




american libraries
DEWEY DECIBEL
PODCAST

Conversations about the library world with librarians, authors, and thinkers

Listen at bit.ly/deweydecibel

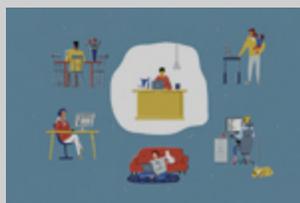
Teaming up for teaching



In an age of social distancing, public librarians, school librarians, and teachers are working together more closely than ever to help students and parents navigate a school year unlike any they've experienced. At Brooklyn (N.Y.) Public Library, librarians administering the Brooklyn Connections program are not only faced with the challenge of reimagining their outreach to the 35 schools and thousands of 4th–12th graders they serve but are also grappling with students' day-to-day struggles amid the pandemic....

AL: The Scoop, Sept. 18

Library managers on the challenges of remote leadership



When Boston College Libraries was forced to close its doors this spring during the COVID-19 pandemic, Rodrigo Castro, head librarian for access services, made a list. "I started identifying the tasks that individuals could do remotely versus tasks they could do onsite," he says. "When you are in this situation, your workforce needs to become flexible." Castro is one of many library leaders who found themselves managing their teams remotely because of

the pandemic, developing new approaches to meet unprecedented challenges and continue providing vital services to the community....

American Libraries Trend, Sept./Oct.

Bookend: The world on a string



When Greg Hall and Morgan Matens met and fell in love as graduate students over a dozen years ago (he was studying library science; she was studying set design), they had no idea they'd wind up working together. Hall is now children's librarian at Nashville Public Library (NPL), where Matens is a puppeteer with Wishing Chair Productions, NPL's in-house puppetry

troupe. Sheltering in place together, the couple has collaborated on [weekly Facebook videos](#) that bring NPL's puppets to families across the country. The runaway hit so far is the music video "[Curbside Baby](#)," set to Vanilla Ice's "Ice Ice Baby" and featuring a DJ mouse who raps instructions for curbside library services....

American Libraries Bookend, Sept./Oct.; Nashville Public Library Facebook and YouTube channels



[ALA virtual fall Council meeting](#)



On September 18, American Library Association (ALA) President Julius C. Jefferson Jr. called to order a special meeting of ALA Council, held outside of its regular meetings during ALA conferences. Jefferson acknowledged the unprecedented times for libraries and their effects on the Association's finances and services. But he added that the conversations around ALA's framework have been ongoing for several years to make the

Association more modern....

AL: The Scoop, Sept. 18

[From reactive to proactive youth services](#)



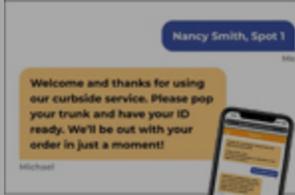
Youth Matters columnist Linda W. Braun writes: "In May, when I learned about the strategic leadership frameworks VUCA (volatility, uncertainty, complexity, ambiguity) and VUCA Prime (vision, understanding, clarity, agility) that are often used in business, I began to better understand the ways in which library staffers responded to COVID-19 building closures. I noticed that youth library workers were, understandably, operating in reactive

mode."...

American Libraries column, Sept./Oct.

[Contactless services for libraries](#)

As libraries reopen, finding ways to reduce face-to-face interaction will minimize the risk of spreading disease for both library workers



and patrons. From managing curbside pickup to integrating printer payment systems that minimize cash transactions, these platforms and apps are helping libraries improve their services during the pandemic....

American Libraries column, Sept./Oct.



[ALA to award nearly \\$2 million to small and rural libraries](#)



Through [Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries](#), up to 650 US libraries in small and rural communities will receive \$3,000 to tackle issues ranging from media literacy to COVID-19 safety to unemployment. The initiative is part of ALA's longtime commitment to preparing library workers for the expanding role of libraries. Library workers may [apply online for grant funding](#) from September 21 to December 2.

Grants will be distributed over two funding rounds. [Read the full project guidelines](#)....

Programming Librarian, Sept. 21

[ALA welcomes new register of copyrights Shira Perlmutter](#)



On September 21, Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden [announced](#) her appointment of Shira Perlmutter as the next US Register of Copyrights. Perlmutter comes to the position with 12 years of service as chief policy officer and director for international affairs at the United States Patent and Trademark Office....

ALA Public Policy and Advocacy Office, Sept. 21; US Copyright Office, Sept.

21

[IFLA 2021 World Library and Information Congress goes virtual](#)



In a first for the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, the [2021 World Library and Information Congress](#), previously scheduled for Rotterdam, the Netherlands, will be held online. Faced with continued uncertainty about the health, economic, and travel situation into 2021, it already seems clear that business-as-usual is not an option, the organization said in a September 22 statement....

IFLA, Sept. 22

First Nations council moving to Indigenous library system



Carrier Sekani Tribal Council

Winston Szeto writes: "The Dewey Decimal Classification has long been the standard of organizing library collections around the world, but a First Nations tribal council in B.C.'s Central Interior says it will ditch the system because of its colonial legacy. The Carrier Sekani Tribal Council is transitioning to the Brian Deer Classification System, which was developed by the late Kahnawake Mohawk librarian Alec Brian Deer in the 1970s. Its taxonomy is

based on the geographical locations of Indigenous communities."...

CBC News, Sept. 16

Report and resources on COVID-19 news coverage

Covid-19: The First 100 Days of U.S. News Coverage



A new report from Project Information Literacy examines US media coverage about COVID-19 and its visual representation across time and digital space during the early months of 2020. The report includes interactive data visualizations showing the results of a computational analysis of 125,696 articles from 66 news websites; a content analysis of 532 randomly selected news images from the top 12 outlets; and teaching and learning

resources for librarians, educators, students, and journalists....

Project Information Literacy, Sept. 15

10 youth fiction books about COVID-19



Librarian Kimberly Francisco writes: "When the COVID-19 crisis was in its infancy, publishers and individuals acted pretty quickly to put out ebooks about the virus or to help children understand and cope with the changes it brought to their lives. Now that it's been over half a year that we've been living this way, though, physical books have started to make their way to the marketplace, including a handful of fiction."...

Stacked, Sept. 23

American Libraries Direct is a free electronic newsletter emailed every Wednesday to personal members of the [American Library Association](#).

Editor, *AL Direct*: [Amy Carlton](#)

Direct ad inquiries to: [Michael Stack](#)

Send news and feedback: [AL Direct](#)

All links outside the ALA website are provided for informational purposes only. Questions about the content of any external site should be addressed to the administrator of that site. [AL Direct FAQ](#).

American Libraries will not sell your email to outside parties, but your email may be shared with advertisers in this newsletter should you express interest in their products by clicking on their ads or content. If advertisers choose to communicate with you by email, they are obligated to provide you with an opportunity to opt-out from future emails in compliance with the CAN-SPAM act of 2003 and the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation of 2018. Read the [ALA privacy policy](#).

To manage your American Libraries email preferences, please click [here](#).

To unsubscribe from all American Library Association communications, click [here](#).

American Library Association, 225 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 1300, Chicago, IL 60601

