi-Emmy, Cablefax, Telly, and Beacon Award-winning television host and analyst. He has been the political analyst for WGN-TV since 2008, and currently hosts *Politics Tonight* on CLTV, the *Behind the Curtain* podcast on WGN Plus, and *Broadway in Chicago Backstage* on the Comcast Network.

“I have been blessed with much success in my career. I’ve never forgotten that my success is due to the years spent at the U of I, and the countless hours doing research, writing, and studying in the various libraries around campus. I wanted to find a way to say thank you and commemorate all that the Library and university have meant to me. This seemed a fitting and lasting tribute to honor the continued growth of one of the largest libraries in the nation. My hope is that others will reflect back on their own success and find their personal way to give back to the university where it all started.”



Catalog of permanent  
Millionth Volumes Exhibit  
unveiled at Library Friends Event  
October 26, 2018

*Published by*  
Office of Library Advancement  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Scott Koeneman, Assistant Dean of Libraries for Advancement  
Tiffany Rossi, Director of Advancement for Major Gifts  
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*Design:* Studio 2D  
*Cover Photo:* Dennis Sears  
*Writing:* Beatrice Pavia/InkWell

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