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Trending..The Latest From PLOnline

- What are your childhood memories of the library? Maybe you recall story time, or getting to select books by yourself. As you got older, did you study there after school? Maybe you passed notes to a boy or girl at another table, careful not to get shushed by the librarian. Filmmaker Jason LaMotte was so inspired by his memories of the library in his hometown of Houston, Texas that he directed a new short film, *The Library*. LaMotte, having filmed *The Library* in the United Kingdom, told *The Guardian* in an interview that his story “initially came from wanting to explore the relationship between memory and place.” Read the entire article "[The Library: A Powerful Memory for One Filmmaker.](#)"
- A few weeks ago, while researching my article regarding whether [digital content is being properly preserved](#), I came across an article about knowledge preservation by Claire McInerney, a professor in the [Rutgers University Library Program](#), an online-based master’s program. When I referred back to the article this week, this is what I found...
Find out what the author found in "[A Needle in a Haystack: Writing Digitally about Proper Digital Preservation.](#)"
- The Library of Congress Literacy Awards Program has released their third annual Best Practices publication. Along with the three previously announced 2015 prize winners, fourteen other organizations presenting paramount methods for increasing literacy are included in the publication. The Literacy Awards, first announced in January 2013, honor organizations that successfully increase literacy in the United States or abroad. The Literacy Awards also promote the distribution of the most effective methods, and the Best Practices publication is a key component in sharing these innovative ideas. Read more in "[Library of Congress Literacy Awards: Best Practices 2015.](#)"



Planning.” So often we get stuck in our current jobs, not knowing how to progress. And, if you do want to make a career shift, how do you go about doing so? Here, I hope to summarize some of the presenters’ knowledge and ideas. The purpose of the talk was to help us craft an Individual Development Plan (IDP). An IDP is a written plan that highlights your career goals and outlines what steps you can take to achieve them. The great thing about an IDP is that it can be used to identify short term (one year), mid-term (two years), and long term (five years) career goals. Within each timeframe, think about your objective, what learning activities will get you there, any deadlines, the estimated cost, the learning success criteria, and lastly, give yourself time to reflect. It helps to really think about what you want out of your career and fosters a sense of self-awareness. Personally, as my master’s degree program comes to a close, I, too, will have to reflect on these points to advance my career. Read more in "[Crafting Your Career](#)."

- Looking for an easy promotional program to highlight all the incredible children’s services that you are already providing? If so, consider celebrating Take Your Child to the Library Day (TYCTTLD), which seeks to raise community awareness about the importance of the library in the life of a child. The official date for 2016 is Saturday, February 6; however, some libraries are celebrating all throughout February, so there is still time to join the program. TYCTTLD is not new; in fact, this grass-roots program was first held in 2011 and continues to gain more momentum as more libraries get on board. The organic beginnings of the celebration make it an easy and natural fit for public libraries to adopt as their own. TYCTTLD was created by Connecticut librarians Nadine Lipman (Waterford Public Library, retired) and Caitlin Augusta (Stratford Library) and stewarded by the [Connecticut Library Consortium](#), a statewide membership collaborative for all types of libraries. [Read all about Take Your Child to the Library Day here.](#)
- What started from the work of the [Performance Measurement Task Force \(PMTF\)](#), established during my 2013 Public Library Association (PLA) presidency, has now become a full-fledged PLA service known as [Project Outcome](#), providing over 900 registered users with the outcome measurement tools, resources and support needed to measure the true impact of their library services and programs. Over [200 public libraries](#) are currently using the Project Outcome survey tools to measure the outcomes of at least one program or service and nearly 5,000 surveys have been aggregated into the Project Outcome Data Dashboards. In just six short months after launching in June, Project Outcome has quickly met the public library demand and desire for standardized performance measures and continues to expand toward more advanced data collection. Read more in "[Project Outcome - Looking Back, Looking Forward](#)."





Interview

Brendan Dowling Talks to Abby Geni

Abby Geni's debut novel, "The Lightkeepers," is a terrifically suspenseful novel detailing a year in the life of Miranda, a photographer on a secluded biological research station on the Farallon Islands. Here she discovers a world where danger is omnipresent, whether in the form of the animals the scientists are researching or the scientists themselves. A few months into her stay, one of the biologists is found dead, the result of an apparent accident, and soon other mysterious events occur. The Lightkeepers delivers a tightly plotted mystery while also offering keen insight into the relationship humans have with the natural world; it also contains perhaps the most terrifying scene involving mice ever written. Entertainment Weekly hailed the book as "not to be missed," and Geni was cited by Barnes and Noble as one of its Discover 2016 Great New Writers. Geni spoke with Brendan Dowling via e-mail on January 14, 2015. [Read the entire interview here.](#)

Midweek Media Mash-Up

A Choice Selection of Links for Your Perusal

- [Squirrels: The Power Grid's Greatest Foe](#)
- [Find your Calling](#)
- [Managing Yourself -- Conquering Digital Distraction](#)
- [Pretend Play Set - Library](#)
- [Twelve Essential Books about Race](#)
- [The Benefits of a Good Night's Sleep \(Watch-5:44\)](#)
- [Preschool Inside a Nursing Home](#)

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 try to answer every email and maybe even share our conversation in future newsletters.

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