

MO INFO

Newsletter of the Missouri Library Association

July 2023

Volume 54, Number 4

President's Column

Greetings, MLA Members!



Though the Missouri Library Association was established in 1900, I doubt there has ever been more national attention focused on our organization than this year.

Your MLA Executive Board is trying to keep up! President-Elect Kimberly Moeller and I attended the ALA Annual Conference together in June, and we were delighted to see so many MLA members in Chicago. We attended Chapter Leaders Orientation, which provides a unique opportunity to network with other state association leaders. MASL President Melissa Corey and I were part of a State Legislative Update panel discussion hosted by ALA's Chapter Relations Office. Strengthening connections with MASL and meeting other chapter leaders and Intellectual Freedom Round Table members fueled us up to do more work here at home.

Things are rough for libraries in many areas of our state and our country, but there is solidarity and strength to be found as well. A deeply inspiring Freedom to Read Rally opened ALA Annual. The rally's keynote speaker, Dr. Ibrahm X. Kendi, declared that all librarians upholding the freedom to read are true freedom fighters. We are definitely doing our share here in the Show Me State. I see you, and I am proud of the work we are all doing.

MLA continues to receive notes of encouragement from library advocates across the United States, and media requests keep rolling in. I want to offer a huge thanks to all of our members who have been willing to share their perspective with the press.

Planning continues unabated for our [Annual Conference in Columbia](#). Early Bird registration is now open! And speaking of media requests, responding to media outlets is becoming such a common duty for librarians that we will have a pre-conference session devoted to helping library staff in this area. You'll find more in this issue about other educational, dynamic and fun conference plans. We want to see you there! Please put October 4-6 on your calendar and register ASAP.

The nominating committee is gathering a team of leaders to take MLA into its next year. If you are feeling called to learn more about your library association and to amplify your impact on library advocacy statewide, please don't hesitate to reach out.

As always, thanks for all you do for Missouri libraries!

Otter Bowman
MLA President 2023
mlapresident@molib.org

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Who’s inspiring you at your library? Nominate them!



Nominate someone to be our next Featured Library Employee!

They could be:

- ...a new employee you’d like to introduce
- ...someone with a unique job or career path
- ...an employee you find inspirational or whose gifts you wish were more widely known

Submit name(s) and contact information, along with place of employment, to Bailey Compton at bcompton@stchlibrary.org.

We’ll do all the work of contacting; we just need you to connect us!

Calendar of Events

Training and ideas are available each month, as close as your keyboard. Find links here to descriptions and any registration fees. All CDT and subject to change.

[Have a training source you'd like to recommend? Email satterfieldk@mrrl.org](mailto:satterfieldk@mrrl.org)

Date	Time CT	Event	Sponsor
July 17	1:30 pm	Know & Go: Managing Remote, Off-Site, and Hybrid Staff	Amigos Library Services
July 18	10 am	How to Teach Online	Amigos Library Services
July 18	11 am	Delegitimizing Censorship: Countering Anti-Democratic Rhetoric	EveryLibrary Institute
July 18	11 am	Reproductive Health and the Reference Desk: How Libraries Can Provide Information in a Post-Roe Country	National Library of Medicine
July 18	12 pm	DPLA Coffee Chat: The Living Archives Project	DPLA
July 18	1 pm	Sustainability 101	WebJunction
July 18	1 pm	Fall Series Nonfiction	Booklist
July 18	1 pm	Economic Census 101	FDP
July 18	6 pm	Get Ready for National Friends of Libraries Week	United for Libraries
July 19	9 am	Using Table Top Role-Playing Games to Teach, from Pre-K to Adult Learning	Indiana State Library
July 20	10 am	Leader Talk: Upskilling and Reskilling for the Future of Your Workforce	Training Industry
July 20	11 am	Freedom to Parent 21st Century Kids	EveryLibrary Institute
July 20	1 pm	Cartographic Resources from the Federal Government: A Roadmap to Your Geospatial Destinations	FDP
July 20	2 pm	Homelessness and Inclusion Health	National Library of Medicine
July 23	10 am	Summer 2023 Readers' Advisory Networking Session: Library Displays and Collection Marketing	MALA
July 24	1 pm	PICTURE THIS: Three illustrators Discuss the Art Behind Storytelling	Boklist
July 25	11 am	Understanding the Role of Ethics in Volunteer Management and Engagement	Nonprofit Learning Lab
July 25	12 pm	Executive Directors Chat: Artificial Intelligence — The Good, the Bad, and the Scary	TechSoup
July 25	1 pm	Brain Drain: How to Combat Burnout	GovLoop
July 26	10 am	NCompass Live: Pretty Sweet Tech: Internet Filtering For E-Rate CIPA Compliance And Cybersecurity	Nebraska Library Commission
July 26	1 pm	The Road Less Taken: Communication and Collaboration vs. Perspectives and Assumptions	ASERL
July 27	9 am	SLJ Picture Book Palooza	School Library Journal
July 28	12 pm	Lunch & Learn hosted by MARLA & RISci: User-Centered and Web-Accessible Research Guides	Arkansas Library Association
July 28	1 pm	Share Knowledge, Ideas, Learning, and Library Solutions! Virtual - Online	Nebraska Library Commission
July 31	1 pm	Health Statistics on the Web	National Library of Medicine
July 31	1:30 pm	Know & Go: Managing Workplace Conflict	Amigos Library Services
August 1-3	10 am	Regular Expressions	Amigos Library Services
August 2	10 am	Graphic Design for Librarians	Amigos Library Services
August 7	1:30 pm	Know & Go: When Culinary Adventures and Libraries Meet	Amigos Library Services
August 8	9 am	How to Manage Volunteers in Collections	FAIC
August 10	1 pm	Risky Business: The Politics, Pitfalls, and Possibilities of Curatorial Practice in Special Collections	ASERL
August 14	1:30 pm	Know & Go: Cataloging Graphic Novels	Amigos Library Services
August 15	1 pm	Redesigning a Library Website	ASERL
August 18	12 pm	RISci Lunch & Learn: ChatGPT	Arkansas Library Association
August 21	1:30 pm	Know & Go: Library Assessment: Gather Data and Acting on It	Amigos Library Services
August 23	1 pm	Walking the Red Carpet: Putting Library Databases in the Spotlight	Amigos Library Services
August 28	1:30 pm	Know & Go: Babies in the Library, Serving our Youngest Users	Amigos Library Services
August 29-31	2 pm	Creating a Library Marketing Plan	Amigos Library Services
August 30	9 am	Writing Policy Without Worry	Indiana State Library
September 5-7	2 pm	Linked Data and Libraries	Amigos Library Services
September 7	10 am	Amigos Conference: Libraries Address Inequities	Amigos Library Services
September 11	1:30 pm	Know & Go: Wikidata and Libraries	Amigos Library Services
October 4-6		2023 Missouri Library Association Annual Conference	MLA

Meet this Issue's Featured Library Employee for the Missouri Library Association, Diana Tucker!

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

Diana Tucker, Kisker Road Branch of the St. Charles City-County Library, Branch Manager

What originally got you interested in working at a library?

When I was looking for my first job, I didn't want to work in fast food and I loved to read so I applied to the library. I was hired as a page and I loved my job - all the new books, taking care of the books that needed mending... I was in heaven. When I went away to college, I was initially thinking of being a war correspondent but reality quickly set in and I knew the library was my calling. I remember coming home after my first year of college to work the temporary summer position at the library and I told my branch manager at the time that I was going to have her job someday. 30 years later I DO have my branch manager's job; not just being a branch manager but I'm the branch manager of the same location I started in, where I told her I was going to have her job someday.

What keeps you coming back every day?

The people, our patrons and my coworkers, and knowing every day is different, is what keeps me coming back. Working in the library you never know who is going to walk through the doors and what questions they may ask. I also greatly enjoy helping people find information they aren't able to find on their own, and it's very rewarding when I see someone have a "lightbulb moment" when I show them something and then they are able to do it on their own. This is especially true with technology and helping people access our digital resources.

What's challenging about your work?

Right now, the challenge is helping the community understand the role of the library; to provide materials for all members of the community no matter who they are. Some community members want the library to reflect their values in the materials we provide and they don't understand that not everyone in the community thinks like they do. It's OK to have a difference of opinions and to be exposed to a variety of ideas and values. This is what makes the world so interesting.

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

My work has made me very passionate about the library's purpose, or ethics, if you will. The library is here to provide materials for ALL members of our community and it doesn't matter if I agree or disagree with the thought or topic that is being asked about or discussed. As an adult, I can choose to read or not to read something. Reading something that I don't agree with gives me different perspectives which allows me to empathize with people, even if I don't agree with them. And it's my job as a parent to monitor what my children are reading. When my children were younger, I read what they read. As they are well into their teenage years, I currently encourage them to read different things and then we talk about it. I want my children to be prepared to interact and get along with all sorts of people, and not just people who look or think like they do. It's important to be exposed to different views, even if you disagree.

Who is one of your mentors?

Martha Radginski is one of my most important mentors as she was the branch manager who hired me and who I told I wanted her job someday. Martha took a chance on hiring me when I was 16 and I found her to be a fair and firm person, always putting the customer first yet being in touch with her staff and working alongside them. Martha did not ask staff to do something she wouldn't do and I follow that example. I like working side by side with my staff as it keeps me updated on what's happening in the branch first hand. Doing this also allows me to experience the same workflow as my staff so we can work together as a team to make the day smooth and easy. Most importantly, I listen to staff suggestions as they truly put more time in on the floor with patrons, and my staff generally have great suggestions to help our customers have an excellent customer experience while at the library.

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.

I am currently rereading Jim Butcher's "Aeronaut's Windlass" in anticipation of the second book in the Cinder Spires series coming out soon. There is so much to this title it's hard to sum up in 1-2 sentences.... Magnificent air and land battles between factions and ancient evil, interesting and well developed characters, steampunk fantasy with humor, and Rowl of the Silent Paws Tribe, kit to Maul, chief of the Silent Paws. I think Rowl is one of the most interesting characters, especially considering he's a cat.



MLA Conference



CELEBRATING A CULTURE OF CARE

Missouri Library Association Annual Conference
Oct. 4-6, 2023 - Columbia, MO

Celebrating a Culture of Care with a heaping helping of F-U-N!

The 2023 MLA Annual Conference, held at the Holiday Inn Expo Center in Columbia, Mo., promises to be a fulfilling professional development experience for all who attend – but you will enjoy it even MORE with these great "sociable development" experiences as well:

Vendor Reception – October 4

Not only are there all our wonderful vendors to visit, it is a moment we've all been waiting for, the unveiling of "The Banned" Band!

This hard-driving group of library folk are hell-bent on defending intellectual freedom *and* rocking your socks off! It features:

- Fearless MLA President Otter Bowman!
- Brilliant academic librarian and saxophonist Kim Moeller!
- Exceptional digital initiative director Steven Pryor on guitar!

Multi-tasking in ways only librarians can, "The Banned" will be playing both familiar tunes and original material heard for the FIRST time on any stage anywhere!



Awards Night - October 5

You'll find all the movers and shakers of Missouri libraries here! After the ceremony, move and shake with celebratory tunes from local bluegrass band, **Ironweed**.

Formed in 1994, this energetic band will play traditional and non-traditional bluegrass tunes. And when you're ready to dance professional contra dance caller **Jim Thaxter** will get the festivities underway! (*The great thing about contra dance is no one really needs to be particularly good at it or even coordinated! Just follow the caller and move to the beat.*)

Get out your stompin' boots, because this celebration will not be complete without you!

Early bird registration is open!

Interested in joining us this fall?

Get the hitch out of your giddy-up and register!

Early bird rates close on August 14.

Handy MLA Conference Links

Conference Website: molib.org/Annual-Conference

Need to sign up for MLA? Visit molib.org/Join-MLA

Holiday Inn Executive Center Standard Rate: \$130/ night

Early Bird Conference Registration: \$120 ea.

Bohley Trivia Night at the MLA Conference

The Bohley Scholarship Trivia Night returns once again at this year's MLA Conference! Start sharpening your pencils, recruiting your teammates (up to 8 per team), and obsessively reading Wikipedia for your shot at trivia glory!

The event takes place on Wednesday night of the conference, and features snacks, a cash bar, bonus games, and more.

It all supports the Ronald G. Bohley Scholarship, which annually provides financial aid to a Library Science student committed to serving the Missouri library community.

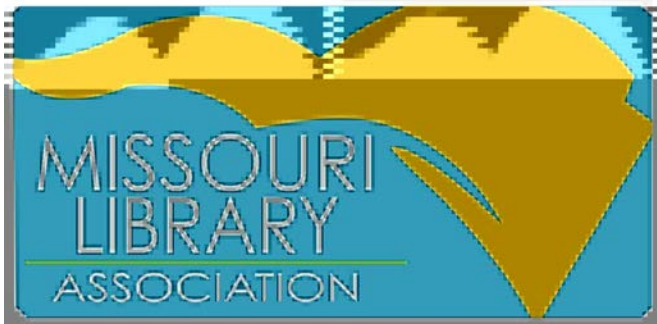
For more information about Trivia Night, contact Ethan Cordray: ecordray@dbrl.org



For information about the Bohley Scholarship, see: <https://molib.org/Ronald-G-Bohley-Scholarship>

MLA Access and Innovation Fund

In 2019, the Missouri Library Association (MLA) was the recipient of an anonymous, donor directed gift of funds “to be used for the limited purpose of promoting library services related to computer/internet access services to library patrons.” After investing these funds, MLA has developed guidelines for the use of these funds in keeping with the donor’s intent. It is our hope and expectation that these funds will assist a number of libraries around the state achieve improved and innovative patron services. With proper oversight, the fund should grow over time to provide even greater levels of assistance.



The [Missouri Library Association’s Access and Innovation Fund](#) is open! This grant, which provides awards of up to \$5,000 to Missouri libraries and MLA Committees/Communities of Interest, is intended to **enhance, support, and develop library technologies and innovation that improve patrons' access to library services**. Before applying, please read through the [guidelines and criteria](#).

The Access and Innovation Fund Committee will be holding an information session for anyone interested in this program. The session will be recorded, but please [join us live](#) at 11am on Monday, July 24.

If you have any questions, comments, or feedback, please contact us at access.innovation@molib.org. And if you are interested in volunteering for the committee responsible for promoting, evaluating, and awarding these grants, please either let me know or complete the [MLA Volunteer Form](#)!

Your Access & Innovation Fund Committee:

Belinda Birrer
Erin Gray
Stephanie Hallam
Jill Mahoney
Chris Pryor
Rebecca Splain
Cindy Thompson



A Message from Amigos President & CEO Miguel Figueroa

July 1 starts a new Amigos membership year and provides a good opportunity to review some of our member programs and services. A new [partnership with NISO](#) extends Library Standards Alliance membership to all Amigos libraries and adds to a full schedule of [free continuing education](#) available to all member library staff.

Our [member discount program](#) provides special savings on electronic products and services, including a new [offer from Skilltype](#).

Amigos membership includes one simultaneous [user subscription to the RDA toolkit](#). To learn more about these or other member benefits, please reach out to us at membership@amigos.org – or email me directly, figueroa@amigos.org, to talk more about how Amigos can work with your library.

ALA Annual 2023 Conference Takeaways from Amigos Staff

Several Amigos staff attended this year's ALA conference in Chicago and were asked to share their notable conference activities, takeaways and insights. From touring the Reaching Across Illinois Libraries (RAILS) facilities, attending the Chapter Leaders Forum and many other sessions, staff learned about new services and technology uses happening now in academic, public, and special libraries settings; updates from other courier programs; the issues and challenges being faced by state association leaders; [and more](#).

NISO Seeks Members for the Working Group to Develop Standard Metadata for Remediation of Content for Accessibility

Voting members of the National Information Standards Organization (NISO) have approved the formation of a Working Group to refine and extend the metadata model developed in the Federating Repositories of Accessible Material for Education (FRAME) project, which will enable it to meet broader accessibility needs. NISO is currently [seeking members](#) from across the information community to join the resulting Accessibility Remediation Metadata (ARM) Working Group.

NISO will further develop and refine FRAME's work with Accessibility Remediation Metadata (ARM) for remediated texts. The ARM model will ensure that the metadata is machine processable, provide written documentation, and develop a metadata schema. This work will expand the FRAME model to serve a wider range of needs, including those of publishers as well as libraries and DSOs, and make remediated texts even more discoverable.

DOAJ at 20 -- Journal Stories

Throughout 2023, DOAJ is marking its DOAJ's 20th birthday with webinars, a fundraising campaign and by telling the DOAJ story and about the people who use it. They will highlight the positive impacts DOAJ has had on journals, communities and research worldwide. The DOAJ June journal story comes from an U.S. journal that flipped to a fully diamond open access journal, from a paywalled subscription journal after the whole editorial board resigned. Dr. Sara Billey, a member of the Steering Committee, said that they wanted the content to be freely accessible worldwide, with no fees. Read their story on the DOAJ blog. Amigos members can [become supporters](#) of this important resource at a 30% discount.

Amigos Member Conference 2023 Keynote Speaker Announced as NISO's New Board President

The National Information Standards Organization (NISO) has announced Karim Boughida (Dean of University Libraries, Stony Brook University) as [Chair of the NISO Board for 2023-2024](#). In May, Karim Boughida provided the keynote: "Post-AI/ChatGPT: The Rise of the Machines in Libraries!" at the Amigos Member Conference 2023: Libraries Plan to Succeed. To view his presentation and other sessions revolving around libraries' latest innovations and planning strategies from the the Skilltype sponsored online conference, register for the recordings.

Amigos members receive the benefit of free membership to the NISO Library Standards Alliance which includes access to NISO's educational webinar program.

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Member Discount News

Discount + Free Games for Amigos Member Libraries

After-Mouse, creators of the PLAY Touch Table, is an Amigos vendor partner through discount direct. For a limited time, members can receive a [special discount](#) on a new table.

The 32" PLAY interactive touch table provides a unique experience that is collaborative and social for both children and adults. Working with libraries across the country, AfterMouse has distributed the table in 40 countries with leading hotels and resorts, libraries, schools, 65 children's hospitals and 80 Ronald McDonald Houses.

BioOne Announces New ESA eBook Collection and Special Offer

BioOne has extended their partnership with the Entomological Society of America (ESA) to deliver a collection of 160+ newly digitized eBooks serving the educational, professional, and scientific needs of entomologists, zoologists, and researchers in related disciplines. Members can [save an additional 5%](#) through Amigos.

Continuing Education News

Registration open for "Libraries Address Inequities"

Registration is open for the September 7, 2023, online conference, "Libraries Address Inequities". This conference will examine ways in which libraries build partnerships, raise community awareness, and center dialogue in addressing known and emerging inequities.

People experience inequities - instances of injustice and unfairness – in many parts of their lives and may even experience them when engaging with library policies, services, or programs. Central to the mission of libraries is a commitment to addressing long-entrenched and newly emerging inequities in society - whether inequities in access to information, education, opportunity, or representation. Addressing inequities requires assessment of library resources, examination of existing programs and services, and direct engagement with the communities experiencing inequity or injustice. How are libraries stepping up to address inequities across their communities? And how is that central part of our mission changing, becoming more challenging, or more rewarding?

Learn more and register at the conference website: www.amigos.org/AddressInequities

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. Contact learning@amigos.org for more information.

Amigos Online Conferences - Easy to Access. Meaningful to Attend

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

Register today for access to recent conferences:

- [Amigos Member Conference 2023: Libraries Plan to Succeed](#)
- [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Cataloging and Technical Services](#)
- [The Library Technology Roadmap](#)
- [Materials on the Move: Strategies for Delivery, Distribution and Storage](#)
- [Amigos Member Conference 2022: Building the New Library Team](#)

Please Note: Attendees registered for the live event already have access to the past conference recordings. To view the recordings, login with the credentials provided for attending the live conference.

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Amigos Online Learning

Free for Members

Online topical conferences, the annual member conference, Know and Go sessions, Community Conversations, and NISO member webinars are all no charge to Amigos members. (All times CDT.) [Upcoming free opportunities](#) include:

- [Creating Linked Data with Sinopia](#) July 24, 1:30 - 2:30 pm
- [Managing Workplace Conflict](#) July 31, 1:30 - 2:30 pm
- [When Culinary Adventures and Libraries Meet](#) August 7, 1:30 - 2:30 pm
- [Metrics: Assessing Usage \(Part One\)](#) August 9, 10:00 - 11:30 am
- [Cataloging Graphic Novels](#) August 14, 1:30 - 2:30 pm
- [Metrics: What Additional Metrics Are Needed? \(Part Two\)](#) August 16, 10:00 - 11:30 am
- [Library Assessment: Gather Data and Acting on It](#) August 21, 1:30 - 2:30 pm
- [Babies in the Library. Serving our Youngest Users](#) August 28, 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm
- [Libraries Address Inequities](#) September 7, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
- [Wikidata and Libraries](#) September 11, 1:30 - 2:30 pm
- [Multilingual Content and its Use](#) September 13, 10:00 - 11:30 am
- [Tech Tools and Apps for the Reference Desk](#) September 18, 1:30 - 2:30 pm

Discounted for Members

Review the [Continuing Education Schedule](#) for the latest additions and updates! All times CDT.

- [Library of Congress Classification: The Basics](#) July 25 - 27, 2 - 4 pm
- [Regular Expressions](#) August 1 - 3, 10 am - 12 pm
- [Graphic Design for Librarians](#) August 2, 10 am - 12 pm
- [Walking the Red Carpet: Putting Library Databases in the Spotlight](#) August 23, 1 - 3 pm
- [Creating a Library Marketing Plan](#) August 29 - 31, 2 - 4 pm
- [Linked Data and Libraries](#) September 5 - 6, 2 - 4 pm
- [Streamlining Library Workflows and Processes](#) September 12 - 14, 2 - 4 pm
- [Introduction of Library Services to Teens](#) September 14, 12 - 2 pm

Looking for Tools for Your Professional Toolbox?



Did you know the Public Library Association offers many resources for public libraries? Links below point you to professional resources and additional helps.

Professional Tools

[Circulation & Technical Services](#)
[Community Engagement & Outreach](#)
[Directors, Managers & Administrators](#)
[Programming & Instruction](#)
[Public Relations & Marketing](#)
[Reference](#)
[Technology](#)
[Youth Services](#)

Plus Additional Resources

[Careers in Public Libraries](#)
[Resources for Public Libraries Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness](#)
[Post-Election Resources](#)

Learn more at:





MOBIUS FOLIO and ReShare Transition Receives International Attention

MOBIUS continues to work with EBSCO and Knowledge Integration on the development of ReShare DCB, a new open-source resource sharing platform. ReShare will replace our current INN-Reach system from Innovative Interfaces in the Spring of 2024 and will allow us to connect with disparate ILS systems for the first time since our founding. This new project has brought lots of interest across the country and overseas!

MOBIUS' move to ReShare and the FOLIO open source platform was mentioned in Marshall Breeding's "2023 Library Systems Report" in *American Libraries Magazine* as evidence of increased interest in open source options within the library community. Julia Hickie, Assistant Director for Platform Transitions, at the National Library of Australia, came to the MOBIUS Office to learn more about the new ReShare project and how they might be able to use it at the NLA. Additionally, a number of other national and international organizations have expressed interest in following the project privately.

MOBIUS was founded in 1998 and is the largest resource sharing network in Missouri with 80 member libraries serving more than 200 physical branches, a union catalog of over 29 million items, an expansive courier network, and, in addition to Missouri, serves users in Oklahoma, Iowa, Kansas and Texas.

MOBIUS Welcomes a New Staff Member

MOBIUS is pleased to welcome Jaysal Patel as the new DevOps Linux Engineer! Jaysal started on May 1 and comes to Missouri from Memphis, Tennessee, where he worked as a Systems Engineer for Coalesce Solutions. At MOBIUS, Jaysal works on maintaining server infrastructure, internal projects, and helping to support our MOSS clients. In his spare time, Jaysal enjoys playing ultimate frisbee, going to music shows around Columbia, and reading. We are pleased to have him on our team!

2023 MOBIUS Annual Conference Held in St. Louis With Great Success!

The 2023 MOBIUS Annual Conference was held on June 5th-7th in the St. Louis metro area. This year's theme was "Blazing the Trail" and featured a keynote address on navigating change from a personal and professional perspective from Nancy S. Kirkpatrick, Executive Director & CEO of OhioNET. In addition to the keynote, there were several presentations on FOLIO and Project ReShare in anticipation of the organization's move to those systems next year. Additional topics covered included OER, instruction, committee activities, and digitization. More than 150 librarians and library staff from around the region participated along with representatives from 13 library services vendors. We would like to thank all of the participants, speakers, and sponsors who helped make this event a success.

The MOBIUS Annual Conference is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as Administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State, and additional support was provided by a generous donation from EBSCO Information Services.

MOSS News

MOBIUS's MOSS (MOBIUS Open Source Solutions) staff attended the Evergreen International Conference in Worcester, Massachusetts. It was the Evergreen community's first in-person event since 2019 and was a great time for learning, networking, and socializing. MOBIUS staff gave presentations and participated in the community's development and documentation hackfests.

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MOBIUS responded to several RFPs for Evergreen hosting services and had subsequent meetings/demonstrations with the library systems. MOBIUS also entered into a contract with the Community College Libraries of North Carolina consortium (CCLINC), after several years of consultation, to migrate a subset of the consortium from their current ILS to Evergreen and to host and manage that system.

Several new libraries also joined the NC Cardinal Evergreen consortium in North Carolina, which is hosted by MOBIUS and MOBIUS provided the migration services for the libraries.

Blake Graham-Henderson, MOBIUS Senior Development Engineer, became the facilitator of the Developers Interest Group in the Evergreen Community as well as part of the release team for Evergreen version 3.11, released in May 2023. Debbie Luchenbill, Associate Director, Open Source Initiatives, continues to serve as facilitator for the Documentation Interest Group, chairs the Conference Site Selection Committee, and is a member of the Conference Standing Committee and the Outreach Committee. Scott Angel, MOBIUS Full Stack Developer, made his first code contributions to the Evergreen software, which were approved by the community and incorporated into the main Evergreen codebase. He also is a member of the New Developers and the UX Interest Groups.

University of Missouri Libraries



Jennifer Thompson Hired as MU Associate University Librarian for Acquisitions, Collections and Technical Services

This month, the University of Missouri Libraries hired Jennifer Thompson as associate university librarian for Acquisitions, Collections and Technical Services. Jennifer has a Master of Library and Information Science from the University of South Carolina and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Virginia, where she studied religious studies and architectural history. She was inspired to become a librarian while studying the design of the Boston Public Library. The architects intended the design to reflect the importance of public spaces in a democratic society and the ability of learning to improve lives – two concepts with which Jennifer wholeheartedly aligns. Previously Jennifer served as electronic resources librarian for the University of Missouri System, technology and resource sharing consultant for the Missouri State Library, and library director at the American College of the Building Arts in Charleston, SC.

Joplin Public Library

First Community Read Warmly Received

After a fun month of reading, programs, and connection, on Apr. 27, the library's inaugural community reading event Joplin Reads Together came to a festive close with one final program, an author visit from New York Times bestselling author Shelby Van Pelt.

During the month-long event the library:

- Hosted ten programs at the library, with the most attended program being an ocean themed one courtesy of Wonders of Wildlife, attracting over 261 attendees.
- Provided 562 individuals the opportunity to participate in events; including 153 individuals at Shelby Van Pelt's author visit.
- Engaged eight media outlets.
- Helped facilitate approximately 105 people getting books signed by Shelby Van Pelt.
- Welcomed travelers from Pittsburgh, Baxter Springs, Kansas City, Branson, St. Louis, Columbia, and Chicago to the author visit.

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Participation

Total Registrations: 321

Joplin Reads Together Webpage
12,820 users
46,730 pageviews

Circulation

JPL Hardcover: 68
JPL Audiobook: 4
JPL Book Kits (10 books): 6
Libby eBook: 21
Libby eAudiobook: 20



Author Visit

153 attendees, 105 books signed,
63 pictures with Marcellus



Library Events

9 events, 409 attendees



Participants From

Pittsburgh, KS • Baxter Springs, KS • St. Louis, MO
Columbia, MO • Chicago, IL • Branson, MO

Community Engagement

Appearances on Living Well, Good Morning Four States, and MSU Newsmakers, coverage by Joplin Globe, NewsTalkKRZG, Joplin Business outlook, Joplin Chamber of Commerce Newsletter, KRPS Radio Interview



Survey Said

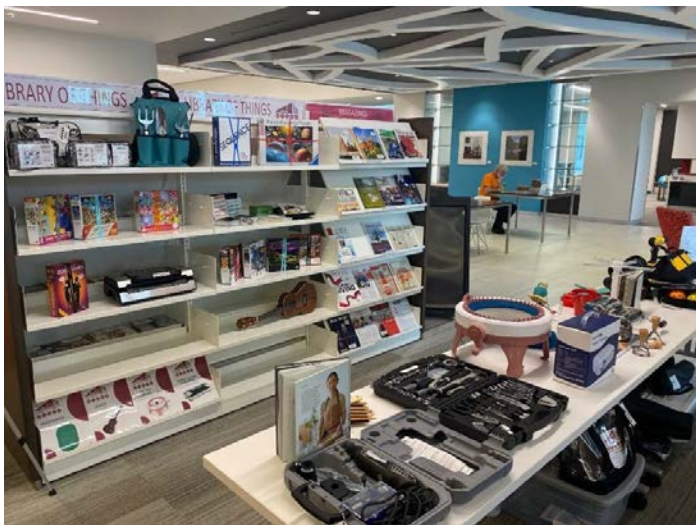
"Well planned with many options and well organized!"

"Looking forward to this being replicated in the future!"

"Excellent book selection with a fun author!"

"Creative events and fun to talk to others about the book!"

Feedback for the inaugural event was overwhelmingly positive, with many participants asking when the next one would take place. The library and its partners – Post Art Library, Missouri Southern State University Spiva Library, Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce, Joplin Convention and Visitors Bureau, and Friends of the Joplin Public Library – plan to host Joplin Reads Together annually, with the committee already working to select the title for next year. In addition, the library is partnering with Missouri Southern State University Spiva Library on their fall reading event, where they will host Irish author Colm Tóibín.



Generous Donation Helps Start New Collection

Thanks to a generous donation, the Joplin Public Library has added a new collection that is meant to inspire creativity, learning, and fun. The aptly named “Library of Things” is a collection of non-traditional materials including tools, games, kitchen items, and electronics. The heart of the collection includes items that library users would only potentially need once in a while or expensive items individuals could benefit from borrowing to test before an investment is made.

The project got its start when a community member generously offered to purchase items to create four cooking kits. The cooking kits include equipment for making sushi, paella, madeleines, and muffins, plus each kit has an accompanying book that provides recipes and tips.

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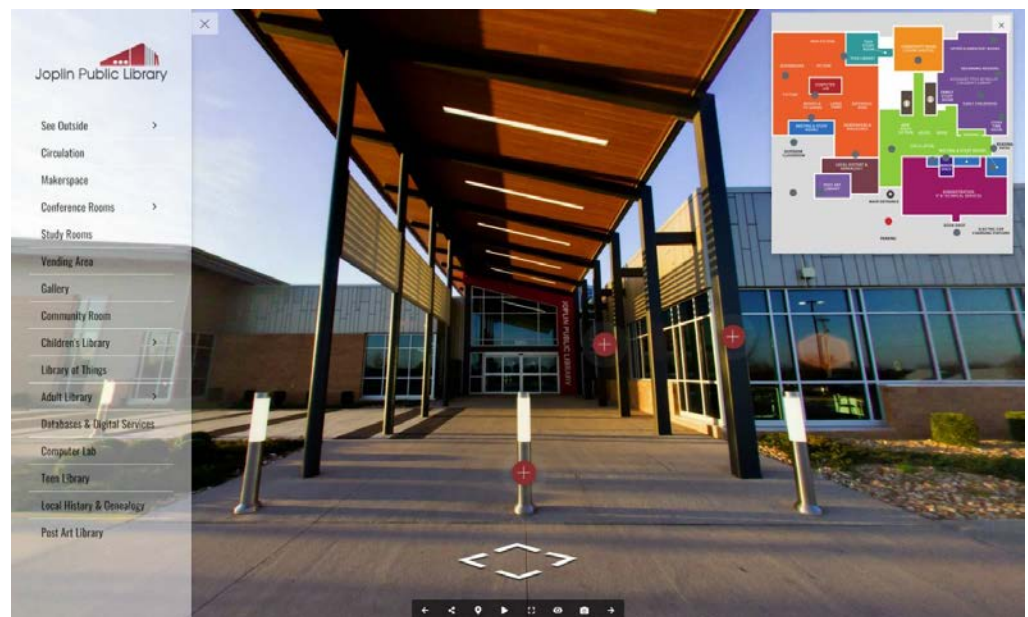
The collection has continued to grow thanks to funding from the Joplin Library Foundation, and library staff have applied for local grants with the hope of adding even more things. Library of Things smaller ticket items include puzzles, a tripod, a stud finder, and basic tools for home-based projects, while more expensive offerings include a digital camera, a projector, a food vacuum sealer, and a pickleball paddle set.

The library launched the Library of Things with a "Meet the Things" event on Thursday, May 11. Forty-eight people attended the come-and-go style event where all the items were on display and staff answered questions about the new offerings. By the end day on May 11, 12 of the 34 items had been checked out. The items continue to be popular with a total of 91 circulations so far. All items are available to check out for free with a Joplin Public Library card.

Virtual Library Tour Highlights Spaces & Offerings

The Joplin Public Library contracted with Iowa-based company Midwest Pano to create a [virtual library tour](#); with the Friends of the Joplin Public Library generously funding the project. The tour was completed in April and can be found at joplinpubliclibrary.org. In addition, the panoramic images have been added to the library's Google Business page.

The virtual tour will not only help patrons with wayfinding, but hotspots highlight areas of interest and services as another avenue of informing the community of what the library has to offer.



Mid-Continent Public Library

Mid-Continent Public Library Collects Food for Fines

Mid-Continent Public Library's biannual Food for Fines program returned May 1–May 7. During the weeklong initiative, **MCPL customers donated more than 13,100 nonperishable food items** at the Library's 30+ locations to pay off overdue fines or replacement card charges. Each donated food item counted as \$1 toward a customer's fines and fees (up to \$10).

Customers with no fines or fees were also encouraged to donate, and donations were used to "pay it forward" toward another customer's fines. Following the completion of the program, the food was given to charitable organizations across the Kansas City metro.

MCPL offers the Food for Fines program twice a year—leading into the summer to encourage active participation in the annual Summer Library Program, and in the fall to alleviate any barriers for students seeking resources at the Library. **Since its launch in 2014, the Library has collected nearly 190,000 items for local charities through the program.**

For more information about Food for Fines, including the list of recipient organizations, visit mymcpl.org/FoodForFines.



MCPL Breaks Ground on New Riverside Branch

On May 19, Mid-Continent Public Library leaders and local officials broke ground at 4510 NW Gateway Avenue in Riverside, Mo., marking the start of construction on a brand-new building that will replace the Library's current Riverside Branch (located less than a mile north off Vivion Road) in 2024. Made possible in part by a \$2 million financial contribution from the City of Riverside, the new Riverside Branch will provide a wide array of amenities and upgrades from the Library's current aging building, which will remain open as the new location is built.

"The Riverside Branch staff are thrilled to officially break ground on our future new home!" said Patrice Nollette, Riverside Branch Manager. "While we have loved serving southern Platte County residents from our current location, this new space will provide a tremendous upgrade for customers and be a valuable community resource for many years to come."

The Library's current Riverside Branch, which was built in 1991, has had numerous structural issues over the years, including damage from multiple floods, resulting in the need for costly repairs. After years of discussions and negotiations, Library leaders and Riverside officials settled on an approved proposal last year to construct an approximately 12,500-square-foot building. The new Riverside Branch will include:

- Community programming room
- Two collaboration rooms
- Children's area
- Teen area
- Outdoor seating
- Updated Wi-Fi and technology



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The construction of the new Riverside Branch is part of MCPL's Capital Improvement Plan to upgrade all its facilities, made possible by increased funding from the passage of Proposition L by voters in 2016. Design work for the Capital Plan is being completed by Sapp Design Architects and Helix Architecture + Design, with JE Dunn assuming responsibility for construction contractor management.

In addition to all the physical upgrades, the increased funding approved by voters in 2016 has allowed MCPL to expand branch hours, enhance special services, augment early literacy efforts, and buy more materials. More information about all of the Library's construction projects can be found at mymcpl.org/Community.



Mid-Continent Public Library's Culinary Center Is Now Open!

Mid-Continent Public Library has officially opened the doors to its much-anticipated Culinary Center, located inside the Library's Green Hills location (8581 N. Green Hills Rd., Kansas City, Mo.). The innovative new Center features a teaching kitchen for food and nutrition-focused classes for the public, as well as commercial kitchen space for local startup food businesses.

"We are thrilled to finally welcome the community into our space and can't wait to get cooking!" said MCPL Culinary Center Director Xander Winkel. "The mission of the Culinary Center is to enrich the community through food education and to support small businesses, and after many months of gathering all the right ingredients, we're ready to start serving up these services!"



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The Culinary Center began offering classes to the public in June on a variety of topics and catered to foodies of all ages. All programs are free to attend, but registration is required. From technique-focused programs like Food Preservation Basics, Beginning Culinary Knife Skills, and Outdoor Cooking 101, to recipe-centered classes like Make Your Own Chili Powder and Rubs, Healthy Caribbean Cooking, and Flour Power: A Kid's History of the Tortilla, the Culinary Center will offer cooks of all interests and skill levels a chance to gain hands-on knowledge about food preparation, nutrition, and foodways (eating habits and culinary practices of people, regions, or historical periods).

The other half of the Culinary Center's service, commercial kitchen space for local startup food businesses, is also now available. For a minimal rental fee, businesses can use the four commercial kitchen spaces, including two incubator kitchens, a shared equipment kitchen, and a prep kitchen. Each comes equipped with a variety of features—range tops, convection ovens, conventional ovens, freezers, coolers, etc. Scholarships to cover kitchen rental fees are also available to those who qualify.

“Our commercial kitchen spaces are an ideal resource for any food business without a current brick-and-mortar presence,” said Winkel. “For folks who have a catering or food truck business, the Library's Culinary Center can serve as your home base. It's also great for those who have a home cottage food operation now and who want to grow into a commercial food business. The goal is to provide the space and tools that are often a barrier to entry for many aspiring 'foodpreneurs.'”

The MCPL Culinary Center is a unique resource for the Kansas City northland, which was part of the inspiration for the facility.

“One of the goals for this project has been to fill a community need that Library leaders recognized a number of years ago,” said Erin Kennedy, MCPL's Strategic Projects Manager. “The Kansas City metro has a few resources for food education and local food business support, but many are costly, and few are located north of the river. The Library's mission is to enrich its citizens and communities by expanding access to innovation and information, and the Culinary Center is one more way we achieve this.”

More information about the MCPL Culinary Center and its services can be found at mymcpl.org/Culinary. To inquire about renting commercial kitchen space, and to learn more about available scholarships, email Culinary@mymcpl.org.



Poplar Bluff Library

Poplar Bluff Library Launches New Service with Memory Kits

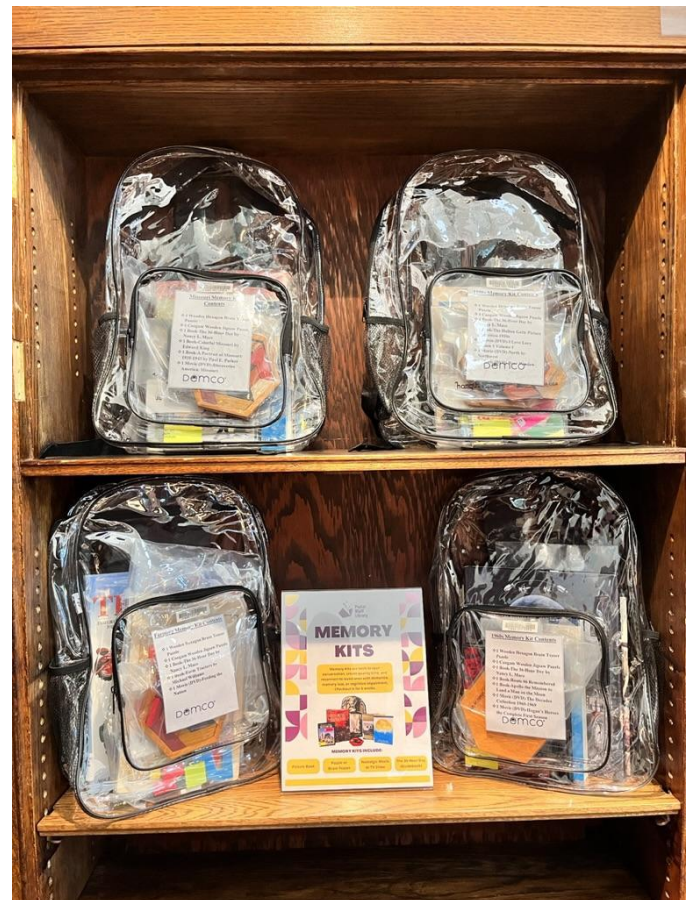


The Poplar Bluff Library proudly adds to its collection Memory Kits. With the introduction of Memory Kits, the library hopes to help caregivers and those with dementia connect by revisiting old memories through fun, relaxing, and stimulating activities.

Recalling past events with those who have cognitive impairments can help them feel pleasure and improve their sense of well-being. Of people at least 65 years of age in the United States, there are an estimated 6.7 million living with Alzheimer's, one of the most prevalent forms of dementia. Persons 65 years or older make up over 19 percent of Butler County's population.

Each kit is an interactive bundle of library materials which includes nonfiction books that have pictures heavily interspersed; a puzzle or brain teaser; a nostalgic movie, tv show, or informative video; and the book *The 36-Hour Day: A Family Guide to Caring for People Who Have Alzheimer Disease and Other Dementias*. The kits cover different topics of interest: Missouri, farming, The 1950s, The 1960s, and gardening.

KFVS12 interviewed library staff member Tony Miller and assistant director Belinda Birrer about the new service. [Find the full story online.](#)



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Poplar Bluff Library Launches New Service with TechKnow Desk

Over the last few years, Poplar Bluff Library staff have seen a shift from patrons requiring assistance with basic computer literacy skills, such as using a keyboard and mouse or typing a document, to more complex computer needs. Patrons regularly need assistance with building resumes, job searches, workforce training, electronically filling out and submitting documents, creating flyers and invitations, uploading documents to government and business portals, eSignatures, and more. As our society increasingly moves to digital processes, a portion of patrons need assistance to complete critical life tasks.

During April, the Poplar Bluff Library launched the TechKnow Desk, its newest on-demand service, to help meet the needs of these patrons. Patrons who visit the Main Branch during open hours can work with the staff located at the TechKnow Desk to complete critical tasks such as job searching, learning to use their own personal device, downloading and uploading documents in business and government portals, and more. No appointment is needed for patrons to receive assistance. To create this service, the library shifted a staff position from the Main Circulation desk to a desk located next to the public computers. This shift in staffing allows staff to spend more time working one-on-one with patrons at the public computers and to teach patrons critical digital literacy skills at the exact moment they need them. As a result, staff have seen a decreased need for additional staffing as a dedicated desk allows staff to focus on immediate technology assistance and frees other staff up for circulation tasks, research and reference assistance, and advanced reader's advisory service.

For more information about the TechKnow Desk and receiving technology assistance, please contact Belinda Birrer at the Poplar Bluff Library by calling 573-203-4676 or email assistantdirector@poplarbluff.org.

Springfield-Greene County Library District

Katie Hopkins Named Planning and Development Director



Katie Hopkins quickly stepped from her role as Adult Programming Coordinator in May to Planning and Development Director, succeeding Gay Wilson, who retired in November 2022. Katie will write public and private grants and help administrators and staff with planning. She will also work closely with Development Director, Emily Hertzog, to fundraise for the planned Midtown Carnegie Branch, Library Center and Republic Branch construction projects.

WOLF Schoolers Star with Author David Harrison

Over 100 people attended a David Harrison & Friends program at the Library Center on April 19. David brought children from the Springfield Public School/Bass Pro Shops WOLF program and David Harrison Elementary with him to the program where he highlighted his book, "After Dark."

The children shared facts and music to complement his poems on the sounds made by night animals. Fifth-grade students wowed the audience with facts and information about peepers, crickets, barred owls and bullfrogs, then led the audience in learning to make the sounds

themselves. Music teacher, Hailey Acklin, led Harrison Elementary students in a rousing rendition of David's song, 'A Chorus for Four Frogs,' and then led the audience in another round. In between, David read poetry from his books and talked about how nature inspires him.



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Friends Sale Breaks Record with \$205,639.70

The Friends of the Library and volunteers celebrated a record-breaking Spring Book Sale that ran April 25–May 1 at the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds E*Plex. The six-day event (including the four-hour Friends Night Preview Sale) hit individual records nearly every night, as well. The spring sale broke the record set in spring 2021, \$172,654. Friends Board members, Bill and Joyce Kastler, rejoiced, “Crossing the 200,000 mark was a threshold we certainly never envisioned crossing, but we did it!” Proceeds from the sales benefit the library district.

Black Entrepreneurship Panel: It Takes “Hard Work, Thick Skin”

Schweitzer Brentwood Branch Manager and Business Connect leader, Katy Pattison, partnered with SCORE Southwest Missouri on Tuesday, May 9, to host a lunch-and-learn event, “Black Entrepreneurship in Springfield.”

Four panelists spoke about their experiences and challenges in Springfield’s business atmosphere. Darline Mabins, Community Diversity and Equity director for Community Partnership of the Ozarks and executive director of the Multicultural Business Association, moderated the panel with Samuel Timmerman, owner and founder of The Melody Room; Dami Odunewu, founder of Purpose Connect; Samuel Knox, president and editor of Unite News; and consultant, speaker, and life coach Reggie Harris.



Only 4% of Springfield residents are Black, said panelist Samuel Knox, which presents both challenges and opportunities for Black business owners. Panelists encouraged hard work, thick skin, not relying on yourself to do and know everything, and connecting in the community. They talked about the challenges of funding a business, and realizing they had to invest financially in their own business in the beginning.

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Youth Services Stars in Summer Reading Program Video

Youth Services staff wrote a promotional [video](#) to promote the Summer Reading Program “All Together Now.” Midtown Carnegie Branch Youth Services Associate, Sarah Allen, stars as a TV newscaster calling on her reporters in the field to explain how it works. Midtown Youth Services Associates, Kittilu Dodds and Jessica Robbins, hit the highlights about game boards, activities and all the incentives in store for babies, tots, kids and teens. The Library contracted with Springfield video storyteller, Sony Hocklander, to produce the video.



(photo credit: Shannon Cay/Springfield Daily Citizen)

Podcast Airs Impact of Book Bans on Patrons, Library

Executive Director, Regina Greer Cooper, was the guest on a Springfield Daily Citizen podcast series, “In Our Town” discussing the issue of banning books, the new Missouri regulations and the potential impact on both library patrons and librarians. Springfield attorney and Springfield Daily Citizen publisher and founder Tom Carlson hosted the interview.

Ozark Mountain Daredevils Members Tell Their Story

The Library Center hosted Daredevil members, John Dillon and Supe Granda, and their manager, Dwight Glenn, on Friday, April 21, adding star power to a talk and book signing by St. Louis-based author, Michael Kuelker, author of “The Ozark Mountain Daredevils on Record: A Narrative Discography.” The Daredevils were in Springfield for the Earth Day Music Festival. Kuelker gave a short presentation of the band’s history and analyzed some of their song lyrics. Then he interviewed Dillon, Granda and Glenn



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Photo by Ben Divin

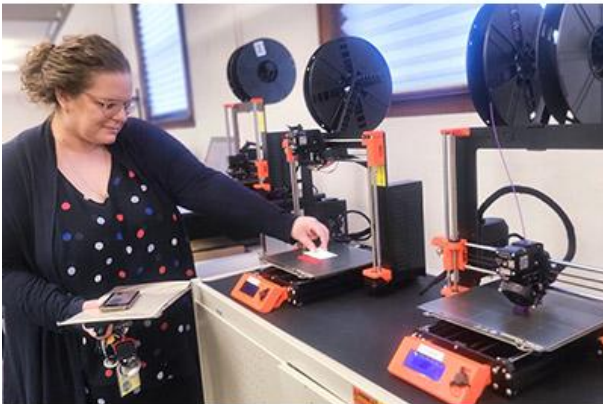
Ozarks Life Stories Tap Local Talent, Treasures

The Local History & Genealogy staffers showed their keen understanding of our patrons' love of Ozarks and Springfield stories with a five-part series at the Library Center, "Ozarks Life Stories." It began with author Sarah Jane Nelson's April 20 program about Max Hunter's Ozarks folk song collection, then featured the story of Masters Tournament champion and PGA President Horton Smith's life and career. PGA Golf Instructor, Rick Grayson, author of "A Masters Legacy: Horton Smith," shared how Smith took a caddying job at the Springfield Country Club at the age of 12 and by 20 was one of the most accomplished golfers in Springfield. May 16 featured Springfield musician, Ernie Bedell, who told the history of the five generations of the musical, touring Bedell family in Springfield. Ernie was a member of the Fabulous Elites, which has been called one of Missouri's premiere soul and funk bands. Ernie and his brothers later formed the KC Express and recorded at American Artists Studio. He eventually returned to Springfield, where during the day he is a teacher at Mark Twain Elementary School, but at night he plays at multiple venues throughout the week.

Photojournalist Bob Linder presented, "Life Through a Lens" on May 18, a visual journey through some of his favorite photos and stories from his 40-plus years in newspaper and magazine photography. Flashing memorable photos on the screen, he described photo encounters in later years with the likes of a young Kathleen Turner, George Foreman, Dick Gregory and Mikhail Gorbachev visiting Westminster College. Linder's program coincided with the launch of the Bob Linder Collection in Local History's newest digital collection. The Library has partnered with Bob to preserve his historic photograph collection, over 300 of which are available now on the [Local History site](#). Local History staff continues to add content to the online collection. The series concluded with video journalist Ed Fillmer's favorite video stories of Ozarks people he recorded during his TV and freelance work over 40 years.



Maker Space Gains Momentum with Entrepreneurs



The Maker Space in the Midtown Carnegie Branch is becoming the go-to resource for a growing number of do-it-yourselfer entrepreneurs and business owners. That's bound to grow with the addition of more equipment this spring.

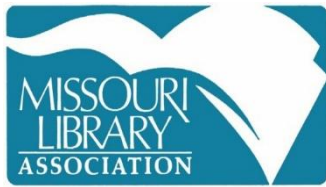
The how-to programs continue to bring in teens and adults, some who return later to put what they learn to work. Krystal Smith, who oversees the project as Midtown Carnegie Branch Reference Manager, shared about several recent success stories.

Members of the Springfield Botanical Gardens attended a class on using the Glowforge laser engraver to make plant stakes. They were

joined by a small business owner who makes sticker journals, who wanted to see if the Glowforge was a good option to expand their business. Then came a 12-year-old entrepreneur who has a successful leather wallet business. He wanted to learn to use the Glowforge to create custom shapes and engravings for his wallets.

"This program really served to show how the Maker Space can be used to enhance local businesses and nonprofits in our community," Krystal said. Krystal was recently selected as a Library Makers Ambassador through Makers in the Library, an IMLS project administered through the California State Library. This is the one-stop shop for Library Maker Spaces. It hosts trainings and webinars, writes articles and reports and facilitates communication between library maker spaces across the country.





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