

Here's this week's PLOnline Newsletter - the latest from the Public Library Association's online magazine - recent articles and more! Check it out!

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Wednesday, October 14, 2015


Issue #23

Trending...

New on PLOnline This Week

- By the end of our four-hour event, over  1,700 had come to share their love—correction, passion—for everything that the heroes and villains of Sci-Fi, fantasy, comics, games, graphic novels, and gaming meant to them. How did four young library staff members, who share their love of geek culture and the literature that inspires this fandom, manage to stage such a fantastically successful event? Never have I met committee members on any project who spoke in such concert, who agreed on their goals from the start, and who never faltered in what they hoped to achieve. What follows is their collective voice relating how they brought the first Electric City ComiCon to our library. Perhaps the specific details and the actual process they went through will inspire you to host a Comic Con at your library in "[Geeking @ the Library:Con is Community!](#)"
- Is the library's obligation to the existing demographics of the community or to a more diversified perspective? Specifically, consider collection development, programming, and displays. Should we offer only that which applies to our known community's demographics? Or should we try to broaden outlooks and horizons? Many times our decisions in these areas are shaped by our users. We might put up a holiday display because we believe our community expects or supports that perspective. But are we sure? Should we, in fact, be displaying alternative views as part of an obligation to support lifelong learning? Would we draw more users if we expanded beyond our perceived local culture? Is this not

politics of many libraries may not allow for such a broad spectrum of activities or materials. Read more in "[The Obligation of Libraries.](#)"

- Summer Reading' time may be over, but students will need books to read for school before you know it. Here are some recent titles that are perfect for those in-between middle school students who are moving on from the grade 4-6 books but not quite ready to plunge into the sometimes scary 'young adult' section. We'll call them 'YA-lite'—kids will just call them great reads. Learn more about these great reads in "[The Latest and Greatest Middle School Reads](#)"
- The maker movement brings together  girls working on a project handicrafts and technology in one exciting phenomenon. Whether you like crafts or circuits, or a combination of the two, there's something for you. Libraries across the world, are offering specialized maker programs to encourage interest in the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields, as well as the more artistic areas of making. Some libraries are also offering programs tailored to specific patron groups, like maker programs for girls. Learn more about the [Make-HER program](#) at Sunnyvale (CA) Public Library in "[Make-HER at Sunnyvale Public Library](#)"

Midweek Media Mash-Up

A Choice Selection of Links for Your Perusal

- [More Productivity Tips \(and Myths!\)](#)
- [Common Graphic Design Terms For Non-Designers](#)
- [Nonprofit Newspapers Could Work](#)
- [Artist-designed Miniature Libraries](#)
- [National Book Award Finalists Named](#)
- [Strange and Beautiful and In the Public Domain!](#)
- [The Problem with MOOCs](#)

From the Print Issue - New Product News

From the July/August 2015 Issue

by Tonya Novak

Miss Humblebee's Academy

resource, Miss Humblebee's Academy, specifically for children in preschool through kindergarten. Miss Humblebee's Academy offers more than 700 lessons, all based on Common Core Standards. The lessons cover language and literacy, math, science, social studies, art, and music.

A parent or caregiver has the choice of creating an account or using a guest account. The guest account lets you access the lessons, however when you create an account you have the ability to add as many children to it as you'd like. You have the option to have each child take a cognitive skills assessment and you are emailed weekly progress reports that help you identify a child's strengths and weaknesses. The progress reports can be accessed via the account as well. Once you've chosen your account type you can start your learning adventure. If there are multiple children you are asked to select a student. All children within one account can access Miss Humblebee's Academy simultaneously. You can access the lessons in two ways a guided step-by-step approach that progresses sequentially or you can choose a specific lesson. [Read More.](#)



Ask Us Anything

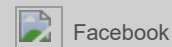
We want this newsletter to be a dialogue. If you have questions about PLOnline, *Public Libraries*, PLA or anything else, send them in! Just hit reply and ask us anything. We'll try to answer every email and maybe even share our conversation in future newsletters.

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