

# MO INFO

Newsletter of the Missouri Library Association

July 2018

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## President's Message: Making the Most of your Membership

I was recently reflecting on the time that I have spent as a member of the Missouri Library Association. While trying to remember how long I have been a member, I thought about all of the amazing opportunities that MLA has provided for me.



I joined MLA as a brand-new library worker in 2001. I was encouraged by my boss at the time to get involved in the Public Library Division, and eagerly signed on as the Recorder. That initial appointment led to eventually being the Chair of that division and a voting member of the MLA Board. That was my first time. I have since been sponsored by MLA as an ALA Emerging Leader, participated with conference planning, been a member of the Building Block Book Award Committee, served as MLA secretary, and served as a member-at-large.

Over my 17 years of membership, I have actively found ways to be involved. Each experience with MLA has provided me with skills that I use in my work every day. I learned to work in groups, lead groups, and communicate with others more effectively. I also formed an amazing network of librarians that I could share ideas with and get advice from.

*I would like to urge all of you to get involved!* It could be as easy as nominating a co-worker for an MLA Award or registering for our upcoming conference. It can even be just looking at our website to see what opportunities are waiting for you!

I want to encourage all of you the same way that I was encouraged as a new member. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any member of the MLA Board to learn about great ways to

help MLA and yourself!

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## Readership Survey

Help make MO Info better by giving us your input! Use the link below to send us your feedback about this newsletter:

<https://tinyurl.com/moinfosurvey>

## MLA Elections

### Candidates for ALA Councilor



#### Margaret Conroy

Margaret Conroy is the Executive Director of Daniel Boone Regional Library and has served in this position since January 2018. Prior to taking the helm at DBRL, Conroy was the Assistant Director at St. Charles City-County Library District from 2013-2018; Missouri State Librarian from 2006-2013; and before State Librarian served as Director of Missouri River Regional Library in Jefferson City and of Little Regional Libraries in Moberly. Conroy's first position in Missouri was as Chief Cataloger of the Missouri Newspaper Project, where she travelled the state extensively and learned the state's rich history, as well as getting to know the type and locations of libraries across the state. Margaret earned her MLIS from Dominican University and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Conroy served as MLA President in 2001 and as recorder and chair of MLA's Public Library Council. She is a current member and past chair of the MLA Legislative Committee.

**Candidate Statement:** I am honored to be nominated for ALA Chapter Councilor and I welcome the opportunity to serve Missouri in this capacity. As a decades-long ALA member, I am well acquainted with the organization's positions, statements and goals. Through my work as Missouri State Librarian I became thoroughly grounded in issues facing libraries, both within the state and throughout the nation. Serving as your Chapter Councilor would allow me to use my experience to inform MLA members of ALA issues and initiatives, and to take the Missouri perspective to the ALA organization in the process.



#### Cindy Thompson

Cindy Thompson is Associate Dean at the University of Missouri-Kansas City's University Libraries. She began at UMKC in 2006 as the Interlibrary Loan Librarian and took on increasing responsibilities until she attained her current position in 2017. As Associate Dean, Cindy oversees the interlibrary loan, circulation, reference, and instruction operations for both the general and health sciences campuses of UMKC, and participates in strategic and building planning and visioning for the Libraries, embracing change and supporting staff through change management processes. Cindy received her PhD in Educational Leadership, Policy, and Foundations, and Public Affairs and Administration from the University of Missouri-Kansas City in 2014, her Master of Arts in Information Science and Learning Technology with an emphasis in Library Science from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 2006, and her Bachelor of Arts in Oxbridge History from William Jewell College in 2004. She is deeply involved with the Missouri Library Association, currently serving as Treasurer and Member-at-large on the Executive Board and Chair of the Professionalism, Education, Employment, and Recruitment Community of Interest. Cindy lives in Kansas City's northland with her dashing husband and adorable children, and bakes cupcakes whenever she can.

**Candidate Statement:** The Missouri Library Association is a model of an organization in rebirth and reinvigoration, and I am honored to be in the running to represent this vibrant group as our ALA Councilor. I have been an MLA member for my entire career, and have found participation to be rich and fulfilling. In my current role as Treasurer and a member-at-large on the MLA Executive Board, I have been thrilled to see the exciting direction we are taking as an organization – one that is focused on serving its community through ways that are meaningful and inclusive. As ALA Councilor, I would not only be poised to advocate for issues of importance in our state and share the great work we are doing in MLA, but can also tap the wealth of knowledge available to us through the council to help continue this trajectory.

Additionally, MLA has seen incredible change over the last decade, and ALA is in similarly turbulent times. I am a member of the generation of librarians that has sometimes struggled to see the relevance of ALA involvement to the average librarian. As ALA Councilor, I will be able to apply my experiences with MLA's change processes and my ability to relate to those librarians who have disengaged with the national organization to advocating for organizational changes that support all librarians, rather than just a core group of leaders. My background in organizational change and development will be an asset in this, as is my intimate knowledge of working within a large, formal organization at the University of Missouri. This synergy of passion for librarianship, awareness of

MLA issues, and understanding of organizations will allow me to serve Missouri librarians well as their representative to our national organization

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## Candidates for Member-At-Large



### Steve Campbell

Steve Campbell has been director of Scenic Regional Library for the past six years. While director, the library received the Missouri Library Association's Library of the Year award in 2015. Steve also received the MLA's Outstanding Professional Librarian Award in 2017. Previously, he was a branch manager at Mid-Continent Public Library and director of the North Kansas City Public Library.

Steve has been a member of MLA for two decades. During that time, he has served in a number of capacities in the Association, including chair of the Publications Committee and recorder for the Public Library Community of Interest. He also served on the special committee to create MLA's current bylaws. Steve served on the Missouri State Library's exploratory committee to establish a statewide automation consortium for public libraries, later named Missouri Evergreen. He previously served as vice-chair of the consortium and has been chair for the past two years. Steve also previously served as secretary, vice-president, and president of the Missouri Public Library Directors organization.

Locally, Steve currently serves on the Franklin County Bicentennial Committee and East Central Area Literacy Council, and has been vice-president of the Union Area Chamber of Commerce the past two years. He previously served for three years on the Four Rivers YMCA Board of Directors.

Steve earned his master's degree in Library and Information Science at the University of Missouri at Columbia and a master's degree in political science from the University of Missouri in Kansas City.

**Candidate Statement:** I would be extremely honored to serve as a Member-at-Large on the Missouri Library Association's Executive Board. MLA has an incredible history. Missouri librarians worked for decades to accomplish enormous and seemingly-impossible objectives, such as the passage of laws to create county libraries and the establishment of the Missouri State Library. The need for such bold and visionary aims has not diminished over the past century.

If I elected, I will advocate for MLA to create more effective initiatives to recruit new people to the profession and increase library trustee involvement in the organization; work with the Missouri State Library to promote the creation of public libraries in unserved areas throughout the state; and achieve greater cooperation with the Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL). I believe that MLA should explore the possibility of either a joint MASL-MLA annual conference or both conferences being held concurrently and in close proximity, as do some other states.



### Brian Grubbs

Brian Grubbs is the Local History & Genealogy manager at the Springfield-Greene County Library District; where he has worked for the past ten years. He graduated from the University of Kansas with a M.A. in museum studies, and B.S. in history from Truman State University.

Throughout his career, Brian has led several local, regional and statewide digitization projects. Recently, he served as director of the statewide World War I digitization project, *Over There: Missouri and the Great War*. This project received the 2016 Award of Merit from American Association for State and Local History. The award, part of AASLH's Leadership in History awards, is the nation's most prestigious competition for recognition of achievement in state and local history. For his work in the digitization field, Grubbs was named one of *Library Journal's* 2016 Movers & Shakers.

Brian currently serves two roles in MLA. He is the past-chair of the Genealogy & Local History CI and a member of the Missouri Author Award committee. Brian also serves on the MOHub steering committee as a Community Rep. MOHub is a partnership between Missouri libraries and museums to share digital content through a service portal for the Digital Public Library of America. Brian is also involved in the American Library Association, serving as the chair of the RUSA Genealogy Preconference Planning Committee.

**Candidate Statement:** I will bring my many years of collaboration experience and expertise in project direction and management to the Member-at-Large position on the MLA Board. Through collaboration, we can accomplish more than any one institution can

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alone. I offer a diverse experience and background to our profession, which often results in unique perspectives. I would be honored to serve MLA as a Member-at-Large and help guide the organization's growth and development.



### **Meredith McCarthy**

Meredith McCarthy is the Branch Manager of the Arnold Branch of the Jefferson County Library. She has been with JCL since starting as a Reference Library Associate in 1996. She earned her MLIS from the University of Missouri in 1999.

Meredith has been very active in serving in volunteer positions with MLA and is currently Chair of the Media and Publications Committee, Marketing Subcommittee and Webinar Platform Subcommittees.

She has been a member of the American Library Association and the Public Library Association for the majority of her career in libraries.

**Candidate Statement:** I am very honored to have been asked to run again for Member-At-Large on the MLA Board. I believe libraries of all shapes and sizes serve as a vital hub for their community whether it be a town, a school, a workplace, or other institution. MLA is an outstanding all volunteer organization that serves as a collective voice for all Missouri libraries and as such it is essential to maintain and recruit members from a wide variety of the library professionals so ideas can be examined from many angles to the greater benefit of us all. If elected I pledge to work on maintaining and expanding our membership opportunities to ensure that MLA showcases the wonderful diversity that is such a strength of our Missouri libraries.



### **Christina Prucha**

Christina Prucha is the director of library services at State Technical College of Missouri in Linn, MO where she has served for 2 ½ years. She received her MLS from the University of Arizona in 2005. She has had the pleasure of working on both the library and archives side of this great profession, serving as the archivist for the American Choral Directors Association in Oklahoma City from 2006-2010. In 2011, she and her family moved to the St. Louis area where she became the cataloger and archivist at Logan University. In 2015, she took the position at State Tech to fulfill her dream of working with two-year college students.

Christina has been active in a number of library communities. She has been involved in MLA since her arrival in Missouri in 2011, having served on numerous committees including the Publications Subcommittee, the Legislative Committee, the Bylaws and Handbook Committee, the Nominating Committee, and the Continuing Education Committee. She served on the MLA Board from 2014-2016 and was president of the organization in 2015. She also served on the St. Louis Regional Library Network Board from 2012-2015, and was president of the organization from 2013-2014. She is currently the MACRL Chapters Council Representative and serves as the chair for the MOBIUS ILS Software and Services Committee.

Outside of work, Christina is currently working on her doctorate in Education with an emphasis in higher education administration at Lindenwood University. In her free time, Christina likes to spend time with her daughter, Claire, who teaches her about manga and anime, her husband, Jason, who teaches her board games, and their dog, Ivy, who likes to go for long walks.

**Candidate Statement:** Christina believes strongly in the Missouri Library Association. Her belief in and support of the organization led her to run and serve on the Board from 2014-2016, and it directs her in her decision to run again. She is passionate about providing value to MLA members and as such, she was part of the team that brought the MLA Academy to pre-conferences in 2016 and 2017. As a member of the Board, she would be committed to promoting more free and low-cost professional development for members. As a member-at-large, she would humbly serve her constituents, bringing their concerns and ideas to the Board. She is grateful for the opportunity to run for this position and hopes to serve the members of this organization a second time.

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### **Dan Brower**

Dan Brower is the Assistant Director and Head of Public Services for Cass County Public Library. Prior to that, he was the Assistant Director of Scenic Regional Library. Dan earned his MLS from Emporia State University in 2013.

Dan has been active with MLA over the past few years. He has served on the Legislative Committee for two years, and was the co-coordinator for MLA's joint conference with KLA in 2015. He has also been a member of both the American Library Association and the Public Library Association for many years.

**Candidate Statement:** I have been in libraries for 10 years now, and, in that time, I have had a variety of experiences and responsibilities, starting as a library assistant and working up, through management, to my current role as Assistant Director. After just a few weeks working in a public library, I knew that working in libraries is what I wanted to do for the rest of my life. I love working in libraries, and I love the work that we do. Since 2011, I've been actively involved in MLA, and I am grateful for the opportunities the organization has afforded me. Coordinating the joint conference in 2015 gave me a unique opportunity to meet many of our members, and network with many of Kansas's members, too, while working closely with both executive boards. Being able to work with so many talented individuals was an outstanding experience, and without MLA, I would not have had an experience quite like it. There is a great value in membership in MLA, and I hope to have the chance to use my experience to serve MLA and its members and prospective members as the organization has served me.



### **Justin Megahan**

Justin Megahan is the Digital Resources Librarian and an Associate Professor at Fontbonne University in St. Louis, Mo. Just has served Fontbonne in many different library roles for nearly two decades. Justin began his library experience as a student worker. His love of libraries helped him transition at Fontbonne into a part-time employee, a full-time employee, and then, the Circulation Manager. After a number of years, Fontbonne promoted Justin into a tenured-librarian position. Justin's current duties include: liaison to the Math and Computer Science Department, instructor of the University's required information literacy course, and managing the library's digital resources. Justin received his MLIS from the University of Missouri – Columbia in 2010.

**Candidate Statement:** I appreciate the opportunity to run for MLA Member-at-Large. The Missouri Library Association is an important organization for our local librarians. MLA allows great opportunities for its members to network and share ideas. The annual conference is a perfect example of this. I have seen the success of this great state conference as a conference presenter (2012 + 2017), Conference Technology Chair (2013), and most recently, the Conference Co-coordinator (2017). I greatly appreciate all the opportunities that MLA has granted me.

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## Candidates for President-Elect



### Cindy Dudenhoffer

Cindy Dudenhoffer is the Director of Information Resources and Assessment at Central Methodist University, where she has worked since 2006. She received her M.A. in Information Science & Learning Technologies and her Educational Specialist degree in 2016 from Webster University, and is currently working on her doctorate in educational innovation. Cindy has presented at conferences all over Missouri and the US, on topics ranging from “Managing the DIY Library and Librarian” to “Keep Calm and Visualize Your Data: Statistical Dashboards and Infographics.” Having participated in more than 35 presentations and panels, as well as having held many leadership positions within Mobius, MLA, ACRL, and RUSA, Cindy is always ready to do her part for the betterment of libraries and the communities they serve. She is currently serving as Chair of the Continuing Education committee of MLA. She would be excited to helm MLA as it continues to grow as a professional organization. She lives in Fayette, MO with her husband and three children.

**Candidate Statement:** I am excited to run for the MLA President! I have been a member of MLA since I started library school and continue to discover so much about our profession from this resilient and committed group. MLA has undergone some amazing changes over the past few years, and it is my wish to be a part of this continued positive growth. I will bring energy and enthusiasm to the MLA Board, as well as experience garnered from working in both large and small academic libraries, a public library, an administrator and project manager, and as President of an executive board. I hope that we can continue to focus on building membership from all types of organizations and on reinforcing the value of libraries in the state of Missouri as we continue to struggle with tough economic times. I would also like to focus on continuing education and providing access to training and to the wonderful knowledge base found in Missouri librarians. With the contributions of all MLA members, we can continue as a strong, vibrant organization, facilitating the success of librarians and librarians.



### Liz MacDonald

Liz MacDonald is the Dean of University Library Services at Lindenwood University and has served in that capacity for over 14 years. She started her career in libraries as an interlibrary loan assistant at St. Louis University Health Sciences Library while completing her MA in History from SIUE in 1991. She then immediately enrolled in the MLS program at University of Missouri Columbia, which she completed in 1993. Upon completion of her MLS, Liz decided to take a non-traditional track and began working for herself as an independent contractor providing research and reference services on an as needed basis to businesses. Projects consisted of answers to quick reference questions, white papers, competitive intelligence reports, research summaries, data gathering, and survey development and analysis. Her client list included companies such as, United Van Lines, Price Waterhouse Coopers, Anheuser Busch Packaging Group, Edward Jones, and A.G. Edwards among others. In 1999 she accepted a position with Sanford-Brown College as the Director of 5 campus learning resource centers. She held that position

until 2003 when she moved on to the Dean position at Lindenwood University. Liz has had many accomplishments in that role, the most notable being the initiative she led for a 24-million-dollar library and academic resources center building project that was approved by Lindenwood’s board of directors in 2012 and opened in August 2017. Since moving into the new space, she has been focused on developing collaborative programming and partnerships both on and off of the Lindenwood campus.

Outside of her responsibilities at Lindenwood, she has been involved in the library community in a variety of ways. She currently serves on the Board for the St. Charles City County Public Library Foundation. She worked with the Wentzville Optimists Club to establish a ‘Little Lending Library’ on one of Lindenwood’s properties that was dedicated in April 2018. She has been a member of the Missouri Library Association for many years. She served on the Financial Services Committee from 2009 -2011 and more recently has served on the Membership Committee from 2014 to the present. In 2013 Liz was presented with Missouri Library Association’s

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Ronald G. Bohley Award for outstanding efforts in promoting library cooperation. She also served on and co-chaired task forces and committees within MOBIUS, as well as serving on the MOBIUS Executive Board from 2005-2007. Additionally, while serving on the MLNC Board of Directors from 2007 - 2012, Liz served on the Nominating Committee and MLNC Strategic Initiatives Task Force. Upon the merger of MLNC and Amigos Library Services, she served a one-year term 2012-2013 as a non-voting member on the Amigos Board of Directors and continued on as a regular voting member through 2016.

**Candidate Statement:** Being nominated to run for the position of President-Elect for MLA is a great honor and I welcome the opportunity to take on the role. As libraries continue to face challenges in today's climate of changing economic, technological, social and political environments, it is imperative that libraries and librarians effectively promote themselves and their value to their constituencies. This must be done not only on an individual institutional level, but on a collective level as well. It is vitally important that we let our community of users know what is provided to them through their libraries. Whether it is through the school, public, academic, or special library, our resources and services support individuals throughout their lifespan. It is for this reason that I am honored to be nominated for this position and use it as a vehicle to continue to promote our united message.

## MLA Legislative Committee News

### Missouri Library Advocates Participate in National Library Legislative Day

On May 7 & 8, 2018, the American Library Association held its National Library Legislative Day in Washington D.C. A library delegation from Missouri attended, after making appointments to visit with each of their Congressional Representatives. The delegation held productive meetings, with each Legislator or their office representative, to discuss continued funding of the federal partnership through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), and the role libraries play in providing benefits to their constituents. Benefits that include: job training, resume writing workshops, internet access and services for schools, children and literacy programs.



For the past 41 years, Missouri library advocates have traveled to Washington, D.C. to speak to our elected officials about the policies and funding that impact libraries. Without continued funding, many citizens of Missouri would lose out on some of the essentials that they could not afford to get elsewhere.

Members of the Delegation included:

Gerald Brooks, NLLD Coordinator and Chair, MLA Legislative Committee  
Retired, St. Louis Public Library, St. Louis, MO  
Dan Brower, Cass County Public Library, Kansas City, MO  
Kristin Evans, Henry County Library, Clinton, MO  
Jacque Gage, Joplin Public Library, Joplin, MO  
Peggy Ridlen, Fontbonne University, St. Louis, MO  
April Roy, President, MLA, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, MO  
Jim Staley, Mid Continent Public Library, Grain Valley/Kansas City, MO  
Amy Taylor, Lee's Summit West High School, Lees Summit, MO  
Robin Westphal, Missouri State Librarian, Jefferson City, MO  
Julie Yockey, Carthage Public Library, Carthage, MO

## MLA Membership Committee News

### Central Missouri MLA Membership Meetup at Daniel Boone Regional Library on Saturday, July 14

On Saturday, July 14, 2018, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., the Membership Committee of the [Missouri Library Association](#) (MLA) will host a Membership Meetup at Columbia Public Library in Columbia, MO. Refreshments will be served.

This meetup is an informal gathering open to everyone interested in, or engaged in, a library career. Both non-MLA members as well as MLA members are welcome! We hope you will come and meet other local colleagues in your field, discuss relevant topics, and ask questions of the MLA Membership Committee members who will be present. There is no pressure to join MLA, but we hope that non-members as well as MLA members can share with us some ideas of what MLA membership could mean.

Columbia Public Library is located at [100 W. Broadway, Columbia, Missouri, 65203](#). Parking is available both behind the library, as well as north of Broadway, a short walk from building.

If you plan to attend, please RSVP at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0b4dada92fa4f85-central>, and share the link with anyone you think might be interested!



## 2018 MLA Conference

### Stronger Together: Diversity in Libraries & Diversity of Libraries (October 10-12, 2018)

We look forward to welcoming the Missouri Library Association to Columbia for the Annual Conference this October, and conference preparations are hopping!

The call for programs closed in April, and the call for table talks and poster sessions closed in May. We had a great response to the call – 116 submissions! The chairs of programs, pre-conferences, table talks, and poster sessions worked diligently to ensure a broad range of presentations involving as many presenters as possible for the space and time available, and we are very excited about this year's lineup.

The conference website is live, and new information is posted there as it becomes available. Please check it out for more details at <http://molib.org/conference/2018-conference/> !

Early Bird registration began June 19, so be sure to head to the conference website for the registration link. Registration for Early Bird pricing goes through August 14 and Regular pricing begins August 15. Please see registration options below.

Registration	Cost
Early Bird Full Conference Member	\$110.00
Early Bird Full Conference Non-Member	\$180.00
Early Bird One-Day Member	\$65.00
Early Bird One-Day Non-Member	\$130.00
Early Bird Full Conference Student	\$50.00
Early Bird Full Conference Retiree/Trustee/Friend	\$75.00
Full Conference Member	\$150.00
Full Conference Non-Member	\$205.00
One-Day Member	\$95.00
One-Day Non-Member	\$160.00
Full Conference Student	\$85.00
Full Conference Retiree/Trustee/Friend	\$110.00

We look forward to seeing you in Columbia!

Submitted by your 2018 Conference Coordinators: Debbie Luchenbill and Kimberly Moeller, [2018mlacoordinators@gmail.com](mailto:2018mlacoordinators@gmail.com)

## Save the Date: Youth Services UnConference 2019

**When?** April 10, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Where?** Daniel Boone Regional Library – Columbia Branch  
100 W Broadway, Columbia, MO 65203

**Who is the sponsor?** The Youth Services Community of Interest (YSCI), Missouri Library Association

### What is an unconference?

An unconference is a series of workshops led by YOU, the attendees. Those participating in the unconference suggest topics of interest, and attendees then vote on their favorite topics. The following workshops are discussions among the attendees on those topics. The Youth Services UnConference is a flexible, personable way to focus on topics that matter to you and your libraries. You will also get to meet awesome librarians, exchange knowledge and have fun!

This unconference is FREE for MLA members, with a small lunch fee for non-MLA members. Registration information will be available in 2019.



## A Report from Your ALA Councilor

The American Library Association Annual Conference provided many sessions and hundreds of exhibitors for over 16,000 attendees. NOLA (New Orleans, Louisiana) was vibrant and full of attractions and gastronomic delights. Both the opening and closing keynote speakers were outstanding.

Former First Lady, Michelle Obama, was the opening keynote speaker. She spoke about her passion for reading and how important books helped in her roles as a professional, a mother, and the wife of the President of the United States. Mrs. Obama prefers a physical book rather than an electronic book, one that she can hold, smell, feel, and use as an escape. Her forthcoming book, *Becoming*, will be out in September 2018.

Tony, Oscar, and Emmy award-winner Viola Davis was the closing keynote speaker. She talked about her new book, *Corduroy Takes a Bow*. Viola grew up reading *Corduroy* repeatedly and decided to place *Corduroy* in her world of the theater. As a young child, Viola visited Miss Denise the librarian daily and spent many hours escaping in the library. She continues to be a supporter of her childhood library, Adams Memorial Library in Central Falls, Rhode Island.

Some of the highlights from the ALA Council meetings are:

- Council voted to acknowledge the fundamental injustice, cruelty, and inhumanity of racially segregated libraries; apologize to African Americans, and commend African Americans who risked their lives to integrate public libraries.
- Council voted to approve revisions to the Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC) manual to include more specifics about provisions for disabled individuals.
- Council voted to continue its commitment to social justice and sustainability.
- Council voted to provide additional gender inclusive and gender specific bathrooms at ALA conferences.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie D. Tolson, Chapter Councilor for Missouri

## Featured Library Employee

### Meet this issue's Featured Library Employee for the Missouri Library Association, Julia Wilbers!



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

My name is Julia Wilbers and I'm a Reference Librarian at St. Charles Community College

What originally got you interested in working at a library?

I resisted the call for a long time! My exposure to libraries came from having a mother who was a Children's Librarian. I volunteered at the public library in high school, worked at the science library all four years as an undergraduate at Miami University... I just couldn't get away. After a brief stint in book publishing it finally hit me that what I was most passionate about was promoting literacy and encouraging people to see how fun it is to do research. Libraries were where I belonged.

What keeps you coming back every day?

The first thing I'd have to say is my co-workers, I work with some amazing people in my library. The *very close* second would be the fact that I get to spend my time helping students. I loved being in school but I didn't really appreciate all that the library had to offer until long after my undergraduate career was over. I want to help our students avoid that delay in appreciation so I go out of my way to engage with them and try to alleviate any library anxiety. Plus, I love doing collection development.

What's challenging about your work?

I think what's most challenging about my work is needing to regularly remind myself that the stress a lot of students bring to reference interactions isn't directed toward me. It's easy to internalize stressful interactions because all you want to do is help. If the student is working on a tight deadline and it just seems like things aren't working for them they can easily (and understandably) get frustrated and occasionally that frustration ends up coming your way. As a librarian my focus is helping the patron in front of me and it's hard to feel like you can't meet them at their point of need because of things beyond your control.

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

There are so many things! I'm all about encouraging students to embrace leisure reading. When someone comes in and asks for a book recommendation I think my heart grows three sizes. Any Readers Advisory service I can offer gets me incredibly excited. Since I work at a community college our student population is a diverse one with people from many walks of life. I'm in awe of those students I see balancing work, family, and school with such focus and dedication. I'm also fortunate enough to be the library liaison for our Education department and that gives me the opportunity to stay on top of picture books and children's publishing. I'm so in love with the [#WeNeedDiverseBooks](#) movement and I appreciate children's literature in a way I didn't before starting this job. I could go on and on...

Who is one of your mentors?

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This is a hard one to answer because I feel like there are so many people who have influenced the way I approach librarianship. She might not realize she's been a mentor to me but I'd say Carol Tilley, one of my professors from the iSchool at Illinois. She is so passionate about her work and she is so intelligent, friendly, and supportive... The way Carol approaches librarianship helped show me how to curate my interests within my profession. Just because my job title says one thing doesn't mean I'm limited to that. Pursuing what I'm passionate about through the lens of librarianship only serves to make me a better resource to my patrons.

And I have to add my cohort of reference librarians at SCC. I work with some amazing women, all of whom have helped me grow as a librarian. Seeing the way Ying Li, Theresa Flett, and Kelly Mitchell interact with patrons, prepare for classes, work with faculty, consistently stay student-focused... it motivates me to do the best I can so I can live up to their standards.

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 just finished Anne Fadiman's memoir, *The Wine Lover's Daughter*, and it was amazing! Her father, Clifton Fadiman, was an intellectual virtuoso who undoubtedly had an influence on your life you just might not be aware of (*Cricket* magazine, anyone?). Her memoir was so beautifully done and it has led me to explore her father's work... what better testament to a book than the fact that it makes you excited to learn more?!

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

Just the fact that I'm honored to have been chosen as this month's featured library employee! It was such a pleasant surprise! AND that I'd highly recommend Alexandra Gallin-Parisi's article, "An Academic Librarian-Mother in Six Stories," in *In the Library with the Lead Pipe*. I met her at The Collective conference, fell in love with her personality, and then saw my friend-crush grow after reading this piece. Anyone can appreciate it, but librarian-mothers (especially of young children) will find themselves especially engrossed.

Would you like to nominate someone to be our next Featured Library Employee? Examples could be:

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

Submit name(s) and contact information, along with place of employment, to Shannon Mawhiney at [smawhiney@missouristate.edu](mailto:smawhiney@missouristate.edu). We'll do all the work of contacting; we just need you to connect us!



## Missouri Librarians Recognized for Excellence at ALA in New Orleans



**Heather Moulaison Sandy** received the 2018 LITA/Library Hi Tech Award for Outstanding Communication in Library and Information Technology. The award, sponsored by Emerald Publishing, is given for long-term contributions in the area of Library and Information Science technology and its application. Dr. Moulaison Sandy is an associate professor at the iSchool at the University of Missouri.

**Beth Brendler** and her co-authors won a YALSA award for best article in *The Journal of Research on Libraries & Young Adults*. The article, "Provide the Highest Level of Service: Public Library Collections of LGBTQ\* Materials for Adolescents in the United States," was co-authored by Lindsay Beckman, Denice Adkins, Heather Moulaison Sandy, Natalia Wiggins-Prelas, and Vanessa Adams. The writers were recognized at YALSA's Membership Meeting at the ALA Annual.



Beth Brendler



Denice Adkins



**Kaite Stover** received the RUSA Margaret E. Monroe Library Adult Services Award from the Reference and User Services Division. The award, sponsored by Novelist, is given to a librarian who has made significant contributions to library adult services. Stover has been highly active both with RUSA and PLA, participating on advisory committees for Booklist, Library Reads, and Penguin Random House. Stover also has served on the prestigious Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction and Nonfiction. Kaite Stover is Director of Readers' Services at Kansas City Public Library. Kaite was recognized at the RUSA President's Program.



**Chris LeBeau** received the BRASS Excellence in Business Librarianship Award sponsored by Mergent. This award goes to a librarian who has demonstrated excellence in areas such as authorship, programming, practice, teaching, leadership or encouragement of fellow librarians to succeed. BRASS is the Business Reference and Services Section of RUSA. LeBeau is currently president of RUSA, and recently retired from the University of Missouri's iSchool and UMKC Libraries. Chris was recognized at a BRASS event at ALA.



# Amigos Library Services

## SAVE THE DATE – Amigos Online Conference: Speak Up – Advocating for You and Your Library

What do you think of when you hear the word “advocacy”? Do you immediately think of stumping on Capitol Hill and meeting with local government officials?

“Advocacy” is much more than politics. Every day, librarians and staff find themselves in situations where they must advocate for resources, money, and services for their libraries, in addition to advocating for themselves and their career as professionals.

Mark your calendars for **September 12**, and join us for an Amigos Library Services online conference, *Speak Up – Advocating for You and Your Library*, where we will explore advocacy beyond politics.

For more details, contact Jodie Borgerding, [borgerding@amigos.org](mailto:borgerding@amigos.org), or check out the [conference page](#).



## Amigos Member Spotlight

We're proud of our Amigos Library Services members and want to recognize the work that they do in their communities. Each month we will be showcasing an Amigos member library or institution. It's a great way for Amigos members and non-members alike to learn from and meet colleagues and peers.

Would you like your institution to be featured in our spotlight? Send us a message at [communications@amigos.org](mailto:communications@amigos.org).

## Amigos Members Offered Discount on Demco

Did you know Amigos members are eligible for discounts on many [DEMCO](#) products? From everyday supplies to innovative library spaces, their unique family of brands provides the products and services needed to create an imaginative learning environment.

Demco offers a variety of products from office furniture supplies to reading program supplies and school library furniture. They also specialize in library supplies, from audiovisual supplies to library security.

For the special Amigos discount code, contact Susie Thompson, [thompson@amigos.org](mailto:thompson@amigos.org) or 800-843-8482, ext. 2880.

## Special Pricing Offered on Ovid 2018 Ebook Nursing Collection

Amigos Library Services members are eligible for additional discounts on [Ovid's](#) Ebook Nursing Collection. The books include some of the most recent top nursing books and a few premium titles.

These 12 ebooks comprise the collection:

- The 5-Minute Clinical Consult 2019

*Continued from page 14*

- Dosage Calculations Made Incredibly Easy!
- Drugs in Pregnancy and Lactation: A Reference Guide to Fetal and Neonatal Risk
- Lippincott Manual of Nursing Practice
- Lippincott's Manual of Psychiatric Nursing Care Plans
- Lippincott's Nursing Procedures
- Nursing Care Plans: Transitional Patient & Family Centered Care
- Nursing Diagnosis: Application to Clinical Practice
- Nursing 2018 Drug Handbook
- Professional Guide to Signs & Symptoms
- Telephone Triage Protocols for Nurses
- Wound Care Essentials: Practice Principles

The special pricing is available until **September 30**.

For more information on the collection, contact Megan Bryant at [bryant@amigos.org](mailto:bryant@amigos.org) or 800-843-8482, ext. 2896.

## Get the FACTS from FACTCITE

What happened on this day in history? Many of your students or patrons may ask you that question.

[FactCite](#) is one resource that can give you the answer! It's collection of databases can support your curriculum and stimulate young researchers.

Resources include: Mythology, Biography for Beginners, Essential Biographies (formerly Sports Champions and Shapers of Society), Science, American History, Essential Information (a general reference encyclopedia) and Defining Moments in American History.

Each database features audio read-along, clean screen designs for optimal readability, citations, keyword searching, indexes by topic, indexes by reading level, regular updates, and responsive editors who listen to subscribers' suggestions.

Want to learn more? For trial and pricing information, contact Ashley Brizuela at [brizuela@amigos.org](mailto:brizuela@amigos.org) or 800-843-8482, ext. 2805.

## Hear how one library uses SpringShare's Tools

[SpringShare](#) helps libraries thrive in a digital-first world by empowering librarians to shine and provide amazing service to users! Their Springshare's #librarianfirst software platform will help your library curate resources and share knowledge, provide answers, engage your community, deepen relationships with users, and analyze the use of library services.

[Check out how one library puts some of their resources to work!!](#)

For pricing on any of SpringShares' tools, contact Susie Thompson at [thompson@amigos.org](mailto:thompson@amigos.org) or 800-843-8482, ext. 2880.

## Check out all Country Watch has to offer!

[Country Watch](#), an online database providing news and information on the 195 countries recognized by the U.S. State Department, is a resource serving academic institutions, government agencies, public libraries, K-12 schools, private individuals, and corporations globally.

### CountryWatch Premium

Offers comprehensive information, data and news for each of the recognized 195 countries of the world offering these specific features:

*Continued on page 16*

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- Country Reviews™ - Political, cultural, economic, social, demographic, business-oriented, and environmental information and data
- Country Wire - Daily news stories covering the country's current events
- CountryWatch Data - Quantifiable data points for each country
- CountryWatch Map Gallery - Thematic, political, and geographic maps
- Political Intelligence Briefing - Weekly hot spots and political changes
- Economic Intelligence Briefing - Monthly reports covering global economic market trends and their likely impact
- Global Guide - Interesting facts, special reports on global hot spots
- Country reports can be downloaded in PDF format

### **CountryWatch CultureWatch**

A database tailored to students exploring the countries of the world and global events, including:

- Country Reports - Background information on specific countries
- Current Events
- A guide to the formation of countries within global context
- Curriculum-based resources with lessons and quizzes
- International images of popular attractions, flags for each country, and physical/thematic/political/country maps

### **Genetic Origins - Have you taken a DNA test? Now let's research those places!**

- Enter your DNA kit provider or place a DNA kit order and get FREE Genetic Origins access.
- Learn in-depth information about the nation states from which you originated through CountryWatch Genetic Origins.

### **CountryWatch Suite - Access to EVERYTHING– "BEST VALUE"**

- Access to ALL resources, with the greatest discount given.

Would you like a trial of CountryWatch? Contact Ashley Brizuela at [brizuela@amigos.org](mailto:brizuela@amigos.org) or 800-843-8482, ext. 2805.

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## **Continuing Education Opportunities**

### **Are your library's brochures, flyers, and other promotional materials starting to look boring?**

Does the thought of using Adobe InDesign or Microsoft Publisher make your palms sweat? In our course, [Drama Free Graphic Design](#), you'll learn about basic design elements and principles, and how to apply those elements into print and electronic promotional materials using the free web-based program, Canva.

[Register Now](#) – Tuesday, July 31, 2- 4:00 p.m. CDT

### **Looking for a way to gain meaningful insight into your spreadsheets?**

The most powerful way to summarize and present information from a large and detailed set of data is through pivot tables. Pivot functionality is built into spreadsheet applications, such as Excel or Google Docs, but is a feature that is often overlooked, ignored, or assumed to be too challenging. In this course, you will learn how to take advantage of this feature, how to apply it to existing data sets, and more.

[Register Now](#) – August 7-14, 9-10 a.m. CDT

### **Don't miss our course, Regular Expressions, back by popular demand!**

*Continued on page 17*



*Continued from page 16*

This course is an introduction to managing and editing data by learning syntax and construction of a regular expression, a sequence of characters that define a search patterns. You'll learn how to design simple and complex regular expressions using hands-on examples.

[Register Now](#) – August 21-23, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. CDT *Early bird registration ends 7/30*

## Know & Go Updates

Know & Go's are part of a series of informative web sessions covering topics of current interest. Designed for group participation and FREE for Amigos members, Know & Go Updates are presented online on Monday afternoons from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. CDT. [Register today!](#)

- [The New RDA Toolkit](#) July 16
- [The Power of Presenting](#) July 23
- [Teaching in the Library: Applying Learning Theories to Support Our Communities](#) July 30
- [RDA after LRM](#) August 6
- [Discover how Amigos Library Services can help your Library!](#) August 13

## Upcoming Online Classes

Here's a quick look at upcoming online classes. Classes are always being added so be sure to check out our [course schedule!](#) (All times CDT)

- [Metadata Principles and Practices 01: Metadata Basics](#) July 17, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – *Seats still available*
- [I Agreed to What?! Privacy and Social Media](#) July 18, 2-4 p.m. – *Seats still available*
- [Metadata Principles and Practices 02: Metadata Standards and Types](#) July 19, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – *Seats still available*
- [Metadata Principles and Practices 03: Customization and Exchange](#) July 24, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – *Seats still available*
- [Metadata Principles and Practices 04: Metadata Relationships](#) July 26, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – *Seats still available*
- [Drama Free Graphic Design](#) July 31, 2-4 p.m. – *Seats still available*
- [Getting the Most Out of Your Data Using Pivot Tables](#) August 7-14, 9-10 a.m. – *Seats still available*
- [Personal Name Authority Records: RDA and MARC](#) August 8-9, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – *Early bird registration ends 7/17*
- [Discover how Amigos Library Services can help your library!](#) August 13, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
- [Cataloging eBooks: RDA and Provider-Neutral Guidelines](#) August 15, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – *Early bird registration ends 7/24*
- [Communication Planning for Libraries](#) August 15-16, 2-4 p.m. – *Early bird registration ends 7/24*
- [Regular Expressions](#) August 21-23, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – *Early bird registration ends 7/30*
- [RDA for Copy Catalogers](#) August 22-23, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – *Early bird registration ends 7/31*
- [Event Planning 101](#) August 28-30, 2-4 p.m. – *Early bird registration ends 8/6*
- [Navigating the New RDA Toolkit](#) September 6, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – *Early bird registration ends 8/15*
- [RDA for Video Recordings](#) September 26-27, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – *Early bird registration ends 9/4*
- [Creating a Social Media Policy](#) September 27, 2-4 p.m. – *Early bird registration ends 9/5*

## MOBIUS Celebrates 20 Years



Nearly 300 people gathered June 4-6 in Independence, Mo., to celebrate 20 years of collaboration and partnership through MOBIUS. Among the attendees were 26 VIP guests, including founding members and former MOBIUS staff members, several sponsors, and representatives from 19 different vendors.

Following a keynote presentation from Charlie

Bennett and Ameet Doshi, hosts of the “one-and-only research-library rock’n’roll radio show,” *Lost in the Stacks* on WREK Atlanta, attendees enjoyed an outdoor reception featuring appetizers and live music to kick off the festivities on the first evening of the conference.

Additional highlights of the conference included a panel discussion featuring founding directors and administrators of MOBIUS, a group drone photo with all attendees, and additional interviews with many of the VIP guests conducted by an oral historian and captured by a videographer.

### Missouri Evergreen News

North Kansas City Public Library went live on Evergreen on April 16 and Riverside Regional Library went live on June 11! Cass County Public Library will be the next member library system to migrate, in August. Missouri Evergreen was also pleased to welcome Camden County Library as its newest member.

April 30-May 3, many staff members from Missouri Evergreen libraries were among the more than 170 people who attended the annual Evergreen International Conference, which took place in St. Charles, MO and was hosted by MOBIUS. They participated in sessions of interest to Evergreen libraries and networked with other librarians and developers who use the Evergreen ILS.

Missouri Evergreen conducted its annual business meeting on June 7 in St. Louis, before the Missouri Public Library Directors’ meeting. The membership approved bylaws changes, elected new Executive Board members, and the Executive Board chose officers for the next year. Other reports and discussion ensued relevant to the consortium.

Missouri Evergreen now comprises 43 member systems representing over 100 locations, contains more than 2.6 million items, over 1.3 million bibliographic records, and over 530,000 patrons. According to recent statistics from the Missouri State Library, among all Missouri public libraries and public library consortia, Missouri Evergreen is currently second in number of patrons and third in collection size.

The Missouri Evergreen website, <http://libraries.missourievergreen.org>, contains more information about the consortium, including member libraries, steps to join, past meeting information, and borrowing/lending statistics.

The mission of Missouri Evergreen is to provide a shared integrated library system to increase resource sharing among Missouri public libraries. Administered by MOBIUS, it 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.

## News from Wolfner Library

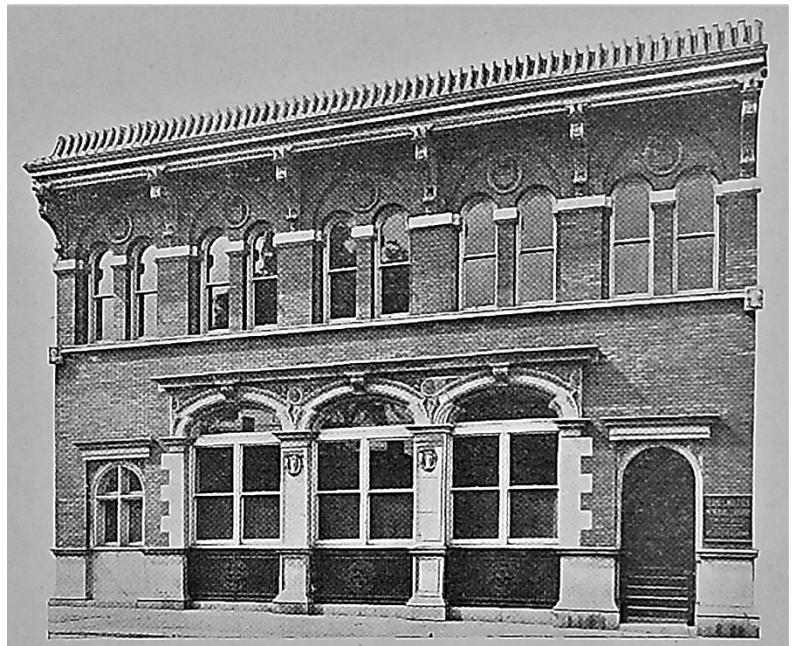
### Wolfner Library Celebrates 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library has a long history of serving Missouri's visually and physically disabled citizens. In 1936, Dr. Meyer Wiener, a well-known eye specialist with Jewish Hospital, led a group of St. Louis citizens to raise funds to create a library building dedicated to serving the blind. This new location opened on June 7, 1938. Dr. Wiener named the building the Henry L. Wolfner Memorial Library to honor his late colleague, a noted eye specialist who practiced in St. Louis for 53 years.

In 1985, the library moved to Jefferson City. Since 1991, Wolfner Library has been located within the James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center.

To learn more, visit

<https://www.sos.mo.gov/wolfner/about/history>.



### Wolfner Library Book Clubs:

Wolfner Library offers three book club groups for its patrons, one each for fiction, nonfiction, and mild reads titles. Each group meets monthly from February through October via conference call. If your library serves patrons who qualify for Wolfner Library's services, they can call 1-800-392-2614 to register.

#### Schedule:

July 12th at 2 p.m. Novel Reads (fiction): *Caroline: A Little House Revisited* by Sarah Elizabeth Miller

July 19th at 2 p.m. Good Books (mild reads): *Burning Sky* by Lori Benton

July 26th at 2 p.m. Big Ideas (nonfiction): *Nathan Hale: The Life and Death of an American Hero* by M. William Phelps

#### August:

August 16th at 2 p.m. Novel Reads: *Flygirl* by Sherri Smith

August 23rd at 2 p.m. Good Books: *The Hindenburg* by Michael Macdonald Mooney

August 30th at 2 p.m. Big Ideas: *The Aviators: Eddie Rickenbacker, Jimmy Doolittle, Charles Lindbergh, and the Epic Age of Flight* by Winston Groom

#### September:

September 13th at 2 p.m. Novel Reads: *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck

September 20th at 2 p.m. Good Books: *Breaking Barriers: Working and Loving While Blind: A Memoir* by Peter Altschul\*

September 27th at 2 p.m. Big Ideas: *Thinking in Pictures: And Other Reports from My Life* by Temple Grandin

\*There will be an author talk via conference call with Peter Altschul September 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:30. All Wolfner Library patrons are invited to register.



## State Historical Society of Missouri

### Register Now: Center for Missouri Studies Lecture on Laura Ingalls Wilder



Join the State Historical Society of Missouri on October 13 for a talk by Caroline Fraser, author of the 2018 Pulitzer Prize–winning biography, *Prairie Fires: The American Dreams of Laura Ingalls Wilder*, in Columbia.

In a review of the book for the *New York Times*, Patricia Nelson Limerick, director of the University of Colorado’s Center of the American West, wrote, “For anyone who has drifted into thinking of Wilder’s ‘Little House’ books as relics of a distant and irrelevant past, reading *Prairie Fires* will provide a lasting cure.”

Fraser’s 1 p.m. talk will follow SHSMO’s annual business meeting and luncheon at the Courtyard by Marriott–Columbia. Online registration is now open for the noon luncheon: \$35 members, \$50 nonmembers.

All other events on October 13 are free and open to the public, including the 11 a.m. meeting and the 1 p.m. lecture, although there is a \$10 suggested donation for those attending Fraser’s talk. A book signing will immediately follow the lecture. Pre-order the book when registering or by calling the Society’s gift shop at 573.882.7083. Learn more about the Center for Missouri Studies Fall Lecture at <https://shsmo.org/thecenter/lecture>.

### Missouri 2021: Two New Programs Kick Off for State Bicentennial



The State Historical Society of Missouri has launched two new programs exploring Missouri’s history and culture at the occasion of its bicentennial in 2021—the My Missouri 2021 Photograph Project and the Missouri 2021 Endorsement Program.

The My Missouri 2021 Photograph Project invites professional and amateur photographers to submit their work for an exhibition that will run during the bicentennial. Two hundred images will be selected and exhibited at the Society’s future headquarters building in Columbia and other sites around the state in 2021. The photos will also be featured in a digital collection on the Missouri 2021 website ([missouri2021.org](http://missouri2021.org)).

The project will create a lasting visual retrospective of the state’s physical and cultural landscape at the time of its bicentennial. The 200 selected photos will become part of SHSMO’s permanent bicentennial collection, where they will remain

available to researchers, teachers, students, and the general public. Learn more at [www.missouri2021.org/my-missouri](http://www.missouri2021.org/my-missouri).

The Missouri 2021 Endorsement Program creates a media partnership with local organizations seeking to develop and host their own bicentennial activities or to brand existing community offerings for the bicentennial year. Endorsed programs and events receive acknowledgment from the State Historical Society and are granted permission to use Missouri 2021 logos according to established guidelines. Endorsed programs or events will also be publicized on the Missouri 2021 website. For details on submitting an application, see [missouri2021.org/endorsement](http://missouri2021.org/endorsement).



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Under the Missouri 2021 banner, SHSMO is coordinating a statewide commemoration that incorporates both rural and urban communities in projects, programs, and events. Missouri 2021 welcomes queries or comments at [contact@missouri2021.org](mailto:contact@missouri2021.org).

## Increased Access: St. Louis Women as Change Agents Oral History Project Available Online

The Women as Change Agents Oral History Project (SA1207) now boasts 91 online transcripts at <https://shsmo.org/manuscripts/collections/transcripts/sa1207>. This collection records the thoughts of influential female leaders in Missouri, revealing how they have changed public perceptions of women's roles.

Blanche M. Touhill, a State Historical Society trustee and chancellor emerita of the University of Missouri–St. Louis, launched the project in 2013 with the International Women's Forum–St. Louis Oral History Collection (SA1148). This collection of more than 65 interviews documents the advancements St. Louis–area women have made in numerous fields such as the arts, business, politics, and the sciences.

The Women as Change Agents Collection continues the work of the IWF collection, preserving interviews with notable Missouri women who are not Forum members. View the collection to see the reflections of women ranging from Marie-Hélène Bernard, president and chief executive officer of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, to Molly Tovar, director of Washington University's Kathryn M. Buder Center for American Indian Studies and professor in the university's Brown School for social work, public health, and social policy.



## State Historical Society Welcomes New Staff



The State Historical Society of Missouri welcomed two new staff members. In March, Aubrey Rowden joined business office as the part-time administrative coordinator. Rowden supports staff members and patrons while also serving visitors to the Columbia headquarters and helping to promote the Society's gift shop. A mid-Missouri native, Rowden holds a bachelor's degree in fine art from the University of Missouri and is the owner of a Columbia-based photography business, Love Tree Studios.

At the Cape Girardeau Research Center, Garret Kremer-Wright has joined the staff as a full-time archivist. His assignments include processing collections and assisting researchers. A Jefferson City native, Kremer-Wright received a master's degree in history (public history concentration) from Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, and a bachelor's degree in historic preservation from Southeast Missouri State University. Before joining SHSMO in February, he was an archivist for the Catholic Diocese of Jefferson City, the Orange County Regional History Center in Orlando, Florida, and the Center for Arkansas History and Culture in Little Rock.

"I have enjoyed becoming familiar with the collections," Kremer-Wright said. "I am working on the Oliver Papers, which include cases from the legal firm, correspondence between the family members, and organizations the Oliver men were involved in. There is a wealth of research value within this collection."

## Concordia Seminary



Seminary Motto Wall in Coffee Area

In March 2017, Concordia Seminary began a significant renovation of its existing building which was built in 1962. During the interim, the library functioned from another building with the vast majority of the collection in accessible storage offsite which required daily paging trips to reshelve and pull needed resources.

This summer, we are happy to announce that the Kristine Kay Hasse Memorial Library will celebrate its grand re-opening Aug 24, 2018. In May, we officially made our collection inaccessible and began the long process of reshelving the books in their new space. Many new features include a new entrance, skylight, graduate student study carrels, wall graphics, meeting and study spaces, and room for collection growth. We look forward to sharing our new facility with our users and larger community.



PhD Offices



Second Floor Atrium View

## SISLT News

We have hired two new faculty members: **Jason Alston and Danielle Oprean.**

**Dr. Alston** has been hired as the new SISLT assistant teaching professor at University of Missouri-Kansas City. Dr. Alston earned his Ph.D. from the University of South Carolina's School of Library and Information Science in 2017. He also holds a Master of Library Science degree from North Carolina Central University and a Bachelor of English from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. He joins SISLT from South Carolina, where he worked as an information literacy librarian at Coastal Carolina University. He has previous library experience at Midlands Technical College, Forsyth County (NC) Public Library, and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Dr. Alston's research and teaching interests include information literacy, the role of emotion in information vetting, and diversity in libraries.

**Dr. Oprean** was hired as a new SISLT assistant professor in learning technology, Dr. Oprean earned her PhD from the University of Missouri's College of Human Environmental Sciences in 2014. She has a Master of Science in Engineering Technology from East Tennessee State University and a Master of Arts in Design with Digital Media from University of Missouri. Her Bachelors of Science

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in Digital Media Visualization is from East Tennessee State University. She joins SISLT from a joint post-doc position in the Stuckeman Center for Design Computing in Architecture and Chorophonesis in Geography at Penn State University. Her research and teaching interests focus in understanding the value of immersive technologies as learning tools for situated learning, user experience in simulated environments, and visualizing and embedding information into simulated and actual environments.

**Drs. Beth Brendler, Denice Adkins, Heather Moulaison Sandy**, and former SISLT students **Lindsay Beckman, Natalia Wiggins-Prelas, and Vanessa Adams** received the 2017 YALSA Writing Award for their article “Provide the Highest Level of Service”: Public Library Collections of LBGQT\* Materials for Adolescents in the United States published in the *Journal of Research on Libraries & Young Adults*. The YALSA Writing Award ([http://www.ala.org/yalsa/awardsandgrants/writing\\_award](http://www.ala.org/yalsa/awardsandgrants/writing_award)), which honors the best writing in YALSA’s blogs and journals, was given at the 2018 ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans.

**Dr. Heather Moulaison Sandy** was awarded the 2018 ALA LITA/Library Hi Tech Award For Outstanding Communication for Continuing Education in Library and Information Science (<http://www.ala.org/lita/awards/hitech>). “The purpose of the award is to recognize outstanding achievement in educating the profession about cutting edge technology through communication in continuing education within the field of library and information technology.” Dr. Moulaison Sandy received her award during the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans.

**Jenny Bossaller and Dylan Martin** have been working with **Seth Smith** at the Daniel Boone Regional Library on The Trouble with Normal / Boone Stigall Collection for the Community History Archives. The Trouble with Normal is a music and political zine (little magazine) that has been produced since 1994. See more at: <http://archive.dbrl.org/>.

Finally, SISLT wishes a heartfelt farewell and best wishes to **Sanda Erdelez**, who is leaving SISLT to become the Director of the School of Library and Information Science at Simmons College.

## University of Missouri – Columbia News

### New Missouri Coordinator for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine

The University of Missouri Libraries announces that Christina Pryor has been hired as the new Missouri Coordinator for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM) in the Midcontinental Region. Her appointment will begin on August 1, 2018.

Christina Pryor, MLIS is currently the Assistant Director and Community Health Education Coordinator at the University of Washington (UW) Health Sciences Library overseeing the HEALWA program. Her role has been focused on the areas of marketing, outreach, and advocacy. She is an active member of the Washington Library Association serving as the Chair of the Academic Libraries Division as well as serving as a member of the Legislative Committee. She is also serving as the Conference Chair for the Library Marketing and Communications Conference which will be held in St. Louis, Missouri on November 14 and 15, 2018.

Prior to joining UW in January 2017, Christina was the Consulting and Education Services Manager for Amigos Library Services. She has also served as the Reference Manager for St. Louis County Library as well as a Medical Research Librarian for Covidien. Christina also worked for five years in the biomedical publishing field at Elsevier.

Christina is an active member of the American Library Association (ALA) and Special Libraries Association (SLA), who named her a Rising Star in 2011. While living in Missouri, Christina was heavily involved in the Missouri Library Association (MLA) as well as the St. Louis Metro Area Chapter of SLA which included launching the cChapter’s first-ever fundraising initiative and then later serving as the Chapter’s President. In December 2016, the St. Louis Chapter named Christina the recipient of their Leadership Award. She also served as the 2013 Missouri Library Association Annual Conference Co-Coordinator. Christina has a Bachelor’s Degree in Journalism from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and a Master’s Degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Missouri-Columbia.







## Mid-Continent Public Library

### High School Student and North Independence Branch Host Free Book Festival for Teens



LitUp founder Emery Euhlig and MCPL Director Steve Potter pose at the LitUp Festival at the North Independence Branch of the Mid-Continent Public Library on May 12.

On Saturday, May 12, bestselling authors, screenwriters, poets, and illustrators congregated at Mid-Continent Public Library's North Independence Branch for "LitUp," a free teen literature and arts festival founded by 15-year-old Shawnee Mission East student Emery Uhlig in partnership with Mid-Continent Public Library.

Uhlig was inspired to create LitUp after observing the steadily decreasing role that books and literature play in the lives of her peers—something she hopes to change.

"I hope that by giving teenagers a chance to meet some of their favorite authors and artists, they'll be more motivated to read and to pursue careers in art and writing," she said.

Kicking off the daylong LitUp Festival was a keynote address by Ishmael Beah, *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*. Following Beah's speech, attendees had the opportunity to enjoy presentations and workshops in four different categories—fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and graphic art. Some of the sessions featured hands-on instruction, while others were structured as informal interviews with local teens serving as the moderators.

After a complimentary on-site lunch, a second keynote address was delivered by the critically acclaimed Rainbow Rowell, author of five novels including *Eleanor & Park*, *Fangirl*, and *Landline*. Rowell's address was followed by additional workshops and presentations with other industry luminaries, then a poetry slam led by local rapper Royce "Sauce" Handy.

Dinner was provided to attendees at no cost, and afterward, an awards ceremony was held for participants of the LitUp Creative Contest, which ran earlier this spring. Winners in each of the categories—fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and art—received a cash prize and had their work published in the *2018 LitUp Anthology*.



Best-selling author Rainbow Powell addresses LitUP founder Emery Euhlig during her keynote speech at the festival.

Rounding out the festival was a final keynote address by Nnedi Okorafor, an international award-winning novelist of African-based science fiction, fantasy, and magical realism for both children and adults. Okorafor is the author of numerous books as well as the Marvel comic series *Black Panther: Long Live the King*, which came out in 2017. She is also writing another three-issue comic series for Marvel called *Wakanda Forever*, and the first issue, *Wakanda Forever: The Amazing Spider-Man*, will be released on June 27.

In the future, Uhlig hopes to expand LitUp to other cities across the nation and around the globe. She has even developed a kit that teenagers and their local libraries can use to implement the festival in their hometowns. To receive a Lit Kit, teens and librarians should contact Emery at [euhlig@litupfestival.org](mailto:euhlig@litupfestival.org). For more information about the LitUp festival, please visit the website <http://litupfestival.org/>.

*Continued from page 25*

## Local Bands Gather for Half-Day Music Festival at Blue Springs North Branch

Mid-Continent Public Library, in partnership with The Record Machine, hosted What's Next Fest, a free live music event on Saturday, May 19, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Library's Blue Springs North Branch. During the festival, four local musical acts took the stage, performing for 30 minutes each and giving attendees a chance to hear some original Kansas City talent.

"We are excited to partner with Mid-Continent Public Library to create What's Next Fest. The goal is to highlight some of the next generation of musicians that are coming up in the Kansas City music scene," said Nathan Reusch, founder of The Record Machine. "It's so tough to get ahead and get noticed sometimes, so we created What's Next Fest for musicians that caught our attention. In addition to launching What's Next Fest, we are also launching the What's Next KC Sessions as a new semi-annual compilation of up-and-coming Kansas City artists."

What's Next Fest included performances by:

- Belle and the Vertigo Waves (Indie pop with an '80s vibe)
- Keaton Conrad (Indie rock with hip-hop, jazz, and ambient influences)
- Chloe Jacobson (Singer/songwriter)
- Neon Black (Alternative)

"When we started the conversation about What's Next Fest, we talked about connecting audiences with ridiculously talented young artists. Through the curation and vision of The Record Machine, we are offering a unique window into the songwriting process," said Dylan Little, MCPL Community Programming Manager.

In addition to the concert, the event had creative activities for the whole family, free cupcakes from Simply Frosted, a photo booth, and band merchandise available for purchase.



Indie rock artist Keaton Conrad performs at What's Next Fest at the Blue Springs North Branch of Mid-Continent Public Library.

## All Branches to Benefit from Recently Launched \$113 Million Capital Plan



Some MCPL branches will temporarily close as renovations take place as part of the \$113 Million capital improvement plan.

Jackson, Clay, and Platte Counties, overwhelmingly approved the first increase to the Library's levy in over 30 years by passing Proposition L, which finally presented the necessary funding to move forward with the plan.

The Library is working with Sapp Design Architects, Helix Architecture + Design, and JE Dunn to complete all of the work in the Capital Improvement Plan. The first three branches on the schedule for Phase I are the Blue Springs South Branch, Excelsior Springs Branch, and the Midwest Genealogy Center. Work on all three of these buildings began on June 11. Both Blue Springs South and Excelsior Springs have temporarily closed for their renovations; however, the Midwest Genealogy Center remains open. Additionally, the Antioch Branch will close on June 18, while Oak Grove will close on July 2, Weston on July 6, and Platte City on August 20. During the renovations, customers will be directed to alternate locations to conduct their Library business. While the upgrades at each branch vary based on individual community needs and the building's current condition, the Library's goal is to create more intentional spaces such as community and meeting rooms, as well as upgrade essential technology like computers, printers, and high-speed Wi-Fi.

Mid-Continent Public Library recently launched its Capital Improvement Plan, which calls for improvements at all 31 of its branches in Jackson, Clay, and Platte Counties as well as the addition of two new branches, by the end of 2022. The construction budget of the Capital Plan is \$84.5 million with a total budget of \$113.2 million (including fees, furniture, fixtures, and equipment).

The Capital Plan was initiated with an evaluation of the Library's facilities in 2012. Over the past few years, the plan was reviewed, edited, and expanded; officially adopted by the MCPL board in 2014; then in November 2016, voters of

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Later in Phase I, the Library will acquire property to replace the current Liberty Branch as well as property to build an entirely new branch on the east side of Lee's Summit. Phase II of the Capital Plan will kick off later this fall and Phases III and IV will kick off in 2019. These remaining three phases will address the rest of MCPL's branches.

In addition to all the physical upgrades that will be taking place over the next few years, many other Library offerings have been made possible by the increased funding approved by voters in 2016. This funding allowed MCPL to expand branch hours; enhance special services like Library-By-Mail for homebound customers and Square One Small Business Services for entrepreneurs; augment early literacy efforts; and increase the materials budget to buy more books, movies, and music.

More information about these improvements and closures can be found online at [www.mymcpl.org/Community](http://www.mymcpl.org/Community).

## 2018 Summer Learning Program for Kids and Adults Takes Center Stage

On May 21, Mid-Continent Public Library launched its annual Summer Learning Program, which encourages children to remain intellectually engaged while they are out of the classroom. This year, for the first time ever, the program is also open to adults!

"Learning shouldn't stop when school does, and our Summer Learning Program offers kids a fun and rewarding way to continue growing," said Shari Ellison, MCPL Youth Services Manager. "And now, with the program open to adults, mom and dad can join the fun and model good reading habits for their little ones."

Until July 31, kids and teens will have the opportunity to accumulate points to earn books and the chance to win great prizes. Kids can earn points in three ways: attending special Library programs, doing fun, educational activities at home, and—as always—reading! The theme of this year's Summer Learning Program is "Libraries Rock," and in the spirit of this, the Library is offering kids a wide range of music-themed events to earn Summer Learning Program points including:

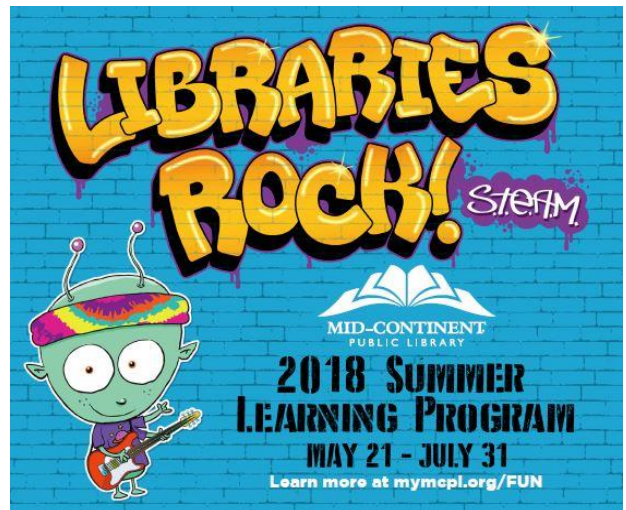
- **Libraries Rock with Mad Science and the Sounds of Summer:** Discover how the sounds of woodland creatures can come together to create some awesome tunes. Through experimentation and audience participation, Mad Science will rock the Library with a one-of-a-kind nature band. Ages 6 and up.
- **Rock the Library with Mr. Stinky Feet:** Join Jim "Mr. Stinky Feet" Cosgrove for a high-energy, interactive concert that's guaranteed to rock the Library! Come prepared to sing, dance, and have a rockin' good time. All ages.
- **Rappin' About Reptiles:** It's time to separate fact from fiction when it comes to turtles, snakes, and lizards. Ages 7 and up.
- **Amado's World Music Odyssey:** Let's go on an adventure from the Arabian Desert down to the Filipino Sea and up to the high plains of Bolivia with Amado's World Music Odyssey! Ages 5 and up.

Visit [mymcpl.org/FUN](http://mymcpl.org/FUN) for dates, times, and locations for Summer Learning Program events.

Kids who earn points by logging their participation in their online accounts will be entered to win prizes like a Kindle Fire or iPod Touch as well as prizes from the Library's community partners including the Kansas City Chiefs, Kansas City Royals, Kansas City Ballet, Worlds of Fun, and Kansas City Symphony.

Adults who participate in the Summer Learning Program and read at least 1,000 minutes will receive a certificate for a "Libraries Rock!" tote bag from Big Frog Custom T-Shirts and will be entered to win prizes including tickets to concerts from KC 102.1, tickets to a Kansas City Chiefs pre-season game, and more. Visit [mymcpl.org/legend](http://mymcpl.org/legend) for more information about the adult Summer Learning Program.

To date, more than 14,300 kids and teens and nearly 3,400 adults have signed up for MCPL's Summer Learning Program. More information about MCPL's Summer Learning Program is available at [mymcpl.org/FUN](http://mymcpl.org/FUN).



Libraries Rock! is the theme of this year's Summer Learning Program, sponsored by Mid-Continent Public Library.



## Daniel Boone Regional Library

### A New Way to View Local History

If you're fascinated by local history, you'll be excited about the Daniel Boone Regional Library's new Community History Archive. The website [archive.dbrl.org](http://archive.dbrl.org) debuted in May 2018, offering a searchable archive of local historical images and documents.

Library staff has been collecting and scanning images to include in this archive over many months. "This is the first time our public library has created an original collection that can be shared with others in our community," said Margaret Conroy, executive director of the Daniel Boone Regional Library. "The library is a wonderful information source, and being able to offer more local information is a great benefit to our communities."

We plan to expand the collection by working with other local groups in Boone and Callaway Counties who are interested in preserving our cultural and social history. We can scan, organize and curate the collections owned by other groups who want to add their photos to our searchable online collection.

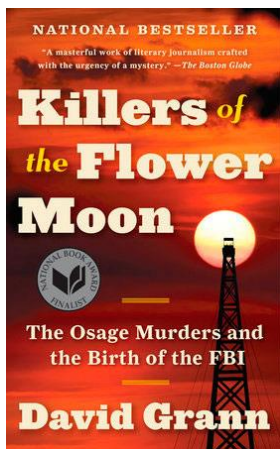
"There's a wealth of local history tucked away in file cabinets and aged photo albums that we want to preserve and make available to everyone interested in our local history," said Seth Smith, DBRL librarian. "By working with other area organizations to identify collections that would be of the greatest local interest and scanning these photos, records and documents, we're building a research resource and a sense of community."

The library is now actively seeking collections related to Callaway County and historic black Columbia for possible digitization and inclusion in this online archive. If other groups are interested in being part of this effort, they may contact Seth Smith at the Columbia Public Library at (573) 443-3161 or [archive@dbrl.org](mailto:archive@dbrl.org). DBRL is unable to house physical collections or digitize audiovisual or individual and family history collections at this time.



Photograph of a school group near the La Colomba sculpture at the north entrance to the Columbia Public Library.

### "Killers of the Flower Moon" Chosen for One Read



Our community voted to read "Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI" by David Grann for this year's *One Read* program. *One Read* is a community-wide reading program coordinated by Daniel Boone Regional Library and co-sponsored by a task force of local businesses, agencies, academic institutions and other groups that encourages adults to read and discuss a single book.

Over the last 17 years, several nonfiction titles have been selected, but this is the first time that a true crime story has been chosen. The community is given the summer to read the book in preparation for related programming, including an author talk, in September.

"I found this book to be extraordinarily absorbing and unsettling as Grann reveals the conspiracy behind these dark events in our country's history," said *One Read* co-chair Lauren Williams. "It also gives the community a wealth of topics to discuss this fall, ranging from Native American history in Missouri to the evolution of forensics and the early days of the FBI."

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“It’s really a testament to our community of readers that engagement in *One Read* remains high in its 17th year,” said Kat Stone Underwood, *One Read* co-chair. “Last November, we received 140 suggestions for what to read in 2018, and this April 594 people voted for which book they wanted to read.” The *One Read* reading panel, made up of community members from Boone and Callaway Counties and library staff, narrows the list of suggested books to 10. After reading each book, the committee selects two titles for the public to vote on in April. The other title considered this year was the historical fiction novel “News of the World” by Paulette Jiles.

More information about submitted titles and related *One Read* topics can be found at [www.oneread.dbrl.org](http://www.oneread.dbrl.org).

## Laurie Berkner Performs in Mid-Missouri

To kick off this year’s Summer Reading program, the Daniel Boone Regional Library hosted two “Laurie Berkner LIVE! The Greatest Hits Solo Tour” concerts on June 1.

A former preschool music teacher by day and indie rocker by night, Laurie Berkner started marketing her music 21 years ago from her living room on her own label, Two Tomatoes Records. She is now widely recognized as a pioneer of the “kindie” music genre and was crowned “the undisputed queen of kindie rock” by USA Today. The Wall Street Journal noted, “Her music is distinctive because it speaks to kids without talking down to them, charming youngsters without boring grown-ups.”

Both the 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. performances at the Missouri Theatre were sold out, and tickets were free. Attendance topped 1600 for the concerts, and lots of tots were rockin' and rollin' in the aisles of the Missouri Theatre. This special Laurie Berkner performance was partially funded by the “Melissa Carr Literacy Through the Arts Fund” established by the DBRL Foundation.





## Reflections on Picture Book Reorganization into Browsing Bins

By Tammie Benham, Children's Librarian, Joplin Public Library

When Joplin Public Library decided to build a new library, one of the innovations that caught the attention of the staff was the reorganization of our picture book collection into forward-facing browsing bins. This trend appeared to be both practical and customer friendly. After some observation of patron browsing patterns and needs, we decided, perhaps a bit naively, to make the change.



Research was done into categorization schemes of other libraries. Thankfully, organizations such as Darien Library in Connecticut, which had previously undertaken this project, were kind enough to share information. With input from our Technical Services librarian, an organization scheme was developed in-house that would fit our collection and the work began.

When looking for a place to start, we chose the easiest first. Our board book collection had very little structure; with Pages and staff simply adding books to shelves where they fit. As part of the new plan, the broad subject scheme, or first tier of our organizational structure, was used to organize this collection. Suddenly our Pages and Families with the youngest children were able to find what they were looking for.

After our move, the Board Book collection was placed in close proximity to our play area, easily accessible to families. Now the Board Books are shelved by categories, which are color-coded and easily organized on our new shelving.



Next, we began the process of re-categorizing and re-labeling picture books. Our organizational scheme consists of a broad subject heading in all capital letters (NATURE), followed by a secondary topic (Pond), then the author's last name, followed by her first name. We also color-coded our subjects and matched them to a second label that repeats the Subject and has a large first letter of the author's last name to make the books easier to shelve.

It took us several months to reorganize the collection. We made the decision to leave the existing spine labels on the books and use them to shelve in the old building while placing a new label on the front of the book. During this time, books added to the collection during the shift were given the front-facing label, but not the spine label, and kept in our "New Books" section. We modified the Subject lists from other libraries to fit our own collection.

As the books were unpacked in the new library, they were moved into their permanent home. As patrons began arriving, we watched closely for reactions and asked for feedback. On average, adults found it difficult to grasp the new organizational system, some had difficulty asking how the books were organized, but most were understanding and agreed it made sense for young children. Children, by contrast, grasped the system almost immediately and were more independent and confident in their ability to browse the shelves and meet their own information needs.

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One year after the new library opened, statistics showed what the staff knew intuitively; the circulation of picture books increased. While the library's overall circulation went up 28% and the total Children's collection went up 39%, picture book circulation increased 56%.

Do we believe we made the right choice for our library? Yes, we do, and our numbers support our decision. However, looking back there are some ways we could improve. Because of our move, signage was not ready when the library opened. This would've dramatically improved the experience of our patrons. Also, because we were on a tight timeline, the Children's Librarian was almost solely responsible for the decisions regarding Subject placement. Other libraries have used a team to accomplish this task and this could prevent the need to re-categorize some materials later.

One year later, we are still happy with our decision and more importantly, so are the Children. Would you like more information on our project? We are presenting a poster session at MLA this year and would love to talk to you!

Tammie Benham  
Children's Librarian  
Joplin Public Library  
417-623-2184



## Springfield Greene County Library District

### Friends of the Library Hit Near-Record \$142,065.18 in Sales



The Friends of the Library celebrated its third-highest sales total in history during its Spring Book Sale April 25-29 (and Friends Night Preview Sale April 24) at the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds E\*Plex. After a record-breaking first two days, the Friends sold \$142,065.18 in books, CDs, DVDs, vinyl records, artwork, puzzles and games. Proceeds help purchase new equipment, pay for library concerts, capital projects and author events through the year.

### Master Gardener Gina Marie Walden is Panelist at Baker Creek Festival

Gina Marie Walden, Midtown Carnegie Branch Circulation Manager, served on a panel discussion about seed banks and seed libraries at the Baker Creek Spring Planting Festival, which attracts gardening enthusiasts from around the country. Walden is one of several librarians who helped launch the Heirloom Seed Library at the Midtown Carnegie Branch and Library Station. Her fellow panelists were the head of the San Diego Seed Library and John Kohler from Growing Your Greens (the most-watched gardening channel on YouTube).

### Library Hosts Tour of Famed National Audio Company



Library patrons were treated to tours of National Audio Company in Springfield as part of the Library's April Big Read celebration of "Station Eleven." The book gives a nod to "old" technology. The locally owned Springfield company is one of the world's few remaining cassette tape manufacturers, and has contracts with music and film companies worldwide.



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### **Author John M. Barry Caps Big Read Celebration**

When the Library's Big Read selection in April was "Station Eleven," about the aftermath of a flu pandemic, it was fitting to invite John M. Barry, author of "The Great Influenza: The Story of the Deadliest Pandemic in History." The crowd of 146 people that packed the Library Center auditorium Thursday, April 19, and left with a better understanding of why the 1918 influenza was so deadly, and how it could happen again. Among the standing-room-only crowd were college students taking notes, Drury and Missouri State University professors, physicians and nurses.



### **Ann Neumann Featured at "Death Over Dinner"**



More than 80 people, from college students to seniors, enjoyed a complimentary meal, casual conversations on end-of-life topics and a presentation by author Ann Neumann during Death Over Dinner on Monday, April 16, in the Library Center auditorium. Funded by grants from the Hospice Foundation and Community Foundation of the Ozarks' Doug and Rae Nickell Family Fund, the event served as the public kickoff for Respecting Choices of the Ozarks, a new advance care planning model for the community. Held on National Health Care Decisions Day, the dinner was preceded by a mayoral proclamation declaring April 16 as Health Care Decisions Day in Springfield, an annual opportunity to recognize the importance of advance care planning, including advance directives. Respecting Choices of the Ozarks Coordinator Pam Stoelzel provided a brief overview of the new program before the feature presentation by journalist Ann Neumann, author of "The Good Death: An Exploration of Dying in America."

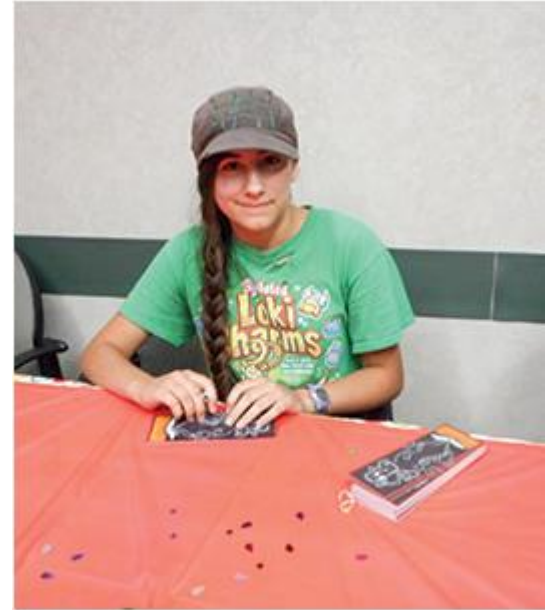
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## Bookmark Contest Winners Star in Autograph Party



Family, friends and several Youth Services staff members gathered in the Library Center auditorium on Tuesday, April 17, to celebrate the winners and runners-up in the 19th Annual Design-A-Bookmark Contest. The winners in each grade category received a certificate, a stack of bookmarks featuring their design to autograph and share with friends and family, and \$20 gift certificates to Hobby Lobby.



## Schweitzer Brentwood Earns Silver LEED Certification



© Gayle Babcock — Architectural Imageworks, LLC

The Schweitzer Brentwood was recently awarded Silver LEED certification. The Final Certification Review was completed by the U.S. Green Building Council. The Silver Certification indicates the branch, renovated and reopened in January 2017, met 55 points, and Silver is anywhere from 50–59 points. LEED is Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, and certification standards represent the best in energy and water conservation, indoor air quality and environmentally friendly, cost-saving buildings.

## Two Grants to Fund Welcome Video and Book Vending Unit

Non-English-speaking families living in the Springfield area will soon be welcomed with a video in their own language to help explain Library services, through a grant provided through Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft's office. The Springfield-Greene County Library District received an \$8,403 Library Service Improvement Grant to buy equipment and create Welcome to the Library videos and promotional print products for non-English-speaking residents, introducing them to the Library and its services. The Library also received a \$40,000 grant toward the purchase of the 24/7 Envisionware vending unit for books and audiovisual materials. It will be

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placed in an underserved area of west Springfield later this year in response to many years' of patron requests for more library services in that area. The Friends of the Library recently gave the Library \$125,000 as a down payment on the unit. Both projects are supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State. The goal of the welcome video grant is to create videos in Arabic, Burmese, Russian, Spanish and Swahili, and print materials in those languages. The Library will partner with the Springfield Public School District's English Language Learners, or ELL, Program to reach the largest number of refugee and immigrant children and families in the area. The Library will host family literacy nights at the schools to show the videos and provide translated library materials.

## Tales of the Dead Draw Curious Crowds



The Maple Park Cemetery Walks Thursday and Saturday, May 10 and 12, drew a combined 53 patrons eager to hear tales of Springfield's early burial practices, cemetery history, and the notable and notorious men and women buried in Maple Park. The by-reservation-only tours are so popular they will continue at other Springfield cemeteries in the summer.

## 420 Music Lovers Flock to Annual Geezerfest Concert



Popular Springfield band Geezer pulled in 420 attendees at the annual spring Geezerfest on Saturday, May 19, on the Library Center outdoor patio. The band had people dancing and singing to their 60s-to-90s covers.

## Patrons Take a Hike with Adventurer Jennifer Pharr Davis

Jennifer Pharr Davis, an author and a National Geographic Adventurer of the Year, took a 2.1-mile hike with 16 patrons at the Springfield Conservation Nature Center on Saturday, May 26. ) at the Nature Center with hiker Jennifer Pharr Davis was a great event. Afterwards, 88 excited nature lovers gathered in the Nature Center auditorium to hear her talk about her adventures hiking the Appalachian and other trails across the world.



*Submitted by Kathleen O'Dell, community relations director, Springfield-Greene County Library District. [kathleeno@thelibrary.org](mailto:kathleeno@thelibrary.org).*

## St. Charles City County Library

### The Chess King



Eric Liesman had a dream. Like many young people do, he saw a movie and wanted to be just like the hero. Was it one of the Avengers? Maybe James Bond? No, the movie that inspired 10-year-old Eric Liesman was [The Queen of Katwe](#), about a girl in Africa who learns to play chess and becomes a world-class competitor. Eric's dream was to learn to play chess like Phiona Mutesi.

With the St. Charles City-County Library, finding a way to learn was simple. Eric started attending the Saturday Morning Chess Club at the Middendorf-Kredell Branch (the same Library where he had originally checked out [The Queen of Katwe](#) movie). Saturday Morning Chess Club is a regular event at the Library

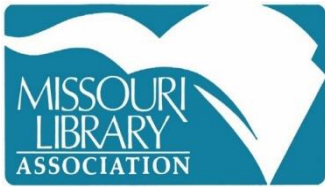
where players of all ages and abilities gather to play and practice the game. This chess community is very welcoming, and they were happy to work with a new player like Eric. The group meets at the Library every week, and Eric and his dad, Steve, enjoy learning and playing there with other chess enthusiasts.

The Liesmans have other interests besides chess. Steve and his wife, Stefanie, are also involved in a charitable organization called *Joy in Haiti*. *Joy in Haiti* supports an orphanage, a church, and a school in the impoverished nation of Haiti (off the coast of Florida in the Caribbean).

*Joy in Haiti* plans regular trips to Haiti to help work, teach, and spend time with the young girls in the *Joy in Haiti*-run orphanage, House of Joy. For the next trip, the entire Liesman family planned to travel to Haiti with the organization. One day, while playing chess at Saturday Morning Chess Club, Eric and Steve came up with an exciting idea. During their upcoming mission trip, they would teach the girls at House of Joy how to play chess. They committed to spending many of their Saturday mornings at the Library practicing their game, and started buying extra chess sets to take on their trip.

A few months later, Eric and Steve introduced the game of chess to children at the House of Joy Orphanage and the New Christian School of Tabarre in Haiti. Despite language barriers and very different ways of life, chess helped connect the Liesman family with their new friends, and the lessons they learned at the Library made it possible. Before returning home, Eric presented the students with the extra chess sets and encouraged them to practice so they could play together again someday.

Eric Liesman had a dream, and the St. Charles City-County Library provided the resources to make his dream a reality. Seems like a story that would make a great movie.



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

## MO INFO Submission Guidelines

*MO INFO* (ISSN 0884-2205) is published six times/year (January, March, May, July, September, and November).

The most recent issue as well as back issues of *MO INFO* can be viewed on the MLA membership webpage at <http://molib.org/mo-info-newsletter/>.

*MO INFO* is produced by the Publications Committee. To facilitate the Committee's production process, please follow the submission suggestions below.

Article format:

- Microsoft Word document
- Include desired headline and your contact email and role in MLA
- Include digital photos (with captions) and graphics with your articles as desired

Article and Advertising Submission Deadline: 15th of the month preceding publication. Article copy submitted by email to Lindsey Warner at [moinfonews@gmail.com](mailto:moinfonews@gmail.com)

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