One might not think of Philadelphia as lacking in racial diversity, and yet panelist Jonathan Maberry described his experience growing up in the Kensington section as “isolated from diversity.” In fact, it was a comic book series, Fantastic Four, which first opened his eyes to South African apartheid.

Maberry, a Bram Stoker Award winner and Marvel Comics writer, was one of four panelists at the Nov. 11 “Comics Go To College” event at Falvey Memorial Library. They were there to discuss the ways in which graphic novels and comic books are viewed by academia, publishers, writers, illustrators and readers.

The panelists shared the pivotal moments when they discovered their fascination with graphic novels and comics. Matt Phelan, a children’s book illustrator and recently published graphic novelist, recounted for the group his approach to writing his first graphic novel, The Storm in the Barn. His was a process of trial and error that began with the “three worst pages of prose” ever written and resulted in an award-winning graphic novel.

Villanova graduate student Brian A. Lynch, who helped plan the event, explained how his job at Showcase Comics in Bryn Mawr (Pa.) sparked his interest in creative writing. Lynch has already produced his first short comic strip, “Fury,” which will appear in an upcoming anthology, Layer Zero: Survival.

Offering an academic perspective, Mary Beth Simmons, director of the Villanova Writing Center, recounted her first teaching experience that included Art Spiegelman’s Holocaust graphic novel, Maus: a Survivor’s Tale. Simmons continues to incorporate graphic novels in her teaching syllabus at Villanova.

The evolution of comic books can be traced from the early days of Archie & Friends and Fantastic Four to those that feature more complex characters and settings, such as Black Panther whose newest hero is an African black woman. Graphic novels also offer us a wide range of characters and issues, but in a more concentrated format.

What distinguishes the graphic novel from the comic book? The Oxford Companion to English Literature offers that graphic novels are “more complex single works of sequential art conceived … as a unified work,” whereas comic books are “periodical” in nature.

As Maberry pointed out, the characters in graphic novels and comic books are very similar to the “heroes, gods and
“Can the Library be more like Google?”

by Joe Lucia

I inaugurated my career as a library technologist at Lehigh University in the mid-1980s, implementing as my first major project what we breathlessly called an “integrated library system.” That system incorporated a “first generation” library catalog – accessible only via hard-wired terminals in our two library buildings -- that provided such remarkable features as keyword searching of titles and subjects to identify books in the library’s collection.

Within a year of implementing that system, I was called upon to make the catalog accessible over a campus-wide network, extending the visibility of the library collection to faculty offices and student dorm rooms. At the same time, I was mounting local versions of bibliographic databases (Engineering Index, Current Contents) on a mainframe server to provide broader campus access to library information such as journal article citations.

In parallel, we were bringing lots of similar subject-oriented databases (for instance, Psychological Abstracts, Historical Abstracts and the MLA Bibliography) into the library on compact discs for searching at dedicated computer workstations and then eventually for access over the campus network. By the early 1990s, there were dozens of these databases in place covering the gamut of academic disciplines. It was the beginning of the digital revolution in information access.

Other interesting developments followed quickly, including “Gopher” servers to link our users to library catalogs at institutions around the country and around the world. In 1993 I got a glimpse of the Mosaic browser and quickly brought up an early version of the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA) Web server. By early 1994 we’d mounted some preliminary library Web pages and glimpsed the future.

Within a year, Web-accessible library resources began to proliferate, along with some very early experiments in delivering full-text documents over the network. By 1997, I was working aggressively to provide access to as much library content as possible over the Web.

It was quite clear that a revolution was afoot. Even as we moved our resources online, new developments on the
On October 27, Falvey Memorial Library hosted the inaugural lecture in the “Alfred F. Mannella and Rose T. Lauria-Mannella Distinguished Speakers Series.” Richard Juliani, Ph.D., sociology department, described his four decades of research on the Italian experience in Philadelphia, highlighting both challenges and future opportunities.

The spring Mannella Distinguished Lecture featured Donato De Simone, a WWII survivor, educator, Villanova grad and author of a compelling memoir, *Suffer the Children: Growing up in Italy during World War II*. This talk took place on Feb. 3.

In 1996, Falvey Memorial Library’s friend and supporter Alfred S. Mannella, ’58 VSB, established two endowed library funds to support the purchase of books and other research materials as memorials to family members.

Now one of those funds will also support a lecture series. The Speakers series honors Mr. Mannella’s parents, Alfred F. and Rose T. Lauria-Mannella. His father, the son of immigrants, was born in Philadelphia in 1904 and established himself as a tailor. An avid sports fan, he developed an interest in Villanova football starting in the 1930s when Maurice J. “Clipper” Smith was the coach.

His mother was the grandchild of immigrants and grew up in south Philadelphia.

Before the creation of the Speakers series, the Mannella fund significantly enriched the Library’s Italian-American studies collection, enabling the addition of important literary works and contributions to history and the social sciences. Other purchases include personal narratives, popular literature and books on the influence of food in Italian culture. Book purchases will continue with available funds.

The other endowed fund that Mr. Mannella established supports the purchase of materials in psychology and self-motivation. In memory of his nephew Michael J. Mannella, this fund honors a young man’s talent to motivate others. This reserve has provided an extensive research and popular literature collection on motivation, as the fund enables the Library to offer many of the best works on these topics.

Mr. Mannella’s interest in the University library traces back to his days as a Villanova student. He was a “day hop” at Villanova, a commuter who found the Library to be the perfect refuge between classes during long days. Following graduation, he pursued a career in industry, specializing in cost analysis, cost control and production efficiency.

He eventually was promoted to CFO and later president of a mid-sized multi-national corporation. Then, through a series of company mergers and acquisitions, he performed additional CEO and senior management roles until his retirement. Mr. Mannella currently resides in Florida.

Endowments produce an annual income to support new book purchases or programs like the lecture series. This is one way alumni, parents and friends can demonstrate support for the Library and University. Mr. Mannella established his funds in part to encourage others to make similar gifts.

Falvey Memorial Library is grateful to have Mr. Mannella as a generous supporter and friend, whose commitment enables the University to continue to offer exceptional programs and resources. For more information about ways to support Falvey Memorial Library, please contact the Office of University Advancement.

By Dennis Lambert and Judy Olsen (with thanks to Mr. Mannella; Emily Spitale, Director of Communication, Office of University Development; and John Oles, Office of University Development); photograph by John Welsh; posters by Joanne Quinn

To our readers:

*News From Falvey* features events, exhibits, services, people, news, trends, innovations, resources and other activities at Falvey Memorial Library. We hope you enjoy the publication and we welcome your comments and suggestions.

Read more Falvey news at blog.library.villanova.edu

Judith Olsen, editor
Featured Resources

Jefferson Papers Now Online
The *Papers of Thomas Jefferson Digital Edition* includes the copious correspondence written and received by Jefferson, as well as his private notes and documents of historical significance, in a fully searchable online environment. The Jefferson papers are part of the American Founding Era Collection, which includes the papers of other major figures of the early Republic, including John Adams and George Washington. The digital collection encompasses the first 33 volumes (1760-1801) of the projected 60-volume print edition published by Princeton University Press. The Library holds the print edition as well.

Nineteenth Century UK Periodicals Digital Archive
*New Readerships* (Series 1) with women’s and children’s periodicals, as well as humor and leisure/sport magazines, chronicles the rise of modern magazine culture. Featured are women’s magazines, such as *Hearth and Home* and the *Women’s Penny Paper*, satirical titles such as *Punch* and *Fun*, magazines aimed at the young, such as *Boy’s Own Paper*, as well as a number of sports and leisure magazines. *Empire* (Series 2) includes the complete run of more than 90 magazines. Topics range from the abolition of the slave trade within the British Empire in 1807 to the first Opium Wars (1839-42) and the “scramble for Africa” in the 1880s and 1890s. –Jutta Seibert

SRDS Lifestyle Market Analyst
*Standard Rate & Data Service (SRDS)* publications are invaluable to VU School of Business students and scholars. Like the print *Lifestyle Market Analyst*, the online Local Market Audience Analyst provides a market profile section that characterizes demographic and lifestyle proclivities of Designated Market Areas (DMA) and counties; a lifestyle analyst section that cross tabulates interests and behaviors, ranking them within DMAs; and demographic reports that illuminate interests and behaviors with reference to age, income, marital status and life stages. Another nice enhancement to the online version is the mapping feature, which provides market segment and demographic maps for inclusion in presentations and reports. SRDS online is also a key source for finding advertising costs. –Linda Hauck

Faculty Library Survey, May 2009:
The results are in!

Falvey Memorial Library conducted a faculty survey last spring. The overall feedback on questions relating to library services and collections was remarkably positive, but faculty respondents also made critical comments about library facilities.

Nearly a third of Villanova’s full-time faculty participated in the survey. According to over 90% of survey respondents, library resources and services are ‘more important’ or ‘as important’ today as they were five years ago. Books (85%) and e-journals (86%) ranked at the top as ‘essential’ or ‘very important’ library resources.

An impressive 80% of survey respondents know one or more of the librarians on their departmental library liaison team, and the overwhelming majority are satisfied with the services provided by the liaison librarians. Library liaison teams, librarians, the library Web site and colleagues are the leading sources for information about new library resources, services and events.

Faculty members are frequent visitors to Falvey’s Web site but use the physical space far less frequently than do undergraduate students. Faculty would like to visit the physical building more often, but they find it an uninviting environment that does little to stimulate their intellectual endeavors. One survey respondent noted that “the place desperately needs a renovation; it’s grim, dated space, when it should be a centerpiece celebrating our teaching and research mission.”

The Library will conduct follow-up focus groups with faculty during the spring semester to gather more information.

By Jutta Seibert
Father Blanco’s Garden:  
A Stroll through Falvey’s Special Collections

The fall exhibit by Falvey’s Special Collections featured large colorful botanical prints from *Flora de Filipinas*. Written by Rev. Manuel Blanco, O.S.A., “the premier botanist of the Philippines,” *Flora de Filipinas* is the culmination of his study of the 1200 plants he collected during his forty years in that country.

*Flora de Filipinas* was first published in 1837 and, because of its popularity, a second edition was published in 1845, followed by a third, deluxe seven volume posthumous edition, published between 1877 and 1883.

Both a first edition and a third edition of *Flora de Filipinas* are housed in Falvey’s Special Collections Augustiniana collection. However, the first edition’s poor physical condition makes it unsuitable for exhibition, but the third edition’s illustrations provided the prints for the fall exhibition. Because the color lithographs were rapidly deteriorating, those volumes were unbound, cleaned by a professional conservator, and then housed in acid free wrappers. This conservation process made it possible for Bente Polites, Special Collections librarian, to mount the exhibition of loose prints.

The numerous large color prints feature plants identified by their botanical names; in some, there are also small line drawings of details. The color lithographs on exhibit were line drawings filled with colors ranging from white through delicate pastels to intense reds, an occasional blue, and, of course, the full spectrum of greens.

Father Blanco was born in Zamora Province, Spain, on Nov. 24, 1778, and joined the Augustinian Order in 1795. He was ordained in 1805 at age twenty six and was sent to the Philippines where he served until his death in 1845. He served as a parish priest in various parts of the country; he then became Provincial Counselor, General Treasurer of the Province, Rector Provincial, and Prior of Guadalupe. Although now known as a botanist, during his lifetime the priest was recognized for his humility and modesty.

While Father Blanco’s scientific work is well-documented in *Flora de Filipinas*, the local Filipino artists who actually made the original drawings remain unknown. What we do know is that their colored drawings were sent to a lithographer, C. Verdaguer, in Barcelona, Spain. In Barcelona the drawings were copied onto lithographic stones, probably by L. Guerrero whose name appears on the lower left of each print, and printed for inclusion in the books that were published in Manila. After six hundred copies of each plate were printed, the plates were destroyed, thus making Falvey’s copy one of a beautiful limited edition.

“Father Blanco’s Garden” was on display through November 2009.

By Alice Bampton
Hispanic Heritage Month Event Celebrates Central American Poetry

On Sept. 17, Carlos Trujillo, Ph.D., associate professor of Spanish and director of the Graduate Program in Hispanic Studies, discussed the importance of poetry in Central America and read from his new book of poetry, *Texto Sobre Texto*.

Sally Scholz on Achieving Social Change

The Scholarship@Villanova series started Sept. 24 with Sally Scholz, Ph.D., discussing her book, *Political Solidarity*. In the book, she explores the definition of solidarity in a political context using the transformational roles of advocacy groups in society, such as the civil rights and women’s rights movements. She defined political solidarity as the “unity of individuals each responding to a particular situation of injustice, oppression, social vulnerability or tyranny. Each individual makes a conscious commitment to a cause.” Dr. Scholz is a faculty member in the philosophy department and the Center for Peace and Justice Education.

Postmodern Narrative and Labor Issues by Heather J. Hicks

The Scholarship@Villanova series on Sept. 30 showcased Heather J. Hicks, Ph.D., discussing her book, *The Culture of Soft Work: Labor, Gender, and Race in Postmodern American Narrative*. Dr. Hicks explores the meaning of being a worker in America as she highlights labor issues represented in postmodernism. Her book captures the decline in local economy and the deterioration of the labor movement system as represented in fiction and film.

Dr. Hicks’ passion for labor issues is evident when she describes her childhood experiences growing up in a small rural town. Her father, a labor union worker, was frequently on strike which helped her develop a deeper understanding of the complex labor force issues in postmodern America. Dr. Hicks is an associate professor in the English department and director of Graduate Studies in English.
“The Weight is Over” - A Documentary

Leonard Shyles, Ph.D., an associate professor in the communication department, shared his ideas on the impact of the American diet on individual health and on the soaring cost of health care after a screening of his documentary on Nov. 10. “The Weight is Over” presents the personal story of a 35-year veteran health professional, who discovers the advantages of a pre-agricultural diet on her health. The video also illustrates the power of television to educate citizens about how they may improve their quality of life by offering a solution to a severe and widespread life-threatening problem. Dr. Shyles proposed that money saved on health problems caused by a poor diet, such as obesity, heart disease and diabetes, can be used for medical research on other chronic diseases.

VSB Professor Speaks on Global Development

An Endowed Chair Lecture took place on Nov. 5 featuring Jonathan P. Doh, Ph.D., professor of management and operations and director of the Center for Global Leadership in the Villanova School of Business. Dr. Doh discussed his recent research on the role of multinational enterprise, governments, and nongovernmental organization on the process and outcomes of development. He reviewed the recent developments related to the changing balance of global economic influence and the emergence of developing countries as major players in the world economy. Dr. Doh stated that, in the past, human societies established economic ties with neighboring countries. Lately, the pace of global integration has significantly increased and has encompassed a range of social, political and economic changes. Dr. Doh discussed the implications of his research findings for public policy, corporate strategy and civil society.

Scholarship@Villanova Talk Honors Native American Heritage Month

On November 18, Paul C. Rosier, Ph.D., associate professor in history, discussed his book, Serving Their Country: American Indian Politics and Patriotism in the Twentieth Century. The talk focused on the ways in which Native American activists and politicians used the material legacy of 19th century conquest in the American West to further the moral reputation of America as it assumed a prominent role in shaping world affairs in the 20th century. Native American Heritage Month (November) celebrates both the distinctive elements of native culture and the contributions that native people have made in shaping America. The lecture also featured a demonstration by Frank L. Henninger, director, Villanova University Shop, playing a Native American flute.

By Akua Adoo and Natalie Tomasco; posters by Joanne Quinn
monsters” that populate scholarly literature. Simmons championed the use of graphic novels in the curriculum. She described graphic novels as filled with very human, angst-ridden themes and dysfunctional characters, and claimed that, as such, they can be deemed literary.

The panelists agreed that artwork provides what Phelan called the “connective tissue” in the story, allowing the reader to interpret silences as the unspoken thoughts of the characters. Phelan, Maberry and Lynch concurred that writers and illustrators work on a basis of trust in the collaborative production of graphic novels and comic books. Writers trust the illustrator to show components of the story that are not explicitly written as narrative. Maberry also felt that comic books and graphic novels are a bridge between traditional literature and different types of learners.

Categorizing these works has primarily fallen to the publishers and booksellers. In fact, the panelists agreed that marketing is what led to the label of “graphic novel.”

When asked about future trends, Maberry proposed that redemptive and inspirational characters would become more prevalent, especially as the world deals with economic and political upheaval. Phelan hoped that in 50 years people would say “That was a great book,” without differentiating between the novel and the graphic novel. One day the graphic novel will no longer be a novelty, but just another book on the shelf, or in the hands of a reader.

Stephen Spatz, assistant outreach librarian, guided the discussion and invited questions from faculty, staff and students, including English professors Karyn Hollis and Hugh Ormsby-Lennon.

Laura Hutelmyer, Brian A. Lynch, Judy Olsen, Joanne Quinn, Natalie Tomasco and other members of the Falvey Publications & Communication team, with support from the Programming & Outreach team, planned and facilitated this event.

As an added feature, graphic novels were placed on display by the panelists and by students in Dr. Hollis’s “Reading, Theorizing and Creating the Graphic Novel” course. Joanne Quinn and Laura Hutelmyer gathered a variety of Falvey’s graphic novel titles for an ongoing display at the library entrance, many of which were then quickly checked out.

By Luisa Cywinski; photograph by Jennifer Cywinski; graphics by Joanne Quinn
Kindles Spark Interest in E-Books

Falvey Memorial Library and the Bartley Business Information Center have purchased Kindles for the use of library patrons. Most e-book title requests are honored. Titles recently loaded onto the Kindles include *High Performance Ethics*, *The Science of Wealth*, *His Dark Materials* by Philip Pullman, and *Hard Times* by Charles Dickens. Kindles are wireless reading devices which hold the content of an entire book. What better way to try out a new technology without the expense?

~Luisa Cywinski, Linda Hauck

To highlight “Religion in the Workplace,” Joanne Quinn used a mixture of religious artifacts, office supplies, books and papers on clipboards. Contributors to the window display were Kathy Overturf, associate director of Campus Ministry, Marie Roman and Kathleen O’Connor.

Unlike Falvey’s typically colorful window displays, the November display had a somber tone, appropriate to its subject, *Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week* (HHAW). This exhibit was designed and mounted by Victoria Stork and Alyson Malick, two Villanova seniors, who used recycled materials whenever possible.

Large banners included two panels, one on the late Rev. Ray Jackson, O.S.A., and the other explaining “Our Mission,” which were created for last year’s exhibit and reused this year. Below the banners were simple signs, hand-lettered on inexpensive construction paper, listing the various events such as Fast Day, Sleep Out, Faces of Homelessness and others which took place during HHAW. Small pyramids of canned goods represented the food drive held during the week. Groups of boxes at either end represented box cities created by homeless people and also referred to the event “Sleep Out, Boxed Into Homelessness,” part of HHAW.

The very basic nature of this exhibit attracted viewers’ attention and made a lasting impression of the misery suffered by homeless and hungry people. It also clearly publicized the events which were part of HHAW on the Villanova campus.

In addition to the botanical prints exhibition (see page 5), Special Collections librarian Bente Polites curated “Christmas in Special Collections.”

By Alice Bampton
Demian Katz joined Falvey in late summer as a library technology development specialist. Before coming to Falvey, Demian worked with a software development company and earlier as a reference technical assistant at Chester County Library in Exton. He has a bachelor’s degree in computer science from West Chester University and a master of library and information science degree from the University of Pittsburgh. With both programming and reference experience, Demian said he was “excited to work with VuFind (Falvey’s open source online public access catalog).”

Outreach librarian and Events and Outreach team leader Darren G. Poley was promoted to Library Professional III. Darren has been a librarian in Falvey Memorial Library for over ten years; he is also an adjunct faculty member of the theology and religious studies department.

Rev. Dennis J. Gallagher, O.S.A., Ph.D., University archivist, celebrated his 45th anniversary of priesthood on January 30. He was ordained in the St. Thomas of Villanova Church on the University campus. An anniversary mass was celebrated on this occasion at St. Catharine’s Church, Spring Lake, New Jersey.

A number of Falvey staff members made presentations at the LVJ Summer Institute 2009. The Institute included participants from the libraries at Villanova, LaSalle and St. Joseph’s. The meeting topic was “Electronic Outreach for Orientation, Instruction and Just Plain Fun.” Barbara Quintiliano served on the Institute’s organizational team and demonstrated SynchronEyes, a software program for classroom management. Other Falvey presenters included Michael Foight, Alfred Fry, Linda Hauck, Laura Hutelmyer, Jacqueline Mirabile, Jutta Seibert and Natalie Tomasco.

Barbara Quintiliano, instructional design librarian, (right) presented a poster session, “A Collaborative Approach to Population Assessment,” with College of Nursing faculty colleagues Marcia Costello, Ph.D., R.D, L.D., and Suzanne Zamerowski, Ph.D., R.N., (left) at the National League for Nursing Education Summit held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia on September 24 and 25.

Stephen Spatz, assistant outreach librarian, attended the Catholic Research Resources Alliance (CRRA) annual meeting in July at Loyola University, Chicago. While there, Stephen presented information on VuFind and Falvey Memorial Library’s Digital Library. He demonstrated what the VuFind open source software can do for the Catholic Portal, an internet search engine designed by CRRA. The portal intends to “create easy, effective and global discovery of Catholic research resources” and to provide “access to rare, unique or infrequently held materials in academic libraries’ and seminaries’ special collections and archives.” The portal, using VuFind, is currently being reviewed by scholars to assess its usefulness for researchers.

Librarians Susan Ottignon and Merrill Stein participated in the 38th annual conference of the Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies, “Asia Beyond Borders,” held at Villanova University October 30 through November 1. Sue, a research support librarian and a member of the languages and literatures library liaison team, presented, with Masako Hamada, Ph.D., coordinator of Japanese studies and a member of the Institute for Global Interdisciplinary Studies, “Instructional Uses of the Web for Academic Courses.” Merrill, librarian liaison to political science, chaired the session “Texts and Contexts.” Participants in this session came from the University of Pennsylvania, Princeton University and the University of Hong Kong.

~Alice Bampton
information resources: powerful search engines were emerging that could bring to our desktop results from millions of Web sites around the world. When Google rose to prominence in 1999, we knew the world had changed. Putting issues of “information quality” and reliability to the side, denizens of the new digital environment quickly became habituated to one-stop look-ups yielding thousands of results on Google and Yahoo.

Denizens of the new digital environment quickly became habituated to one-stop look-ups yielding thousands of results on Google and Yahoo.

In the library world, our most valuable, high-quality resources were locked up inside dozens of proprietary environments that were invisible to users of search engines. Academic libraries responded in a number of ways, not the least of which was to develop carefully structured subject-oriented Web guides that would help users identify the key proprietary resources that serve particular disciplines.

We also embraced various “federated” and “broadcast” search technologies that could provide access to a group of related resources through a single search. Those technologies, while still with us, do not scale well and are fraught with performance problems that make them less than optimal in a Web-world of unified search engine indexes.

Early on, in fact, the Holy Grail of library searching in the Web era became quite clear. What we needed was the ability to aggregate the information from all of our resources into a single index that might behave like Google but that would retrieve only authoritative peer-reviewed or vetted publications of the sort that carry weight in a rigorous intellectual environment, or, in other words, a form of global academic search.

While it once seemed that Google Scholar might fill that promise, the pricing and intellectual property boundaries around scholarly information have diminished its potential for success. But technological capability has a slippery way of trumping the limitations of established information access regimes, once the right elements are in place.

During 2009, a number of new initiatives were announced by library information vendors to provide access to just such an aggregated index of library resources. One of those initiatives, the Summon product from Serials Solutions, has involved software development participation by Andrew Nagy, who worked at Villanova for four years and who was the lead architect on our VuFind project. Behind the Summon search technology is an equally important set of vendor relationships that break new ground in allowing for the aggregation of metadata (the descriptive terms and keywords describing content) from many different publishers in one index.

New services such as Summon appear to me to be yet another in the continuing line of disruptive technologies that are re-orienting our thinking about how libraries carry out their missions in the Web era. At Falvey, we recently signed a contract for Summon, because we are eager to expand the reach of our collections and to bring the very rich and complex corpus of proprietary digital resources we license to our users via a single search.

It may well be the single most important tool we have for exposing and encouraging use of our collections for learning and research. It is in many ways just as exciting in 2010 as those dedicated terminals for accessing the library catalog were in 1985.

Joe Lucia
University Librarian
Photograph by John Welsh
Jack Butler Yeats – The Drawings and Illustrations of Famous Irish Artist Now on Display

Jack Butler Yeats is one of Ireland’s great modern painters of the early twentieth century. Outside of Ireland, he is perhaps most well-known as the brother of the poet William Butler Yeats and the son of portrait artist John Butler Yeats. “Jack Butler Yeats: Drawings & Illustrations. An Exhibit of Material from Falvey Memorial Library Special Collections” is now on display on Falvey’s second floor. It also highlights the historical backdrop of Ireland at the turn of the 20th century, as well as Jack’s involvement with his sister’s publishing company, Cuala Press.

Yeats was born in London in 1871. He spent his childhood in Sligo, Ireland, a setting that would influence his life’s work. His career spanned a variety of occupations: he worked as an illustrator and cartoonist for various newspapers, moving on to watercolor and oil. His depictions of daily life in the west of Ireland contributed to Ireland’s growing nationalist sentiment at a turbulent time in Irish history.

His style evolved over the course of his career, moving from realism to more abstract expressionism. He was also the author of plays, novels and children’s books. Yeats lived in the Dublin area until his death in 1957.

In Falvey’s Special Collections, Yeats’s drawings are found in children’s books, novels, plays and broadsides.

One of the highlights of the collection is A Broadside. Yeats was the editor of the first series and provided over 250 drawings. While only a handful of issues are represented here, the complete first series is available online through the Digital Library.

This exhibit, which will close August 1, was curated by Róisín Corry Roche, the fall 2009 Digital Library intern. Bente Polites, Special Collections librarian, mounted the physical exhibit. Joanne Quinn created the graphics for the online exhibit (see exhibits.library.villanova.edu/yeats).