

# MO INFO

Newsletter of the Missouri Library Association

September 2023

Volume 54, Number 5

## President's Column

Greetings, MLA Members!

I am humbled by the amount of work MLA volunteers are doing every day, all year long, to advocate for libraries and to enrich the lives of library workers, supporters and patrons. Here is a very quick overview representing just some of what happens each year in your library association.

The Legislative Committee works closely year-round with our Advocate, Randy Scherr, to educate our members about upcoming legislation that will affect Missouri libraries. The Intellectual Freedom Committee diligently provides training for libraries and community groups who want to learn more about library values, and writes letters of support for school districts and libraries that reach out. The Bylaws and Handbook Committee works to update our guiding documents so that our organization can operate more smoothly. (Please watch your inbox in September and cast a vote regarding a Bylaws change that would allow us to switch MLA to a rolling membership year, as opposed to having all memberships expire on January 1st.)



The Access and Innovation Fund Committee is considering applications for the January 2024 grant cycle, with recipients to be announced at the MLA conference Awards Ceremony on October 5. The Awards Committee has reviewed nominations and recommended winners in a multitude of areas, and those names will also be announced at the Annual Conference.

And the conference! Wow. Each year I have a little more appreciation and awe for the amount of dedication and vision that a great conference requires. This year will feature all of the events and top-notch sessions that we've come to expect, in addition to some completely new opportunities (Our state's first bookmobile open house! A pub crawl! A librarian band! Hobbit yoga!). Read more about it in this issue and register if you haven't already.

We also have volunteers keeping our website and jobline ads up to date, writing engaging social media posts, and keeping us all connected through this newsletter. The Continuing Education Committee provided its first webinar this spring. I haven't even touched on the valuable contributions that our Committees of Interest make at conference and beyond! And your MLA Board is so committed that literally every Member at Large set to roll off of the board at the end of this year has signed up to run again to serve another term.

We are all volunteers in MLA, and we are doing amazing things. Please join me at our annual conference and celebrate this community that we've built. Stop by the Meet and Greet at the conference if you'd like to learn more about any of our committees or CIs, and say hello to our current MLA leaders. I can't wait to see you there!

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

Otter Bowman  
MLA President 2023  
[mlapresident@molib.org](mailto: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](mailto:bcompton@stchlibrary.org).

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

## Who could you inspire? Share a report!

Sharing news about your staff. Describing a successful outreach program. Promoting a handy resource.

When your organization’s report is included in MO INFO, you assist other MLA members in knowing more, discovering new ideas, and finding training opportunities. Submit your report to [moinfo@molib.org](mailto:moinfo@molib.org) in Word format by Friday, October 13, and please, include photos and graphics!



## Calendar of Events

Training is available each month, as close as your keyboard. Find start times (CDT) here, links to descriptions, and any registration fees. 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
September 18	1 pm	<a href="#">Career Challenges &amp; Experiences for Mid-Career/New Archivists and Librarians of Color</a>	ASERL
	1:30 pm	<a href="#">Tech Tools and Apps for the Reference Desk</a>	Amigos Library Services
September 19	1 pm	<a href="#">Education for Everyone: How Libraries Open Doors with Adult Learning</a>	Gale
	1 pm	<a href="#">Middle Grade, Latest and Greatest</a>	Booklist
	1 pm	<a href="#">Key Ways Digital Books Create Better Reading Accessibility</a>	OverDrive Education
	1 pm	<a href="#">Super Searchers for Library Workers: Evaluating Online Material</a>	PLA
	2 pm	<a href="#">RDA for Audio Recordings</a>	Amigos Library Services
September 20	1 pm	<a href="#">A Higher Purpose: Censorship and Intellectual Freedom Today</a>	Georgia Library Association
	1 pm	<a href="#">Professional Development—"What now?"</a>	Arkansas State Library
	1 pm	<a href="#">Lee &amp; Low Books Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 Seasonal Showcase</a>	Booklist
	1 pm	<a href="#">Transforming Libraries Through Trauma-Informed Services</a>	Niche Academy
September 21	1 pm	<a href="#">Explore Foreign-Born and Ancestry Population Data</a>	US Census Bureau
September 25	1:30 pm	<a href="#">Plain Language Communication in Libraries</a>	Amigos Library Services
September 26	10 am	<a href="#">The Weird and Wonderful World of Circulating Unusual Library Materials</a>	MALA
	1 pm	<a href="#">Eat. Read. Love.</a>	Booklist
September 27	1 pm	<a href="#">Building a Teen Book Club</a>	Booklist
	2 pm	<a href="#">From Contraception to Menopause: Identifying and Addressing Reproductive Health Misinformation</a>	National Library of Medicine
	2 pm	<a href="#">Library Management: Motivating &amp; Retaining Employees</a>	Amigos Library Services
September 28	8 am	<a href="#">DOAJ at 20:Global</a>	Directory of Open Access Journals
	1 pm	<a href="#">Chapter Books &amp; Early Readers</a>	Booklist
	1 pm	<a href="#">How to Apply for NNLM Funding</a>	National Library of Medicine
October 2	1:30 pm	<a href="#">Trend Scanning for Libraries</a>	Amigos Library Services
October 4	1 pm	<a href="#">Digital Inclusion 102: How to Build Partnerships and Coalitions</a>	Metro NY Library Council
	1 pm	<a href="#">From Text to Image: Unleashing Creativity with Midjourney's Generative AI</a>	Arkansas State Library
October 4-6		<a href="#">2023 Missouri Library Association Annual Conference</a>	MLA
October 10	2 pm	<a href="#">Amigos Community Conversations: Libraries and the Letter of the Law</a>	Amigos Library Services
October 11	10 am	<a href="#">Building Connectivity Between Diverse and Diffused Resources</a>	Amigos Library Services
	2 pm	<a href="#">Revitalizing Morale: Cultivating a Supportive Library Culture</a>	WebJunction
October 16	1:30 pm	<a href="#">Tools for Job Seekers in Libraries</a>	Amigos Library Services
October 16-20	10:30 am	<a href="#">Design Thinking in Libraries</a>	Amigos Library Services
October 17	1:30 pm	<a href="#">Parliamentary Procedure 101</a>	Amigos Library Services
October 18	2 pm	<a href="#">Reframing Failure: How to Keep Calm and Carry On</a>	MALA
October 23	1:30 pm	<a href="#">Customer Service Basics</a>	Amigos Library Services
October 24	2 pm	<a href="#">Building Community Relationships for Better Library Services</a>	WebJunction
October 25	1:30 pm	<a href="#">Using Tiktok to Reach Teens</a>	YALSA
October 26	1 pm	<a href="#">Getting Started with Grant Writing</a>	Amigos Library Services
October 30	1:30 pm	<a href="#">Cemetery Searching for Genealogical and Local History Research</a>	Amigos Library Services
November 3	1 pm	<a href="#">Beyond Super Searchers: Public Libraries in the Age of Misinformation</a>	PLA
November 6	1:30 pm	<a href="#">Creating a Mentorship Program at Your Library</a>	Amigos Library Services
November 8	10 am	<a href="#">Strategic Planning</a>	Amigos Library Services
November 8-9	10 am	<a href="#">Event Planning 101</a>	Amigos Library Services
November 13	1:30 pm	<a href="#">Financial Literacy in Library Programs and Services</a>	Amigos Library Services
November 15-16	1 pm	<a href="#">Preparing for the Unexpected: Dealing with Difficult Patrons</a>	Amigos Library Services

## Meet this issue's Featured Library Employee for the Missouri Library Association, Sheryl Bucklew!



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

My name is Sheryl C Bucklew, Daniel Boone Regional Library and I am the Assistant Circulation Manager

### What originally got you interested in working at a library?

I had been working at Dillard's Department Store as an Area Manager for 8+ years. Kevin, my husband, and I were just merging our two households, when his grandmother passed away. We now had a third household that we needed to put somewhere. I put in my notice to close her estate. It took me approximately two months to conduct sales and condense her estate down to a manageable level. I was starting to look for a new position when Kevin came home and said he saw the library had posted some positions, and he had stopped by to get an application. I have always loved the library and was an avid reader. I applied and got the floater position for Public Service. Then a position came available for the Circulation Shelving Supervisor. I really thought it would be gobbled up internally, and didn't apply. After the first of the year, the position was re-posted, in the paper! I have been working for the library full time ever since. My title has morphed over the years with a sprinkling of new responsibilities along the way. This position merges my two passions. I am a people person and really enjoy helping others by sharing access with others through our library resources. Libraries give me joy, I find so many titles I want to read...it's endless!

### What keeps you coming back every day?

Every day is a new day. I walk into this beautiful building and we start fresh, with picklist and book drops, coffee brewing at the coffee kiosk and chatter amongst the employees. We all have our tasks we are accomplishing each day, but the core of our work is the people and engaging with staff and the patrons we serve. Over the years I have met some incredible folks, developed lifelong friendships, and experienced loss of staff and patrons. That's what keeps me going: knowing that when I walk up to the desk and smile and welcome the next patron I am making a connection that counts.

### What's challenging about your work?

In the library world we have faced lots of challenges, the most recent being COVID and the social/political climate that may leave us feeling unsure. What I have witnessed in our library community is that staff are resilient and are able to pivot and meet the needs of our community. Is it tough work? Sure! It's remembering to have gratitude and meeting folks where they are at.

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

Sustainability is at the forefront of libraries. Becoming more educated in how we can make a difference for the long term has been fascinating. I am on the Sustainability Committee at DBRL. There is a lot of knowledge on that committee. Just getting the awareness out there and working on your personal footprint are small steps to a big impact.

### Who is one of your mentors?

I have a couple of mentors that have really left an imprint on me over the years. My first was Hal, who hired me for the Bakery/Deli area in the Nowell's Grocery Store. I was so green, I had barely worked. He only showed you something once, so you had to pay attention and be really aware of what was going on. He taught me that lists were my "friends" and white cheese on a lettuce salad was a "no"—too anemic!

He had a temper, chairs would go flying in the air, pots and pans would clatter, serving utensils would sing as they danced across the table and then you would find burnt lasagna in the dishwasher. He would march out of the kitchen and be back 10 minutes later with a fresh shirt, hair slicked back and saying "this is how we are going to do this kid".

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One Sunday, I was working at the bakery by myself, and noticed a catering ticket for the deli wasn't complete. I took the initiative and whipped out the meat and cheese trays. No sooner had I gotten them done...here came Hal raving into the kitchen, pans zinging and cooler doors are opening and closing. I just kept on cleaning. Sure enough, Hal came out and said, "you did the catering ticket for today?" "Yes, I did." You could see his shoulders slump as he shared how grateful he was.

It was the best summer of my life between high school and college. I was working hard, learning a lot and having a blast with my co-workers. College started and I still wanted to keep that summer momentum going. After about a month in, I realized it wasn't working. Hal pulled me into the office for a talk. I got good grades in high school and that currently wasn't happening in college. He said he was going to reduce my hours to 10 hours weekly. I was to focus on my grades. He reminded me that I was only given this one shot at college and I needed to do it well.

That Thanksgiving, my coworker Trish and I were dishing out the catering at Nowell's. There was a lot to remember and we were keeping each other accountable. The snow was coming down hard and we were going to have to dig our cars out later. The last turkey dinner made its way out of the building and we were done for the day. I headed home to have Thanksgiving with my family. We lived in the middle of nowhere and it was literally an "over the river through the woods" trip to get there. Once home, our doorbell rang, and there was Hal, delivering flowers for a job well done that day. His car trudged through the snow banks to get there. It really meant a lot. He even thanked my parents for letting me work the holiday. Hal's military-like management style would not work in today's world. But the feeling you get when you are being positively recognized for the work you do is always appreciated. And don't forget! Always put cheddar cheese on your lettuce salads.

Twelve years later, I met my second mentor, Linda. She really believed in me. She was strong and smart. You knew what was expected. I had been a Pacesetter on Dillard's selling floor and was currently the ASM of the Children's and Home Store. We had lots of responsibility, with new merchandise to put out, markdowns and selling in between.

It was December 26th, and I found myself staring at the management holiday schedule when I realize I was late for work. I was running on little sleep, and I had totally read the schedule wrong. I arrived at work and apologized for my mistake. Linda put her hands on both of my shoulders and said, "Yes, you messed up, but you are here now. We are not going to fall apart. We are just going to move forward." I had a smile on my face as I walked out onto the floor that day. Everyone had jumped in to prepare the Homestore for the Christmas sale. I had SO much gratitude, a job I loved, good folks to work with and management that believed in me. You will often hear me say, "It's okay. We are not going to fall apart or burn down. We will just start again tomorrow."

**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.**

Here are some movies I have enjoyed recently:

- Would you continue to live your life the same way if you knew how it was going to turn out? ARRIVAL- a 2016 Sci Fi gem streaming on Netflix, where aliens land across the world and everyone needs to work together to understand what they want.
- Wouldn't it be nice if your life was picture perfect...Incredible job, beautiful home and a wife that cooks? Streaming on Netflix, DON'T WORRY DARLING-2022, you will be so mesmerized by the amenities and routine schedules that you may not see the horror that lies beneath it all.
- "In love we find out who we want to be. In war we find out who we are" Kristin Hannah submerges you into France 1939, where you meet two sisters Vianne and Isabelle, who share different ideals, passions and experiences as they embark on a dangerous path of survival, love and freedom in a German occupied France.- THE NIGHTINGALE

Also, if you enjoy true crime, you are going to want to check out this podcast-LISK- Long Island Serial Killer Podcast, based on the bestselling book "Lost Girls" by Robert Kolker. With 50 episodes you will unravel the murders from a decade ago and why the case is still unsolved.

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

I will be celebrating 20 years with Daniel Boone Regional Library later this month. I am a mom of two grown young men, Anthony and Zachary. My husband, Kevin, and I have been married for over 20 years. I love to kayak, hike and bake. I have been landlocked all my life but I am a coastal girl at heart and travel to the beach often.



## Bohley Trivia Night at the MLA Conference

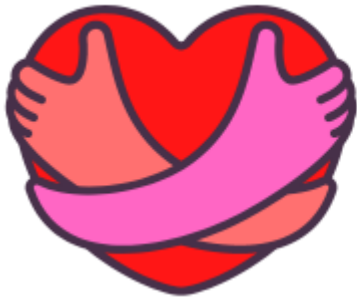
The Bohley Scholarship Trivia Night returns once again at this year's MLA Conference! Start sharpening your pencils, recruiting your teammates (up to 8 per team), and obsessively reading Wikipedia for your shot at trivia glory!

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](mailto:ecordray@dbrl.org)

For information about the Bohley Scholarship, see: [molib.org/Ronald-G-Bohley-Scholarship](http://molib.org/Ronald-G-Bohley-Scholarship)



## CELEBRATING A CULTURE OF CARE

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

## Building Block Picture Book Award

The Missouri Building Block Award Committee is now seeking nominations for the 2024 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
- 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 2021-November 2023**)
- 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**, and our convenient [Google Form](#) makes it easier than ever! 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](#). The deadline for submissions is **Friday, December 1, 2023**.

Please share this email with anyone you feel may have a book to submit. We would love to hear from everyone.



## **MOBIUS Awarded the MOBIUS Digitization Project Year 3 Grant: Migration from Vital to Hyku.**

The MOBIUS Member libraries currently using Vital, their Digital Asset Management solution from Innovative Interfaces, will be migrating to Hyku. Hyku is an open-source, multi-tenant, consortial institutional repository. Hyku delivers ultra low-cost hosting, discovery, and access to digital materials to libraries.

Libraries participating include: Columbia College, Covenant Theological Seminary, Crowder College, East Central College, Kenrick Glennon Seminary, Midwestern Baptist Seminary, Missouri Baptist University, Missouri Southern State University, Missouri Valley College, Northwest Missouri State University, Southwest Baptist University, St. Louis Community College, Truman State University, Webster University, William Jewell College.



The MOBIUS Digitization Project Year 3 Grant: Migration from Vital to Hyku 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.

## **MOSS (MOBIUS Open Source Solutions) News**

MOBIUS staff began working with the North Carolina Community College Evergreen group on their Evergreen migration. An initial 26 libraries in the group will be moving from their current ILS to Evergreen, with their system hosted and managed by MOBIUS. They are projected to go-live in December 2024. MOBIUS also began work on the migration of newest member of the NC Cardinal consortium, Warren County (NC).

MOBIUS's MOSS staff also participated in the Evergreen community's latest Bug Squashing Week, August 21-25. Bug Squashing Week is for community contributors and volunteers to commit time throughout the week to fixing software bugs, testing bug fixes, pushing bug fixes into Evergreen, and more.

## **MOBIUS Completes Annual SOC2, Type 2 Evaluation**

MOBIUS has received another report of SOC2 (Service Organization Control) compliance, after completing a process of reporting and auditing with a representative of the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA). The auditor evaluates an organization based on five trust principles: security, availability, processing integrity, confidentiality, and privacy. SOC2 compliance indicates that an organization has appropriate processes and policies in place to securely manage and protect its customers' data, privacy, and the privacy of the patrons of those customers. It is a common requirement for software as a service (SaaS) providers, and MOBIUS is pleased to have achieved this recognition again for its level of quality and trustworthiness.



## **DOAJ at 20: Global Webinar September 28 - Registrations Open**

Registrations are open for the second DOAJ at 20 webinar on September 28 at 8 a.m. CDT. This webinar will have a Global theme with eight enlightening talks from inspiring speakers and experts worldwide about the challenges, opportunities, and successes that open access brings. [Find out more about the speakers and register for the event here.](#) The webinar is free, open to all, and will be recorded. If you missed the first webinar, DOAJ at 20: Open, you can [watch the recording on YouTube.](#)

## **Amigos Welcomes Two New Employees: Welcome Alex and Jacob!**

Alex Womack is Amigos Client Coordinator, Association Management Services (AMS). He will be providing direct support for several association management clients by processing registrations, conducting financial processes, updating websites, and assisting members of AMS clients. An MLIS professional coming to Amigos from the St. Louis Public Library, Alex brings high level customer service skills and an interest in technology to this position. Alex looks forward to getting to know the unique aspects of each client and the software and systems used to support those clients.

Jacob San Antonio is Amigos Customer Support Specialist, Member Discount Services and Trans-Amigos Express. A University of North Texas graduate, Jacob offers skills and experience from customer service, journalism, finance, and insurance. Jacob's favorite learning experience in his first months at Amigos has been visiting the courier warehouse sites, and gaining a better understanding of how the courier system works. He is excited to get to know and work with more Amigos member and courier libraries.

## **Amigos Member Benefits News**

### **Easy Opt-in for Access to NISO Webinars**

The recent agreement between NISO and Amigos now extends NISO Library Standards Alliance (LSA) membership to all Amigos members. The agreement provides over 500 Amigos member libraries with full LSA membership benefits, including free access to NISO's educational webinar program. NISO has now [made it easier](#) for Amigos members to receive notice of these webinars.

Register [to be the designated webinar contact for your institution and automatically receive Zoom sign-on information directly](#) from NISO for all webinars. Then share this information with your staff and colleagues.

## **Member Discount News**

### **Morningstar Platform Enhancements Coming This Fall. Register for Free Training Sessions Today!**

Morningstar Investment Research Center has begun the rollout of the new and improved platform that started this month. A one-stop tool for collecting financial information, getting reliable portfolio analysis, learning about investment options, and reading current financial news commentary, this Amigos vendor partner is a financial resource that can be beneficial to every type of library.

Library staff and patrons can get an overview of the new database by joining one of the [September training sessions.](#)

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## SpringShare October Webinar Registration Open for Amigos Members

Amigos members can [register](#) today to join Springshare on Wednesday, October 18, to learn about their flexible calendaring solution, LibCal, and its add-on module, LibCal Mapping.

[LibCal](#) makes common library activities such as managing events, reserving spaces, and booking appointments easy for patrons and staff alike. The [add-on Mapping module](#) provides users a visual map of their upcoming spaces/seats bookings, events, and research appointments, utilizing real-time availability and built-in accessibility.

## CloudSource OA Deep Dive Demo Webinar Recordings Available

Recordings of two recent CloudSource webinar sessions held for Amigos members are [available online](#). Both sessions covered an overview of open access content and CloudSource OA as a resource. The sessions also included a review of the free Collection Analysis available for members. If you have any questions or would like a quote, please contact Bea Ramirez at [ramirez@amigos.org](mailto:ramirez@amigos.org).

## Continuing Education News

### Recordings available for "Libraries Address Inequities"

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

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

*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.

Learn more and register for recordings at the conference website: [amigos.org/AddressInequities](https://amigos.org/AddressInequities)

### November Conference's Call for Proposals Closing Soon

[Delve into](#) the myriad ways AI, VR, and other emerging realities intersect with library services and learn how libraries leverage these developments to redefine their work at the November 30 online conference, "Reimagining Libraries: Exploring the AI & VR Revolution in Library Services." Conference proposals are being accepted through September 20, 2023 and registration for this event is also open.

**Attend:** Register today: [amigos.org/civicism/event/info?reset=1&id=1968](https://amigos.org/civicism/event/info?reset=1&id=1968)

**Present:** Amigos offers staff at member libraries opportunities to develop and hone online presentation skills. Submit a proposal and if the proposal is selected, Amigos staff will work with you to produce a professional-level session! If you are interested in sharing your knowledge and experiences, submit your proposal by September 20: [forms.office.com/r/u9ea0ViSPT](https://forms.office.com/r/u9ea0ViSPT).

### 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](mailto:learning@amigos.org) for more information.

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## 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:

- [Libraries Address Inequities: Registration](#)
- [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](#)

*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.

## 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:

- [Tech Tools and Apps for the Reference Desk](#) September 18, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
- [Plain Language Communication in Libraries](#) September 25, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
- [Trend Scanning for Libraries](#) October 2, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
- [ORCID: Helping Your Researchers Connect to Their Work](#) October 9, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
- [Amigos Community Conversations: Libraries and the Letter of the Law](#) October 10, 2-4 p.m.
- [Building Connectivity Between Diverse and Diffused Resources](#) October 11, 10-11:30 a.m.
- [Tools for Job Seekers in Libraries](#) October 16, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
- [Customer Service Basics](#) October 23, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
- [Cemetery Searching for Genealogical and Local History Research](#) October 30, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
- [Creating a Mentorship Program at Your Library](#) November 6, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
- [Strategic Planning](#) November 8, 10-11:30 a.m.
- [Financial Literacy in Library Programs and Services](#) November 13, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
- [Conducting Effective Meetings](#) November 20, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

### Discounted for Members

Visit the [Continuing Education Schedule](#) for the latest additions and updates!

- [RDA for Audio Recordings](#) September 19 - 21, 2-4 p.m.
- [Introduction to Project Management](#) September 26 - 27, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- [Library Management: Motivating & Retaining Employees](#) September 27, 2-4 p.m.
- [Design Thinking in Libraries](#) October 16-20, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- [Parliamentary Procedure 101](#) October 17, 1:30-3 p.m.
- [Library Management: Managing from the Middle](#) October 25, 2-4 p.m.
- [Getting Started with Grant Writing](#) October 26, 1-3 p.m.
- [Event Planning 101](#) November 8-9, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- [Curriculum Mapping for Academic Librarians](#) November 14-16, 2-4 p.m.

[Preparing for the Unexpected: Dealing with Difficult Patrons](#) November 15-16, 1-3 p.m.

## University of Missouri Libraries



### Welcome to Jill Kline

The MU Libraries are pleased to announce that Jill Kline has been hired as a student success librarian. Jill has a Master of Library and Information Science from MU and a Bachelor of Secondary Education from Union College. Jill has been working in libraries since 2013 starting as a student worker. After graduating from Union College, she worked as an English, art and yearbook teacher in Centralia, MO, then worked as a public services and outreach librarian at Union College for two years. She has also worked as part of a TRiO Student Support Services program at Doane University.

### Welcome to Janet Hilts

The MU Libraries are pleased to announce that Janet Hilts has been hired as arts and humanities librarian. Janet has a Master of Library and Information Studies from the University of British Columbia and a Master of Arts in ethnomusicology and musicology from York University. She previously worked as a research assistant with the project “Sounds of Home: Exploring Local Music Collections and Collecting in Canada,” and as a librarian for the Learning and Instruction Division at Simon Fraser University Library.



### Welcome to Megan Ballengee

The MU Libraries are pleased to announce that Megan Ballengee has been hired as the community engagement coordinator. Megan has a Master of Library and Information Science from the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee and Bachelor of Arts in art history and Bachelor of Fine Arts in printmaking from St. Cloud State University. She previously worked as an instructional services librarian at Heartland Community College and an undergraduate instruction & outreach librarian at Texas State University.

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## University of Missouri – Columbia

### My Journey to Harvard Through Librarianship by Te’Lor S. Hawkins

The Harvard University report, Harvard and the “Legacy of Slavery” was released on April 26, 2022. This report goes into great depth about the many ways Harvard University profited from and participated in slavery, as well as its long history of racism and exclusion of Black people even after slavery was abolished.

The Associate University Librarian for Antiracism position was created by Harvard Library before the report was published. This job is a new and significant one for their library. A Midwest native and Lincoln University alum named Dr. Jerome Offord was chosen for the position due to his extensive background in leadership, librarianship, and diversity initiatives.

With his lifelong passion and dedication towards diversity and inclusion, it was easy for Offord to assist in the library’s effort to utilize their EDIBA (Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Belonging, and Antiracism) department to dismantle ideologies that support a non-inclusive library culture. Dr. Offord set out to identify four current graduate students majoring in Library and Information



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Science who had a background in and a love for diversity, inclusion, and librarianship. The most qualified candidates would be given an on-site internship to help them in their attempts to respect the uniqueness of Harvard's diverse student body by jumpstarting the framework for the construction of a reading room.

For the summer of 2022, I am grateful to have been selected as one of the inaugural EDIBA interns at Harvard Library. Only two days before the application deadline, Dr. Offord spoke as a special guest in my online Cultural Heritage course at the University of Missouri - Columbia (Mizzou), and I was informed of the opportunity. I realized the internship sounded ideal for me when Offord described to the class what it required, his plans for the reading room, and his anticipated results for the overall program.

Before enrolling in my MLIS program, I volunteered for a non-profit in Kansas City, Missouri, where I was born and raised. The goal of Youth for Change was to close the diversity gap in Kansas City by fostering more diverse environments and engaging in thoughtful discussions about racial disparities and the role of race in society. One of our main objectives was to work with groups outside of urban neighborhoods to inform them about diversity and what they might do to help these underserved areas and schools. Before submitting my application for the internship, I was aware that the abilities I had developed through my work for the non-profit in Kansas City might be useful for Dr. Offord's efforts to establish the reading room in Harvard's Widener Library.

My cohort was informed of our mission as soon as we arrived in Cambridge, Massachusetts in June. It was to transform Harvard's Widener Library's former West Stacks reading room into a space that promoted intersectionality and diversity by suggesting books, materials, artwork, and archives that did just that. We were required to present our findings and recommendations to the entire Harvard Library staff toward the end of the internship, as well as start a LibGuide for the space and to draft a report detailing our research findings. In addition to doing in-depth research and interviewing librarians from the numerous libraries Harvard housed, we developed and coordinated on-campus surveys. These efforts helped us to finish writing our report, compiling our list of suggestions, and completing our presentation to the Harvard Library staff, consisting of over 400 people.

Overall, I learned a lot of relevant information that I believe would be helpful in my future career as a librarian. I wasn't sure which area of librarianship I wanted to pursue because I have a background in mass communication. I was very hesitant to switch occupations because I thought my abilities wouldn't be applicable in a library atmosphere.

However, as I learned from my internship and by getting to know several seasoned librarians, the road to librarianship does not necessarily have to be a straight one. Each person may make multiple turns off the beaten route on the way to their vocation. Nevertheless, that is what makes the person so well-suited for the job because every librarian has a unique set of skills acquired outside of the profession of librarianship that help them become the best librarians they can be.

Thanks to this internship at Harvard and my gained mentorship, I have now solidified my keen interest in both academic and special libraries, and I am eager to apply the new skills that I learned to my future profession.



### Remembering Sandy Schiefer

Sandy Schiefer, a journalism librarian at the University of Missouri, died on July 11, 2023.

Sandy served as a librarian at MU since 2009. She was a strong contributor to government information as well as to the Journalism Library, including her work on a born-digital news preservation project.

Sandy was an active member of the Association of College and Research Libraries, serving on several committees, and was active in the Missouri chapter of ACRL.

## University of Missouri – St. Louis

### New Librarian at Thomas Jefferson Library

UMSL's Thomas Jefferson Library is excited to welcome our new Access Services Librarian.

**Andrew Stout** started on July 3, 2023. He will coordinate Interlibrary Loan and perform other circulation and reference functions, including serving as the subject specialist for the Sciences. A lifelong St. Louis-area resident, Andrew obtained a B.A. in Philosophy from Lindenwood University, followed by a Master's degree in Theological Studies from Covenant Theological Seminary. He attended the University of Missouri for his Library Science degree, which he earned in 2017. Before joining the team at UMSL, he worked at Covenant Seminary as Access Services Librarian and, most recently, as Associate Librarian for Public Services. Andrew looks forward to working with UMSL's diverse student population and helping them find material that will support their research. In his free time, he enjoys reading, running, and cheering on the St. Louis Cardinals.



### Celebrating One Million Downloads: UMSL's Institutional Repository Library

We are thrilled to announce a remarkable milestone achieved by the Institutional Repository Library (IRL). In March of 2023, the IRL reached an impressive one million downloads!

The IRL is a collection that combines UMSL's research and historical documents under one digital umbrella. Its primary goal is to preserve and provide access to these materials, ensuring their long-term availability to researchers, students, and the world. The IRL stands as a testament to UMSL's commitment to fostering knowledge dissemination and supporting open-access initiatives. This significant milestone reflects the invaluable contributions made by UMSL's faculty, students, and researchers, as well as the enduring support of the University of Missouri–St. Louis libraries.

Of the now over one million downloads, an impressive 645,768 are graduate works. These works consist of theses and dissertations that represent the culmination of intensive research and academic pursuits. Other highlights in the collection include our UMSL Open Educational Resources (OER), which have collectively garnered over 179,000 downloads. In addition to exploring our faculty's open access scholarship, you can browse thousands of photos from [UMSL's 60-year history](#).

We invite you join us in celebrating our momentous achievement by exploring the vast collection of research and historical documents on the [IRL website](#).

Stay tuned for more exciting updates and developments from the Institutional Repository Library as we strive to further expand and enhance our collection for the benefit of the UMSL community and beyond. Together, let us continue to embrace the power of open access and knowledge sharing.

If you have any questions about the IRL or UMSL's promotion and use of OER, contact Lena Marvin, UMSL's Institutional Repository and OER Librarian, at [marvinh@umsl.edu](mailto:marvinh@umsl.edu).

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## Joplin Public Library

### Summer Reading Wraps Up; Back to School Takes Center Stage

Like so many other libraries, Joplin Public Library wrapped up the Summer Reading Program at the end of July. We were thrilled with this year's numbers and proud of our community for continuing to place an importance on reading for all ages! Notably, rewards collected and programming attendance saw increases from last year. Plus, the number of new cards issued soared to new heights, thanks to being able to offer free library cards to all Summer Reading participants, regardless of service address.

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**JOPLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**BACK TO SCHOOL**

- Free meeting spaces & study rooms
- Affordable printing & copying
- Public use computers
- Free Wifi 24/7
- Databases for research, language learning & more
- Streaming lessons for K-12 & adults

Once Summer Reading wrapped up, staff transitioned their efforts to sharing about the library's Back to School offerings. One strategy used was to contract with a local newspaper, *The Joplin Globe*, to have a "Sticky Note" placed on the cover of all the papers that were delivered on Saturday, Aug. 26.

To make resources easy to access, the "Sticky Note" included a QR code that led to a page on the library's website. Once they landed on the website page, users could see a listing of school-related offerings with descriptions and links for each. Specific areas highlighted included the library's education-focused databases, such as Mango, Creativbug, and Kanopy, and information about our free study rooms, public access computers, and our low cost printing and copying options.

Newspapers were distributed to 6,000 households, reaching approximately 12,000 readers. This promotion helped remind library users of the resources available and provided an avenue of learning support for community members.

## Poplar Bluff Library

### Poplar Bluff Library Announces Launch of New Online Archive of Local Newspaper

"Extra! Extra! Read all about it!" The Poplar Bluff Library is pleased to announce the launch of its new online archive of *The Daily American Republic* newspaper. With issues dating from 1878 to 2011, patrons can now search through nearly one and a half centuries of Poplar Bluff history by name, date, location, or keyword. This archive is accessible 24/7 from the library's website and free with a Poplar Bluff Library card.

Newspapers are often the most extensive documentation of a community's history and the families, institutions, and industries that helped shape that community. In an effort to preserve the local history here in Poplar Bluff, the library has made it a priority to increase access to this rich information and preserve it for future generations by converting its physical newspaper archive collection to a digital format.

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“The new online archive vastly improves upon and greatly expands the accessibility and usability of the library’s newspaper archive collection,” Library Director Shannon Midyett explains. “Previously only available on microfilm, patrons were required to visit the library to conduct research and often tasked with performing a tedious search of this archive since an index to this collection did not exist prior to digitization.”

Library patrons now have easy access to one-of-a-kind, priceless content useful in completing historical research, family history research, crime investigations, journalism, and more. This project was made possible through a partnership with Rust Communications, the State Historical Society of Missouri, and [Newspapers.com](http://Newspapers.com).

Start searching today: [poplarbluff.org/newspapers](http://poplarbluff.org/newspapers)

For more information about the online newspaper archive and other local history resources, contact Shannon Midyett, Library Director, Poplar Bluff Library at 573-686-8639 or email her at [director@poplarbluff.org](mailto:director@poplarbluff.org).

Poplar Bluff Library cards are free for all those who reside in the following Missouri counties: Butler, Carter, Dunklin, Ripley, Stoddard, and Wayne. The Main Branch is located at 318 North Main and the Ridgel Branch is located at 3398 Kanell Boulevard. The library is set to expand hours beginning Sept. 5. Visit the library's website at [poplarbluff.org](http://poplarbluff.org) or call 573-686-8639 for more details.

## St. Charles City-County Library

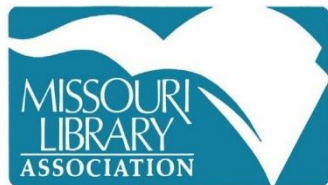
### St. Charles City-County Library Among 215 Libraries Nationwide to Conduct Digital Literacy Trainings



St. Charles City-County Library is among 215 public libraries nationwide awarded funding by the Public Library Association (PLA) this year to conduct digital literacy workshops using new DigitalLearn.org resources. [The PLA Digital Literacy Workshop Incentive](#), supported by AT&T, provides support to libraries of all sizes to conduct workshops using DigitalLearn training materials on up to 8 topics designed to help patrons build skills and confidence using technology.

St. Charles City-County Library’s efforts will focus on targeted outreach and training at senior living communities, support programs, and other organizations throughout St. Charles County. The training and resources that the Library will provide aims to help individuals maintain their independence, protect themselves against online scams and fraud, access information easily, and stay connected with their family and friends. “In speaking with our local partners at these organizations, it’s clear that these workshops will fill a gap in offered services and build digital literacy skills for those that need them. It’s something the Library is thrilled to provide,” says Kristen Sherry, Outreach Services Manager, with the St. Charles City-County Library.

The workshop topics offered will include cybersecurity basics, internet basics, Android and iOS basics, email basics, computer basics, and videoconferencing basics. They are scheduled to begin in the fall.



The Missouri Library Association,  
Columbia, MO,  
est. 1900, is the Missouri State Chapter  
of the American Library Association,  
Chicago, IL.

## MO INFO

### **Newsletter of the Missouri Library Association**

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You can find this and back issues of MO INFO on the MLA membership webpage: [molib.org/Mo-Info-Archives](http://molib.org/Mo-Info-Archives)

The newsletter is put together by MO INFO Subcommittee of the MLA Media and Publications Committee:

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