



Jefferson Library Enlists Interns and Volunteers

Since its dedication in April 2002, the Jefferson Library has sought to connect with the local community by providing information services and resources on every aspect of Thomas Jefferson's life, times, and legacy. One form of outreach that has met with success is the Intern and Volunteer Program, which is designed to bring students and citizens into the library to participate in projects. This program has served to educate the participants and add publicly accessible information to the Thomas Jefferson Portal online catalog (<http://tjportal.monticello.org>).

Three projects carried out in the spring of 2003 provide excellent examples. First, a graduate student in library science at the University of Maryland completed an inventory of the collection of Monticello architectural images, resulting in a detailed finding aid that can be viewed by entering "monticello architectural image and http" in the Thomas Jefferson Portal's search field. Second, a fourth-year University of Virginia student compiled a selection of published sources on the topic of motherhood in the age of Jefferson, providing descriptive notes that have been added to the TJPortal records for each work. Third, six juniors in the Monticello High School Scholars program conducted a review of literature related to Jefferson and slavery. Sources published between the late 18th and early 21st centuries were selected and critiqued, and this content was added to TJPortal records.

This spring, three more projects are under way at the Jefferson Library. Another group of students from Monticello High's Scholars program is developing an electronic publication on the theme of Jefferson and architecture, an art history graduate student from

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Interns and Volunteers

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Virginia Commonwealth University is exploring types and attributes in Jefferson portraits as established during his latter years and extended throughout the 19th century, and a UVa art history undergraduate is analyzing the contents of art and book auction catalogs so detailed notes can be added into TJPportal records to enhance retrieval.

For additional information on the Jefferson Library's Intern and Volunteer Program, call (434) 984-7540 or send an e-mail to library@monticello.org.

COMMENTS? newsletter@monticello.org