

## **Ewing Kauffman Book Fund**

The Ewing Kauffman Book Fund honors the Kansas City entrepreneur, philanthropist, and community leader Ewing Marion Kauffman. Over the decades the fund has built a collection that comprises high quality works both in content and construction, embodying significant and enduring ideas and ideals. It contains thousands of works in print, media, and electronic formats, including documents, books, images, videos, audiobooks, and audio files.

### **Origin:**

Established in 1991, the Library began a campaign to raise matching funds for a National Endowment for the Humanities grant. The NEH Grant for \$250,000 required a matching local contribution of \$750,000. The initial matching gifts from a group of Kansas City business executives was \$1.2 million. A four-year campaign, which included donations from the public, corporations, Friends of the Library, Library Board of Trustees, and staff raised over \$3 million. Today the endowment fund is \$4.9 million.

The library may withdraw up to 5% annually from the fund, those disbursements are cumulative.

The initial NEH grant required 20% of the annual distributions to go towards humanities programming. These funds are no longer used for programming, they are solely for library materials.

An initial advisory group was established to oversee the fund, which included recommendation of disbursements, monitoring such disbursements, and receiving evaluation reports. In August of 1997, the Library Board of Trustees became the Advisory Committee.

### **Selection Guidelines:**

The selection guidelines are based on the initial application for the NEH grant in 1991.

Earnings from the EKBF will be used to enhance the Library's core collection primarily in the humanities. Preeminent works of enduring value representing a spectrum of views in selected disciplines are chosen for purchase and will serve as a store of knowledge for the community; as a springboard for community discourse; and as an asset for individuals in leading lives that are personally rewarding and contribute in positive ways to the community.

Earnings from the Fund are not to be used to replace or reduce the Library's commitment of funds to purchase library materials.

A minimum of 40% of expenditures from the annual distribution are for humanities related materials.

Selections are made for material that add to the Library's permanent, core collection; materials should not be ephemeral.

Contents of materials purchased are principally informational or enriching for the reader; they should not be principally recreational.

The use of the term "books" should not preclude other types of media.

Materials are owned by the library, either physical or digital, funds may not be expended on subscriptions to digital materials that the library does not own permanent digital rights.

**Collections:**

Summary of print purchases over the past decade we have added over 20,000 print items to the Library's collection with the fund.

2013	First year with centralized collection development and a dedicated special collections librarian; goal to understand fund purpose and requirements, analyze existing collection, and identify appropriate sources, so ordering in all appropriate areas, building a well-rounded general collection	Books - Philosophy & psychology; Religion; Social sciences; Arts; Literature; History
2014	Created Public Forum collection (social sciences) per Crosby who chose all the titles published by the Liberty Fund with special collections librarian selecting titles to provide alternative viewpoints; began a comprehensive Literature project to identify and purchase essential authors and definitive editions of their works, beginning with American Literature; continued building the general collection	Books - Philosophy & psychology; Religion; Social sciences; Arts; Literature/American Literature; History
2015	Continued the comprehensive Literature project focusing on American Literature and expanding into English Literature; continued building a robust general collection	Books - Philosophy & psychology; Religion; Social sciences Arts; Literature/American Literature/English Literature; History
2016	Worked with MVSC to create the MVSC-Browse collection including identifying subject areas, reclassifying titles, and buying new titles; created the DVD collection of Criterion titles, adding editions of important classic and contemporary films from around the world of the highest technical quality; continued buying for the Literature project and the general collection	MVSC books - African American; American West; Arts & Society; Civil War; Genealogy; Growth; Pendergast  Books - Philosophy & psychology; Religion; Social sciences; Arts; Literature; History  DVDs - Criterion collection

2017	Continued buying for the MVSC-Browse collection, the general collection, and Criterion DVDs	<p>MVSC books - African American; American West; Arts &amp; Society; Civil War; Genealogy; Growth; Pendergast</p> <p>Books - Philosophy &amp; psychology; Religion; Social sciences; Arts; Literature; History</p> <p>DVDs - Criterion collection</p>
2018	Continued buying for the MVSC-Browse collection, the general collection, and Criterion DVDs	<p>MVSC books - African American; American West; Arts &amp; Society; Civil War; Genealogy; Growth; Pendergast</p> <p>Books - Philosophy &amp; psychology; Religion; Social sciences; Arts; Literature; History</p> <p>DVDs - Criterion collection</p>
2019	Continued buying for the MVSC-Browse collection and began purchasing for the general MVSC and Ramos collections; also continued buying Criterion DVDs	<p>MVSC books - African American; American West; Arts &amp; Society; Civil War; Genealogy; Growth; Pendergast; Ramos; general collection</p> <p>DVDs - Criterion collection</p>
2020	<p>Continued buying for the MVSC-Browse collection and began purchasing for the general MVSC and Ramos collections; also continued buying Criterion DVDs</p> <p>Note: The library closed for COVID-19 on March 15</p>	<p>MVSC books - African American; American West; Arts &amp; Society; Civil War; Genealogy; Growth; Pendergast; Ramos; general collection</p> <p>DVDs - Criterion collection</p>

2021	Continued buying for the MVSC-Browse collection and began purchasing for the general MVSC and Ramos collections; also continued buying Criterion DVDs	<p>MVSC books - African American; American West; Arts &amp; Society; Civil War; Genealogy; Growth; Pendergast; Ramos; general collection</p> <p>DVDs - Criterion collection</p>
2022	Board approved purchase of the Kansas City Star digital archives; continued buying for the MVSC-Browse collection and began purchasing for the general MVSC and Ramos collections; also continued buying Criterion DVDs	<p>Kansas City Star digital archives</p> <p>MVSC books - African American; American West; Arts &amp; Society; Civil War; Genealogy; Growth; Pendergast</p> <p>DVDs - Criterion collection</p>

### Digital Collections:

Beginning in 2013 Library Collections used the fund to purchase digital content. Twenty-three digital resources that include electronic books, video, media, primary source documents, manuscripts, maps, and encyclopedias are owned by the Library for perpetuity. Staff collaborated closely with multiple vendors to ensure that the library has ownership of these resources whether they are held in a hosted environment or on our own servers.

Access to these resources is available from the Library's website

<https://kclibrary.org/kauffman-collection>

Resource	Description	Subject Areas
African American Poetry	Nearly 3,000 poems by African American poets of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries; early history of African American poetry, from the first recorded poem by an African American (Lucy Terry Prince's 'Bars Fight', c.1746) to the major poets of the nineteenth century, including Paul Laurence Dunbar and Frances Ellen Watkins Harper	Library & Literature; Culture & Society
American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Papers	Papers from 1912-1990 from the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU); spans 1912 to 1990; includes the first "Red Scare" following the Russian Revolution of 1917, debates in the 1920s on immigration, the American Birth Control League, lynchings in the 1930s, debates on aliens and immigrants in the years immediately preceding the U.S. entry into the Second World War, and the ACLU's involvement in the Vietnam War and the Civil Rights movement	Government; Law & Politics; Genealogy & History; Culture & Society
American History in Video	Collection of online videos for the study of American history, with 2,000 hours and more than 5,000 titles on completion; includes commercial and governmental newsreels, archival footage, public affairs footage, and important documentaries	Genealogy & History; Culture & Society
American Indian Correspondence	Collection of almost 14,000 letters written by those who served as Presbyterian missionaries to the American Indians during the years from 1833 to 1893	Genealogy & History

<b>American Indian Histories and Cultures</b>	Historical and personal stories of the colonization of the Americas spanning four centuries and covering North and Central America; materials from the Edward E. Ayer Collection at the Newberry Library in Chicago	<b>Genealogy &amp; History; Culture &amp; Society</b>
<b>American West</b>	Original manuscripts, maps, ephemeral material and rare printed sources on the American West; the Graff Collection, from the Newberry Library in Chicago	<b>Genealogy &amp; History</b>
<b>Archives of Sexuality &amp; Gender: LGBTQ History and Culture Since 1940</b>	Historical records of political and social organizations founded by LGBTQ individuals; publications by and for lesbians and gays; extensive coverage of governmental responses to the AIDS crisis; personal correspondence and interviews; gay and lesbian newspapers from more than 35 countries; reports, policy statements, and other documents related to gay rights and health, including the worldwide impact of AIDS; materials tracing LGBTQ activism in Britain from 1950 through 1980, and more	<b>Genealogy &amp; History; Culture &amp; Society</b>
<b>Archives Unbound</b>	Historical documents cover a broad range of topics from the Middle Ages forward-from Witchcraft to World War II to twentieth-century political history	<b>Genealogy &amp; History</b>
<b>Black Thought and Culture</b>	Collection and archive of British Romantic, early Victorian writing, and Continental Romanticism: contains over 1,000 sources with over 1,000 authors, covering the non-fiction published works of leading African Americans. Particular care has been taken to index this material so that it can be searched more thoroughly than ever before. Where possible the complete published non-fiction works are included, as well as interviews, journal articles, speeches, essays, pamphlets, letters and other fugitive material.	<b>Genealogy &amp; History; Culture &amp; Society</b>
<b>China, America, and the Pacific</b>	Extensive range of archival material connected to the trading and cultural relationships that emerged between China, America and the Pacific region between the 18th and early 20th	<b>Genealogy &amp; History; Culture &amp; Society</b>

	centuries; manuscript sources, rare printed texts, visual images, objects and maps	
Civil War in Words and Deeds	Regimental histories and personal narratives and first-person accounts compiled in the postwar period and early 20th Century period, chronicle army life from 1861 through 1865	Genealogy & History; Culture & Society
Eighteenth Century Collections Online	Primary source materials for the study of 'Empire' and its theories, practices and consequences; over 180,000 titles (200,000 volumes), including books, pamphlets, essays, broadsides and more, based on the English Short Title Catalogue of works published in the UK during the 18th century plus thousands from elsewhere	Genealogy & History
Empire Online	Manuscript, printed and visual primary source materials for the study of 'Empire' and its theories, practices and consequences.	Genealogy & History
European Literature, 1790-1840: The Corvey Collection	British Romantic and early Victorian writing representative of Continental Romanticism; the Corvey Collection is especially strong in prose fiction, including Gothic and romance fiction issued by influential popular publishers like the Minerva Press (London)	Library & Literature; Genealogy & History
Everyday Life and Women in America	Primary source material on the 19th-20th century lives of women; rare primary source material from the Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History, Duke University and The New York Public Library; documents and images addressing 19th and early 20th century political, social and gender issues, religion, race, education, employment, marriage, sexuality, home and family life, health, and pastimes	Genealogy & History; Culture & Society
Filmmakers Library Online	Award-winning documentaries with relevance across the curriculum—race and gender studies, human rights, globalization and global studies, multiculturalism, international relations, criminal justice, the environment, bioethics, health, political science and current events, psychology, arts, literature, and more; points of view and	Culture & Society

	historical and current experiences from diverse cultures and traditions world-wide	
First World War	Primary source material for the study of the Great War complemented by a range of contextual secondary features	Genealogy & History
LGBT Studies in Video	Cinematic survey of the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people as well as the cultural and political evolution of the LGBT community; award-winning documentaries, interviews, archival footage, and select feature films exploring LGBT history, gay culture and subcultures, civil rights, marriage equality, LGBT families, AIDS, transgender issues, religious perspectives on homosexuality, global comparative experiences, and other topics	Culture & Society
Mapping the World: Maps and Travel Literature	Maps and travel accounts of 19th century Europe providing a sweeping glance of the travel narrative genre	Culture & Society
Project MUSE	A development of Johns-Hopkins and other major U.S. Universities providing e-books in the classics, history and literature, now totaling more than 10,000 titles	Library & Literature
Slavery & Anti-Slavery	Historical documents from several research collections on the transatlantic slave trade, the legal, personal, and economic aspects of the slavery system, and the dynamics of emancipation in the U.S., Latin America, the Caribbean, and other regions	Genealogy & History
Through the Camera Lens: The Moving Picture World and the Silent Cinema Era, 1907-1927	The Moving Picture World was a film trade publication which began on March 9, 1907, and appeared weekly until January 7, 1928; reviewed current releases and published news, features, and interviews relating to all aspects of the industry.	Genealogy & History; Entertainment & Hobbies; Culture & Society



Twentieth Century African American Poetry	Poetry written by the most important and influential African American poets of the twentieth century	Library & Literature
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#### **Recommendations for future:**

Library board of trustees continues as advisory group. Regular updates and requests for distributions presented to the Board Operations committee.

Distributions occur biennially based on availability of funds.

Expenditure of distributions should be completed within two years of approval.

Biennially, in September, using the Library Collections department's ongoing assessment of the collection, both physical and digital, a request for disbursement will be made to the Library Board of Trustees Operations Committee. Final approval for distributions would come from the entirety of the Library Board.

An annual report of collections activity from the fund will be presented the Operations Committee.