President’s Message

It has been an honor this year to serve as your MLA President. I was reminded over and over that one of our greatest assets as library workers is our connection to and network with other library workers all over the state. This year at workshops, unconferences, meet-ups, and more, I saw staff members sharing their success stories and challenges. We met new colleagues and felt encouraged to reach out when we needed support or inspiration.

With member volunteer support, we created and adopted a Code of Conduct. We saw our Innovation funds fully invested. We saw great strides made by the Innovation Fund Task Force to prepare our organization for the next step – opening grant applications and awarding funds to libraries. We witnessed increased advocacy efforts and the establishment of a Virtual Library Advocacy Day. We welcomed new invitations from our State Library, ALA, MASL and more to partner in events and initiatives.

Thank you to our MLA Board, Chairs, and all of our members who volunteered their time this year to work on a committee or community of interest. Your time is valuable and makes a lasting impact. We see your conference planning, web updates, job posting updates, membership postcards, advocacy efforts, and much more. We see you inviting others to be a part of this organization.

I want to thank our Conference co-coordinators: Tiffany Mautino, Katie McDonald, and Colleen Norman. We know that you burned the midnight oil and made yourselves available to every imaginable question and planning step along the way to our opening conference day. Your vision for something “Unconventional” really shined. Thanks to Amigos for your around-the-clock registration and association management support to this trio of coordinators.

We have a big year ahead MLA! I know that our incoming President, Cindy Dudenhoffer, is going to make 2020 one to remember.

Erin Gray, MLS
Branch Manager
Republic Branch Library
Springfield-Greene County Library District
ering@thelibrary.org
(417) 732-7284
President, Missouri Library Association
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Are You Missing Something?

_MO INFO_ is produced by the Publications Committee. The MO INFO Subcommittee is responsible for collecting, editing, and publishing this newsletter six times each year. But if your organization is not represented, it could be better! We are looking for your news, events, successes, and resources.

Submission Guidelines

_MO INFO is published six times each year:_ January, March, May, July, September, and November 15th. Submission deadlines are the 15th of the proceeding months, submitted by email to the committee at moinfonews@gmail.com.

To facilitate the Committee’s production process, please follow the submission suggestions below. Article format should be:

- Microsoft Word document
- Include desired headline and your contact email and role in MLA
- Include digital photos (with captions) and graphics with your articles as desired

ALSO: Lindsey Warner has been the Chair for 2018-19. Thank you, Lindsey, for all your work in keeping MLA members informed!
# Calendar of Events

National, state, regional, and web calendar events from the MLA site, and other sources. Use the links for webcast or event details, any pricing information, and schedule changes.

<table>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Time (CT)</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 18</td>
<td>1-2 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Why Trauma-Informed? A PLA Social Worker Task Force Webinar</strong></td>
<td>Public Library Association</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1:30-2:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Census Records for Genealogy</strong></td>
<td>Amigos Library Services</td>
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<td>Nov. 19</td>
<td>10-11 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Developing and Supporting Child Care Programs</strong></td>
<td>ALSC</td>
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<td>1-2 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Reaching the Uninsured: Libraries Work to Reduce Disparities in Health Insurance Coverage</strong></td>
<td>Public Library Association</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1-2 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>How to Design an Irresistible Website that Attracts the Right Members</strong></td>
<td>Wild Apricot</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1-2 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Practice Makes Perfect: Conducting a Tabletop Exercise to Practice your Disaster Plan</strong></td>
<td>Lyrasis</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:30-2:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Events in a Digital Age: How to Maximize Offline Events in an Online World</strong></td>
<td>Firespring</td>
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<td>Nov. 20</td>
<td>1-2 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Project Outcome: Taking Action Using the Results</strong></td>
<td>Public Library Association</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1-2:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Testing for Accessibility: Free Tools to Assess the Accessibility of Online Resources</strong></td>
<td>Lyrasis</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2-3 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Eliminating Fines: A Win-Win for Your Library and Community</strong></td>
<td>Infopeople</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4-5 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Rethinking the Cost of Digital Collection Building: It May Not Be as Expensive as You Think!</strong></td>
<td>edWeb</td>
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<td>Nov. 25</td>
<td>1:30-2:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Tech Tools and Apps for the Reference Desk</strong></td>
<td>Amigos Library Services</td>
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<td>Nov. 28</td>
<td>12-1 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Storytelling for Fundraising Success</strong></td>
<td>Charity Village</td>
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<td>Nov. 29</td>
<td>12-1 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Digital Analytics Program (DAP): Site Analysis, Live!</strong></td>
<td>DigitalGov</td>
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<td>Dec. 2</td>
<td>1-2 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Introduction to Collections Data Management</strong></td>
<td>Lyrasis</td>
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<td>Dec. 3</td>
<td>11 a.m. - 12 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Is Your Training Truly Participant Centered? 4 Vital Signs to Measure PC Health!</strong></td>
<td>Training Magazine Network</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1-3 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Choosing an ILS that Meets Your Needs</strong></td>
<td>Lyrasis</td>
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<td>Dec. 4</td>
<td>10 a.m. - 4 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>The Library's Role in Supporting Open Educational Resources</strong></td>
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<td>1-2 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Introduction to Proposal Writing</strong></td>
<td>Grantspace</td>
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<td>1-2 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Preserving Podcasts: How Libraries Can Help</strong></td>
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<td>Dec. 5</td>
<td>2-3 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Doing the Work Externally and Internally: Race, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion</strong></td>
<td>WebJunction</td>
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<td>Dec. 9</td>
<td>1:30-2:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Tiny But Mighty: How Tiny Libraries Can Help Their Rural Communities Thrive</strong></td>
<td>Amigos Library Services</td>
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<td>Dec. 10</td>
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<td><strong>I Agreed to What?! Privacy and Social Media</strong></td>
<td>Amigos Library Services</td>
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<td>11 a.m. - 12 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Getting the Balance Right: Social Media</strong></td>
<td>Utah State Library</td>
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<td>Dec. 10, 12</td>
<td>2-4 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Controlled Vocabularies and Taxonomies</strong></td>
<td>Amigos Library Services</td>
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<td>Dec. 11</td>
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<td><strong>Transforming Organizational Culture Using UX Strategies</strong></td>
<td>RUSA</td>
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<td>1-2 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Supporting OER at Your Institution</strong></td>
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<td>Dec. 12</td>
<td>12-1 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Discover How Amigos Library Services Can Help Your Library!</strong></td>
<td>Amigos Library Services</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1-2 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Learning Circles for Staff, for Teens, and for Community</strong></td>
<td>YALSA</td>
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<td>1:2-30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Raise Your Giving Season Potential with Major Gifts</strong></td>
<td>GrantSpace</td>
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<td>Dec. 13</td>
<td>11 a.m. - 12 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>SimplyE @ Amigos: an Overview and Demonstration</strong></td>
<td>Amigos Library Services</td>
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<td>1-2 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>6 Essentials for Teams That Work</strong></td>
<td>Effectiveness Institute</td>
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<td>Dec. 14</td>
<td>12-1 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Using FDLP eXchange for Collection Development</strong></td>
<td>FDLP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 16</td>
<td>1:30 - 2:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Manipulating Metadata with MarcEdit and OpenRefine</strong></td>
<td>Amigos Library Services</td>
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<td>Jan. 24-28</td>
<td>1:30 - 2:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>ALA Midwinter Meeting and Exhibits (Philadelphia, PA)</strong></td>
<td>American Library Association</td>
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<td>Feb. 25-29</td>
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<td><strong>PLA 2020 Conference (Nashville TN)</strong></td>
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<td>Sept. 30 - Oct. 2</td>
<td><strong>MLA Conference 20/20 (Springfield, MO)</strong></td>
<td>Missouri Library Association</td>
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Featured Library Employee

Meet this issue’s Featured Library Employee for the Missouri Library Association, Kelli Hansen!

What is your name, your library, and your role at the library?
My name is Kelli Hansen, and I am in Special Collections at the University of Missouri Libraries.

What originally got you interested in working at a library?
As an M.A. student in art history, I worked on an exhibition collaboration between the Libraries and the Museum of Art and Archaeology at MU. I was fascinated with Special Collections and decided to change my career track from museums to libraries after I finished my first master’s degree. I went to UT Austin to get my MSIS, and am happy that I got to come back to Columbia to work in the Libraries here.

What’s challenging about your work?
A large part of my work is instruction, and I teach across a wide range of subject areas. One morning I might lead a class on graphic novels, only to turn around and teach medieval manuscripts in the afternoon. I sometimes get to help put together course sessions on topics I know very little about, so research plays a big role as well. I learn new things at work all the time.

Has your work made you either curious, or passionate, or awestruck about something?
I’m constantly awestruck by the materials we hold in Special Collections, and connecting those materials with students and researchers is my passion. I love those moments when students say, “I can actually touch this?” and I get to say “Yes! This is yours to use and appreciate! Make the most of it!”

Would you like to nominate someone to be our next Featured Library Employee? Examples could be:

…a new employee you’d like to introduce
…someone who’s “an institution” full of interesting stories

…someone with a unique job or on a unique career path
…a role that has a new focus or is reaching a new audience

…an employee you find inspirational
…someone you’d like to make more visible to potential employers

…a coworker whose gifts you wish were more widely known

Submit name(s) and contact information, along with place of employment, to Shannon Mawhiney at smawhiney@missouristate.edu. We’ll do all the work of contacting; we just need you to connect us!

MOBIUS - Now in the Natural State!

In October 2019, MOBIUS welcomed its first member based in Arkansas when the Central Arkansas Library System (CALS) went live with resource sharing via the MOBIUS union catalog. Or, as Nathan James, Deputy Executive Director of Technology & Collection Innovation at CALS, put it: “Imagine building a new branch with 30 million items available by simply clicking ‘Request.’ That’s what [joining] MOBIUS gives our patrons.”

CALS, headquartered at the Little Rock Main Library, is the largest public library system in the state of Arkansas, serving a local population of over 400,000 out of fourteen branches, and boasts a collection of over 1,000,000 items. The MOBIUS family of libraries is so pleased to have CALS on board!

To learn more about CALS, visit: cals.org/mission-and-history.
“Veterans Salute” Event Honors Military Members, Celebrates New Community Hall

Mid-Continent Public Library hosted its 2019 Veterans Salute event on Saturday, September 28, at its Midwest Genealogy Center. The annual event, which pays tribute to the service and sacrifice of our nation’s veterans, kicked off with a keynote address from Vincent Morales of Veterans Community Project, a local organization that builds tiny homes for homeless veterans, followed by a special veteran pinning ceremony, recognizing all attending veterans, and musical accompaniment from the American Legion Band.

At the end of the opening ceremony, the Library cut a ribbon to mark the completion of the Midwest Genealogy Center’s new 400-seat Community Hall, which was used throughout the day for displays of military artifacts as well as veterans’ resources and services. The Hall is equipped with divisible meeting space, top-of-the-line audiovisual capabilities, and an on-site catering kitchen. Moving forward, the space will be used for Library events as well as community meetings and forums.

In addition to the exhibits, Veterans Salute attendees were able to tour one of the VCP tiny homes, see military re-enactors, watch a performance by the Buffalo Soldiers, and enjoy a free tailgate lunch from Hy-Vee. A variety of military vehicles were also on site for attendees to view, including a Vietnam-era Huey Helicopter. See photos from this year’s Veterans Salute on the Library’s Facebook page at facebook.com/mymcpl.

New Red Bridge Branch Opens, Celebrates with ‘Book Brigade’

Mid-Continent Public Library hosted a Dedication Ceremony for its new Red Bridge Branch in South Kansas City on Wednesday, September 25. During the celebration, attendees had the opportunity to participate in a “book brigade” ceremony, where Library customers and staff lined up to pass the last few books from the old location (just around the corner in the Red Bridge Shopping Center) to the new.

Afterward, Library leaders and local officials, including new Kansas City Mayor Quinton Lucas, shared some brief remarks in the community room of the new branch, followed by refreshments and family-friendly activities, including face painting, a visit from the Library’s mascot, Marty the Martian, an “I Love My Library” selfie station, and a balloon artist.

During the Dedication Ceremony on Wednesday, and all day on Thursday, the Library gave away special commemorative tokens (one per person) that could be used one time to clear all Library fines and fees up to $10. In addition, the Library held a mobile scavenger hunt through the free GooseChase app, which highlighted all the new features of the building and offered participants the chance to win a prize.

The new Red Bridge Branch spans 14,352 square feet — more than 2,300 larger than the previous location. In January 2019, the Library began renovating the new building, which had formerly been occupied by a bowling alley and is currently owned by LANE4 Property Group. The Library signed a long-term lease with LANE4 in fall 2018. The new facility includes a community room for Library programs and community forums, collaboration rooms for small meetings and tutoring sessions, a designated children’s area, an outdoor seating area, and upgraded technology throughout.

As part of its Capital Improvement Plan, the Red Bridge Branch is one of 14 MCPL branches that have recently been upgraded, all made possible by increased funding from the passage of Proposition L by voters in 2016. The Library will upgrade all 31 of its branches and add two new ones to the system by the end of 2022. Currently, four MCPL branches are closed for renovations, and the Library will break ground in Liberty, Mo., on October 29 to construct a replacement building for its Liberty Branch.

While the upgrades at each branch have varied based on individual community needs and the building’s current condition, the Library’s goal has been to create more intentional spaces and improve essential technology. Design work for the five-year Capital Plan is being completed by Sapp Design Architects and Helix Architecture + Design with JE Dunn assuming responsibility for construction contractor management.

In addition to all the physical upgrades, the increased funding approved by voters in 2016 has allowed MCPL to expand branch hours, enhance special services, augment early literacy efforts, and buy more materials.

More information about MCPL’s construction projects can be found at mymcpl.org/Community.
Library Patrons Trade Food for Fines

Mid-Continent Public Library’s biannual Food for Fines program returned September 9 - 15. During the weeklong initiative, MCPL customers had the chance to donate nonperishable food items in place of money to pay overdue fines or replacement card charges. Customers with no fines or fees could also donate to “pay it forward” toward another customer’s fees. At the end of the week, the more than 14,000 food items that were collected were given to charitable organizations across the Kansas City metro.

MCPL offers the Food for Fines program twice a year — leading into the summer to encourage active participation in the annual Summer Learning Program and in the fall to alleviate any barriers for children seeking homework help and required reading materials at the Library. To date, the Library has collected more than 145,000 items for local charities through its Food for Fines program.

In addition to Food for Fines, MCPL is also working to combat local hunger through its partnership with Harvesters – The Community Food Network. Four MCPL branches are offering the “Read and Feed” program this school year, which supplies free meals from Harvesters to kids 18 and under at the Library. More information about this program, including which branches are offering it and when, can be found at mymcpl.org/services/read-and-feed.

60 Years of Change at DBRL

Back in the 1950s, the Missouri State Library promoted the formation of regional library systems throughout the state. Several Mid-Missouri library districts recognized the value of this initiative and came together to form the Daniel Boone Regional Library (DBRL) system in 1959. Today DBRL serves 223,303* people throughout Boone and Callaway Counties.

Many of the services the library offered in those early years continue to this day. Story times remain popular. The bookmobile still travels to various locations in our region. Staff still deliver library materials to people who have difficulty leaving the house. And our patrons can still borrow music and films along with books.

Thinking back on the past six decades, the same cultural changes you, your parents or grandparents experienced at school, at home, and in the workplace were also reflected at the library. People wanted to learn, achieve and satisfy their curiosity, but in ever-evolving ways. Many of the DBRL milestones highlighted on the timeline below reflect that evolution.

We can’t yet know what changes will occur in the next 60 years, but DBRL will strive to be at the heart of your community, a trusted resource, a partner known for excellence, and a place that connects people to a lifetime of discovery and joy.

*Based on U.S. Census projections for 2017

[Timeline of milestones]

Continued on page 7
More DBRL Photos Added to Community History Archive

As a 60th anniversary project, Daniel Boone Regional Library staff have been going through old photos and uploading more images of library buildings, services, staff, and patrons into the online Community History Archive.

It’s an interesting review of the many service and technological changes taking place at libraries. Online visitors can see images of the first bookmobile to serve Mid-Missouri, card catalogs, patrons borrowing artwork from the library, orange furniture, and old cars. To see the collection, visit archive.dbrl.org.

DBRL Adds New Resource for Crafters

In September, Daniel Boone Regional Library launched Creativebug, a free streaming service geared to crafters and makers. Through this service, library card holders gain unlimited access to more than 1,000 award-winning art and craft video classes for all skill levels taught by recognized design experts and artists. Patrons can also download patterns, templates, and recipes, as well as browse the Creativebug Inspiration Feed where people can share photos of their favorite projects. New content is added weekly.
Missouri State Library – Wolfner Branch

Teen Writing Contest from October 15 to December 12, 2019

Wolfner Library is excited to announce an expansion to our Teen Poetry Contest. In 2019, teens can submit not only poems, but also a form of short story that consists of between 300 to 1,500 words known as “Flash Fiction.” The submission period is October 15 to December 12, 2019. First place winners in poetry and flash fiction will get to choose either a Samsung tablet with a Bluetooth keyboard or an iPad with a Bluetooth keyboard. Visit wolfner/programs/teen-writing-contest or contact the Youth Services Librarian at 800-392-2614 to learn more about this program.

Adult Winter Reading Program – Exploring American Regionalism!

Patrons selected American Regionalism as the theme for this year’s Adult Winter Reading Program by popular vote. Readers will explore the nation by diving into the various regions of our country. Patrons may choose to read a mystery set in New England, a western exploring the Rocky Mountains, or learn about the flora and fauna of the Pacific Northwest.

The challenge is simple: Read 5 books set in different geographic areas and earn a prize for participating.

When Patrons sign up, we’ll send them a log at the beginning of the program (in large print, braille, or electronic format) to track their progress. The journey begins January 2 and will run through March 9. Registration will open on December 1, 2019, and continue through February 24th, 2020. The deadline for submitting the books read as part of the challenge will be March 16, 2020.

Book Club Announcement

All three book clubs will be on break for the holidays. The clubs will resume in February.

A Universe of Stories!

One hundred ten Wolfner Library patrons participated in this year’s “A Universe of Stories” Youth Summer Reading Club! And, 68 patrons completed the program, reading a total of 288,688 minutes!

The Friends of Wolfner Library funded the program prizes. Congratulations to all who participated and completed this year! The 2020 summer reading club slogan will be “Imagine Your Story,” with a focus on world mythology, fairy tales, and folklore.

News from Mizzou’s iSchool

It was great to see so many current students and reconnect with friends and alums at MLA! We enjoyed seeing you at our table, the pizza party, and learning from you at your fabulous conference sessions, as well as the amazing night out at the Rabbit Hole.

Faculty spotlight: Dr. Sarah Buchanan, supported by a recent MU Research Council grant "Creating Digital Digs," is serving as Data Archivist on the Venus Pompeiana Project, a collaboration between the University of Missouri and Mount Allison University. The archaeological project, featured by the AIA at archaeological.org/interactive-dig/pompeii-italy, resumes study of the Sanctuary of Venus at Pompeii and is currently preparing new descriptive and spatial data for a digital archive presentation. In September, Dr. Buchanan led off the semester's Research Discussions at The Bridge on campus, speaking about the Public Broadcasting Preservation Fellowship in "Storytelling with Digital and Audiovisual Archives." Dr. Buchanan also recently moderated and presented a session by the Archival / Preservation Education SIG at ALISE 2019 in Knoxville, TN, "Archival Learning in a Global Context."

Library Carpentries: Levi Dolan, SISLT student, is completing a practicum with the Library Carpentries, led by Anna Oates of the St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank and Denice Adkins from Mizzou's iSchool. This initiative is for all librarians, LIS faculty, and students in Missouri and surrounding states. "Library Carpentry focuses on building software and data skills within library and information-related communities. Our goal is to empower people in these roles to use software and data in their own work and to become advocates for and train others in efficient, effective and reproducible data and software practices" (librarycarpentry.org). The Carpentries workshop will be held December 9th and 10th at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. Read more about the Carpentries here: librarycarpentry.org/ and about the workshop here: firbolg.github.io/2019-12-09-mohub/. Hope to see many of you there!

Submitted by: Jenny Bossaller, Program Chair, Library and Information Science School of Information Science & Learning Technologies
When staff at the St. Joseph Public Library first discussed offering a Drag Queen Story Hour, we followed the advice of some other libraries. Their suggestion was to approach our board first. We have a very supportive and progressive board, but it was still possible that they would not want to suffer the slings and arrows sure to follow. To their credit, our board said that they were going to treat our notification as a heads-up, but that they did not want to set a precedent of signing off on library programming. They stated that they trusted the library’s staff to determine what would best serve our community. One suggestion from a board member was to expand the focus of our diversity programming by addressing more than just our LGBTQ+ community. This was a great suggestion. St. Joseph is one hour north of Kansas City. We have some big city problems with a smaller town mentality, but our citizenry has a strong attitude of tolerance.

The series we developed was called Celebrating All of Us and has an installment every month that celebrates one of the smaller communities within our larger community. We started with an American Sign Language Story Time, reaching out to a local ASL interpreter to celebrate our hearing impaired community. From there we had Getting Down With the Family, focusing on families with members with Down syndrome. We had Wolfner Library come and present Looking Through a Blacked-Out Lens to educate families about what it is like to be visually impaired.

Through Celebrating All of Us, we wanted to expose the larger community to the mirrors and windows effect. This refers to seeing yourself represented somewhere (TV, movies, sports) that you may not have seen anyone even remotely like you before – mirroring your experiences to some degree – or being able to see into someone else’s experiences, ones that you may never have even imagined – like looking through a window.

No one batted an eye. There were no raised eyebrows, no gasps, or angry calls. Then we announced our Drag Queen Story Hour as our fourth installment of the Celebrating All of Us series. We used the same press exposure and social media promotion that we had for the others, but our phones started ringing off the hook. Facebook became a battleground. We received thinly veiled threats of biblical wrath and some with no veil at all. However, we also had an outpouring of support. The day we went live with promotion, a petition to stop our DQSH was started by someone outside of our district. The next day, a local person started a petition in support of our DQSH. In no time at all, the petition in favor of the library had hundreds more signatures.

The monthly board meeting happened to land two weeks before our Drag Queen Story Hour. There were around 70 people in attendance. This was a first for our board. They have grown accustomed to no members of the public attending, even though the y are always welcome. The meeting began with public comment, and the board heard arguments from both sides. All told, 23 people spoke. Thirteen were in support, eight were against and two…well, we weren’t sure where they actually stood on the issue. The most surprising thing was that the majority of people opposed to the program were not from St. Joseph. That’s not to say that all of St. Joseph supported us; we lost at least six patrons that we know of. (We gained a lot more!)

We had gone public with the program three weeks before it was scheduled. Those were some rough weeks. Staff started looking at the phone as though it was a venomous snake every time it rang. Patrons surprised us by expressing views on both sides of the issue. The
most frequently asked question was, “Why are you doing this?” When someone asked us this question, it was easy enough to tell them it was because we want to make sure that our patrons know the library is for everyone. No matter what, we are here to serve them. They are welcome here, and we will do everything in our power to ensure they feel respected and heard. We were accused of sexualizing children. This could not have been further from the truth. We responded that this was a family event and children would not be unattended. We were accused of trying to indoctrinate children. Again, this was not even close to what we hoped to achieve. We responded that we were only teaching tolerance, and this was not a mandatory event. We were accused of spending tax dollars on things the majority did not want. Our community proved otherwise.

The night of the event, we had hired two police officers to check bags and to be on hand for crowd control. In a space where the best attended program in my 12 years here had around 180 attendees, we saw 258 attendees for our Drag Queen Story Hour. Outside there were over 200 additional people lining both sides of the street. Around 70 of them were protesters, many of whom had bussed in from Topeka. The other 130-plus were mostly St. Joseph residents who came out to support the library, the Drag Queen Story Hour, our LGBTQ+ community and general acceptance of others. It was a beautiful experience. There was no hate thrown from either side. In fact, there were a few people who crossed the street to have discussions and try to see things from a different point of view. Were any minds changed in any fundamental way? I don’t know. What I do know is that no one was hurt that night, but there were many children and families in that story time that were helped. They saw someone who didn’t fit the mold of what so many consider “normal”. They saw someone who loved themselves enough to sit in front of 250 people and read stories in full drag makeup in a room that felt like it was 100 degrees. They saw someone who was confident, beautiful, kind and who represented that it is perfectly okay to be who you are. We wouldn’t change a thing about our Drag Queen Story Hour and can’t wait to do it again.

North Kansas City Public Library

A Celebration of Veterans at NKCPL Features Medal of Honor Recipient Col. Don “Doc” Ballard

It’s not every day that you meet a Medal of Honor recipient, and certainly not in North Kansas City, a historic Kansas City suburb located just north of downtown. So when North Kansas City Public Library Director Vickie Lewis learned that Col. Don “Doc” Ballard, U.S. Army (Ret.), Medical Service Corps., lived in the area and might be willing to speak at the library’s annual Celebration of Veterans event, she decided to reach out.

“There are only 71 living Medal of Honor recipients nationwide, and only one living recipient in Missouri: Col. Ballard,” Lewis said. “I just kept thinking about what an honor it would be to meet him in person, and thank him for his service.”

Ballard’s service spans decades. As a member of the US Navy, Col. Ballard was a hospital corpsman in the Vietnam War. It was there, on May 16, 1968, that Ballard saved the lives of five Marines by covering an incoming grenade with his body. When the grenade didn’t detonate right away, he was able to toss it out of harm’s way – just as it exploded. In addition to the Medal of Honor, Col. Ballard received a number of decorations for his bravery, including the Purple Heart and the Navy Combat Action Ribbon.

The Celebration of Veterans included other highlights, as well. The nationally ranked Civil Air Patrol’s Color Guard Competition Team raised the flag, and vocalist Sharron McMahan sang the national anthem. A local American Legion group, #626, contributed a 13-fold flag presentation.

Afterward, attendees could enjoy a number of family-friendly activities, including a themed book walk around the library’s perimeter, a balloon artist, the chance to get an up-close look at actual military trucks, and the chance to meet some working therapy dogs.

“We wanted to make this year’s event a fun and interesting one for kids and families – a celebration of military service that incorporated a solemn ceremony, but had other family-friendly components, as well,” Lewis said. “I think we accomplished that goal, and it was incredibly rewarding to share this event with the families in our community.”
Amigos Library Services Selected to Handle Association Management Services of the Louisiana Library Association

Following Executive Board approval and an engaging transition period, Amigos Library Services (Amigos) and the Louisiana Library Association (LLA) are pleased to announce that Amigos has been officially hired for professional association management services. Amigos has provided support the Association’s planning committees for their annual conference and will also assist LLA in membership and board management. In addition, Amigos will assist LLA with administrative, communications and event support services.

Amigos Member Spotlight: St. Louis County Library - Meramec Valley Branch

The newly renovated and expanded Meramec Valley Branch opened this past May. We sat down with Kristen Sorth, St. Louis County Library Director, to hear all about it. Meramec Valley went from being the smallest branch in the Library District to being a full-service branch encompassing 21,000 square feet. It now features an engaging and interactive Discovery Zone for kids, an outdoor reading deck, private study rooms, a community meeting room and other amenities.

Amigos Member Spotlight: Jefferson Community College Library

Unique in its broad reach of service, Jefferson Community College library serves three secondary functions: it administers and houses the Jefferson County History Center; it is a congressionally designated selective depository for U.S. Government documents; and it serves as a public library to the local community. Learn more in our Member Spotlight Video.

Would you like your institution to be featured in our spotlight? Send us a message at communications@amigos.org

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Online Conference – The Library's Role in Supporting Open Educational Resources (OER)

As always, admission to this Amigos online conference is FREE for members! If you’re not a member, register by November 20 to take advantage of Early Bird Pricing for the Wednesday, December 4 online conference: The Library's Role in Supporting Open Educational Resources. Visit the conference website for complete session descriptions and registration information.

A sampling of our exciting and informative sessions:

- Open Educational Resources: Build a Lesson Using Free Government Resources
- Holistic OER: Identifying the Gaps
- Working with Student Advocacy Groups to Raise Awareness of OER
- Perfecting the Art of the Reference Interview in OER Support Roles

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Amigos Year-End Discount for New ProQuest Customers!

In teaching and learning, video is used to provide in-class engagement, offer applications to help explain complex concepts, address diverse learning preferences, and much more. With Academic Video Online, you'll be able provide students and faculty with that, and so much more. New customers will receive a 12% discount for the first year and 10% on renewals for the following years. Valid through 11/30/19.
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New Platform Alert! BoardDocs is Powering Modern Governance for Libraries

Diligent has worked with BoardDocs to build Community by Diligent, the next generation paperless meeting management solution designed for libraries. Community by Diligent gives library boards the power to improve transparency, efficiency and board effectiveness, all with a modern approach to governance. We are offering special pricing to upgrade to Community exclusively for Amigos members for a limited time! To upgrade, sign up for a demo today.

The Lyell Collection Special Offer: 18 Months for the Price of 12

NEW subscribers to The Geological Society of London’s Lyell Collection will receive a 18-month subscription for the price of 12 months. Sale ends December 23, 2019. The Lyell Collection is one of the largest integrated collections of Earth science literature in the world comprising 260,000 pages, 26,000 articles, and 1,000 volumes, subscription-based.

Emerald Offers 35% Discount for Amigos Members!

Emerald is offering Amigos member institutions a special 35% discount for both eBooks and eJournal Backfiles in the Q4 of 2019. Valid through December 15, 2019.

Why purchase now?

- The most AGGRESSIVE discount we have ever offered!
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- Institutions must order by DECEMBER 15th!

Continuing Education Opportunities

Cataloging and Metadata Updates: New Trainer and New Courses

Looking to better understand metadata or practice your skills? We’ve got you covered with a variety of classes. Meet your new Cataloging and Metadata Trainer, Emily Nimsakont, who will be teaching several you’re familiar with and two new courses she’s designed.

Brand NEW classes!

- Know & Go: Manipulating Metadata with MarcEdit and OpenRefine | December 16, 2019 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm
- Controlled Vocabularies and Taxonomies | December 10 & 12, 2019 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm | Early bird ends 11/19/19.
Know & Go Updates

Know & Go’s are part of a series of informative web sessions covering topics of current interest. Designed for group participation, FREE for Amigos members and only $35 for non-members, Know & Go Updates are presented online on Monday afternoons from 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. CDT. Register today!

- Census Records for Genealogy November 18
- Tech Tools and Apps for the Reference Desk November 25
- Tiny But Mighty: How Tiny Libraries Can Help Their Rural Communities Thrive December 9
- Manipulating Metadata with MarcEdit and OpenRefine December 16

Upcoming Live Online Classes

Here’s a quick look at upcoming Live Online classes. Classes are always being added so be sure to check out our full course schedule!

- I Agreed to What?! Privacy and Social Media December 10, 2019 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
- Controlled Vocabularies and Taxonomies - December 10 and 12, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm - Early Bird registration ends 11/19/19
- Free: Discover how Amigos Library Services can help your library! December 12, 12 pm – 1 pm
- Free: SimplyE @ Amigos: an Overview and Demonstration – December 13, 11:00 am – 12 pm

Springfield-Greene County Library District

Friends of Library Sponsoring Free David Sedaris Event

The Friends of the Springfield-Greene County Library District is sponsoring a free event for the public to see humor writer David Sedaris on May 1, 2020, at the Historic Gillioz Theatre in downtown Springfield. The free tickets will be available beginning March 4, 2020. This one-night-only event will be hosted by the Gillioz and the Springfield-Greene County Libraries. The author’s visit is part of The Library’s annual community celebration of reading, The One Read. Sedaris will read from new and unpublished material, and entertain a Q&A with the audience. His books will be available for sale, and he will sign books before and after the event.

Saudi Teachers Make Use of Library’s Broad Services

Forty-two Saudi teachers in the English Language Institute’s Khebrat teacher leadership training program visited the Library Center, learning about the Library’s rich collections, engaging family programs and endless lifelong learning opportunities. The group toured the Library Center and heard a presentation about services and how to access the Library via the web page. Twenty-seven Saudi teachers received new library cards, and were excited to start accessing Hoopla & Mango, start browsing library programs and reserving study rooms.
The Library Center rocked during a two-day celebration of fandoms surrounding popular books, graphic novels, and comics artists, their characters, and superheroes. It was LibraryCon No. 5 at the Library Center.

On Friday, Aug. 16, Harry & the Potters performed their own brand of Wizard Rock to a crowd of about 150 people, ages preschool to 60, featuring songs about Moaning Myrtle (where the band mimics singing in a basement loo), saving Ginny Weasley, and being a wizard.

The next day from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., the entire Library Center was turned over for LibraryCon and the 4,544 people in cosplay who streamed through the doors to celebrate their superheroes, sci-fi, fantasy and comics fandoms, authors and illustrators.

Continued on page 15
Executive Director Named to 20 Most Influential Women List

Library Executive Director Regina Greer Cooper has been named one of the Springfield Business Journal’s 20 Most Influential Women for 2019. Regina was recognized at an expo and luncheon Friday, Oct. 11, at University Plaza Convention Center. The event also featured a silent auction to benefit Women In Need, an organization that focuses on improving the lives of area women.

Katy Pattison New Schweitzer Brentwood Branch Manager

Katy Pattison left a 12-year career at the Christian County (Mo.) Library to become manager of the Schweitzer Brentwood Branch Library on Sept. 23. She succeeds Jeana Gockley, who became director of the Joplin Public Library. Katy was previously deputy director of the Christian County Library, where she worked in a variety of jobs including circulation and reference, adult programming, technology training, children’s and teen assistant, and collection development. She co-led the informational campaign that secured Christian County Library its first tax levy increase in more than 40 years. Most recently she handled marketing, community engagement efforts, subscription database management, and programming coordination, and helped the library to receive the 2018 Missouri Library Association Public Relations Achievement Award last fall.

Fans Fill Outdoor Spaces for Geezer Fall Fest Concert

Inside the patio, outside the patio, along the front walk of the Library Center — Geezer Fall Fest concertoers made use of almost every possible vantage point to enjoy the Sept. 7 performance. “500 people came out in the hot weather to see Geezer on Saturday,” said Library Center Branch Manager Jessie East. The Friends of the Library sponsored the annual fall event.
State Librarian Pays a Visit, and a Grant Check

State Librarian Robin Westphal visited the Library Center on Thursday, Sept. 26, during a state tour to formally award a $17,185 LSTA grant through the State Library. The Library was awarded the Edge Action Plan grant to purchase five HP PageWide Enterprise color public printers for four branch libraries. The new public printers will provide patrons access to professional quality printing services. The Library identified this need after taking the Edge Assessment.

Author Laura McHugh Previews Newest Thriller

Laura McHugh, whose thriller novels include “The Weight of Blood” and “Arrowood,” held an audience spellbound on Monday, Sept. 30, at the Library Center. McHugh talked about her humble beginnings as a writer and her dizzying rise to popularity among book editors. Her newest book, “The Wolf Wants In,” was inspired by her brother’s death due to opioid use, and the unanswered questions about his life. Her fourth book is underway and set in the Ozarks like “The Weight of Blood.”

Ghosts of the Gillioz Kicks Off “Oh, the Horror” Series

Ghosts of the Gillioz event on Friday, Oct. 4, was a fitting kickoff to the Library’s 2019 Oh the Horror series. About 65 people toured the theater in scheduled groups to learn the legends and lore of the Historic Gillioz Theatre, including information about the famed projectionist Martin Kirchner, who died in the projection booth on New Year’s Eve 1962. The St. Louis-based Paranormal Free Agents ghost hunting group accompanied Gillioz staff to share its findings in each highlighted area of the theater and demonstrated the equipment they use for investigations.

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Romancing the Station Draws Romance Writers, Lovers

More than 100 people attended sessions and meet & greets during the Saturday, Sept. 28 Romancing the Station event at the Library Station, sponsored by the Friends of the Library. The morning workshop was hosted by Ozarks Romance Author’s Board Director at Large, Holly Atkinson. Missouri authors Renee George and Lori Copeland were among the popular romance authors who spoke about their craft.

No Books, Just Belly Dancing and Beat Boxing

The Schweitzer Brentwood Branch proved its role as a community stage on Sunday, Sept. 29, with its Third Annual Schweitzer Brentwood’s Got Talent: A Neighborhood Talent Show. Youth Services Manager Jeannine Birkenfeld explains, “We had 20 acts perform at our Third Annual Schweitzer Brentwood’s Got Talent Show yesterday. With over 90 people in attendance, the room was packed to overflowing with family, friends and patrons just wanting to be entertained. We had such great variety this year, including two harpists, acrobatic dancers, poetry recitation, quilt design, beat boxing, and more!” Winners were awarded colorful trophies, courtesy of the staff. Adult winner was Bobbi Johnson, a belly dancer with swords.
2019 MLA Executive Board

President (2019)
Erin Gray
Republic Branch Manager
Springfield-Greene County Library
417-732-7284 erring@thelibrary.org

President-Elect (2019)
Cindy Dudenhoffer
Director of Information Resources and Assessment
Central Methodist University
660-248-6292 cmdudenh@centralmethodist.edu

Past President (2019)
April Roy
Director of the Plaza Library
Kansas City Public Library
Kansas City, MO 64112
816-701-3481 aprilroy@kclibrary.org

Secretary (2019)
and Member-at-Large (2018-2019)
Jaime Emery
Research & Instruction Librarian/Professor
Saint Louis University
314-977-3591 jemery@slu.edu

Treasurer (2019)
and Member-at-Large (2018-2019)
Susan Wray
Assistant Director and COO
Mid-Continent Public Library
Independence, MO 64050
swray@mymcpl.org

Treasurer-Elect (2019)
and Member-at-Large (2018-2019)
Steve Campbell
Director
Scenic Regional Library
636-583-0652 ext. 101 swcampbell@scenicregional.org

Membership Committee Chair (2019)
and Member-at-Large (2019-2020)
Meredith McCarthy
Branch Manager of the Arnold Branch
Jefferson County Library
636-296-2204 mmccarthy@jeffcolib.org

Member-at-Large (2018-2019)
Jennifer Parsons
Digital Resources Librarian
Central Methodist University
parsons.jm@gmail.com

Member-at-Large (2019-2020)
Christina Prucha
Director of Library Services
State Technical College of Missouri
573-897-5245 Christina.prucha@statetechmo.edu

ALA Councilor (July 1, 2016- June 30, 2019)
Stephanie Tolson
Dean of Learning Resources and Academic Support
St. Charles Community College
Cottleville, MO 63376
636-922-8512 stolson@stchas.edu

ALA Councilor-Elect (January 1, 2019 – June 30, 2019)
Margaret Conroy
Executive Director
Daniel Boone Regional Library