

MO INFO

Newsletter of the Missouri Library Association

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President's Column

The older I get the faster the years fly by; 2022 has been no exception.

I volunteered to take on this major role with little MLA experience so naturally I was nervous about this endeavor. If I had known then what I know now, I might not have been up for the challenge. Thankfully, I've had a wonderfully supportive team of people surrounding me. I'd like to publicly thank Cindy Thompson (Past-President) and Otter Bowman (President-Elect), and Joe Kolburn (Intellectual Freedom Committee Chair) for helping me navigate the myriad of media requests the Association has had since Day 1.



It is anyone's guess as to what lies ahead for us here in the Missouri Library world. We had barely recovered from the aftershocks of Senate Bill 775, only to be leveled again by Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft's office. The latest proposed rule would establish a certification requirement for libraries receiving state funds and institute measures to protect minors from non-age-appropriate materials. A 30-day comment period begins on November 15. Please read MLA Legislative Chair Cody Croan's recommendations for salient talking points as you craft your comments. It's important to take the professional high road as we outline what's really at stake. You'll find these on page 9.

Right now, I think we can all agree the assault on our profession feels overwhelming and I, too, am greatly discouraged. There is much to be angry about, but MLA membership has taken the first step as an Association towards fighting the good fight with regard to SB775. With the recent majority vote to join forces with MASL and enlist the legal assistance of the Missouri Chapter of the ACLU we are gearing up to address the following:

- SB775 is causing harm or the threat of harm to employment/livelihood of member
- SB775 is unconstitutional as it impedes first amendment rights of student
- SB775 is being too broadly applied in cases in which schools are removing books not under the "explicit" definition

Despite the challenges and frustrations this year has brought, I have enjoyed my time as President. I have a renewed commitment to this organization. At the beginning of my presidential year, I asked you to consider volunteering for this organization because it needs you. I leave you with the same ask. This is our professional organization. MLA exists to support the work of libraries and further the advancement of the profession. It might be cliché to say this, but MLA needs you now more than ever.

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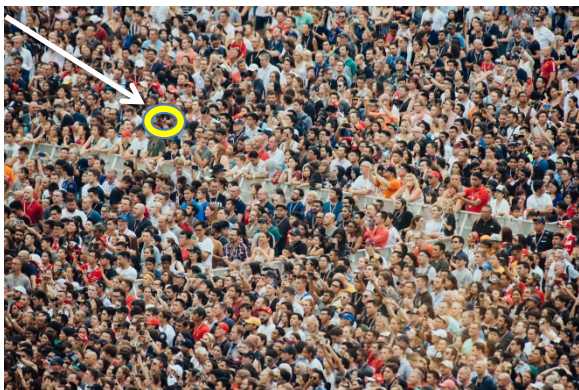
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Stand Out in the Crowd! Be Recognized as a Featured Employee!



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 with a unique job or on a unique career path
- ...an employee you find inspirational
- ...a coworker whose gifts you wish were more widely known
- ...someone who’s “an institution” full of interesting stories
- ...a role that has a new focus or is reaching a new audience
- ...someone you’d like to make more visible to potential employers

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!

Calendar of Events

Opportunities for training, and ideas are a click away with links to descriptions, availability, and any registration fees. All times CDT and subject to change.

Date	Time CT	Event	Sponsor
Nov. 16	10 a.m.	Sustaining Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: One Library's Journey	MALA
	1 p.m.	ESL Conversation Groups: Up Close and Personal	Niche Academy
	1 p.m.	Can I Get That in My Language and How Do I Know I Can Trust It?	FDLP
	1 p.m.	Cataloging Moving Images	PCI Webinars
	1 p.m.	Top Five End-of-the-Year Fundraising "Must-Dos"	Nonprofit Hub
	1 p.m.	New White House Open Access Rules: How Libraries Can Help Researchers & Faculty Scale The Paywall	Digital Science
	1:30 p.m.	Canva and Design for Libraries: Page Layout and Social Media Design	RUSA
	6 p.m.	AASL Town Hall: Transforming Gratitude and Narrative into Advocacy	AASL
Nov. 17		LibraryCon Live! 2022	Library Journal/School Library Journal
	11 a.m.	Level Up Your Library's Marketing and Communications	Innovative
	12:30 p.m.	ACRL Presents - Libraries and Learning Analytics: The Future is Now	ACRL
	1 p.m.	Rural Health Resources	National Library of Medicine
	4 p.m.	Persevering in the Face of Book Challenges	Booklist
Nov. 18	1 p.m.	The Reluctant Leader: Conquering stereotypes, imposter syndrome and rising to new heights	ASERL
	1 p.m.	Community Powered Adult Learning	PLA
Nov. 19	10 a.m.	Future Ready Librarians® Connection Development: Building Your Collaborations and Partnerships	All4Ed/Future Ready Librarians
Nov. 23	9 a.m.	Classic and Non-Classic Career Fields for LIS Students	SET Webinar
	10 a.m.	NCompass Live: Best New Children's Books of 2022	Nebraska Library Commission
Nov. 28	1 p.m.	Copyright for Libraries a Refresher Course	Indiana State Library
Nov. 29	12 p.m.	Ditching Dewey and Genre-fying Fiction	Core
	2 p.m.	Social Work Approaches to Library Services	ARSL
Nov. 30	9 a.m.	How Do I Count This in 2022? - Guidelines for Programming Stats	Indiana State Library
	1 p.m.	What Do Older Patrons Need? Understanding Creative Wellbeing in Later Life	PCI Webinars
	1:30 p.m.	Auditing Your Children's Collection: Acquisition and Shelf Balancing	eLearning Solutions
	2 p.m.	Create Beautiful and Effective Presentations with PowerPoint	Training Magazine Network
	3 p.m.	Common Mistakes in Cataloging (And How to Avoid Them)	Metro NY Library Council
Dec. 1		The Library Technology Roadmap	Amigos Library Services
	11 a.m.	Lessons Learned from the Route 91 Harvest Music Festival Shooting	Lyrasis
	2 p.m.	How to Get the Most Out of Your Nonprofit Website	Firespring
Dec. 6	10 a.m.	Ambiguity vs Librarianship	MALA
	1 p.m.	Drive Thru Data: Using NLM APIs to Access Information Fast	National Library of Medicine
	1 p.m.	Textually Speaking: Narratives of 20th Century Racial Struggle, Resistance, and Resilience Through Primary Sources	ASERL
	1 p.m.	Trans Accessible Libraries Initiative	National Library of Medicine
Dec. 7	1 p.m.	Self-Learning in an Electronic Resources Librarian Role	Georgia Library Association
	1 p.m.	ACRL Access Services IG: Designing Effective Library Signage : Best Practices, Tips, and Tricks	ACRL
	1 p.m.	Frustrated in Your Genealogy Search? Try the Census	PCI Webinars
	1:30 p.m.	Transitioning Technical Services to Hybrid and Remote Work	eLearning Solutions
	2 p.m.	Caring for the Mind: Providing Mental Health Information at Your Library	National Library of Medicine
	2 p.m.	Remember Your Patrons Living with Memory Loss	WebJunction
Dec. 13	1 p.m.	Happy and Calm: Kids Yoga in the Library with Author Bari Koral	ALA eLearning
Dec. 14	1 p.m.	A Shark & Unicorn Walk into a Library: Tips & Tricks to Boost Staff Morale	PCI Webinars
	1 p.m.	Disinformation and the Literacy Landscape	Niche Academy
Dec. 21	1 p.m.	Comic Books, Coding, Cosplay, Crazes, and D&D: Making Libraries a Hub for the Inclusive Nerd Culture	Arkansas State Library
Jan. 2	12 a.m.	Advanced Genealogy Research Techniques for Librarians	eLearning Solutions
	12 a.m.	Using WebDewey and Understanding Dewey Decimal Classification	eLearning Solutions
Jan. 9	1:30 p.m.	Know & Go: Library Services for Veterans and Military Patrons	Amigos Library Services

Meet This Issue's Featured Library Employee for the Missouri Library Association, Debby Byron!

What is your name, your library, and your role at the library?

Debby Byron, Jefferson County Library (JCL), Assistant Director for Business & Finance. I am responsible for all things financial and human resources related.

What originally got you interested in working at a library?

I have always harbored a strong sense of community and knew that after earning my Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA), I wanted a job that was essential, i.e., hospital, school district, library.

As a child utilizing the Carondelet Branch of the St. Louis Public Library, I came to realize just how important libraries are to our communities. A job posting for a Secretary/Bookkeeper with the Jefferson County Library District was the first that I came across and the rest is history.

What keeps you coming back every day?

Library work is challenging and never boring! My coworkers are awesome!

What's challenging about your work?

JCL's staff desire to provide the best library experience for our patrons from the entire spectrum of services, materials, programming, and beyond. It can be challenging to keep all this enthusiasm at bay to stay within budget. Preparing for the annual audit and annual filings of a myriad of required reports are also challenging and time consuming.



Has your work made you either curious, or passionate, or awestruck about something?

I am passionate about the Freedom to Read!

Who is one of your mentors?

My Aunt Kathy who waited until her children were grown to pursue her dream of becoming a renowned high school gifted English teacher.

What book, author, artist, show, or music are you engaging with this week, either personally or professionally? Persuade us in one or two sentences that we should pick this up, too.

Even though I am not a Bestseller List reader, the lengthy holds list at my library for, *Where the Crawdads Sing*, by Delia Owens, piqued my interest and so I took the plunge! I recently finished this novel and was sad to see it end. *Where the Crawdads Sing* is set in the southeastern part of the country and gives readers a strong female character, mystery, suspense, romance, and a peek at local wildlife.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with us?

It has been my privilege and honor to serve the patrons and community of the Jefferson County Library District for the past 31 years.



MLA Conference: An Evening at The Discovery Center

Award winners are recognized each year during the Missouri Library Association, this year held in Springfield, Mo. The ceremony was held on September 29 at The Discovery Center with musical guest MOJO.

Afterwards there was time to explore the interactive science museum. Enjoy pictures from the awards gala and exploring the Discovery Center (*Photos by Andrew Mann*)





MLA Award recipients following the Awards Gala held during the MLA Conference on September 29, 2022, which was held at the Discovery Center, an interactive science center, located in Springfield, Missouri. Front row L-R: Phil Amato, Tiffany Davis, Madeline Matson, Tori Story, Konrad Stump, Niki Cox, Vivian Gibson, Whitney Burto. Back row L-R: Steve Wiegenstein, Steve Potter, Eric Button, Brian Grubbs, Renee Glass

2022 MLA Awards Gala

Missouri Library of the Year, 15 other awards presented to outstanding libraries

The Missouri Library Association (MLA)'s top award, for **2022 Missouri Library of the Year**, was presented to **St. Louis County Library (SLCL)** on September 29 at the MLA conference. This award is given for distinguished achievement in library service and accompanies fifteen other awards and scholarships presented last night to libraries, library employees, community organizations, and authors. SLCL, the largest public library in metro St. Louis, earned the top spot because of its services to the community during the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff worked together to bring about service projects including COVID vaccines, COVID testing, and a partnership with the Office of the County Executive to help bridge the digital divide.

In Jefferson City, another team of local agencies won the **Community Partnership Award**. **Missouri River Regional Library (MRRL) and Lincoln University** worked together on a monthly lecture series. These events have taken place over three years, initially offered virtually during the early pandemic days. The lectures, coordinated by **Madeline Matson**, provide engagement between the Jefferson City community and the university students, faculty, and staff, and have included a wide array of topics including race in America, medical marijuana, what makes poetry good, and naval warfare in the 1910s.

The **Excellence in Genealogy and Local History Award** went to the **Springfield-Greene County Library District's Local History & Genealogy Department** for its Springfield Newspaper Project. The library worked in partnership with the State Historical Society of Missouri and the local newspaper, the Springfield News-Leader, to digitize more than two million pages of Springfield's newspapers. This project will have a lasting impact for future genealogy and local history researchers in the Ozark region. The work the department has completed is a success story that illustrates how a partnership between media and preservation institutions can benefit a community.

Rounding out the awards given to public and academic libraries was the **Public Relations Achievement Award**, won by **Cape Girardeau Public Library**. Marketing Coordinator Whitney Burton did some amazing campaigning for the library to celebrate their 100th anniversary, including a centennial-themed logo and specialty library cards. They gave away T-shirts, pens, notepads, and naturally-magnetic bookmarks to celebrate.

Three awards were presented for works of literature with Missouri connections:

- The **Missouri Author Award** was established to encourage and recognize Missouri authors and promote interest in local authors' books, whether the books are about Missouri or another subject. Awards are based on literary merit. An honored author must be a Missourian by birth or have lived in Missouri for at least five years. This year's Fiction Award went to **Steve Wiegenstein**, a native of the Ozarks who writes about his home region in novels and short stories. In his historical novel series, he uses the fictional village of Daybreak as a microcosm of rural life in America. His short story collection *Scattered Lights* was a shortlisted finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award in Fiction in 2021.
- The **Missouri Nonfiction Award** was won by **Vivian Gibson**. Her bestselling memoir of growing up in the 1950s in a segregated St. Louis neighborhood was hailed by critics as "a spare, elegant jewel of a work" and "a love letter to Gibson's childhood." Gibson grew up in Mill Creek Valley, a working-class neighborhood in St. Louis that was razed in 1959 to build a highway, an act of racism disguised under urban renewal as "progress." A moving memoir of family life at a time quite different from the present, *The Last Children of Mill Creek* chronicles the everyday experiences of Gibson's large family—a collection of decidedly universal stories that chronicle the extraordinary lives of ordinary people.
- The final literary award is the **Missouri Building Block Picture Book Award**, presented annually to the author and illustrator of the picture book voted most popular by preschool children in Missouri's public libraries. The award's purpose is to encourage reading aloud to children from birth through kindergarten age. This year's award went to *Bad Dog* by **Mike Boldt**, the hilarious story of a little girl who gets a pet cat but insists it is a dog. Boldt is a well-known name in children's literature, having authored such well-loved books as *A Tiger Tail*, *I Do Not Want to Be A Frog*, *Thunder Trucks*, and 2022 Building Block nominee *Find Fergus*.

Six awards and two scholarships were presented to Missouri library employees, trustees, and retirees:

- The **Ronald G. Bohley Award** is offered annually to library staff who further the cause of interlibrary cooperation in Missouri. This year's award honors a trio who worked together as a team to plan and implement a catalog shared between St. Louis Public Library (SLPL) and SLCL: **Eric Button**, Deputy Director at SLCL; and **Tiffany Davis**, Director of Customer Experience, and **Liz McArthur**, Director of Neighborhood Services, both at SLPL. These three led a variety of departments, including acquisitions, cataloging, circulation, receiving & delivery, and customer services, through a successful migration that was initially planned in July 2021 and completed in March 2022. They finished by leading customized training for over six hundred employees, and the result was a significant increase in collection access to 1.3 million customers between the two systems.
- **Konrad Stump**, Local History and Genealogy Associate at Springfield-Greene County Library District (SGCLD) won the **Outstanding Library Employee Award**. Stump has worked for SGCLD for nine years. He has dedicated this time to developing adult programming and local history interests. He currently co-chairs the district's One Read committee and developed the "Oh, the Horror!" programming series, which he also chairs. In addition, Stump partnered with the Springfield Art Museum to develop a virtual tour of the Museum's Sketches from Springfield exhibit during the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout his work in the libraries, Stump has demonstrated his dedication to public service, innovation, and community development.
- **Tori Story** of Maplewood Public Library (MPL) won the **Outstanding New Librarian Award**. Story is passionate about promoting inclusion and diversity in the library. After completing their own training, Story led MPL staff through LGBTQ+ Safe Zone training; they now also offer it to community members. They advocated for MPL's gender-neutral restrooms as well as for period products to be made available at no charge to patrons. Additionally, Story's insight was essential to the activities organized for the Municipal Library Consortium's participation in their first Pride Festival. Their dedication to serving diverse communities has helped create a safe and welcoming environment for MPL patrons.
- **Lisa Sanning**, this year's winner of the **Outstanding Professional Librarian Award**, began her career as the Reference Librarian for the Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library. She has worked at MRRL for two years and has established two important services to the Jefferson City community. The first is one-on-one assistance offered for filling out online forms – job applications, IRS inquiries, and more – for patrons with limited technology experience. Secondly, Sanning launched a program called Caring Connections in spring of 2022. Social-services professionals are now available at the library during set times to consult with patrons who have basic social needs such as food, shelter, and health care.

- **Steve Potter** is the winner of the **2022 Meritorious Award**, given for outstanding service. Potter spent over thirty years at Mid-Continent Public Library, beginning as a shelver and working his way up to Library Director and CEO. To pick just two of his many and varied contributions, Potter led MCPL to an IMLS National Medal, and he launched the country's largest public genealogy library. He is also a published author, a frequent and expert speaker on public libraries, and a leader in regional library initiatives, tax incentive work, and public policy.
- The **Virginia G. Young Service Award** goes to a trustee for exemplary service to Missouri libraries. The 2022 winner is **Phil Amato**, who has served as a Jefferson County Library trustee since the system's inception in 1989; in fact, his contribution began even earlier, when he served as chairperson of the committee to establish a county library district. In addition to his work on the board, Amato has also donated equipment, fixtures, and funds to the library, including proceeds from his newest book, *Arnold, Missouri: Fifty Years in the Making*. Amato epitomizes what it means to be a public servant, and his work helping the library grow into a thriving system will serve as a legacy.
- **Christina Matekel**, Children's Librarian at Joplin Public Library, is the winner of the **Patt Behler Call-to-Conference Award in 2022**. The award supports the professional development of an individual employed in cataloging by encouraging participation in, and covering the cost of, the MLA Annual Conference. Attending this conference will enable Matekel to connect with other youth services librarians, discover new Summer Reading performers, and explore programming ideas for Joplin.
- **Morgan Perry**, Business Outreach Specialist at Mid-Continent Public Library, won the **Ronald G. Bohley Scholarship**. The Bohley is awarded annually to a student pursuing a master's degree in library or information science who has demonstrated high scholastic achievement, a commitment to professionalism and library cooperation, a desire to provide quality service to library customers, and promise toward making a contribution to Missouri libraries. During the pandemic, Perry worked to transition services for her community to an online format, which led to her helping librarians across the country do the same. She brings an energy and drive to her work that is an excellent representation of Bohley's achievements and passions.

MLA is a non-profit organization that serves as a regional membership organization for individuals working in the field of librarianship. The goal of MLA is to support the work of libraries and further advancements in the profession. The organization's mission is to promote library service, the profession of librarianship, and cooperation among all types of libraries and organizations concerned with library service in the state. Learn more at molib.org.

Grace Jackson-Brown, Chair, Awards Committee



Missouri Building Block Award Committee

The Missouri Building Block Award Committee is now seeking nominations for the 2023 Building Block Picture Book Award. The Building Block Award, administered by the Missouri Library Association's Youth Services Community of Interest (YSCI), is presented annually to the author and illustrator of the picture book voted most popular by preschool children across the state. We need YOUR input to ensure that we continue to have high quality, enjoyable picture books on our list of nominees!

When suggesting titles, consider the following:

- Nominees must be an original picture book, age-appropriate (birth through first grade), with child appeal.
- Pictures and words should work well together and the theme developed through text and illustration.
- Avoid titles that injure the self-esteem of a child or reinforce a biased view.
- Copyright must be within the last two years (**December 2020-November 2022**)
- Titles must be a great read-aloud with rich vocabulary, flowing language, and accurate grammar.
- Titles may be fiction or nonfiction.
- Nominations **cannot** be a holiday book.

EVERYONE is encouraged to **nominate up to 10 qualifying picture book titles**. Our convenient [Google Form](#) makes it a snap. If you come across any picture books that you would like to nominate, just fill out the form completely and click "submit" -- it's that easy!

All this and more can be found on the [Missouri Building Block Award webpage](#). **Deadline for submissions is Wednesday, November 30th**. Happy nominating!

Katie Long, Chair, Missouri Building Block Award Committee

MLA Legislative Committee

As many of you have heard, the Missouri Secretary of State has announced a proposed rule that, if enacted, would restrict state funding to public libraries based on new collection development policy requirements. These stipulations would limit or wholly prevent libraries from providing access to materials in their collections for minors. While there are many issues this rule would create if adopted, some of the bigger concerns include violations of minors' first amendment rights to access materials, parents' right to determine what is appropriate for their children, and severe costs imposed on libraries with implementing and upholding the standards laid out in the rule. This rule would directly affect what libraries are allowed to purchase and display in their collections, and it would require librarians to enforce an individual parent's or legal guardian's standards of material access for their children.

MLA believes it is the sole responsibility of the parent or guardian to choose what is appropriate for their children. However, it is inappropriate for that parent to choose what is right for another family's child. Most public libraries in Missouri that receive state funding already have policies in place that encourage parents' involvement in what their children read. In addition, libraries already have a process to reconsider any material in the collection. This rule creates added costs to library services at the local level, and more importantly impedes customers' ability to access the resources paid for by their tax dollars. For many libraries, this funding is crucial to ensure that their doors stay open to provide access to materials and programs that benefit the community.

We encourage you to read the details of the [proposed rule here](#) to be fully informed on what it would require. There will be a public comment period starting on November 15, 2022. Anyone may submit public comment on this proposed rule. Please read the rule and submit your feedback on how this would affect your library, the services it provides, and most importantly, the communities you serve. We also encourage you to talk with your customers and community about this rule and how it would affect them as library users. Community members are also encouraged to submit public comments during the public comment period.

While this rule will affect each individual library system, librarian, and customer differently in terms of how they provide or receive library services, the following talking points may be of help while you consider how this will affect your library and your customers:

- What financial costs would be associated with implementing and maintaining any portion of this rule?
- What services would be diminished or stopped entirely by this rule?
- How will the costs and/or diminished services affect your customers and community?

Public comments may be mailed to the Office of the Missouri Secretary of State, PO Box 1767, Jefferson City, MO 65109 or emailed to comments@sos.mo.gov. **To be considered, all comments to the proposed rule must be received during the comment period of November 15, 2022 to December 15, 2022 and must include "15 CSR 30-200.015" in the subject line.**

Thank you for providing exceptional library services to your communities. Together we can protect public libraries in Missouri and continue providing services to our communities.

*Cody Croan
MLA Legislative Committee, Chair*

Keep Track of Your Energy Usage



How much energy does your library use? Do you keep track of usage or only cost? Are you trying to reduce? Aside from doing what we can for the environment, cutting energy usage can also save money. The Energy Star website offers "Portfolio Manager," a tool to benchmark your building(s). Using this tool allows you to compare your usage to similar buildings or keep track of your own energy usage. This is a great way to see progress, for example, after you change out older light bulbs with LED bulbs. Since energy costs fluctuate, keeping track of your bills is not the same. We invite all Missouri public libraries to start using Portfolio Manager. Join us for a webinar November 17 at 10:00 a.m. for an overview and to get your questions answered. RSVP to jensenadams@kclibrary.org to receive a Zoom link.

If enough libraries benchmark, it is possible we could become eligible for energy star certification.

Getting started is simple, go to <https://portfoliomanager.energystar.gov/pm/login.html> to make an account. The system is easy to use and allows you to set goals and keep track of progress.

Christa Van Herreweghe and Jensen Adams



Call for Proposals Closing Soon! Present at “Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Cataloging and Technical Services”

Amigos is accepting presentation proposals for the February 8, 2023, online conference, "Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Cataloging and Technical Services." The [call for proposals](#) is open through November 29.

Libraries across the nation created and launched many Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) initiatives in recent years. These initiatives have been applied in all areas of the library, including cataloging and technical services. [Register today](#) to attend and see these efforts moving from proposal to practice and examine EDI in action today in cataloging and technical services.

Register Today for "The Library Technology Roadmap"

What is the best way to assess and evaluate current technologies? How do libraries choose which new technologies to adopt? When is it time to sunset an existing technology?

Register today to join Amigos in exploring the complexities of planning and managing technology in libraries at the **December 1st** Amigos online conference, "[The Library Technology Roadmap](#)". Sessions of the day cover topics such as technology acquisition, removing library desk barriers, eLibrary platform migration, turning challenges into opportunities and many more. The conference will conclude with a closing keynote provided by **Jessamyn West**, a consultant, researcher, and international public speaker on library science and digital divide issues.

Amigos online conferences are a no-charge benefit for Amigos member libraries.

Member Discount News

Sign-Up For New York Times Now and Get One Month Free with "13 for 12"

Amigos offers member libraries discounts on subscriptions to The New York Times. [One free month](#) of access is available for new subscriptions starting in January: sign up for 12 months starting in January and receive access in December for free! Sign up by November 18 to get the full free month.

Early Access and 20% Discount Available for Project MUSE Books 2023 Frontlist Collections

The 2023 Annual Frontlist Collections of books on Project MUSE are now available for purchase, with a [20% early bird discount](#) offered on purchases through February 2023. The Collections offer libraries the earliest access to newly-published books from over 200 university press and related scholarly publishers who participate in MUSE book collections.

Continuing Education Opportunities

January - March 2023 Schedule Available!

The Amigos Continuing Education schedule for [January through March of 2023](#) is now available. Registration for online conferences, Know & Go's and Community Conversations are no-charge for Amigos member libraries.

On Request Training Available

Amigos will provide on-request training sessions, online or face-to-face designed specifically to meet your library's needs. [On-request training](#) can be an effective way to meet specific and specialized training needs.

Missed a Conference? Register for Amigos Conference Archives

Amigos Online Conferences - Easy to Access. Meaningful to Attend

As a member benefit, all Amigos online conferences are free of charge to the staff of Amigos member institutions!

Register today for access to recent conferences:

- [Materials on the Move: Strategies for Delivery, Distribution and Storage](#)
- [Amigos Member Conference 2022: Building the New Library Team](#)
- [Changing Standards, Local Choices: Navigating the Current Cataloging Landscape](#)
- [Facing the Future of Resource Sharing](#)
- [Adventures in Archives](#)

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!](#)

- [Know and Go: Fix-it, Repair, and Recycle Programs at your Library](#) December 5
- [Know & Go: Creating Effective Library Policies](#) December 12
- [Know & Go: Library Services for Veterans and Military Patrons](#) January 9, 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm
- [Know & Go: Free\(ish\) Project Management Tools](#) January 23
- [Know & Go: Quick and Easy Tips for Using Canva](#) January 30

Upcoming Live Online Classes

October – December class registrations are now open! 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!](#) *All times are listed in the Central Time Zone.

- [Library Management: Managing from the Middle](#) December 7, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
- [SimplyE @ Amigos: An Overview and Demonstration](#) January 10, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
- [Library Management: Workplace Communication](#) January 10, 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
- [Let It Go: Weeding Your Library's Collection](#) January 17 - 19, 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
- [Curriculum Mapping for Academic Librarians](#) January 24-26, 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
- [Amigos Community Conversations: Libraries and Sustainability](#) January 31, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

**MOSS (MOBIUS Open Source Solutions)**

On October 10, MOBIUS completed the migration process of the Central West Massachusetts Resource Sharing consortium (CW MARS), to host their Evergreen instance with MOBIUS. CW MARS is one of the largest Evergreen consortia in the world and was previously self-hosted. Staff members also continue to be very active in the larger Evergreen user's community, including setting up a community server to host bug fixes for the community's Bug Squashing Weeks and serving on the Evergreen Project Board.

MOBIUS had a booth at the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) conference in Chattanooga, Tennessee, September 14-17, to promote MOSS services, and we had a great time meeting attendees! We also continue to host ArchivesSpace and Omeka and to research other open-source products for possible support/hosting.

For more information on MOSS and what we offer, please visit <https://mobiusconsortium.org/moss>.

Joplin Public Library

Community Partnerships Extend Library's Reach



Library staff at the Boys & Girls Club and Community Day outreach events

Library staff have had a busy few months participating in outreach events in the Joplin community. These events included student-focused resource fairs and all-ages community gatherings. At the Boys and Girls Club of Southwest Missouri's Afterschool Bash, we met families and gave out DIY STEM kits and children's books. We also attended Missouri Southern State University's Community Day, where we welcomed incoming freshmen, reminded faculty and staff about Library resources, and signed up 30 new cardholders! In early September, we participated in Joplin Neighborhood Adult Literacy Action's (NALA) Literacy Liftoff, which allowed us to interact with adults and families and lend our support to area literacy organizations. Finally, at Joplin's PrideFest, we worked to spread the message that everyone is welcome at the Library by visiting one-on-one with attendees and passing out Library resource bags that contained bookmarks, "JPL is for Everyone" stickers and other swag.



A nurse administers a vaccine

In addition to taking the Library out into the community, we also share space in the Library with community organizations that enrich our offerings to the public. We host quarterly blood drives with the American Red Cross and frequent vaccine clinics with the Community Clinic of Southwest Missouri. At the most recent clinic, at which they distributed the flu shot and the omicron-specific COVID booster, 81 vaccines were given to 53 people. In September we offered a Mental Health First Aid Training class in partnership with Freeman Health System's Ozark Center, where 30 participants, including several Library staff members, spent the day training. Plus, each month, we have an outreach worker from the Economic Security Corporation of Southwest Area set up in the Library's lobby, offering free consultations for those needing help with housing, jobs, and Head Start. In tandem with this monthly offering, a career counselor from the Joplin Job Center is on-site to provide employment help.

Joplin Public Library is focused on being a community resource through service, outreach, inclusion, enrichment, and creating awareness. Our attendance at outreach events and our community partnerships provide key opportunities to better serve our users and our community.

Library Welcomes New Adult Programming Coordinator

The Joplin Public Library has announced the appointment of Sarah Turner-Hill as their new Adult Programming Coordinator. Turner-Hill's education, work experience, and passion make her a noteworthy addition to the Library team. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in English from Missouri Southern State University, and a Master of Arts in English from Pittsburgh State University. Her most recent work experience includes teaching at Northwest Arkansas Community College and for Virtual Arkansas.

"I'm very excited to be working at the Library in this position. I feel passionate about providing Library resources and access to the community, and I am looking forward to continuing to provide diverse and fun programs, events, and presentations at JPL!"

In her position Turner-Hill is responsible for coordinating all elements associated with providing programs and events for adults. Much of her work involves planning and hosting programming events at the Library, but also includes building relationships with community organizations to connect the Library through collaboration and outreach opportunities. She steps into a position previously filled by Derek Moser, who recently accepted a position with Missouri State University.



Sarah Turner-Hill, new Adult Programming Coordinator

Christian County Library

Fall is the Best Time for Outdoor Concerts in the Ozarks

The library is more than just books—it's a place to listen to live music, relax and celebrate the unique sound of the Ozarks as the sun sets. This is the second year of the Outdoor Concert Series featuring a variety of artists performing jazz, indie, acoustic, folk and rock at each of our four community branch locations. The series was paid for in part by the Christian County Friends of the Library and a Ghost Light Program Award from the Missouri Arts Council, in partnership with the Missouri Association of Community Arts Agencies.



Another Successful Library Card Sign-up Month

We are excited to report that 549 new library cards were made during the month of September! Pictured to the left are a few of our newest library card holders.

First Time Attending the Association of Bookmobile & Outreach Services Conference

While many of us were attending MLA, our Outreach Manager, Scott Villarreal (pictured to the right), attended the Association of Bookmobile & Outreach Services conference for the very first time. The conference was held in Scottsdale, AZ and the theme was "Rising Up and Reaching Out."

Scott said, "I can sum up my experience in three words: ideas, inspiration and connections. ABOS was thoroughly career changing. Being around so many like-minded library folks was inspirational and the connections I made will be life-long. I came back with tons of ideas and energy to better serve our patrons in the community."

For those interested, the 2024 ABOS conference will be held in St. Louis, MO.



Springfield-Greene County Library

New Mobile App Delivers On-the-Go Service

Now, everyone can use The Library from anywhere with our new mobile app on their portable devices. It's available in the App store and Google Play store under Springfield-Greene County Library.

Using the app, patrons can browse the new titles bookshelf, scan the catalog and place an item on hold by typing in their library card number, or check their library account. They can browse the digital collections and borrow e-books and more from Libby and Hoopla. The app also allows patrons to do the following: check the list of upcoming library programs, reserve a meeting room, research databases, send a question through Ask a Librarian, scan the ISBN of any book to see if it's available to borrow from the library, suggest a purchase, read the latest Library news, visit The Library on social media sites. While in the library, users can also hop on the app for quick, convenient self-checkout



Local History "Darkroom" Photo Collection Expands

The Library has added 5,000 online images from the Springfield News-Leader's print and negative collection. The digitized images are available to the public online through the digital collection "From the Darkroom," at: thelibrary.org/fromthedarkroom. The Library received an American Rescue Plan: Humanities Grants for Libraries award, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and in partnership with the American Library Association, to digitize the images and place them online. The new images include photographs from the 1970s and 1980s.

Library staff continue to organize and preserve this historic collection of photographs. They have created an index of the first 1,200 negative envelopes in the collection, which consists of nearly 5,000 negative strips and more than 23,000 individual images. Staff estimate the collection consists of more than 3 million photographs and negatives from 1945 through 2011.

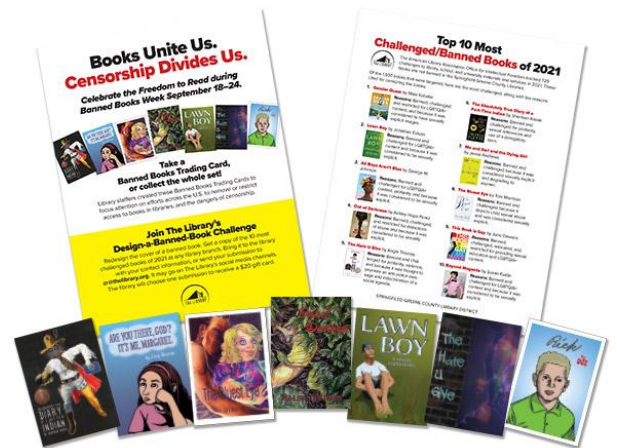
Second 24-hour Library Kiosk Opens in East Springfield

It's open and its official — the 24-hour library kiosk is the new satellite library service for convenience-hungry patrons. The Library Express East kiosk is located at 3263 E. Chestnut Expressway, on the parking lot of the Frisco Building. Under a blazing sun on Friday, Aug. 26, Executive Director Regina Greer Cooper, thanked the funders, the Friends of the Library and Library Services and Technology Act grant (through ARPA funds), as administered by the State Library. The total project cost is approximately \$298,122. State Librarian Robin Westphal and city and county leaders welcomed the crowd for the grand opening. The unit, like its twin on West Chestnut Expressway, the Library Express West, contains 340 books and DVDs for checkout, holds pickup and returns.



Library Artists Create Trading Cards for Banned Books Week

Seven library staffers used their unique talents to reimagine the covers of challenged/banned books and created small-scale art for a series of “trading cards.” The cards included the book’s name, author, reason for challenge/ban and the artist’s statement. The printed cards were made available for free to patrons during Banned Books Week Sept. 18-24. (Interested library districts may request a set of the cards, email kathleeno@thelibrary.org.)



Friends of the Library Hits \$169,284.90 in Fall Sale



The Friends of the Library Fall Book Sale hit its second-highest total when the doors closed at 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 18, grossing \$169,284.90 and drawing shoppers from a four-state region. (The record was set in spring 2021, with \$172,653.88.) The sale, made possible through donations of used items from the public and weeded library books, ran Sept. 14-18, with a Friends Night Preview Sale Sept. 13 at the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds E*Plex.

Maker Space Inspires Hobbyists and Gift Giving

What can you do at the Maker Space? Patrons put their ideas to work with our equipment. Patron Cory Hradek, came in to the Maker Space and used the laser engraver to engrave a custom coat of arms on a large sheet of leather. It’s for a leather shield he is making. It took 50 minutes to engrave. On another visit, a local 4-H group engraved clear pie plates with the 4-H logo for upcoming fundraising events.





MLA Conference: Inspiration, Ideas & Free Books!

The Springfield-Greene County Library staff was honored to provide southwest Missouri hospitality and creativity during the 2022 Missouri Library Association Conference Wednesday-Friday, Sept. 28-30, at the Oasis Hotel and Convention Center. The committee led by Jessie East and Katie Hopkins provided registration, speakers, social media chatter, field trips, a vendor bash, entertainment, prize and book giveaways throughout the conference for the 302 attendees from libraries statewide. Opening keynote speaker Marlene Chisolm held some 250 listeners spellbound as she offered useful lessons gleaned from her book, “From Conflict to Courage.” Attendees loved the freebies, which quickly disappeared into MLA tote bags.

Local History Associate Konrad Stump, who later won MLA’s Outstanding Library Employee Award, reached out to authors and publishers via email and social media to organize more than 1,500 free books and tons of swag, and for the numerous Readers’ Advisory MLA sessions. Some of the books were used to create a dozen prize bundles as giveaway prizes during the MLA Vendor Bash.



Business Connect Team SCOREs a Great Conference

The Library partnered with Southwest Missouri SCORE to host the SCORE E3 Women’s Conference on Sept. 13 and 14 at the Oasis Hotel and Convention Center. The conference had about 160 attendees, many of them female entrepreneurs from southwest Missouri who came to learn from 20 different breakout sessions on various business topics, hear three keynote speakers with messages about belonging, inclusion, and courage in business, and connect with one another and with community business resource organizations like The Library.



Development Director Gay Wilson Retiring Nov. 18

Development Director, Gay Wilson, has announced her retirement after November 18. Gay began her 12-year career as the Planning and Development Librarian in May 2010, and last year transitioned to the Library's Development Director. In those roles, Gay was the successful, primary grant writer for the district, and served as the Library's liaison to the Library Foundation. Gay's library history dates further back. She worked as a clerk in the Technical Services Department and Reference Assistant at the Main Library (now Midtown Carnegie) in the 1980s.

Oh, The Horror Returns with a New Whodunit

The Library's Oh, The Horror series in October kicked off with a new challenge to solve The Mystery of the Sasquatch of Sequiota Park from Oct. 1-31. Adult Programming Coordinator, Katie Hopkins, and Local History Associate, Konrad Stump, designed this year's challenge, with art/design work by Community Relations Graphic Designer Jay Young. Each week patrons were invited to visit a library branch to pick up new clues that would lead them to solve the fictional "mystery" in a local park. Programs through October included authors J. W. Ocker on famous cryptids, Silvia Moreno-Garcia on her book "The Daughter or Doctor Moreau," and Alma Katsu on her latest novel, "The Fervor."



Ozark Public TV Brings Daniel Tiger to the Library

The Library Station and Ozarks Public Television hosted a happy 10th birthday party for Daniel Tiger with 607 of his fans with their adult caregivers on Saturday, Oct. 1. Library staff provided five storytimes, games, crafts, a scavenger hunt, and a spontaneous dance party with bubbles to entertain the crowds while they waited to meet Daniel. One family came from as far away as Kansas and a trio of 13-year-old girls came to reminisce with Daniel about the show's early days and to snap a selfie.



A Waiting List to Learn Mahjong? Yes!

The Library Center kept a waiting list of people eager to get in on a four-week "Introduction to Mahjong" when the class quickly filled with 20 patrons. The husband of a library staffer served as instructor for the ancient Japanese four-player tile game of skill, strategy, and luck. The Friends of the Library funded six Mahjong tile sets and six folding card tables for this and future series.

Poplar Bluff Library

Poplar Bluff Library Acquires New Land for Future Growth

The Poplar Bluff Library is expanding its Dr. Gus T. Ridgel Branch. The library recently closed on a \$91,000, 0.9-acre expansion to the branch, purchased from next door neighbor New Covenant Fellowship Church. They are now looking to the community to help them decide how to best utilize the land for future growth.

“We knew this was an opportunity and we were thankful that Covenant gave us that opportunity ... I really think that it was a good move for the library ... for the long haul,” said Sue Crites Szostak, library director.

The New Covenant Fellowship Church was founded 40-50 years ago and currently serves the community by providing before- and after-school programs, and childcare through Agape Day Care & Pre-School. “We’re so happy to have the library here below us; it really accentuates the community ministry concept,” Pastor Jerry Moore said.

While this acquisition fits into the library's long-term strategic planning goals, Assistant Director Shannon Midyett said the short-term plan is to bump back the parking lot's retaining wall 10-15 feet and install a drive-through window.

“If we can put a drive-through window in, I think that’ll be a huge impact to expanding service, especially at this location where we’re right here at the crossroads,” Midyett said. The crossroads of Shelby Road and the soon-to-be Interstate 57 Corridor are within a mile of several schools, including Three Rivers College, as well as the Saint Francis and Poplar Bluff Regional Medical Centers.

In regards to other future plans, Szostak said, “We want the community to start giving us input because they’re the ones we serve. And so we’ve got to see what their desires are for Poplar Bluff, their desires for the library and their desires for overall service, because the library serves more than just Butler County and Poplar Bluff. It serves five other counties.”

Szostak and Midyett are both excited about what the future holds, and they see this acquisition as an opportunity to make future plans that will help keep Poplar Bluff Municipal Library on top of new trends and improvements in community service.



Saint Francis Healthcare System Donates Sculpture to Poplar Bluff Municipal Library Foundation

Saint Francis Healthcare System recently donated a sculpture to the Poplar Bluff Municipal Library Foundation. In mid-July, ownership of the piece, “Gulls,” by Tom Runnels, was officially transferred from Saint Francis to the Foundation. It is now on permanent loan to the Poplar Bluff Municipal Library, housed directly above the circular staircase on the main floor.

Cletus Eugene “Tom” Runnels, a sculptor for 30 years, was a native of Bollinger County, Mo., and spent most of his life practicing his craft at the Cat Ranch just outside Marble Hill. He is best known for his welded metalwork as well as other paintings, drawings, and murals. Runnels worked mostly on commission.

Begun in the mid-seventies, “Gulls” was commissioned by Kneibert Clinic and three of its physicians: Dr. Fred Caldwell, Dr. George Ladyman, and Dr. M. R. “Gus” Barbour. For years, the piece hung in the lobby-staircase area of Kneibert Clinic. When the clinic became the property of the Saint Francis Healthcare System, ownership of the sculpture transferred to that entity. Saint Francis is now proud to present the piece as a gift to the Poplar Bluff Municipal Library Foundation, a financial planning agent for the library.

“Many patients and staff have enjoyed gazing at the beautiful sculpture in Kneibert Clinic since 1974. With the move of all staff and providers from the Kneibert Clinic building to Saint Francis Medical Center Poplar Bluff at 225 Physicians Park Drive, it is wonderful that the sculpture will remain in downtown Poplar Bluff for all to appreciate,” said Ruth Ann Newman, practice manager at Saint Francis and longtime administration member of Kneibert Clinic.

“We are honored to receive this outstanding piece of art by such a prominent local artist,” said Kathy Sanders, president of the Poplar Bluff Municipal Library Foundation. “Hopefully, the public will be able to enjoy it for years to come in its prominent location at the Municipal Library.”

Missouri River Regional Library

This fall, the Capital City Job Center in Jefferson City (cwrregion.com/jstz) announced a partnership with the Missouri River Regional Library (MRRL) to host Job Search Thursdays, a monthly hiring event offering both employers and job seekers the opportunity to connect and do on-the-spot interviews.

Held the third Thursday of each month at MRRL, the event features approximately 8-10 employers representing a variety of industries, including manufacturing, financial services, health care, retail, food service, and more. The event replaces an event previously held at the Job Center, providing more space and easier accommodations for job seekers.

Employers have a table and the opportunity to bring their own swag, and library computers allow applicants to apply online, and private space available for one-on-one interviews. Job seekers, looking to find a new job or change career pathways, find it a convenient way to connect without having to set up

a job interview. Resumes are recommended upon arrival, but not required.

“People may think of libraries as books and movies, but it’s service that is at the core of everything we do,” observes MRRL Director Claudia Young. “Making resources available, in this case helping people find satisfying employment, brings us enormous satisfaction. This a wonderful opportunity for us to partner in yet another way allowing our library to serve the entire community.”

MRRL is the public library serving Cole and Osage counties in Missouri, with branches in Jefferson City and Linn, as well as a bookmobile that operates in both counties, and services including computer classes and monthly events for all ages.

The Capital City Job Center assists both employers and job seekers. Employer services include talent search assistance through the MoJobs database, the ability to reach out to UI recipients, retention assistance, labor market information, ACT Workkeys and NCRC testing, hiring incentives, and veterans services. Job seeker services include job search assistance, free resource computers, career and training services, workshops, skill assessments, work-based learning, and more.

The work done to assist the communities of mid-Missouri is a collective effort of the Central Ozarks Private Industry Council (COPIC), the Office of Workforce Development, and the Central Workforce Development Board, along with numerous community partners. Services are provided through four comprehensive Job Centers, four satellite locations and an administrative office.

“The Capital City Job Center is always looking for new ways to serve our community through employment and training services,” said Francis Thompson, Supervisor of the Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development at the Center. “Partnering with our community organizations and employers is a great way to assist and coordinate efforts for our workforce needs. Having several locations for hiring and resource events can be beneficial for everyone.”

Job Center/Library Partnership Can Be Multiplied

The federal legislation that provides for the current public workforce development system is called the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act (WIOA). This legislation was passed in 2014 and is still in place today. It is up for Re-authorization, and if re-authorized, some tweaks/changes to it are possible. It includes a more distinct opportunity for partnership with libraries as access points. It is important to note that there is nothing in the current legislation preventing these partnerships now; however, the pending draft legislation directly singles it out.

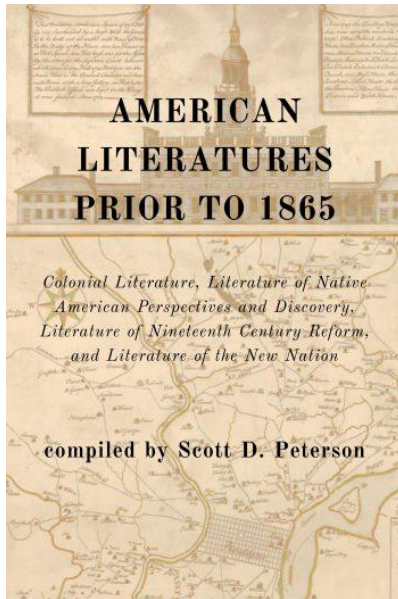
This will also be addressed in a Library Directors Meeting that is scheduled in December.



is
to

University of Missouri – St. Louis

New OER Publication



[American Literatures Prior to 1865](#) was published August 2022 as part of the University Libraries' Open Educational Resources Initiative at the University of Missouri–St. Louis. This anthology of early American literature, compiled by Prof. Scott D. Peterson of the UMSL English Department, is organized chronologically into four units, focusing on Colonial Literature, Literature of Native American Perspectives and Discovery, Literature of Nineteenth Century Reform, and Literature of the New Nation. It includes introductions to the many authors of the works included to enhance the reader's contextual understanding of the chosen texts and is essential reading for any student or scholar of Early American literature.



Missouri State University

Reconnecting and Restoring Wellness in Self

Compassion fatigue is well documented in the library profession. And recent years have only ramped up the number of roles we as librarians try to fill. The saying, “You can’t pour from an empty cup” may be overused, but it is very true. Jessica Bennett and Tracy Stout recently discussed compassion fatigue, provided tips and techniques to restore well-being, and suggested a few health and wellness programming ideas for libraries in their 2022 MLA Annual Conference presentation titled “Reconnecting & Restoring Wellness in Self”.

What is compassion fatigue and why is it important to discuss in libraries?

Merriam-Webster defines the term as “the physical and mental exhaustion and emotional withdrawal experienced by those who take care for sick or traumatized people over an extended period of time” (in a medical context) and “apathy or indifference toward the suffering of others as the result of overexposure to tragic news stories and images and the subsequent appeals for assistance.”

Abby Hargreaves (2020) wrote an article for Book Riot that described how for librarians, compassion fatigue comes from our unique role in that we are not social workers, but sometimes encounter similar situations in which patrons want or need us to play that role. Vocational awe towards librarianship and being a librarian can also lead to expectations that our job duties require sacrifice. This can lead to longer hours, taking on more duties, not saying no “for the good of the cause” and doing more “shiny” outward facing work while spending hours catching up on invisible labor type tasks such as emails, phone calls, scheduling, and other duties. We often also have a lot of invisible labor outside of work that adds to our mental workload. Hargreaves (2020), even reported that women, and more so women of color, are at increased risk of experiencing compassion fatigue.

In Patricia Katopol’s article in *Library Leadership and Management* (2015), she explained the importance of recognizing and doing something about compassion fatigue. As you begin to experience compassion fatigue, work may begin to overflow into your personal life and even your worldview. Compassion fatigue can lead to reluctance to help others, defensiveness, health deterioration (both mental and body), turnover and burnout.



What can you do to alleviate this?

Conducting self-check-ins is one way to see how your body is feeling or reacting to your environment. Asking yourself these questions will help make you more aware of what's going on inside you and increase body awareness:

- Are you holding your breath or breathing shallowly?
- Are your shoulders tight and rising toward your ears?
- Is there tension between your brows?
- Are you clenching your jaw?
- Are you holding tension in any other area of your body?

Self-care: not just a trend on social media

In recent years, the world has changed, our lives have changed, and quite possibly our work has changed. Despite the disruption, our relationship with and understanding of self-care have remained the same. Self-care does not have to be expensive and it does not have to focus solely on the physical body (massage, facials, nails, clothes). Self-care should be holistic and include physical, mental and emotional aspects. Get your mind and your heart connected and back in sync.

Included are just a few self-care ideas that work on restoring that mind, body, heart connection but you'll need to discover what works for you.



Meditation- there are both free and paid apps, lessons and programs. There are many types of meditation. If you don't think meditation was right for you before, you might try a different meditation practice/technique. It also does not take a lot of time and it does not require specific equipment.

Journaling- what type of journaling you do and how much time you spend on it is up to you. Some examples include gratitude, positive experiences, negative experiences and your thoughts and feelings on something that you cannot stop thinking about. Journaling can help with overwhelming thoughts and emotions; it's like forming a space between you and those thoughts so that you can consider them in a more objective way.



Time in Nature- research shows that time spent in nature is connected to cognitive and mental health benefits. It can boost your mood and emotional well-being. It's completely free and can take as little or as much time as you need, even if it's just a brisk 5 min walk or 15 minutes at lunch time.

Time Alone- this allows you to focus on yourself and not the needs, interests or opinions of others. Time alone gives you a chance to not be "on", which we often are, especially in a helping profession.



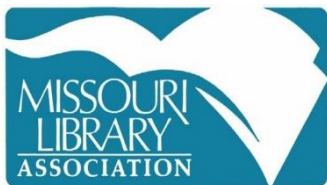
Setting the foundation to incorporate self care into your day: boundaries.

Most people have a love/hate relationship with boundaries, but they are critical to your health. You may feel mean at first, or unsupported. But those in your life who want to see you thrive will understand and adapt. This gets easier with practice, and you can start small. Boundary-setting can look like:

- asking for help
- turning off notifications for email/text/calls after your work hours
- not taking on a new thing even if it sounds fun

In summary, Compassion fatigue and exhaustion on all levels (physical/mental/emotional) is prevalent in library workers. You don't have to overhaul your life to reconnect and restore wellness with yourself. Incorporate pieces of the things discussed above to find peace and rejuvenation.

For more information, contact Jessica at JessicaBennett@missouristate.edu.



The Missouri Library Association,
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MO INFO

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