CHARTING THE FUTURE
TOGETHER

MLA Annual Conference 2021

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Tuesday, September 28, 2021

<mark>7pm</mark>

Trivia Night
Come out for an exciting night of trivia! Bring your team and play to win fabulous prizes and bragging rights as the nerdiest librarians in Missouri! Bring cash for your entry, and for the bar. All proceeds go to the Ronald G. Bohley Scholarship for library science students!

Wednesday, September 29, 2021

<mark>8am-12pm</mark>

Performers' Showcase
- Peppy Puppet Troupe
- Circus Kaput LLC
- Dino O'Dell Music and Storytelling for Children
- Babaloo
- Mad Science
- Fishin' Magician
- Jay & Leslie
- Abra-Kid-Abra
- Kindersongs
- Paul Vandivort
- Vodvill Entertainment Company
- Music Works
- KC Entertainment Services LLC
- Max the Magician
- Happy Faces Entertainment LLC
- The Rusty Pliers Show LLC
- Jeanie Bryan Puppets LLC
- LOVE-O-RAMA
- Mesner Puppet Theater
- Marko Polo / FIRE DOG

Evergreen Member Conference
Missouri Evergreen Libraries Users' Conference.

<mark>9am-12pm</mark>

Pre-Conference:
Access Challenged? Intellectual Freedom Workshop

If you have ever found yourself explaining why we collect certain types of books, protecting a customer's privacy by asking the police for a subpoena, or finding creative ways to remove barriers to access, this is the session for you. The workshop is divided into three sections that provide a short information component followed by a small group breakout, where attendees will be led through scenarios. These "Practical & Everyday's" are the focus of the workshop, when attendees will have the time to listen and work through real situations from libraries and come away with ideas and tools they can practically apply in their own libraries.

Pre-Conference:
Cataloging Smörgasbord: What's New in Cataloging

In bite-sized pieces, this pre-conference smorgasbord will present updates on changes that impact cataloging work. We will cover RDA changes adopted as part of the 3R project, BIBFRAME, innovative projects, and strategies for dealing with questionable subject headings. Note that we will not have time for in-depth coverage of any topic; our goal is to give an overview of each. The session will include presentations and roundtable discussions. Come and hear the latest about these cataloging topics, and network and share ideas with Missouri colleagues.

Pre-Conference:
Storing and Exploring: History on Paper, Outdoors, and Online

In this four-session preconference, attendees will discover new methods, resources, and practical skills that support local history and genealogy initiatives. Attendees will learn about: new records resources available to genealogy and history researchers, how to utilize volunteer contributions to enhance access to materials, outdoor and online programming opportunities for local history topics, and how others have overcome the challenges of new, unexpected "other duties as assigned."

The four sessions include:
- **Who, When, Where?: Using Volunteers and an Online Book Club to Enhance Access to a Local History Collection**
- **What Can Missouri's Local Records Program Do for You?**
- **Local History Outside: Engage Your Audience Outdoors and Online**
- **The Accidental Archivist Panel: Turning an Accident into an Opportunity**

Pre-Conference:
Transparency in Library Communication

Inadequate communication is often a key complaint about workplaces – not knowing what decisions are made, why they are made, or even if they have been made at all. Transparency in communication is critical at all levels and is necessary for an equitable and inclusive workplace as well as for library stakeholders to understand changes as they occur. Without it, leaders don't have the context they need to understand the decisions they must make, and workers have difficulty with trust and buy-in. At the same time, effective transparency takes time and it is challenging to share information so that it is timely, complete, and helpful. Join us to review several case studies of transparency in communications, both internal and external, and learn some techniques for supporting transparency. We will also work with you under your own positionality in developing a culture of transparency at all levels of an organization.

Pre-Conference:
You on Paper: An Application Process Workshop

Christina Pryor, interim director of the MU Health Sciences Library, will offer an overview of resumé and CV best practices for librarians of all types followed by a Q&A. The pre-conference will also feature troubleshooting of attendees' application materials, if available, and roleplay of professional interpersonal situations, including mock interview panels. Additionally, attendees will get to see before and after examples of current student resumés and walk away with concrete steps and solutions to improve job hunt success.

==2pm-2:45pm==

MACRL Speaker: From Standstill to Sustainable: Our Path toward a More Equitable Environment

How do academic libraries move beyond performative statements of solidarity toward creating and sustaining equitable and anti-oppressive environments? As a service-oriented profession, we often turn to evaluating our collections, services, and interactions with students, faculty, staff, and community while neglecting to cast a critical lens toward the environment we create for each other. The slow process of organizational transformation requires a critical reflection of organizational habits and practices as well as the removal of barriers to fuller participation by navigating the dynamics resulting from the systems of power and oppression that we operate under. Above all, a transformation requires persistent engagement in a process to do better for all workers.

The presenters will make a case for how the culture we cultivate within our libraries directly connects to our ability to provide an anti-oppressive environment for the communities we serve. They will describe their organizational context, relationships, and the structures created to facilitate engagement, accountability, and a shared responsibility for creating and maintaining an anti-oppressive and anti-racist environment at UMKC Libraries.

Healthy Online: Libraries and Virtual Health Programming

Catalysts for Community Health (C4CH) is a multi-state, interdisciplinary IMLS granted-funded educational program that was created to embed online LIS students into community health organizations over the course of their MLIS degree in Mizzou's iSchool. The online, interdisciplinary program requires students to become embedded library advocates in their geographic region, offering health literacy and literature to outside organizations. During COVID, students have had to creatively interpret 'community.' During this presentation, Missouri members of the C4CH cohort will present their projects centered on health and health literacy that they have undertaken with their library mentors through the C4CH program, even as they had to pivot to online.

Sharing Picture Books with a Loved One Who Has Alzheimer's Disease

Sharing stories is how we connect with one another. This is particularly important when we have a loved one with Alzheimer's Disease. We can tell stories about our own lives but sometimes it is easier to share a story about other people or some aspect of our world. I have found that many children's picture books are appropriate to share with adults. Think of them as short stories with pictures. I have someone in my life with Alzheimer's and reading picture books with her is one way we connect. Let me share with you what is working for me.

Bridging the Gap: High and Low-Tech Approaches for Staying Connected to Youth When Libraries Are Closed

This presentation will detail the steps St. Louis Public Library took to stay connected to its young customers and promote learning while buildings were first fully closed and then opened with limited services in the summer of 2020.

Cataloging for Non-Catalogers: How Knowing Cataloging Can Help You in Your Job

So, you're on the gameshow "Who Wants to be a Cataloger?" and you're wondering how you ended up here. You aren't a cataloger! You don't even need to know cataloging in your library job! Come to this session to make sure you're a million-dollar winner on the show! We will help you see how library staff from circulation to administration will benefit from knowing a bit of cataloging, and how it could help you in your job.

The Missouri Bicentennial Quilt Project: What we learn transforming the project despite COVID

In anticipation of the Bicentennial celebration of Missouri, we hoped to continue a small, passive quilting project when Covid hit. We needed to think outside the box. We turned to technology to keep the project going, creating a Facebook group for participants, offering the quilt block patterns online, and filming tutorial videos. With this shift, we were able to reach many more people across the county and the state. We would not have had the capacity in our branches to host 300 participants, but with these online offerings, we could instruct, encourage, and share with quilters from as far away as Germany!

Conducting a Large-Scale Diversity Audit for Public Libraries

Collection audits are a gold-standard tool for measuring diversity in collections. However, the limited research and scale involved in performing one in a large public library system can be daunting and result in a project that never takes off. In a greater commitment to better serve our community through diversity, equity, and inclusion in all areas, the St. Louis Public Library saw a need to not only conduct a full-scale diversity audit of our collections, but to create a sustainable plan of continued assessment and future growth, rather than a one-and-done approach to auditing. In order to achieve this, we sought to include more than just Collection Management. Public Services staff at all levels are involved in all aspects of the project including survey, evaluation, and improvement. Attendees will learn how we developed, and how other public libraries can use our large-scale method for surveying both the standing collection and acquisitions (physical and digital materials), as well as the evaluation and communication of our results and our plan for sustainability going forward.

Make RA Stand for 'Really Awesome' with a Competitive and Collaborative Book Blog

Tap into your staff members' competitive side, create connections with your patrons, and pump up your reader's advisory game (with minimal individual effort!) with a competitive book blog. This session will teach you how to harness your staff's reading preferences to create a rich reader's advisory tool while simultaneously joining a friendly competition among libraries across the state in the Missouri Book Challenge. Join us for a lively, interactive discussion of the ins and outs of creating a blog at your library and joining in the fun!

MOSL Circulating STEM Kits

The Missouri State Library currently has seven types of STEM kits for circulation to public and school libraries across the state. In this session, you will learn about each kit as well as gain ideas for using the kits, and how to reserve the kits for your next program.

Literature Reviews: Providing support, leading workshops, and publishing your own

Explore the world of literature reviews through this session highlighting practical skills, tools, and methods for research assistance and successful publication.

Literature reviews are a part of all academic writing, from article introductions and dissertation backgrounds to in depth systematic reviews and meta-analyses. Build on the base knowledge of identifying different types of reviews, and then delve into the process of creating each type. Participants will learn tricks for efficient methodology, discover technology tools to assist with the undertaking, identify collaboration opportunities for presentations or co-authorship. Whether your interest lies in supporting researchers through consultations and workshops, or in personally writing and publishing, this session is for you.

Everyday Disability: Welcoming Patrons with Disability

People with disabilities, be it physical, mental, or medical, are among the most disadvantaged in our society. According to the US Department of Labor, only 16% of people with disabilities will complete a Bachelor's degree and less than 50% will find gainful employment. This session will offer broad and actionable strategies for welcoming, serving, and advocating for patrons and employees with disabilities in your library. An interactive presentation is followed by case studies with a focus on group brainstorming and a time for questions and discussion.

Missouri Evergreen Open Forum

The Missouri Evergreen Consortium (ME) brings together Missouri public libraries to strengthen and promote excellent library services to our member libraries and Missouri citizens. The Consortium helps realize the potential of member libraries through cost-effective resource sharing, cost savings, and member collaboration. Four libraries founded Missouri Evergreen in the spring of 2012. In the 8 years since that time, the consortium has grown to include 52 libraries. Missouri Evergreen Consortium representatives will give three to five minute presentations describing what they do as part of the Missouri Evergreen community, followed by a question and answer session.

Thursday, September 30, 2021

9am-9:45am

Table Talk:
Challenge my Mind, Not my Books

Join the MLA Intellectual Freedom Committee in a roundtable discussion about current intellectual freedom issues and challenges. Ever thought about which books you would want to ban if it wasn't against our values? Come talk with us about why or (maybe) why not these titles still deserve space in our libraries.

Table Talk:
Making the Connection: Bringing Academic and High School Librarians Together to Better Support Student Success

Kent Library at Southeast Missouri State University is hosting its 3rd annual High School Librarian Professional Development Workshop this fall. The workshop is designed to provide academic and high school librarians an opportunity to improve collaboration and gain skills to support students as they transition from high school to college. After each workshop, feedback was incorporated to improve the workshop including adjustments to address the pandemic. The roundtable discussion will begin with a brief description of these workshops (e.g., Fake News and Information Literacy; Free Government Resources; Free/Open Source Programs for Graphics, Video, & Audio; and Primary Sources from the Archives) and how they have been adjusted based on feedback and experiences. Then participants will be encouraged to share collaborative activities they engaged in to support students as they transition from high school to college.

Poster Talk:

Catalysts for Community Health (C4CH): Where are we now?

Catalysts for Community Health (C4CH) is a multi-state, interdisciplinary IMLS granted-funded educational program that was created to embed online LIS students into community health organizations over the course of their MLIS degree in Mizzou's iSchool. The program requires students to become embedded library advocates, offering health literacy and literature to outside organizations.
Returning to offer updates on progress since the initial poster session in 2019, 2021's poster will feature information on students selected, feature their current and past projects, and give details on C4CH's course of study, informing how a similar program might be pursued at other institutions. Additionally, student-created resources from projects will be available for attendees to view and engage with.

Poster Talk:

Digital Legacy Preservation: An Important Addition to Your Technology Class Offerings

Many of us have come face to face with mortality during the Covid-19 pandemic and have thought about our legacies and estates. We would like to make a poster presentation about a successful webinar that we offered here at the Daniel Boone Regional Library in the autumn of 2020: "Ensuring your Digital Legacy." In this course we discussed the different types of digital media and accounts that one should preserve in order to make a successful transition to heirs and executors. One's "digital estate" includes not only online bank accounts or other financial information, but also social media accounts. A successfully executed estate is one that includes thorough information on how to dispense with, close or transfer these digital accounts and assets. Please see the youtube video of this webinar here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8lrTtKQNbqQ&t=171s

Poster Talk:

Library Practicum in a Pandemic

In the Covid-19 pandemic, I found an opportunity in crisis and hosted graduate library science students in a virtual practicum project. Fourteen students who could not finish, or do in-person library practicums worked for over 1300 hours both alone and as part of a community of practice. Together we created workflows, and documentation to support the discovery and harvesting of open access articles. The pandemic practicum project spans more than three semesters including Spring, Summer, and Fall of 2020. The project has continued into 2021. The initial goals of the project were completed mid-Summer of 2020, and the scope had to be expanded to accommodate the continued availability of practicum participants. How the mid-stream reshaping was successfully performed will be shared, as will the tools, and the techniques found to promote a community of practice that facilitated the work getting done.

10am-10:45am

Navigating the Atlantic -- in 3D! Making Original Stereograph Cards from a Local Photographer Viewable Online

In 1900-1901, immigrant photographer Domenico "Domino" Danzero traveled back to his homeland in Italy. To document his trip, he created stereograph cards, which could be viewed three-dimensionally in a stereoscope. How can we share these images today with a broad audience, without the need to handle the originals and without the need for special equipment? During this presentation, we'll walk through how we digitized these cards, the formats we chose to present them in, and the various ways they can be viewed.

After settling in the Ozarks, Danzero also took wonderful photographs of the area, and all of the Missouri-related photographs were previously digitized by the Missouri State Archives.

Dial a Story 101

Learn how to set up a dial-a-story service, pick stories, create recordings, and promote to your community.

Your Health and Your Career: Working While Managing a Chronic Illness or Condition

When you experience a health crisis or chronic illness, what do you tell your manager? Should you get human resources involved? How do you cope with anxiety, or lack of energy, and still maintain a sufficient level of productivity? Many library staff members have had their lives changed after experiencing a traumatic or chronic illness, even more so since COVID-19 came on the scene in early 2020. In this session, the presenter will draw from her own experience with a health crisis over the past year, as well as share what experts have to say.

Library Podcast: A Virtual Avenue for Patron Engagement

Hosts of the KPL Podcast, Jigisha Patel and Ryan Drinkard, demonstrate with minimal equipment how a library podcast can reach patrons through a new medium with engaging, entertaining, and educational content. Starting with the show's origin, its mission statement, and how vital the program became in reaching library patrons during unprecedented moments in history. Jigisha and Ryan discuss possible content. Taking a look at their authors' interviews, readers advisory, civic and science segments, poetry readings, and other examples of evolving content. The two work into what equipment is required, how to secure best selling authors interviews, script writing, structuring and editing episodes, releasing and advertising. All the while answering any questions that arise. The presentation provides a basic roadmap as to what goes into the show week to week and why. Illuminating how a podcast can be critical in facilitating lifelong learning and being a nimble medium in an ever changing landscape.

11am-11:45am

Landing an Academic Library Job: A Look Behind the Curtain

The library job market is extremely competitive, but there are steps you can take to get yourself noticed—in a positive way!—by search committees in academic libraries. This presentation will focus on ways you can improve your cover letter and resume/CV to increase your chances of getting an interview. Attendees will get a peek at the evaluation process used by library search committees, see examples of well-designed resumes and cover letters, learn strategies that can move an application to the top of the pile, and hear what to expect during the interview process.

Virtual Book Buddies

In 2019, St. Louis County Library started their Book Buddies program, matching teen volunteers with Kindergartners through third graders for read aloud practice. After cancelling it amid the pandemic, plans for a virtual version of the program began to take shape. In this session, staff from both St. Louis County Library and St. Charles City-County Library will discuss how they approached planning and running Virtual Book Buddies, its impact on the participants, and the steps to implementing the program at your library.

The Changing Landscape of Outreach Services

At one point in time, Missouri River Regional Library's (MRRL) bookmobile was the primary way the library system provided outreach services to their two county service areas. In the last 10 years, bookmobile visits plummeted, even with new strategies implemented to increase usage, including adjusting stop locations and times. In 2020, it was time to get realistic about the bookmobile's limitations---it simply wasn't convenient for MRRL library users.

Library staff looked at a variety of ways they could reach their community in new ways. An outreach committee was formed, and CARES ACT funding offered a unique opportunity to place library lockers in an underserved area of the county. The success of that locker system led to more funding opportunities to place more lockers in other areas. A unique partnership was formed with a local university to provide programming monthly to the community, and staff began to provide targeted education and training to our local workforce. And of course, like most libraries in 2020, virtual programming and services flourished.

SimplyE: Thoughts from the Trenches

Two Missouri public libraries – Rolling Hills and Caruthersville – have made the decision to implement the SimplyE app for their patrons. This app puts the library back in the driver's seat by combining multiple e-content collections into a single interface for patrons using only library branding. Both are members of the Missouri Library 2 Go Overdrive consortium, but their SimplyE experiences and implementations are different. If you have been waiting to see how this service works in real life, join us! We'll discuss implementation, marketing and support experiences from each of the libraries, hear what their patrons are saying about the app, and get a national update

1pm-1:45pm

Book Discussions Matter

Have you ever wanted to host a book discussion and want ideas on how to start?
Do you wonder what the benefits behind having a book discussion are?
This program will include a google slide show of the who, what, when, where, why and hows of book discussions. Through our presentation we will discuss with the participants ways to host a successful program using what is available to them, and how the cost of doing a book discussion will fit anywhere from a small budget to one that has dedicated funds.

Surefire Read-Aloud Hits: The Missouri Building Block Picture Book Award

Are you looking for great new picture books to read to your kids? Do you want to empower them? Then come meet the ten nominees for the 2021 Missouri Building Block Picture Book Award—an award where preschoolers and kindergartners pick the best book of the year!

Safety and Security for Today's Library

This training will focus on different safety and security strategies that library staff can use to help create a safer and more secure environment. It will also cover basic verbal de-escalation tactics and how to effectively communicate with customers.

Profile of Adult Education in the 21st Century

The world of education has changed drastically in the past 50 years. In many cases having a high school education or even a college degree being the ultimate end game for economic success. With the job market and job skills changing continually, the benchmark for education is constantly evolving. The need for adults to continue their education, whether that is a degree, training program or certification has never been higher. This presentation is an overview of the educational profile of the adult learner in Missouri, and the roadblocks that some of them face. The presentation also covers different resources that are available to help Missourians continue their education and provides ideas and programs that the library can use and promote to help adults who are continuing their education.

2pm-2:45pm

You've Got Mail: Using Reference Mail Services to Reach Justice-Involved Individuals

More than 24,000 people in Missouri currently reside in state correctional facilities. Without regular access to the internet, many turn to libraries for help with their information and research needs. Answering questions via mail to correctional facilities requires a combination of traditional reference skills, modern searching techniques, and special security considerations. This service provides an excellent low-cost opportunity to serve the community and further the fundamental mission of public libraries. Join us to learn how you can start providing this service and develop procedures and guidelines to prioritize security and safeguard privacy.

Connecting the Community: Crowdsourcing Unidentified Local Images

Like many cultural heritage institutions, St. Louis Public Library has its share of hidden collections and limited staff resources. Because we also seek community engagement with our resources, tapping into the knowledge of the public for descriptive metadata to increase discovery of those materials makes good sense. I will discuss how and why SLPL sought such assistance with our Lemen Streets & Sewers Collection and gained excellent results.

In 2019, the first several hundred digitized images were uploaded to SLPL's CONTENTdm Digital Collections, but creating quality descriptive metadata had been time-consuming, requiring staff to consult vintage city directories, historic newspapers, and maps for location clues.

Through virtual programs and social media, we have since encouraged the public to contribute to the descriptions. Fighting the inclination to upload only thoroughly described digital objects, we shared unidentified images and enthusiastic volunteers passionate about local history have helped pinpoint hundreds of locales.

Help with Planning to Get the Most Impact from Missouri's LSTA Federal Funds

The Missouri State Library receives approximately $3.1 million per year in Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds to use for statewide projects and competitive grant programs that improve and expand library services to meet a variety of needs. Come share your thoughts on topics such as grant priorities, statewide projects, and training needs as the State Library looks to create Missouri's LSTA FY2023-2027 Five Year Plan. The discussion will focus on programs and services to be offered by the State Library that will benefit the entire library community, including academic, public, school and special libraries.

Lessons from Mister Rogers: Preparing Kids Socially and Emotionally for Kindergarten

While librarians have long helped kids with early literacy and motor skill development, Lessons from Mister Rogers emphasizes topics to prepare children socially and emotionally for school. This session will cover kindness, self care, being a friend, respecting all living things, being brave, managing anger, and what to expect at school.

MidContinental Divide: Findings and Implications from the Network of the National Library of Medicine's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Scan

Join staff from the Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM) for a frank discussion on equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) practices within MidContinental Region (MCR) member libraries, as informed by the recent Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) scan conducted by the Network. The NNLM MCR surveyed 179 member libraries in its six-state region (Kansas, Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Nebraska, and Missouri) to understand institutions' awareness and practices surrounding equity, diversity and inclusion. The presentation will offer a brief overview of the scan development process and then analyze the results, implications, and practical next steps for libraries seeking to improve or adjust their EDI practices, as informed by the results of the scan.