

The Merrill Collection: Connecting the world to the possibilities inherent in fantasy, science fiction and speculative literature

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DOI: 10.26379/1548

Abstract

The Merrill Collection of Science Fiction, Speculation & Fantasy is considered one of the world's finest collections of speculative fiction and related materials. It is housed on the third floor of the Lillian H. Smith Branch of the Toronto Public Library, in downtown Toronto. Established in 1970, the Merrill Collection celebrates its 50th anniversary this year and, despite the turmoil on the world stage, staff have found ways to commemorate and honour this milestone year. With the help of the dedicated volunteers from the Friends of the Merrill Collection, promotion and engagement continue to flourish in an effort to raise the profile of the collection and to increase awareness of its bounty of resources. The Spaced Out Library was established in 1970 when science fiction