Two historic student magazines published from 1888-1913 by Mankato State Normal School have been digitized, thanks to a Minnesota Historical Society Historical and Cultural Heritage Grant to Minnesota State University, Mankato’s University Archives.

The Mankatonian and The Student were monthly magazines published by Mankato State Normal School students during the school year and a few summer sessions. The Student was published from 1888-1891, when the name was changed to The Mankatonian, published from 1891-1913. Both publications included summaries of school activities, poetry and articles, social events and other topics of interest, as well as advertisements from area businesses. Digitization makes the volumes available to researchers, genealogists, students and all Minnesotans through the university’s digital collections site, http://mldm.lib.mnsu.edu/.

The content provides a students-eye view of the history of the university, the Mankato area and Minnesota higher education at the turn of the 20th century. Before they were digitized, there was no index or way to search the magazines. The digitized text is now fully searchable – made possible by optical character recognition software.

Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants are made possible by the Minnesota Legislature, from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, created with passage of the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment to the Minnesota Constitution.

Additional details about the project are available on the project website. http://lib.mnsu.edu/archives/diglib/sp/studentpublications.html

Questions? Contact Daardi Sizemore, C.A. Archives and Special Collections Librarian, at daardi.sizemore@mnsu.edu or by phone at (507) 389-5949.
It is with regret that we report the passing of beloved Music Librarian Kiyo Suyematsu:
April 1926 – September 18, 2011

Kiyo Suyematsu was born in Laramie, Wyoming in 1926. She was taught to play piano by her mother and went on to receive a Bachelor and Master’s degree in piano from the University of Colorado. A hand injury forced her to forego solo performance. In its place, she became involved in teaching piano lessons to groups.

In 1963 Kiyo Suyematsu came to Mankato State College (MSC) to establish a group piano program. At that time, few colleges had facilities for listening to sound recordings. Kiyo was well aware of the importance of music listening and became involved in the establishment of the first Music Library in Nichols Hall on the Old Main campus. After the move to the upper campus in 1968, the Music Library was given a new home in the Earley Center for Performing Arts room 201.

In the late 1960s Professor Suyematsu earned a second Master’s degree in Library Science at the University of Denver and her job title expanded to include the title of “Music Librarian.” Held in high esteem by her colleagues, Kiyo was active for many years in the Music Library Association (MLA). Kiyo worked tirelessly to build the Music Library as a major resource for music materials for the campus and community. She and renowned Minnesota State Mankato cataloger Nancy Olson devised a system for adding music scores and recordings to the online catalog.

Kiyo was highly regarded by her peers on the Minnesota State Mankato campus. She is fondly remembered as an excellent teacher who worked well with students and staff. After retirement in 1991 Kiyo remained active professionally and continued to be a familiar face at Minnesota State Mankato, where she was a member of the Minnesota State University, Mankato Heritage Society. In 1999, she was inducted as a “Partner” in the Minnesota State Mankato Purple and Gold Society recognizing her lifetime contributions. Kiyo’s many gifts to Minnesota State University included a scholarship endowment to recognize accomplished music students.

In the spring of 1995, the University music faculty voted unanimously to name the music library for its founder. As a result of vision, determination and generosity, several generations of faculty, students and community members have been served very well by the Kiyo Suyematsu Music Library.
Housed in the University Archives, the MSU Authors Collection is an important part of the Memorial Library’s holdings. The works in this collection document the intellectual heritage of the university and the contributions of Minnesota State Mankato faculty, staff, students, and alumni to contemporary scholarship. In addition, the collection allows us to celebrate and honor the scholarly achievement of Minnesota State University, Mankato campus.

The next MSU Authors Reception will be held on April 10, 2012. This event will honor faculty authors who have written and/or edited books with publication dates between March 2010 and March 2012.

If you are a faculty or staff member who has published a book during this time period, please contact the University Archives, (507) 389-1029 or archives@mnsu.edu. You can also see the current list of MSU Authors at http://lib.mnsu.edu/archives/authors/2012event.html. We would like to add a copy of your book to the MSU Authors Collection and gladly accept donations.

Database Spotlight: Alt-Press Watch

Alt-Press Watch is a unique database that showcases diverse voices from a variety of grassroots newspapers, magazines, and journals. The database features over 670,000 articles from around 200 publications and provides alternative coverage to the corporate controlled media. All of the publications are presented in 100% full text, allowing researchers access to both regional and metropolitan perspectives on local, national, and international issues. If you have questions about using this resource, contact the Reference Desk in Memorial Library at 507-389-5958.

Calling All Minnesota State University Authors!

Housed in the University Archives, the MSU Authors Collection is an important part of the Memorial Library’s holdings. The works in this collection document the intellectual heritage of the university and the contributions of Minnesota State Mankato faculty, staff, students, and alumni to contemporary scholarship. In addition, the collection allows us to celebrate and honor the scholarly achievement of Minnesota State University, Mankato campus.

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Check Out A Book Club Kit

Are you interested in starting a book club or is your book club looking for something new to read? Memorial Library now has four book club kits which are available for check out. Each kit, housed in a sturdy canvas bag, contains eight copies of a book. The book club kit titles include: Michael Pollan’s In Defense of Food; Lisa See’s Snow Flower and the Secret Fan; Chuck Palahniuk’s Fight Club; and Ray Bradbury’s Fahrenheit 451. The kits are shelved by call number in the Education Resource Center located in the Lower Level of Memorial Library. To find a book club kit call number search for the book title or author’s name in the Library’s catalog. Book club kits will have the location of ERC Supplemental Educational Materials- Lower Level. If you have questions about the book kits contact the Reference Desk in Memorial Library at 507-389-5958.
TRY OUR CLASS & SUBJECT GUIDES

An exciting change is underway on the Library’s web site as librarians build new online guides to assist students and faculty with research. These guides highlight pertinent databases, websites, and embedded multimedia items such as videos. These new pages will replace the existing guides found under the Article Databases by Dept link in January 2012.

Do you have suggestions for new online class or subject guides? Librarians will work with you to create customized online library guides for your class, department, or campus group. For more information contact Casey Duevel at casey.duevel@mnsu.edu or 507-389-5150.

Click Class & Subject Guides on the Library Services web site to see the changes.