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Library Associates

The Prichard Lecture for 2000

Editor and author David Eisenhower, grandson of one president and son-in-law of another, delivered the nineteenth annual Edward F. Prichard, Jr. Lecture at the University of Kentucky Library Associates’ annual meeting on Monday, 27 March, at the Singletary Center for the Arts Recital Hall. The lecture followed a reception for Associates at the university’s King Alumni House and dinner on the Singletary Center’s Concert Hall stage.

David Eisenhower authored the best-selling Eisenhower: At War (Random House, 1986) and currently is working with his wife, Julie Nixon Eisenhower, on a history of the year 1968. Eisenhower is a Fellow at the Annenberg School for Communications at the University of Pennsylvania and a director of the school’s Public Service Institute. He also is a senior Fellow in the university’s political science department and a senior research scientist for The Gallup Organization in Lincoln, Nebraska. Eisenhower has published in numerous periodicals, including Orbis and U.S. News & World Report. Eisenhower also has been named a Fellow of the Society of American Historians and is a recipient of Philadelphia’s Golden Slipper Award for community service.

The Medallion for Intellectual Excellence

As a featured part of the Library Associates’ Annual Dinner Meeting, U.S. Appeals Court Judge Pierce Lively was named the recipient of the University of Kentucky Libraries’ Medallion for Intellectual Excellence for the year 2000. The award, presented each year by the Library Associates, was created to recognize high intellectual achievement in Kentucky or by Kentuckians, and to encourage education and the free and creative use of the mind by the citizens of the Commonwealth.

Judge Lively, of Louisville, served on the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati from 1972 until his retirement in 1997. He served as the court’s chief judge from 1983 until 1988 and as its senior judge from 1988 until his retirement. Lively was nominated
to the court by President Richard Nixon. At his Senate
confirmation hearings, colleagues praised him for his intellect and
integrity. During his tenure on the court, colleagues, clerks, and
lawyers who came before the court recognized the clarity of his
decisions. A former clerk, Joanne C. Brant, now a professor at the
Pettit School of Law at Ohio Northern University, commented that
he “brought to the court a quiet dignity and a passion for precise
reasoning and clear writing. . . . His opinions are models of legal
reasoning that have had enormous impact on American law.”

Among the cases Judge Lively heard was a school textbook
controversy in Tennessee, in which a group of parents protested
that their rights were violated when a local school system included
*The Diary of Anne Frank* and *The Wizard of Oz* as required reading.
Lively and the Appeals Court ruled that simply requiring the
students to read and discuss a text did not force them to believe
what they read. The full text of Lively’s opinion received national
news coverage.

*The King Library Press*

The King Library Press, along with the department of Special
Collections & Archives, is now re-established in new quarters in
Margaret I. King Library South. Here visitors will find the
equipment and materials used at the Press in continuing its forty-
four year tradition of demonstrating historical methods of book
making. These include a variety of antique hand presses, including
Victor Hammer’s wooden press; the iron Washington hand press
used at the Gravesend Press by Joseph C. Graves; and the iron
Washington used by King Library Press founder Carolyn Reading
Hammer, which is presently on loan to the Press. The King Library
Press has received several generous gifts in recent years, including
traditional equipment from the Harrodsburg Herald, given by Mr.
William Randolph, and also from the Boxwood Press of Bernard
Solomon of Statesboro, Georgia, given by Mrs. Paula Solomon. The
possibilities for establishing a King Library Press Endowment
Fund have also now been realized, notably through the interest of
Mr. Boynton Merrill of Henderson, Mrs. Eve Spears of Georgetown,
and Mr. James Van Meter of Lexington. This fund, if its growth is
cured, will help to sustain and enrich the publishing and
teaching activities of the Press.

On Friday and Saturday, 9 and 10 April 1999, the Press
sponsored a lecture and workshop with Canadian wood engraver
Wesley Bates. Mr. Bates presented a talk surveying the development of wood engraving for book illustration. The talk was accompanied by slides, both historical and contemporary, that portrayed the work of prominent wood engravers. An exhibition, "Art From Wood," was mounted in the W. Hugh Peal Gallery. On Saturday, Mr. Bates conducted a wood engraving workshop, demonstrating the tools of the wood engraver, detailing sources of supply, and outlining his experiences in working as an illustrator. Participants made prints at the hand press, using blocks engraved by Mr. Bates.

English bookbinder Maureen Duke visited the King Library Press for its Fall 1999 Book Arts Seminar. On Friday evening, Ms. Duke spoke on "Bookbinding: Then and Now," showing examples, in pairs, first of traditional design conventions and then instances of how they have been adapted by contemporary binders. She included examples of her own work in the showing. In Saturday's workshop, Ms. Duke commented on examples of antique and craft bookbindings chosen from the Rare Book Room and interpreted technical and design characteristics of each. She discussed binders' tools, and she also demonstrated for those attending the method for fabricating an interlocking pamphlet binding for a pamphlet they printed together on binding.

The King Library Press sponsored a Spring Book Arts Weekend, Friday through Sunday, 7 to 9 April 2000. Mr. James Mosley, Librarian of the St. Bride Printing Library, London, spoke on Friday evening about "The Decorated Types of Jean Louis Pouchée." Specimens of the work of Pouchée were exhibited in the Lobby of King Library South. The original types are housed at the St. Bride Library, and the sheets on view were printed in 1993 by Ian Mortimer of London, using an antique iron hand press.

On Saturday, a Bookplate Workshop was conducted at the King Library Press by Dr. Paul E. Holbrook, director of the Press. Those taking part in the workshop saw historic examples of bookplates from Kentucky Libraries and from internationally known collectors. Among the bookplates shown were those of the following Lexingtonians: Thomas Lewinski, architect; Thomas January, hemp manufacturer; Madison C. Johnson, of Botherum, attorney; Dr. Robert Peter, professor and physician; Frances Paca Dallam, wife of Dr. Robert Peter; Samuel Trotter, of Rokeby Hall, merchant; James Ben Ali Haggin, founder of the Anaconda Copper Mines and builder of Elmendorf; and Louis Lee Haggin, of
Japanese bookplate artist Masao Ohba visits the King Library Press, 8 April 2000. Left to right: David Elbon, Robert Greene, James Russo, Edith Anderson Rights, Paul E. Holbrook, Kathy Franklin, Masao Ohba, Jennifer Brannock, Edward Janairo. (Photograph by Teresa Saykaly)
Mt. Brilliant, Lexington turfman and bibliophile. Other bookplates shown included those of William Byrd of Westover, planter; Charles Dickens, author; Jerome Kern, composer; Alfred Cortot, pianist; Frank Hogan, Teapot Dome lawyer; A. Edward Newton of Oak Knoll, industrialist and collector of Samuel Johnson; Jay Gould of Lyndhurst, Wall Street rogue; Theodore Lowe De Vinne, printer and collector; Robert Hoe, manufacturer of printing presses; Jean Hersholt, actor; and Harry Buxton Forman, collector of works by the poet Shelley.

Noted Japanese bookplate designer Masao Ohba also attended the workshop and shared examples of his work. Writing in the introduction to the catalogue of the bookplate exhibition in the William T. Young Library, Mary Molinaro notes that “Mr. Ohba is an honorary member of the NIKKI Art Association, the Fukuoka State Art Association, and served as a visiting professor for the SKANSKA Art Academy in Sweden. He has exhibited internationally at museums in Asia, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and South and North America. He has won numerous awards including the first prize from the 17th International Biennale of Contemporary Ex Libris in Malbork, Poland in 1998.”

On the afternoon of Sunday, 9 April, Mrs. Elizabeth Anderson Rights, of Montclair, New Jersey, spoke in the auditorium of the William T. Young Library on the tradition of bookplate design. Following her talk, visitors saw an exhibition of contemporary bookplates by Masao Ohba and Wojciech Jakubowski which was installed in the Gallery of the W. T. Young Library. The impetus for the exhibition was the interest of Mrs. Teresa Saykaly; Mr. Jakubowski, a Polish artist, had recently designed a bookplate for her husband, Dr. Ronald Saykaly. Dr. Holbrook and apprentices at the King Library Press prepared an illustrated keepsake for the exhibition, reproducing examples of the bookplates along with an introduction by Mary Molinaro, director of the W. T. Young Library. The color reproductions were provided by Mr. James Gray of Gray Construction. Professors Joseph and Margaret Jones translated for the event’s program a critical article, “On the Bookplates of Wojciech Jakubowski,” by Tadeusz Pszypkowski. Others contributing to the success of the bookplate exhibition were Ms. Whitney Baker, Mr. Alex Brooks, Dr. James Burgett, Mr. David Elbon, Mrs. Esther Edwards, Mr. Eric Van Osdol, and Mrs. Kazuko Shirohama.
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