

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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****Friends of the Princeton University Library Sponsor Book Adoption Party,
March 30****

Nearly 100 items from Princeton University Library's special collections will be on view at the first-ever Book Adoption Party hosted by the Friends of the Princeton University Library on Sunday, March 30. The party will take place from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Chancellor Green on the University campus. Admission is \$25, and the event is open to the public.

Guests will have an opportunity to underwrite the cost of acquiring and conserving items by "adopting" rare books, manuscripts, coins, photographs, historic maps, and graphic materials. Adoptions range from \$125 for the acquisition of a Colgate toothpaste pamphlet written and illustrated by Hugh Lofting, who created the character of Dr. Doolittle, to \$5,000 for the conservation of a set of spectacular astronomical drawings published by Scribner's in 1882. A bookplate recognizing the adopter's contribution will be placed with each item.

"Rarely outside of an exhibition hall does the public have the opportunity to view examples of the astounding diversity of the Princeton University Library's collections," said Donald Farren, a member of the Council of the Friends of the Library and a Princeton alumnus from the class of 1958.

Farren, a retired librarian and curator of rare books and manuscripts, developed the idea of a Friends of the Library Book Adoption Party. He modeled the event after similar programs held at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., where he is a scholar-in-residence.

"The Book Adoption party will give community members an opportunity to see these objects close up and talk with the curators and conservators who work with them," he said.

Honorary chairs for the event are William G. and Mary Ellen Bowen, Leslie Burger, Mrs. James M. Burke, Christopher Eisgruber, John Fleming, Colleen Goggins, Robert F. and Margaret Goheen, Anthony Grafton, William H. and Judith Scheide, Harold T. and Vivian Shapiro, Shirley M. Tilghman, and Karin A. Trainer.

Sponsors of the event include The Times of Trenton, PNC Wealth Management, and Smith-Shattuck Bookbinding.

Reservations are requested and can be made by contacting Linda Oliveira at (609) 258-3155 or loliveir@princeton.edu. Guests will receive a full-color catalogue describing the

92 items up for adoption. For more information, visit the Book Adoption website at www.fpul.org/bae.

*Photos for news media are available. Media who would like to request a photo or attend the party should contact Ben Primer, Princeton's Associate University Librarian for Rare Books and Special Collections, at primer@princeton.edu or 609-258-3242.