

# american libraries

June 2017

THE MAGAZINE OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

## Sarah Jessica Parker

Talks Book Clubs

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Annual Conference  
Preview and  
Dining Guide p.64

Mindful Librarianship p.44

**PLUS:** Nikki Giovanni,  
Rescuing Science Data,  
1960s Library Sit-Ins



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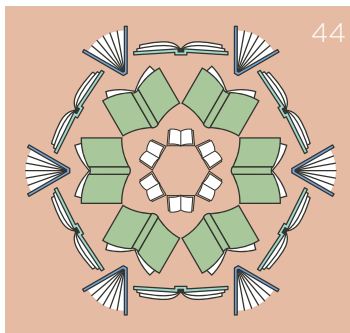
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## Finding Value



Laurie D. Borman

When it comes to your career, “timing isn’t everything; action is,” writes Catherine Hakala-Ausperk in her ALA Editions book *Renew Yourself: A Six-Step Plan for More Meaningful Work*, which is excerpted in this issue on page 58. Even in failure, we move forward and learn what brings us closer to our values, she says. Wise words to consider on our career path, whether we’re at the beginning or somewhere along the continuum.

Lately I’ve been thinking a lot about values and how they drive my daily life, from how often I check email to how often I find time to meet with others or take a break. You may recall the late Stephen Covey’s time-management grid. In it, he diagrammed four quadrants organized by urgency and importance (important, urgent, not urgent, and not important) to help people manage priorities—a useful matrix tool in today’s smartphone-obsessed world in which many things *feel* urgent but are often not important. (A 2016 Dscout research study revealed the average person touches his or her phone 2,617 times a day.)

In “Mindful Librarianship” by Elynn Ruhlmann on page 44, several librarians share their secrets to a more serene day, whether it is through meditation or other mindfulness practices. Learn about these techniques and how to make your day—and life—less stressful.

Worrying about your facility’s security might be another stressor. One way to address this is to prepare. In “New Trends in Library Security” on page 38, library security expert Steve Albrecht identifies emerging concerns and how to handle them simply and effectively.

We hope you’re planning to come to Chicago for the ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition this month. It’s guaranteed to offer wonderful programs and speakers who will inspire you and enrich your professional life, as well as opportunities to network (see our preview, p. 64). Because Chicago is our hometown, we also provide a guide to good eats on page 74, as well as some offbeat places to visit while you’re in town (p. 82). Even a local may not have experienced some of the places we’ve outlined for you, so get out and explore while you’re here. As Hakala-Ausperk says, action is everything.

Laurie

Succeed or fail, taking action can help us find value in our everyday lives.

Address: 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611  
Website: americanlibrariesmagazine.org  
Email: americanlibraries@ala.org  
Phone: 800-545-2433 plus extension  
Career Ads: JobLIST.ala.org

**PUBLISHER**  
**Laurie D. Borman**  
lborman@ala.org | x4213

**ACTING EDITOR**  
**Sanhita SinhaRoy**  
ssinha@ala.org | x4219

**SENIOR EDITORS**  
**Amy Carlton**  
acarlton@ala.org | x5105  
**George M. Eberhart**  
geberhart@ala.org | x4212

**ASSOCIATE EDITORS**  
**Terra Dankowski**  
tdankowski@ala.org | x5282  
**Phil Morehart**  
pmorehart@ala.org | x4218

**EDITOR-AT-LARGE**  
**Anne Ford**  
aford@ala.org | x2157

**EDITORIAL AND ADVERTISING ASSISTANT**  
**Carrie Smith**  
casmith@ala.org | x4216

**ART DIRECTOR**  
**Rebecca Lomax**  
rlomax@ala.org | x4217

**ADVERTISING**  
**Michael Stack** mstack@ala.org | 847-367-7120  
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**PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT**  
**Bill Ott**, Acting Associate Executive Director  
**Mary Jo Bolduc**, Rights, Permissions, Reprints | x5416

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Joseph M. Eagan (Chair), Helen Ruth Adams, Ernie J. Cox, Lee A. Cummings, Christine Korytnyk Dulaney, Tina Francis, Jasmina Jusic. Interns: Tom Bober, Lucy Kelly  
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What would be your book club pick?

*In the Shadow of the Banyan* by Vaddey Ratner

*The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

*The Plot Against America* by Philip Roth

*The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt



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# At the Heart of Our Work

Tools, resources, and opportunities to further our mission



Julie B. Todaro

**T**he past year has been—to say the least—the most interesting of my career. And I can say both humorously and truthfully that I did not know how hard it would be to be president.

I continue to be honored to represent our profession in our ongoing and successful challenge to federal funding issues. And we continue to communicate and educate stakeholders about our work, its value, and the very need for our existence. Many libraries face similar challenges more regularly, and I have a newfound appreciation and respect for what you do every day.

What is humbling is being reminded of our incredible relationships: coalitions and partners from related professions and supporting businesses; the advocacy of constituents, patrons, and users; and elected and appointed officials who champion us with votes.

I am honored by my steering committee's work on my expertise initiative, launching this summer. I am also pleased to provide a wrap-up of my presidential initiatives at the upcoming Annual Conference in Chicago. Here are a few programs I'd like to highlight:

## Compelling communication

At “Making the Case: Influencing Your Funding Future” on Saturday, June 24, experts will share information about how to persuade lawmakers to fund libraries. Moderated by former ALA President Courtney Young, the panelists include:

- **Shailagh Murray**, former advisor to President Barack Obama, former deputy chief of staff to Vice President Joe Biden, and former *Wall Street Journal* and *Washington Post* journalist
- **Sharon Páez**, partner at D.C.-based Hilltop Public Solutions and consultant and producer of Spanish-language radio and TV advertising
- **Jenny Backus**, D.C.-based consultant and board member of D.C. Public Library Foundation

## Experts and expertise

Saturday's “Library and Information Experts Succeeding in the 21st Century” program will identify roles and responsibilities for current and next-gen library professionals. These presenters will build on their March webinar, which had 3,600 registrants from more than 90 countries:

- **Eileen Abels**, dean, Simmons School of Library and Information Science in Boston
- **John Bertot**, professor and codirector, Information Policy and Access Center at the College of Information Studies at University of Maryland
- **Valerie Gross**, president and CEO, Howard County (Md.) Library System

## Unique engagement

At the heart of our work is often a love of the written word. Organized discussions—frequently in the form of book clubs—can be found in all sizes and types of libraries, where we support reading initiatives for children, teens, and adults. What's most important is that our patrons are reading.

I am delighted to announce the official launch of ALA Book Club Central in support of readers everywhere. I'm also especially pleased to invite you to the President's Program on June 24, where Book Club Central's honorary chair, Sarah Jessica Parker, will unveil her first title selection. Parker, a lifelong reader, library supporter, and member of book clubs, is uniquely positioned to lead this initiative, which was created in partnership with *Booklist*, Penguin Random House, and United for Libraries. Please join us at Annual for the kickoff, where we will reveal our new online platform, featuring an online book club, reading resources, club activity recommendations, expert book lists, and other tools for book clubs and their readers.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you in Chicago! [AL](#)

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**JULIE B. TODARO** is dean of library services at Austin (Tex.) Community College.

What's  
most  
important  
is that our  
patrons are  
reading.





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# My ALA Journey

Working together, we can change the world



**Keith Michael Fiels**

**W**hen I first came to the American Library Association (ALA) 15 years ago, people thought I was—to put it mildly—demented.

Here's an organization with:

- 57,000 members, representing an incredibly wide range of backgrounds, communities served, types of libraries, and interests
- a new president every year
- an Executive Board
- a 185-member Council
- 11 divisions (each with its own board)
- 20 round tables
- 56 state and regional chapters
- membership in 96 countries
- 1,266 online communities
- 1,272 discussion lists
- 2,210 active committees including ... a committee on committees!

And did I mention that if you gather 100 members in a room, you are going to have 200 opinions?

This is my last column as executive director....

My journey with ALA began 40 years ago, when I climbed into a beat-up Chevy Vega and drove to Chicago for my first ALA conference. As any new conferencegoer knows, it was overwhelming. I found the job I'd come looking for, and in the process, I also discovered the difference between a job and a career. In the years that followed, the people I met through ALA mentored me, challenged me, and helped get me through tough times—while teaching me how I, in turn, could mentor, challenge, and support others. The projects I worked on helped me understand leadership and teamwork in new ways and stretched my horizons.

I always say that ALA is not 57,000 members; it's the dozen or so people you discover out there who share your particular brand of insanity. They are the colleagues who share your passions and aspirations, continuously sharpen

your thinking, and serve as a support network throughout your career.

I also discovered that going to an ALA or division conference is the best way to refresh not only your spirit but also your creativity. If you attend an ALA conference and can't come back with three ideas that help you provide better service back home (and make you look like a genius), you are definitely spending too much time in the cocktail lounge!

There's always a lot of discussion about the cost of dues, conference registration, and hotel rooms. Until I became ALA executive director, I paid much of the cost of attending conference out of pocket. What I discovered over the years is that, like any business, you need to invest in yourself. If you do, you'll find—as I did—that the money invested in ALA membership and conference attendance directly results in professional advancement, promotion, and increased earnings that will more than repay the money you spend. That's a fact.

## Changing the world

When we talk about ALA membership, we talk about “supporting you—and changing the world.” So now let's talk now about that “changing the world” part:

From my international work, I know the respect with which ALA and our system of libraries are held throughout the world. Our libraries, free and open to all, are something that others everywhere aspire to. Our positions on intellectual freedom, privacy, and access to information for all are inspirations to the rest of the world. These are not platitudes; they are values and realities we live every day.

Here in the US, the ALA Washington Office has led a determined and growing group of advocates who have helped create federal library legislation and increase federal funding through the Library Services Act, Library Services and Construction

Today, much of what we stand for is under attack. But we are not victims of the future—we can and must shape the future.

Act, and today's Library Services and Technology Act. They helped create the Institute of Museum and Library Services, federal E-Rate funding, and helped include school libraries in the Every Student Succeeds Act and libraries of all types in labor, agriculture, and other federal programs. We have made this happen.

Our work to protect reader privacy and the freedom to read freely is so widely known that ALA is virtually synonymous with freedom of expression and libraries are virtually synonymous with democracy. Our support of literacy and lifelong learning has helped make the library one of the most respected, trusted, and beloved institutions.

Our contributions as ALA members make this possible, ensuring that our children—and their children—will have access to libraries in the future. It also ensures that these libraries will be as good as they can be in a changing world and rapidly evolving information landscape.

### Overcoming challenges

It's true that because the organization has grown from the ground up by members coming together to share interests and goals and forming hundreds of communities of practice, ALA's structure can be a challenge. Sure, the organization can be maddeningly slow at times. There are always strong opinions and many people who need to be engaged in making decisions. Say what you will about the process, the record of policy positions we have established as an Association over the years is something we can all be proud of.

During my years at ALA, I have been honored to work with a succession of great leaders to create the Office for Library Advocacy; grow our scholarship programs; transform our publishing program; create a new division for trustees, Friends, and foundations; establish a new Center for the Future of Libraries; launch the Libraries Transform public awareness campaign; and build a strong planned-giving program to help guarantee a vibrant future. In the process, we have weathered the worst recession since the Great Depression, one that many associations did not survive.

I'm optimistic about the future of libraries, and I'm optimistic about the future of ALA. I firmly



believe that people and communities will need libraries, and that libraries will need an ALA as much in 100 years as they did 100 years ago. But this depends on us. We are not victims of the future, after all; we can and must shape the future.

Today, with much of what we believe in and have worked so hard to build now under attack, we need to stand together more than ever. We cannot passively wait for others to do the job.

Despite all our many differences as individual members, we have shown time and time again that if we work together we can accomplish truly great things.

So, here's to greatness ahead.

Here's to us. **AL**

Clockwise from top: With then-First Lady Laura Bush and then-ALA President Carla Hayden in 2003; speaking at Library Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C., in 2010; with then-US Sen. Barack Obama at the 2005 Annual Conference in Chicago; reading a Dr. Seuss book to children at the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition headquarters in Chicago during National Library Week in 2009.

**KEITH MICHAEL FIELDS** is executive director of the American Library Association, headquartered in Chicago. He will be retiring July 31.

“Information literacy comprises not just skills but also dispositions and habits of mind.” Great read by @librarianmer!

@MOHAMEDBERRY in response to “Information Literacy Toolkits” (May, p. 54)

Genius library marketing idea. This would be excellent in tandem with transit hub outreach.

@RAAMATUID in response to “Digital Wallpapers Open Doors” (Mar./Apr., p. 26)

### Wine in the Midwest

Thanks for this wonderful article (“Preserving the Vintage,” Mar./Apr., p. 48)! When I was working at the Janice B. Longone Culinary Archive at the William L. Clements Library at the University of Michigan (now located at its Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library), we had a great exhibit and lecture from Jan’s husband, Dan, called “500 Years of American Grapes and Wines: The Literature of a Remarkable Journey.” Fortunately for us, it’s still online ([bit.ly/2oWd7D9](http://bit.ly/2oWd7D9)).

The exhibit included more than just California wines, and it was rewarding to work on. If anyone wants to research the history of oenology or anything else we consume or grow, the Longones still own and run the Food and Wine Library, an anti-quarian culinary bookshop, out of their home in Ann Arbor.

Dejah Rubel  
Big Rapids, Michigan

### Sheketoff’s Retirement

During my experiences on the American Association of School Librarians’ Legislation Committee, Washington Office Executive Director Emily Sheketoff (“A Tribute to Emily Sheketoff,” The Scoop, Apr. 12) was always a gracious, calm leader and passionate advocate for school libraries. I remember sitting with her in San Antonio and talking about grassroots advocacy. She has accomplished so much on



behalf of school libraries and all librarians. I have emailed and called her with the craziest questions, yet she has always treated me with dignity.

I will miss Emily so much. I hope she enjoys her time away from the rat race.

Diane Chen  
Nashville, Tennessee

Emily Sheketoff will be dearly missed! I’ve been a part of the Iowa contingent at National Library Legislative Day for a number of years, and it is inspiring to see her in action. She’s managed to find pathways to progress for libraries despite political gridlock and obstructionism. She has provided invaluable expertise to the library community and our advocates.

Emily’s keynote address to the Iowa Library Association in 2013 stands out as one of the best, and I hope we can lure her

back to Iowa again sometime in her retirement. All the best wishes to her!

Alison Ames Galstad  
Iowa City, Iowa

### Researching Yellowstone

I used the Curt Teich Postcard Archives (“Greetings from the Newberry Library,” May, p. 48) in preparing a book about Yellowstone National Park postcards published by the Haynes companies. Curt Teich was their largest domestic printer. I’m headed to Chicago in about a month and will certainly stop by Newberry Library to visit some old friends.

Richard Saunders  
Cedar City, Utah

### CORRECTION

In our From Our Readers section (May, p. 7), we misspelled a contributor’s name. The “Funding Is for Everyone” letter came from Kathleen de la Peña McCook.

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### Garcia-Febo Wins 2018–2019 ALA Presidency

Loida Garcia-Febo, international library consultant and president of Information New Wave in Brooklyn, New York, has been elected president-elect of the American Library Association (ALA). She defeated Scott Walter, university librarian at DePaul University, and Terri Grief, school librarian at McCracken County (Ky.) High School.



Loida Garcia-Febo

"I am honored to serve as president-elect of the American Library Association," Garcia-Febo said upon learning the election outcome. "Together with ALA members we will bring change to impact public policy and benefit our profession and our communities. ALA will be the leading voice advocating for libraries and library users while maintaining our core values, will have a place and a voice at the decision makers' table—particularly for those in our communities with no voice—and will amplify their concerns to Congress, at the state house, in city councils, and school boards." She emphasized the importance of coalition-building with like-minded partners, joint work among ALA units to promote diversity and equity within the profession and the Association, and professional development. She pledged "to lead, serve, and empower our libraries, patrons, and communities," and advance ALA's strategic initiatives: advocacy, information policy, professional and leadership development, and equity, diversity, and inclusion."

An ALA member for 15 years, Garcia-Febo has served the library profession both domestically and internationally. Her nonprofit organization, Information New Wave, seeks to bring information

access to underserved populations. Garcia-Febo holds a BA in business education and an MLS from the University of Puerto Rico.

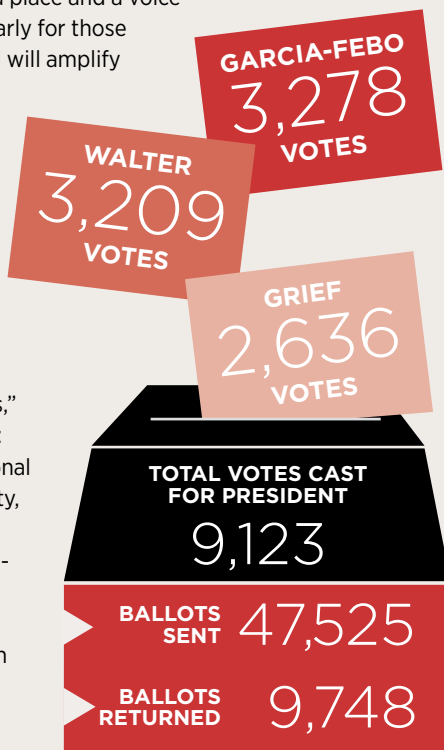
Garcia-Febo has served on ALA Council since 2011 and was elected to the ALA Executive Board for 2015–2018. She has held numerous appointments on ALA committees including the Committee on Diversity, Intellectual Freedom Committee, and Nominating Committee. She has chaired the Intellectual Freedom Round Table, the International Relations Committee, and the Committee on Membership Meetings and is chair-elect of the International Relations Round Table.

She is also active in the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), on whose governing board she currently sits, and the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-Speaking (better known as Reforma), where she served on the executive board 2008–2011, including as president 2009–2010.

Garcia-Febo received 3,278 votes out of 9,123 votes cast for president, while Walter received 3,209 votes, and Grief received 2,636 votes. Garcia-Febo will serve as president-elect for one year before stepping into her role as president at the close of the 2018 ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in New Orleans.

#### Councilors elected

Thirty-three ALA members have been elected as councilors-at-large on ALA Council for a three-year term. The term begins at the close of the 2017 ALA Annual Conference and extends through the end of the 2020 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. One member was elected to complete a one-year term beginning at the close of the 2017 Annual Conference and extending through the 2018 Annual Conference. For full election results, including those for divisions and round tables, visit [ala.org/aboutala/governance/alaelection](http://ala.org/aboutala/governance/alaelection). •



# ALA Defends Copyright and Net Neutrality

In an April 26 statement in response to Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai's plan to roll back net neutrality, ALA President Julie B. Todaro said, "ALA and the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) firmly believe that preserving an open internet is essential to all Americans' freedom of speech, educational achievement, and economic growth. Now that the internet has become one of the primary mechanisms for delivering information, services, and applications to the general public, and the primary means of collaboration and doing business, it is especially important that commercial internet service providers not be able to unilaterally control or manipulate the content of these communications."

Todaro concluded, "ALA and ACRL will continue to fight aggressively against internet discrimination and will spare no effort to preserve equitable access to internet services for all of our millions of library users."

On the same day, in response to the House of Representatives' adoption of the "Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act of 2017" (H.R. 1695), which would make the position of the register of copyrights subject to presidential appointment and Senate confirmation, ALA President-Elect Jim Neal released a statement explaining ALA's opposition. "The Senate overwhelmingly confirmed the Librarian of Congress just nine months ago because she is an expert in modernizing complex information systems in libraries and a proven manager of them: exactly what the Copyright Office needs," he said. "ALA urges the Senate to let Carla Hayden build her own team, including the register of copyrights, to accomplish that mission without further delay." ●

## School Library Disaster Recovery Grant Announced

The American Association of School Librarians (AASL) has announced the Inspire Disaster Recovery Grant, a grant to support public, middle, and high school libraries that have incurred damage or hardship because of a natural disaster, fire, or an act recognized by the federal government as terrorism. The grant also provides funding to schools affected by an increase in enrollment because of displaced or evacuee students.

A total of \$30,000 will be available each year. Grant amounts will depend on variables such as total number of applicants, geographic distribution, and

total unmet need. Grant funds can be used to replace or supplement books, media, and library equipment. A jury will determine the final amount. The grant is funded through a donation from Marina "Marney" Welmers, a retired middle school librarian and AASL member.

Find criteria, eligibility, and application requirements at [ala.org/aasl/awards](http://ala.org/aasl/awards).

## Libraries Ready to Code Brief

The ALA Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP) has released a new policy brief, *Careers for America's Youth in the Digital Age: <libraries/ready to code>*, which details the ideal position of libraries in preparing more

## CALENDAR

### JUNE

**National GLBT Book Month**  
[ala.org/glbttbookmonth](http://ala.org/glbttbookmonth)

### JUNE 22-27

**ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition** | Chicago  
[2017.alaannual.org](http://2017.alaannual.org)

### AUG. 9-13

**National Conference of African American Librarians** | Atlanta  
[bit.ly/ncaall7](http://bit.ly/ncaall7)

### AUG. 19-25

**IFLA World Library and Information Congress**  
Wrocław, Poland  
[2017.ifla.org](http://2017.ifla.org)

### SEPT.

**Library Card Sign-Up Month**  
[ala.org/librarycardsignup](http://ala.org/librarycardsignup)

### SEPT. 6-9

**Association for Rural and Small Libraries Conference**  
St. George, Utah  
[arsl.info/2017-conference](http://arsl.info/2017-conference)

### SEPT. 24-30

**Banned Books Week**  
[ala.org/bbooks](http://ala.org/bbooks)

### SEPT. 27

**Banned Websites Awareness Day**  
[ala.org/aasl/advocacy/bwad](http://ala.org/aasl/advocacy/bwad)

### OCT. 8-14

**Teen Read Week**  
[teenreadweek.ning.com](http://teenreadweek.ning.com)

### OCT. 15-21

**National Friends of Libraries Week**  
[bit.ly/alafolweek](http://bit.ly/alafolweek)

### NOV.

**Picture Book Month**  
[picturebookmonth.com](http://picturebookmonth.com)

### NOV. 3-5

**YALSA Young Adult Services Symposium** | Louisville, Kentucky  
[ala.org/yalsa/yasymposium](http://ala.org/yalsa/yasymposium)

### NOV. 9-11

**AASL National Conference and Exhibition** | Phoenix  
[bit.ly/aasl17phoenix](http://bit.ly/aasl17phoenix)

## Taking the Fight for Libraries to Washington

More than 500 librarians and library supporters from every state gathered in Washington, D.C., on May 1–2 for the 43rd National Library Legislative Day (NLLD) to advocate for federal library funding and policy issues, including surveillance, open government, copyright, and net neutrality. An additional 1,000 library advocates signed up to participate in Virtual Library Legislative Day to connect with legislators via email, phone, and social media.

The number of attendees was the highest in 10 years, spurred by the Trump administration’s proposed 2018 budget that would eliminate the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the agency that distributes

federal funding to state library agencies and other grant programs. Librarians are urging legislators to fund libraries through the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and the Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) program.

NLLD participants celebrated an early victory on May 1, when Congress announced a bipartisan agreement over the 2017 budget, which included \$231 million for IMLS—a \$1 million increase from its 2016 budget. Focused lobbying efforts in March led to about one-third of the House of Representatives signing Dear Appropriator letters in support of these two programs, an 18% increase in support for IAL and a 64% increase for LSTA. Similar efforts targeting senators continued in May. ●



Above: Emily Sheketoff, recently retired executive director of ALA’s Washington Office, and Sen. Jack Reed (D-R.I.). Below left: the Wisconsin delegation outside of Rep. Paul Ryan’s (R-Wis.) D.C. office. Below right: Dianne Carty, director of the Massachusetts Libraries Board of Commissioners, shakes hands with Rep. Seth Moulton (D-Mass.).



of America’s youth for computing jobs, which represent the largest source of new jobs and are among the highest-paying.

The brief discusses how libraries stimulate youth awareness in coding, serve as innovation labs to develop coding skills, and leverage their national reach to encourage youth engagement from groups that are underrepresented in tech careers. Libraries are found to increasingly offer programs in coding and computational thinking—the broader

intellectual skills behind coding—and are poised to do much more.

Perspectives from industry leaders such as Michael Petricone of the Consumer Technology Association (and a member of ALA’s Public Policy Advisory Council) and Mo-Yun Lei Fong of Google are included in the brief.

The brief was released in conjunction with the #HouseofCode demo, panel, and reception event on Capitol Hill April 3–4, where nearly 100 students from more than 50 congressional districts

demonstrated their winning apps from the 2016 Congressional App Challenge, sponsored in part by ALA.

This brief is available in full at [bit.ly/librariesreadytocode](http://bit.ly/librariesreadytocode). It is the sixth in a series targeted to national decision makers and influencers. Additional briefs will be released in the coming months.

### Free Online Adult Literacy Training Course Launched

ALA and ProLiteracy have launched a free online course to help libraries across



the country address the need for adult literacy services in their communities. The Adult Literacy through Libraries course consists of 10 modules designed to provide librarians with the training and knowledge to help adults with low literacy pursue their educational, work, and life goals.

After finishing the introduction and community needs assessment modules, library staffers choose additional modules to take based on their library's needs. They include information about building and promoting a collection of print and digital materials that meets the readability needs, goals, and interests of adults with limited literacy. The goal is to increase access to technology to better serve adults with limited literacy or English language skills and includes recommendations on how libraries can form collaborations and strategic partnerships to support adult literacy in their communities.

Registration and additional information for the Adult Literacy through Libraries course is available at [prolteracy.csod.com](http://prolteracy.csod.com).

### Ohio Association Receives AASL Leadership Grant

The Ohio Educational Library Media Association (OELMA) will receive the 2017 AASL ABC-CLIO Leadership Grant. Sponsored by ABC-CLIO, the \$1,750 grant is given to AASL-affiliated school library associations for planning and implementing leadership programs at the local, regional, or state levels.

OELMA will use the funds from the grant to present the "Make Leadership Your Superpower" leadership academy in March 2018. The program's objectives include examining what leadership looks like in a highly effective school library program, assessing and reflecting upon personal leadership strengths

and weaknesses, and preparing school librarians for the next step in Ohio's Every Student Succeeds Act roll out.

After implementation, OELMA will make resources and materials available through its website to affiliate organizations that wish to replicate the academy.

The AASL award winners will be honored at the 2017 ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in Chicago.

### New Grant for Workers Underrepresented in Metadata

The Cataloging and Metadata Management Section of the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) has announced a new award to provide librarians and paraprofessionals from underrepresented groups who are new to the metadata field with the opportunity to attend a professional conference.

The Lois Mai Chan Professional Development Grant honors the career

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— Erin Berman, '11 MLIS  
Innovations Manager, San José Public Library



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## UPDATE

and influence of Lois Mai Chan, a leader, author, and mentor in the field of metadata creation and standards. The grant consists of a citation, \$1,000 in cash, and registration for the ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition, donated by cataloger Netanel Ganin. The grant is applicable toward airfare, lodging, and other ticketed events related to conference attendance.

Chan was instrumental in the development of standards and best practices, writing more than 60 scholarly articles and textbooks on cataloging and classification. She was an ALA member for many years and served on numerous committees, including the Subject Analysis Committee, International Relations Committee, and the Executive Committee of the Cataloging and Classification Section (now known as the Cataloging and Metadata Management Section). Chan was the 1989 recipient of the

Margaret Mann Citation and the 2006 recipient of the Beta Phi Mu Award.

The first grant will be awarded in 2018, with an application process to open in fall 2017. The grant will be presented during the ALA Annual Conference at the ALCTS awards ceremony and membership meeting.

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### Small and Rural Library Planning Institute Announced

The Public Library Association (PLA) announced a one-day workshop on strategic planning for small and rural libraries. The PLA Dynamic Planning Institute will take place on September 6 as a preconference session at the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) Conference in St. George, Utah.

The institute will provide an overview of best practices in strategic planning for small and rural libraries, with a focus on simple, quick, low-cost planning that

meets community needs. It is recommended for public library staff directly involved in the creation and implementation of the library's strategic plan, including but not exclusive to: directors, managers, supervisors, and department heads. This preconference is for those who don't have the time or staff to devote to a large-scale planning effort.

The goal is to teach participants to:

- organize, design, and implement dynamic strategic planning in a library environment while creating a living and actionable plan
- incorporate current methodologies for assessing and engaging community and staff, establishing priorities, and assessing and managing risk
- use key time-saving principles, including using existing data, quick methods for getting input and buy-in from staff

Continued on page 18 ▶



## Teen Titans to Promote Library Card Sign-Ups

This September, crimefighting DC Comics superheroes the Teen Titans will team up with ALA to promote the value of a library card as Library Card Sign-Up Month Honorary Chairs.

The Teen Titans will appear in Library Card Sign-Up Month print and digital public service announcements. The free PSAs will be available for libraries to use in print materials and online. Sample media tools will also be offered to highlight resources the public can get for free with a library card. Tools will include a sample press release, proclamation, radio PSA scripts, and tweets. Additionally, free Teen Titans artwork for library cards will be provided by DC Comics.

Teen Titans posters and bookmarks are available for purchase through the ALA Store at [alastore.ala.org](http://alastore.ala.org). Posters and bookmarks featuring other DC superheroes, including Supergirl, Batman, the Justice League, and Wonder Woman, will also make their debut in the new ALA Graphics summer catalog. ●



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◀ Continued from page 16

and stakeholders, and incorporating existing community plans

- apply best practices in dynamic library planning using the most updated methods and tools for communicating plans and achieving continual results

The cost is \$100, and ARSL Conference registration is not required. Registration is available through the ARSL Conference portal at [bit.ly/ARSL17registration](http://bit.ly/ARSL17registration).

### Libraries Receive Will Eisner Graphic Novel Grants

Two libraries have been selected to receive Will Eisner Graphic Novel Grants for Libraries.

The Will Eisner Graphic Novel Growth Grant provides support to a library that would like to expand its existing graphic novel services and programs. The 2017

recipient is the Colorado State Library for its project “Where There Is Art, There Is Hope: Graphic Novels and Literacy at the Sterling Correctional Facilities Libraries.” The project will allow a new teacher to travel to Sterling, Colorado, to enrich his or her Literacy Education in Adult Detention (LEAD) with Comics curriculum at the Sterling Correctional Facility Libraries.

The Will Eisner Graphic Novel Innovation Grant provides support to a library for the initiation of a graphic novel service, program, or initiative and will be presented to the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The institute’s project “Giving Voice to Our Stories: Fostering the Growth of Future Indigenous Graphic Novelists” aims to support the growth of future indigenous graphic novel artists and further diversify the voices represented in visual narrative through development.

Each grant consists of a \$2,000 voucher to purchase graphic novels, \$1,000 to host a graphic novel-themed event, and a \$1,000 travel stipend to attend the 2017 ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in Chicago. Winners will also receive a graphic novel collection of Eisner’s work and biographies about him, and copies of all titles nominated for this year’s Will Eisner Awards.

The grants are funded by the Will and Ann Eisner Family Foundation and are administered by ALA’s Games and Gaming Round Table and the Graphic Novels and Comics in Libraries Member Initiative Group.

### New Libraries Ready to Code Faculty Fellows Named

Library and information science faculty, selected by ALA and Google to participate in Phase II of the Libraries Ready to Code (RtC) project, will develop graduate-level course models that equip MLIS students to deliver coding programs through public and school libraries.

The ALA–Google Ready to Code faculty fellows are Colette Drouillard, Valdosta (Ga.) State University; Melissa

Johnston, University of West Georgia; Rachel Magee, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Jennifer Moore, Texas Woman’s University; Joe Sanchez, City University of New York; and Natalie Taylor, University of South Florida.

RtC fellows will collaborate in re-designing select media and technology courses from their respective institutions to embed RtC concepts. After teaching the redesigned courses in fall 2017, RtC fellows will share their revised syllabi and course models with colleagues across the LIS community and serve as ambassadors to encourage other LIS faculty to embed RtC concepts in their curricula. The project will be evaluated for impact and effectiveness, and findings will be broadly disseminated.

The RtC faculty fellows will join Ready to Code Phase II team members Mega Subramaniam, coprincipal investigator; Marijke Visser, coprincipal investigator and associate director, OITP; Linda Braun, learning consultant, LEO: Librarians and Educators Online; Caitlin K. Martin, learning research consultant; Alan S. Inouye, director, OITP; and Christopher Harris, OITP youth and technology fellow.

### Librarian for the Blind to Be Honored with Service Award

William “Will” R. Reed, manager of the Ohio Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled at Cleveland Public Library, has been selected for the 2017 Cathleen Bourdon Service Award, administered by the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA).

Reed will be honored at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago for his work as an advocate for information access and reading opportunities to individuals with print disabilities, as shown in his work with the Library Services for People with Visual and Physical Disabilities Forum as well as his role as a working team member to revise the Standards and Guidelines of Service for the Library



Will Reed

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of Congress Network of Libraries for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

Colleagues highlighted Reed's expertise, approachability, and influence with the use of adaptive technology. Reed developed a model of service delivery for libraries serving people with print disabilities. This model is used at the D.C. Public Library, where it helped the system build its JAWS curriculum into a powerful force for adaptive technology training, employment, and entrepreneurship.

### Li to Receive Equality Award

Haipeng Li, the university librarian at University of California, Merced, is the 2017 recipient of the ALA Equality Award. He previously served as univer-



Haipeng Li

sity librarian at Hong Kong Baptist University, associate director and acting head of access services at the John Cotton Dana Library at Rutgers University, and as reference librarian at Oberlin College in Ohio, University of Arizona, and Arizona State University.

The award jury noted that, throughout his career, Li has championed equality within the profession, to library users, and on a global level. They commended his leadership in the area of equality, highlighting his work as cochair of the second National Joint Conference of Librarians of Color and as past president and executive director of the Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA), and in playing a leadership role in a variety of global initiatives, including the US-China library collaboration program "Think Globally, Act Globally," which was funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Ministry of Culture in China.

The annual award—\$1,000 and a framed citation of achievement—is given to an individual or group for outstanding contributions toward promoting equality in the library profession. Li will be presented with the award at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. **AL**

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# TRENDS



A “book” who identifies as Palestinian converses with two “readers” at a Human Library event hosted by Williams College Libraries in Williamstown, Massachusetts.

## If These Books Could Talk

Patrons check out people at Human Libraries

BY Liz Granger

**C**hristine Ménard, head of research services and library outreach at Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts, first read about Human Libraries in a French newspaper about seven years ago. At a Human Library event, patrons check out people—not books—to “read” through conversation. Someone might “read” an alcoholic, an immigrant, or an obese person by asking them direct questions in an intimate setting. The goal is to confront prejudice and stereotypes.

“That’s cool,” Ménard thought, though she couldn’t imagine the initiative taking hold at her academic library. But that summer, another Williams professor also learned about Human Libraries while in Europe, and he later approached Ménard about collaborating on a campus event. That’s how, in 2012,

Williams College became one of the first institutions in the US to host a Human Library.

Globally, Human Libraries have taken off in a big way. More than 2,000 Human Library events have been hosted in 84 countries since the project started 17 years ago, according to Ronni Abergel, founder of the international Human Library network ([humanlibrary.org](http://humanlibrary.org)), who cohosted the first Human Library in Copenhagen. Once the four-day gathering ended, Abergel says he couldn’t let go of the vital conversations that arose between his living “books” and “readers,” especially one between a police officer and a group of antifascist youth, a pairing whose relationship grew from antagonistic to productive within an hour.

“That’s almighty and powerful,” Abergel says. He founded his

Denmark-based nongovernmental organization in 2007 and trademarked the term *human library* in America in 2010.

That’s right: trademarked. In order for an event to call itself a Human Library, its organizers must apply for permission from Abergel and the Human Library organization. There is an online application and a \$59 fee (with scholarships available). And once an organizer is approved to host, he or she receives an eight-page licensing agreement and training materials that explain how to assemble a proper gathering.

“It’s not a storytelling event,” Abergel says. “It’s about having difficult conversations with people who experience prejudice. We’re not talking about our garden or our stamp collection. We like to talk about the things that hurt, the things that people are afraid to talk about.”

### Conceiving a Human Library

For library staffers who want to launch Human Library events at their institutions, organizers recommend starting early. “You need a good several months just for ‘collection development’ because good ‘books’ can be hard to find,” says Erwin Magbanua, adult programming and special events coordinator at San Diego Public Library, which hosted its first Human Library in March.

Megan Gilpin, outreach coordinator for library learning services at Penn State University, helped

coordinate the school's first Human Library in February. Penn State did about two months of work before even applying to be an official Human Library site, and Gilpin's team started meeting biweekly in July 2016 for its February event. It took a while to plan, she says, because they were starting the project from scratch.

For those who don't want to begin from square one, Human Library is developing Book Depots, localized collections of vetted, trained "books" for loan. Borrowing from a nearby depot will save organizers the trouble of recruiting, selecting, packaging, and coaching their "titles." Abergel currently offers a depot in Chicago, with sites planned for Goffstown, New Hampshire; Indianapolis; San Diego; Tucson, Arizona; and Wichita, Kansas.

But for libraries that want to "lend" their own human books—or those not located near a depot—finding the right personality is key. "When you're seeking human books, you need people who not only have interesting backgrounds

but who are willing to put themselves out there and talk to strangers," says Abby Kasowitz-Scheer, learning commons librarian at Syracuse (N.Y.) University Libraries, which recently ran its fourth Human Library event. Kasowitz-Scheer emphasizes the importance of personal narrative to her recruits. "We're an academic institution, but [the Human Library isn't] focusing on your research or third-person stance on an issue," she tells them. "It's about personal stories."

### Breaking stereotypes

Ménard stays close to the Human Library mission of breaking stereotypes. "A few years ago," Ménard says, "we wanted to expand our books. We went broader—gemologist, diner owner—and it became very much like a career fair."

Abergel imagines human books as representatives of stigmatized communities. A bulimic "book," for instance, stands in for all bulimic people. For this reason,

Continued on page 23 ▶



Williams College used a "wall catalog" to highlight its "books." Each book was represented by a poster that included a title, keywords, and suggested conversation starters.

## BY THE NUMBERS



## Literary Chicago

### 9th

Floor of Chicago Public Library's (CPL) main building, the Harold Washington Library Center, where you'll find the Winter Garden, a meeting space featuring an atrium, marble floors, and a 52-foot glass-paneled dome. The Winter Garden will be the location of the International Librarian's Reception during the American Library Association's (ALA) 2017 Annual Conference and Exhibition (see p. 64).

### 55

Number of "Chicago poems" published in Carl Sandburg's *Chicago Poems* in 1916. Poem titles include "Halsted Street Car," "Clark Street Bridge," and "A Teamster's Farewell."



### 311

Number of people who showed up at the ALA Annual Conference in 1893—the first one held in Chicago.

### 2000

Year that the Friends of Libraries USA and Illinois Center for the Book designated CPL's Hall branch on Chicago's South Side as a literary landmark in recognition of its promotion of African-American authors and literary culture. The library was a meeting place for writers including Gwendolyn Brooks, Lorraine Hansberry, Langston Hughes, and Zora Neale Hurston. ●



Justin Schell (standing, top right), director of Shapiro Design Lab at the University of Michigan's Shapiro Undergraduate Library, was an organizer of a data rescue event at the library in January.

# Archiving Against the Clock

Libraries and universities join forces to save government data

BY Timothy Inklebarger

It's been more than four months since Donald Trump was inaugurated as the 45th president of the United States, and librarians and data scientists are hard at work to preserve government research they fear could be lost or removed by his administration.

The effort began at University of Toronto and Van Pelt Library at the University of Pennsylvania prior to Trump's inauguration and has since spread to as many as two dozen universities and libraries across the US and Canada.

The fear that government research and information—particularly that produced by the Environmental Protection Agency, NASA, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—could be lost is not unfounded. It happened under the administration of former Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper, who according to news reports allowed fishery and oceanographic data to be destroyed after taking office in 2006.

It can happen here, too, says Dawn Walker, a PhD student at the Faculty of Information at University of Toronto, who has helped organize data recovery events at various universities.

Data scientists are using two methods to gather the publicly available data from government websites. Web crawlers scan websites and collect information and vital data sets for storage. But the more complex data sets require computer-savvy individuals—some of whom call themselves “baggers”—to write custom computer code to collect the information. Many of those scripts can be used on different pages, according to Walker. She notes that the Environmental Data and Governance Initiative—a network of academics and nonprofits working to preserve government data—has created an extension that can be added to the Google Chrome web browser that allows users to nominate data sets for archiving.

The data undergoes a thorough review process to ensure the integrity of the information collected, she says. The data sets are then downloaded to a repository at [datarefuge.org](http://datarefuge.org), where the information is publicly available.

Justin Schell, director of Shapiro Design Lab at the University of Michigan's Shapiro Undergraduate Library and organizer of a data rescue event, says he first learned of the guerrilla archiving events after reading about the University of Toronto's hackathon in December. He says he's been working on the project every day since.

Schell says collecting the data is only part of the challenge in preserving it. Verifying its validity and organizing, describing, and ensuring that the information is in an accessible format are just as vital, he says.

Those tasks entail, in many cases, contacting government officials, scientists, academics, and others who are knowledgeable about climate data. That includes cross-referencing data with studies available at data repositories like

“This has been a way for people with expertise in a variety of areas to come together.”

**DAWN WALKER**, PhD student at the Faculty of Information at University of Toronto



the Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research, one of the largest in the world, Schell says.

It's not uncommon for those collecting research and scientific data to end up with multiple and differing copies of the same information, Schell says. He says that leaves archivists and librarians to answer the question: "Which one is verifiable?"

"We're trying to better understand what's in these data sets to make sure we're not just getting part of the picture," he says, adding that effort takes "a lot of networking."

Walker says librarians also have been instrumental in the "bagging" process, leading the conversation about best practices in archiving and preserving the material.

"It's really exciting to see how this has been a way for people with expertise in a variety of areas to come together [on the issue]," she says. "Now there's a public interest in [archiving the data], and a lot of people are looking for ways to continue that momentum." **AL**

**TIMOTHY INKLEBARGER** is a writer living in Chicago.

◀ Continued from page 21

he prefers simple, one-word titles like "bipolar" or "polyamorous." But Ménard, Kasowitz-Scheer, and Gilpin take a different approach, allowing "books" to submit their own title information—which often means lengthy biographical stories. "People tend to have titles with subtitles and colons and exclamation marks," Ménard says. "We do a lot of work shortening [them]."

Good hosts coach their tomes. "Prior to the library event, we offered to meet one on one with our books to help them clarify their story and practice talking in front of people," Gilpin says. It's also important to be sure that "books" are mentally sound and that they have an option to take breaks during library events, which can be emotionally taxing.

The basic format of a Human Library differs between institutions. Kasowitz-Scheer and Ménard both prefer one-on-one checkout sessions that last 20 minutes, with 10 minutes of transition time in between. In contrast, Gilpin offers 45-minute checkouts for group audiences. "For me, logistically, the group format was easier. I also thought it would be less intimidating for our readers," Gilpin says.

Kasowitz-Scheer felt nervous before running her first Human Library because she thought that

audience members would get upset by heavy conversations about topics such as abuse. "But it wasn't like that at all," Kasowitz-Scheer says. "People were inspired by the strength of survivors and by people's ability to go on after difficult life experiences."

Though Magbanua has hosted many events in his career, he's "never felt such satisfaction and certainty" that a Human Library was "the absolute right program to do at the right time." His event brought

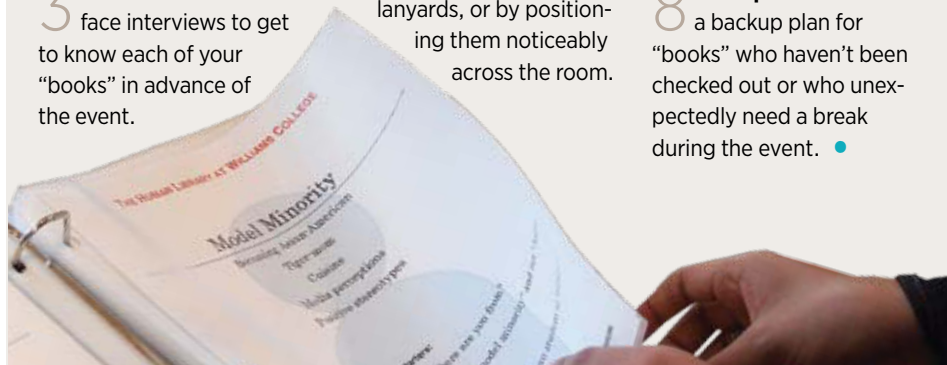
in more than 100 readers, and he has already received three requests from other groups that want to organize their own libraries.

"The event continues to reverberate almost a month afterward," Magbanua says. "I'm still getting feedback from different people about how they were moved by it." **AL**

**LIZ GRANGER** is a Chicago-based nonfiction writer. Find her work at [lizgranger.com](http://lizgranger.com).

## 8 Tips for Hosting a Successful Human Library

- 1 Contextualize.** The themes of your living "books" should suit your community.
- 2 Amplify.** Promote your event to the public.
- 3 Meet.** Hold face-to-face interviews to get to know each of your "books" in advance of the event.
- 4 Prepare.** Consider organizing a preregistration for checkouts in order to ease the day-of rush.
- 5 Style.** Identify your "books" with T-shirts or lanyards, or by positioning them noticeably across the room.
- 6 Buffer.** Include extra time within your checkout schedule.
- 7 Gather.** Offer a room—or "shelf"—where idle "books" can socialize.
- 8 Anticipate.** Have a backup plan for "books" who haven't been checked out or who unexpectedly need a break during the event. ●





Screen reader software synthesizes web content into speech for people with visual impairments.

# Library Websites for All

Improving the experience for patrons with visual impairments

BY Marcus Banks

Librarians take pride in assisting all users who come through their doors, even as these “doors” have become increasingly virtual. Although many people still visit libraries in person, it is now commonplace for users to access databases and ebooks through a library’s website or through e-readers. Some of those patrons have visual impairments and require specific support to make full use of a library’s online resources.

Providing this support in user-centered and responsive ways fulfills the librarian’s obligation to offer service to all users. However, paying attention to accessibility for visually impaired patrons is not just the right thing to do. It may also protect your library from legal trouble.

## Legal precedents for access

In 2012 the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) sued the Free Library of Philadelphia on behalf of four blind patrons who were

unable to use noncompliant Nook e-readers provided by the library ([bit.ly/2ld4XJa](http://bit.ly/2ld4XJa)). To settle that suit, the library agreed to purchase 10 new accessible e-readers and to ensure that all its e-readers were accessible within four years.

In recent years, legal challenges have expanded to include websites. Several retailers and banks have faced class-action suits ([on.wsj.com/2lcXs54](http://on.wsj.com/2lcXs54)) because their websites were not fully accessible to individuals with visual disabilities, thus violating the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The ADA, signed in 1990 and significantly amended in 2010, is the main US law that seeks to grant equal treatment of Americans with disabilities in all aspects of their lives.

The NFB lawsuit also claimed violations of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, another federal law. Section 504 of the act prevents any organization that receives federal funding from discriminating against people with disabilities.

This provision was core to the NFB lawsuit, as the Free Library receives federal assistance. In addition, Section 508 ensures that federal agencies provide the same level of access to online information to all people, regardless of disability.

Neither the ADA nor the Rehabilitation Act explicitly addresses how entities should provide equal access to their websites, but other organizations have stepped up. The World Wide Web Consortium’s (W3C) Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 ([w3.org/TR/WCAG20](http://w3.org/TR/WCAG20)) is the leading document that informs organizations of the relevant standards for making websites compliant. Although these guidelines don’t have the power of law, attorneys and judges have referred to them during legal proceedings ([bit.ly/2mLzJFv](http://bit.ly/2mLzJFv)).

In 2009 the American Library Association (ALA) Council passed a resolution entitled “Purchasing of Accessible Electronic Resources.” It encourages librarians to require that their vendors provide accessible products, specifically those that meet the standards of Section 508 as well as the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines. ALA’s Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies offers a toolkit of questions that librarians can ask their vendors regarding their compliance with these standards ([bit.ly/2mtXuFN](http://bit.ly/2mtXuFN)).

## Best practices in website design

As more librarians design their library’s sites with off-the-shelf content management systems, they can take several straightforward steps to improve accessibility, such as including text that describes the

content of all images, avoiding tiny fonts, using simple and economical language, and developing scripts that describe the contents of videos. Many more tips are available from the University of Washington's Alliance for Access to Computing Careers ([bit.ly/2lHUfXp](http://bit.ly/2lHUfXp)). Per the ALA resolution, librarians should also advocate that any products provided by vendors have the same level of functionality as any materials produced by the library itself.

Given the importance of providing accessibility to library resources for all patrons, as well as the availability of best practices, it is not surprising to find that librarians are meeting this challenge.

Joan Lefkowitz, web services manager for San Francisco Public Library (SFPL), emphasizes that her library strives to “meet the current version of the W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines.” This means that, among other things, users should be able to easily navigate the SFPL site using various screen readers, that is, software specifically designed to provide web content to people with visual disabilities. Videos should be sufficiently captioned, she says, and “a user should be able to navigate our site using a keyboard and no mouse.” SFPL works toward compliance with these standards using screen reader and keyboard-only testing with both sighted and visually impaired staff members. The library also contracts with local nonprofit Center for Accessible Technology to conduct additional usability testing and provide a road map for maintaining accessible resources over time. Lefkowitz notes that SFPL staffers push vendors to meet these same standards.

Over the course of 20 years, Karen Russ, the research and community engagement librarian at University of Arkansas at Little

As more librarians design their libraries' sites with off-the-shelf content management systems, they can take several steps to improve accessibility.

Rock (UALR) Ottenheimer Library, has developed a strong protocol for using screen readers to evaluate the usability of the library's own website as well as the sites of all library-subscribed databases. These tests occur in partnership with UALR's Disability Resource Center. Russ and her colleagues regularly urge database vendors to adopt best practices for serving patrons who are visually impaired, such as those proposed by the Alliance for Access to Computing Careers. Russ often gets database vendors to fix any issues by the next release, in no small part because she says she puts up “a strong fight” to prevent the library from licensing any product that does not offer equivalent functionality to visually impaired patrons.

As a complement to her efforts, Russ has joined the Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD) and encourages other librarians to do the same. One direct and immediate benefit of joining AHEAD is access to online webinars, including those on improving support for students with visual impairments.

Russ says her participation in AHEAD led to interesting discussions

about how the disability offices can work with their libraries and spurred several service improvements at UALR, such as establishing a library liaison to the disability office and improving options for visually impaired students who want to read ebooks. At one point, hard copy books were transmitted to disk for these students, which was a time-consuming process. Today convenient and usable e-readers are readily available.

One common thread between SFPL and UALR's experience is the connection to like-minded groups—a local nonprofit for SFPL, a professional association for UALR. Libraries looking to improve their support for patrons with visual impairments might find allies and experts to collaborate with. A wealth of information is available about simple steps libraries can take that will have a positive impact and keep your online resources accessible to all. [AL](#)

**MARCUS BANKS** is a journalist with prior experience as an academic library administrator.

San Francisco Public Library conducts keyboard-only testing of its website for usability.



# Coming Home, Building Community

Aiding elders on a Native American reservation

The Winnebago Reservation in northeastern Nebraska lies about 20 miles from the nearest drugstore. Long on farmland and short on commercial services, this rural area is a place where it's easy for people who are elderly, homebound, or both to become isolated. Seven years ago, though, the local community college and public library created the position of tribal aide to elders. And the woman who fills it does her best to keep the community connected.

BY Anne Ford  
and Cynthia  
Hughes

Judi Bridge's hometown didn't feel entirely like home anymore. After several decades of life elsewhere, she had returned to the village of Winnebago, Nebraska (population 787) in 2009, searching for a quieter, more rural lifestyle. She'd even gotten a job at the local Little Priest Tribal College and Winnebago Public Library, working

as an aide to senior citizens of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. (The village is located within the tribal reservation.) But after so much time away, she didn't feel completely embraced by the community.

That is, until a library patron suggested that when you're trying to find your place in any small, close-knit settlement, a useful strategy is to tell people who your parents and grandparents are. It worked like a charm. "They'll [now] say, 'Oh, okay, okay,' and then they accept me," Bridge says.

Good thing, as Bridge's job entails constant connection. As tribal aide to elders (her official title), she delivers library books, gives rides to and from the library, teaches basic computer skills, facilitates a book club, provides accessibility devices, and does whatever else she can to make sure that the senior and disabled citizens of the Winnebago Reservation get the most out of their library.

Bridge is the first to hold the tribal aide to elders position, which

was originally funded by an Institute of Museum and Library Services Enhancement Grant. These grants offer \$10,000–\$150,000 to enhance existing library services or implement new library services among Indian tribes, Alaska native villages, regional corporations, and village corporations. In light of the position's success, the Little Priest Tribal College stepped in to supply funding after the grant ran out in 2012.

A typical day for Bridge might begin by checking to see if any patrons are in danger of incurring fees for overdue materials and asking those patrons if they'd like to renew. "I can do that [renewal] so that they don't accumulate a fine, because a lot of them are on a budget," she says. She might also suggest certain books or DVDs to particular patrons, based on her knowledge of their interests.

Next she might sit down with a senior for a tutorial in basic computer skills. "There was a gentleman who came from 20 miles away twice a week," she marvels. "He just wanted to learn as much as he could and as much as I could teach him." The remainder of the day might see her making home visits to drop off or pick up materials, leading a book club discussion, attending a funeral, or stopping by the local senior center to refresh the items she leaves on a library cart there for checkout. She's noticed, by the way, that many seniors initially visit the cart only, but then get curious about what other items are available and start going to the library as well.

Bridge also oversees the library's accessibility devices, which include handheld video magnifiers. "One lady said she wanted to use it to read her Bible all the way through," she says. "Another lady was a baker, and she'd use it for recipes. I just



In her position as tribal aide to elders, Judi Bridge helps the senior citizens of Winnebago, Nebraska, make the most of the library.

## GLOBAL REACH



Kindai University's Biblio Theater Library

## Manga Library Opens in Japanese University

**JAPAN** Kindai University in Higashiōsaka opened a new two-story library in April that features a special collection of some 21,000 manga titles. The graphic novels are shelved alongside texts on related subjects in order to attract students to more academic material. For example, the Naniwa Kin'yudo manga series, which deals with loan sharks in Osaka, sits adjacent to books on the Japanese economy and the 2008 financial crisis. The new Biblio Theater Library has a café and study rooms that are open 24 hours.—*Japan Times*, Mar. 26.

**IRAQ** When Islamic State militants occupied Mosul University in June 2014, they set about destroying its collection of manuscripts in a show of contempt for culture and higher education. A campaign is now underway to restore libraries in the city. The project is led by an anonymous blogger who describes himself as an independent historian. Some 400 books had been received by April, with thousands more waiting in collection centers.—*BBC News*, Apr. 12.

**TAJIKISTAN** The culture ministry announced that no books will be allowed in or out of the country without written permission as part of an effort to prevent smugglers from selling valuable manuscripts abroad. Some speculate that the ban is also intended to stop extremist religious material from coming into the country, because books written in Farsi and Arabic are especially treated with suspicion.—*Radio Free Europe*, Apr. 17.

**IRAN** For the first time in its 80-year history, the National Library has appointed a woman as director. Ashraf Boroujerdi, a faculty member of the Iranian Institute of Human Sciences, began her duties at an April 10 ceremony in Tehran, which also honored outgoing director Reza Salehi Amiri. Boroujerdi was chosen for her research in Islamic social sciences and her role as the first director general at the department for women's affairs.—*Financial Tribune (Tehran)*, Apr. 12. ●

reassure them that these devices are there for them.” The library also has large-print books, CD players, and portable DVD players for loan. Additionally, it’s not unusual for Bridge to go above and beyond for a patron, as when she recently helped one resident who has a physical disability research home internet service providers, accessible vehicles, and suitable wheelchairs.

To librarians in other Native American communities, Bridge recommends building on tribal oral traditions by expanding the selection of audiovisual materials available. At her library, the DVD collection, about 20% of which is made up of titles of Native interest, now accounts for more than half of all circulated materials.

Another suggestion: encouraging intergenerational interaction. As younger patrons see more older adults read for pleasure as well as information, they learn the value of reading themselves. And having elders present storytelling programs during children’s summer reading programs, as Bridge’s library does, helps strengthen a sense of intergenerational community.

Given that nearly 13% of the reservation’s residents are over age 55, one-third of those over 55 are homebound, and there is no public transportation, Bridge’s efforts are sorely needed.

“There are a lot of diabetic people here, and some are at home, and some can’t get out unless they’re in a wheelchair,” she says. “They sure appreciate someone coming to see them. I believe there’s a great need for this.” And a great result from it: In the first two years of her service, circulation to older adults went from nearly zero to 27%. **AL**

**ANNE FORD** is *American Libraries* editor-at-large. **CYNTHIA HUGHES** is assistant librarian at the University of Wyoming’s Coe Library in Laramie.

# Nikki Giovanni

Sharing her thoughts on poetry, politics, and outer space

**N**ikki Giovanni, who has written or edited more than 40 books, is one of the most widely read African-American poets in the world. Since the 1960s, her lyrical yet down-to-earth explorations of themes such as civil rights, racial pride, and family life have revealed a spirit both grounded in reality and passionate about possibility. As part of the 2017 American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference and Exhibition in Chicago, Giovanni headlines a June 23 reception to benefit ALA's Cultural Committee Fund. Her latest work, *A Good Cry* (HarperCollins), will be published in October.



## When you were growing up, what was your relationship to libraries like?

We went to the Carnegie library that Andrew Carnegie had built for black Americans—Knoxville, Tennessee, was still segregated—and my librarian was Mrs. Long. I remember her getting books for me: “Well, Nikki, would you like to read this?” Some of the books I asked for, the Carnegie library didn’t have, and she had to go up to the white library to ask for them.

## You published your first book of poetry, *Black Feeling, Black Talk*, in 1968. Why did you decide to self-publish it?

I just didn’t think that anybody would be interested in publishing me. Like a lot of people, I dislike rejection, so I thought, “The way to avoid it is not to ask.” I asked a printer, “If I printed 100 books, how much would that cost me?” He said, “A hundred dollars.” I thought, “If I can sell ’em for a dollar apiece, I can break even.” I wasn’t trying to earn a living. I was just trying to get the books out.

## Your poem “Allowables,” which discusses your experience of killing a spider, has popped up a lot on social media in the past year. People seem especially moved by the last few lines: “I don’t think / I’m allowed / To kill something / Because I am / Frightened.” Why do you think that is?

I don’t do social media. I don’t know how Trump does that thing, Twit. I don’t know where he gets the time. But I have been amazed that this poem has been embraced the way that it has.

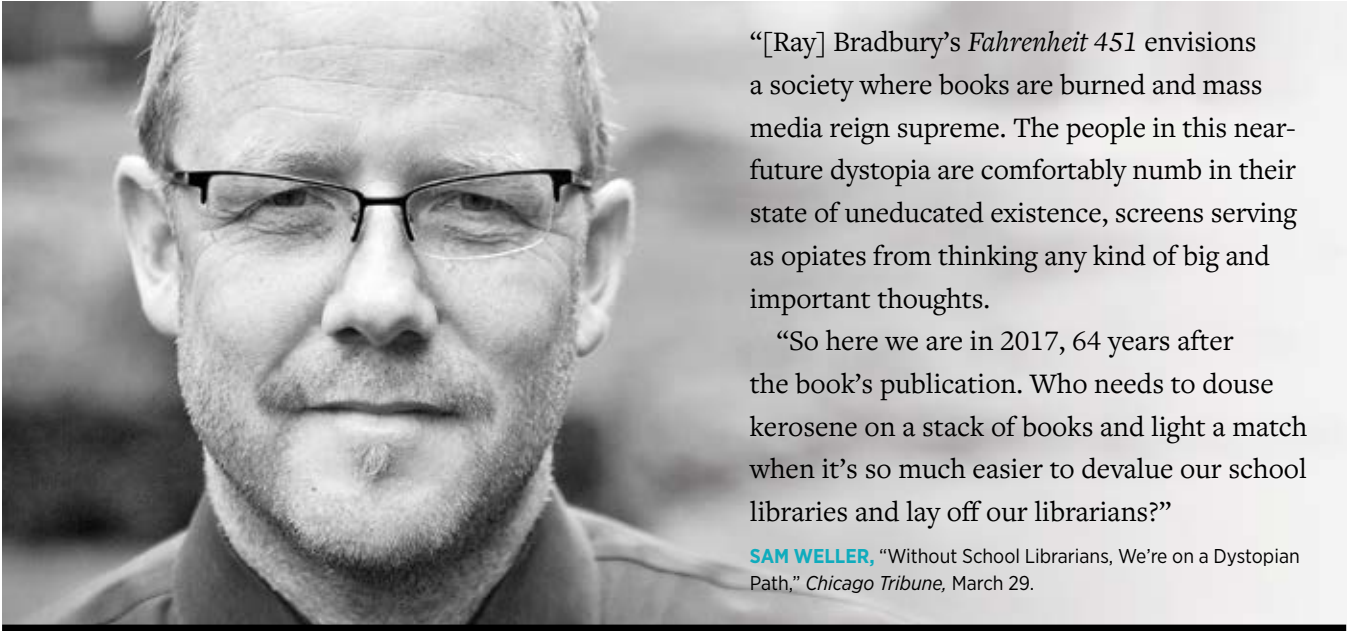
You don’t have the right to kill something because it might frighten you. All of us are hurting people we shouldn’t. I’m living in Appalachia, and a lot of people are upset with the coyotes. Well, you’re not allowed to shoot the coyotes just because you think that they might eat your sheep. They can’t get a driver’s license and go to McDonald’s; they have to eat something.

## You share many memories in your forthcoming book, *A Good Cry*. What prompted you to write it?

I had a seizure. My doctor says I had it because I had high blood pressure, and I say it’s because I never learned to cry. Crying is a skill, and I think that we ought to be encouraging people to let it out, and that’s how I came to do the book. I’m learning to cry. I’m not embarrassed. I’m not trying to be brave anymore.

## One of your big interests is outer space. Would you go to Mars if you had the chance?

I would, but I know I can’t. I talked about it with Charles Bolden, who until recently was the administrator of NASA. He said, “Nikki, I can send you up, but I can’t bring you back.” I had lung cancer and had my left lung removed. So if I came back into gravity without that lung there, my organs would move around, and that would kill me. I tried to make a deal: “I’m 73 years old. Maybe in the next 10 years, you’ll allow me to go into space. I’m going to die anyway; that’s not something that frightens me. So when I do die, just open the hatch and let me out.” **AL**



“[Ray] Bradbury’s *Fahrenheit 451* envisions a society where books are burned and mass media reign supreme. The people in this near-future dystopia are comfortably numb in their state of uneducated existence, screens serving as opiates from thinking any kind of big and important thoughts.

“So here we are in 2017, 64 years after the book’s publication. Who needs to douse kerosene on a stack of books and light a match when it’s so much easier to devalue our school libraries and lay off our librarians?”

**SAM WELLER**, “Without School Librarians, We’re on a Dystopian Path,” *Chicago Tribune*, March 29.

“Mrs. Carter was the very first black librarian I had ever encountered. The peculiarity of seeing so few librarians of color (especially black librarians) intrigued me. This made a lasting impression on my life, my studies, and my career aspirations. That said, as you complete your graduate studies, please be mindful of the seemingly minute details of life because they can lead to the monumental. Pay attention to the people, places, and pastimes that energize you because those could be the very things that propel you into your ideal profession.

“After meeting Mrs. Carter, I (a little black girl from the rural South) began to believe that I could do and become *anything*—an architect, a banker, a chef, a doctor ... or even an unapologetic, gifted black librarian. *I did.*”

**REGINA SIERRA CARTER**, “Librarians: Do Any Look Like Me?” *Inside Higher Ed*, March 29.

**“THE LIBRARY IS ALWAYS THERE. THE CON YOU GO TO FOR A WEEKEND, AND IT’S GONE. BUT THE LIBRARY WILL ALWAYS BE THERE.”**

**NAOMI BELL**, librarian at Lacey (Wash.) Timberland Library, quoted in “How Libraries Are Making Comic Conventions Accessible,” *Vice*, March 21.

**“The school library is like a supplementary classroom, one that not only provides technologies not found in the classroom but employs people who are experts in teaching these technologies to students. School librarians provide a baseline knowledge of information gathering and research that students can build upon as they enter college. Need an MLA expert in high school? More often than not, your librarian was the one to provide that education, if not the resources that your teachers used in class.”**

**EDITORIAL BOARD**, “Editorial: Support Our K-12 School Librarians,” *Iowa State Daily*, April 6.

**“We have struggled to define ourselves as a profession in relationship/ response to all historical social change movements. We have to face that struggle now. And [#Libraries4BlackLives] is a clear clarion call that we should not sit this one out under the cover of neutrality and community comfort.”**

**JESSICA BRATT**, “The Myth of the Neutral Library: Why Social Activism Is Integral to Librarianship,” *Hack Library School*, March 8.

# Facts through Fresh Eyes

Gaining a new perspective on information

This winter, I taught a large introductory undergraduate class, Intellectual Foundations of Informatics, for the first time. Many of the topics we covered will feel familiar to library folks: information behavior, database design, information architecture and search, privacy, and intellectual property.

The course also covers things you're less likely to find in Libraryland on a regular basis: design thinking, user experience, interface design, accessibility, data science, visualization techniques, information assurance, and cybersecurity.

As an exercise, I gave students several excerpts from the *World Almanac*, ranging from birthstones to home-run leaders to statistics on homeschooled students and genocide. For each, they had to seek other sources to corroborate the almanac. This led to a class discussion on the nature of "facts"—this was in late January; timing is everything—and moreover on how knowledge and authority are constructed, individually and collectively.

I was quite pleased with the list of types of authority they generated in brainstorming, based on institutions, consensus, social position, expertise, and direct observation. They included things I didn't expect, such as "reach" (number of followers), wealth, track record, age, and the degree to which something was cool or interesting.

The students were indeed facile and comfortable with technologies, though not always with information. One of our most difficult sessions was on vocabulary control and bibliographic database searching; I assumed they'd be receptive and see the opportunity to improve their own abilities



for other settings. I was wrong. The search demo I planned—to use PsycINFO, which works beautifully with MLIS students—landed with a dull thud.

I can't say why for sure. My instinct is that it came across as disconnected from or irrelevant to their interests and backgrounds. On the other hand, sending them out to scour the campus for half an hour to look for examples of information behavior was quite successful (including the student who came back and reported seeing "people looking for examples of information behavior"—which I could very much see myself doing somehow).

Lights went on every week. Students came to office hours to ask thoughtful questions: One young woman asked about protecting her online privacy. I suggested

If something comes from the right kind of authority, that ground has to be prepared and fertilized for a long time before it can reap a harvest of trust and confidence.

turning off her phone's GPS, but when I suggested just leaving it at home, she was shocked and seemed never to have even considered the trade-offs of these devices. Other students asked why information products are often poorly designed, or why people believe things that are patently untrue and unsubstantiated.

That last point has been on lots of minds lately. My own perspective here is that people believe what they are ready to believe; see the list of aforementioned "authorities." If something comes from the right kind of authority—be it a friend, a news source, the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, Google, the president, Facebook, you name it—that ground has to be prepared and fertilized for a long time before it can reap a harvest of trust and confidence. And it would likely necessitate an even longer period of undoing.

I was pleasantly surprised at students' open-mindedness, receptivity to the information perspective, and interest in the multiple aspects of our field. More than one came to office hours saying that "everybody should be required to take a class like this," proving once more there's no zealot like a convert.

The deeper question for all of us is this: Why don't more of these bright, talented, information-interested students see themselves and their future career paths in libraries? There would be great opportunities for them, and for us, so we all have some work to do to make that more obvious ... but that's another story. **AL**

**JOSEPH JANES** is associate professor at the Information School of the University of Washington in Seattle and creator of the *Documents That Changed the World* podcast.



# Audiobooks and Engagement

Eliminating barriers to developing listening skills leads to civic participation

Audiobook sales have skyrocketed over the past two decades, and access grows increasingly simple for connected listeners. Have a smartphone, tablet, or broadband-connected computer? Many options are available, via two or three clicks, for audiobooks that engage, educate, and expand our awareness of voices beyond our own.

The traditional dilemma about whether listening equals reading becomes increasingly relegated to the same bin of disproved anxieties as our ancestors' certainty that radio would kill thoughtful reading. As technology advances our access points to—and interest in—information and literature, the world of social and political possibilities blossoms.

Where audiobooks were once limited to oral reading that eschewed any sort of dramatic performance, targeting listeners who were vision-impaired and believed to need only the use of another's eyes to convert print to sound, contemporary audiobooks often combine the efforts of voice actors, directors, and engineers to produce compelling, professional, aural interpretation. I think of this as akin to the American Sign Language interpreter who conveys another's words meaningfully, rather than through finger spelling.

Access to authentic voices leads to greater cultural awareness, better-nourished aspirations, and the development of humans who can engage with others in discussion. We live in a trans-media literacy age where news, health and safety information, and exposure to ideas and opinions require us to be skillful listeners and viewers as well as capable text readers. In addition to supporting



personal concerns, audiobooks provide a platform for us to advance and exercise the critical listening skills we need to be successfully engaged in our communities.

Experience with what is said, how it can be said most effectively, and why aural cues impart essential details is delivered through audiobooks. Yes, we can build our empathy muscles by listening to those who do not sound like us; beyond empathy, however, skillful listening requires us to pause our interior monologues and take heed of others, whether they are like or unlike us.

But what of community members who lack the hardware or resources that make audiobook listening readily available to many? Public and academic libraries loan tablets, often for onsite use only. School and some public libraries circulate preloaded Playaway products that contain digital titles using that company's hardware. These are sidesteps from audiobooks on disc or tape, and do not match the access to a deeper and broader digital audiobook catalog afforded to

Access to authentic voices leads to greater cultural awareness and better-nourished aspirations.

community members who own mobile devices or computers with sufficient broadband for downloading.

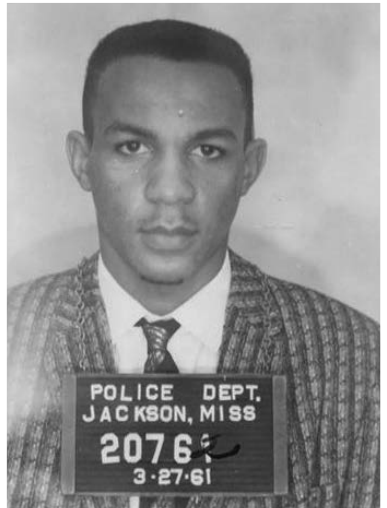
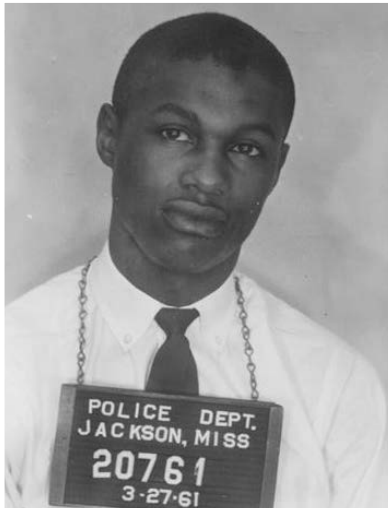
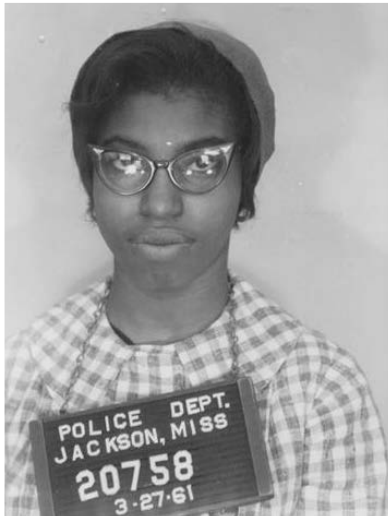
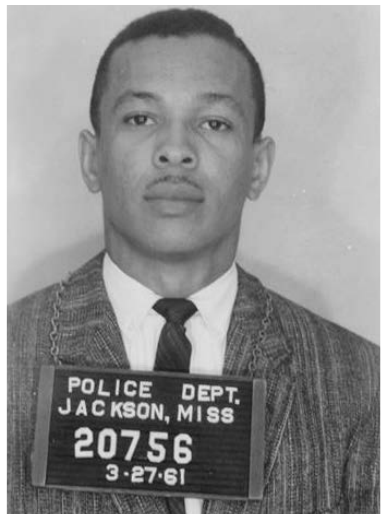
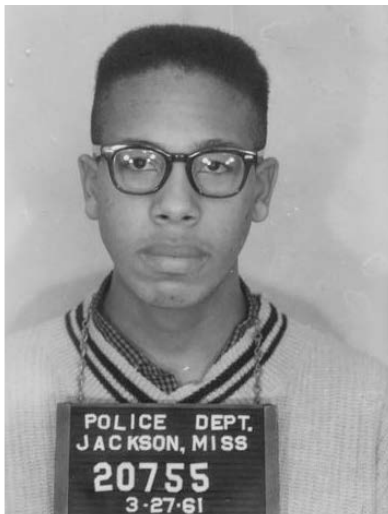
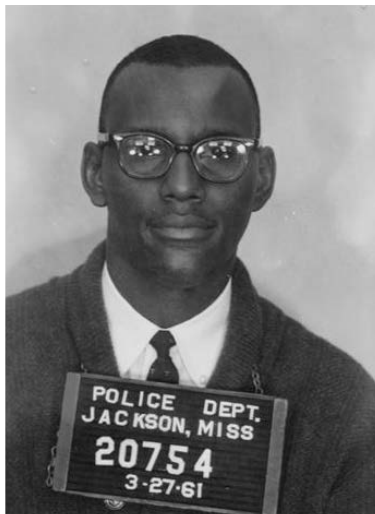
How might we make audiobook access truly available across a digital divide in which hardware and data remain significant needs? Libraries could stop locking down equipment and give the power of selection to those who are doing the listening instead of the loaning. Or perhaps libraries can budget for inexpensive loaner hardware, like the \$35 SanDisk digital audio player or \$50 iPod Shuffle, that can be loaded by users based on their own choices.

Some libraries loan mobile hotspots. What if a library allowed visitors to download their preferred titles from the library's audiobook collection onto devices the prospective listener might own, but not have broadband connectivity for at home?

There are, of course, the issues of a library's budget and equipment policies. Let's admit that these obstacles are as much habit on our parts as they are true barriers in the sense of physical impracticality. We must not ignore that developing listening skills builds linguistic awareness that, in turn, opens new possibilities for civic inclusion and participation.

Civic inclusion for all strengthens all. Let's bridge the divide so that skillful listening isn't reserved for those who own the best hardware and easiest access. **AL**

**FRANCISCA GOLDSMITH** is a library and media consultant who has worked with audiobooks for 20 years. She is a contributing editor to *AudioFile Magazine* and provides outreach for the annual AudiobookSYNC program. She has published several professional books and teaches staff development courses, including those with ALA Editions.



**The Tougaloo Nine:** (From top left) Joseph Jackson Jr., Albert Lassiter, Alfred Cook, Ethel Sawyer, Geraldine Edwards, Evelyn Pierce, Janice Jackson, James Bradford, and Meredith Anding Jr.

# FORGOTTEN HEROES IN CIVIL RIGHTS HISTORY

BY Wayne A. Wiegand

**O**ver the past six decades, the media, local and state governments, professional associations, and civic organizations of all kinds have apologized for doing little or nothing while black people were beaten, jailed, and sometimes killed for standing up for their civil rights. The numerous confrontations over integrating public libraries in the South, however, have largely gone unrecognized.

It's long past time that library organizations and individual libraries do something to recognize the black kids—many of them still alive, such as Joan Mattison Daniel (see sidebar on p. 34)—who risked their lives at this critical time. Here are some of their stories.

## THE TOUGALOO NINE

At 11 a.m. on March 27, 1961, nine students from the historically black Tougaloo College walked into the all-white Jackson (Miss.) Public Library. Joseph Jackson Jr., their leader, approached the circulation desk. With heart thumping, he stammered a message he had memorized: “Ma’am, I want to know if you have this philosophy book. I need it for a research project.”

“You know you don’t belong here!” the library assistant yelled, proceeding to call the library director.

“May I help you?” the latter asked, coming out of her office.

“We’re doing research,” the students responded.

“There’s a colored library on Mill Street,” she said. “You are welcome there.”

Almost immediately, Jackson later reported, police entered the building and told the students to get out of the library. No one moved. The chief of police then told them that they were under arrest.

Six officers placed the students into squad cars and at the station charged them with breach of the peace because they failed to leave the library when ordered. They were booked into the local jail, where each was held on \$500 bond.

In jail that evening, the students worried. “Reflecting back on Emmett Till [murdered in 1955] and the history of lynching connected with Mississippi,” Jackson later recalled, “the later it got that night, I was in fear of my life.” He began rehearsing what he would say if the Ku Klux Klan came for them: “Please, Mr. Klansman, don’t hang me. I have a wife and two little children in Memphis, and if you release me this night, I promise you I will never, ever come back here to Jackson and violate your Jim Crow laws.”

His colleagues laughed at his naiveté. “You know what the Klansman would say?” one said. “Nigger, you should have thought of that before you entered our segregated public library!”

Several days later, the students were taken to the courthouse to be tried. Several blocks away, hundreds of whites were marching through city streets under a huge Confederate flag. At the courthouse, however, some 100 black supporters had

## The Greenville Eight

# THE SIT-IN THAT INTEGRATED THE GREENVILLE LIBRARY

by George M. Eberhart

On the afternoon of July 16, 1960, eight African-American students bravely filed into the whites-only Greenville County (S.C.) Public Library and sat down in the reading room to look at newspapers and books. One of those students was a young Jesse Jackson—later to become famous as a civil rights activist and minister—who was home in Greenville on summer break from the University of Illinois.

Another of the students was Joan Mattison Daniel, a then-18-year-old student at Morris Brown College in Atlanta, who recently told *American Libraries* that “Jesse Jackson was responsible for our getting together to stage the sit-in. He had come home in January and needed a book to write a paper. The book was not at the colored branch library, a small, one-room house on East McBee Avenue.” Librarian Jeanette Smith told him it would take another six days to get the book he wanted, which would have been too late. “So Jackson went to the main library to look for it,” Daniel says. “He was told he could not use that library, and that was the beginning of it.” He vowed to come back in the summer.

The students had been to the library once before in the morning of July 16, but they had left when police arrived and told them to leave or they would be locked up. The Greenville Eight, as



they were called (Jackson, Dorris Wright, Hattie Smith Wright, Elaine Means, Willie Joe Wright, Benjamin Downs, Margaree Seawright Crosby, and Daniel) had been counseled by the Rev. James S. Hall Jr., vice president of the South Carolina NAACP. They returned to Hall's church, but he instructed them to go back, get a book, and sit down, Daniel recalls. "They would probably arrest us but, he said, don't fear, we would be released."

This time, they were determined to stay and face arrest. "Some of us got a book, and others browsed the shelves," Daniel says. A handful of white patrons were in the library, but they soon left. The librarian, Charles E. Stow, asked them to leave, but they stayed and remained silent. Within a few minutes the police arrived and arrested all eight for disorderly conduct. Daniel says they were in jail about 15 minutes before African-American attorney Donald J. Sampson and Hall arrived. The court released each of them on \$30 bond.

In August, blacks in Greenville staged sit-ins at the whites-only lunch counters at the Woolworth's, H. L. Green, Grant's, and S. H. Kress stores—all patterned after the demonstrations that took place in Greensboro, North Carolina, on February 1. Daniel also took part in the Woolworth's sit-in. "We sat at the counter," she says, "and one of the waitresses told us, 'We don't serve niggers.' We said, 'We didn't order any.'"

On July 28, Sampson filed a lawsuit in US District Court for the Western District of South Carolina in an attempt to force the Greenville library system to desegregate its facilities. At the request of the mayor and city council, the library closed both its white and black branches on September 2 rather than risk court-ordered integration. Mayor J. Kenneth Cass released a statement: "The efforts being made by a few Negroes to use the White library will now deprive all White and Negro citizens of the benefit of a library."

District Court Judge Charles Cecil Wyche held a hearing in Spartanburg on the lawsuit on September 13. The city



Joan Mattison Daniel

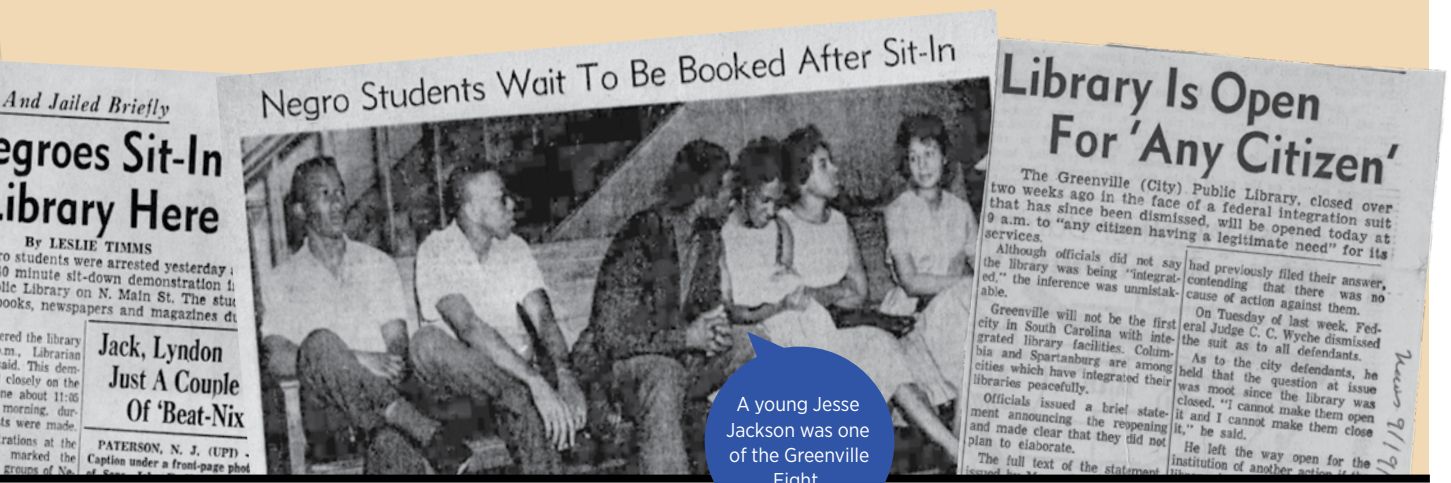
library board argued that the litigation was moot because the library was closed. Wyche was forced to agree, saying, "I cannot make them open it, and I cannot make them close it." However, he did rule that if the library reopened and was again segregated, it would be liable to further discrimination lawsuits.

Cass received "several calls and letters" about the closed libraries and "almost all were in favor of reopening," he claimed. This public pressure prompted him to reopen both Greenville libraries on September 19. Although he would not admit that the library was now integrated, the mayor's statement implied as much: "The city libraries will be operated for the benefit of any citizen having a legitimate need for the libraries and their facilities. They will not be used for demonstrations, purposeless assembly, or propaganda purposes."

Although Greenville was not the first library system to integrate in South Carolina (Columbia and Spartanburg had already done so without any controversy), it was the first to do so as a result of public demonstrations by the black community. Charges against the Greenville Eight were eventually dropped.

"This was an experience that I shall always remember," Daniel told *AL*. "I am glad that I helped bring about desegregation. I feel that each generation is responsible for making their communities and surroundings a better place." ●

**GEORGE M. EBERHART** is senior editor of *American Libraries*. Information for this story was compiled from statements by Joan Mattison Daniel and numerous articles in the *Greenville News*.



A young Jesse Jackson was one of the Greenville Eight.

## Civil Rights Protests in Public Libraries

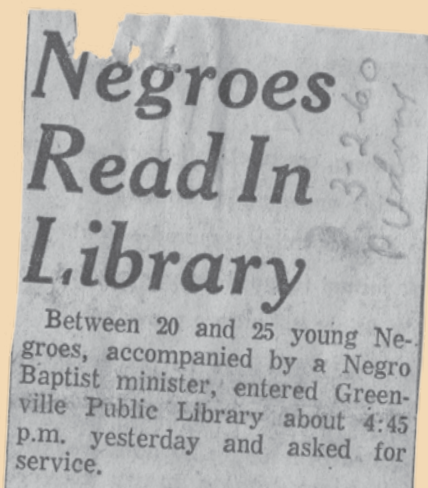
# “I ALWAYS WILL REFUSE”

by Anne Ford

Say “civil rights sit-in,” and the mind automatically flashes to the famous peaceful protests that took place in 1960 at a Woolworth’s lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina. But many other antisegregation demonstrations happened before and after those protests, and many were in libraries.

**August 21, 1939** Five African-American men—William “Buddy” Evans, Edward Gaddis, Morris L. Murray, Clarence “Buck” Strange, and Otis Lee Tucker—walk into the whites-only Alexandria (Va.) Library (now the Barrett branch library). Strange’s younger brother Bobby, 14, serves as lookout and courier. The men, who range in age from 18 to 22, ask for library cards and are refused. They then sit down in the library and read quietly, ignoring requests to leave, while about 300 spectators gather outside. The men are arrested and charged with disorderly conduct, but their case never comes to trial. The following year, the city builds a library branch for the sole use of “colored people” and fills it with castoff books and used furniture. Lawyer Samuel W. Tucker, who organized the sit-in, is furious with this approach. Invited to apply for a library card at the new branch, he responds in a letter: “I refuse and always will refuse.”

**March 1, 1960** In Greenville, South Carolina, a group of African-American students enters the whites-only library around 4:45 p.m. They read quietly at tables for about 45 minutes before library trustees declare the library closed, more than three hours before closing time. On March 16, seven students again enter the library and are soon arrested by city police. (For the later protest on July 16, see the sidebar on p. 34.)



**Negroes Read In Library**  
Between 20 and 25 young Negroes, accompanied by a Negro Baptist minister, entered Greenville Public Library about 4:45 p.m. yesterday and asked for service.



**January 9, 1962** Several black teenagers enter the Carnegie Library in Albany, Georgia, and are refused library cards. The same thing happens the next day. Later that year, the city closes the library rather than allow it to be integrated.

**September 15, 1963** In Anniston, Alabama, two African-American pastors, Nimrod Quintus Reynolds and Bob McClain, ask for library cards at

the town’s Carnegie Library. They are viciously beaten by a white mob but manage to escape. The next day, members of the library board accompany McClain and another black minister, George Smitherman (Reynolds was recovering from his injuries), as they go to the library and apply for library cards, this time successfully. ●

An officer escorts five men from the Carnegie Library in Anniston, Alabama. They were arrested and charged with disorderly conduct.

**ANNE FORD** is *American Libraries* editor-at-large.

gathered to cheer what were now referred to as the “Tougaloo Nine.” Fourteen police officers and two German shepherds lined the courthouse stairs.

When the crowd began to applaud the nine students as they arrived, the police chief yelled, “That’s it! Move ’em out! Get ’em!” Police set upon the crowd with nightsticks and dogs. During the melee, Medgar Evers (secretary of the Mississippi chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People [NAACP], who would be assassinated two years later) and several women and children were pistol-whipped, two black ministers were bitten by the dogs, and an 81-year-old man who went to the courthouse only to hear the case suffered a broken arm when police beat him with a club.

The brutality exercised on black people supporting the library protesters in Jackson, Evers later argued, set in motion broader desegregation activities in Mississippi. “This act on the part of the police officials brought on greater unity in the Negro community and projected the NAACP in a position of being the accepted spokesman for the Negro people,” he wrote in his autobiography.

## THE ST. HELENA FOUR

On March 7, 1964, four black teenagers—including Alton Crier, Sterling Hall, and David Howard (the fourth’s name was never entered into the record)—approached the St. Helena branch of the Audubon Regional Library in Greensburg, Louisiana. The librarian saw them coming, recognized what was happening, immediately locked the door, and posted CLOSED signs in the window. The four left.

“The street was crowded with Negroes and whites,” noted an observer for the Congress of Racial Equality (the activist organization that had helped plan the sit-in), while most of the town’s white merchants were standing on the sidewalk talking with spectators. Four days later, the youths returned and met the same response. Through the window, they saw the librarian make a phone call as they approached. Moments later she unlocked the door, came out, relocked it, and left.

On March 13, the four teenagers made a third attempt, deciding to pair off rather

# THE LIBRARIAN SAW THEM COMING, RECOGNIZED WHAT WAS HAPPENING, IMMEDIATELY LOCKED THE DOOR, AND POSTED CLOSED SIGNS IN THE WINDOW.

than approach as a foursome. As two walked in front of the drugstore across the street, the pharmacist came out and said, “I’m sorry, boys, but you are too late. Come back tomorrow and you may have better luck.” As they left, however, he added: “I wish you ——— niggers would come to my place.”

When the pair crossed the street to meet the other two, who were approaching the library from a different direction, they learned it was again locked against them. They decided instead to walk to the courthouse, where, without incident, they drank from the “white” water fountain.

When they walked back past the drugstore, the pharmacist came out the door. “I am tired of fooling with you ——— niggers,” he shouted, then rushed to his car and pulled out a .32-caliber automatic pistol. “Git away from here, and I don’t mean maybe.” The youths fled.

On a fourth attempt three days later, the group once again found the library closed. This time they walked to the courthouse, where they again drank from the “white” water fountain. Quickly, however, a white janitor grabbed one of the teens and shouted, “There’s a fountain over there for the niggers, and if you ——— niggers can’t drink from that fountain, get out of here, and don’t be caught back in here no more.” He then called for help from a friend upstairs. “Come down here and help me get these ——— niggers out of here.”

When the group walked to the courthouse front steps, the janitor grabbed a lead pipe, saying, “If you ——— niggers come back here again, I will kill every one of you.” At that point he struck one of the boys with the pipe. The boy was taken to a local hospital, treated, and released.

Days later, several white merchants tried to intimidate the parents of the

protesters by asking if they knew their sons were trying to use the library.

## REMEMBRANCE

These are but two of the many ultimately successful protests that resulted in the integration of public libraries in the Jim Crow South. Hundreds of young public library protesters have gone largely unrecognized for their acts of courage.

When I mentioned to some librarian colleagues in the South that I was looking into the history of public library desegregation, one asked, “You mean Southern public libraries were segregated at one time?” Another suggested I lecture to his class on the heroic defense he assumed that public librarians put up against segregated services. Both had assumed that librarianship’s 21st-century core values of defending intellectual freedom and serving all members of the community equally had always existed.

This blind spot in our history is long overdue for a reexamination. Public librarians can consult old local newspapers to find the names of protesters who participated in this unsung saga, check to see if they are still alive, and give them the thanks that they deserve. **AL**



**WAYNE A. WIEGAND** is F. William Summers professor of library and information studies emeritus at Florida State University. He has also

written “‘Any Ideas?’ The American Library Association and the Desegregation of Public Libraries in the American South,” pages 1–22, *Libraries: Culture, History, and Society* (spring 2017). He is coauthor, with Shirley Wiegand, of *The Desegregation of Public Libraries in the Jim Crow South: Civil Rights and Local Activism* (Louisiana State University Press, spring 2018). To obtain a list of public library protesters covered in the book, contact him at [wwiegand@fsu.edu](mailto:wwiegand@fsu.edu).



New Trends in

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# LIBRARY



First, the good news: Many libraries are flourishing, with new programs, new facilities, and new patrons coming in the doors. The bad news: With these positive changes, new security problems are emerging.

Library directors and staffers in all parts of the country and in all types of libraries continue to be concerned about challenging patrons who sometimes adversely affect library services, including people who are homeless, have a mental illness, or abuse substances. But what follows are real experiences seen firsthand or recounted by library employees—security concerns that either are emerging threats or look like new versions of common problems.

While it's difficult to confront patrons who are hurting the library experience for others, threatening other patrons or staff, or otherwise creating discomfort or chaos, there are possible solutions to try, which are offered after each example. Some of these solutions may require new thinking, different approaches, and more assertive partnerships with such outside groups as law enforcement, social services, mental health and substance abuse counselors, city attorneys, county counsels, and even your human resources department. As always, check local and state laws for information and to ensure proper compliance.

Regardless of the situation, one thing is clear: How library staffers respond to these new and ongoing security issues will require courage.

## VAPING AND MARIJUANA

The country's marijuana laws continue to evolve. Although no state laws allow for public pot use, that doesn't stop creative inhalers from using tobacco vape

pipes to smoke legal weed at the library or in its restrooms.

**SOLUTION:** If you see or smell people using marijuana in your library, tell them it's against the fire code and ask them to leave. If they refuse, call the police.



## "RELIGIOUS" PANHANDLERS

These folks often stand inside or outside the library, holding a bucket for religious contributions. Their clothing may look religious—priest collars, white suits, or nun-like habits—and they have hand-printed signs that ask for money. They're usually polite and not interested in confrontation. Patrons give money, thinking they are making a real charitable donation; more likely, they are giving money to creative panhandlers.

**SOLUTION:** Ask them to move from the front door or leave the library. Although you're running a public business, you have the right to ask them to go. If they refuse, ask the police to give them a trespass warning. People don't have the right to solicit money on your property, whether or not they are there under false pretenses.

# SECURITY

From religious rights issues to vaping to ransomware, how to address emerging safety concerns at your facility

BY Steve Albrecht

## Service animal vs. emotional comfort animal

Here's an old safety issue couched in a new privacy premise: If we ask people why they have an emotional comfort animal, will we violate their rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)? It used to be that service dogs were easily identifiable by their vests. Now, any dog owner who wants to bring their dog into the grocery store, on a plane, or into the movie theater can buy a vest online, along with a certificate that says his or her pooch is either a service animal or an emotional support animal. So where do we draw the line? Library staffers have recounted tales of patrons bringing in snakes, rats, mice, ferrets, and guinea pigs and claiming that they are emotional comfort animals. Can you ask these visitors to leave?

**SOLUTION:** Yes and no. Check local and state laws first since the issue of balancing patrons' medical privacy rights has been made more complex by the courts and lawmakers. One simple statement you could try with those who bring in animals: "Welcome to our library. Can you fully control your service or emotional comfort animal so that it doesn't bite anyone or get away from you? If so, fine. If not, you'll have to leave with it." (For more suggestions, read "Library Waggin' Train," *American Libraries*, Mar./Apr., p. 24-25.) ●



### RELIGIOUS-CENTERED CONFRONTATIONS

A woman came into an upstate New York library, unrolled her prayer rug, knelted on the floor directly in front of the entrance to the children's library room and began praying. Because she was blocking the door, patrons and their children couldn't get into the room. Staff members were confused: Could they ask the woman to move and not violate her religious rights?

**SOLUTION:** Yes. Ask her to move to another part of the library where she is not blocking access. This woman may have been trying to bring attention to a religious freedom issue, but the larger point is that she can't disrupt the safe use of the library by others.



### HEROIN OVERDOSES AND NARCAN TRAINING

The recent overdose deaths of opioid users at Denver Public Library and San Francisco Civic Center library have started the discussion about whether to give library staff training in the use of naloxone, known by the brand name Narcan. This drug—typically administered by a nasal spray or leg injection—reverses the effects of a heroin (or other opioid)

overdose and literally brings the near-dead back to life. With the skyrocketing rates of opioid addictions in the country, chances are very real that library staffers may come across an opiate user in withdrawal or "on the nod" (opiate narcosis).

**SOLUTION:** Denver Public Library has already used Narcan six times as of early May and has ordered more kits. And Luis Herrera, city librarian at San Francisco Public Library, has said staff training to treat overdoses may soon become voluntary. If your library considers this approach, it would be wise to train staffers to identify signs of opiate narcosis and have them ready to call paramedics. If staff members or patrons find heroin-related paraphernalia such as needles and burnt spoons in restrooms, call the police and have them impound this hazardous material.



### UNSATISFIABLE TAX ADVICE SEEKERS

This ongoing issue has worsened following the results of the recent presidential election. Lots of angry people now want to sue the government or make a tax protest, asking library staffers for advice that could violate the law. But when they don't receive the help or advice they seek, they get angry.

**SOLUTION:** Post more explicit signs that indicate the library cannot give tax or legal advice, adding that "in some cases, it's against the law for

us to do so. Please don't ask our staff for tax or legal advice. Seek professional, licensed guidance."



### ENTITLED PATRONS

Their chorus may sound familiar: "I pay your salary." "I know the mayor." "Don't you know who I am?" "The head of the library board is my neighbor." In many cases these statements are true. Some of our oddest patrons have lots of money, nice homes, cars, and (likely weary) families. They aren't dangerous; they're tedious. They just like to complain and make staffers feel insignificant in the process.

**SOLUTION:** Let them vent, let them be heard (to a point), validate their concerns, and offer them a maximum of three solutions to their specific issue. Be patient, but use your right to say, "I have to help other patrons."



### RANSOMWARE ATTACKS

Ransomware—malicious software that encrypts content on a device so hackers can demand a ransom to decrypt it—has become a serious threat. Hackers have locked down the IT servers of cities, counties, and even hospitals. Payroll systems seem to be a favorite target. In January, ransomware infected more than

700 computers at all 17 locations of Saint Louis Public Library (SLPL). (Hackers demanded \$35,000, which the library did not pay.)

**SOLUTION:** Some IT security experts advise clients to simply pay the ransom, but there are much better solutions. Your IT department should be backing up mission-critical modules nightly, as well as internet and intranet systems, so any cyberattack will not paralyze your facility. That's what SLPL's technicians did. Enforce your library's internet use policy when it comes to patrons who want to use thumb drives on your systems, and report all suspicions of internal or external hacking to your IT department.



### LEGAL CONCEALED WEAPONS

More states and counties are issuing "carrying a concealed weapon" permits than ever before. In fact, there are more than 14.5 million concealed handgun permits alone, according to the nonprofit Crime Prevention Research Center—a 215% increase since 2007. At least nine states—including Colorado, Kansas, and Texas—allow college students to bring guns on campus. All this can lead to confusion and anxiety when patrons or library staffers see a gun sticking out of someone's waistband as he bends to get a book off the shelf.

**SOLUTION:** While it may seem like a good idea to post NO GUNS ALLOWED signs on exterior doors, you will first need legal advice. State laws

vary. For example, some states may not allow firearms in courthouses and elected officials' offices but will permit them in libraries. Train staff members to approach gun carriers (many of whom don't want their guns to intentionally show) and quietly ask them to cover their firearm from public view. If you have concerns that the person with the gun is not stable or law-abiding, call the police from a safe place.



### OUTDATED CODES OF CONDUCT

The best code of conduct is one that shifts with the times, adjusting to new reasonable uses of the facility by patrons and new security concerns related to the workplace.

**SOLUTION:** Changes and updates to your code of conduct as they relate to safety and security improvements should be an all-staff discussion. Spend staff meeting time talking about what needs to be added or what language should be adjusted. Get feedback from patrons, using formal surveys or staff conversations.

Your reward for being vigilant about safety and security for your library today is this: You get to do it all again tomorrow. **AL**



**STEVE ALBRECHT** is a security consultant with nearly 20 years of teaching library security workshops.

He is author of *Library Security: Better Communication, Safer Facilities* (ALA Editions, 2015) and can be reached at [drsteve@drstevealbrecht.com](mailto:drsteve@drstevealbrecht.com).

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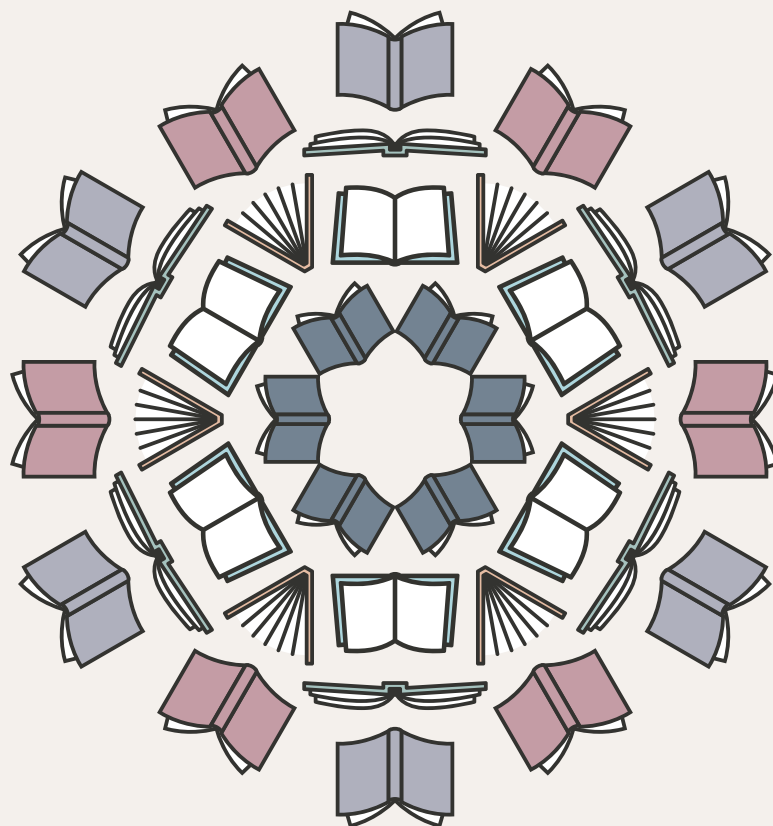
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# Mindful Librarianship

Awareness of each moment helps librarians stay serene under stress

BY Ellyn Ruhlmann

Illustration: Lauren Ehle/American Libraries

**I**n tiny Luck, Wisconsin, the public library doesn't officially open on weekdays till 11 a.m. But on Fridays, patrons begin to drift in just after 10. They're coming for the weekly mindfulness hour, hosted by staff member Colleen Allen.

Participants sit in comfortable chairs arranged in a circle, and Allen sounds a low bell to begin. Overhead, sunlight sifts through the double windows as the meditators silently listen to the sounds of the bell and their own in-breaths and out-breaths. Then, while a recording of a meditation by Zen Buddhist monk Thich Nhat Hanh plays, the group spends the next half hour practicing peaceful awareness of the present moment.

Allen has come to rely on mindfulness practice to stay focused and calm throughout her workday. Even in this quiet little community, her inner peace can be challenged daily by a barrage of interruptions, such as unsupervised children, computer glitches, and impatient patrons.

By practicing mindful breathing as she works, "I am less reactive and agitated and better able to respond with clarity and kindness," says Allen, who began meditating 20 years ago. She says the practice helps her feel more in control of her circumstances: "Being able to stay focused on one particular thing [such as your breathing] when you're dealing with 10 other things can help you attend to each of them without getting anxious or stressing about deadlines."

## MINDFULNESS DEFINED

Across the country, mindfulness is helping workers relieve on-the-job stress and improve workplace relationships. But what is mindfulness, and what are its benefits for librarians?

The American Psychological Association defines mindfulness as "moment-to-moment awareness of one's experience without judgment." Mindfulness practitioners use meditation and breathing exercises to pay attention to the present moment, without letting distractions, worries, and opinions creep in. The idea is that by learning to neither dwell on the past nor fret about the future, your mind can find peace.

One common mindfulness exercise entails holding an everyday object such as a raisin or coin in your hand and spending several minutes examining it in detail. This dedicated focus can help train the brain to tune out distractions. In another exercise, meditators sit quietly and concentrate on their breathing, noticing each inhale and exhale and letting awareness of everything else fall away.

Some mindfulness practitioners take part in meditation groups similar to Allen's. Others practice solo, often

with the aid of books such as *Mindfulness for Beginners* (Sounds True, 2016) by Jon Kabat-Zinn, founder of the Stress Reduction Clinic and the Center for Mindfulness in Medicine, Health Care, and Society at the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

Regardless of the method, mindfulness's benefits are real. One recent study published in the *Journal of Psychosomatic Research* ([bit.ly/2o8gxWI](http://bit.ly/2o8gxWI)) found that among people with generalized anxiety disorder, participation in mindfulness meditation was associated with a significant decrease in days of work missed as well as fewer visits to mental-health professionals. Another, from the French psychiatry journal *L'Encéphale* ([bit.ly/2nB2Oqr](http://bit.ly/2nB2Oqr)), found that mindfulness practice helped reduce chronic insomnia among patients 18–75.

## STRESS IN THE LIBRARY

Think of stressful occupations most likely to benefit from mindfulness practice, and you might think of "air-traffic controller," "taxi driver," or "floor trader." But as librarians well know, they too can experience significant job-related tension.

As Kathleen Clauson writes in *Job Stress and the Librarian: Coping Strategies from the Professionals* (McFarland, 2013), people typically think of libraries as low-key, stress-free places—but that image doesn't reflect the "behind-the-scenes drama" that can, at its worst, include gossiping, bullying, backstabbing, favoritism, "punishing the creative," and "promoting the incompetent."

Last year, a study reported in the December 2016 issue of *College & Research Libraries News* ([bit.ly/2pGgGip](http://bit.ly/2pGgGip)) showed that overall workload was the highest-ranking stressor for the 629 academic, public, and school librarians who responded. Comments centered around a theme: "Not enough time; not enough staff." Other stressful work factors included difficult coworkers, instructional overload, and rude patrons.

Exposure to stressors such as these can contribute not only to job dissatisfaction but also to serious health problems, particularly heart disease. For example, a 2015 review ([bit.ly/2mQ4CwW](http://bit.ly/2mQ4CwW)) of 27 studies involving more than 600,000 participants in Europe, the United States, and Japan found that people exposed to stressors such as job strain and long working hours were 10%–40% more

likely to experience coronary heart disease and stroke. The review, published in the journal *Current Cardiology Reports*, found an additional association between work stressors and type II diabetes.

There's no such thing as a stress-free job, of course. But mindfulness can help by giving librarians the ability to handle stressful situations better through enhanced focus and improved relationship skills.

## THE FOCUS FACTOR

Many librarians feel that they are spread increasingly thin on the job, yet their performance often depends on their ability to maintain focus amid a flurry of responsibilities. That's something with which mindfulness can help.

One 2011 study ([bit.ly/2nvVGKd](http://bit.ly/2nvVGKd)) published in the *Brain Research Bulletin* demonstrated, for example, that mindful meditation helps practitioners focus their attention and tune out distractions. After the study's participants completed eight weeks of meditation training, they tested significantly better than non-meditators at regulating a brain wave crucial to screening out unwanted information.

Lisa Moniz is coauthor of *The Mindful Librarian: Connecting the Practice of Mindfulness to Librarianship* (Chandos, 2015) and a school library media specialist at Union County (N.C.) Public Schools. Mindfulness practice, she says, helped her through "the most stressful work situation I had ever encountered," namely, serving as media coordinator for 550 students in a high-poverty school district. As if her position wasn't demanding enough, the district then laid off her assistant.

"I was used to running a dynamic media program, including staff development for the teachers," she says. "And when you lose a full-time support person, you're going to have to make some adjustments. I was in a constant state of frustration."

Practicing mindfulness "didn't relieve all my stress, but it helped me cope by giving me a new awareness of my situation, so I could objectively see what I could change and

what I couldn't," she says. That focus helped her set professional goals for herself, which led to a promotion to her current job. She enjoys more support now and credits her mindfulness practice for her improved circumstances and professional growth. "I'm much more calm, self-confident, and focused now," she says.

## INCREASING EMPATHY

Mindfulness can also reduce workplace stress in a different way: by helping practitioners improve their relationships through greater empathy.

Kenley Neufeld, dean of the Luria Library at Santa Barbara (Calif.) City College, attributes much of his professional success to mindfulness, which he began practicing more than 20 years ago.

"Over the years, I believe that my mindfulness practice has transformed the way that I work and made me a better manager, more aware of my students," says

Neufeld. "It has allowed me to move through the ranks of our campus because I've been able to cultivate a deeper ability to listen and communicate."

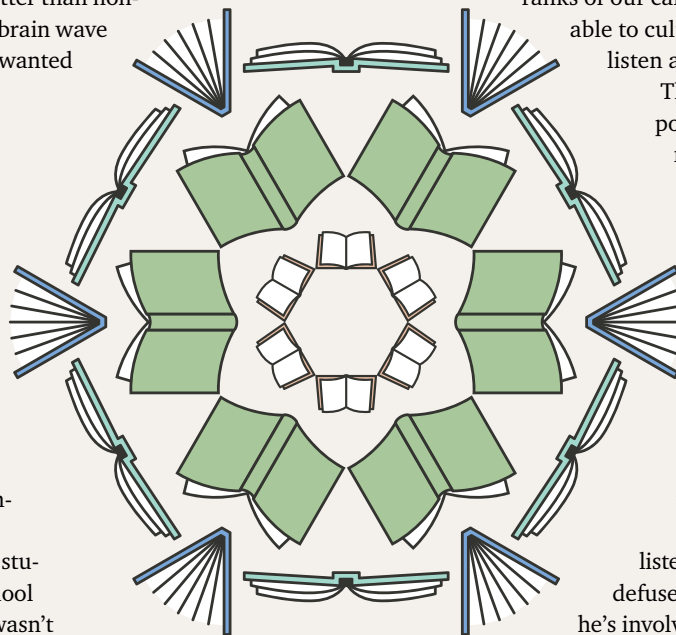
There is scientific evidence pointing to a link between mindfulness practice and increased empathy. For example, one 2011 study ([bit.ly/2nhkXGh](http://bit.ly/2nhkXGh)) published in *Psychiatry Research: Neuroimaging* found that eight weeks of mindfulness training increased the density of gray matter in the brain region associated with empathy.

Neufeld uses his ability to listen and empathize to help defuse difficult interactions. When he's involved in a confrontation, he practices mindful breathing to stay calm.

"The other person doesn't know I'm doing that," he says. "When we communicate, we're often not fully present; we're thinking about how to respond—how that person is wrong. Rather than focusing on those things, I can use my breath to really listen at that moment."

## MINDFULNESS AND REFLECTION

It's important to note that, while mindfulness can help you cope in stressful situations, it won't necessarily alleviate the





# Mindfulness Meditation 101

circumstances that caused the stress. To do that, Neufeld recommends following up with a period of reflection.

“Say I’ve been angry with a colleague, and I say something inappropriate. In a work setting, we can ignore it, or we can acknowledge it and work to reconcile with the person,” says Neufeld. He uses mindful breathing to examine the experience later and look at it in a calmer way.

Michelle Reale, author of *Becoming a Reflective Librarian and Teacher* (ALA Editions, 2017), also views mindfulness and reflection as “two practices cut from the same cloth.” Reale serves as associate professor, access services and outreach librarian at Arcadia University in Glenside, Pennsylvania.

“In the academic arena, one of the huge stressors is working with faculty who do not respect your time or expertise,” she says. She recalls one incident when a colleague wanted her to take over his class for three periods to teach information literacy, but he had no assignment to help guide her lesson plans and instruction. Reale listened calmly and politely said no, worried she’d be wasting the students’ time.

Later, reflecting on how she might have handled the situation differently, Reale realized she could have proposed her own assignment to the professor, asking the students to compile an annotated bibliography. The experience allowed her to develop a productive solution for responding to future requests.

## GETTING STARTED

Those interested in learning more about mindfulness meditation can explore a variety of resources. Titles to look for include *Calming Your Anxious Mind* by Jeffrey Brantley (New Harbinger, 2003); *The Miracle of Mindfulness*, by Thich Nhat Hanh (Beacon Press, 1999); and *Mindfulness: An Eight-Week Plan for Finding Peace in a Frantic World*, by Mark Williams and Danny Penman (Rodale, 2012). Among the mindfulness-related apps available are Headspace; Calm; buddhify; and Stop, Breathe & Think, all available for iOS or Android.

Online resources are available, too. The Center for Mindfulness at the University of Massachusetts Medical School ([umassmed.edu/cfm](http://umassmed.edu/cfm)) offers an eight-week course via video conference, while the UCLA Mindful Awareness Research Center offers a six-week, self-paced, prerecorded course with optional live chats ([marc.ucla.edu/online-classes](http://marc.ucla.edu/online-classes)). Those looking for a lower-commitment option might try one of the many guided meditations offered on YouTube, such as those led by meditation teachers Tara Brach or Kim Eng. There’s also a “Mindfulness for Librarians” Facebook group.

For beginners, guided meditations are often an attractive starting point; plenty are available online or through apps. But during the workday, it’s often more convenient to take a few moments and do this simple breathing exercise.

Find a quiet, comfortable place to sit. That might be on a cushion or at your desk. Either way, try to maintain an upright but not rigid posture, and rather than close your eyes, just let your gaze fall downward. Rest the palms of your hands on your legs.

Observe your breath without trying to change it in any way. How does it feel when the air moves through your nose or mouth? What about when your belly or chest rises and falls?

Inevitably, your mind will wander away from the breath. Do not feel upset; it happens to everyone, over and over. When you realize your mind has strayed, simply bring it back to your breath. The idea is to have no judgment and no expectation, just observation.

When you’re ready, gently raise your gaze. How does your body feel right now? What thoughts and emotions are you experiencing? •

For Allen, one of the most appealing aspects of the practice is its portability. She doesn’t need any equipment, and she can practice any time, any place, because her breath is always with her. “I don’t even need a pillow, just myself. That is something I can manage not to forget,” she says with a smile.

Author Moniz also meditates spontaneously, sometimes using the Calm app on her phone. As with other activities, the benefits of mindfulness accrue with practice, she says. But unlike an exercise class, there’s no guilt if you miss a day. In fact, guilt is not allowed in mindful meditation. Whenever any worry or criticism enters your thoughts, whether it’s about yourself or someone else, Moniz says to simply acknowledge it the way a neutral observer would: “Oh, there’s another one.” Then let it go. “It gets easier,” she says. **AL**



**ELLYN RUHLMANN** is a freelance writer and an adjunct English instructor at the College of Lake County in Grayslake, Illinois.

# the LIBRARY



More  
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# 7 of THINGS



More than ever,  
libraries are offering  
unusual traditional items  
for checkout

ILLUSTRATION BY Brian Mead  
EDITED BY Terra Dankowski

Libraries loaning “stuff” isn’t a new concept. Framed paintings were available for checkout at the Newark (N.J.) Public Library back in 1904. “Libraries were sharing before sharing was cool,” says Miguel Figueroa, director of the American Library Association’s Center for the Future of Libraries.

As the sharing economy continues to swell, nontraditional collections become more pervasive, community-specific, and imaginative. Here are some of our favorite unusual items circulating at libraries in North America.

- 1 American Girl dolls** Port Townsend (Wash.) Public Library
- 2 Bubble machines** Hillsboro (Oreg.) Public Library
- 3 Sewing machines** Sacramento (Calif.) Public Library
- 4 Mounted animals** Alaska Resources Library and Information Services, University of Alaska Anchorage
- 5 Floppy drives** Montana State University Library in Bozeman
- 6 Dog activity kit** Wilkinson Public Library in Telluride, Colorado
- 7 Croquet sets** Mesa (Ariz.) Public Library
- 8 Video projector** Denver Public Library
- 9 Science experiment kits** Denton (Tex.) Public Library
- 10 Fishing equipment** Grand Rapids (Minn.) Area Library
- 11 Bird-watching kits** Shirley M. Wright Memorial Library in Trempealeau, Wisconsin
- 12 Santa suits** Bolivar County (Miss.) Library System
- 13 Microscopes** Ann Arbor (Mich.) District Library
- 14 Fondue set** Temple Terrace (Fla.) Public Library
- 15 Snowshoes** McArthur Public Library in Biddeford, Maine
- 16 Roomba vacuuming robot** Reading (Mass.) Public Library
- 17 Apple picker** Island Free Library in Block Island, Rhode Island
- 18 Umbrellas** Yale Law Library in New Haven, Connecticut

### Recently featured in *American Libraries*

- A Canning equipment** South Sioux City (Neb.) Public Library (*AL*, Nov./Dec. 2016, p. 18)
- B Musical instruments** Parkdale branch of the Toronto Public Library (*AL*, June 2016, p. 6)
- C Bicycles** Stark County District Library in Canton, Ohio (*The Scoop*, Sept. 8, 2016)

# LIBRARY CHAMPIONS MAKE IT POSSIBLE...



...to increase awareness and advocate the importance of libraries across the country and around the world.

Library Champions are among the greatest proponents of America's libraries. Their gifts help every child, teen, student, and adult who walks through the doors of their library or links to online resources. Contributions from Library Champions support the Libraries Transform Campaign, ALA's agencywide advocacy and public awareness campaign. By supporting the Libraries Transform Campaign, Library Champions help provide resources and materials to promote the importance of libraries, as well as support national initiatives such as National Library Week and Library Card Sign-Up Month. These special initiatives have been designed to increase public awareness, library use, and literacy to all people, no matter their age, income level, location, ethnicity, or physical ability. ALA thanks the following corporate and foundation sponsors for their support of the Libraries Transform Campaign.

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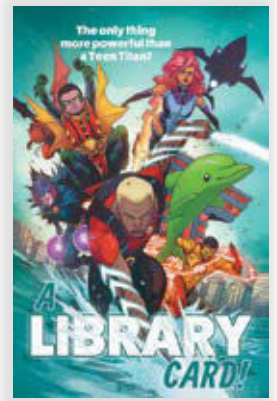


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## NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK 2017

This year, crime-fighting DC Comics superheroes the Teen Titans are teaming up with the American Library Association to promote the value of a library card as Library Card Sign-Up Month Honorary Chairs. In the coming months, free print and digital public service announcements (PSAs), media tools, and other artwork will be available for libraries featuring the Teen Titans.

Thank you to our Library Champions for their support of ALA and Library Card Sign-Up Month! For more information about Library Card Sign-Up Month, visit [ala.org](http://ala.org).



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# LIBRARIES TRANSFORM

*Second year of campaign puts the spotlight on librarians*

BY Jeff Julian

The American Library Association's (ALA) Libraries Transform campaign is in its second year, and libraries across the country are using its succinct messages, vibrant graphics, and powerful tools to increase public awareness of the value, impact, and services that librarians and library workers provide.

More than 6,900 libraries and library advocates have joined the campaign since it launched in October 2015. From legislative advocacy meetings to social media campaigns, many libraries are using the tools to demonstrate the power of speaking in one distinct, energetic voice for the library profession.

In year two, the campaign continues to focus on libraries turning outward and engaging their communities. But it is also turning inward by emphasizing the “expert in the library,” ALA President Julie B. Todaro’s initiative aimed at getting librarians to shine a light on the transformative work they do daily.

“I want librarians to build on the campaign, highlight the expertise in their library, and think broadly about what makes an expert in the kind of environments that we’re in,” Todaro says.

She says it is important for people to understand that librarians—not just libraries—transform communities. “What is transformative is not only the location or the destination but the person who connects you to resources,” she says.

## THE LIBRARIAN: THE BEST SEARCH ENGINE

Libraries Transform is built around four key messages.

1. Libraries transform lives
2. Libraries transform communities

3. Librarians are passionate advocates for lifelong learning
4. Libraries are a smart investment

Central to illustrating these messages are “Because” statements—short, clever messages supported by research and best practices about issues related to libraries. The campaign messaging has been updated to reflect the new emphasis on librarian expertise with statements like “Because the expert in the library is you” and “Because the best search engine in the library is the librarian.” The ALA Store has customizable expert badges ([bit.ly/2qx5ORS](http://bit.ly/2qx5ORS)) that allow librarians to showcase their areas of expertise. Librarians at Marshall Public Library (MPL) in Pocatello, Idaho, recently used these badges to identify their expertise in such topics as local hiking and biking trails.

“While libraries are a great resource to the community, the library’s greatest resource is its people,” Eric Sues, director of MPL, says. “I wanted to make sure that we could let our patrons and our community know about the significant talents, interests, and abilities that our employees have.”



## BECAUSE THE EXPERT IN THE LIBRARY IS YOU

When school librarian Kristina Holzweiss discovered the Libraries Transform I'M AN EXPERT IN badges, her first thought was, "How can I use these in my school library?" Holzweiss decided to try them out with her student "techspert" team at Bay Shore (N.Y.) Middle School. The techspert students help her in the library with everything from wrangling robots to creating websites and organizing the makerspace.

The badges give the students the opportunity to showcase their expertise in the library to other students as well as to the school's staff. Since the badges are reusable, they allow students to be an expert in math one day and in Legos the next.

"For the students, the badges have been really empowering," Holzweiss says. "They have taken ownership of their expertise. And they have realized that the library is theirs too. The badges have helped the kids see that the library is not a me-versus-you kind of environment, that we're all in this together to learn and grow."

## BECAUSE FAKE NEWS CAN HAVE REAL-WORLD CONSEQUENCES

Timeliness and flexibility have been strong points for the campaign. When fake news became a hot topic, ALA was ready to promote the skills and expertise of librarians in digital literacy and evaluating the accuracy of information. With "Because fake news can have real-world consequences," the campaign had one of its most popular social media posts, spotlighting the important work of librarians in information literacy and resources like the CRAAP (currency, relevance, authority, accuracy, purpose) test ([bit.ly/2nC9Mct](http://bit.ly/2nC9Mct)).



The student "techsperts" at Bay Shore (N.Y.) Middle School with their Libraries Transform I'M AN EXPERT IN badges.

## BECAUSE YOUR VOICE IS IMPORTANT

Key to the campaign is feedback from its users. Each month, the Libraries Transform newsletter features how libraries are using the campaign. Those success stories are turned into best practices that are incorporated into the campaign toolkit. At a session during the 2017 Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits in Atlanta, one participant suggested customizable table tents that could be used in libraries and distributed to community partners. Shortly after, templates for table tents appeared in the toolkit; they are already being used by libraries.

In early 2017, ALA conducted a survey of Libraries Transform participants, asking them about their satisfaction with the campaign and support materials, how they are using the campaign, and what other materials they would like to see created for it. Of the 165 respondents,

MORE THAN

**75%**

agree that the campaign is useful in their public awareness and advocacy efforts

MORE THAN

**80%**

agree that the campaign tools provide value

MORE THAN

**80%**

agree that they would recommend the campaign to other libraries

## BECAUSE SUPPORT IS KEY TO SUCCESS

Libraries Transform continues to receive wide support from state chapters and associations. The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, Indiana Library Federation, and Ohio Library Council (OLC) are using Libraries Transform in their legislative activities. Organizations like the New Mexico Library Association and West Virginia Library Association have used Libraries Transform as a conference theme or featured presentations on the campaign as part of their activities. The National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM) has sponsored a webinar and is developing aspects of the campaign for its libraries to use.

Lydia N. Collins, consumer health coordinator with NNLM, Middle Atlantic Region, incorporates relevant “Because” statements such as “Because librarians know information is the best medicine for health care questions” in her professional development classes. She says they work well for emphasizing the importance of educating communities on how to evaluate health information.

“What I appreciate most about the campaign is that it contains all of the materials that a library needs to promote the good work that it does,” she says. “Although my focus is generally around health outreach, the campaign works for all types of activities that libraries offer for their broad range of users.”

OLC used Libraries Transform to speak to state legislators in 2016 in an effort to showcase Ohio libraries’ return on investment. It adopted the theme “Ohio Libraries Transform” for last year’s OLC Legislative Day.

“Ohio’s public libraries are changing people’s lives—or at the very least, have the resources available to do so,”

### Top 10 Ways to Engage

**1**

Tweet about your most innovative and effective services using the #librarystransform hashtag.

**2**

Download and print “Because” posters and post them around your community. Think about putting them in unexpected places, such as your local coffee shop or community center.

**3**

Include Libraries Transform messaging and graphics in your community newsletters, e-newsletter, or regular email blasts to stakeholders.

**4**

Download the Libraries Transform web banners ([bit.ly/LTtoolkit](http://bit.ly/LTtoolkit)) and embed them on your website.

**5**

Invite your community members to share their stories of how libraries transform on your social media platforms—Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, etc.





says Doug Evans, executive director of OLC. “They are an essential part of every community throughout the state. Our advocacy goal is to show legislators how the investment they’ve made in our public libraries has transformed the lives of people in their own communities.”

A key component of OLC’s efforts involved linking “Because” statements with specific examples from Ohio. One statement, “Because more than a quarter of US households don’t have a computer with an internet connection,” was matched with talking points that explained, “The digital divide is real. Twenty-eight percent of Ohio households do not have broadband. Libraries play an essential role in bridging the divide and not just through access. According to Pew Research Center, 63% of newcomers feel they need some assistance in learning how to use the internet.”

Doug Evans (second from left), executive director of OLC, with Ohio library directors (from left) Jessica Hermiller, Amanda Bennett, and Elizabeth Muether at OLC’s 2017 Legislative Day.

OLC will use the Libraries Transform theme for its 2017 advocacy efforts.

“The response from legislators to the message was very positive,” Evans says. “They were eager to incorporate the message into their social media posts, had their pictures taken with our enlarged “Because” statement posters, and proudly wore our custom-made OHIO LIBRARIES TRANSFORM lapel pins. It’s a direct, easy-to-understand, and versatile message that works well with our statewide advocacy campaign, and many of our libraries also have adopted the campaign so that legislators see a consistent message back home.”

Photo: Angie Jacobsen

**6**

Host an event to build community awareness of a new creative service at your library (such as a makerspace, collaborative work space, or a digital collection).

**7**

Use the Libraries Transform brand on fliers and brochures to promote special programs and services at your library.

**8**

Include Libraries Transform messaging in your press releases, print and radio PSAs, op-eds, and letters to the editor.

**9**

Conduct your own creative guerrilla marketing stunt to delight and surprise your community. For inspiration, check out the Outside the Lines initiative ([getoutsidethelines.org](http://getoutsidethelines.org)) to see how some libraries have creatively connected with their community.

**10**

Download and print “Because” postcards and send them to your stakeholders with messages about new, innovative programs and services at your library. Send them to donors with a handwritten thank-you note, or use them to invite lapsed cardholders to revisit the library. •

**Bonus**

Encourage stakeholders to create their own “Because” statements and share them on social media.



## Book Club Central

In its second year, the Libraries Transform campaign, under ALA President Julie B. Todaro, is calling attention to the “expert in the library.”

One way the initiative plans to highlight experts is by launching Book Club Central, an online platform of the best reading resources. Book Club Central’s



Honorary chair  
Sarah Jessica Parker

purpose is to connect the public with the expertise of librarians through recommendations, book lists, and other content for book clubs and their readers.

Libraries and librarians have always been champions of reading and fostering love of books. Book Club Central expands on what they are already providing library users, whether it’s early liter-

acy programs for children, one-on-one tutoring, or community-wide reading initiatives.

Award-winning television and film actor, producer, designer, library supporter, and avid reader Sarah Jessica Parker is lending her support to Book Club Central by serving as honorary chair (read a Q&A with Parker on p. 68). Throughout the year, she will provide a selection of her own recommended titles. Parker will be on hand for the official launch of Book Club Central at the ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in Chicago on June 24, where she will unveil her inaugural pick. ●

## BECAUSE YOU CAN PASS A REFERENDUM

“Because” statements played a part in Missoula (Mont.) Public Library’s push for a new building and its successful \$30 million referendum. As one “Because” statement informed the public, “Because one in four Missoulians doesn’t have access to a utility called the internet.” During the referendum campaign, the library used the Libraries Transform campaign for educational pieces that appeared on posters, including one pointing out that only 38 people can sit and use resources in the adult section of the library. The new building will triple the library’s capacity for internet connectivity and computer use.

Library Director Honore Bray says the Libraries Transform campaign is a perfect fit for her library—the clean format of the banners and posters “make things very clear and concise” for patrons. [AL](#)



### BECAUSE

SEATING FOR 38 DOES NOT ACCOMMODATE THIS LIBRARY’S 1,500 DAILY VISITORS.

[learn more](#)



### BECAUSE

FORTY PERCENT OF CHILDREN GOING INTO KINDERGARTEN ARE NOT READY FOR SCHOOL.

[learn more](#)



### BECAUSE

ONE IN FOUR MISSOULIANS DOESN’T HAVE ACCESS TO A UTILITY CALLED THE INTERNET.

[learn more](#)



**JEFF JULIAN** is director of ALA’s Public Awareness Office. Heather Cho and Steve Zalusky contributed to this story.



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EDUCATION

# WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?

Setting goals to renew your career

BY Catherine Hakala-Ausperk

If you're not thrilled with your current job, the answer isn't *necessarily* to look for a new job. It might be to find another way to share your values—and find your meaning.

Consider this example: A library may consider increasing circulation to be its mission, so gathering statistics to heighten that arbitrary success is a goal for that library. Across the street is a library whose mission is to enhance the lives of its patrons. That library's success will be achieved by actions that affect others—offering a larger and more widely circulated collection or programs on job searching and civic responsibility. Imagine the motivation to achieve, sense of accomplishment, and joy that comes from the latter's, rather than the former's, success.

## DEFINE YOUR MISSION

If the word “mission” makes this renewal concept sound like a strategic plan, that's not too far from the truth. A big-picture look at what you really hope to do with your life can help create a future that will matter both at work and at home. Start by thinking about who you really are and how you want to matter through your most significant values.

That's your strategic plan. Next consider what you need to do to achieve that strategy. That's your mission. And you can achieve it by looking first at what you've done, then at what you're doing now, and finally at what you *can* do.

Values are important too, because they represent your passion. There's a direct correlation between your passion and what you should be doing with your life. Finding this intersection will make your mission evident and suggest what to do next in your career and life.

## WHAT DID YOU DO?

When asked to describe ourselves, most of us answer with facts, figures, titles, and generalities. For example, I am a middle-aged former librarian with a husband, children, grandchildren, and friends. I love to teach and write. Descriptions like these can shape our lives. They are our experiences, histories, roles, relationships, and skills. Some of them are choices. Some are compromises. Some



are accidents. None of them are our identities. A better list, which could help form a mission statement for the future, would include what we do with energy and joy—things we love to do.

Start at the beginning: Make a list of every job you've ever had. Don't worry about formal titles or organization names; just list what you've done and be as complete as possible. My list would look something like this: babysitter, ice-cream vendor at the beach, drugstore clerk, fiberglass punch press operator, waitress, newspaper delivery person, waitress, librarian, library administrator, teacher, public speaker, event planner, and writer.

What about you? What did you do?

Next, it's time to get not just nostalgic but a bit more reflective. Look at your list. Of all the things you've done, what did you love to do? As a further example, my reflection would include: I loved writing, anywhere for any purpose. I loved to teach because it helped others to grow and succeed. I loved to organize and lead events and to create and develop new ideas.

Of everything that you've done, what have you loved?

## WHAT DO YOU DO NOW?

Fast-forward to today. Are you doing anything that you love? If so, what? And if not, why? Through this examination of how you are currently spending your energy, talent, and days, it will be easier to recognize what to focus on and what to discard as you move forward. In the course of an average week, list everything you do both inside and outside of your job.

Now comes the hard part. Of everything on that list, what parts do you love? Can you look at that list of jobs and pick ones that matter the most? According to Marcus Buckingham, coauthor of *Now, Discover Your Strengths* (Gallup Press, 2001), we can use the following questions to look for honest answers. Look at each task or activity and ask yourself:

- Do I look forward to doing it?
- When I'm doing it, does time stand still?
- After I'm finished, do I feel great?

Based on your answers, what do you love to do? Now think about your dreams, hopes, and future plans. You will use all of these things to chart a new course that truly matters.



This is an excerpt from *Renew Yourself: A Six-Step Plan for More Meaningful Work* by Catherine Hakala-Ausperk (ALA Editions, 2017).

## IT'S EASIER TO FALL BACKWARD THAN FORWARD

Be careful as you begin your journey. Sometimes reality can get in the way of your dreams, and it's easy to return to comfortable, recognized patterns—even if they're in uncomfortable and uninspiring surroundings. It's common to find people stuck in jobs that make them physically sick because that option is easier than searching, reaching, and changing to try something new. Put very simply: It's easier to fall backward than forward.

But “easy” isn't renewal; “easy” is often a rut. When you think about your life in terms of your now-clarified values and mission, you can see there's room for excitement and challenge. You can even grow right where you are. This is because it's not where you are but where you've been and where you're going that signify success. In other words, it's not the standing still but the constant growth that helps our lives continually develop and unfold.

## STAY IN MOTION

In today's job market, you often have to reinvent yourself to stay competitive. Instead of starting all over again, you can start by building on what you already know.

In a workshop I teach about motivation and career directions, I ask attendees to list 10 responses to the question,

“Why do you work?” Then I ask them, “Why do you work hard?” The difference in motivators is amazing.

To find and clarify whether you're in a place that fully supports the future you desire, ask yourself: Am I just working, or am I working hard? A clear sign of dedication to your work is giving 110% to what you do. But how can you tell if that's really what you're doing or if you're just on cruise control? Let's use some questions from performance strategist Laura Garnett to clarify what working hard might mean to you and to your future.

- **No matter where you are, do you feel energized when you think about your work?** Garnett says this means you wake up excited, thinking about what you're doing at work. This is what I've always called the Sunday Night Test. I've seen people who absolutely hate their jobs and, as a result, they hate Sunday nights. By contrast, some of us wish the weekend would hurry up and end so we can get back to work. How does your job make you feel, even on Sundays?
- **Are you a little nervous and challenged by all you have to do?** If your to-do list is overwhelming but not terrifying, then you are one of the lucky ones to be motivated by challenges.
- **Do you spend more time daydreaming about someone else's job or what you want to do next?** People in this

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category are always scanning job postings, waiting for the weekend, waiting for their summer vacation, or waiting for retirement. Some people truly hate their job that much. It's time for that group to move on.

- **Does everything just feel right—that you're doing something valuable and making an impact?** In this case, you can actually see that what you are doing matters, and it feels good. My example comes from the years I spent as a reading tutor for two illiterate adults. While I've had the privilege of doing a lot of wonderful, meaningful things in my life, absolutely nothing has felt as good as that did.
- **Do you feel like you're no longer on your way, but you're there? Do you feel successful?** You don't compare yourself with others. Rather, you measure your intent, actions, and impact against your own personal and professional values—and you're happy with the result. Garnett summarizes what these five realities can tell us: "While it's not realistic to spend every waking moment at high-octane performance, it is realistic and possible to tap into your talents and purpose. When you experience the above, you know how exhilarating work and life can be. If you are not, then it may be a wake-up call to know that there is more you could be getting out of your professional life."

## FOLLOW THE SIGNS

Considering, studying, contemplating, and finally understanding what energizes or deflates you is critical to your renewal process. To determine how to recognize your strengths and skills, you must follow the SIGNS:

**SUCCESS:** You feel successful when you do certain things. You feel in control and effective, like you have accomplished something good. Which parts of the work you love make you feel that way?

**INSTINCT:** We know when we're about to have fun or be happy. We can just tell. We anticipate the opportunity with excitement. That's our instinct. Which parts of the work you love make you feel that way?

**GROWTH:** When we grow our skills and our energies, we often don't recognize the passage of time. Which parts of the work you love affect you that way? What do you do at work that, when you notice that the day is almost over, makes you wish it wasn't?

**NEEDS:** Our physical need to take a break and rest comes after we've finished something that's truly fulfilling. What work wipes you out in a good way?



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# IT'S NOT THE STANDING STILL BUT THE CONSTANT GROWTH THAT HELPS OUR LIVES CONTINUALLY DEVELOP AND UNFOLD.

Read your SIGNs carefully and identify a common theme. Consider it in relation to your mission. Now you know who you are, and you have a big-picture idea of what you want to do. So when is the right time to move forward? That's a hard question to answer.

## KNOWING WHEN IT'S TIME

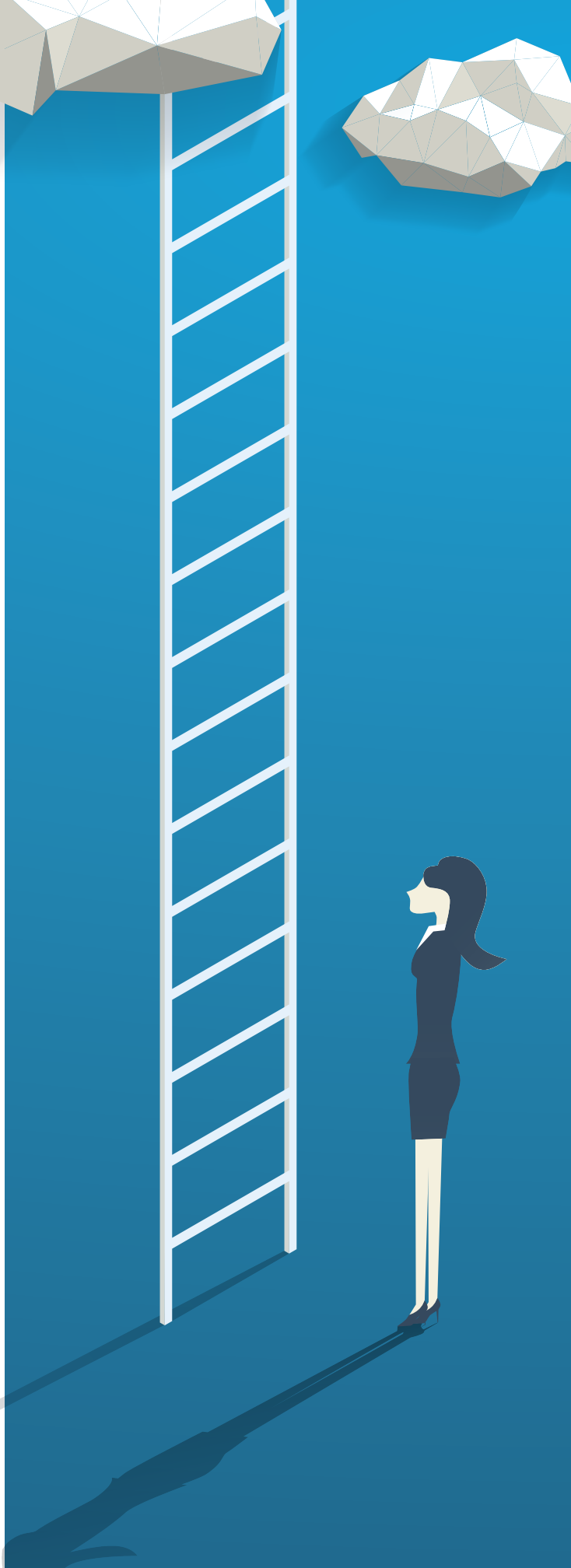
Think back to when you made your first life or career decision: Was it the right time to do so? How about the 10th one you made? Here's the deal: There's no such thing as the right or wrong time. There's simply the decision you make. You can weigh the pros and cons for eons. You can miss shining opportunities because you were paralyzed by a fear of making the wrong choice. You can stay exactly where you are forever because you're afraid of getting it wrong, or you can move forward. *When* you move forward isn't half as important as *that* you move forward. Even on the winding paths that are our careers, we can all reflect on the brass rings we missed or the wrong ones we grabbed, or we can focus on the now—and why today is the right time to try again. Even in failure, we've moved forward and grown. Timing isn't everything. Action is.

Most of us will bounce throughout our lives from one job—chosen for the right or wrong reasons—to the next. That career shuffle should not be disconcerting. We can still move closer to our real purpose by finding ways to stay focused on our values throughout our journey. We're heading in the right direction if we feel some element of growth and meaning—no matter how small—in everything we do. So every time is the right time. You may have been putting off some work or art or contribution that is truly important to you. Pursue it. Don't worry about how you'll fit it in. For now, just commit to putting your dreams and values back on the front burner. [AL](#)



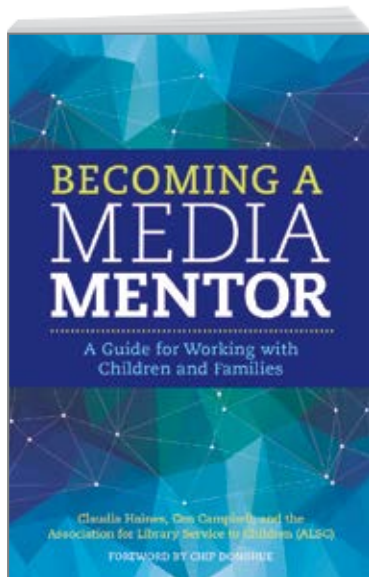
**CATHERINE HAKALA-AUSPERK** is a library planner, speaker, consultant, and trainer. She is author of ALA Editions titles *Be a Great Boss: One Year to Success* (2011) and *Build a Great Team: One Year to Success* (2013). She is an adjunct faculty member at Kent (Ohio) State

University's School of Library and Information Science, and also teaches for the American Library Association's Certified Public Library Administrator program and Infopeople.





# GREAT RESOURCES AVAILABLE *from ALSC and ALA Editions!*

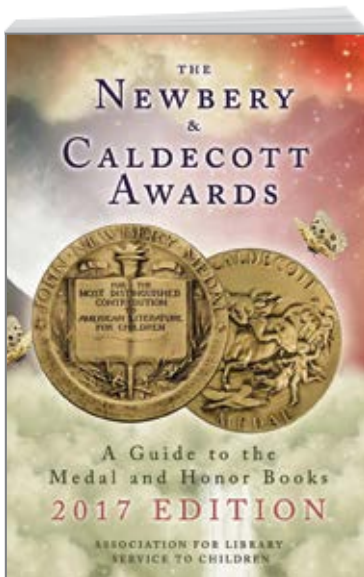


## ***Becoming a Media Mentor: A Guide for Working with Children and Families***

**Claudia Haines, Cen Campbell,  
and the Association for Library  
Service to Children (ALSC)**

ISBN: 978-0-8389-1463-2

Drawing on detailed case studies from a wide variety of libraries and community partnerships to showcase inspiring media mentorship in action with ages 0-14, this book empowers youth services staff to confidently assist families and caregivers as they navigate the digital world.

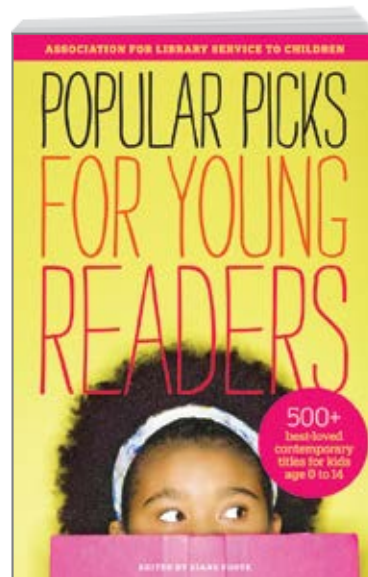


## ***The Newbery and Caldecott Awards: A Guide to the Medal and Honor Books, 2017 Edition***

**Association for Library Service to  
Children (ALSC)**

ISBN: 978-0-8389-1567-7

Librarians and teachers everywhere rely on this guidebook for quick reference and collection development and also as a resource for curriculum links and readers' advisory. Updated with the 2017 award and honor books!



## ***Popular Picks for Young Readers***

**Edited by Diane Foote for ALSC**

ISBN: 978-0-8389-3605-4

Spotlighting more than 500 recent titles, and with selections geared towards every child's interest and reading level, this guide will help librarians, teachers, caregivers and others connect young readers to books they're sure to love.

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2017

# ANNUAL

## Conference Preview

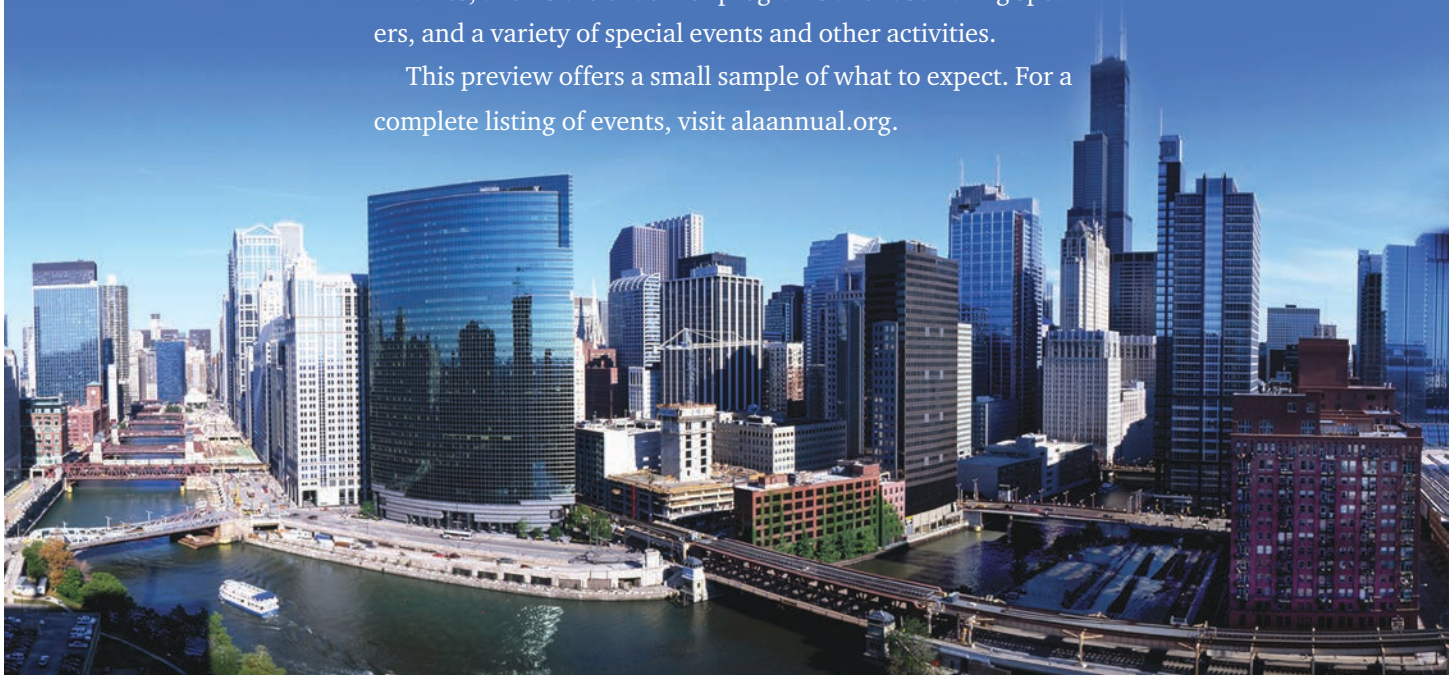
Chicago | June 22–27, 2017

EDITED BY Greg Landgraf

While the World Series championship comes to the Chicago Cubs only once every 108 years, the American Library Association's (ALA) Annual Conference and Exhibition is a far more common Windy City event, if not more exciting.

Returning to McCormick Place—and ALA's hometown—after four years, Annual will offer a host of professional development opportunities, new ideas to help shape the future of libraries, a full slate of author programs and fascinating speakers, and a variety of special events and other activities.

This preview offers a small sample of what to expect. For a complete listing of events, visit [alaannual.org](http://alaannual.org).



## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

**RESHMA SAUJANI**, founder and CEO of Girls Who Code, will kick off the conference as the **Opening General Session** speaker on **Friday, June 23, 4–5:15 p.m.** Girls Who Code is a nonprofit that aims to help close the gender gap in technology. Saujani's forthcoming book, *Girls Who Code: Learn to Code and Change the World*, shows girls how coding skills are relevant to their lives.

ALA President Julie B. Todaro welcomes actor, producer, designer, library supporter, and avid reader **SARAH JESSICA PARKER** as her **ALA President's Program** speaker **Saturday, June 24, 3:30–4:30 p.m.** Parker will serve as honorary chair of ALA's Book Club Central, an online platform of reading resources created in partnership with *Booklist* and United for Libraries. The President's Program will serve as Book Club Central's official launch, and Parker will unveil her first book selection for the program. (Read our interview with Parker on p. 68.)

Bestselling author and 2015 National Humanities Medal recipient **RON CHERNOW** will speak at the **ALA Awards and Keynote Address** on **Sunday, June 25, 3–4:30 p.m.** Chernow's book, *Alexander Hamilton*, was described by *The New York Times* as "by far the best biography ever written about the man." His newest biography, *Grant*, will be published in the fall.

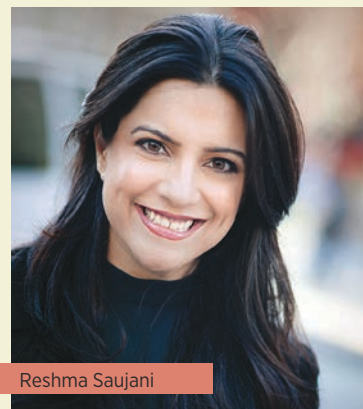
The Association for Library Service to Children's (ALSC) **Newbery-Caldecott-Wilder**

**Awards Banquet**—a celebration to honor the authors and illustrators of the Newbery, Caldecott, and Wilder medal-winning and honor books—takes place **Sunday, June 25, 6–11 p.m.** Preregistration is required and tickets are \$94.

The **48th Annual Coretta Scott King Book Awards Breakfast**, presented by the Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table, will be held **Sunday, June 25, 7–9:30 a.m.** The breakfast honors the winners and honor recipients of the 2017 Coretta Scott King Book Awards, which recognize the best African-American authors and illustrators of books for children and youth. Tickets are \$65 in advance, \$75 onsite.

Environmentalist, activist, and author **BILL MCKIBBEN** will speak at "Imagining a World That Works—In Time to Prevent a World That Doesn't" on **Saturday, June 24, 1–2:30 p.m.**, a special session cosponsored by the Social Responsibilities and Sustainability round tables, the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association, and the American Indian Library Association.

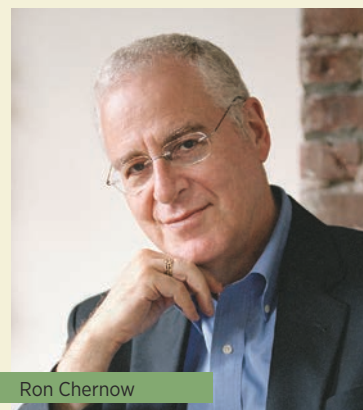
The **Closing General Session** on **Tuesday, June 27, 10–11:30 a.m.**, brings a highly anticipated speaker to Annual, to be announced. The **Inaugural Celebration** immediately follows the Closing General Session at **11:45 a.m.–2 p.m.** after Todaro passes the gavel to 2017–2018 ALA President Jim Neal and includes food and entertainment. Tickets are \$50.



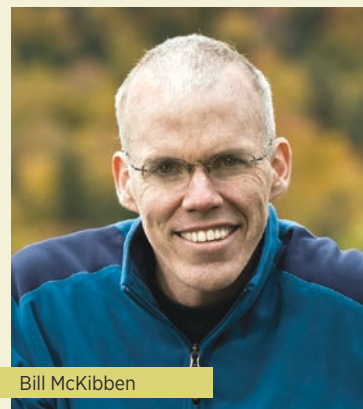
Reshma Saujani



Sarah Jessica Parker



Ron Chernow



Bill McKibben

## FEATURED SPEAKERS

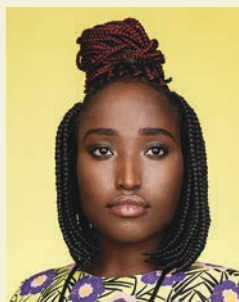
The Auditorium Speaker Series, sponsored by publishers, brings accomplished authors, compelling celebrities, and exciting experts to the conference. This year's lineup includes:



Gene Luen Yang

**Saturday, June 24**  
**8:30–9:30 a.m.**

Teacher, cartoonist, author, National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, 2016 National Library Week Honorary Chair, and MacArthur Fellow **GENE LUEN YANG** is the creator of many graphic novels and short stories that explore present-day and historical events through a contemporary Chinese-American lens. His "Reading Without Walls" program encourages kids and teens to read books about characters who don't look or live like them or topics they don't know much about, or in a format they don't usually choose.



Sandra Uwiringiyimana

**Saturday, June 24**  
**10:30–11:30 a.m.**

In her memoir *How Dare the Sun Rise: Memoirs of a War Child*, **SANDRA UWIRINGIYIMANA** tells the story of how she survived the Gatumba refugee camp massacre in Burundi when she was 10 years old. Since resettling to the US through a United Nations program,

Uwiringiyimana has worked to raise awareness and call for justice for the massacre and other human rights abuses in the region. Her presentation will share the story of her survival and how she found her place in a new country.



Brené Brown

**Sunday, June 25**  
**8:30–9:30 a.m.**

**BRENÉ BROWN** has spent 15 years studying courage, vulnerability, shame, and empathy. As founder of COURAGEworks, an online learning platform offering classes on braver living and loving, and Brave Leaders Inc., an organization that provides courage-building programs for leaders, Brown will deliver a presentation to inspire and provide actionable change strategies.



Andy Weir

**Monday, June 26**  
**8:30–10 a.m.**

Presented jointly as the United for Libraries president's program, Susan Schmidt welcomes **ANDY WEIR**, "lifelong space nerd" and author of the bestselling debut novel *The Martian*, for a talk and signing.



Bill Nye



Gregory Mone

**Monday, June 26, 2–3 p.m.**

Science educator and mechanical engineer **BILL NYE** has championed scientific literacy, challenged opponents of evidence-based education and policy, and served as CEO of The Planetary Society, which advocates for our future in space. Nye will be joined by **GREGORY MONE**, his co-author of the middle-grade series *Jack and the Geniuses*.

## DIVISION PRESIDENTS' PROGRAMS

AAL's division presidents host inspiring thought leaders in their presidents' programs at every Annual Conference. This year's slate includes:

**Saturday, June 24, 9 a.m.–noon**

**SCOTT BECK**, head principal at Norman (Okla.) High School, will speak about how 21st-century school librarians contribute to student outcomes at American Association of School Librarians (AASL) President Audrey Church's program. Beck's talk will immediately follow the AASL Awards Ceremony, which highlights best practices in school librarianship through collaboration, leadership, innovative programming, national involvement, and upholding the principles of the profession.

**Saturday, June 24, 10:30–11:30 a.m.**

Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) President Irene Herold and Public Library Association (PLA) President Felton Thomas Jr. will welcome **BERNARD BANKS**, associate dean for leadership



## Exhibits AT THE CONFERENCE

With more than 900 exhibiting organizations, multiple pavilions and stages, and popular authors, the exhibit floor is integral to your learning, professional development, and networking at Annual Conference.

The official opening ceremony and ribbon cutting immediately follow the Opening General Session on **Friday, June 23, at 5:30 p.m.**, and feature a brief welcome by ALA leadership and Chicago dignitaries. The **Opening Reception** includes food, drink, and entertainment.

Individual publishers will host author and illustrator events throughout the conference, including programs at the **Book Buzz Theater, Graphic Novel/Gaming Stage, PopTop Stage, What's Cooking**

@ **ALA Demonstration Stage**, and the new **Chapter One Stage**. Check [alaannual.org/general-exhibits-info](http://alaannual.org/general-exhibits-info) for a list of stage schedules.

New this year: **The Playground @ ALA** features hands-on learning with future-focused technologies such as

virtual and augmented reality, coding, drone piloting, 3D printing, and robotics. At **The Park @ ALA**, attendees can sit under tranquility domes, borrow a bike from a tricycle bookmobile, build a Little Free Library, or donate to the blood drive.

**Specialty Pavilions** will again include showcase areas for DVD and video, gaming and graphic novels, government information, library school and instruction, mobile apps, small presses and products, university presses, zines, and more. ●

### EXHIBIT HOURS

**Friday, June 23,  
5:30–7 p.m.**

**Saturday, June 24,  
9 a.m.–5 p.m.**

**Sunday, June 25,  
9 a.m.–5 p.m.**

**Monday, June 26,  
9 a.m.–2 p.m.**

development and clinical professor of management at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management, as presenter of a joint program offering leadership development guidance for all levels of academic, research, and public librarians. Banks will discuss how organizational challenges can be understood through a variety of frames, giving attendees a thorough approach to developing effective solutions.

**Saturday, June 24, 1–2:30 p.m.**

**LYDIA COLLINS**, consumer health coordinator, and **CHRISTIAN MINTER**, outreach and education coordinator at the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, will present "Healthy Aging @ Your Library: Connecting Older Adults to Health Information," the program of Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies

(ASCLA) President Michael Golrick. Discover techniques for teaching older adults to use computers and find health information online, ideas for planning library programs on senior health topics, sources of health materials for distribution to older adults, and techniques for making a website senior-friendly.

**Saturday, June 24, 4:30–5:30 p.m.**

**R. DAVID LANKES**, author and director of the University of South Carolina's School of Library and Information Science, will keynote Reference and User Services Association (RUSA) President Alesia M. McManus's program, "Forget the Future: Our Time Is Now." Lankes will explore how reference and user services can not only remain relevant but also mobilize to address community challenges like nationalism, xenophobia, racism, and extreme politics.

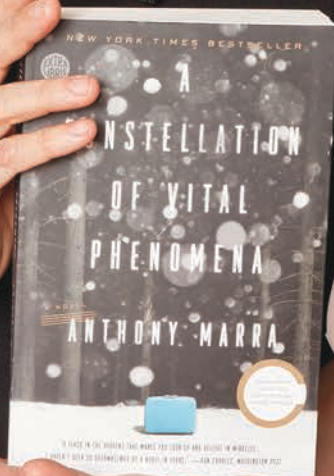
# Sarah Jessica Parker

On never leaving the house without a book, and other tips from a fashionable and fervent reader

**A**s *Sex and the City*'s style queen Carrie Bradshaw, Sarah Jessica Parker inspired a million fashionistas. Now, as the founder of the SJP for Hogarth book imprint—and the honorary chair of ALA's Book Club Central, a new online platform of resources for book clubs—the busy actor hopes to inspire others to share her love of reading as well.

Parker will recommend various titles for Book Club Central over the coming months; she plans to reveal the first during the June 24 President's Program at the ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in Chicago. She recently spoke with *American Libraries* about being a lifelong bookworm.

**Where does your love of reading come from?** My mother is a devoted reader. She drove carpools for many years, and she always had an open book in her lap, so at traffic lights she could read. And there was a rule in our house that you



never left the house without a book, even if you couldn't read yet. To this day, I would never leave the house without something to read. I've been running late for things and run back just to get a book.

**You're currently an executive producer and star of HBO's *Divorce*, and you're a mom of three. When do you find time to read? And do you prefer e-readers or physical books?**

I just read whenever I can. I love the subway in New York City for that reason, and until recently, we didn't have Wi-Fi underground in the city, so reading was fantastic, because you could really stop the emails and phone calls. I still consider the subway in some ways the best place to get reading done; I resent a shorter trip on a subway for that very reason.

Also, an actor's life on a set involves a nice amount of waiting, so I read in between takes. I've tucked books inside costumes on my person. I've found ways of folding *The New York Times* and *The New Yorker* beneath corsets, so when someone yells "Cut!," I can pull them out and read. I spent six months in a flying harness for *Hocus Pocus*, and I always had a book, even in the air.

I'm so accustomed to the cumbersome nature of a big book that I always make room for it, even if I have to carry it outside of my bag. But when we're traveling for a long time, primarily for family holidays, I've learned to try to get everything on a Kindle. It's not my first choice, but I'm grateful for the convenience of it.

**What led you to start making book recommendations on Instagram?**

It felt like a nice opportunity to create awareness about new

authors. And I've found that although social media has a lot of landmines, the one area where there is nothing controversial is books. Those conversations are always so much more civilized than political conversations these days.

**Are you in a book club? Yes.**

It grew out of something that happened a few years ago, when I met Molly Stern, who is senior vice president and publisher at Crown, Hogarth, Broadway, Crown Archetype, and Three Rivers Press. She sent me a wonderful, big, huge, juicy pile of books, and among them was a yet-to-be-published book called *A Constellation of Vital Phenomena*, by Anthony Marra. I was so completely taken with the work that I called Molly and said, "I'm just wondering how you're going to market a book about a small village in Chechnya. Is there anything I can do to be helpful?"

From that grew this book club. I always describe it as this little vacation that exists once every two months. It's like the library, a little bit—time stands still when we're talking about reading. People have such varied and strong opinions, and it's always surprising to find out who ended up liking or not liking a writer.

**Tell us about your new imprint, SJP for Hogarth, launching in 2018.**

The imprint is dedicated to literary fiction—often very character-driven stories, global voices, bold points of view. The more unfamiliar the territory they are writing about, the more interested I am. We've not found our first manuscript yet. I've read tons and tons of manuscripts, and that first choice is so important, so we've not found the right one to land on as our debut. But it sure is a thrill to read this much. **AL**



Kameron Hurley

**Sunday, June 25, 3-4 p.m.**

Library and Information Technology Association (LITA) President Aimee Fifarek will welcome

Hugo Award, Kitschy Award, and Sydney J. Bounds Award-winning writer **KAMERON HURLEY**, author of *The Geek Feminist Revolution*. Hurley will speak to how curated content shapes the stories we tell about ourselves and the realities in which we live, and how librarians and information professionals can help shape these narratives.

**Monday, June 26, 10:30 a.m.-noon**

**DORRI MCWHORTER**, CEO of the YWCA Metropolitan Chicago, will speak at "The Business of Social Impact: Creating a World Where Everyone Has Value," a shared program hosted by Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) President Vicki Sipe and Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA) President John Spears. McWhorter will address how organizations can create social impact as for-profit and nonprofit business models converge.

**Monday, June 26, 10:30 a.m.-noon**

Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) President Sarah Hill presents an interactive session to conclude her yearlong "Real Teens, Real Ready" initiative, which focuses on the need for libraries to evolve to effectively serve today's young adults. Many teens feel underprepared for their future, but the library can be an instrument for career, college, and workforce readiness. This session will share innovative strategies you can apply in your own library.

**Monday, June 26, 1-2:30 p.m.**

The ALSC Charlemae Rollins President's Program, "Plugging into the Digital Age: Libraries Engaging and Supporting Families with Today's Literacy," will feature **CHIP DONOHUE** from the Erikson Institute and **SARAH R. LYTTLE** from the Institute for Learning and Brain Sciences presenting the latest research on digital-age technology and its relationship to childhood development and literacy. **LISA REGALLA** from the Center for Childhood Creativity at the Bay Area Discovery Museum will discuss practical ways to implement the information in libraries and services.

## BOOKS AND AUTHORS

Opportunities to hear from and meet writers and illustrators are among the most anticipated events at Annual. Some of this year's offerings include:

**Friday, June 23, 8-10 p.m.**

The **Michael L. Printz Program and Reception**, cosponsored by YALSA and *Booklist*, features 2017 winners **US REP. JOHN LEWIS, ANDREW AYDIN**, and **NATE POWELL**, as well as honor book authors Julie Berry, Louise O'Neill, Neal Shusterman, and Nicola Yoon.

## JobLIST PLACEMENT CENTER

ALA's JobLIST Placement and Career Development Center is open **Saturday, June 24**, and **Sunday, June 25, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.**, with an orientation **Saturday at 8:30 a.m.** Conference registration is not required to go to the Placement Center, use its services, or attend any workshop.

Employers will be on hand to talk to conference attendees at the free **Open House and Job Fair on Sunday, June 25, 10:30 a.m.-noon.**

**Career Counseling** with a professional career coach is available in free, confidential 20-minute one-on-one sessions when the Placement Center is open. Preregistration is suggested. ACRL's University Libraries Section will provide **On-the-Fly Mentoring**, in which an experienced librarian will be available to talk about any aspects of your career, **Saturday, June 24, 9 a.m.-noon** and **Sunday, June 25, 1-4 p.m.** Mentoring is available by appointment or on a drop-in basis.

For a complete list of workshops and services, visit [ala.org/educationcareers/employment/placement/workshops](http://ala.org/educationcareers/employment/placement/workshops). •



Rakesh Satyal



Eileen Myles

**Saturday, June 24, 10:30-11:30 a.m.**

United for Libraries' **Out and Proud: LGBTQ Literature** session, cosponsored by the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table (GLBTRT), will include **JOSEPH CASSARA, EILEEN MYLES, RAKESH SATYAL**, and **SOPHIE YANOW** discussing their latest books, with a signing to follow.

**Sunday, June 25, 8-10 a.m.**

**RUSA's Literary Tastes: Celebrating the Best Reading of the Year** will feature several authors whose works won RUSA book awards or were included on its best-of lists for adults. Light refreshments are included, and book signings will follow the event. Among the speakers are authors **GREGG HURWITZ** and **JULIA QUINN** and audiobook narrator **DION GRAHAM**.

**Sunday, June 25, 9-10 a.m.**

YALSA's **YA Author Coffee Klatch** is a speed dating-style event that features 40 YA authors who have appeared on one of YALSA's selected book lists or received one of its literary awards. Attendees sit at a table, and every few minutes a new author arrives to talk about their upcoming book. Tickets are \$25.

**Sunday, June 25, 2-4 p.m.**

*Booklist* will host a panel of seven superstar YA authors as part of its celebration of 50 years of the modern young-adult book, an era commonly considered to have begun with the 1967 publishing of S. E. Hinton's *The Outsiders*. The panel will include **KRISTIN CASHORE, BRANDY COLBERT, DEBORAH HEILIGMAN, DANIEL JOSÉ OLDER, NEAL SHUSTERMAN, MEGAN WHALEN TURNER**, and **NICOLA YOON**. The #50YearsofYA celebration also includes free copies of the Top 50 YA Books of All Time poster, cake during Friday night exhibit hours, and author signings in the *Booklist* booth.

**Sunday, June 25, 3-4 p.m.**

At United for Libraries' **First Author, First Book**, debut authors **MORGAN BABST, EMIL FERRIS, GREGORY SCOTT KATSOU LIS, C. DEVIN MURPHY**, and



**SARAH SHOEMAKER** will speak about their books and writing experiences in this popular annual panel.

**Sunday, June 25, 5:30–7:30 p.m.**

Wine and cheese will be served at United for Libraries' **The Laugh's on Us**, headlined by comedian and UFL spokesperson **PAULA POUNDSTONE**. The event will also feature **JAMES BREAKWELL, DAVID LITT, LISA SCOTTOLINE**, and **FRANCESCA SERRITELLA**, with a book signing to follow. Tickets are \$60 in advance (\$55 United for Libraries personal members) or \$65 onsite.

**Monday, June 26, 8–10:30 a.m.**

Honor the best in children's literature and media at the annual presentation of the **Batchelder, Carnegie, Geisel, and Sibert awards** during the ALSC Awards Presentation. Attendees will have the opportunity to talk to award-winning authors and illustrators, and a continental breakfast will be provided.

**Monday, June 26, 10 a.m.–noon**

Celebrate the 2017 winners of the **Stonewall Book Awards**, recognizing the best in gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender writing in fiction, nonfiction, children's, and young adult categories. Sponsored by GLBTRT, this event also recognizes winners of the Newlen-Symons Award for Excellence in Serving the GLBT Community.

**Monday, June 26, 2–4 p.m.**

Enjoy tea, finger sandwiches, and sweet treats at United for Libraries' **Gala Author Tea**. Featured authors **A. J. FINN, JONATHAN SAFRAN FOER, ELLY GRIFFITHS, ALLISON PATAKI**, and **BRIANNA WOLFSON** will discuss their forthcoming books, and signings will follow. Tickets are \$60 in advance (\$55 United for Libraries personal members) or \$65 onsite.

## **DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**

Equity, diversity, and inclusion are essential to the resilience of libraries. A few offerings at Annual include:

**Saturday, June 24, 3–4 p.m.**

In "Diversity, Inclusion, and Social Justice in Technical Services," speakers from libraries and cultural heritage institutions will share the ways in which archives, technical services, preservation, and collections strategy staff have promoted diversity, inclusion, and social justice.

**Saturday, June 24, 3–5 p.m.**

The annual **Diversity and Outreach Fair** will highlight library services to underserved and underrepresented

# **Carnegie Medals**

## **FOR EXCELLENCE IN FICTION AND NONFICTION**



Sara Paretsky

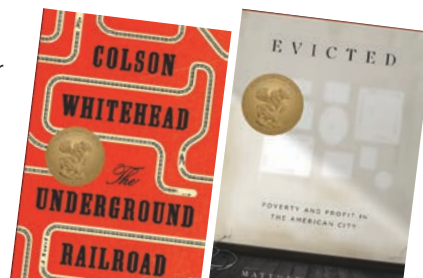
**Saturday, June 24, 8–10 p.m.**

**SARA PARETSKY**, author of the V. I. Warshawski mystery series, will be the featured speaker at this celebratory event, cosponsored by *Booklist* and RUSA.

This year honors **COLSON WHITEHEAD**, winner of the 2017 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction for *The Underground Railroad*, and

**MATTHEW DESMOND**, winner of the 2017 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction for *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*.

Selection committee chair Donna Seaman will host the program, which will feature remarks from the authors and be followed by a dessert-and-drinks reception for attendees, authors, editors, and ALA leaders. Tickets are \$40 (\$30 for RUSA members). ●



communities. This year's theme is "Inclusive Outreach: Providing Services to the Underserved and Marginalized." The fair includes a poster session in the exhibit hall.

**Saturday, June 24, 4:30–6 p.m.**

More than 100,000 unaccompanied minors have arrived in the US as refugees from Central America since 2014. At "The Other (Invisible) Refugees: Supporting Central American Children in Crisis," YALSA, the International Board of Books for Young People, and Reforma will screen a film and speak about the Children in Crisis Project, which seeks to raise awareness of these youth and the resources they need while awaiting a chance to plead their cases for asylum. Donations will be accepted.

**Sunday, June 25, 1–2:30 p.m.**

More than 50 years after the Tougaloo Nine staged a sit-in at a whites-only library (see our story on p. 32), participant **GERALDINE EDWARDS HOLLIS** will share

# Business AND Financial MEETINGS

## Friday, June 23

- ALA Executive Board Meeting I, 8:30 a.m.–noon
- ALA-APA Board of Directors, 4–4:30 p.m.
- ALA Finance and Audit/Budget Analysis and Review Joint Committee Meeting, noon–3 p.m.

## Saturday, June 24

- Council/Executive Board/Membership Information Session, 3–4:30 p.m.
- ALA Membership Meeting, 4:30–5:30 p.m.

## Sunday, June 25

- ALA Council I, 8:30–11 a.m.
- ALA Planning and Budget Assembly, 1–2:30 p.m.

## Monday, June 26

- ALA Council II, 8:30–11:30 a.m.
- ALA Executive Board Meeting II, 1–4:30 p.m.

## Tuesday, June 27

- ALA Council III, 7:45–9:45 a.m.
- ALA Executive Board Meeting III, 1:30–4:30 p.m.

the story of her protest, struggle, and love of reading at “Desegregating Public Libraries: The Tougaloo Nine.”

## Sunday, June 25, 4–6 p.m.

Librarian of Congress **CARLA HAYDEN** will headline “Spectrum at 20: A Celebration of Community,” a cocktail hour celebrating and supporting the ALA Spectrum Scholarship Program at the 19 East Event Gallery, 19 East 21st St. Tickets are \$20 and include hors d’oeuvres.

## HIGHLIGHTED PROGRAMS



Nikki Giovanni

## Friday, June 23, 7–10 p.m.

Poet, activist, and educator **NIKKI GIOVANNI** (see interview on p. 28) will headline a special offsite reception benefitting the ALA Cultural Communities Fund at the new American Writers Museum, 180 N. Michigan Ave. Tickets are \$75 for ALA members and \$90 for nonmembers.

## Saturday, June 24, 1–2:30 p.m.

Learn techniques to build and leverage strong mentor-mentee relationships to become a leader in your organization and librarianship as a whole in “How to Be an Influential Librarian—Leading and Mentoring from Wherever You Are,” sponsored by ALCTS with LLAMA and the New Members Round Table.

## Saturday, June 24, 1–2:30 p.m.

At the LITA Imagineering Interest Group session “Generation Gap: Science Fiction and Fantasy Authors Look at Youth and Technology,” **SUSAN DENNARD**, **CORY DOCTOROW**, **ANNALEE NEWITZ**, and **V. E. SCHWAB** will explore how science fiction and fantasy literature can serve as a method for examining conflicting generational expectations about technology and privacy.

## Saturday, June 24, 1–2:30 p.m.

ALA President Julie B. Todaro will facilitate “Library and Information Experts Succeeding in the 21st Century,” a town hall dialogue on competencies, careers, and successful practice guided by thought leaders **EILEEN ABELS** (dean of the School of Library and Information Science at Simmons College), **JOHN BERTOT** (professor at the University of Maryland College of Information Studies), and **VALERIE GROSS** (president and CEO of Howard County [Md.] Library System).

## Sunday, June 25

**PR Sunday Spotlight** features four events that showcase innovative outreach and engagement tactics. “Libraries Transform: New Tools and Best Practices” (10:30–11:30 a.m.); LLAMA’s PR Xchange and Awards Ceremony (11:30 a.m.–2 p.m.); the PR Forum featuring **BEN BIZZLE**, founder and CEO of Library Market (3–4 p.m.); and the John Cotton Dana Awards and Reception (4–6:30 p.m.) each offers strategies you can replicate.

## Monday, June 26, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

ASCLA will host **KATE MCILVAIN** and **MARA O’BRIEN** of SitStayRead, speaking about how the nonprofit literacy organization connects children with

## ACCESSIBILITY

ALA works to make sure the conference experience is pleasant and accessible for all. For information on mobility assistance, interpreter services, and other accommodations, visit [alaannual.org/accessibility](http://alaannual.org/accessibility). •

trained literacy volunteers and certified reading assistance dogs in a curriculum that develops literacy and social-emotional skills.

#### Monday, June 26, 6–8 p.m.

The International Relations Round Table invites all to celebrate with librarians from more than 70 countries at the **International Librarians Reception**, held offsite at the Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S. State St. This unique opportunity to network with colleagues from abroad includes regional cuisine and an open bar, and recipients of the ALA Presidential Citation for Innovative International Projects will be announced. Advance registration is required. Tickets are \$40; international librarians receive one complimentary admission.

In addition to highlighted programs, be sure to check out informal and peer-to-peer learning opportunities such as five-minute **Ignite Sessions**, 45-minute **Conversation Starters**, the **Now Showing @ ALA Film Program**, more than 200 loosely organized **Discussion Groups**, and the **Networking Uncommons**.

Additionally, **Preconferences** (June 22–23) offer inspiring professional development and ideas you can implement at home. This year's topics include digital

## GET *Connected*, STAY *Informed*

Use the **Annual Conference Scheduler** ([alaannual.org/scheduler](http://alaannual.org/scheduler)) and mobile app to browse sessions, add and update events, create a private or shareable calendar, and keep track of appointments.



Visit [alaannual.org](http://alaannual.org)



Track #alaac17 on Twitter



Join the Facebook Event ([bit.ly/2jWO2Gp](http://bit.ly/2jWO2Gp))



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collection development, genealogy, user experience, and more. Register for these and other ticketed events at [alaannual.org/ticketed-events](http://alaannual.org/ticketed-events). <sup>AL</sup>

For an up-to-date list of dates and times, see the Annual Conference Scheduler at [alaannual.org/scheduler](http://alaannual.org/scheduler).



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Steam buns  
at Yusho

# Windy City EATS

Exploring Chicago  
one bite at a time

by Kate Silver

From the flaming cheese of Greektown (it's called saganaki, and it was invented in Chicago) to the dumplings of Chinatown to the intercontinental flavors of the Loop, food is serious business in Chicago.

A few years ago, I was given one of the best assignments a writer could hope for: to eat my way around Chicago and share the best restaurants in the *Frommer's EasyGuide to Chicago*. *American Libraries* asked me to take some of my favorites and create a guide just for you, ensuring that you're well fed during the 2017 ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition. Here are my top picks, organized by neighborhood, all within a quick walk, train ride, or cab from McCormick Place.

## HYDE PARK

### A10

1462 E. 53rd St.  
773-288-1010

[a10hydepark.com](http://a10hydepark.com)

Chef Alec Sherman strives to use food that comes from nearby (within 200 miles), and, to take it one step further, a staff farmer helps acquire seasonal fruits, veggies, meat, and dairy for the fresh pastas, salads, and entrées. The campanelle with braised goat (\$20), roasted broccoli salad (\$11), and hearth-fired salmon (\$24) are all tops. Also on tap: fun cocktails and lots of Midwestern craft beers. *D (Tue-Sun) \$\$-\$\$\$*

### Italian Fiesta Pizzeria

1400 E. 47th St.

773-684-2222

[italianfiestapizzeria.com](http://italianfiestapizzeria.com)

Ready for some presidential pizza? The Obamas—who lived in Hyde Park—were regulars here. There are actually five locations, and this particular one is a bare-bones takeout joint and not suitable for dining in. I suggest calling for carry-out. Or if the weather's nice, you could pick up a pie and head to the lakefront for a picnic. They also have a selection of



Gracie's apple pie at Medici on 57th

hot Italian meatball, sausage, and beef sandwiches (all \$5). *L, D daily \$*

### Medici on 57th

1327 E. 57th St.

773-667-7394

[medici57.com](http://medici57.com)

An inventive and diverse menu covers all meals, with inspired breakfast and brunch creations, deli sandwiches, burgers, pizzas, soups, salads, and some of the best apple pie ever. It started as a coffeehouse in 1962, and its inexpensive menu has grown over the years, offering bakery items and entrées in a sunny, welcoming setting. Did I mention how good the pie is? *Brunch (Sat, Sun), B, L, D daily \$-\$\$*

### Valois Restaurant

1518 E. 53rd St.

773-667-0647

[valoisrestaurant.com](http://valoisrestaurant.com)

A Chicago classic (and President Obama's top breakfast spot in the city), Valois is as no-frills as it gets. The neighborhood landmark is an old-school cafeteria, serving up inexpensive steak (\$14),

ribs (\$12), barbecue chicken (\$7), pork roast (\$6), and other classics, with a hearty sense of community. Menu changes daily. *B, L, D daily \$*

### Yusho of Hyde Park

1301 E. 53rd St.

773-643-1652

[yushohydepark.com](http://yushohydepark.com)

Chef Matthias Merges plays with Japanese street food here, doling out addictive items such as twice-fried chicken (\$11.50), shrimp udon noodles (\$14), spicy garlic ramen (\$13), and buns loaded with cod, pork belly, eggplant, and more. Come with friends, because the plates are small and shareable, the draft cocktails are

delicious, and the atmosphere is celebratory. *L, D (M-Sat) \$\$*

## CHINATOWN

### Hing Kee

2140 S. Archer Ave.

312-808-9538

Talk about a novel-length menu. As you page through, know that you can't go wrong with anything in the noodle section (there's a pasta maker on staff who pulls noodles right before your eyes). The shrimp and barbecue pork Singapore-style noodles (\$8.50), in particular, are excellent. *L, D daily \$-\$\$*

### Lao Sze Chuan

2172 S. Archer Ave.

312-326-3888

[laoszechuanchicago.com](http://laoszechuanchicago.com)

Again, the menu reads like a book. Branch out and try some of the more daring items, like the sour pickle and squid soup (\$8) or stick with the revered—and spicy—Tony's Chicken with Three Chili (\$14). Either way, you'll be happy. *L, D daily \$-\$\$*

Chef's special dry-chili chicken at Lao Sze Chuan



## Price Guide

Average price per person for entrée without appetizers, drinks, tax, and tip.

- \$:** under \$14
- \$\$:** \$15-\$24
- \$\$\$:** \$25-\$50
- \$\$\$\$:** \$51 and up

## Phoenix

2131 S. Archer Ave.  
312-328-0848

[chinatownphoenix.com](http://chinatownphoenix.com)

The casual but elegant Phoenix has plenty of room with big tables for family and friends to enjoy the Cantonese (and some Szechuan) cuisine. A good sign: The place attracts lots of Chinatown locals. It's especially popular for dim sum brunch, so come early to avoid the wait. *L, D daily* \$-\$\$

## Joy Yee Noodle

2139 S. China Pl.

312-328-0001

[joyyee.com](http://joyyee.com)

You'll know it by the intriguing colorful fake food displayed in the windows. The enormous menu treks across Asia and includes tastes of China, Japan, Korea, Thailand, Vietnam, and beyond. The Japanese beef dumplings (\$6) and sesame chicken (\$11.50) are especially popular, and I'm a big fan of the enormous bowls of soup. An outdoor walk-up window serves boba tea and



Flo's polish pizza at Flo and Santos

smoothies, if you just want to grab a snack and explore the area. *L, D daily* \$-\$\$

## GREEKTOWN

### Athena

212 S. Halsted St.

312-655-0000

[athenarestaurantchicago.com](http://athenarestaurantchicago.com)

The Greek design here, first of all, is over-the-top in the best possible way. Picture Greek-inspired columns, fountains, and a fireplace.

People flock to Athena when the weather is nice for the gorgeous patio and for a taste of Greek classics, such as moussaka (\$14), gyros (\$13), and pastitsio (\$13).

*L, D daily* \$-\$\$

### Greek Islands

200 S. Halsted St.

312-782-9855

[greekislands.net](http://greekislands.net)

*Opa!* This Greek favorite also dishes up Greek favorites, such as spinach cheese pie (\$7); avgolemono, an addictive chicken soup with lemon and eggs (cup \$3, bowl \$4); Athenian salad (\$6); gyros (\$14); and dolmades (\$13) as well as the Chicago-born classic saganaki (\$6.50), which you just have to try.

*L, D daily* \$-\$\$

### Pegasus

130 S. Halsted St.

312-226-3377

[pegasuschicago.com](http://pegasuschicago.com)

The rooftop transports you to a Greek paradise, and after 4 p.m. they

serve Greek small plates (mezethes) such as spanakopita (\$7), feta and olives (\$7), hummus (\$7), and gyros (\$9), so you can try a bit of everything. The owners here also own Artopolis, a nearby bakery, so the bread is fresh and heavenly. *L, D (Tue-Sun)* \$-\$\$

## SOUTH LOOP AND NEAR SOUTHSIDE

### Flo and Santos

1310 S. Wabash Ave.

312-566-9817

[floandsantos.com](http://floandsantos.com)

The pizza at Flo and Santos may not always make the "best of" lists, but its regulars know that helps keep it their own "best of" secret. With cozy red leather booths, exposed brick walls, and addictive thin-crust, square-cut tavern-style pizza, you couldn't ask for a better local pizza joint. The menu also has an impressive array of salads (\$9-\$13), sandwiches (\$10-\$13), and pierogi (\$10). *L, D daily* \$

Curried chicken at Mr. Brown's Lounge



## The Florentine

151 W. Adams St.  
312-660-8866

[the-florentine.net](http://the-florentine.net)

Tucked inside the opulent JW Marriott (an early 19th-century bank designed by renowned Chicago architect Daniel Burnham), the Florentine shakes up the “bland hotel restaurant” notion and is a magnet for nearby financial district suits. The Italian restaurant specializes in simple, authentic fare (pastas, pizzas, steak, seafood, chicken), and everything is made in-house, from the pasta to the gelato. An extensive wine list and excellent cocktails complete the meal. **Brunch (Sat, Sun), B, L, D daily \$\$\$**

## Gino's East

521 S. Dearborn St.  
312-939-1818

[ginoseast.com](http://ginoseast.com)

Splurging on calories is an understatement when eating a deep-dish slice at Gino's East, but you've got to do it. Thick, golden-crust, drowning in cheese, and smothered in tomatoes (which are on top of the cheese), this casserole-style dish, served in a hefty, cast-iron pan, is as Chicago as it gets. Gino's East has been engorging bellies since 1966, and there are four locations around Chicago (and more in the suburbs). **L, D daily \$-\$\$**

## Lou Malnati's Pizzeria

805 S. State St.  
312-786-1000

[loumalnatis.com](http://loumalnatis.com)

If you've never tried Chicago deep dish, go to Lou Malnati's. If you've only tried Chicago deep dish from other places, go to Lou Malnati's. I'm going to risk a war by calling

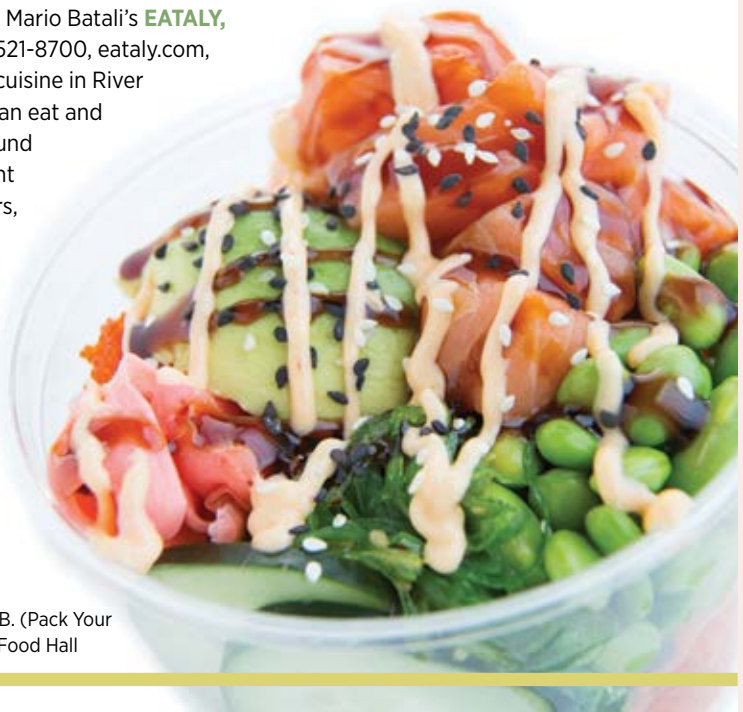
# Dozens of Bites, One Roof

Chicago isn't exempt from the food hall craze sweeping the nation. We have three new(ish) venues that bring a dozen or so options—along with wine, beer, and cocktails—under one roof.

Exhibit No. 1: **REVIVAL FOOD HALL**, 125 S. Clark St., 773-999-9411, [revivalfoodhall.com](http://revivalfoodhall.com). Here, more than a dozen local restaurants have set up an outpost, offering fast-casual bites in the heart of the Loop. A sampling of options: desserts from James Beard Award-winning pastry chef Mindy Segal at Hot Chocolate Bakery; Nashville hot fried chicken at the Budlong; healthy, Hawaiian-style poke bowls at Aloha Poke Co.; trendy tacos at Antique Taco Chiquito; gourmet sandwiches at the Fat Shallot and more.

At **LATICINITY**, 108 N. State St., 312-795-4444, [latinicity.com](http://latinicity.com), two celebrity chefs—Richard Sandoval and Jose Garces—combined forces to design a Latin-themed eatery. Each counter (there are 10) at this Loop hub serves food inspired by Latin America, Spain, and Portugal, with sandwiches (tortas and cocas), ceviche, Peruvian-style stir-fry, tacos, soups, and salads, while an onsite sit-down restaurant, Pata Negra, serves Spanish tapas, and the bar pours a mean margarita.

And then there's Mario Batali's **EATALY**, 43 E. Ohio St., 312-521-8700, [eataly.com](http://eataly.com), a temple to Italian cuisine in River North, where you can eat and drink your way around the 20-plus different restaurants and bars, feasting on fresh pasta, pizza, seafood, cheese, gelato, coffee, beer, and wine galore. •



Aloha Poke Co.'s P.Y.O.B. (Pack Your Own Bowl) at Revival Food Hall

Malnati's the best deep-dish pizza in Chicago (and one of the most visible with 47 area locations). Once you see the thick, golden crust, brushed with cornmeal and laden with scads of gooey cheese and thick sauce, your mouth will want more, but your stretched stomach will say no. **L, D daily \$**

## Opart Thai House

1906 S. State St.  
312-567-9898

[oparthai.com](http://oparthai.com)

Massaman curry (\$10), tom ka kai soup (\$9), and curry fried rice (\$8) are comfort food to the masses in Chicago at Opart Thai House. This small Thai restaurant has an extensive menu filled

with meat dishes as well as vegetarian-friendly entrées. **L, D daily \$**

## Yolk

1120 S. Michigan Ave.  
312-789-9655

[eatyolk.com](http://eatyolk.com)

For breakfast seekers, Yolk does a little of everything and does it well, from

# Get Your Goat

**GIRL AND THE GOAT**, 809 W. Randolph St., 312-492-6262, [girlandthegoat.com](http://girlandthegoat.com), is the brainchild of celebrity chef Stephanie Izard (*Top Chef* winner in 2008), who's as talented at creating exotic dishes like wood oven-roasted pig face (\$16) or duck tongues (\$16) as she is at more staid fare, such as hamachi crudo (\$16), sautéed green beans (\$9), and a delectable bread selection. And, of course, there are a number of goat options: goat liver mousse (\$14), goat carpaccio (\$13), and goat empanadas (\$16).

If you don't have a reservation, plan on having a couple of drinks at the bar as you wait for a table. For a more casual approach to goat (and other food), head across the street to **LITTLE GOAT DINER**, 820 W. Randolph, 312-888-3455, [littlegoatchicago.com](http://littlegoatchicago.com), Izard's modern diner concept, which serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner daily. Entrées range from innovative upscale comfort—a sloppy joe made with goat (\$13); waffles with peanut-butter butter, banana, and bacon-maple syrup (\$13); nachos on home-made chips (\$15)—to eyebrow-raising, such as the delectable french toast made with sweet onion brioche (\$16).

And to try Izard's finesse with Asian fare, walk two blocks west to **DUCK DUCK GOAT**, 857 W. Fulton Market, 312-902-DUCK (3825), [duckduckgoatchicago.com](http://duckduckgoatchicago.com), a new hot spot that's drawing crowds and praise. You can't go

wrong with anything here—the soup dumplings and fried rice

are stellar, and there are plenty of

daring signature Izard options,

like wood-fired duck hearts

(\$12) and ham sui gok—

glutenous rice dumplings

with goat filling (\$10). The

restaurant serves dinner

daily and dim sum

on Sunday from

11 a.m. to

4:30 p.m. •



Pork belly pancake at Little Goat Diner

the traditional (smoked salmon platter, \$14) to the froufrou (Nutella crepes, \$12.50). Not up for breakfast? Choose from soups, salads, sandwiches, wraps, and burgers, with plenty of vegetarian-friendly options.

**B, L daily \$**

## WEST LOOP AND NEAR WEST

### The Publican

837 W. Fulton Market St.

312-733-9555

[thepublicanrestaurant.com](http://thepublicanrestaurant.com)

Carnivores, pescetarians,

and beer lovers will feel

right at home here. Modeled after a European beer hall, the Publican is a big, open room with a series of long wooden communal tables interspersed with individual tables. The farm-to-table menu is swine- and fish-centric, with a number of

offal options—such as beef heart tartare (\$18) and chicken liver pâté (\$13).

While there is a solid wine list, beer is clearly the beverage of choice, with an emphasis on German, Belgian, and Austrian brews. Reservations recommended. **Brunch (Sat, Sun), D daily \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

### Sepia

123 N. Jefferson St.

312-441-1920

[sepiachicago.com](http://sepiachicago.com)

Sophisticated but without airs, Sepia sits in a former 1890s print shop, and its vintage photos and glamorous chandeliers perfectly mix old with new. The seasonal menu brings together Mediterranean, French, and American influences, but regardless of what you choose, expect simple, fresh flavors to be the lowest common denominator. Tip: To save money, visit at lunchtime. The menu has quite a bit of overlap with the dinner menu, but for far less. **L (M-F), D daily \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

## THE LOOP

### Atwood

1 W. Washington St.

312-368-1900

[atwoodrestaurant.com](http://atwoodrestaurant.com)

Power lunchers know it's best to make a reservation, even for lunch, when coming to Atwood. Situated in the lobby of the historic Reliance Building (a precursor to the modern skyscraper), this is a comfort food favorite with a gourmet twist. Try the braised pork belly (\$26), smoked trout dip (\$10), and chicken liver toast (\$13). Thanks to the floor-to-ceiling



windows looking out on State Street, you can enjoy a side of people watching with a craft cocktail or two. **Brunch (Sat, Sun), B, L (M-F), D daily, \$-\$\$**

### The Berghoff

17 W. Adams St.  
312-427-3170  
theberghoff.com

This institution is renowned for its hearty German fare, like Wiener schnitzel (\$22), sauerbraten, (\$18.50), and encased meats galore, along with its own Berghoff beers and root beer. For those less inclined towards heavy Teutonic food, salads, soups, and sandwiches are also available. Bedecked in intricate woodwork and stained glass, the turn-of-the-century décor is a throwback to the Chicago of yesterday. **L, D (M-Sat) \$-\$\$\$**

### The Gage

24 S. Michigan Ave.  
312-372-4243  
thegagechicago.com

This gastropub with a rollicking bar and quieter dining area is refined without feeling buttoned down. The Gage makes one of the best burgers in town, along with a good mix of creative comfort food like house-crafted sausages (\$17), Thai coconut curry (\$19), and fish and chips (\$19); more daring offerings like the Scotch egg (\$9) and spicy buffalo ribs (\$18); and the requisite but still delicious soups and salads. It's popular for pre- or post-dinner drinks, with a long beer list that pays special attention to local brews. As you tinkle, admire the elegant tin ceiling, dark woods, and debonair décor. **Brunch (Sat, Sun), L (M-F), D daily \$-\$\$\$**

### Mr. Brown's Lounge

81 E. Wacker Pl.  
312-334-6760  
mrbrownslounge.com/  
locations/the-loop

This Jamaican restaurant has spiced up downtown's offerings, with its craveable down-home Caribbean fare, like coco bread (\$3), jerk chicken (\$16), chicken stew (\$15), oxtail (\$24), curried goat (\$19), burgers, sandwiches, and more. Entrée portions are enormous, so you might want to share. Located on the ground floor of the Hard Rock Hotel, the setting is laid back

and pairs well with a Red Stripe beer or a rum punch. **Brunch (Sat, Sun), L (M-F), D daily \$-\$\$**

### Park Grill

11 N. Michigan Ave.  
312-521-PARK (7275)  
parkgrillchicago.com

Since it sits in the heart of Millennium Park, you'd think Park Grill would be a tourist trap that serves overpriced, mediocre food. Surprise! The food is fresh, honest, and varied, with inventive sandwiches and burgers—try the lobster club sandwich (\$22)

and a turkey chorizo burger (\$14)—and seafood, steak, and chicken entrees that rival nearby upscale eateries. Grab a seat at the outdoor plaza and you can bask in the sun, listen to live music, and ogle the hordes of visitors who flock to Millennium Park, aka Chicago's front yard. **Brunch, L, D daily \$-\$\$\$**

### Pastoral

53 E. Lake St.  
312-658-1250  
pastoralartisan.com

For a quick, on-the-go meal, you won't do much better



Afternoon tea in the Pavilion at the Langham

## A Spot of Tea

If you're shopping on the Magnificent Mile and feel like having an elegant afternoon tea complete with finger sandwiches, scones, and pastries, the stately **PALM COURT AT THE DRAKE HOTEL**, 140 E. Walton Pl., 312-787-2200, thedrakehotel.com, and the sophisticated beauty of the Lobby at the **PENINSULA** hotel, 108 E. Superior St., 312-573-6695, peninsula.com, are a walk back in time to a more elegant age. For a modern tea experience, surrounded by fine art, visit the Pavilion on the second floor of the **LANGHAM**, 330 N. Wabash Ave., 312-923-9988, chicago.langhamhotels.com.

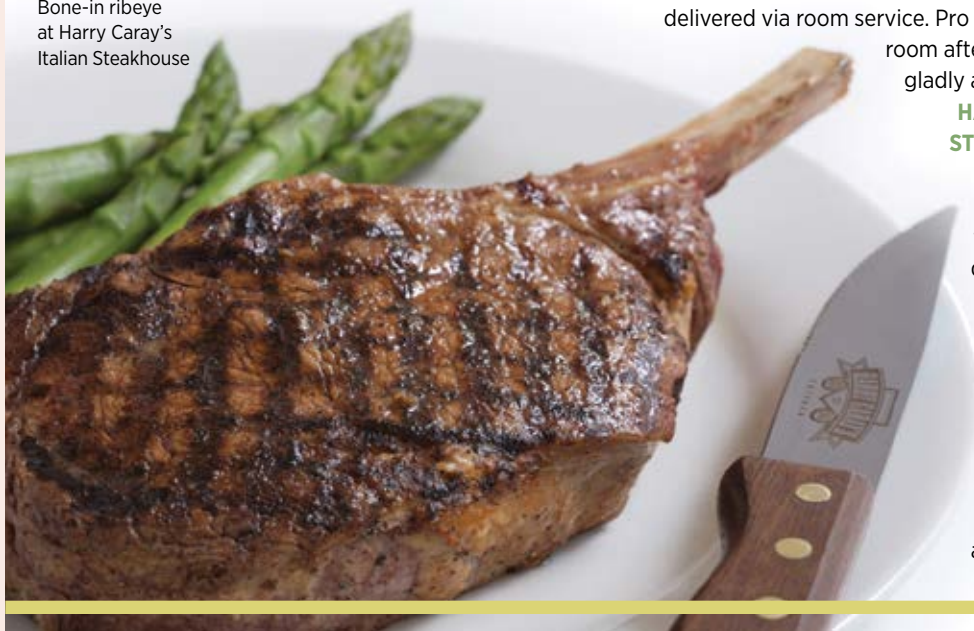
For a more casual affair, the comfy **LOBBY LOUNGE AT JW MARRIOTT**, 151 W. Adams St., 312-660-8200, bit.ly/2p1Bfs5, serves high tea daily 2-4 p.m. (reservations required), and, in a fun twist, all of the delectable snacks are served in tea boxes. And the appropriately named **RUSSIAN TEA TIME**, 77 E. Adams St., 312-360-0000, russianteatime.com, serves Russian snacks and tea options 2:30-4:30 p.m. daily in a setting that feels just a little bit like *The Shining*. ●

# Let Them Eat Steak

Chicago and steakhouses go hand in hand. Sure, there's the meat-and-potatoes reputation of the Midwest, but there's also that classic, leather-booth, no-nonsense sensibility that comes to mind when thinking of the quintessential steakhouse—and the old days of Chicago. The biggest challenge: choosing just one.

First, the classics. Legendary Chicago restaurateur Arnie Morton no longer prowls the dining room, but **MORTON'S**, 1050 N. State St. (the original), 312-266-4820; or in the Loop at 65 E. Wacker Place, 312-201-0410, [mortons.com](http://mortons.com), remains the king of the city's old-guard steakhouses, serving up gargantuan wet-aged steaks and baked potatoes. **GENE & GEORGETTI**, 500 N. Franklin St., 312-527-3718, [geneandgeorgetti.com](http://geneandgeorgetti.com), is another blast from the past: a longtime hangout for the city's movers and shakers that's barely changed since it opened in 1941—and that's exactly why the regulars like it.

Bone-in ribeye  
at Harry Caray's  
Italian Steakhouse



Open for more than two decades, **GIBSONS BAR AND STEAKHOUSE**, 1028 N. Rush St., 312-266-8999, [gibsonssteakhouse.com](http://gibsonssteakhouse.com), is still a see-and-be-seen scene in River North, delighting its trendy crowd with huge portions of melt-in-your-mouth steaks, chops, and seafood, and dangerously large martinis.

The belle-of-the-bovine-ball is **CHICAGO CUT STEAKHOUSE**, 300 N. LaSalle St., 312-329-1800, [chicagocutsteakhouse.com](http://chicagocutsteakhouse.com), where, looking out on the Chicago River, gussied-up diners enjoy a creative take on the classic steakhouse menu: innovative sauces and glazes, an impressive seafood list, truffle scalloped potatoes (\$16), and decadent lobster mac and cheese (\$22).

And hotel guests regularly choose to stay at the James because of the steakhouse attached: **PRIMEHOUSE**, 616 N. Rush St., 312-660-6000; [jameshotel.com/chicago/primehouse](http://jameshotel.com/chicago/primehouse), where guests can enjoy wet- or dry-aged steaks in the leather-decked restaurant or have them delivered via room service. Pro tip: Ask to see the aging room after your meal, and they'll gladly accommodate.

**HARRY CARAY'S ITALIAN STEAKHOUSE**, 33 W. Kinzie St., [harrycarays.com](http://harrycarays.com), 312-828-0966, is a walk through the baseball diamond of yesteryear, brimming with relics from the collection of the famous Cubs announcer. You'll find wet- and dry-aged steaks here, along with Italian classics like chicken parmigiana (\$19) and chicken Vesuvio (\$22)—another Chicago original. ●

than Pastoral. This neighborhood specialty shop peddles wine, artisanal cheese, bread, and sandwiches and is a secret among in-the-know Chicagoans who have embraced the European-style, fresh-baked, made-to-order, handheld meal. Quick and affordable, Pastoral is an easy stop for

a quick bite between meetings or for packing a picnic and heading to the beach or Millennium Park. **L, D daily \$**

**South Water Kitchen**  
225 N. Wabash Ave.  
312-236-9300  
[southwaterkitchen.com](http://southwaterkitchen.com)

Whatever you do, order the

deviled eggs (\$8). Made with bacon, chives, and “mustard seed caviar,” they're nothing short of magical—a great start to any meal. The menu here is loaded with comfort food favorites, like short ribs (\$28), burgers (\$20), and mac and cheese (\$7). The chef also works wonders with

seafood and other proteins. Cocktails, like the mezcal old fashioned, are playful and delicious. **Brunch (Sat, Sun), B, L (M-F), D daily \$-\$\$\$**



**KATE SILVER**  
is a freelance writer living in Chicago.

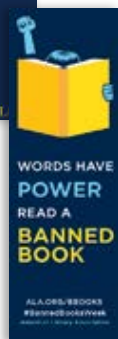
# Banned Books Week

September 24–30, 2017

Spotlight censorship and highlight the power of words with these striking banned book products. Banned Books Week encourages readers to learn about modern censorship and celebrate their First Amendment right to read freely. By uniting literary communities across the world with local programs and displays, this annual event emphasizes the joys of unrestricted reading and the harms of removing books from communal shelves. Ignite conversations and support literary liberties with these vivid graphics during Banned Books Week—and every other day of the year. For more information about Banned Books Week, please visit [www.ala.org/bbooks](http://www.ala.org/bbooks).



Words Have Power Poster



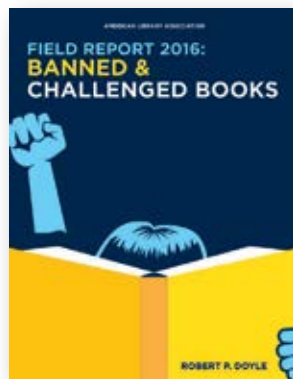
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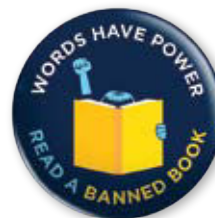
I Read Banned Books Tote



Banned Books: Defending Our Freedom to Read



Field Report 2016: Banned and Challenged Books



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# Offbeat

# CHICAGO

A Windy City  
summer guide  
from the staff of  
*American Libraries*

BY Anne Ford

Willis Tower, Navy Pier, the Art Institute—they're all well worth a visit, but surely you don't need us to direct you there. Instead, the *American Libraries* staff offers a bevy of off-the-beaten-path ideas for enjoying your time in the Windy City. Each lies within a reasonable public transit or taxi/ridesharing trip from McCormick Place.

1 In downtown's Millennium Park, the Frank Gehry-designed **JAY PRITZKER PAVILION** offers free outdoor concerts. On the evening of June 23 or 24, bring a picnic and enjoy the strains of Stravinsky's *The Firebird*, performed by renowned American pianist Conrad Tao ([grantparkmusicfestival.com](http://grantparkmusicfestival.com)). Not a classical-music fan? June 22 brings a concert by folk group Hurray for the Riff Raff and folk-rocker Matthew Santos; June 26 sees performances by jazz band Jaga Jazzist and electro-African group AfrotroniX.

2 In the Loop? The **CHICAGO CULTURAL CENTER** ([chicagoculturalcenter.org](http://chicagoculturalcenter.org)) is well worth a pop inside. This enormous, stunning 19th-century landmark once housed the city's main library; now it's an arts and culture center that offers free exhibitions as well as music, dance, and theater performances. You'll definitely want to wander into its Preston Bradley Hall, home of the largest Tiffany dome in the world. For the serious historical and architectural scoop, there are free tours on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 1:15 p.m.

3 As you might guess from its name, **THE WICKER PARK SECRET AGENT SUPPLY CO.** ([secretagentsupply.com](http://secretagentsupply.com)) is a quirky boutique full of spy-themed gag gifts, such as a bottle opener shaped like a shoe, earbuds that make the wearer look like a Secret Service agent, and an "emergency bow tie" (for those last-minute disguises). But this secret-agent shop has a secret of its own: Every item sold supports 826CHI, a nonprofit that helps students age 6–18 develop their writing skills.

4 Think you know what Chicago-style pizza is like? Think again. Tavern-style pizza, which features a thin, crunchy crust and square slices, is a lesser-known favorite of the City That Works. Find it at **FOX'S RESTAURANT AND PUB** ([foxsrestaurant.com](http://foxsrestaurant.com)) in Beverly, where each pie comes with pleasingly crispy edges.



5 In the Lower West Side neighborhood of Pilsen, the **NATIONAL MUSEUM OF MEXICAN ART** ([nationalmuseumofmexicanart.org](http://nationalmuseumofmexicanart.org)) holds a trove of gorgeous and fascinating works from both sides of the US–Mexico border and from many time periods. In the folk art collection, the Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) items are a special favorite. Admission is free. Afterward, on nice days, it's fun to take the 25-minute walk to **DÍA DE LOS TAMALES** ([diadelostamales.com](http://diadelostamales.com)), a tiny storefront restaurant specializing in tamales both innovative (buffalo chicken with blue cheese) and traditional (spicy black bean and corn).

*The Legacy of Manifest Destiny* by Marcos Raya

**6** In the historic Bronzeville neighborhood, **GALLERY GUICHARD** ([galleryguichard.com](http://galleryguichard.com)) showcases art from the African diaspora. Housed in a former Borden's dairy, the gallery features works from painters, sculptors, and other artists from all over the world. Just down the street, **PEACH'S ON 47TH** ([peachson47th.com](http://peachson47th.com)) is famous for comfort-food breakfasts and lunches, like shrimp and cheese grits or peach-bourbon french toast.

**7** At the Judy Istock Butterfly Haven of the **PEGGY NOTEBAERT NATURE MUSEUM** ([bit.ly/butterflyhaven](http://bit.ly/butterflyhaven)), more than 1,000 exotic butterflies representing 40-some species flutter their gorgeous wings, occasionally landing on visitors' heads or shoulders for a spell. Scattered benches make it easy to sit and soak up the tropical ambience.

**8** **CHINATOWN** is a destination in itself, great for buying gifts, candy, bubble tea, and K-pop albums. The best dim sum (in our staffer's opinion, at least) is found at **PHOENIX RESTAURANT** ([chinatownphoenix.com](http://chinatownphoenix.com)); on weekends, those in the know arrive early to avoid lines. On nice days, a ride on a **CHICAGO WATER TAXI** ([chicagowatertaxi.com](http://chicagowatertaxi.com)) from Chinatown to the Magnificent Mile makes for a cheap (\$5 one way), scenic adventure.



**9** Hidden in the South Side's Jackson Park lies **THE GARDEN OF THE PHOENIX** ([gardenofthephoenix.org](http://gardenofthephoenix.org)), a small Japanese garden originally built to house a temple that served as the Japanese Pavilion at the 1893 Columbian Exposition (the world's fair featured in Erik Larson's *The Devil in the White City*). The temple is long gone, but visitors can still enjoy strolling among cherry trees, alongside peaceful waterways, and across a beautiful curved bridge. Note that the garden is easily reached from the public parking lot of the **MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY** ([msichicago.org](http://msichicago.org)).

**10** It's well worth it to call ahead for a tour of **WILLIE DIXON'S BLUES HEAVEN FOUNDATION** ([bluesheaven.com](http://bluesheaven.com)), a nonprofit housed in the former studio of Chess Records—the seminal blues, soul, gospel, and rock 'n roll label that recorded everyone from Muddy Waters and Howlin' Wolf to Etta James and Chuck Berry. See original recording equipment and memorabilia while you bask in the music-soaked ambience.

**11** If you're visiting Willis Tower, consider combining it with a stop to nearby **LOU MITCHELL'S** ([loumitchellsrestaurant.com](http://loumitchellsrestaurant.com)), a diner that was founded in 1923 and has shown no signs of stopping since. Expect silver-dollar pancakes, Denver omelets, patty melts, and other classics. And don't be surprised to be welcomed with a few Milk Duds—it's a sweet tradition that started with "Uncle Lou" many decades ago. The restaurant's location near the beginning of US Route 66 is a bonus for history buffs.



Photos: David Marvin (Chinatown); Dan Perry (taxi); H. Christensen (garden)



**12** Those fascinated by the excesses of the Gilded Age will love the **RICHARD H. DRIEHAUS MUSEUM** ([driehausmuseum.org](http://driehausmuseum.org)), housed in an 1883 mansion once home to an exceedingly wealthy Chicago banker. Located just two blocks off the Magnificent Mile (and around the corner from the headquarters of the American Library Association), the museum holds a vast collection of sumptuous furnishings and artworks, including a silver Tiffany & Co. punch bowl first exhibited at the 1893 Columbian Exposition.

**13** North of downtown sits the **INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF SURGICAL SCIENCE** ([imss.org](http://imss.org)), the only museum in North America dedicated to the history of surgery. Okay, it might not be for visitors who get queasy easily—but for the rest of us, it's a fascinating look at medicine through the ages.

**14** Located in the historic Water Tower Water Works on the Magnificent Mile, **LOOKINGGLASS THEATRE COMPANY** ([lookingglasstheatre.org](http://lookingglasstheatre.org)) is known for ambitious, visually spectacular performances. From June 7 to September 3, it's featuring *Moby Dick*, a reimagined and compelling rendition of Herman Melville's epic tale.

**15** Just south of McCormick Place, at 2400 S. Lake Shore Drive, sits the **MCCORMICK BIRD SANCTUARY** ([bit.ly/chibirds](http://bit.ly/chibirds)), a haven for wildflowers, migrating birds, and the people who love them. The best way to get there: by foot on the Chicago Lakefront Trail. It's hard to believe that these six lovely acres sit on top of one of McCormick Place's own parking garages. **AL**

**ANNE FORD** is *American Libraries* editor-at-large.



Photos: Alexander Vertikoff (Driehaus); Laura C. Gooch (bird)

# Beautiful Music Together

Libraries preserving and promoting local music

Most libraries have collected music for decades. When I was a teenager with limited funds, the public library offered me the opportunity to explore genres and artists I probably would never have taken the risk to buy at a store. While the formats in which libraries collect music have evolved over time, many libraries are still focused on providing a diverse music selection similar to what you'd get at a music retailer.

I live in Portland, Oregon, which has a thriving music scene with many artists achieving national recognition. Local music has great value to the cultural fabric of a city or town, and libraries can play an important role in collecting, supporting, and promoting it.

The D.C. Public Library's D.C. Punk Archive ([dclibrary.org/punk](http://dclibrary.org/punk)) not only preserves artifacts and music from the area's longstanding punk scene, it also offers programming featuring lectures and concerts by local artists (see "Punk at the Library," May, p. 16). At the University of Louisville in Kentucky, the Louisville Underground Music Archive ([library.louisville.edu/archives/luma](http://library.louisville.edu/archives/luma)) collects music and materials related to the rock scene in the city since the 1970s. These libraries are preserving valuable parts of their cities' cultures and are also building archival collections that will engage future generations.

Libraries can also play a role in disseminating local music to their patrons. Plenty of libraries collect CDs by local artists to circulate to patrons. In recent years, some libraries have taken it a step further by licensing music from local musicians and offering it to patrons for digital download. The Iowa City Public Library offers free



downloads of any local album in its collection to library patrons ([music.icpl.org](http://music.icpl.org)). They simply select the album they want, log in with their library card number and password, and download a file with all the songs on it. Compared to other library digital media services, the transaction is easy, and the files do not expire or contain digital rights management.

Madison (Wis.) Public Library's local music collection, Yahara Music Library ([yaharamusic.org](http://yaharamusic.org)), offers a slick interface where cardholders can both stream and download local music. In addition to opening the source code from the project ([github.com/therabble/yahara](http://github.com/therabble/yahara)), the developers host the local platform MUSICat ([musicat.co](http://musicat.co)) for public libraries in Edmonton, Alberta; Nashville, Tennessee; and Seattle.

Another way libraries can support local music is by helping their patrons make music. As part of the makerspace

movement, some libraries have built recording studios that allow patrons to record professional-quality audio. The Crossroads Studio at the Texas Tech Libraries has a professional recording studio with a sound engineer to ensure a polished product ([bit.ly/2ob38Nc](http://bit.ly/2ob38Nc)).

Libraries even circulate musical instruments. Richmond (Va.) Public Library and Girls Rock! RVA partnered to offer kids ages 8–18 the opportunity to check out a variety of musical instruments from their Free Richmond Instrument Lending Library ([girlsrockrva.org/frill](http://girlsrockrva.org/frill)). For children who might not yet know what instrument they want to pursue, the opportunity to try out different instruments can be invaluable.

In addition to offering keyboards, guitars, and amplifiers for checkout, the Ann Arbor (Mich.) District Library circulates musical tools like drum machines, distortion pedals, and sequencers ([aadl.org/musictools](http://aadl.org/musictools)). These offer local musicians the ability to test out tools and even use them for performances. The Hillsboro (Oreg.) Public Library even circulates a theremin, among other more common and analog instruments ([bit.ly/alhblot](http://bit.ly/alhblot)), as part of its Library of Things collection (see p. 48).

Libraries are often the cultural hubs of our communities, so supporting and sharing local music feels like a natural fit. It also might engage and attract new members of the community who value music over other forms of cultural expression. **AL**

Some libraries  
have built recording  
studios that allow  
patrons to record  
professional-  
quality audio.

**MEREDITH FARKAS** is a faculty librarian at Portland (Oreg.) Community College and a lecturer at San José (Calif.) State University School of Information. She blogs at [InformationWantsToBeFree.com](http://InformationWantsToBeFree.com). Email: [librarysuccess@gmail.com](mailto:librarysuccess@gmail.com)



# From Theory to Practice

## A quantitative approach to collection evaluation

In the current digital landscape, library users require access to electronic content for learning, teaching, and research purposes. Information needs often surpass available resources, and librarians must provide evidence to justify purchases or requests for budget increases. By using quantitative methods like cost analysis to document collection use and impact, managers can demonstrate how collection development initiatives align with patron needs and the overarching goals of library administrators or funding agencies.

The term “quantitative analysis” can seem daunting. But like many other professionals, I developed research skills on the job and jumped at any opportunity to learn about quantitative methods. One of the challenges I faced was how to make sense of data sources and use them in ways that support effective decision making. Over a period of four years, I experimented with many research tools and how they can help evaluate electronic collections. I learned that quantitative analysis doesn’t have to be intimidating.

In the most basic terms, quantitative methods are concerned with collecting data that is structured, represented numerically, and answers the what or how of a given situation. Research questions are direct, quantifiable, and often contain phrases such as: What percentage? To what extent? How many? How much? Measurements like counts, proportions, and relationships provide the means to quantify variables, such as the number of patrons who use a service or product. The results can help examine attitudes and behaviors, document trends, or verify anecdotal information.



Quantitative analysis begins with informed questions about collections or services. Build a foundation of knowledge about the library system to bring focus and relevance to the study. Consider the following categories of information:

- the mission and identity of the library
- available resources
- the characteristics of stakeholders
- available facilities and equipment
- descriptions of relevant services

Next, locate data sources that provide the necessary ingredients for a quantitative investigation. For example, many local and external data sources can be classified according to performance measures that answer the what or how of a quantitative research question.

**Collection input and output measures.** Examine the cost of collection materials and the quantity of items received. An example is recording the cost of an e-journal subscription, the number

Quantitative analysis begins with informed questions about collections or services.

of titles in the subscription, and the degree of title overlap.

**Effectiveness indicators.** Evaluate the cost of a product against its value to users. One example is calculating the cost per use of an e-journal subscription by comparing the total cost against usage and turnover statistics (instances of users being denied access to a resource).

**Domain measures.** Examine the community a library serves. Examples include the size and demographics of the user community, attributes (for example, the number of undergraduate vs. graduate students), and information needs.

Finally, create a research road map that tracks the moving pieces of a quantitative investigation. Points to include are the project goal (what you hope to learn) and objective (the steps you will take to achieve your goal), a timeline, data collection and analysis methods, and a list of project deliverables.

Quantitative data sets can be examined from a variety of perspectives. Frame emerging trends into a story that can be shared with stakeholders. Background knowledge of the patron community and library system serves as a compass; use this insight to analyze results and strengthen local collections. All data collected through quantitative investigation provides a baseline for future evaluation—each project provides a deeper understanding of collections and their value to patrons. [AL](#)

**MELISSA GOERTZEN** is collection development analysis and support librarian at Columbia University Libraries. Adapted from “Applying Quantitative Methods to Ebook Collections,” *Library Technology Reports* vol. 53, no. 4 (May/June).

# Inclusive Storytimes

Create a space that welcomes all families

When kids in LGBTQ families read stories that reflect their experiences, it helps them create connections with literature and develop positive self-esteem. In addition, children who hear stories about people who are different from them—those who have two mommies or are from another part of the world, for example—develop empathy and an understanding about themselves and others.

The month of June, which is both Pride Month and the American Library Association's (ALA) GLBT Book Month, is a perfect time to celebrate the voices and experiences of the LGBTQ community.

I founded Family Storytime at the LGBT Center of Raleigh (N.C.) Library with Director Erin Iannacchione in 2012, after noticing there were few opportunities for LGBTQ families and allies in our community to get together in a safe and supportive environment. While offering a program at an LGBT center is a unique experience, many things we do can be replicated in any library, whether the only LGBTQ picture book in your collection is Todd Parr's *The Family Book* or your library hosts drag queen storytimes.

Using inclusive language is an easy way to make a library program more welcoming to everyone. Changing out names in rhymes, puppet shows, or flannel stories for gender-neutral names and replacing pronouns with proper names are examples of little things that can make a big difference for a parent or child in the audience. Think about Mo Willems's *Elephant and Piggie* series: There are almost no pronouns in these books, and you can



continue to omit them if you are putting on a puppet show with these two characters.

Suggested books for storytime can be found on ALA's Rainbow Book List ([bit.ly/1DCeNHp](http://bit.ly/1DCeNHp)), but don't overlook other books in your collection. For instance, books with ambiguous animal families, like Emma Dodd's *Love You Books* series, are a great way to include stories about how much a child is loved without excluding same-sex parents, single parents, or grandparents raising grandchildren.

If you are ready to host an LGBTQ family storytime this month, you could read the pride-parade picture book *This Day in June* by Gayle E. Pitman and Kristyna Litten, or invite a drag queen to come read stories. If you are unsure how to book a drag queen for your event, ask for suggestions from an LGBTQ organization in your community or a local nightclub.

Some of our most popular events at the LGBT Center are visits from local authors

who have written about their LGBTQ families, growing up as a transgender kid, and being adopted. Author-themed programs have also been well attended at our center, like the storytime where we read a few of Parr's books and then had kids create brightly colored family portraits to take home. An added bonus is that you might attract people who are fans of the featured author but don't regularly use your library.

If planning an event for June seems too immediate, Banned Books Week (September 24–30) is another fitting opportunity to host an LGBTQ storytime, as many of the picture books that make the Office for Intellectual Freedom's annual list of top 10 most challenged books contain LGBTQ characters or themes ([bit.ly/1g8sxbH](http://bit.ly/1g8sxbH)). If Banned Books Week is already a big program at your library, adding storytimes for titles such as *And Tango Makes Three* by Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell can build on the success of something your library already does.

If you are able to offer an LGBTQ storytime or to have a presence at your local pride parade, by all means do. But if that is not a reality for your library, don't assume you can't do anything. Pick one inclusive measure to incorporate at your library. We all start somewhere, and we can all be welcoming to all families. **AL**

Using gender-neutral names and replacing pronouns with proper names are little things that can make a big difference.

**MEGAN ROBERTS** is a founder of Family Storytime at the LGBT Center of Raleigh Library and a youth services manager at Wake County Public Libraries in North Carolina. Tips in this article were taken from a session that Roberts presented with Jamie Campbell Naidoo, associate professor at University of Alabama's School of Library and Information Studies, at the 2017 ALA Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits in Atlanta.

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## LIBRARY DIRECTOR/MEDIA SPECIALIST—

**Delbarton School**, a 7–12 all-boys, Catholic independent school ([www.delbarton.org](http://www.delbarton.org)) in Morristown, New Jersey, seeks a **library director/media specialist** to develop a dynamic research and information program.

The librarian/director of library and information services is responsible for all aspects of the school's library programs and facilities, supervises library staff, and endeavors to ensure that the library's academic and technology resources complement, enhance, and extend Delbarton's educational program. Essential duties include curating resources, developing information literacy curriculum, assisting teachers and students in individual and group settings, and advancing the school's technology program. Bachelor's degree required. Master's degree in Library Science, Information Studies, or a similar field strongly preferred. Additional degree in Education a plus.

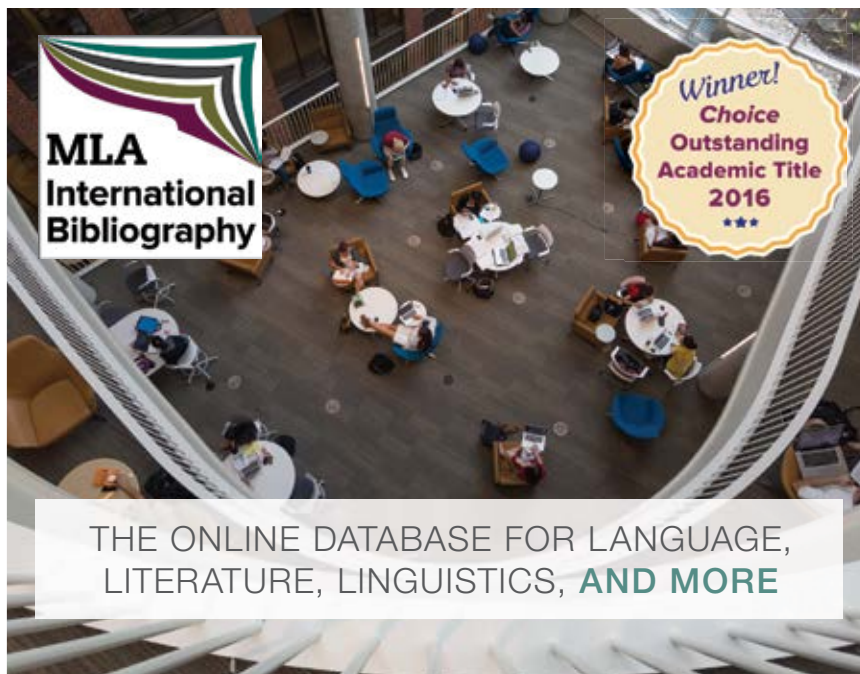
Ability to substantially contribute to the school's co-curricular program also a plus. **Contact Anne Leckie, Dean of Faculty, at [aleckie@delbarton.org](mailto:aleckie@delbarton.org)** with cover letter, résumé, and recommendations.

**CONTACT** [joblist@ala.org](mailto:joblist@ala.org); 800-545-2433; Carrie Smith, ext. 4216. Career Leads, *American Libraries*, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; fax 312-280-2520.

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# Know Thyself

Tools to help you make a change

There are several moments in the year when many of us feel an urge to reflect on personal goals, assess skills, and make resolutions toward personal and professional growth. The obvious times are the new years: calendar, fiscal, school, cultural. Another is an employment anniversary date. For me, the ALA Annual Conference has always been among my restarting points. Presentations are inspiring. New products shine in the exhibit hall, and conversations with colleagues spark ideas for new ways to address old challenges back at the shop. Here, then, are some recent titles to encourage professional reassessment.



This first book grew out of a 2014 ALA Annual Conference presentation. *Taking Your MLIS Abroad: Getting and Succeeding in an International Library Job*, by Lara Seven Phillips and Katherine G. Holvoet, both of whom have worked overseas, explains the process of landing



and taking on an appointment in an international library. The result is something of an instruction manual for Americans working outside the US. The authors begin with tips on finding available jobs and how to complete the application process. They cover the basics of the job offer, visa requirements, and moving preparations. Chapters on living abroad provide pointers on how to negotiate mail, money, schools, social life, health care, and culture shock, using anecdotes and tips from a lengthy roster of other expat library workers. Finally, they address ending the international engagement and returning home, which again can result in culture shock. *Libraries Unlimited*, 2016. 250 P. \$50. PBK. 978-1-4408-5021-9. (Also available as an ebook.)



“Mindfulness” is a hot word right now. In *Becoming a Reflective Librarian and Teacher: Strategies for Mindful Academic Practice*, Michelle Reale maintains that mindfulness goes with intention to produce reflection. (See our feature on mindfulness, p. 44.) She defines reflection as a deliberate and intentional thought process that leads to an assessment of how one works. Once there is honest reflection, it is possible to forge new ways forward. The chapters move through the process of becoming reflective and incorporating the practice into one’s daily work, beginning with ways to get started, exhortations to be consistent, and the usefulness of journaling. Reale explores what seems to be an inherent conflict between reflection and the pressure to be results-oriented, but she maintains that reflection is an important part of the evaluation cycle. New actions will emerge because of reflection, resulting in positive changes that benefit the work team or classroom. *ALA Editions*, 2017. 144 P. \$57. PBK. 978-0-8389-1529-5.



## THE BESTSELLERS LIST

### TOP 3 IN PRINT

**1 | The Makerspace Librarian's Sourcebook**  
edited by Ellyssa Kroski



Packed with instruction and advice from the field’s most tech-savvy innovators, this hands-on sourcebook includes everything libraries need to know about the major topics, tools, and technologies relevant to makerspaces today.

**2 | Fundamentals of Electronic Resources Management** by Alana Verminski and Kelly Marie Blanchat

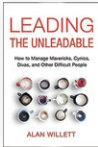


This guide to ERM fundamentals is invaluable, both as a primer for those preparing to enter the field and as a ready reference for current practitioners.

**3 | Stories, Songs, and Stretches! Creating Playful Storytimes with Yoga and Movement**  
by Katie Scherrer



A complete guide for those who serve young children, this book from accomplished library trainer Katie Scherrer shows how to use yoga and movement to create fun, active storytimes.



Have you perhaps reached a “leadership crisis point”? Alan Willett, author of *Leading the Unleadable: How to Manage Mavericks, Cynics, Divas, and*

*Other Difficult People*, defines it as the point at which being in charge is a trudge, not an opportunity for continued personal growth. Leadership involves bringing people along a path, whether they are individuals, teams, shareholders, or funders. The initial chapters detail how to change one’s mind-set from discouragement to one that projects exceptional leadership. They are followed by tips on identifying what issues might be impeding your leadership abilities and how to work through them to find opportunities for improvement, set expectations, balance competing forces, and remove those persons impeding your team’s mission.

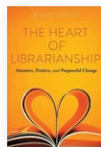
American Management Association, 2016. 240 P. \$17.95. PBK. 978-0-8144-3760-5 (Also available as an ebook.)



*Intrapreneurship Handbook for Librarians: How to Be a Change Agent in Your Library*, by Arne J. Almquist and Sharon G.

Almquist, begins with a history of librarians as both entrepreneurs (who work on a project outside established institutions) and intrapreneurs (change

agents working within an organization). We work with the results of the librarian entrepreneurs every day, often in their evolved form: MARC, *Reader’s Guide to Periodical Literature*, and Dewey Decimal Classification, to name a few. Librarian intrapreneurs seek to expand services in innovative ways, such as a scalable local history digitization project at McCracken County (Ky.) Public Library. The authors review intrapreneurial qualities from several perspectives, from characteristics defined in general management literature (the five Ps: passion, perseverance, promotion, planning, and professionalization) to lists of successful change-agent characteristics (enthusiasm; an ability to collaborate well; and being a trouble-shooter, proactive, and a communicator). From this foundation, the authors discuss ways to create an intrapreneurial culture and make it successful through salesmanship, teambuilding, and solid implementation. Libraries Unlimited, 2017. 153 P. \$55. PBK. 978-1-6106-9528-2. (Also available as an ebook.)



In this collection of essays, *The Heart of Librarianship: Attentive, Positive, and Purposeful Change*, blogger and columnist Michael Stephens addresses learning. He says that learning is “a cyclical process of support, engagement, and

discovery with deep roots in the concepts of service, access, and freedom to pursue interests of all kinds.” In short chapters grouped around themes of skills, environmental scanning, curriculum, communities of practice, and library learning, Stephens touches on some of the same issues as our other writers. He explores reflective practice, encourages keeping up with change, supports taking the initiative to lead change, and aggressively promotes continuous learning—the process of gleaned information from all sources, whether formal or grassroots. ALA Editions, 2016. 176 P. \$48. PBK. 978-0-8389-1454-0. (Also available as an ebook.)



Sometimes, the strength to forge ahead professionally will be found in other ways. *SereKNITty: Peaceful Projects to Soothe and Inspire*, by Nikki Van De Car, is a delightful collection of knitting and crocheting projects with inspiring names, such as “reclaim,” “simplicity,” and “leisure.” The last is an important bit of work-life balance. Visit your local public library for other books to inspire your leisure!

Running Press, 2017. 120 P. \$20.99. PBK. 978-0-7624-6191-2. (Also available as an ebook.) AL

**KAREN MULLER** is librarian and knowledge management specialist for the ALA library.

The Top-Selling Books from ALA Publishing (Since April 1, 2017)

TOP 3 IN EBOOKS

**1 | The Successful Library Trustee Handbook, 2nd edition**

by Mary Y. Moore

This resource offers proven advice about what it takes to make everything from meetings to evaluations run smoothly and addresses the critical questions every board member needs to understand.



**2 | Intellectual Freedom Manual, 9th edition**

by Trina Magi, editor, and Martin Garner, assistant editor, for ALA’s Office for Intellectual Freedom

An indispensable resource for day-to-day guidance on maintaining free and equal access to information for all people.



**3 | The Weeding Handbook: A Shelf-by-Shelf Guide**

by Rebecca Vnuk

Filled with field-tested, no-nonsense strategies to effectively weed any collection of any size, this handbook will enable libraries to maintain a collection that users actually use.



# SOLUTIONS

*Products and services*



Spacesaver cantilever shelving units on casters at the Glendale branch of the Salt Lake City Public Library

## Extend Your Space

Flexible shelving, modular designs, and lighting for your library

As libraries expand their services and adjust collections to current demands, flexible and adaptable spaces become increasingly important. While capacity and storage problems are most often addressed during remodeling, there are ways to distinguish your floor plan and highlight your collections on a smaller scale. These products can help expand and diversify your usable space and improve the overall feel of your library.

### Spacesaver cantilever shelving

Spacesaver's cantilever library shelving has the ability to evolve

with changing needs. It has a range of interchangeable accessories—pull-out shelves, media hangers, and slat-wall add-ons—and can also accommodate larger changes.

You can mount its shelving onto casters to make it easily movable to create open spaces for events or other library services. The new A-frame cantilever display shelving for media display units is a smaller, modular version of the full-sized shelving, and can be adapted to store a variety of media in a user-friendly format or modified into a book cart.

As your storage needs grow, you can mount existing static shelving onto a compact mobile storage system. Spacesaver's compact

mobile shelving has also been adapted for other types of library projects, such as the library store in Seattle's Central Library, which closes into a self-contained box when not in use, conserving space and protecting merchandise.

With recycled steel construction and end panels with recycled material options, Spacesaver shelving can also contribute to a building's LEED credits. Powder coating is available in a range of colors, and end-panel materials and finishes are fully customizable.

Spacesaver also gives free space assessments, addressing Americans with Disabilities Act requirements, HVAC systems, fire codes, seismic regulations, and other concerns.

More information is available at [bit.ly/spacesavershelves](http://bit.ly/spacesavershelves).

### Cocoon Media Lounge

The Cocoon Media Lounge from BCI creates a room within a room. Lounges provide a semi-enclosed area where louder activities can take place without disturbing other library users, offering a place for children to play or watch TV, for people to play videogames, or for study groups to work.

The standard models include lounges for kids, computers, gaming, and work. The kid and computer lounges are available in large and extra large, with seating on one (large) or both (extra large) sides of the lounge. The gaming lounge includes a screen mount across from a bench seating area and a box to store and lock gaming devices. The working

## SUBMISSIONS

To have a new product considered, contact Carrie Smith at [casmith@ala.org](mailto:casmith@ala.org).



Cocoon Media Lounge

lounge—available in two versions, premium and exclusive—includes a center table and integrated ceiling spots. The exclusive version also includes screen support, a cable plug-in, and a back wall for additional privacy. The smallest lounge measures roughly seven feet tall, eight feet wide, and six feet deep. Lounges can be customized for other functions, such as 3D printing.

Each lounge is built around a basic modular design and made of white melamine-coated particle board. Libraries can add custom graphics to the outside to advertise the space. The sound-dampening wool-felt interior comes in three standard colors—purple, green, and gray—though other colors are available upon request. The interior can also be customized with upward lighting, various types of IT equipment, and LED spots.

The lounges are designed to integrate with BCI's Ratio shelving and browser systems, allowing the lounges to sit among and draw attention to collection materials.

Find more information on the Cocoon Media Lounge at [bit.ly/beicocoon](http://bit.ly/beicocoon). **AL**

Photo: Chris Cunningham Photography (Vode)

## CASE STUDY

# Vode Highlights Libbie Mill Library

**How does your library use Vode lighting?** We use Vode in two ways. Vode's WingRail Stack 117 provides direct lighting for materials throughout the library. It is integrated into all the freestanding A-frame shelving located in the adult and children's areas of the building and attached to the wall directly above wall-mounted shelving in the adult, teen, and periodicals areas.

In addition, Vode's BoxRail Ceiling Cable 107 provides ambient indirect lighting in large sections of the building.

**How does Vode lighting serve your library's needs?** Vode lighting serves two important purposes for us. First, shelf-mounted lighting is close to the materials, so it highlights the collection in a way that ceiling lights never could. This enables us to do more effective merchandising and face-out display of materials. Combined with A-frame shelving, even materials on the bottom shelves are well-lit and easy for users to discover. We believe the improved lighting is one of the reasons circulation increased more than 63%.

Second, Vode lighting helps with energy conservation for the building. This design allows the lighting to be closer to where it is needed. In addition, the lights are motion- and daylight-sensitive; when there isn't any use, the lights automatically shut off.

**What are the main benefits?** We have received many compliments about the use of the integrated lighting and shelving throughout the building. The suspended ambient lighting is gentle on the eyes. It creates a more pleasant environment for library users and is appreciated by library staff who work in it for many hours a day.

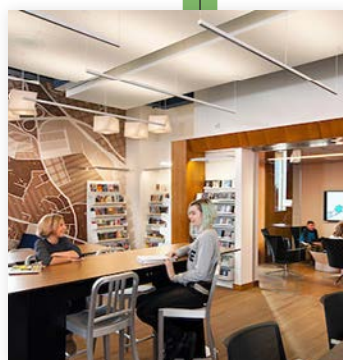
**What would you like to see improved or added?** Careful attention must be paid to installation of the shelf-mounted lighting. When the library first opened, we received complaints from library users who felt it shined too directly into their eyes. The design architect noticed that the adjustable wings of the lights were not installed at the correct angle. After adjusting the angle, we received no further complaints. ●

**USERS:** Jerry McKenna, library director, and Deborah Lammers, library manager; Libbie Mill Library, Henrico, Virginia



**PRODUCT:** Vode lighting

**DETAILS:** Vode produces modular and linear architectural lighting for public and private buildings.



Vode lighting at the Libbie Mill Library

# PEOPLE

## Announcements

### ON THE MOVE

In March **Laura Anthony** joined San Diego Public Library's Rancho Bernardo branch as youth services librarian.

March 1 **Jason Casden** was appointed head of software development at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Library.

**Jessica Christian** became manager of Aiken County (S.C.) Public Library in March.

**Emily Correa** joined Staunton River Memorial Library in Altavista, Virginia, as public services librarian in April.

**Shay Glass** joined Ridgefield (Conn.) Library's Lodewick Children's Library in March as children's librarian.

In March **Melanie Goad** became children's librarian at Pope County (Ark.) Library System.

Fort Vancouver (Wash.) Regional Library District appointed **Jennifer Hauan** as branch manager of Woodland Community Library in April.

**Greg Landgraf** joined Greene County (Ohio) Public Library as web content specialist April 10.

April 10 **Grant Lynch** became chief administrative officer at Columbus (Ohio) Metropolitan Library.

March 16 Pima (Ariz.) County Public Library appointed **Amber Mathewson** library director.

**Clare Miller** became director at Washington (Mo.) Public Library April 17.

**Chelsea Ordner** became director of Stonington (Conn.) Historical Society's Richard W. Woolworth Library and Research Center in March.

### Kudos



In April **Margie Farmer**, librarian supervisor at Pima County (Ariz.) Public Library's Joel D. Valdez

Main Library, received the Presidential Citation from the League of United Latin American Citizens for dedication to bettering the lives of youth through community investment and education.



**Kimber L. Fender**, Eva Jane Romaine Coombe Director of the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton

County, received Ohio Library Council's A. Chapman Parsons Award March 29 in recognition of significant activity or accomplishment in government relations. ●

March 9 **Frank Rees** joined New York State Library's Division of Library Development as a library development specialist.



**Kimberly Shotick** became assistant dean for user services and outreach at the Illinois Institute of Technology Paul V. Galvin Library in Chicago in February.

**Kristen Stevens** became manager of San Bernardino County (Calif.) Library's Highland branch March 8.

February 22 **Della Yeager** became director of Choteau/Teton (Mont.) Public Library.

### PROMOTIONS

Fort Vancouver (Wash.) Regional Library District promoted **Susan Barrows** to branch manager of La Center Community Library in April.

Iñisaġvik College in Barrow, Alaska, promoted **Christie Burke** to director of Tuzzy Consortium Library in February.

Northwest Regional Library in Corinth, Mississippi, promoted **Dee Hare** to director in April.

March 20 the Library of Congress promoted **Grant Harris** to chief of the European Division.

Beverly (Mass.) Public Library promoted **Anna Langstaff** to director in April.

C. C. Mellor Memorial Library in Edge-wood, Pennsylvania, promoted **Erin Pierce** to director March 1.

Randolph Township (N.J.) Free Public Library promoted **Lore Reinhart** to director February 27.

Pinson (Ala.) Public Library promoted **Allison Scanlan** to director in March.

### RETIREMENTS

April 1 **Christina D. Baum** retired as director of libraries at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven.



In March **Pat Cirone** retired as director at Beverly (Mass.) Public Library.

**Lynn Cline** retired as head of collection development at Missouri State University's Meyer Library in Springfield in March.

**Loretta Farley** retired as senior branch manager at the Laguna Niguel branch of Orange County (Calif.) Public Libraries March 16.



**Joe Gabriel** retired as manager of the Monograph Acquisitions and Copy Cataloging Americas and Europe I unit at Harvard University Libraries in Cambridge, Massachusetts, March 31.

**Pat Leaming**, librarian at the Free Library of Philadelphia's Chestnut Hill branch, retired in May.

**William McMullin** retired as director of Northwest Regional Library in Corinth, Mississippi, in April.

March 17 **Tara O'Reilly** retired as head librarian at Santa Barbara (Calif.) Public Library's Carpinteria branch.

**Amy Paget** retired as assistant county librarian at Tippecanoe County (Ind.) Public Library April 12.



**Lee Pasackow** retired as business librarian at Emory University's Goizueta Business Library March 2.

**Karen Sundheim** retired as director of San Francisco Public Library's James C. Hormel LGBTQIA Center April 5.


## AT ALA

**LaTasha Bryant** joined the ALA Governance Office as Executive Board secretariat March 6. She previously served in the finance department.

**Russ Damian**, operations manager for ALA Editions, left ALA April 14.

**Susan Hornung** retired as executive director of the Association for Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies and the Reference and User Services Association in April.

**Mary Mackay** becomes associate executive director for Publishing on June 5. She served as ALA's marketing director beginning in 2011.

**Emily Sheketoff** retired as director of ALA's Washington Office May 15. 

## In Memory

**Edwin S. Gleaves**, 81, Tennessee state librarian and archivist from 1987 until 2005, died March 7. He had previously served as head librarian and assistant professor of English at Lipscomb University in Nashville, and English professor and director of the School of Library Science at Peabody College, also in Nashville. The Tennessee Library Association established a scholarship in his name in 2004.

**David R. Hoffman**, 83, former acting Pennsylvania state librarian, died March 7. Hoffman started his career as a reference assistant at Dayton (Ohio) Public Library. He also worked at the Wisconsin Free Library Commission and as Montana's state librarian. He served as head of technical information in the American Library Association's (ALA) Library Technology Project and as assistant director of ALA's International Relations Office. He joined Pennsylvania State Library's Library Development Bureau in 1975, became director of the state library in 1981, and served as acting state librarian 1987–1988.

**Joseph Z. Nitecki**, 94, director of libraries at the State University of New York, Albany, from 1980 until his 1988 retirement, died January 27. Nitecki held professional and administrative positions in academic libraries at the University of Chicago, Chicago City College, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, Temple University, and University of Wisconsin–Oshkosh. He wrote or edited more than 100 LIS publications and six books, including the *Directory of Library Reprographic Services* and *Metalibrarianship: A Model for Intellectual Foundations of Library Information Science*. He also wrote three monographs in support of the Center for Emigrant Studies at Torun University in Poland.



**Richard H. Schimmelpfeng**, 87, died March 16. He began his career as a cataloger at Washington University in St. Louis. He moved to University of Connecticut Libraries in 1966 to work in the rare book and manuscript department, then served as head of the Special Collections Department until his 1992 retirement. Afterward, he volunteered as principal cataloger at the library's Archives and Special Collections Department until early 2017.

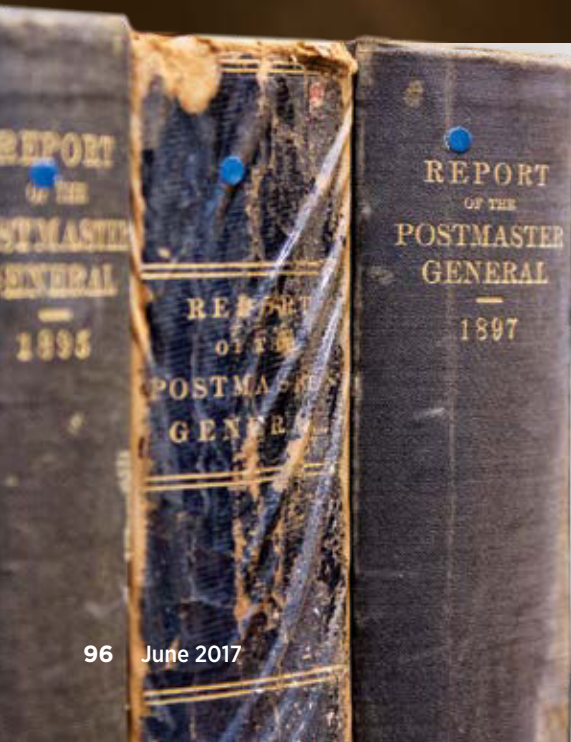
**Doris Marion Seale**, 80, children's librarian and supervisor at Brookline (Mass.) Public Library 1958–2003, died February 17. Seale received ALA's Equality Award in 2001, recognizing her leadership efforts toward overcoming Native American stereotypes and giving Native Americans a visible presence in the library and beyond. She cofounded Oyate, an organization working to ensure that Native American lives and histories are portrayed with honesty and integrity, and coauthored the reference books *A Broken Flute* and *Through Indian Eyes*. Seale also wrote two books of poetry and contributed to several anthologies. ●

# Philatelic Relics

The American Philatelic Research Library (APRL) is a postage-lover's treasure. Located in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, in the central part of the state, the library serves the needs of members of the American Philatelic Society (APS), the largest association of stamp collectors in the world. Overseeing the 85,000-volume facility since 2010, APRL Librarian Tara Murray says the "most frequently consulted book is probably the Scott Catalogue, a six-volume set listing the postage stamps of the world. We also keep *The American Philatelist*, the monthly journal of the APS, handy—and we're just as likely to be looking for an article published in the 1950s as one published in 2017."

For the most part, APRL does not include stamps in its collection, "but they are occasionally included as collateral material. For example, the library owns two examples of the famous 1918 'Inverted Jenny' error stamp, one of which was just recovered in June 2016 after being stolen from a stamp show in 1955. The first postage stamp wasn't produced until 1840, but mail existed long before that, and the oldest item in our collection is a post route map of the American colonies from 1729."

Murray says that starting the library's blog ([blog.stamp.library.org](http://blog.stamp.library.org)) was one of her first projects: "I use it to share news about philatelic literature and highlight the unusual items in our collection." Stamp collecting is still popular, she says, and APRL has a well-used children's area. "Even though most kids today aren't regularly exposed to postage stamps, they're still fascinated by them." **AL**



**THE BOOKEND** showcases librarians, their work, and their work spaces. For consideration, please send press material to [americanlibraries@ala.org](mailto:americanlibraries@ala.org).



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