

Paul R. Williams, Ph.D.
24675 Hilltop Dr.
Beachwood, OH 44122

Maritza Rodriguez, *President*
Cleveland Public Library
325 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44114

Dear President Rodriguez,

On Saturday 20 July 2019 the staff of the Cleveland Public Library hosted the members of the Rowfant Club for a summer picnic that included box lunches, an informative address by Director Felton, tour of the Rare Books Collection and explanation of the architecture of the original building. I was assisted by Giovanni Gravino in setting up this extraordinary event. He is highly organized, outgoing and efficient. I enjoyed working with him and Shenise Thomas. They provided an engaging program for the members and guest of the Rowfant Club. Pamela Eyerdam and the staff of the special collections also provided a tour of the rare collections including works by former Rowfant members Chestnut and John Hay.

The Rowfant club was founded in 1892 by some of the businessmen of Cleveland who lived in the millionaire homes on Euclid Ave—Mathers, Hay, etc. The club holds its meeting in the oldest (1838) continuously occupied house in Cleveland. The members are readers, collectors, writers and publishers

We believe that the Cleveland Public Library is a gem in the city of Cleveland and an institution of which we all are proud.

Sincerely,



Paul Williams, Ph.D.
Past President of the Rowfant Club

**KENT STATE**
UNIVERSITY

August 1, 2019

Felton Thomas,
Executive Director
Cleveland Public Library

Dear Felton,

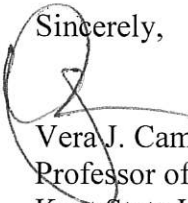
Thank you again for your support of Kent State University and Cleveland Public Library's Wonder Woman Symposium in 2016. Our celebration of 75 years of Wonder Woman and the history of female superheroes has now been memorialized and collected with the lectures, interviews and roundtable printed in volume 9.6 of the *Journal of Graphic Novels and Comics*.

On the 75th anniversary of Wonder Woman, we celebrated not only her "herstory," but our shared future. This symposium was imagined as a bridge between the history of feminism and the future of female empowerment; between the public university and the public library; between generations and genders; and between the academy and the culture. As Wonder Woman once was an ambassador between man's world and her own, so we believe she brought our symposium together.


Wonder Woman's message of empowerment, tolerance, and, most importantly, love is today more urgent than ever before. Originating in 1941, her fight against isolationism, xenophobia, sexism and racism responded to a world in turmoil and we continue that fight in our troubled world today. Wonder Woman could not bear to isolate herself on Paradise Island while the rest of the world was at war. Instead, as an ambassador she became a force for good and for change. Stressing communality, she offered empowerment to girls, and women, while inspiring civic service and moral conscience in boys and men.

The contributions to the symposium collected here represent the above ideas and will provide valuable foundation for future scholarship. Thank you again for your support. As we look forward to Wonder Woman's 80th anniversary in 2021, we hope that you will consider supporting our efforts once again as we push forward with the study of American popular culture, comics, and the future of feminism.

Sincerely,


Vera J. Camden
Professor of English
Kent State University
American editor

Journal of Graphic Novels and Comics


Valentino L. Zullo
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Kent State University
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