

## 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Snyder Book Collecting Contest Finalist Summaries

1. Parker Bednasek

Undergraduate Division

**Title:** *Birth of the United States: Literature of the Revolution and Early Republic*

**Summary:** From the 10th grade on, I have been collecting books about the American Revolution and the Founding era of the United States. In my collection, I have some collected works of the Founders, biographies, historiographies, novels, and scholarly books that dive more deeply into the socioeconomic and political aspects of the era. This era of United States history means a lot to me and I hope to continue growing my collection.

2. Kyndall Delph

Undergraduate Division

**Title:** *Navigating the Black Identity*

**Summary:** Reading has always been a way for me to understand the world around and as a young child I always had a hard time understanding why the color of my skin determined the way people saw and acted around me. I began to start reading more and soon came across the defining African and African American literature, as my collection grew I began to see more narratives about blackness as identity. Every book in my collection deals with narratives of black characters coming to terms with the world around them as it relates to being black, through social location and flesh.

3. Alex Houston

Undergraduate Division

**Title:** *Exploration and Conservation: Uniting Outdoor Recreation and Environmentalism Through Rock Climbing*

**Summary:** My collection focuses on the broader topic of exploration, delving into the specific niches of rock climbing, endurance, and the important environmental ethics that underpin the topic. I began collecting many of these books as a child, staying up late reading tales of adventure on the tallest mountains, distant continents, and the ocean. I never comprehended that one-day I would go on my own expeditions into distant lands, collecting more books along the way.

4. Madeline York

Undergraduate Division

**Title:** *Stepping into Wild Territory*

**Summary:** *Stepping into Wild Territory* provides a window into the wild spaces I inhabit.

Full of memoirs, how-to guides, picture books, maps, and fiction, it is a collection where the authors become my mentors, field guides, and even heroes. With my eyes on the pages I might physically be in an urban area of Kansas, but in my mind, I am hiking, camping, and exploring in tandem with these authors in the wilderness. This collection explores what it means to live on the boundary line between the security of society and a life outside of it.

5. Peter Federman

Graduate Division

**Title:** *American Moments: Historical Snapshots of Our Shared Experience*

**Summary:** This collection consists of documents, lectures, histories, biographies, and essays that provide insight into specific and uniquely American experiences. Together, they provide a new perspective on the American historical

narrative. From yellow fever victims of 1790s Philadelphia, to wealthy Jewish families in New York City in the 1800s, to Harvard professors experimenting with psychedelics in the 1960s, to underground punk-rock musicians in the 1990s, this collection shows the incredible struggles, victories, heartbreaks, and rewards of the American experience. Supporting material includes several pieces of Americana and related ephemera.

6. Emily Foltz

Graduate Division

**Title:** *The Oboe: Its Past, Performance, and Pedagogy*

**Summary:** *The Oboe: Its Past, Performance, and Pedagogy* is a collection that explores the development of the oboe, its players, and its uses in music, as well as how that performing tradition can be passed down to the next generation of musicians. This collection does not include sheet music; instead, it focuses on prose: biographies, historical studies, and instructional books, which can all be used by the oboist to prepare a culturally and historically informed, affective, and technically superior musical performance.

7. Kelsey Johnson

Graduate Division

**Title:** *Electrifying Edo Entertainment: A Collection of Books about Japanese Popular Culture during the Edo Period*

**Summary:** This collection contains books that discuss elements popular culture that are often seen in Japanese woodblock printing from the seventeenth century to the early twentieth century. These books have a particular focus on kabuki theatre, Ghost stories and folklore, and courtesans, all of which are extremely popular subject matter in Ukiyo-e prints. This collection seeks to help the reader understand the meaning and social as well as historical context behind Japanese woodblock prints and popular culture primarily created during the Edo period Japan.

8. Paul Schwennesen

Graduate Division

**Title:** *Borderlands--A Manifesto of Overlap*

**Summary:** This collection contains works of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and memoir relating to the borderlands of the American Southwest. It is both cerebral (historical works of scholarly inquiry), as well as evocative (reflecting deeply personal experience). The collection has grown organically over a number of years as an attempt to better understand the complex interplay of human and natural history in a tangled web of meaning, contrast, and struggle that defines existence on the marginal fringe--the borderlands of modern America.

9. Charles Shaughnessy

Graduate Division

**Title:** *A Century of Conflict: Americans at War from WWI to Iraq*

**Summary:** This collection attempts to delve into the details of the individual experiences of American soldiers in the conflicts we have entered in the past century. Particular emphasis has been placed upon acquiring autobiographies and biographies of men who have served. Of particular note is an autographed copy of Medal of Honor recipient Wesley Fox's autobiography, *Marine Rifleman*. The collection also includes a light leavening of broader histories to place these individual stories in their proper context.

10. Amilee Turner

Graduate Division

**Title:** *Government, Law, and Politics: America Now and Then*

**Summary:** This collection consists of nonfiction works that are reflective of the historical and modern political system of America in its entirety. From the governmental institutions, the political processes, and key political actors in America, this collection provides a unique and diverse range of works from a multitude of authors. This collection has been carefully selected and arranged in a way that presents a compilation of the foundational underpinnings of American politics, laws, and government.

11. Jennifer Warburton

Graduate Division

**Title:** *Books of the Eighteenth-Century British Empire – A Graduate School Story*

**Summary:** This collection encompasses books focused on the eighteenth-century British Empire. The books range from the most recent historical scholarship to nineteenth-century multi-volume sets. Thematically and geographically, the books largely focus on English religion and politics, which coincides with my own research interests. A collection of books is not only the physical materials, but the story of those objects. As such, this collection represents the manifestation of one graduate student's experience at the University of Kansas.