Katherine Anne Porter, Her Library, and Her Work

Sunday, April 26, 2015
2:30-4:30pm
Hornbake Library, University of Maryland

Presented by Beth Alvarez, Ph.D., the University of Maryland Libraries’ Curator of Literary Manuscripts Emerita

Katherine Anne Porter (1890-1980) won the National Book Award and a Pulitzer Prize in fiction for her Collected Stories (1965) and previously published three well-regarded collections of short fiction (1935, 1939, 1944) and the best-selling novel, Ship of Fools (1962). Her papers and personal library are among the holdings of Hornbake Library at the University of Maryland, also the location of the Katherine Anne Porter Room, established in appreciation of her generosity and interest in 1968. The Porter Room houses furniture, memorabilia, and a large portion of her personal library.

On Sunday, April 26, at 2:30 pm in the Katherine Anne Porter Room, Beth Alvarez, Ph.D. will give a brief presentation about Porter, the history of the
Porter Room, and the contents of the room. After the presentation in the Porter Room, attendees will adjourn to Room 0302H on the library's ground floor for light refreshments and an informal question and answer period. The program will conclude with the screening of the 1986 American Masters documentary "Katherine Anne Porter: The Eye of Memory." The roughly one-hour program features interviews with Porter's writer friends Peter Taylor, Eudora Welty, Robert Penn Warren, and Eleanor Clark, her nephew Paul Porter; and Porter biographer Joan Givner. It also include sensitive dramatizations from three of her short stories "The Grave," "The Witness," and "The Circus."

The Katherine Anne Porter Room is in the northwest corner of the first floor of Hornbake Library. Signs stationed in the lobby will direct those attending to the Porter room. Room 0302H is located on the ground floor below the lobby level and is accessible by stairs and an elevator. Free parking is available in the Regents Drive parking garage, a short walk from Hornbake Plaza and the library. The plaza and library are reached by a bridge that connects the garage and plaza on the southwest corner of level 3 of the garage.

K. A. Porter receives the key to the KAP Room on May 15, 1968, the day on which it was formally opened. UMD President Wilson Elkins is on her right.

This special program represents a partnership between Campus Club, Special Collections and University Archives, University of Maryland Libraries, and the Prince George's County Historical Society.

GUESTS ARE WELCOME
Directions from Route 1: Campus Drive to Right at the Circle onto Regents Drive. Left on Fieldhouse Drive. First right into Regents Garage. Park anywhere in the garage, although parking on level 3 will be most convenient.
Exit garage at southwest corner of 3rd level and walk across pedestrian bridge leading to Hornbake Plaza.
The 2nd building on left is Hornbake Library.

PLEASE NOTE: CAMPUS DRIVE IS ONE WAY ONLY TRAVELLING WEST FROM ROUTE ONE. IF YOU COME ONTO CAMPUS FROM UNIVERSITY BLVD., TAKE STADIUM DRIVE TO REGENTS DRIVE.