

# MO INFO

Newsletter of the Missouri Library Association

November 2023

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## President's Column



Greetings, MLA Members!

It is bittersweet to write this last President's Column for you. The year went unbelievably fast, as I was warned that it would. I am proud of the things we accomplished during 2023, but there are always things that fall by the wayside due to time restrictions.

Serving as MLA President could easily be a full-time job (and a truly fulfilling one at that), but since we are all volunteers juggling our regular jobs and outside life commitments, we do the best we can. It has been an honor to serve all of you this year.

In 2023, pending the results of our membership vote, we will accomplish the long-term goal of transitioning MLA to an anniversary membership year. (Please reach out to Amigos at [mla@amigos.org](mailto:mla@amigos.org) if you are a current MLA member and did not receive a ballot.) We had a stellar annual conference that brought us together for two and a half very full days of professional development, camaraderie and inspiring, informative speakers. We continue to advocate for our profession despite legislative and cultural challenges.

What is next? We have a solid incoming 2024 Executive Board ready to put their experience and dedication to work for you for another year. Incoming President Kimberly Moeller is exceedingly capable and a great visionary, and I am excited to see where she will lead us.

What can you bring to your organization? If you have ideas and energy – or even if you don't think you do - you can make a tremendous difference. If there are organizational improvements that you've yearned for, or you have creative ideas for engaging library supporters in these spicy times, we need you!

Again, thank you so much for this amazing opportunity to serve. I wish you all health, prosperity, and joyful moments in the coming year. And as always, thank you for all you do for Missouri libraries!

Otter Bowman  
MLA President 2023  
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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!

## 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. Schedule subject to change. More events can be found in the Amigos Library Services report. Have a training source you'd like to recommend? Email [satterfieldk@mrl.org](mailto:satterfieldk@mrl.org)

Date	Time CT	Event	Sponsor
November 15	10 am	<a href="#">NCompass Live: Redesigning a Library Website</a>	Nebraska Library Commission
	12 pm	<a href="#">Strategic Planning for IT Staffing</a>	TechImpact
	1 pm	<a href="#">Your Money, Your Goals: Focus on People with Disabilities Guide</a>	CFPB
	1 pm	<a href="#">Making Sense of Your Data: Coding and Analyzing Results from Focus Groups, Interviews, and Observational Research</a>	Metro NY Library Council
	1 pm	<a href="#">Assistive Technology for Reading</a>	Pacer Center
November 15-16	1 pm	<a href="#">Preparing for the Unexpected: Dealing with Difficult Patrons</a>	Amigos Library Services
November 16	9 am	<a href="#">Google Apps Scripting</a>	MORENet
	10 am	<a href="#">How to Train Your Community on Libby</a>	OverDrive
	12 pm	<a href="#">Decolonizing in Collections Care</a>	FAIC
	12 pm	<a href="#">DPLA Coffee Chat: Metadata Best Practices Report</a>	DPLA
November 17	4 pm	<a href="#">Developing a Visual Novel for Digital Bibliotherapy</a>	Games & Gaming Round Table
November 20	1 pm	<a href="#">ACRL ULS AOC Online Roundtable Discussion: Assessing Outreach I</a>	ALA
November 21	9 am	<a href="#">EBSCO Host for Reliable Resources</a>	MORENet
	10 am	<a href="#">Ebooks for Everyone!</a>	MORENet
	1 pm	<a href="#">Adult Faves for Winter and Beyond</a>	Booklist
November 22	10 am	<a href="#">NCompass Live: Best New Children's Books of 2023</a>	Nebraska Library Commission
	1 pm	<a href="#">The Five Practices to Becoming More Grateful</a>	PCI Webinar
November 28	1 pm	<a href="#">Living Our Values Out Loud: Programs that Walk the Talk</a>	WebJunction
	1 pm	<a href="#">Super Searchers for Library Workers</a>	PLA
	1 pm	<a href="#">Cool Trends and Hot Topics: How to Maximize Your Library's Online Presence and Impact</a>	OCLC
	2 pm	<a href="#">Social Media 102</a>	Firespring
November 29	9 am	<a href="#">What's Up Wednesday - Anatomy of a Book Challenge</a>	Indiana State Library
	10 am	<a href="#">Pretty Sweet Tech: Internet Librarian 2023 Highlights</a>	Nebraska Library Commission
	1 pm	<a href="#">Data Visualization for Librarians 2: Beyond the Basics</a>	Lyrasis
November 30	All day	<a href="#">Reimagining Libraries: Exploring the AI &amp; VR Revolution in Library Services</a>	Amigos Library Services
	2 pm	<a href="#">Diffuse the Situation: Using Conversation to Build Empathy and Trust with the Public</a>	Alliance Research and Training
December 1	3 pm	<a href="#">ACRL ULS AOC Online Roundtable Discussion: Assessing Outreach II</a>	ALA
December 4	1 pm	<a href="#">Trans and Gender Diverse Voices in Libraries</a>	ASERL
December 5	10 am	<a href="#">Advancing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (Also in the Age of AI)</a>	ExLibris
	10 am	<a href="#">Thinking about a Master's of Library Science?</a>	MALA
	12:30 pm	<a href="#">Top Three Ways to Promote Your Library with WorldCat.org Lists</a>	OCLC
December 6	1 pm	<a href="#">Connecting with Teens Using Discord</a>	Georgia Library Association
	1 pm	<a href="#">Speak Up! Be A Strong Introverted Leader</a>	Arkansas State Library
December 7	12 pm	<a href="#">Crafting Visual Abstracts</a>	Long Island Lib. Resources Council
December 12	1 pm	<a href="#">Next Level Library Fundraising</a>	United for Libraries
December 12-14	2 pm	<a href="#">The Usable and Accessible Library Space</a>	Amigos Library Services
December 13	10 am	<a href="#">Canvaholic</a>	Nebraska Library Commission
	1 pm	<a href="#">ChatGPT: Engaging With Technology in the Generative AI Era</a>	Niche Academy
	1 pm	<a href="#">Introduction to Emergency Management for Libraries</a>	Amigos Library Services
	1 pm	<a href="#">Flirting with AI: Spend Some Interactive Time Exploring New Apps and Tools for Research</a>	ASERL
	1 pm	<a href="#">Public Libraries and Jail Partnerships</a>	Arkansas State Library
December 14	1 pm	<a href="#">How to Build Organizational Trust in Chaotic Times</a>	ASERL

## Meet this issue's Featured Library Employee for the Missouri Library Association, Mel Lambert!

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

Mel Lambert, Kirkwood Public Library, Manager of Reference & Adult Services

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

That's a long story. I went back to get the degree because I was super interested in data as I worked in advertising and spent a lot of time with it. I really wanted to work in a corporate library and do competitive intelligence, write market reports, that kind of thing. But life had a different idea and I ended up at a public library. I fell in love with every day being different, and being able to help people on a daily basis, and it's where I've stayed.

### What keeps you coming back every day?

The variety. One day I bring a nationally renowned author to the library, and the next day I'm working one-on-one with a small business owner who needs market research or to find their competitors. No day is the same, and everyone has different needs.

### What's challenging about your work?

We do passport processing at our library, and I will say some days they can be challenging because of all the red tape from the government and the processes.

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

Finding out libraries can help with workforce development and small businesses and nonprofits was a game changer for me. Once I started down the path of helping people achieve their dreams with free resources, it became my focus. There are so many ways libraries help folks, but this is my passion. I love going down a rabbit hole for someone with a unique question about their nonprofit, and every day I'm awestruck at the passion and risks people pour into their own projects. I feel lucky to get to watch them soar.

### Who is one of your mentors?

I have two. Christa Van Herreweghe has shown me how to be a leader in libraries, and challenges me outside my comfort zones in what I can achieve. Gabriela Ramírez-Arellano consistently looks out for me in the entrepreneurial ecosystem, is a champion for libraries and always sends people my way. She also challenges me to take leadership positions and helps me hone our library language to the greater community (so they know what we're talking about). I think mentorship is incredibly important and having people who give you space to try new things and encourage you to do so is game-changing.

### 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 binged the first season of Centaurworld this week. If you need a hilarious animated musical about magical centaurs, whaletaurs, and cataurs going on an adventure to help a war-horse...have I got the show for you. (Netflix) 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 haven't always been a voracious reader. When I first got into libraries I was a film librarian and if people asked me for a book recommendation I would panic. I've been working in libraries for 10 years now and I read a lot more than I ever have. There's definitely something to be said for being surrounded by people who read passionately and how infectious that can be.





## Missouri Library Association Awards

### Missouri Library of the Year, 13 Other Awards Presented to Outstanding Libraries

Missouri Library Association (MLA)'s top award, for 2023 Missouri Library of the Year, was presented to **Little Dixie Regional Libraries** (LDRL) on October 5th at the MLA conference held in Columbia.

This award is given for distinguished achievement in library service and accompanies fourteen other awards and scholarships presented last week to libraries, library employees, community organizations, and authors. LDRL has added a "Library of Things," "Lit Locker" for after-hours pickups, and a monthly subscription style "Book Box" for their customers. In order to better serve their community, LDRL regularly partners with several local organizations, and enjoys a close relationship with Moberly Parks and Recreation, local MU Extension offices and health departments, and several local schools.



In Joplin, another team of local agencies won the Community Partnership Award. **Joplin Public Library** and **Landmark Builds** worked together to create "Iconic Joplin." The project engages youth ages 12 to 16 in local history by building landmarks out of LEGO elements. This program was a part of Joplin's 150th year birthday celebrations. Iconic Joplin was very well received by residents and engaged the entire community in the teen's LEGO creations of Joplin's important landmarks. (Pictured l-r: Beth Snow, JPL Teen Services Librarian, Lisa Nelson from Landmark Builds)

The Excellence in Genealogy and Local History Award went to the **State Historical Society of Missouri** for its project "The Missouri Digital Newspaper Program". The collection and preservation of Missouri newspapers has been one of the State Historical Society of Missouri's (SHSMO) primary missions since its founding in 1898.



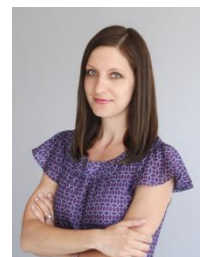
The Missouri Digital Newspaper Program (MDNP) got its start through the National Digital Newspaper Project sponsored by the NEH and the Library of Congress. Support from the Missouri State Library's LSTA grants and other donations to the project allowed SHSMO to continue to build a word-searchable online resource.

Due to increased demand for additional titles, SHSMO entered into an agreement with Newspapers.com to digitize eligible newspapers and improve access for researchers, whether they are working on genealogy, local history, or scholarly material. SHSMO continues to work with libraries and publishers both to locate titles and "years missing" from the collection and to digitize years still protected by copyright. As of August 2023, the SHSMO's MDNP is proud to provide over 9.3 million pages available for free with many more forthcoming.

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

The Missouri Literary Award is to encourage and recognize Missouri authors and promote interest in local authors' books, whether the book is about Missouri or another subject. The award is based on literary merit. An honored author must be a Missourian by birth or have lived in Missouri for at least five years.

This year's Missouri Literary Awards went to **Laura McHugh** for her book, *What's Done in Darkness: A Novel*. "Abducted as a teenager, a woman must now confront her past and untangle the truth of what really happened to her in this dark thriller from the author of *The Wolf Wants In*."



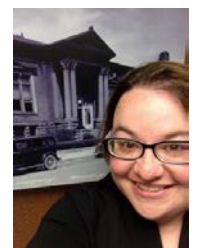
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The second literary award is the Missouri Building Block Picture Book Award, presented annually to the author and illustrator of the picture book voted most popular by preschool children in Missouri's public libraries. The award's purpose is to encourage reading aloud to children from birth through kindergarten age. This year's award went to *Wolfboy* by **Andy Harkness**, the hilarious story of Wolfboy who is very hungry! So hungry that he is hangry. Harkness is a newer author but check out the second Wolfboy book, *Wolfboy is Scared*.



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

- The Ronald G. Bohley Award is offered annually to library staff who further the cause of interlibrary cooperation in Missouri. This year's award went to **Lauren Williams** of Daniel Boone Regional Libraries. Lauren Williams represents the library in the community and to partnering organizations. She works to identify community needs and to align services and programs with those needs. Ms. Williams also manages the work of an incredible team of public services staff who work well together. Since 2010, she has served as co-chair of One Read, the community-wide reading program coordinated by the Daniel Boone Regional Libraries. Lauren was chosen as the 2023 recipient of the Ronald Bohley Award for her work furthering multi-type library cooperation among Missouri libraries.
- Becky Maue**, Special Projects Coordinator, of St. Louis County Library won the Outstanding Library Employee Award. Becky is described as an employee who is "truly exceptional on all counts" with advanced skills in organization, communication, technology, writing, and problem-solving. As Special Projects coordinator one of the first projects that she was challenged with was coordination of "GrandPads," a service to provide "senior-friendly" tablets to older adults with limited technology experience. Becky was also assigned to coordinate the involvement of SLCL in a new role, that of the host for the St. Louis Storytelling Festival. The 43rd St. Louis Storytelling Festival, held in 2022, was attended by 8,500 people and received glowing reviews from the media and attendees alike.
- Helen Li** won the Outstanding New Librarian Award. Helen Li is a teen librarian for the Kansas City Public Library. While only being employed there for two years, she has made a huge impact on the teens in her area. Helen's work started when she revitalized a dying teen program at the Central Branch. Ms. Li quickly reorganized library space to make it more welcoming and began working with local schools, inviting their middle and high schoolers to visit. She has become an invaluable member of the library and a champion for the teens who attend library programs.
- Rachael Grime**, this year's winner of the Outstanding Professional Librarian Award, has worked at Little Dixie Regional Libraries since she was 16. Beginning as a circulation clerk, she advanced to the position of Outreach Librarian, Young Adult & Adult Librarian, and became director of Little Dixie Regional Libraries in 2017. As the library director, Rachael has written numerous grants totaling well over \$100,000, added hotspots for checkout, increased digital offerings, weathered a pandemic, finished a remodel of the Moberly Library, increased holdings, and has replaced numerous roofs, sidewalks, air conditioners, and anything else the world of circumstances throws at her. She is also a part of numerous Library clubs and associations.
- Carolyn Trout** is the 2023 Meritorious Award, given for outstanding service. Carolyn has worked for Missouri libraries since 1979. During her career, she has worked in both public and academic libraries, and served as the director of Joplin Public Library for nearly 20 years. Carolyn helped to write the first Missouri Public Library Standards, worked with the Missouri State Library's Library institute, and tirelessly advocated for libraries, even in her retirement.



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- The Virginia G. Young Service Award goes to a trustee for exemplary service to Missouri libraries. The 2023 winner is **Linden Vanlandingham**, Linden served as the board president for Little Dixie Regional Libraries (LDRL) for over twenty years until the time of his death in August, 2022. He led the library through times of thick and thin. Linden was an outspoken advocate for libraries and was well known for speaking on the library's behalf throughout the community. As president of the library board, Linden worked tirelessly to help the LDRL stay up to date with changing technologies and provide outstanding services to the community.



- **Beth Snow**, Teen Services Librarian at the Joplin Public Library, also won the Show Me Youth Award. Beth is an advocate for the teens in her community, building relationships between them and their library. In 2023 Beth engaged the teens in her community to participate in a community-wide program celebrating the sesquicentennial of Joplin, involving researching, consulting experts, and designing LEGO landmarks over eight sessions.



- **Leah Gargus** is the winner of the Patt Behler Call-to-Conference Award in 2023. The award supports the professional development of an individual employed in cataloging by encouraging participation in, and covering the cost of, the MLA Annual Conference. Leah Gargus has been the Youth Services Librarian at James Memorial Public Library since April 2021. She provides story time, programming, and youth outreach to a small community of 4,000.



- **Jaclyn Crow**, a Teen Specialist for St. Louis Public Library won the Ronald G. Bohley Scholarship. The Bohley is awarded annually to a student pursuing a master's degree in library or information science who has demonstrated high scholastic achievement, a commitment to professionalism and library cooperation, a desire to provide quality service to library customers, and promise toward making a contribution to Missouri libraries. "As part of my studies, I am also involved with the Reading Nation Waterfall project to promote library usage and early childhood literacy in Indigenous communities. I love my work with youth, but in the future I would like to work in digital preservation of cultural heritage materials and promote youth engagement with digitally preserved primary sources of information."



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

*Meagan Parrett, Chair, Awards Committee, [mnparrrett5@gmail.com](mailto:mnparrrett5@gmail.com)*



## MLA Intellectual Freedom Roundtable

### The Intellectual Freedom Committee Success and Support for You!

We had a great time at Conference this year!



Chair Colleen and Past Chair Joe with ALA President Emily.



Some IFC members at conference (L to R): Rachele, Colleen, Cindy, Casey, Sarah, and Joe.

It was a successful workshop on Wednesday with lots of insightful dialogue:



Casey presenting and Colleen moderating dialogue during the IFC workshop.

There were so many attendees at the Table Talk that we had to move to a bigger space:



Colleen and Joe at Table Talk.

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A lot of the Table Talk attendees were interested in how they can support libraries, each other, and intellectual freedom AND where they can direct their patrons that want to participate in a collaborated effort. A great option is to join the Right to Read Coalition. Please share with your patrons that are looking for a way to make a positive impact in these trying times. Individuals and organizations can join the coalition by completing the [Sign On Form](#) or visiting the Right to Read coalition Facebook page.

As our fearless leader stated many times, we are a traveling road show. We can bring our workshop to you! It is normally three hours, but we can also do one and two-hour workshops. We are also here to support you, so please email us at: [intellectualfreedom@molib.org](mailto:intellectualfreedom@molib.org).

You can also find more information about us, our workshop presentation, and scenario decks at: <https://www.molib.org/Intellectual-Freedom>.



## Members Benefit from Attending 2023 NWILL Conference With Amigos Scholarship

With an exclusively designed sponsorship package, Amigos supported the Northwest Interlibrary Loan & Resource Sharing (NWILL) Conference exhibiting at a virtual booth and providing several Amigos member libraries scholarships for their staff member to attend the conference. Recipients of the Amigos Scholarships were asked to share some takeaways from the conference such as what stood out to them at the conference and anything they started or planned to change after having attended the conference. View their [takeaways here](#).

## Amigos Member Benefits News

### DOAJ at 20: Trusted webinar December 7 – Registration open

[Registration is now open](#) for *DOAJ at 20: Trusted*. This third and final webinar celebrates 20 years of DOAJ, December 7 at 8 am. Moderated by Joy Owango from TCC Africa, the 90-minute webinar will have four speakers: Judith Barnsby, Ivan Oransky, Ixchel Faniel, and Dr. Haseeb Irfanullah. They will discuss what it means to be trusted, and variations of mistrust in scholarly communications.

The webinar will be recorded, and recordings will be posted to the [DOAJ YouTube channel](#) after the event in English with Live AI translation for a range of languages.

A promotional graphic for the "DOAJ at 20: Trusted" webinar. The background is green. At the top left, it says "With speakers". At the top right, it says "DOAJ at 20 TRUSTED" with a small hourglass icon. Below this, it says "ONLINE EVENT 7th December 2023 14:00 UTC". In the center, there are four circular portraits of the speakers: Ivan Oransky, Judith Barnsby, Dr. Haseeb Irfanullah, and Ixchel Faniel. Below the portraits, it says "Moderated by Joy Owango, Founding Director, TCC Africa". At the bottom, it says "Sponsored by" followed by logos for the Royal Society of Chemistry, EBSCO, and Crossref.

### NISO Plus Scholarship Application Closing November 17

Part of National Information Standards Organization (NISO)'s ongoing efforts to improve diversity, equity, and inclusion in the community, the NISO Plus scholarship program is intended for early- to mid-career professionals whose voices have been underrepresented in the information community. Awardees will learn about NISO's standards work, receive free registration to NISO events, travel and accommodations to NISO's annual conference in Baltimore (pending funder approval), networking and mentorship opportunities, and more.

Deadline for [applications](#) is November 17. Amigos members are encouraged to apply for this opportunity. NISO Library Standards Alliance membership is now included with Amigos membership.

## Member Discount News

### New Purchase Options and Updates From BioOne

BioOne Complete is a curated collection of over 200 independently-published subscribed and open access titles in the biological, ecological, and environmental sciences. The 2024 aggregation will continue to offer 218 titles from 156 nonprofit and independent publishers in the biosciences. [Learn more about](#) the collection and other updates from BioOne.

### Save on Morningstar's comprehensive investing resource for academic and public libraries

Morningstar is offering a [special discount offer for new customers](#) on the Investing Center database. Members can 15 months for a 12-month subscription (receiving three months free). This newly enhanced database provides users with global investment data, in-depth expert analysis, screening and compare tools, daily market news, and educational content to help users meet their investing goals.

### Sign-up by November 17 to receive one free month of *The New York Times*!

[One free month](#) of *The New York Times* access is available for new 12-month subscriptions. Subscribe by November 17 to take advantage of this offer; starting in January 2024 and receive access during December for free! .

## Courier News

### Trans-Amigos Express (TAE) Courier Launches New Label Maker

The Amigos Trans-Amigos Express (TAE) Courier has launched a new label maker! This new tool will provide users with an easy-to-use system filled with enhancements to streamline courier processes, starting November 6.. To learn how to make the most of these new features and receive training, [contact us](#).

## Continuing Education News

### Last Chance to Register for the November conference!

*Nick Tanzi to keynote November 30<sup>th</sup> Conference, "Reimagining Libraries: Exploring the AI & VR Revolution in Library Services"*

The latest Amigos Online Conference will highlight the innovative work happening in member libraries in the arenas of artificial intelligence (AI) and virtual reality (VR). These technologies have emerged as powerful tools that enhance and expand the role of libraries, empowering them to provide innovative services and experiences to their patrons.

Nick Tanzi, Assistant Director of South Huntington Public Library, will present the opening keynote "Uncertain Seas: Navigating Our Libraries Through the Age of AI."

[View the speaker page](#) to learn more about Nick, other presenters and their presentations.

[Register](#) as an Amigos member today for this free learning opportunity. Sessions explore the myriad ways AI, VR, and other emerging realities intersect with traditional library services and learn how libraries leverage these developments to redefine their work. Join the online conference, November 30.

### On Request Training Available

Amigos will provide on-request training sessions, either online or face-to-face, designed specifically to meet your library's needs. This can be an effective way to meet specific and specialized training needs. Contact [learning@amigos.org](mailto: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:

- [Libraries Address Inequities: Registration](#)
- [Amigos Member Conference 2023: Libraries Plan to Succeed](#)
- [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Cataloging and Technical Services](#)

*Please Note: Attendees registered for the live event already have access to 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. [Upcoming free opportunities](#) include:

- [Conducting Effective Meetings](#) November 20, 1:30-2:30 pm
- [Reimagining Libraries: Exploring the AI & VR Revolution in Library Services](#) November 30, 10 am - 4 pm
- [Increase Your Productivity with Time Management](#) December 4, 1:30-2:30 pm
- [Storytelling and Data Visualization with Qualitative Data](#) December 11, 1:30-2:30 pm
- [Trend Spotting, Trend Setting](#) December 13, 10-11:30 am

### Discounted for Members

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

- [Curriculum Mapping for Academic Librarians](#) November 14-16, 2-4 pm
- [Preparing for the Unexpected: Dealing with Difficult Patrons](#) November 15-16, 1-3 pm
- [Reimagining Libraries: Exploring the AI & VR Revolution in Library Services](#) November 30, 10 am - 4 pm
- [Electronic Resource Management 1: Acquisition and Implementation](#) December 7, 10 am - 12 pm
- [The Usable and Accessible Library Space](#) December 12-14, 2-4 pm
- [Introduction to Emergency Management for Libraries](#) December 13, 1:-3 pm
- [Electronic Resource Management 2: Maintenance and Troubleshooting](#) December 14, 10 am - 12 pm
- [Electronic Resource Management 3: Assessment and Preservation](#) December 21, 10 am - 12 pm



### MOBIUS Becomes Founding Member of the Open Resource Sharing Coalition

The Open Library Foundation (OLF) recently introduced the Open Resource Sharing Coalition (OpenRS). OpenRS is an open source resource sharing system designed specifically to meet the needs of library consortia and is ILS and Discovery agnostic. The system will offer seamless unmediated intra-consortial borrowing functionality and expanded sharing across multiple consortia.

OpenRS will be an Open Library Foundation (OLF) project which operates with an open, transparent approach, emphasizing the best practices for open source governance and DevSecOps. The OpenRS software is built and maintained by Knowledge Integration, with support from EBSCO Information Services (EBSCO). Additional OpenRS Community members include representatives from the MOBIUS consortium, GALILEO/University System of Georgia (USG), Marmot Library Network, Boston Library Consortium, Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries, and others.

MOBIUS is excited about the opportunities that OpenRS will create for the growth and expansion of our core services including the ability to connect with libraries using disparate technologies.

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## Donna Bacon Appointed to Open Library Foundation Board

Donna Bacon, MOBIUS Executive Director, has been appointed to a three-year term on the Board of Directors for the Open Library Foundation (OLF). The OLF was formed in 2016 with a mission to “ensure the availability, accessibility, and sustainability of open source and open access projects for and by libraries.” They provide support and infrastructure to promote collaboration, sharing of expertise, and the development of new technologies that benefit the work of libraries. All software developed by OLF hosted communities is openly licensed and freely available.

MOBIUS has a long history of working in open source communities through our MOBIUS Open Source Solutions (MOSS) services, our adoption of the FOLIO and OpenRS platforms for shared ILS and resource sharing, and our upcoming migration of our digitization projects to Hyku. Donna is excited to further strengthen our connection to the open source world through this appointment.

## MOBIUS Sponsors 2024 Missouri A&OER Conference

MOBIUS is proud to sponsor the 2024 Missouri Affordable & Open Educational Resources Conference. The Missouri A&OER Conference is a free-to-attend online conference hosted by Missouri State University, with additional support from the Midwestern Higher Education Compact. The event is in its 5th year and brings together faculty, instructors, librarians, administrators, students, and other stakeholders from the higher education community to discuss issues relevant to open educational resources, textbook affordability, and open pedagogy and practice. This year’s event will be held online on March 7, 2024 during Open Education Week. To learn more or to submit a proposal visit <https://guides.library.missouristate.edu/AOERConference2024>

## MOSS Update

MOBIUS staff continued working with the North Carolina Community College Evergreen group on their Evergreen migration. We completed the system setup, test migration and Evergreen training with staff from the initial 25 libraries in the group, which will be moving from their current ILS to Evergreen, in December 2023, with their system hosted and managed by MOBIUS. MOBIUS also completed the migration of Warren County (NC) Library into the NC Cardinal consortium.

In October, some of the MOSS staff also participated in the Evergreen community's Hackaway in Indianapolis, IN. The Hackaway was a time for community contributors and volunteers focus on new development, fixing software bugs, discussing the future plans for the software, and more.

MOBIUS also exhibited at the annual ARSL (Association for Rural and Small Libraries) conference, held this year in Wichita, KS. We enjoyed meeting attendees including current MOSS clients and sharing information about MOSS and Evergreen with the record-high number of conference attendees.

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## University of Missouri – Columbia

### Welcome to Nicole Merzweiler

The University of Missouri Libraries are pleased to announce that Nicole Merzweiler has been hired as the continuing resources cataloger librarian. Nicole has a Master of Library and Information Science from Kent State University. She has previously worked as the cataloging librarian at Northeast Ohio Medical University. Nicole’s professional interests include inclusive cataloging and user experience.





## University of Missouri – Kansas City



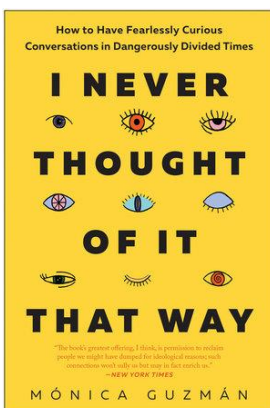
### New Face for a New Role

UMKC Libraries welcome Dr. Spencer Keralis as the new head of digital scholarship services and co-director of the Center for Digital and Public Humanities. Spencer comes to us with 10 years of experience in digital scholarship, digital humanities, and public humanities, most recently as assistant professor and digital humanities librarian with the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign University Library.

As the head of digital scholarship services, Spencer will be responsible for operational management of the [Digital Collaboration Studio](#); creating programming, resource guides, and consulting services that support digital research and pedagogy; and administrative management and direction for the libraries' participation in the Center for Digital and Public Humanities, a partnership between the libraries and the School for Humanities and Social Sciences. The new head of digital scholarship services and co-director of the center for digital and public humanities position has been established thanks to generous support from the William T. Kemper Foundation – Commerce Bank, Trustee.

### The Legacy of the Divine Nine

“Legacy in Bloom: The History and Influence of the Divine Nine” is an online and physical exhibit at UMKC Libraries this academic year. This exhibit and an affiliated one, “Divinely Made: The Ongoing Legacy of the Divine Nine,” are designed to educate and celebrate the new Divine Nine Garden dedicated at UMKC in September 2023. The Divine Nine are the nine Black fraternities and sororities that comprise the National Pan-Hellenic Council. Explore this [exhibit online](#).



### Encouraging Reading Groups and Fostering Discussion

[RoosRead](#) is an intercampus initiative from the UMKC Office of the Chancellor, facilitated by the Division of Diversity and Inclusion that encourages people to read a recommended title showcasing a distinctive voice, perspective, or theme and engage in discussions intended to generate action toward change. The 2023 RoosRead selection is *I Never Thought of It That Way: How to Have Fearlessly Curious Conversations in Dangerously Divided Times* by Mónica Guzmán.

The UMKC Libraries are fostering participation in the RoosRead experience by offering monthly discussion questions and forums via the libraries' website, as well as offering book discussion kits for checkout which include multiple copies of the title and a discussion guide. While RoosRead is campus-wide, this enables the libraries to encourage engagement with the author's ideas in asynchronous forums; in addition, encouraging students to form their own reading groups helps set a self-motivated standard for pursuing ideas collectively amongst students. View an example of one of the libraries' [RoosRead discussion guides on our website](#).

## Mid-Continent Public Library

### MCPL Hosts Teens at Annual 'LitUp' Festival



On Saturday, October 21, Mid-Continent Public Library once again hosted LitUp, a free literature and arts festival for teens, at its Midwest Genealogy Center Community Hall in Independence. The day-long program offered kids the opportunity to meet some of their favorite authors and illustrators as well as learn how they could harness their own creative talents. Headlining the festival was *New York Times* bestselling author **Sabaa Tahir** who gave a virtual keynote address, followed by breakout sessions with other writers and creators, and a free lunch.

Morning breakout sessions included an author talk with **Adib Khorram**, award-winning author of *Darius the Great is Not Okay*, and “Making Sense of Experiences: Writing to Understand the Self” with **Aisha Sharif**, acclaimed author and poet. Lunch featured entertainment by Royce “Sauce” Handy, Kansas City-based rapper, writer, and activist, and the afternoon breakout sessions included an author talk by **Jonathan Hill**, award-winning cartoonist, illustrator, and author of *Tales of a Seventh-Grade Lizard Boy* as well as the workshop “Podcasting: How to Ask Good Questions” with **Mackenzie Martin**, KCUR podcast producer and nationally featured journalist.

This year’s LitUp was attended by 170 individuals, including 110 teens and 60 adults. More information about the 2023 LitUp presenters can be found at [mymcpl.org/LitUp](https://mymcpl.org/LitUp).





## Montgomery City Public Library

### 3,2,1 Blast Off! Stuffies in Space!



Chester the Raccoon and Curious George, who visit the library often, tell the other animals what it is like at the library at night.

The Montgomery City Public Library hosted its annual stuffed animal sleepover, sponsored by Mrs. Judy Hunt, from October 21-23, 2023. Children attending Story Time Adventures on Saturday, October 21. They listened to thrilling stories about rockets, astronauts, and traveling in outer space besides making space helmets for their stuffed animal friends. They said goodbye to their stuffies and left them with the library staff for safekeeping. Many of you know that wonderful things happen at the library. That night was no different.

While everyone was gone, the animals explored the many library playthings like the kitchen, the computers, the new globe, and different kits. After playing, they looked through a space STEAM-to-Go kit and were inspired to create their own rocket ship. The stuffed animals built the rocket then blasted off into the great unknown. Out of this world adventures awaited the stuffies in space!

On Monday, October 23, the children picked up their stuffed friends, tasted freeze-dried ice cream and space pop rocks, and read the “3,2,1 Blast Off! Stuffies in Space” booklet detailing the stuffed animals’ adventures at the library and in space. They also received a free book, t-shirt, and tote bag commemorating the sleepover. The staff is already discussing ideas for next year’s sleepover adventure!

*Gaylee Harris, Montgomery City Public Library director*



(Left) Stuffed friends checking out a STEAM-to-Go kit; (center) They are looking at the space STEAM-to-Go kit and beginning to make their rocket; (right) Here are the stuffed animals in space!



(Left) Bull the Dinosaur, Biscuit, Pandy, and Moo the Bunny are collecting moon rocks; (right) The friends enjoyed a snack of freeze-dried ice cream on the rocket while on their way back to earth.



## Poplar Bluff Library

### Poplar Bluff Library Mural by Local Artist Celebrates Missouri Nature

The Poplar Bluff Library unveiled the newest addition to their sensory garden in a joint dedication event with the Margaret Harwell Art Museum (MHAM): the new “Familiar Wonders” mural by local artist Mattilyn Grace Stacy, a 19-year-old Poplar Bluff native and nationally recognized watercolorist.



Guests enjoy the new mural, “Familiar Wonders” by Mattilyn Grace Stacy in the Library’s sensory garden. The Poplar Bluff Library and Margaret Harwell Art Museum held a joint dedication and gallery opening for Stacy on Saturday, Sept. 16. (DAR/Samantha Tucker)

The sensory garden is designed to engage young visitors’ senses with a fountain as well as fragrant herbs and flowers. “Familiar Wonders” adds another visual element to the garden, depicting the flora and fauna of Southeast Missouri throughout the seasons across each of the raised flower beds.

“The inspiration is just Missouri, Missouri’s native plants and animals. But what I really wanted to add to it is the whimsical feeling, so when children come out and are eye-level, they can be immersed in it,” Stacy said.

A list of the flora and fauna is available for kids in the library so they can venture into the sensory garden for a scavenger hunt through the mural. If they are observant, they will even find the library’s mascot Page the Mouse.

Stacy designed the elaborate mural in 10 panels, which according to Stacy is a process not dissimilar to laying out her watercolor paintings. “It takes a lot of planning,” she stated, adding she hopes to paint more murals in the future.

In her dedication remarks, Library Director Shannon Midyett said communal art and libraries share a purpose: enriching lives.

“Public art and public libraries have a lot in common. They both endeavor to create a place that sparks curiosity, inspires imagination... They both serve as a gathering place and a meeting point. They both serve to build and connect communities and they help shape a community’s identity and its story,” she said.

Midyett went on to thank the Poplar Bluff Parks & Recreation Department for their care of the garden, the Friends of the Library and the Library Board of Trustees for their support, and several individual donors of the project.

“Without the support and dedication that each and every one of the people I’ve named here tonight, this stunning work of art wouldn’t have been possible,” Midyett said.

Stacy also thanked her supporters, saying, “I do want to say I am eternally grateful to each and every person that has supported my artwork in any way, supported me in any way. And I’m just so grateful that I have this opportunity to show my art in this way and allow so many people to see it.”

Guests were then ferried up Main Street to the MHAM for the opening of Stacy’s exhibit there, featuring a variety of her watercolor pieces.

“It sounds cliché, but it was really a magical night. People gathering together to see and experience the blossoming career of a budding artist was so sweet,” said MHAM Director Steve Whitworth, who called it one of the largest gatherings the museum has ever had.

“Familiar Wonders” and the sensory garden are open to the public during library hours. For more information, visit the library’s website at [poplarbluff.org](http://poplarbluff.org).



Local artist Mattilyn Grace Stacy addresses attendees at the dedication of her new mural “Familiar Wonders.” (DAR/Samantha Tucker)



## Springfield-Greene County Library

### New Efforts to Engage Patrons on Social Media Prove Successful

The social media committee has been busy the last few months featuring some fun new posts. Below are examples of some of the posts. These not only engaged the community but energized the staff:

In August (*right*), Travis Kelce and Patrick Mahomes stopped by the Library Center to get a few books while on summer break. This fun picture collected over 1400 likes on Facebook.



In September (*left*), copywriter Morgan Shannon played up on the Barbie movie's popularity and created this great graphic of Ken holding a library card. This post received 1100 likes on Facebook and over 300 likes on Instagram.

In late September (*right*), Library staff recreated the iconic dance scene from *The Breakfast Club* with a unique focus on getting a library card. The video is available at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=zR07I-hBrLQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zR07I-hBrLQ).

The video featured Zach Holdingshad, Mandi Hubbs, Andrew Mann, Indie Johns, Matteu Hansen, Melinda Baker and Associate Director Jim Schmidt. The video was filmed by Ben Divin with the help of Emily Heddon and Landyn Block.



And to wrap up Library Card Sign-up month in September (*left*), the team created another fun video with a parody on the movie "Say Anything" featuring Mobile Librarian Rob Manning with a post titled "Say Anything" if you need a Library Card.

*continued on next page*



## Vickie Hicks Named Community Relations Director

Vickie Hicks joined the Springfield Greene County Library (SGCL) District in June. She stepped into the role as Kathleen O'Dell retired after 14 years with the district. Vickie has over 30 years of experience in public relations, marketing, branding and communications. Her first job at age 15 was as a page with the Palatine Illinois Library. She served on SGCL District's Board of Trustees from 2008 – 2014, serving as Board President in 2011 - 12. Vickie will oversee marketing, media and publications as well as serve as the liaison to the Friends of the Library.

## Maker Space Heals a Broken Heart

Springfield Midtown Carnegie Reference Associate, Amber Spencer shared, "A teen patron recently came in with a Barbie that was very important to her. Her dog had unfortunately chewed the foot off, and she was wondering if there was anything we could do in the Maker Space to repair it. We settled on 3D printing a cast for her doll. I searched the internet for 3D print files when I stumbled upon a cast and crutches design for a full-size Barbie. After some measuring and resizing, I was able to give their doll a cast and crutches they could be proud of. The patron said she would be coming back to try to make a prosthetic arm for another doll she has. She was so happy her Barbie was repaired!"



## Fall Friends of the Library Book Sale Breaks Another Record, Raising \$190,326!

The Friends of the Library Annual Fall Book Sale wrapped up on September 17, setting a record as their second-best sale to date with \$190,326 in just six days. Friends of the Library Treasurer Joyce Kastler said, "This sale means the Friends of the Library has raised more than \$5.1 million for the Springfield-Greene County Library District since the very first sale was held on the parking lot of the Midtown Carnegie Branch in 1985. There are no words to adequately capture this accomplishment."

Regina Greer Cooper, Library Executive Director, said, "You cannot find a more dedicated Friends of the Library group than ours. Before the Fall Book Sale, the group sorted and priced five and a half semi-trailers full of donated books in just five months. Cooper added, "This sale would not be possible without our generous community donating items each year."

*Vickie Hicks, Community Relations Director, Springfield-Greene County Libraries, [vickieh@thelibrary.org](mailto:vickieh@thelibrary.org)*



## St. Charles City-County Library

### St. Charles City-County Library Announces Get Connected @ Home

St. Charles County, Missouri – Local residents who do not have access to home internet are invited to participate in the St. Charles City-County Library's newest service, [Get Connected @ Home](#). Residents can go to [any branch](#) in the district and apply for a free internet connection device, provided by the Federal Communication Commission's [Emergency Connectivity Fund](#).

“As each year passes we're less and less connected to the world around us without internet connectivity. As informational and educational resources switch to a digital realm people can be left behind without access,” said Jason Kuhl, St. Charles City-County Library District CEO. “We're happy to have secured this grant to equal the playing field for all of our residents.”

The service, funded by a \$682,000 [Emergency Connectivity Fund](#) grant and partnered with T-Mobile, allows residents to check out one of 700 5G plug-in Wifi Gateways or one of 300 5G portable hotspots. Checkout of these devices begins September 14, 2023 with a due date of June 30, 2024. There is no cost to check out one of these devices, but charges may apply if the device is returned damaged or late.

The 5G plug-in Wifi Gateways can connect up to 30 devices and just need an electrical outlet to plug into. The Gateways and hotspots are portable and work wherever coverage is available. Applications must be filled out in person by those 18 years of age or older. Interested residents will need to bring a current Library card in good standing OR a photo ID with proof of current address.

### Stay Sharp Kits Introduced at St. Charles City-County Library

The St. Charles City-County Library now offers [Stay Sharp kits](#) free to cardholders. These kits are designed to be used by individuals and their families who are experiencing cognitive challenges related to brain injuries, dementia, Alzheimer's disease, and other memory disorders.

Each kit includes puzzles, card games, books, and other interactive activities that spark conversation and stimulate brain activity. They encourage conversation, multi-generational participation, and memory-making for friends, families, and neighbors. The kits are fully funded by the [Library Foundation](#) and Glenfield Memory Care.

“We are pleased to offer this new resource for the families of St. Charles County,” Director of Collection Services Carol Schrey said. “From the generous support of the Library Foundation and Glenfield Memory Care, we are able to offer an engaging kit for those experiencing memory and cognitive challenges.”



The kits cover a range of topics so that users can pick kits that are of interest to them. The kit topics include baseball, cats, discover the USA, dogs, garden, handyman, homemaker, ocean, on the road again, space, and Things that Fly: birds & butterflies.

Library cardholders can find the 55 [kits](#) at all branches, depending on availability. If there is a certain kit that a patron would like to receive, they can reserve it through the [library's catalog](#) and pick it up at the [branch](#) they designate.



For more than 50 years, the St. Charles City-County Library District has been a catalyst for customers to build successful lives, families, and communities. The Library inspires, informs, and enhances connections across St. Charles County with exciting events and classes for all ages, a robust collection of print and electronic materials, and spaces for the community to gather and learn. Discover [stchlibrary.org](http://stchlibrary.org).

## Trails Regional Library



### ***Crossroads: Change in Rural America* Exhibit Coming Soon to Knob Noster Branch**

Small-town Missouri is full of rich history, but for many, access to museums and collections can be difficult. In some cases, history is lost or only known to those whose families have lived in these towns for decades or centuries. Luckily, people in Missouri communities care deeply and passionately about sharing their history, and beginning December 18, 2023, people will be able to take a look at the history of Knob Noster, Missouri and surrounding counties.

Trails Regional Library, with the Smithsonian Institute, the Missouri Humanities Council, the City of Knob Noster and the Johnson County Historical Society are excited to announce that ***Crossroads: Change in***

***Rural America*** is coming to the Knob Noster branch of Trails Regional Library. From December 18, 2023 to January 29, 2024, this free exhibit will be open for the public to learn more about their local community and take a look at rural history. Everyone is invited to attend events hosted by Trails Regional Library with presenters scheduled throughout the six-week exhibit. Patrons and the public can attend these presentations to learn more about the Buffalo Soldiers, George Whiteman, Whiteman Air Force Base, Knob Noster State Park, Knob Noster history, Pettis County history, Bothwell Lodge, Native American history and 62nd U.S. Colored Troops. Program guides will be printed on keepsake photos with a variety of rural scenes depicted on them.

*Crossroads: Change in Rural America* allows us to reflect on Johnson County's history, present, and future and we are excited to explore what the future holds for our communities in Johnson and Lafayette Counties.

The public will find this exhibit at 202 N Adams St in Knob Noster, Monday through Saturday 9-6pm and Sunday 1-5, closed December 24, 25, 26, & 31, 2023 and January 1 & 15, 2024.

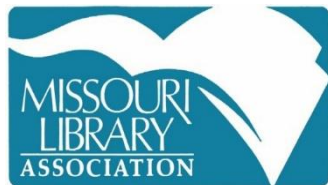


Trails Regional Library – Knob Noster Branch

*Courtesy of: Museum on Main Street, Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service*







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

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