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**CALIFORNIA INTERNATIONAL ANTIQUARIAN BOOK FAIR
SPECIAL EXHIBIT WILL CELEBRATE NOTED COLLECTORS' LOVE AFFAIRS
WITH RARE BOOKS**

PASADENA, Calif. (January 9, 2012) – Exploring the avid pursuits of collectors past and present, the California International Antiquarian Book Fair will feature a special exhibit entitled “A Love Affair with Books: Personal Stories of Noted Collectors.” This colorful, wide-ranging exhibit spotlights legendary library builders as well as the contemporary Southern California book lovers including:

Railroad magnate Henry Huntington amassed a spectacular collection of rare books and manuscripts in the fields of British and American history and literature which make up the core of one of the finest research libraries in the world; selected materials from the Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens

Philanthropist William Andrews Clark, Jr. formed a collection that make up one of the nation’s most comprehensive rare books and manuscripts libraries with particular strengths in 17th and 18th century English literature and history, Oscar Wilde and fine printing; selected materials from UCLA’s William Andrews Clark Memorial Library

The Ward Ritchie Collection from Occidental College presents the work of the world-renowned, Southern California-based fine book printer

The Lawrence Clark Powell Collection from Occidental College honors the legendary librarian and literary bibliographer who founded the UCLA School of Library Service

Actress Sarah Michelle Gellar collects children’s books with an emphasis on the works of Victorian illustrator Arthur Rackham

Academy Award-winning producer and director Tony Bill’s collection documents the history of early aviation; now part of the San Francisco International Airport Aviation Museum & Library

Monsignor Francis J. Weber has published and built a big collection of small books all measuring less than 4 inches; selected materials from Azusa Pacific University

Librarian and gemologist Mary Murphy began her collection dedicated to precious stones and jewelry to advance her professional knowledge and 30 years later has a private library of over 600 items

A past president of the Zamorano Club, California’s oldest book club, Gordon J. Van De Water has long collected books dealing with California and the West

California International Antiquarian Book Fair Special Exhibit

Page Two

Now in its 45th edition, the California International Antiquarian Book Fair will take place at the Pasadena Convention Center on February 10 – 12, 2012. Recognized as one of the world's largest and most prestigious exhibitions of antiquarian books, the Book Fair gives visitors the opportunity to see, learn about and purchase the finest in rare and valuable books, manuscripts, autographs, graphics, prints, maps, photographs and more.

With the collections and rare treasures of more than 200 booksellers from the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America (ABAA) and the International League of Antiquarian Booksellers (ILAB), the Book Fair will feature volumes from five centuries of printing, as well as original manuscripts that predate Gutenberg. Books will cover every imaginable area of interest -- from the history of travel and exploration, early science and medicine to classic literature, modern first editions, children's and illustrated books, and the arts. Items range in price from a few dollars to more than six figures.

The Book Fair also includes seminars on the basics of collecting as well as various themed topics. A panel discussion in conjunction with the special exhibit will feature collectors Kenneth Turan, Tony Bill, and Mary Murphy and will be moderated by journalist, author and TV/radio personality Patt Morrison. Sunday, February 12 is Discovery Day, which gives attendees the opportunity to present up to three items to experts for free examination.

Book Fair hours are Friday, February 10 from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, February 11 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday, February 12 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Pasadena Convention Center, located at 300 East Green Street, Pasadena, CA. Tickets on Friday, February 10 are \$25 and provide three-day admission. Proceeds from Friday tickets will benefit the Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Tickets purchased on Saturday or Sunday are \$15 and include return entry throughout the remainder of the Book Fair.

For more information, visit www.labookfair.com or call 800-454-6401. Connect with the Book Fair at <http://twitter.com/labookfair> or <http://www.facebook.com/LABookFair>.

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