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I Love My Librarian Award winners

Ten librarians were honored on November 30 with the 2017 I Love My Librarian Award for their outstanding public service contributions. Selected from more than 1,100 nominations submitted by library users nationwide, the winning librarians were recognized for their leadership in transforming lives and communities through education and lifelong learning. The recipients include three academic, four public, and three school librarians....

AL: The Scoop, Nov. 30

Libraries ready to code during CS Education Week

Marijke Visser and Nicky Rigg write: “December 2–10 marks CS Education Week, when computer science (CS) activities will be happening in public and school libraries throughout the country. Kids may set aside routine activities to learn basic concepts by coding Lego ornaments, creating light-up LED cards with paper circuits, designing their own version of a Star Wars game, or learning a language like Python. CS Education Week is an annual program that brings together educators, tech companies, youth-serving organizations, and, of course, libraries to focus on inspiring young people to explore CS."

AL: The Scoop, Dec. 1
Be the nonprofit funding expert in your community

Foundation Center’s national network of library partners connects nonprofits to the resources they need to thrive in the zip codes of every major city and many points in between. A Foundation Center partnership is nonprofit outreach “in-a-box,” enabling libraries to become nonprofit funding experts. The partnership package includes access to our world-class database, Foundation Directory Online, and to grant seeking and proposal writing training curriculum. Want to support your nonprofit and small business community as a go-to fundraising resource? Join the network!

Registration open for 2018 National Library Legislation Day

Lisa Lindle writes: “Ready to take your advocacy skills to the next level? Join us for the 44th annual National Library Legislative Day. Held in Washington, D.C., on May 7–8, this two-day educational event is designed to provide attendees with the opportunity to learn from advocacy and issue experts. National Library Legislative Day is open to the public and to advocates with any level of advocacy experience. To register, or to find out more information about the event, visit the NLLD website.”...

District Dispatch, Dec. 1

New York City libraries launch digital privacy initiative

William Marden writes: “The New York, Brooklyn, and Queens public libraries are teaming up with the Metropolitan New York Library Council to bring digital privacy and data-security information to New York City’s 8.5 million residents. With support from the NYC Mayor’s Office, the project will train the city’s front-line librarians to be able to answer questions about internet privacy and data security, ensuring that NYC residents can rely on public libraries for trusted and current information.”...

Choose Privacy Week, Dec. 1

The internet is dying

Farhad Manjoo writes: “The internet is dying. Sure, technically, the internet still works. Pull up Facebook on your phone and you will still see your second cousin’s baby pictures. But that isn’t really the
internet. It’s not the open, anyone-can-build-it network of the 1990s and early 2000s. Nope, that freewheeling internet has been dying a slow death—and a vote in December by the Federal Communications Commission to undo net neutrality would be the final pillow in its face.”...

*New York Times, Nov. 21, 29*

**Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library opens**

The Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library and the Frank J. and Virginia Williams Collection of Lincolniana opened November 30 as a $10 million addition to Mississippi State University’s Mitchell Memorial Library. Leaders in education, history, libraries, and government—including Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden and Archivist of the United States David Ferriero—praised the 21,000-square-foot addition. The facility contains a state-of-the-art museum chronicling Grant’s life and his significance in American history....

*Mississippi State University, Nov. 30*

**Florida collections added to DPLA**

Over 74,000 new materials from Florida’s *Sunshine State Digital Network*—featuring items from Florida State University, University of Miami, and Florida International University—are now discoverable in the Digital Public Library of America. The collections offer rich content documenting Florida’s unique culture, landscape, and people, including materials representing Cuban and Latin American culture....

*DPLA Blog, Nov. 30*

**Apply for an IMLS grant**

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is accepting applications for the second cycle of the FY 2018 *National Leadership Grants for Libraries* (NLG-L) and *Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program* (LB21) grant. The NLG-L program invests in projects that address challenges faced by the library and archive fields to generate new tools, research findings, or models. The LB21 program supports professional development and training projects for libraries and archives. Apply by February 1....

*Institute of Museum and Library Services, Nov. 29*

**Lawsuit challenges Escondido library outsourcing**
A lawsuit was filed November 28 challenging the Escondido, California, city council’s decision to outsource the public library’s staffing and services to Maryland-based Library Systems & Services LLC—a change that is scheduled to go into effect early next year. Filed on behalf of longtime city residents Roy and Mary Garrett, the lawsuit contends state law dictates that public libraries “shall be managed by a board of library trustees” and therefore the council’s decision should be rescinded.

San Diego (Calif.) Union-Tribune, Nov. 28

Max, the cat who lost the library but won the internet

Karin Brulliard writes: “The story of Max the cat has already been written—simply, succinctly, and perfectly. This story, printed and taped onto a door of the Macalester College library in Saint Paul, Minnesota, might have ended there. But it got tweeted. It also got Tumblr-ed. And Reddit-ed. Having been shooed away from the library, Max sprinted straight toward internet fame. Many literary and feline puns were proffered. But like all cat tales, Max has a backstory. This is it.”

Washington Post, Nov. 30

Surviving middle school

Danielle Jones writes: “Middle school is the time of greatest change for teens. It is when you go from 11 or 12 to become an actual teenager. It is a time of changing friendships and changing bodies, when identity is explored; but it’s also a time of growing empathy and a sense of social justice. Books about the middle school experience are tricky to categorize: Some speak to the younger side and some to the older, and choosing books for middle schoolers can be difficult because they are reading everything.”

YALSA The Hub, Nov. 28

Public libraries encourage patrons to get moving

Alyson Iuchs writes: “Libraries going through recent construction or renovation are focusing on design elements that encourage patron movement, such as workstations that alternate between sitting and standing positions. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, Americans spend almost 90% of their lives indoors, which is why it is critical to build healthy indoor environments. This can be as simple as adding more natural light and design spaces to connect us to the outdoors.”
The state of the YA novel, 2017

Daniel Kraus writes: “After countless interviews, features, guest essays, and live events, Booklist’s year-long 50 Years of YA celebration is drawing to an end. But before we hand out diplomas, let’s convene a roundtable on what’s happening right now in YA—and what might happen in the future. In attendance are Leigh Bardugo (The Language of Thorns, 2017); Brandy Colbert (Little & Lion, 2017); and Shaun David Hutchinson (The Apocalypse of Elena Mendoza, 2018).”...

How 11 writers organize their personal libraries

Emily Temple writes: “A person’s bookshelves can tell you a lot about them—their interests, their histories, their dusting abilities—and while the content is what’s most important, of course, the organization can also speak volumes. (Sorry.) Of course, I always find it particularly interesting to find out how voracious readers (and often this means writers) organize—or once organized—their bookshelves, and so to that end, I’ve tracked down the systems, current and former, of a few notable literary figures.”...

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