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Trending..The Latest From PLOnline

- How is public library usage trending nationally? How does usage compare with pre-recession levels? How are investments in public libraries reflected in their usage? These are all questions explored in the [Public Libraries in the United States Survey](#) (PLS) for FY 2013. This annual statistical report by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) shows how public library usage is changing over time. While some of the major public library output measures are showing short-term declines, many continue to show a ten-year increase in activity. Read more in "[Public Library Usage Shows Ten Year Increase.](#)"

- Amanda Brennan, a content and community associate at Tumblr, is perhaps better



known as the “meme librarian,” thanks to a recent feature in the *Washington Post*. Brennan studies memes from their inception to their inevitable disappearance into cyberspace, looks at real-time trends and conversations across the site, conducts data analysis, and

works on large-scale projects such as Tumblr’s [Year in Review](#). Prior to taking the position at Tumblr, she catalogued memes for [Know Your Meme](#), a website devoted to tracking the popular graphics. I recently had the pleasure of chatting with Brennan about her experience. Read "[Lessons from a Meme Librarian.](#)"

- Anyone who has ever been in a managerial position has experimented with handling conflict and a variety of personalities. From an autocrat to an “in the trenches” type of leader, I have seen the various personalities and reactions that are activated when one has to exercise their managerial obligations. In her article “Top Skills for Tomorrow’s Librarians,” *Library Journal*’s Executive Editor Meredith Schwartz collaborated with library directors to see what leadership attributes future managers should have. Good communication, teamwork, and excellent interpersonal skills are the types of leadership skills that seem to work best. Read "[In the Trenches Leadership.](#)"

- On May 10–14, 2016, nearly three hundred recorded sound experts, librarians, archivists, preservationists, electronics engineers, collectors, and producers of



the [Association for Recorded Sound Collections \(ARSC\)](#). These are the people—representing the largest collections of sound in US, Canada and several from the countries of Brazil, Germany, England, the Czech Republic, France, Austria, and the Netherlands—preserving history and providing information—whether music or voice found on cylinders, discs, magnetic tape, wire, or film. The sophistication of the methods used and the metadata involved with so many “carriers” in so many formats, with so many issues of different rates of deterioration, boggles the mind. From private recordings to major record labels, conferees were treated to expertise in all areas. Read "[Record, Record, Who Gets the Record?](#)"

Heading to ALA Conference?

Don't Miss the PLA Member Welcome Breakfast

Saturday, June 25, 2016

8:30–10:00 AM


Rosen Centre, Room Grand A/B/C

Complimentary to PLA members; Ticket required



Join PLA President Vailey Oehlke for an exclusive PLA members-only breakfast in Orlando. The PLA Member Welcome Breakfast will include recognition of the 13 individuals and libraries that received PLA awards this year. These award winners demonstrate the best in public library service, innovation and outreach. In addition to the awards presentation, PLA will welcome Deborah Jacobs, director of the Global Libraries initiative at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Keynote Speaker

 Diana Nyad (photo by Andrea Mead Cross)

The event will also feature a special keynote speaker, **Diana Nyad**. At the age of 64, in her fifth and final attempt, Nyad successfully fulfilled her lifelong dream of completing the 110-mile swim from Cuba to Florida on September 2, 2013. Upon completing her grueling 53-hour journey, a breathless Nyad told the world, “I have three messages. One is we should never ever give up. Two is you are never too old to chase your dreams. And three is it looks like a solitary sport, but it takes a team.”

Nyad has never been one to quit. In July of 2010, at the age of 60, she began her “Xtreme Dream” quest of swimming from Cuba to Florida, a task she had failed to finish thirty years previously. When asked her motivation, she replied, “Because I’d like to prove to the other 60-year-olds that it is never too late to start your dreams.”

long-distance swimmer in the world. Her world records, such as circling Manhattan Island and crossing the 102.5 miles between the Bahamas and Florida, have led to inductions to many Halls of Fame, such as the International Women's Sports Hall of Fame.

Nyad became a prominent sports broadcaster, filing compelling reports for NPR, ABC's *Wide World of Sports*, Fox Sports, and *The New York Times*. She has written three books and speaks French and Spanish fluently. Nyad has also earned the reputation of a uniquely passionate and entertaining public speaker, earning standing ovations with a broad spectrum of audiences. Her memoir, *Find a Way: One Wild and Precious Life*, was released last fall. She recently debuted the one-woman show, *Onward! The Diana Nyad Story*, in Los Angeles and Key West. Directed and adapted by Joshua Ravetch, who helped shape Carrie Fisher's show *Wishful Drinking*, *Onward!* has received praise among the theatre community.

Tickets

This event is complimentary to PLA members, but a ticket is required for admittance. PLA members can receive a complimentary ticket by selecting the PLA Member Welcome Breakfast as a ticketed event during their initial ALA Annual Conference registration or by adding it later using the unique link found in their registration email confirmation. Additional information regarding ticketed events at ALA Annual can be found on the [conference website](#).

Ask Us Anything

If you have questions about PLOnline, *Public Libraries*, PLA or anything else, send them in. Just hit reply and send your question on its way! We'll get back to you as soon as possible. Thanks for reading!

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