Linda Nelson, Fair Coordinator *“For Immediate Release”*

**Rocky Mountain Book & Paper Fair**

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**University of Denver “Art of the Book” Special Collections on Display at the 29th Annual Rocky Mountain Book and Paper Fair**

*29th Annual Rocky Mountain Book & Paper Fair**happens August 2-3, 2013 at the Denver Mart, in Denver, CO*

The Art of the Book will be featured with the display of University of Denver Special Collections and Archives regional artists’ books at the 29th Annual Rocky Mountain Book and Paper Fair, on Saturday of the two-day fair Friday and Saturday August 2-3, 2013 at the Denver Mart. Curator of the collection, Katherine Crowe, will display a small portion of this collection during the Fair. Prominent among the artists featured in this display are Denver native Alicia Bailey and Laura Wait, a native of Boulder.

Expanding the conceptual definition of ‘book,’ Alicia works with nontraditional materials such as glass, porcelain and steel. Her work has been exhibited in the U.S. and abroad. She is the creator of the Ravenpress imprint, which publishes limited book editions. She is also the owner/curator of Abcedarium, which has become the prime venue for exhibiting contemporary book art in the Rocky Mountain region.

Laura trained in England as a master binder, but has stretched the tradition to integrate her own creative expressions in painting and printmaking. She has exhibited her artist’s books and ﬁne bindings nationally since 1994 and her books are found in many private and public collections including the Library of Congress. She now lives and works in Santa Fe, NM. As a teacher and as an early organizer and exhibitor of book art in Colorado, she has been an invaluable resource and inspiration to the current generation of bookmakers in the west.

The DU collection is being featured as an extension of the theme of this year’s fair, “To Have and To Hold.” Denver’s best experts in the fields of book, paper, maps, prints, art objects, and textiles will give attendees a view of taking care of your collections. Speakers include: Barbara A. Johnson, art objects conservator; Karen Jones, book and paper conservator; Christopher W. Lane, print, map, collections expert for the Antiques Roadshow; Paulette Reading, textile conservator; and Camilla Von Vooren painting conservator.

More than 70 of the nation’s most prestigious dealers in rare and collectible books and paper ephemera will be at the Book Fair. For book and ephemera lovers across the region, it’s an annual weekend not to be missed, as the thousands of books offered typically include once-in-a-lifetime finds. There is truly something for everyone, from museum-quality volumes to items suited for casual gift-giving. The largest event of its kind between Chicago and California, the Rocky Mountain Book & Paper Fair also offers a wealth of vintage and rare paper goods, including postcards, maps, art prints, old travel brochures, posters, ads and ephemera from decades – and centuries – past.

Hosted annually by the Rocky Mountain Antiquarian Booksellers Association (RMABA), the fair has built a reputation as one of the nation’s leading antiquarian book fairs. Chairperson Lois Harvey says, “We work hard to make this a very enjoyable experience for both our exhibitors and attendees. The exhibitors often come so far and expend so much time and money to bring their best inventory to Denver, that we want to go the extra mile to make them feel welcome. And because we continue to attract the nation’s best booksellers, the fair continues to be a cultural boon to Colorado.”

The Rocky Mountain Book & Paper Fair takes place August 2-3 at the Denver Mart, I-25 at 58th Ave. (exit east). Advanced tickets are available through Eventbrite. www.RMBPF2013.eventbrite.com Admission is $10 for Friday evening's preview (includes Saturday re-admission) and $5 on Saturday. At the door ticket prices are Fri/Sat. - $12, Sat. only - $6. Parking is free. Show hours: Friday 5:00 - 9:00 pm; Saturday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm.

The Rocky Mountain Antiquarian Booksellers Association is an organization of used and rare book dealers in the Rocky Mountain west area. The organization’s members are dedicated to stimulating book collecting, promoting ethical trade in all facets of the antiquarian book business, and educating the public in the field of antiquarian books.

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For more information, visit www.rmaba.org or call 720-234-7829. Web images for your use. Hi-Res images available on request.