Many thanks to Jeanne Brasile and Jacquelyn Deppe, who chose these images from the collections and transformed them into coloring book pages. And special acknowledgement to Allison Piazza, who brought this idea – born from medical libraries – to Walsh Library at Seton Hall.

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Seton Hall’s Special Collections – including the University Archives, the Walsh Gallery, and the rare books collections – contain many treasures awaiting discovery. Unlike the main University Library, which will acquaint you with the latest research and the greatest classics that scholarship has to offer, in the special collections you make your own discoveries. It is here you will encounter the raw materials of history – the diary of a Seton Hall student from 1874, the letters of a Seton Hall seminarian who served as a chaplain in the Civil War, the art collection of an innovative Chinese professor, and the anthropological evidence unearthed by a specialist in the Native American history of this region.

The materials this department cares for are irreplaceable – so extraordinary care must be taken in making them available to our community. There may be only one opportunity in a student’s Seton Hall career to see a certain object before it returns to safe storage. For this reason, we hope that this book allows everyone the chance to get up close and personal with some of the most stunning artworks and illustrations in the collections. Coloring can be a meditative experience that allows the mind to rest and reflect, shifting gears from the mode of understanding and deciding to a mode of experiencing and appreciating. We hope that this book serves you as refreshment, relaxation, and inspiration, and we are happy that in this way, a bit of our collections can accompany you wherever you may go.

Sarah Ponichtera, Assistant Dean for Special Collections and the Gallery
Ryan designed coats of arms for many dioceses throughout the United States. The scroll at the bottom bears the university’s motto, “Hazard Zet Forward”, which translates from Latin to “whatever the peril, ever forward” in English.
Design for medal paint on paper
12” x 10 1/2”
c. 1970
2018.17.0001.a

Sketch, Prepared for the Society for the Preservation of Setoniana by Dieges & Clust jewelers, established in New York in 1898. The company also produced the Heisman Trophy from 1935 through 1979, as well as the first Most Valuable Player Award for Major League Baseball.
Former nicknames for the Seton Hall University sports teams include “White & Blue,” “Villagers,” and in the case of the baseball team, “The Alerts,” prior to 1931 when Seton Hall adopted the currently used name “Pirates.”
Robert Robbins Studios of New York City was retained to complete the restoration of the Chapel of the Immaculate in 1963. This sketch shows the canopy design which hangs above the altar.
The period in which this Qing Dynasty vase was made marks the last dynasty in the imperial history of China. The Qing Dynasty was established in 1636, and ruled China from 1644 to 1912, with a brief restoration in 1917. It was preceded by the Ming dynasty and succeeded by the Republic of China.
Mss 0029: Herbert Kraft manuscript and book leaves, Box 11
From Sebastian Munster’s “Cosmographia Universalis”, printed in Basle, 1559.
Mss 0029: Herbert Kraft manuscript and book leaves, Box 11
From Luther's "German Translation of the Bible", printed in Wittenberg, 1584.
Research with Special Collections

Research with Special Collections follows a different process than you may be used to. It is important to know that special collections - specialize! Rather than having a broad array of resources like the main library, special collections focuses on areas in which Seton Hall has particular interest: the history of our own university, of our Archdiocese, of our region, and of the immigrant groups who made their home here. We also have some special collections created by faculty members who donated their collections to the university to make them available for future generations, such as the Archeology and Anthropology collection, the Asian Art collection, the Valente Italian history collection, and more.

Begin by searching through our collections to see if we have materials of interest to you. Archival resources can be found in our archives catalogue, and Gallery/museum collections can be found on our Google Arts & Culture page.

If this sparks questions - perhaps you see something similar to what you want, but not the exact thing you were hoping to find - please make an appointment with one of our specialists. They may have a way to help you, even if what you want isn't immediately available. Archives and museums have many more objects than they can make available on public facing portals, either because of copyright restrictions that may require materials to be withheld from general public view, or the fact that there are always many more materials in archives and museums than are currently described. It takes months if not years to make newly acquired materials available, so there may be materials that are still in the processing stage that we can share with you.

Once you know that what you want is here, and you know the exact description of the collection materials you want to see (accession number for museum objects, or collection, box, and folder number for archival materials), please make an appointment to see the materials in the reading room. Since these materials are unique and irreplaceable, there are more restrictions to viewing them than for a regular library book. And of course, they cannot be checked out.

We're looking forward to supporting you in discovering the many amazing materials in our collections!

For more on seeing our collections, visit us at library.shu.edu/archives/research