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Xavier University Library Collections Newsletter
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The Smithsonian Institute has borrowed Xavier University of Louisiana Library’s photograph of Mrs. Margaret James Washington for an exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery. Mrs. Washington was an anti-lynching activist in the late 1800s and the first “lady principal” at what is today Tuskegee University. The exhibit, “Votes for Women: A Portrait of Persistence,” will reveal the women and organizations often overlooked in the complex narrative of women’s suffrage.

The photograph will be on display from March 29, 2019 through January 20, 2020. Should you be in D.C. during this time, drop in and take a look.
In addition, The Historic New Orleans Collection has borrowed Xavier’s *Sylvain Rehearsal* photograph to place in its New Orleans Medley: Sounds of the City Exhibition. Displayed in this exhibit are the first music published in New Orleans, tickets from the French Opera House, Jelly Roll Morton’s handwritten sheet music, Manuel Manetta’s trumpet and Sidney Bechet’s clarinet, and video footage of Mardi Gras Indians from the 1970s. Located at the Williams Research Center on Chartres Street, this free exhibit will be open until August 4, 2019.

Our other collaboration with The Historic New Orleans Collection brought a panel version of “Purchased Lives: The American Slave Trade from 1808 to 1865” to the library this semester. Visitors made their way to Xavier to view the display and attend weekly programs in conjunction with the exhibition. This traveling exhibit is no longer on view but you can research the sale and purchase of slaves in Xavier’s Archives and Special Collections. The Charles F. Heartman Collection on the third floor of the library contains appraisals, affidavits of ownership and mortgages of slaves. These documents can also be accessed online in the Digital Archives and Collections.

From Nancy Hampton + the Collection Resources Team

**Rare photos from Xavier’s Archives will be exhibited at the Smithsonian and the Historic New Orleans Collection.**