

**Columbia University Libraries will receive** \$371,000 from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for a two-year project to preserve 820 recordings containing almost 1,200 hours of sound. The audiotapes are part of the Oral History Research Office's collection of recorded interviews and memoirs, and have been selected because they are among the most important and the most threatened by imminent deterioration due to the inherent fragility of the media. Among the recordings are oral histories of politically and socially active figures, such as Nikita Khrushchev, Walter Lippmann, George Meaney, Clarence Mitchell, Nelson Rockefeller, Gloria Steinem, Robert F. Wagner; historians and literary figures, such as James Baldwin, Jacques Barzun, Isaiah Berlin, William Buckley, Robert Heilbroner, Irving Howe, Anita Loos, Arthur Schlesinger Jr., Isaac Bashevis Singer, C. Vann Woodward; and members of the arts and entertainment community, such as Judith Anderson, Gene Autry, Frank Capra, Joseph Cotton, Joel McCrea, Otto Preminger, Richard Rogers, Virgil Thomson, Mies van der Rohe, and King Vidor. This project will enable the libraries not only to preserve these specific recordings, but also to build up its audio digitization program to address future recordings after the project ends. Columbia will be working with an outside vendor to digitize the recordings.

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## Acquisitions

**The letters of Gary Snyder, the Pulitzer Prize-**winning poet who began writing in the 1950s as one of the writers of the Beat Generation, have been acquired by the University of Cali-

fornia (UC)-San Diego. Snyder, 78, has been named the 2008 recipient of the \$100,000 Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize, the highest prize given in the field of poetry. A Zen Buddhist who has been described as the Henry David Thoreau of the Beat Movement, Snyder's papers reflect his love of the wilderness, which can be traced back to his childhood in the Pacific Northwest and, subsequently, through his travels in Japan, China, and India. Snyder has published 16 books of poetry and prose, and received the Pulitzer Prize for poetry for his book *Turtle Island* (1974) and an American Book Award for *Axe Handles* (1983). The bulk of his papers are housed at the UC-Davis Library.

**A major gift from the family of the late** Morton J. Morty Savada—the complete inventory of his Manhattan record store, Records Revisited, including more than 200,000 78-rpm records, along with a related print collection of catalogs, discographies, and other materials—has been given to the Syracuse University Library's Belfer Audio Laboratory and Archive. With the addition of the Savada Collection, Belfer's holdings now total more than 400,000 78-rpm recordings—second in size only to the collections of the Library of Congress. The Savada Collection, valued at just over \$1 million, is a treasure trove of popular music, including unique and hard-to-find genres. It is strongest in big band and jazz, but also represents a wide variety of other musical genres, including country, blues, gospel, polka, folk, Broadway, Hawaiian, and Latin. It also contains spoken-word, comedy and broadcast recordings, as well as V-disks, which were distributed as entertainment for the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II. In addition to the popular labels of the day—such as Columbia, Decca, and Victor—Savada collected rare and specialized recordings. Dates of recordings in the collection range from 1895 to the 1950s. ♪

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**Ed. note:** Send your news to: Grants & Acquisitions, C&RL News, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611-2795; e-mail: agalloway@ala.org.