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FROM THE EDITOR | Masthead



Much to Cheer in New Year by Laurie D. Borman

he record snowfall that socked Boston last winter may make you a bit leery about navigating the city for Midwinter this month. But the excitement of the Youth Media Awards, the engaging professional sessions, and the opportunity to network with friends and colleagues make any weather challenges worthwhile. And with the event so close to New Year's Day, it's almost like the holidays have been extended for 2016. Find out more about Midwinter in our preview, beginning on page 64, and of course, where to eat in our dining guide beginning on page 72.

ALA is going to be celebrating throughout 2016, as this is the Association's 140th year. *American Libraries* has plans for marking the occasion, and we'll be tweeting, commenting on Facebook, creating Pinterest boards on historical moments throughout the year, and

ALA is going to be celebrating its 140th anniversary this year.

ending with a feature on our 140th year in June. Tell us about your important ALA moments; we want to know.

Things change over the years, including how we conduct research and how we present infor-

mation. The humanities are no exception. That's why digital humanities, a relatively new way that librarians, faculty, and students collaborate and use technology to research and share scholarly information, is important. Maybe it's a layered map showing migration patterns and occupations using census data over hundreds of years, or perhaps it's a data-mining project to determine emergence of new words each year. The scope of research has opened up in ways that were not possible without the aid of superfast computing and digitized materials. American Libraries and Gale Cengage partnered on a survey of librarians and faculty to learn how the subject of digital humanities works in various academic environments, and we'll be offering a panel on the topic at Midwinter on Sunday, January 10, at 1-2:30 p.m. in room 105 of the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. In the meantime, learn more from Stewart Varner, digital scholarship librarian at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Davis Library, and Patricia Hswe, digital content strategist at Penn State, who authored our feature on page 36.

This month we take a look back at the events that shaped our library world in the previous year. There were political gains, such as the support for school libraries in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act discussion, and the Kentucky libraries retaining their tax funding. See more of the highlights on page 32.

If you're wondering how libraries fared across the country in the 2015 elections, we've got the details for you. Kathy Rosa, director of ALA's Office for Research and Statistics, shares her analysis in the feature on page 54. The results are encouraging in many states, a great way to welcome this new year.

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Editor and Publisher

- Laurie D. Borman Iborman@ala.org x4213 Managing Editor
- Sanhita SinhaRoy ssinharoy@ala.org x4219 Senior Editor

Amy Carlton • acarlton@ala.org • x5105 Senior Editor

George M. Eberhart • geberhart@ala.org • x4212 Associate Editor

Terra Dankowski • tdankowski@ala.org • x5282 Associate Editor

Phil Morehart • pmorehart@ala.org • x4218 Editorial and Advertising Assistant Patrick Burke • pburke@ala.org • x4216

design and production

Art Director Production Editor Rebecca Lomax T.J. Johnson

publishing department

Associate Executive Director Rights, Permissions, Reprints Donald Chatham Mary Jo Bolduc • x5416

membership development Director

Ron Jankowski

advisory committee

Luren E. Dickinson (Chair), Helen Ruth Adams, Ernie J. Cox, Christine Korytnyk Dulaney, Joseph M. Eagan, Tina Franks, Megan Hodge Interns Tom Bober, Lee A. Cummings Editorial policy: ALA Policy Manual, section A.8.2

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Libraries Transform

Community disruption is leading to new roles for libraries

by Sari Feldman

have spent the past several months traveling across the United States visiting libraries, learning about their transformative work, and doing a lot of listening. Over the course of my travels, I have discovered that the Libraries Transform campaign is the right message at the right time. Libraries of all types are transforming to find greater alignment with the needs of campus, public, and school communities. From California to Maine (with stops in Kentucky, Nebraska, and New York in between) powerful community disruption is leading to new roles for libraries and library professionals. While many librarians agree this is an exciting time for our profession, many are also anxious about an uncertain future.

The good news is that the Center for the Future of Libraries is providing guidance around the most challenging changes for library professionals. Trends such as the sharing economy and Big Data are worthy of discussion for libraries of all kinds. The sharing economy has given rise to unexpected collections: People are turning to their library for everything from seeds to plant in the ground to telescopes to point at the sky. Big Data may be the domain of libraries in the future (who better than librarians to handle massive amounts of information?), but thought leaders today are grappling with policies related to privacy, confidentiality, and free access that affect all libraries. We

transform, but we do so while staying true to the core values that have enabled libraries to build trusted

relationships with our customers and communities.

While these disruptions may feel like a sea change in libraries, our work remains grounded in an enduring

ideal: People walk through our doors with ideas, ambitions, and challenges, and we meet them with resources that foster individual opportunity, options, and optimism. This is true for libraries of all types. Where our profession has the tendency to draw distinctions among libraries, I see more similarities than differences in our work. As part of the Libraries Transform launch, I visited four distinctive libraries that share a consistent focus on addressing community needs through collaboration.

■ Librarians from Thomson Elementary School in the District of Columbia are preparing tomorrow's workforce by partnering with a service organization to deliver coding programs to students.

■ Librarians at George Washington University's Gelman Library responded to an emerging research need for data from social media, developing a robust aggregator called Social Feed Manager.

■ D.C. Public Library is engaging instructors from local radio stations to help customers learn how to use its new recording studios. ■ The Smithsonian Libraries recognize the value of turning outward, making their collections acces-

> sible and engaging via experiential exhibits.

Today's libraries are not for the faint of heart, but libraries have always been at the crossroads of

a community at its best and worst. There is no question that libraries must continue to prioritize collections and the legacy of reading, but our value today is less about what we have for people and more about what we do for and with people.

At different points in my travel for Libraries Transform, I speak about my own career transformation. It's a messy story-bad hair and all-that traverses the physical and the digital, from the campus of the University of Wisconsin–Madison School of Library and Information Studies to the earliest incarnations of the internet to ALA's Digital Content Working Group. Ours is a profession built with passion and perseverance. As libraries transform, our shared commitment to libraries as the center of campus, public, and school community life will ensure that libraries remain a vital part of the fabric that comprises our democratic society.

SARI FELDMAN is executive director of Cuyahoga County (Ohio) Public Library. Email: sfeldman@cuyahogalibrary.org



Staying true to core values has enabled us to build

trusted relationships with our communities.

Financially Healthy

A positive income balance at the end of FY2015

by Mario González

s ALA Treasurer. I am reporting back to the membership on the financial health of the Association. The final audit for the 2015 fiscal year will be presented at the 2016 Midwinter Meeting in Boston. However, I would like to share with you now that preliminary results show a positive outcome for the Association. Overall, revenues generated by ALA and its divisions were 5% higher than expected, while expenses were slightly lower. This resulted in a net income balance of \$533,000 for the total ALA budget. As for the General Fund, which includes Membership, Conferences, Publishing, and ALA Offices, income exceeded expenses, leaving us a positive balance of \$278,373.

This positive result is partly attributed to a very strong 2015 ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco, a successful ACRL conference in Portland, Oregon, and savings in expenses across the Association and its divisions.

In looking to 2016, I would like to note that we increased the number of Spectrum Scholarships from 50 to 60. Also of note is the addition this fall of 3,500 public library trustees and friends to the ALA membership as part of the ALA/ United for Libraries State Group Membership Program. In addition, nearly two-thirds of library school students and about half of all library professionals in the United States are ALA members. In the 2016 fiscal year, ALA's hardworking staff will

also receive a 2% salary increase in their base pay.

For every \$5 of ALA revenues, \$1 comes from member dues, and \$4 comes from publishing, conferences, and our

endowment. Many of the programs of the Associationadvocacy, information policy, professional development, intellectual freedom, diversity,

expenses were slightly lower than expected.

research, literacy, equitable access to information, international relations, recruitment, and the Libraries Transform public awareness campaign-would be much smaller without this crucial additional support.

This is why a financially strong Association is so vital to our mission. If we are going to continue to "provide leadership for the development, promotion, and improvement of library and information services and the profession of librarianship in order to enhance learning and ensure access to information for all," according to ALA's mission statement, then we need all the resources we can muster. Our colleagues, our libraries, and the many millions of people who depend on our libraries are counting on us to be there for them.

Special recognition goes out to the ALA members who have become part of the Legacy Society through the 15x15 Planned Giving Campaign

to raise \$15 million by the end of 2015. At this point, \$5.8 million has been pledged, and another \$9 million is actively being considered by members. This campaign is building a stron-

ger Association by Overall, ALA enlarging the ALA revenues were endowment, which 5% higher than supports a wide range of activities, expected, while including advocacy, information policy and intellectual freedom work. our

> many professional and leadership development programs, and the Spectrum Scholarships.

While my focus as treasurer is on the finances of the Association, all of us who serve as elected officers know that our goal is to make sure that ALA provides the strongest possible service and support to our members, libraries, and the public at large, while supporting the Association's strategic directions.

For those of you who will be at Midwinter, I will be sharing more detailed information about our fiscal year 2015 and 2016 budgets with all members, including Council, and the Planning and Budget Assembly. As always, more budget information can also be found on the ALA treasurer's page, at ala.org/ aboutala/treasurerspage.

I am proud, honored, and diligent in serving you as your treasurer.

MARIO GONZÁLEZ is director of the Passaic (N.J.) Public Library.

Comment Enabled

Considering Change

Meredith Farkas couldn't have said it better ("It's Not Us Versus Them," *AL*, Sept./Oct., p. 30)! I have always been concerned about the dichotomy of librarians who want change for the sake of change versus the ones who are steadfast in their refusal to move at all. In the past, I have worked at libraries where there were definitely two distinct camps: pro-technology and not. Trying to get the two to come together is much like pulling teeth.

It is so important to take all aspects of a proposal into account and listen to everyone's opinions. I agree that there needs to be a case-by-case evaluation of proposed ideas, rather than a clinging to one side or the other. All of us librarians are not here for ourselves but for our patrons. If we can make their lives easier by leaving well enough alone, then let's do it. However, in instances where the users will win by our ability to move forward, then let's do that instead. It's much like the Serenity Prayer—let us change the things we can, accept the things we cannot, and be willing to know the difference.

> Bonnie Parker Thomaston, Georgia

Engaging the Front Line

Thanks for your column, Meredith ("It's Not Us Versus Them," *AL*, Sept./Oct., p. 30). This needed to be said.

I am a recent library school graduate, but I am also in my 60s and have seen the change dynamic in many workplaces. I have also worked on the union side, representing workers who will be affected by change. A huge reason people resist change is that they are concerned it will impact their job in negative ways—and this isn't an imaginary fear. Workers do get replaced by technology, or lose control over their work lives through "innovations" that involve removing skills from the work. Furthermore, in many workplaces, innovation is really just a buzzword for disguised downsizing.

In my experience the most effective way to make change is to have the full involvement of frontline workers who usually know more about what clients, customers, patrons, or members want. They know how the current ways of doing things succeed and fail. They know if new technologies or new procedures are needed. However, managers are often reluctant to tap into this valuable source of knowledge or seek the genuine buy-in of these workers. Resistance will disappear if those whose working lives are at stake have full involvement from the get-go.

> Bob Lucore Silver Spring, Maryland

Ebook Pricing Models Regarding Michael Rockliff's post ("The

Ebook Pricing Wars," E-Content, AL Online, Oct. 20), we have been making many of his arguments to the Big Five publishers all along. While Harper-Collins started the new pricing models with the 26-checkout policy, we have come to see HarperCollins as not so bad since Macmillan and Penguin have made the 26-checkout model seem relatively benign.

Perhaps one thing the Big Five have done is slow the pace of a movement

to ebooks, by alienating not only many public libraries but also their patrons.

Richard J. Naylor Delmar, New York

Why Charge for Digital Copies?

New technologies always mean that business models need to change ("The Ebook Pricing Wars," E-Content, AL Online, Oct. 20). When steam-powered factories were replaced by those using electric motors, it took years for factory owners to realize that the limitations of steam did not apply to electricity.

Publishers are making a similar mistake. They're trying to insist that ebooks conform to the rules that governed print books. Ebooks have to give the appearance of wearing out, hence these insane checkout rules. Even more absurd, ebooks have to have the same one-checkout-at-a-time limitation. What sane business discourages the consumption of its products? It's like an auto dealer refusing to show more than one of a particular make and model each day. "Sorry, you will have to come back tomorrow, and make sure it is early," says a Ford dealer. "We only sell one F-150 pickup truck a day here."

Publishers need to build their business model around the advantages of digital. Give every library in the country access to every digitally inprint title—bestselling, mid-list, and backlist. And do that for free. Digital copies cost essentially nothing. Why charge for them? No publisher would turn down an opportunity to put every one of their titles on the shelves of a large bookstore chain. Why do they regard libraries and digital books as any different?

How would publishers make money? By charging for checkouts

The editors welcome letters about recent contents or matters of general interest. Letters should be limited to 300 words. Send to americanlibraries@ala.org; fax 312-440-0901; and American Libraries, Reader Forum, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611-2795.

Reader Forum | OPINION

rather than ownership. Don't regard 10 people wanting to read one of their ebooks as a problem to be crushed with draconian rules. Treat 10 readers as 10 sources of income.

Publishers don't even need to bet their business on this. They could take steadily selling books from their midlist, market some of them that way, and see what the results are. Test different ways of doing business with digital books and see what works.

> Michael W. Perry Auburn, Alabama

An Inaccurate Portrayal

The New York Times recently published an opinion piece, "Reinventing the Library" (nytimes.com/2015/10/24/ opinion/reinventing-the-library.html), by Argentine-Canadian author Alberto Manguel. He warns that "the principal danger facing libraries comes ... from ill-considered changes that may cause libraries to lose their triple role," which he defines as preserving society's memories, providing the materials and tools to navigate those memories, and maintaining the library as a symbol of our collective identity.

Whether or not his definition of the library's role is accurate, he certainly knows about the history of libraries and spends considerable time describing antiquity's Library of Alexandria. But when it comes to libraries in the US today, he appears to be out of touch.

Manguel says that libraries have been "mere storage rooms of a technology deemed defunct" since the mid-20th century. How can that be when the personal computer gained popularity in the 1980s and the internet was still in its infancy in the 1990s? Ebook sales did not start to make inroads until this very decade!

Manguel says, "Most libraries today are used less to borrow books than to seek protection from harsh weather and to find jobs online," which is outrageous. It might interest him to know that, even Don't regard 10 people wanting to read one of their ebooks as a problem to be crushed with draconian rules. Treat 10 readers as 10 sources of income.

though circulation has declined from all-time record levels nationally over the last five years or so, Shaker Heights (Ohio) Public Library circulated 16% more books in 2014 than it did in 1974.

He emphasizes that the homeless and those requiring social services are overwhelming some libraries, but that is not the case everywhere. Likewise, he talks about American librarians giving "medical care" when the vast majority of professional librarians make a point not to give advice in the areas of health, law, and taxes.

Libraries are evolving, just like all parts of society. The columnist was well-intentioned; he does say that the public "must be prepared to invest ... more, not less funds" to allow the reinvention of services to take place. But he could have taken a more positive approach by describing the way libraries are adapting to new technologies and introducing new formats and services—like preloaded tablets and innovation labs—while still providing the traditional items and programs that many, if not most, still demand.

> Luren E. Dickinson Shaker Heights, Ohio

Design Degrees for Librarians

I am glad to see that the profession is rethinking the MLIS and how it needs to adapt to a changing societal landscape ("The Future of the MLIS," *AL*, Nov./ Dec., p. 5) that requires new types of abilities for problem recognition, problem solving, and new ways of thinking about how we tackle our most wicked problems. I would urge the ALA committees reviewing MLIS education and accreditation to think about the idea of a master's of library design.

To my way of thinking, much of the everyday (and not-so-routine) work of librarians involves design. Designing instruction. Designing workflows. Designing interfaces. Designing learning objects. Designing public programs. How many librarians can say they consider themselves scientists? Many more, I think, would say they are designers or use a designer's skills. Now is the time for the MLD degree.

I hope the folks rethinking MLIS education will give more thought to what they are doing at places like Stanford University's Institute of Design and other professional degree programs where the education is much more design-focused and oriented to problem finding and solving.

> Steven Bell Philadelphia

We Need Better Messaging

Will getting rid of the MLIS ("The Future of the MLIS," *AL*, Nov./Dec., p. 5) help with the problem of being overworked and underpaid? Will it solve the problem of grads not finding jobs? No. It will only exacerbate the problem.

We need ALA at the forefront of providing messaging on what it is librarians do and how that provides value. We need to stop chasing and promoting the latest cool thing—like makerspaces and teen hangout zones—that can be provided by people with nothing more than a high school diploma, and instead trumpet the expertise that librarians provide for accessing information and helping people solve problems.

How are we helping scientists find the research they need to cure disease? How are we helping lead people to new jobs? How are we making information available? Trumpeting that message is what ALA should be doing—not denigrating library education.

> Brian Briscoe Indiana



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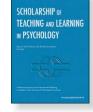
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ALA Welcomes New Ebook Licensing Pilot Program

he American Library Association (ALA) and the Digital Content Working Group (DCWG) welcomed Simon & Schuster's November 12 announcement of a new pilot program on library ebook licensing.

The new program will provide libraries with the option of a twoyear lending term for 1.5 times the one-year price-essentially a 50% discount for the second year. The program offers 550 frontlist and backlist titles, and all of the company's distributors and US libraries are eligible to participate.

"We're excited to test this new

business model. We believe it will provide libraries with greater flexibility and added value in building their ebook collections," said Michelle Leo. Simon & Schuster's vice president, director of education and library marketing.

"This is an exciting development," ALA President Sari Feldman said in a November 16 statement. "We're delighted to see Simon & Schuster taking leadership among the largest publishers."

Carolyn Anthony, DCWG cochair, echoed Feldman's excitement. "DCWG has long advocated for increased options for library

licensing," she said. "We've been asking for more experimentation and flexibility, so this is appreciated. It makes a lot of sense that the price would drop after year one."

"We are still in the early days of the digital publishing revolution, and we aspire to cocreating solutions that increase readership and improve exposure for diverse and emerging voices," Feldman said. "By expanding access to quality digital content, libraries transform communities.

"Certainly challenges remain, but we are encouraged with signs of progress," she said.

ALA Applauds Bocher's Appointment to USAC Board

LA applauded Robert "Bob" Bo- ${f A}$ cher's appointment by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to fill the expired library seat on the board of directors of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), the administrator of E-Rate, the program that helps schools and libraries obtain affordable broadband. ALA endorsed Bocher in response to the FCC's public notice seeking nominations in July 2015. Histermbegan November 1, 2015.

Bocher brings a wealth of experience to the board and a history of advocating for library technology and broadband capacity issues. He began his work with E-Rate at the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction as its statewide E-Rate support manager. During that time he was also an original member of ALA's E-Rate Task Force, a position he retains. Bocher is an Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP) Fellow.

"Bob is highly respected across the library community on E-Rate and related telecommunications and broadband issues," OITP Director Alan S. Inouye said. "His membership on the USAC Board comes at a significant moment for libraries as USAC enters the second year implementing major changes in the E-Rate program."

Bocher will serve the remainder of the term of long-serving library representative Anne Campbell, whose service to US libraries ALA appreciates, Inouye said. USAC administers the E-Rate program, in addition to the other programs that are part of the more than \$8 billion Universal Service Fund, on behalf of the FCC.

ALA Commends House Passage of ESSA

On December 2, the US House of Representatives passed S. 1177, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). If passed by the Senate and signed into law, it will be the first piece of federal legislation in more than 50 years to provide school libraries with a dedicated revenue stream to enhance school library services and resources. At press time, the Senate had yet to vote on the bill.

In a joint statement, American Association of School Librarians (AASL) President Leslie Preddy and ALA President Sari Feldman commended the vote and detailed its impact on school libraries.

"We are pleased to support this legislation," they said. "Improvements contained under ESSA that include effective school library programs will help ensure that all students graduating from America's

CALENDAR

ALA EVENTS

Jan. 8–12: ALA Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits, Boston.

- Feb. 17: Digital Learning Day, digitallearningday.org.
- Mar. 6–12: Teen Tech Week, teentechweek.ning.com.
- Mar. 16: Freedom of Information Day, bit.ly/1F2ljpZ.
- Apr. 5–9: Public Library Association Conference, Denver.
- Apr. 23–30: Money Smart Week, ala.org/offices/ money-smart-week.
- Apr. 30: El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day), dia.ala.org.
- June 23–28: ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition, Orlando, Florida.
- Sept.: National Library Card Sign-Up Month, ala.org/ librarycardsignup.
- Sept. 15–17: Association for Library Service to Children Institute, ala.org/alsc/ institute.
- Sept. 25–Oct. 1: Banned Books Week, ala.org/ bbooks.
- Sept. 28: Banned Websites Awareness Day, ala.org/ aasl/bwad.
- Nov. 4-6: YALSA Young Adult Services Symposium, Pittsburgh.

schools will be adequately prepared for college, career, and workforce success."

Despite this victory, much work lies ahead, the statement said. "In too many schools, library budgets and librarian positions are being cut. This puts our children's education and workforce readiness at peril," they said. "Data from the Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics reveals that approximately 8,830 public schools across the nation do not have a school library and, for those schools that do have a library, nearly 17,000 do not have a full- or part-time state-certified school librarian.

"As poverty rates across the US remain high, our schools must serve as an equalizer that provides all students with access to the resources, instruction, and life skills they need to succeed and become productive and engaged citizens," they said.

United for Libraries Will Send You to Annual

United for Libraries is still accepting applications for two grants that fund trips to the 2016 ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in Orlando, Florida.

The United for Libraries/Sage Academic Friend Conference Grants enable two people to attend Annual. Applicants must be active in their college or university Friends group or be college or university library staff members who work in development. A grant of \$850, plus full conference registration, will be awarded to each recipient.

The United for Libraries/Thrift Books Friends Grant provides funding for one member of a public library Friends group to attend Annual. Applicants must be firsttime attendees and must be active in their public library Friends group. The winner will receive a grant of \$850, plus full conference registration.

Applications for both grants will be accepted though January 15. For more information about the United for Libraries/Sage Academic Friend Conference Grants and to apply, visit ala.org/united/grants_awards/ friends/sage. For more information about the United for Libraries/ Thrift Books Friend Grant and to apply, visit visit ala.org/united/ grants_awards/friends/thriftbooks.

Loleta D. Fyan Grant Submissions Open

ALA's Office for Research and Statistics is now accepting applications for the Loleta D. Fyan Grant.

Named for Loleta D. Fyan, 1951– 1952 ALA president, the award grants up to \$5,000 for the improvement of public libraries and the services they provide. The award is open to local, regional, and state libraries, associations, and organizations, including ALA units; library schools; and individuals.

Submitted projects should: result in the development and improvement of public libraries and the services they provide

 have the potential for broader impact and application beyond meeting a specific local need
 be designed to effect changes

in public library services that are innovative and responsive to the future

■ be capable of completion within one year

The deadline for submissions is January 10. For more information about the grant and submission process, visit ala.org/offices/ors/ orsawards/fyanloletad/fyanloletad.

Emerging Leaders Class of 2016 Announced

ALA has selected 50 participants for its 2016 class of Emerging Leaders,

an initiative that enables library workers to serve in a leadership capacity early in their careers.

Nearly 75% of this year's participants are sponsored by an ALA member group, which defrays the cost of attending the 2016 Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits in Boston and the 2016 Annual Conference and Exhibition in Orlando, Florida.

The Emerging Leaders will attend a daylong session during Midwinter and collaborate on projects through online workshops for six months. They will present their work at a poster session at Annual.

Visit ala.org/educationcareers/ leadership/emergingleaders for additional details and for the complete list of 2016 Emerging Leaders.

Baber Research Grant Submissions Open

ALA's Office for Research and Statistics is accepting applications for the annual Carroll Preston Baber Research Grant. The \$3,000 grant is given to one or more librarians or library educators to conduct research over the course of one year that could lead to improvements in services to any specified group of people.

The proposed project will aim to answer a question of vital importance to the library community that is national in scope. Among the review panel criteria are:

originality of the research
question(s)

 a clearly defined research problem
 innovative quality of the project and/or use of technology in a new way

cooperative nature of the project;
 institutional commitment to the project

■ practical value of the project for library users

Any ALA member may apply, and the jury would welcome projects that involve both a practicing

ALA RETURNS TO THE SHARJAH BOOK FAIR

LA's largest international professional development event wrapped up November 12 in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates (UAE), with hundreds of librarians gathering at the Sharjah International Book Fair (SIBF) for the 2nd SIBF/ALA Library Conference.

Around 300 librarians from Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt, India, Iraq, Jordan, Mauritania,



ALA President Sari Feldman and SIBF Director Ahmed Al-Ameri at the 2016 Sharjah International Book Fair.

Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, UAE, and other countries participated in three days of programs, training, and networking, in both Arabic and English with translation provided.

SIBF Director and Chairman of the Sharjah Book Authority Ahmed Al-Ameri said he was thrilled to welcome this second conference and sees it growing in the future. "I am confident this mutual cooperation between the SIBF and ALA will be helpful in skill development of the industry's professionals," he said.

An international roster of presenters addressed topics on trends, new technologies, mobile strategies, applying data and statistics, teacher librarians, the library as cultural and family hub, digital scholarship and literacy, collection development, visual literacy, e-resources, implementing Resource Description and Access (RDA), and proving the value of the library. ALA President Sari Feldman's opening keynote was followed by 17 concurrent sessions and a poster session on a wide range of topics for all types of libraries. James G. "Jim" Neal, 2010–2013 ALA Treasurer, addressed the future of academic libraries as keynote speaker on the second day of the conference. Magda El-Sherbini, head of the Ohio State University Libraries' Cataloging Department, led a preconference on RDA that attracted almost 100 registrants.

Khalid Ismail, chief librarian at Al Khawarizmi International College in Abu Dhabi, said that in 2014 he came by himself, but this year he brought five librarians from his staff. Next year, he hopes to attend with 10. "We need to get new ideas and develop our skills with practices from other areas," he said.

Tony Mulliken, chairman of UK-based Midas Public Relations and an active player in organizing the SIBF/ALA Library Conference, commented, "This partnership has proved not only a great success but also very necessary. Sharjah, as the cultural capital of the UAE, is proud of its passion for books and has some of the most beautiful libraries in the world, but it needs to modernize, professionalize, and make these libraries important destinations for learning and entertainment. This second ALA/ SIBF conference is going from strength to strength."

For more about the SIBF/ALA Library Conference, visit ala.org/ offices/sharjah-international-book-fairala-library-conference. For more about SIBF itself, visit sharjahbookfair.com.

MICHAEL DOWLING is the director of ALA's International Relations and Chapter Relations.

MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOUR LIBRARY

When your patrons can't explore a galaxy far, far away, why not tell them to explore the library? In celebration of Lucasfilm's *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, the latest installment in the Star Wars series that exploded into theaters in December, ALA Graphics offers a new poster and bookmark that feature the famous droid duo C-3PO and R2-D2 along with new droid BB-8. Use them to inspire patrons of all ages to discover something new at your library. Find the posters, along with a slew of additional new products, at alastore.ala.org/SearchResult.aspx?CategoryID=291.

librarian and a researcher. The deadline for submissions is January 15. The jury will announce the award by late March.

For more information about the grant, visit ala.org/offices/ors/ orsawards/baberresearchgrant/ babercarroll.

Laughlin Withdraws from Presidential Race

Sara Gaar Laughlin, retired director of the Monroe County (Ind.) Public Library in Bloomington, has withdrawn her candidacy for the 2017–2018 ALA presidency, citing a family health matter requiring her full attention. Remaining presidential candidates are Christine Lind Hage, Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe, and James G. "Jim" Neal.

Ballot mailing for the 2016 ALA election will begin on March 15 and will run through April 22. Individuals must be members in good standing as of January 31 in order to vote.

Apply for an ALA Learning Round Table Grant

Applications are now being accepted for the Pat Carterette Professional

Development Grant, offered by the ALA Learning Round Table. The grant winner will be awarded up to \$1,000 to attend a continuing education event. The scholarship money can be used anytime in 2016–2017.

To apply, submit an application online at surveymonkey.com/r/ PCLearnrt2016. Supplemental letters of support and other materials can be emailed to: Catherine Hakala-Ausperk, Learning Round Table/Pat Carterette Scholarship committee chair, at chakalaausperk@gmail.com.

The deadline for submissions is March 1. The award will be announced at the 2016 ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in Orlando, Florida.

Get Started on Your Digitization Project

ALA Publishing is offering a new iteration of its popular workshop What You Need to Know About Starting a Digitization Project.

In this workshop, digitization expert Susanne Caro, the former state documents librarian for New Mexico State Library, will demonstrate digitization basics. Attendees Explore the Galaxy



will learn how to assess different materials for digitization, how to get buy-in and resources for projects, and ways to familiarize with the different tools necessary to do the work.

The workshop will be hosted live at 2:30 p.m. Eastern on January 20. Register at alastore.ala.org/detail. aspx?ID=10845.

Bookapalooza Program Grows Kids Collections

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) and the ALA Grants Administration Committee are now accepting applications for the 2016 Bookapalooza Program.

Bookapalooza offers select libraries a collection of materials to creatively enhance their library service to children and families. The materials are primarily for children up to age 14 and include newly published books, videos, audiobooks, and recordings from children's trade publishers.

Each applicant will be judged on: ■ the degree of need in the community

■ the degree of need of the library where the materials will be used

the extent to which the materials will improve service to children in the community

■ the extent to which the plan for using the materials is creative and innovative

• the clarity and effectiveness of the plan to make the materials available

■ the clarity and effectiveness of the statement of need

Applicants must be personal members of ALSC and ALA to apply. Applications will be accepted online only. The deadline for submissions is February 1. For more information about award requirements and to submit an application, visit ala.org/ alsc/bookapalooza-program.

ALA Chooses Middle East Marketing Partner

ALA has announced that ALZAD for Digital Archiving has been selected to serve as the distributor of ALA subscription services in the Middle East region. ALZAD provides the latest technologies and solutions in library, information, archives, and knowledge management in the Gulf Cooperation Council and Middle East. ALZAD, based in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, will be responsible for marketing and sales of RDA Toolkit, Booklist Online, ALA TechSource, and Choice Reviews Online.

ALSC Awards Grants to 79 Libraries

ALSC has announced the 79 recipients of Curiosity Creates grants. Each library will receive up to \$7,500 to support new creativity programming to promote exploration and discovery for children ages 6–14. The grant has been made possible by a donation to ALSC by Disney. For a complete list of all grant winners, visit ala.org/alsc/curiositycreates. ■

LIBRARIES TRANSFORM CAMPAIGN LAUNCHES

Libraries are transformative and have a critical role to play in the digital age—that's the idea behind Libraries Transform, ALA's national public awareness campaign that launched in Washington, D.C., on October 29, 2015.

As part of the launch, ALA President Sari Feldman, ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels, and a delegation from ALA toured four D.C. libraries to see firsthand the best practices of libraries and library professionals in the information age, and how programs and services are contributing to community engagement and empowerment.

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Lilla Vekerdy, head of special collections at Smithsonian Libraries, shows an anatomy book to ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels during the launch of the campaign.

"Today's libraries are not just about what we have for people but what we do for and with people," said Feldman in a September 15 statement. "The goal of the Libraries Transform campaign is to change the perception that 'libraries are just quiet places to do research, find a book, and read' to a shared understanding of libraries as dynamic centers for learning in the digital age."

The tour visited the "Fantastic Worlds: Science and Fiction, 1780– 1910" exhibit and Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology at the National Museum of American History; Thomson Elementary School, where library students used laptops to code; the Gelman Library of George Washington University, which has developed innovative and collaborative applications and collections in partnership with faculty, curricula, and outside archives; and the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library of the D.C. Public Library, where labs and staff aim to bridge the information gap.

Concurrent with the tour, a Libraries Transform street team roved around high-traffic D.C. neighborhoods and quizzed the public on their knowledge of libraries with true/false questions administered on tablets in exchange for Starbucks gift cards. These interactions often led to deeper conversations about the access and resources provided by libraries.

> Other libraries and associations nationwide, such as Boston Public Library, Illinois Library Association, and Florida Library Association, are participating in the Libraries Transform initiative by hanging banners, featuring messaging on their websites, and customizing the "Because..." statement posters that are central to the campaign.

Libraries of all types that want to engage with the multiyear campaign and bring its message to patrons can access a toolkit (librariestransform.org/toolkit) with downloadable web banners, posters, postcards, and streaming resources for creating awareness.

Hearing Voices: Librarian-Produced Podcasts

aurice Coleman had one of his best professional development ideas in a hotel lobby. For Coleman, technical trainer at Harford County (Md.) Public Library, "The great exchange of ideas that happened sitting at a lobbycon [the lobby of a conference venue] led me to think of doing a podcast

Librarians have been ahead of the curve and have been producing podcasts for years.

to re-create that conference feeling for others to both enjoy and benefit from." Coleman started T Is for Training in 2008 to facilitate conversations about training, leadership, and management topics, and it's now the longest-running

podcast in the library world.

Podcasts are digital audio files delivered through the internet, like on-demand talk radio, usually downloaded or streamed through an app, such as iTunes, Stitcher, or Google Play Music. Listeners can have new episodes delivered to them by subscribing to a show's feed. Though mainstream culture is just now catching on to podcasts thanks to shows like comedian Marc Maron's WTF or Serial (from the same producers as public radio's This American *Life*), library staffers like Coleman have been ahead of the curve and have been producing podcasts for





Podcasters (clockwise from top) Joseph Janes of Documents That Changed the World, Maurice Coleman of T Is for Training, and Rita Meade of Dear Book Nerd.

years. New library-focused shows continue to be created regularly.

Podcasting allows time to catch up on professional subjects in educational, entertaining, and inspirational ways while performing other tasks, and librarians will find podcasts on subjects as varied as the collections they curate.

Andromeda Yelton's Open Paren features interviews with librarians who are coders, finding out what

inspires them and how they work. Why a podcast? "Honestly? I work from home and wanted more human contact in my life," says Yelton, an independent library consultant based in Massachusetts. "But it's also a great excuse to talk to all these fun people doing interesting things with libraries and technology."

Michael Schofield and Amanda Goodman produce LibUX, a podcast about design and user experience

(UX). According to Goodman, user experience librarian at Darien (Conn.) Library, "We want to generate substantive conversations and education regarding UX in libraries." Web Services Librarian Schofield adds, "Podcasts cost money (hosting, equipment, etc.) and significant free time [but] it's an excuse to talk shop with a friend."

Maricopa County (Ariz.) Library District Web Content Manager Daniel Messer's Cyberpunk Librarian offers real world examples "to gently teach something about how to use free and inexpensive tech to do cool things in a library."

Not all librarians' podcasts focus solely on technology issues. Joseph Janes, associate professor at the Information School of the University of Washington, produces *Documents* That Changed the World, which discusses the impact of historical documents, including expanding the definition of what a "document" is. "Most people think of those in quite restricted terms," Janes says, "but we know that documents can be all kinds of things. Think of the Zapruder film, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the AIDS Quilt, the Rosetta Stone, the 18-and-a-half-minute gap [in Nixon's tapes], and so on."

Rita Meade, a public librarian in Brooklyn, hosts Book Riot's Dear Book Nerd, where she and a cohost answer bookish advice questions. Meade has been "so amazed at the depth of questions," ranging from "lighthearted, like whether or not to give away books for Halloween, to more serious, such as how to deal with depression through books."

Other librarians use their skills to hold what amounts to virtual book club meetings. Worst Bestsellers hosts Renata Sancken and Kait Sudol "read popular books of questionable quality and discuss them in a humorous way," teen services librarian Sancken says, "and also provide some readers advisory."

LISTEN UP

- Cyberpunk Librarian:
- cyberpunklibrarian.com
- Dear Book Nerd: bookriot .com/category/dear-book-nerd
- Documents That Changed the World: ischool.uw.edu/ documents-that-changed-world
- LibUX: libux.co/podcast
- **Open Paren:** thatandromeda .github.io/open_paren
- **Reading Envy:** readingenvy .blogspot.com
- T Is for Training: tisfortraining.wordpress.com
- Worst Bestsellers: worstbestsellers.com



Jenny Colvin, assistant director of outreach services at a private university in South Carolina, noticed that most book podcasts she was hearing focused "entirely on new and upcoming books; most of us don't read that way," she says. "I also wanted a place where genre fiction was given as much attention as serious literary tomes." So she created *Reading Envy*.

Coleman hopes T Is for Training listeners gain "relevant information, great ideas to use and remix, [and] learn more than what they knew before they started listening to the show." He adds, "I want the listener to relax and have a good time."

-Steve Thomas is branch manager at Gwinnett County (Ga.) Public Library. He produces the librarian interview podcast Circulating Ideas, which can be found at circulatingideas.com.

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UPCOMING EPISODES

January 14 Virtual Reference

February 11 RDA: Resource Description and Access

All episodes begin at 2 p.m. Eastern time

americanlibrarieslive.org

Saving Digital Ephemera

n 2005, before the words "podcast" and "boom" ever appeared in the same sentence, an archivist named Jason Scott, proprietor of textfiles.com, attempted to collect every podcast in existence. (Many of those first files are still sitting on DVR discs in Scott's attic.)

Larger institutions also got involved in attempting to preserve digital ephemera. That includes

Determining what to collect and who should collect it are challenges that are amplified by the sheer scale of data found online. Congress (LC), which reached an agreement with Twitter in 2010 to build an onsite research archive.

the Library of

"Archiving and preserving outlets

such as Twitter will enable future researchers access to a fuller picture of today's cultural norms, dialogue, trends, and events to inform scholarship, the legislative process, new works of authorship, education, and other purposes," reads a 2013 white paper from LC on the topic.

However, at Twitter's current size, its users send 200 billion tweets per year, and LC's project eventually became unsustainable.

Academic libraries are helping to fill the void with social media research and data collection. George Washington Libraries at George Washington University in D.C., created an open source tool called Social Feed Manager to capture social media data for research, archiving, and academic work. In 2013, the project received a \$24,550 Sparks! Ignition Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

Likewise, Syracuse University's School of Information Studies has created Social Media Tracker, Analyzer, and Collector Toolkit at Syracuse (STACKS), an open source project that collects and analyzes social media data related to the 2016 presidential campaign.

"It's getting less and less expensive to save things digitally; it's less of an issue," says Rachael Bower, director of the Internet Scout Research Group at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. "On the other hand, storing oodles and oodles of digital material with no easy way to access it, to look through it and know what you have, doesn't seem ideal either."

Librarians and archivists must also consider the speed with which technology evolves. An archival copy of a podcast, say, must include the relevant software to play the actual show, even if advances in computing will eventually make that software obsolete.

Alexis Rossi, director of media and access at Internet Archive (IA), which maintains the Wayback Machine—a program that constantly browses the internet to record and replicate websites at specific moments in time—says preserving digital files remains a subjective task, for the most part.

"People self-select," she says. "Somebody has decided that I have this amazing collection of [personal] material, and I need to find a home for it."

But IA's mission, as Rossi describes it, is "to archive all of human knowledge and to make it accessible to everyone." She says more than 2 million people use the site daily, and her colleagues are working to make it more searchable. (IA recently received a couple of large grants, including one for more than \$350,000 from IMLS to



help expand the capacity for national web archiving.)

The Wayback Machine also houses collections of podcasts and blogs on the site, where individuals upload their own material onto secure IA servers. It's where textfiles.com's Scott now works.

Stanford University Libraries, meanwhile, with the assistance of a recent \$685,000 National Leadership Grant for Libraries from IMLS, is developing the second phase of ePADD, an open source discovery module that will provide researchers with easier access to email archives.

But most of the work around borndigital content is still preliminary. Kari R. Smith, a digital archivist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, says that, within umbrella organizations like the American Library Association and the Society of American Archivists, there are round tables and working groups that are constantly looking at how to describe and capture this kind of material and how to ensure like-minded people don't waste finite resources on projects with duplicate aims.

"Making sure you've got some sense of *why* you're preserving *what* you're preserving long term," Bower says, "is incredibly critical."

> -Adam Doster is a freelance writer living in Chicago.

Illustration: Rebecca Lomax

Linking Students to Libraries

s libraries nationwide rapidly incorporate new technology into their collections, a seemingly smaller tech upgrade in a few library systems is going a long way toward bringing in new student patrons.

Kansas City (Mo.) Public Library (KCPL) is among the latest to link public school students' identification numbers to the public library system, allowing students to use their school IDs in place of library cards to check out books and access online databases of downloadable content.

Courtney Lewis, a KCPL spokesperson, says the program, launched in 2012, initially issued library cards to every student in the district. But in early 2015, instead of signing students up and issuing physical cards, the library system began linking the two IDs.

She says the switch automatically enrolled about 10,000 of Kansas City Public Schools' 14,000 K-12 students into the library system. "The entire goal was to get every student in Kansas City Public Schools a library card," Lewis says.

Removing the physical barrier of coming to the library to get a card has streamlined the process and expanded resources to students in their homes, classrooms, and elsewhere. It also gives access to school librarians and teachers, she says.

"We're still providing the same brick-and-mortar resources," Lewis says. "But we need to meet people where they are, and with this we're doing that."

Students can type their ID numbers into checkout machines at the system's 10 branches or use them to place holds on books from the classroom. And since many students are accessing materials online, the increase has not necessitated expanding facility hours or services to accommodate the new patrons, Lewis says.

Nashville (Tenn.) Public Library (NPL), which started a similar program in 2009 dubbed Limitless Library, served as a model for the Kansas City program, she says. While student IDs also function as library cards in Nashville, the library system has taken it a step further, physically delivering materials to 60,000 students in the Metro Nashville Public School system.

The KCPL concept has been in the works for about nine years and was originally envisioned by KCPL Director R. Crosby Kemper III. Crystal Faris, KCPL's director of youth and family engagement, worked with the school system for about six years to establish the technology necessary to link the two cards, Lewis says.

Photo: Kansas City (Mo.) Public Library

"When KCPL first started the plan to get every student in the Kansas City Public Schools a library card, Crystal had



Kansas City (Mo.) Public Schools students work on the computers at Kansas City Public Library.

hoped to use the student ID from the very beginning, but that wasn't doable yet, so we started signing up students for physical library cards at every opportunity," Lewis says.

It took time working with vendors that issue the two sets of identification cards to coordinate their numbering systems to make sure every number is valid and no duplicates are created, according to Lewis.

She says the automatic enrollment is still new, and it's too soon to tell what kind of new traffic it's driving to the website and physical branches. But the library is getting positive feedback about the program so far.

"We're hearing it gives older students more flexibility if they have a job or play sports or are helping out at home," Lewis says. It also allows for better time management by students, she says, because "they can use their free time at school to access library materials, and they can log on through school-issued computers."

It also has eliminated a problem for younger users who frequently lose their library cards. "All they have to do is remember their student ID, and that's one of the first things kids learn in school," she says.

While it's too soon to determine the success of the program in Kansas City, the Nashville program has been paying off, according to NPL spokesperson Emily Waltenbaugh.

"This academic year, as of last month, students already borrowed 32,000 items through the Limitless Library program from August to the end of October," Waltenbaugh says, who noted a marked increase at "all of their libraries across the board."

-Timothy Inklebarger is a writer living in Chicago.

Makerspaces, Digital Literacy, Advocacy at AASL15

ore than 2,600 people attended the 17th American Association of School Librarians (AASL) National Conference and Exhibition held November 5-8 in Columbus, Ohio. They brought stories of collaboration, digital literacy efforts, and ideas for building momentum for effective school libraries.

Before the opening general session began, hundreds of school librarians met at IdeaLab, a digitally enhanced poster session with 20 video displays on topics that included STEM and STEAM, national standards, and Common Core, among others.

Later, keynote speaker Heidi Hayes Jacobs challenged librarians to throw away old roles, quit making decisions based on habit, and continue emphasizing risk-taking, courage, grit, persistence, honesty, humor, and compassion to be leaders and learners.

"It's not enough to be a great librarian in your library. Think about ways you can lead beyond the library."

-Mark Rey, teacher-librarian

At Project Connect, a panel of superintendents, district-level librarians, and AASL leaders focused on advocating together for effective school libraries and helping develop futureready librarians.

Steve Joel, superintendent of Lincoln (Nebr.) Public Schools, encouraged the audience to meet with their superintendents to be a part of the school

system's vision. He was applauded after saying that a school system's most critical hire is the media specialist. His system has full-time teacher-librarians in all 35 schools.

"Lead first, then teach, then support. In that order," said teacher-librarian Mark Rey, one of the panelists. "It's not enough to be a great librarian in your library. Think about ways you can lead beyond the library."

At a session on makerspaces, Diana Rendina, media specialist and teacher-librarian at Stewart Middle Magnet School in Tampa, Florida, talked about her experience creating a makerspace.

"We were a STEM magnet school but didn't have anything in the library to demonstrate that, other than a jet engine." So Rendina created a library makerspace out of an old storage room and a corner of the library. Now there's an after-school makers club, projects connected with World Space Week, and a STEAM club.



An AASL makerspace in the exhibit hall attracted attendees to work with littleBits electronic building blocks and create lighted name badges and low-tech maker crafts

At his talk, Brian Selznick, a 2008 Caldecott Medal winner for his book The Invention of Hugo Cabret, said librarians have provided encouragement throughout his career. "Librarians have given me endless support," Selznick said, recalling Barbara Gross, a school librarian who invited him to stay at her house and threw a dinner party for him after his first novel, The Houdini Box, was released.

The closing session featured Eszter Hargittai, a communications professor at Northwestern University, who talked about her research in social and economic effects on digital skills. "Think of me as your digital myth buster," she said.

The first myth she busted: "All young people are digitally savvy." In her research, many students were not able to correctly identify that "bcc" in an email meant that the recipient would not see all the people the message was sent to. She also found that many could not identify a legitimate bank URL from a false one.

"The internet can have positive effects, and depending on how it is used, it can be negative," she said. Beyond the economic factors, children develop skills. "It depends on the support they get in their libraries." –Laurie D. Borman

Wow Us with Your New Library

merican Libraries is now accept- ${f A}$ ing submissions for the 2016 Library Design Showcase, our annual feature celebrating new and newly renovated or expanded libraries of all types. The showcase will appear in the September/ October 2016 issue.

We are looking for SHOWCASE libraries that are shining examples of innovative architecture and that address patrons' needs in unique, interesting, and effective ways. Previous submissions have ranged from beautiful restorations of historic buildings to vacant structures that have been repurposed into libraries to colorful kids' sections and hightech facilities with audio and video production studios.



libraries

If your library is on the cutting edge, we want our readers to know about it. To be eli-

gible, projects must have been completed between May 1, 2015, and April 30, 2016. The deadline for submission is May 31, 2016.

To have your library considered, send a completed submission form (bit.ly/1IAAAgk), along with highresolution digital images, to AmeriWolf Creek Branch Library of the Atlanta-Fulton (Ga.) Public Library System, from the 2015 Library Design Showcase.

can Libraries, Attn: Library Design Showcase, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611. Submissions can also be sent via Dropbox to pmorehart@ala .org. Unfortunately, not all submissions can be featured.

View last year's showcase at bit.ly/1NhphLq. For more information, email pmorehart@ala.org.

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California Library Creates Online Privacy Tool

The internet doesn't have to be scary. That's the message from Erin Berman, innovations manager at San José (Calif.) Public Library. *American Libraries* invited Berman to discuss the library's new Virtual Privacy Lab, an interactive site that

SPOTLIGHT

Your libraries, your stories

teaches people about online privacy. Created in partnership with the Teaching Privacy team at the Berkeley, California-based nonprofit International Computer Science Institute and with \$35,000 from the Knight Foundation, the lab helps users of all ages

become more "privacy literate" using a gaming concept. Some libraries, such as Denver Public Library, have linked to the Virtual Privacy Lab to help patrons learn more about internet security.

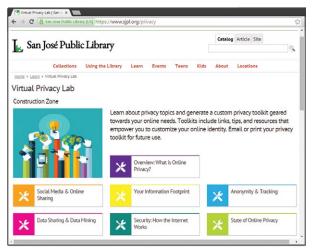
ost people are unaware of the digital trail they leave behind, how the information is being used, and how to control what is shared on the internet. With more of this data being viewed and collected by third parties, it's difficult to feel safe and confident with every click.

To help create confident online interactions, San José Public Library (SJPL) developed the Virtual Privacy Lab (sjpl.org/privacy), a free, encrypted online learning tool for all libraries to share with patrons. Spanish and Vietnamese translations will be incorporated to make it accessible to our communities.

In the lab's "construction zone," patrons can learn about the topic and then anonymously answer a few questions such as how do you use social media or what do you know about your information footprint? The site dynamically generates a personalized toolkit, including links, tips, and resources tailored to a person's preferences and needs. For instance, the toolkit will indicate what privacy settings you may want to review or adjust and will link to how-to guides.

Users also have the option to read in-depth articles and information about what SJPL and other libraries do to protect their privacy, while the tl;dr ("too long; didn't read") crowd may skip to the "quick tools" page. Users can then venture forth with a curated list of apps, browser extensions, and websites.

SJPL's primary goal was to empower users with the knowledge and courage to use the internet without fear. People have different definitions of privacy and a wide range of needs and desires for their online personas.



San José (Calif.) Public Library's privacy toolkit creates a personalized list of links, tips, and tutorials that reflect a user's online privacy preferences.

A small business may want to share openly and widely, while an individual may want to remain as anonymous as possible. There is no one-size-fits-all privacy path. However, with the appropriate tools, anyone may become privacy literate.

Because privacy can be an intimidating topic, SJPL looked for ways to present the information to people in a nonthreatening, fun, and engaging way. Research and testing led to a platform game for the first iteration, similar in style to the classic *Mario Bros.* games.

With a prototype grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, SJPL's innovations unit and web team—in partnership with students from San José State University's game development club and the International Computer Science Institute (ICSI)—created a concept for an educational game.

While fully building out a complete game would take more time and resources, ICSI's content "to empower K–12 students and college undergrads in making informed choices about privacy" may be shared now with all public library users.

Collecting information and building the personalized privacy toolkit makes users stronger and more confident. And while many factors may seem beyond our control, the ability to share and connect safely and smartly should be within everyone's power.

-Erin Berman is innovations manager at San José Public Library.

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NEWSMAKER: KATHRYN MATTHEW

Athryn Matthew, the new director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), comes from a museum background leadership of the institute alternates between museum and library representatives in four-year terms—but she brings to the position a strong interest in how organizations dedicated to nonformal learning can serve as community anchors. She recently spoke with American Libraries about libraries' evolving missions and how IMLS can help libraries achieve them.

What do you see as the key issues facing libraries right now?

KATHRYN MATTHEW: I think nonprofits, and particularly libraries, are stepping back and examining how we become community anchors and develop meaningful, deep, and sustained partnerships with other players in the community, rather than acting as a single entity trying to reach target populations. Balancing digital and print collections is another key issue, and everyone's trying to do more with the same amount of funding or less. It's also very important to think about smallto-medium-sized institutions that may not have the bandwidth to embark on that digital journey.

What opportunities do you see for partnerships between libraries and museums? Partnerships related to family learning, early childhood programs, and STEM are already happening and should continue. Libraries can serve as entry points where families can spend time together, whether in storytelling or STEM or maker programs, and then they can continue their experience at museums. The National Digital Platform (l.usa.gov/lMUuYoy) is talking about how we can preserve collections digitally and make them more discoverable to users, whether they are in libraries, museums, or archives.

I'm also hearing a lot about professional development being discussed at conferences. An example of how we're working on that is the Coalition to Advance Learning in Archives, Libraries, and Museums. This effort, which is supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and IMLS, has the goal of developing and strengthening sustainable continuing education and professional development programs.

I'm particularly interested in how we can help our professionals assess how to quickly pilot and develop ideas to help their communities. It's all about being agile in how we think about new programs.

What do you think of the maker movement and the role libraries

play in it? It's doing two important things: It's attracting younger technology professionals who traditionally haven't been as frequently engaged with libraries to be involved with children and giving them an opportunity to share their expertise. It's also a great tool for engaging kids and families. If you think in terms of developing career skills, it's a real opportunity to take it to the next level. It fosters a basic enthusiasm for science and engineering, but it also takes a subject that kids love and helps them see how it applies to what professionals do in real life.

What would you like librarians to know about IMLS activities and services? One of the wonderful

services? One of the wonderful surprises when I started at IMLS was learning more about the grants to states. Through that program, combined with discretionary funds, we support library services in every state. We are in touch with librarians in the field through grant programs, site visits, and programs in communities. We're also a bridge to the [White House], so we can raise issues for the administration to consider. Also, we want to hear from librarians and get their feedback.

In your view, what does the future hold for libraries? We're at a very interesting nexus. We are viewed as hubs and repositories for history and intellectual content. But we're also, rightly so, being expected to evolve with and reach out to our changing communities. I think libraries need to learn from one another and know how to adapt one another's experiences to their own unique context.

Read the full interview with Kathryn Matthew at americanlibrariesmagazine.org after January 4.

The Right Technology

Searching for solutions that serve people

by Sarah Strahl

echnology is about people. It might seem like technology is about being on the cutting edge and making everything easy, but really, it is about human connection for our patrons even when it seems like some of our patrons come in just to play solitaire for hours on end. This idea, that

people are at the center of our operations, is what libraries have to remember when it comes to choosing how to best deploy technology and digital resources.

Technology staffers at public libraries should be asking themselves continually: How do we make

this technology fit the library? How do we make and keep technology nimble and adaptable? Can we ever make technology dynamic enough to ensure we can keep up with unforeseen problems? How do we do this so we can help patrons and staff forge the connections they are seeking? Lastly, how are those of us who oversee library technology able to keep it fitting our library's needs, instead of trying to cram or expand the library to the limits of the technology?

Spoiler alert: I don't always know. I just think about these questions a lot.

A current example involves a digital content service, which shall go unnamed, that my library has had available for patrons for at least two years. At the time of writing this, we've had a few months when the TV shows and movies provided by that service didn't actually play on library computers. How can we provide a service that our patrons cannot use in our own library?

The problem stems from our web browsers being in a stripped-down mode so they don't keep or track any

It is about human connection for our

patrons—even when it seems like some of our patrons come in just to play solitaire for hours on end. aon t keep or track any patron data. We use this browser mode for a number of reasons, including a desire to be open and accessible, and because we don't have any software on our computers to clear out patron data. The plugin that should be playing our streaming content really hates the

stripped-down browser mode. By making ourselves flexible in one area, we've created an as-yet-unsolved technology conundrum in another.

Another example that keeps me going around in circles involves our study rooms and room-booking software. Our library isn't convinced that we've found the right tool yet. We like the idea of the 24/7 library, where patrons can book rooms online at 2 a.m. and breeze through to that room at 2 p.m. without ever interacting with a human. In theory.

But what happens when someone is still in the study room and it takes them a few minutes to pack up? Most of the time it'd probably be fine, but patron-to-patron interactions are more likely to be volatile than if library staffers were handling the transition. Our study rooms at times are precious library real estate. In order to make this work, we have to find a way to use technology that aids in study room bookings without causing more problems on the human interaction side of things. Does that exist?

Systems that help us connect as humans-while simplifying processes and maintaining privacy-would be the perfect solution. Maybe one day our library will be able to take something out of the box and customize it to the point of it working exactly the way we want it to work. And when that day comes, should public libraries be hiring coders to execute this customization and make technology more people-friendly? Alternatively, is it possible for libraries to form true partnerships with vendors, and to put the burden of making technology that's adaptable to a variety of actual patrons on them?

I love technology, but most of all I love when I find the right technology. When the right technology becomes ubiquitous and integrated so thoroughly and seamlessly into our library's life, we forget what we even did before we had it. It can be hard to achieve, but that's what I think it looks like when technology is a perfect fit for the library—it's people-serving and people-based.

SARAH STRAHL is assistant director of technology and technical services at Ela Area Public Library in Lake Zurich, Illinois, and coauthored the "Innovation Wizardry" chapter in The Library Innovation Toolkit: Ideas, Strategies, and Programs (ALA Editions, 2015).



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The Last Card

A profession in constant transition bids farewell to catalog cards

by Joseph Janes

id you ever get to pull the rod? (If you're under 40, that probably sounds filthy. Ask somebody older.) I didn't get to, though I did follow my friend Bryan around as he added cards to the drawers when we were in college together.

Ah, the memories that flooded

back when we all heard the recent news that OCLC had printed the last run of catalog cards. If asked. I would've confidently assumed that had finished up long ago. An OCLC press

release told us that since 1971, the company had produced 1.9 billion cards. My rough calculations give that as about 191 million square feet, which Google tells me amounts to 3,328 football fields' worth. And don't forget: LC printed cards for 70 years before OCLC got into the act.

This is a story of transition, in more ways than one. Most obviously, this reflects a longstanding shift in the means by which library materials are organized and searched. The legacy of the card, though, won't pass away with that last shipment. The nature of cataloging practice and the MARC format structure are still profoundly influenced by the constraints of the roughly three-byfive card, likely derived from playing cards repurposed in revolutionary France.

Hence, we will live, for quite a while longer, with keyword-based systems searching precoordinate subject headings, which work, except when they fail miserably, particularly in increasingly common discovery-based systems that try to find everything everywhere and wind up finding everything everywhere, to great confu-



This is a story of transition, in more ways than one. And the legacy of the catalog card won't pass away with OCLC's last shipment.

sion. I admit to my own moment of silence in memory of those early skeuomorphic displays that tried to mimic cards, down to the outline border. call numbers in

the corner, and the little green dot at the bottom center for the hole. Sigh.

Buildings have also changed. (Am I the only one who looks in older libraries and notices that the spaces and rooms that once held catalogs are now being used for comfy chairs, computers, or learning commons?)

We are, naturally, a small "c" conservative profession, as we should be. One of our primary responsibilities is to conserve and protect the resources under our care. We are also, often, creatures of habit and routine, overly cautious, doing things "on the off chance" or because "we've always done it," which really means "we were doing it when I got here and nobody told me to stop." That habit and routine over time can harden into ritual and mindlessness

and a tungsten-steel death grip on How It's Always Been. Often to the exclusion of How It Could Be.

You've heard it a hundred times: The best or only way to marshal resources for new initiatives is to give up doing unnecessary or less relevant things. Easier said than done, I know, though in all my travels I've heard way fewer people say, "I wish we hadn't stopped that" than "I wish we could do that."

We are a profession constantly in transition, and always have been, though it can be easy to forget that in the day to day. What did you do today that you didn't really, really have to?

We are also in transition in how we are viewed by the people we serve. I think many of the stereotypes and punchlines about libraries are fading, but they don't die easily. So a story like this is yet another opportunity to engage: "Yes, we honor our history. Weren't catalog cards something? But now look at all the great new things we've developed in data curation." Or whatever.

The fateful October 1, 2015, press release began thus, emphasis added: "OCLC printed its last library catalog cards today, officially closing the book on what was once a familiar resource...." An intriguing choice of words, demonstrating once again that metaphors are powerful, if tricky, things, and they don't die easily either ... but that's another story.

JOSEPH JANES is associate professor and chair of the MLIS program at the Information School of the University of Washington in Seattle.

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A Linked Data Landscape

As these practices expand, we

linked data projects such as

Library of America progress,

scholarship.

could see a dramatic growth in new

Shared standards. As major

BIBFRAME and the Digital Public

developers are making decisions

about how to use vocabularies and

standards that will affect the use-

Critical decisions for data licensing, shared standards, and system design

by Erik Mitchell

inked data is an approach to publishing that makes use of web technologies to create shareable information that can be easily used by humans and computers. In the past few years, the library, archive, and museum (LAM) community has developed new tools and standards, published new vocabularies, and

explored new use cases (a list of steps that defines interactions between a user and a system) and applications. All of this activity is helping to

share more data across the web.

Recently, librarians and archivists

have been pondering how to pub-

lish and license this data to enable

widespread use, how to develop and

make use of shared standards, and

Data licensing. The common

ties have created to develop open

source tools and support of open

publish open data. Even though

institutions are choosing differ-

access are now influencing how we

ent open-use licenses, open data is

supporting new and broader uses

of data. The Getty Museum, Uni-

versity of Pennsylvania, and the

among those that have released

digital objects, full-text content,

and metadata under open licenses.

University of British Columbia are

how to design effective systems.

practices that LAM communi-

Libraries that want to prepare for a linked future should focus on education, experimentation, and flexibility.

fulness of LAM data. The LAM community has yet to reach consensus on these standards, and this poses a challenge

to anyone seeking a way forward. As an example of potential confusion, data management company Zepheira, a partner with the Library of Congress (LC) in the development of BIBFRAME, developed a vocabulary called BIBFRAME Lite, which is similar but not always equivalent to the LC-managed BIBFRAME vocabularies. Their common-element names thus represent two schemas that lack a clear equivalence, and this impedes the interoperability of the standards.

System design and implementation. While much work on linked data is focused on converting existing data, a long list of projects explores new use cases and systems. High-profile projects such as the BIBFLOW project, an IMLS-funded project led by the University of California, Davis; and Linked Data for

Libraries (LD4L). an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation-funded partnership between Cornell, Harvard, and Stanford University libraries, are exploring new workflows for creating linked data.

BIBFLOW is investigating technical services workflows using updated standards and user needs as a starting point. The BIBFLOW project is experimenting with the Open Library Environment to incorporate Resource Description Framework data and linked data to enable new workflows. Similarly, the LD4L community has explored the use of vocabularies in creating new linked data platforms. More information on products from the LD4L project can be found on its GitHub site (github.com/ld4l).

What's next? Libraries that want to prepare for a linked future should focus on education, experimentation, and flexibility. Here are three suggestions:

train your staff to deal with upcoming changes

explore new systems carefully before investing in them

monitor standards as they are developed

While the path ahead is not yet clear, individual libraries and museums will want to join in the effort to help solve these challenges.

ERIK MITCHELL is associate university librarian at the University of California, Berkeley. He is author of the January 2016 Library Technology Report "Library Linked Data: Early Activity and Development."

In Practice | TECHNOLOGY

The New Digital Divide

Mobile-first design serves all virtual patrons

by Meredith Farkas

bought my first smartphone a month before my son, now six, was born. I remember how amazing it was to be able to hold a baby and browse the web or check my email at the same time. The convenience factor was huge, and I found myself needing my laptop less and less.

But ask someone to fill out a form, search a library database, or edit a term paper, and it quickly becomes clear that a phone is not a perfect replacement for all of a computer's functions. According to a recent Pew Research Center study of smartphone use (pewrsr .ch/19JDwMd), for approximately one in five Americans, their mobile device is their primary computing tool. Even for those who have personal computers, many people use their smartphones for progressively more purposes, including seeking health-related information, banking, looking for jobs, and completing coursework.

Until recently, mobile library websites were envisioned not as total online library experiences but as quick lookup tools. They often did not contain the full range of services as the regular website but a curated collection of commonly used items, such as a catalog search, hours and directions, an ask-a-librarian feature, and room booking. The assumption was that patrons would use a computer for anything more intensive, such as doing research.

If patrons are using mobile devices as their primary computing tools, a website designed for quick lookup will frequently be insufficient. I've

had the experience of trying to access a feature on my mobile phone that simply wasn't part of a company's

mobile site, and then trying to navigate a full website that was clearly not made for small screens.

The current thinking about library mobile websites is focused on responsive and mobile-first web design. A responsive design consists of a single website that can work for any screen size. As the screen dimensions get smaller, the website adapts and changes the way content is displayed. Unlike the not-so-fun horizontal scrolling mobile users are likely familiar with, the features that are displayed horizontally across a computer screen stack vertically on a mobile device.

The mobile-first philosophy suggests that websites should first be designed for mobile devices and then adapted or enhanced based on the affordances of other form factors. Given that many more constraints are inherent in designing for a mobile website, this may make the most sense.

One challenge is that many of our licensed resources are not yet mobile-friendly, and those that are still tend to be rather cumbersome to use. Some vendors offer mobile sites, others apps, making it difficult to create a seamless mobile experience for our users.

Some vendors offer mobile sites, others apps, making it

Libraries provide so much more than mobile websites for their mobile-only patrons; they also offer reli-

able, computer-based internet access. Libraries were frequently the first place in their communities to offer free access to the internet via their public computers, and this service is still valuable to so many patrons decades later.

Libraries that loan out laptops provide an even greater service in allowing mobile-only patrons to complete the computer-intensive work they need to do from anywhere. At my college, some students structure their completion of schoolwork-and thus their livesaround the library's hours, so being able to check out a laptop and work on a paper anyplace, anytime is a tremendous boon.

The ways that patrons are using available technologies continue to change rapidly, but focusing first on serving those with the least and most challenging access may help libraries design a better online user experience for all their patrons.

MEREDITH FARKAS is a faculty librarian at Portland (Oreg.) Community College and a lecturer at San José State University School of Library and Information Science. She blogs at Information Wants to Be Free. Email: librarysuccess@gmail.com.

difficult to create a seamless mobile experience.



Wi-Fi Hotspot Lending

Libraries in California, Illinois, Missouri, and New York (above) have added mobile Wi-Fi hotspots to their collections for patrons to check out. Nonprofit broadband providers Mobile Beacon and Mobile Citizen filed a lawsuit against Sprint in November to stop the company from shutting down its WiMax network—used by 429 schools, 61 libraries, and 1,820 nonprofits.

Librarian of Congress Moves On

James H. Billington (below) retired as Librarian of Congress after 28 years. During his tenure, LC launched the National Digital Library and National Book Festival, among other accomplishments. Billington's decision came after the Government Accountability Office issued a report identifying weaknesses in LC's information technology planning.



Google

Books Ruling Ten years after the Authors Guild sued Google over its scanning project, a US appeals court ruled on

appeals court ruled on October 16 that Google's mass digital indexing of books to create a searchable online library constituted a legal "fair use" of copyrighted material rather than an infringement. Photos: New York Public Library (Wi-Fi); Carol M. Highsmith (Billington)



The cumulative number of massive open online courses, or MOOCs, that started or are scheduled to start by the end of December 2015. MOOCs debuted in 2011 with fewer than 10.

SOURCE: Class Central, a MOOC aggregator



The percentage of Americans who say that closing their local public library would have a major impact on their community.

SOURCE: Pew Research Center's September report titled "Libraries at the Crossroads"

Safe Havens

Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore stays open amid protests after the high-profile death of Freddie Gray in April. Eight months earlier, Ferguson (Mo.) Public Library also provided community refuge following the death of Michael Brown. Above, Pratt Library CEO Carla Hayden hangs an open sign in the library window during the civil unrest.

Librarians Celebrate Marriage Equality

The Supreme Court's decision that legalized same-sex marriage in the US was announced on June 26 as thousands gathered at the 2015 ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in San Francisco.





Library Tech Consolidation

In April, Rakuten bought OverDrive. Then in early October, ProQuest acquired Ex Libris, forming the largest entity in the library technology industry, and Bibliotheca purchased 3M Library Systems North America, including 3M's global Library Systems business. As commentators debate what this flurry of activity means (bit .ly/1Lpclwn, bit.ly/1Q54b65), they believe the trend is likely to continue. americanlibrariesmagazine.org | january/february 2016



The Final Catalog Card

OCLC printed its last library catalog cards on October 1. The company had printed 1.9 billion cards since 1971. Below, Skip Prichard, OCLC president and CEO, files a card from the last batch of catalog cards printed.





Good-Bye, Maria

Sonia Manzano announced at the 2015 ALA Annual Conference that she would be retiring from *Sesame Street* after 44 years with the show, and *American Libraries* broke the national story.



Kentucky Libraries Not Guilty

A court of appeals ruled that two Kentucky libraries did not break the law when raising property taxes. The decision reversed two circuit court rulings that threatened the future of many libraries in the state.



Senate Win for School Library Programs

In July, the US Senate voted 98–0 to explicitly make effective school library programs a part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The House passed a different version, without a library amendment. At press time, a compromise measure (Every Student Succeeds Act) included language about school libraries and was passed by the House.

americanlibrariesmagazine.org | january/february 2016



The percentage of Americans who believe there are books that should be banned, reflecting an increase of 10 percentage points since 2011.

SOURCE: Harris Poll

Library Security Threats: Internal and External

Libraries across the US initiate "active shooter" training, while some discover the biggest problem is internal. Valuable collection items that went missing led to resignations and firings at Boston Public Library in summer.



ALA Stands Up to Surveillance

ALA denounced the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015, a bill to reauthorize the "library provision" of the Patriot Act, and filed an amicus brief defending privacy in a challenge to NSA surveillance.

Libraries Transform

ALA's new public awareness campaign was unveiled in October. The campaign's goals are to increase public awareness of the value, impact, and services provided by libraries and library professionals.

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Diversity in Youth Literature

Following the launch of We Need Diverse Books in 2014, librarians are helping to drive awareness for better representation in children's literature. ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom reported that a significant proportion of all challenged books address issues of race, sexuality, or disability, or include characters who are nonwhite, LGBTQ, or have disabilities.

SPECIAL Digital Humanities* in Libraries

A new *American Libraries*/Gale Cengage survey shows uncertainty and adaptation in this growing field

By Stewart Varner and Patricia Hswe

ontemporary research in the humanities has expanded beyond anything that could be considered traditional. Historians are building interactive digital maps, literary scholars are using

computers to look for patterns across millions of books, and scholars in all disciplines are taking advantage of the internet to make their work more dynamic and visually engaging.

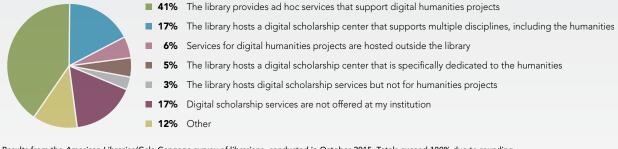


Digital humanities (DH) is the umbrella term that describes much of this work. It is neither a field, a discipline, nor a methodology. It is not simply the humanities done with computers, nor is it computer science performed on topics of interest to the humanities. DH is the result of a dynamic dialogue between emerging technology and humanistic inquiry. For some, it is a scholarly community of practice that is engaged in a wide variety of projects but that collectively values experimentation, collaboration, and making. For others, it is a contentious label that signifies elitism and is characterized by a fetishization of technology and a lack of critical reflection.

However it is defined, DH has had a significant impact on the academic landscape for more than a decade.

Libraries and librarians have played a crucial role in the story of DH. From the earliest days, librarians were eager partners on collaborative digitization projects, and now they can be found negotiating text mining rights with researchers and vendors, hosting open access journals, and making room for makerspaces within their buildings. We have been such valuable collaborators over the years because the values of librarianship inform a deep interest in information access, a concern for information preservation, and a desire to make room for our diverse user communities.

Which of the following statements best describes services that support digital humanities projects at your institution?



Results from the American Libraries/Gale Cengage survey of librarians, conducted in October 2015. Totals exceed 100% due to rounding



Yet despite this ongoing engagement, libraries are often unsure how they should respond as DH attracts more and more practitioners and its definition evolves to cover an ever-expanding range of techniques and methods.

This uncertainty is illustrated by the responses to a survey conducted by database publisher Gale Cengage and American Libraries (the survey results will be available at americanlibrariesmagazine.org in January). "We were hoping to find out what changes were taking place in the library, whether libraries really were seeing the demand for support in DH research as the profile-raising opportunity Gale feels it represents," says Ray Abruzzi, vice president and publisher for Gale Digital Collections.

The survey reveals that an overwhelming 97% of libraries agree that DH materials and project outcomes should be held in library collections. However, only half (51%) reported that consultations about initial project development are an important way librarians are helping users engage in DH projects. The survey found that 17% of responding libraries say there are no digital scholarship services at their institutions, while 41% described their digital scholarship services as merely ad hoc. Not surprisingly, among the libraries that are actively engaged in DH, activities vary widely. Some have limited

It may be more productive to position the library as a research partner rather than as a service provider.

their engagement with DH to digital collections, while 19% have built expansive DH centers. All of this has had implications for staffing as well, with 21% of respondents reporting that they have created special positions such as digital humanities librarian, while others are crosstraining existing staff to be project collaborators.

Regardless of a library's particular approach, it is tempting to think of DH in terms of services to be offered or as a field to be supported with specific resources. While this is understandable, it also places libraries in the role of service provider at the exact moment when it is not clear what services would even be useful.

"Gale is looking at a range of support services, from cloud-hosting data all the way down to project-level support, and we're trying to create a range of services to meet libraries at their individual point of need," says Abruzzi.

Given the speed at which DH is evolving and the degree of ambiguity and uncertainty that surrounds it, it may be more productive—and more honest—to position the library as research partner that can explore new solutions with researchers rather than as a service provider that either has what a researcher is looking for or doesn't.

The survey suggests that most librarians would prefer this model as well, with 63% of those surveyed reporting that they believe the primary role of a DH librarian should be as full-fledged project collaborator and participant.

How libraries are supporting digital humanities

While DH is evolving, certain types of projects have become common ways for libraries and researchers to collaborate.

Digital scholarly publishing. One of the most prominent examples of scholarly publishing in DH is the digital edition (sometimes known as digital scholarly edition or digital archive). Many libraries are already equipped with the basics for launching researchers on a digital edition project, such as scanning equipment; optical

character recognition software for enhancing the accuracy of scanned text and making it editable, searchable, and encodable (via the extensible markup language, or XML); and guidance on tools for XML editing and transformation to make the output human-readable. Methods like text encoding enable critical, editorial, and scholarly explorations not otherwise possible.

Digital editions often adhere to accepted standards for encoding, such as the guidelines provided by the Text Encoding Initiative (TEI), active since 1987. Examples of digital edition projects that are library-based collaborations with faculty and students include the Victorian Women Writers Project, based at the Indiana University Libraries in Bloomington; and the Shelley-Godwin Archive, a partnership between the New York Public Library and the Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities (based in the University of Maryland Libraries in College Park).

Digital libraries and digital collections. Libraries are also deploying digital collections in myriad file formatsessentially as data-to allow downloading en masse and, in turn, expedite submission to computational or other methods for analysis, modeling, and visualization. Stripping digital collections down to core components could render everything old new again in terms of what libraries might offer to the humanities research community.

A leading example of an initiative providing this type of multiformat access is DocSouth Data, an extension of the Documenting the American South project, hosted by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Libraries. The representation of digital collections in various data formats may lead to creative programs and partnerships for instruction, collection development and strategy (as suggested in the section on text mining below), digitization, and training or "skilling up" opportunities for both librarians and researchers, including students, to name just a few possibilities.

Text mining. In 2001, Italian literary scholar Franco Moretti introduced the phrase "distant reading" into literature studies as a way to describe work that used computers to study larger numbers of books than he could reasonably read. The name is a play on "close reading," carefully analyzing the nuances in a single passage. Moretti's distant reading looks at the literature of an entire nation in an attempt to see common features, distinctive patterns, and signs of evolution. Libraries can be critical partners in this work. For example, scholars are often limited in what they can study by the availability of machine-readable texts. Librarians are negotiating for access to digital collections that facilitate distant reading and making sure their own collections are accessible as well. Library instruction sessions are also expanding to include training on tools and techniques for text analysis.

Digital pedagogy. Whether it takes the form of a oneshot session or an ongoing, embedded relationship, class-based library instruction is a common responsibility for librarians. At the most basic, library instruction sessions give students the essentials of how to find library resources; librarians often go beyond this and develop complex assignments with instructors that are designed to give students experience doing deep research. Emerging technology is making it easier than ever to expand these kinds of assignments so students not only engage in meaningful research but also develop original projects that can be shared online. For example, students can contextualize their research temporally and spatially by incorporating

What is your library's current role in digital humanities at your institution?

54%	An institutional repository to accommodate digital humanities digital objects
50%	Help scholars plan for preservation needs
46%	Create avenues for scholarly use and enhancement of metadata
43%	Advocate coordinated digital humanities support across the institution
37%	Consult digital humanities scholars at the beginning of digitization projects
33%	Get involved in digital humanities project planning for sustainability from the beginning
26%	Cosponsor grant applications
22%	Work to spur coinvestment in digital humanities across institutions
19%	Digital humanities center located in our library
15%	Package existing services as a "virtual digital humanities center"

Results from the American Libraries/Gale Cengage survey of librarians, conducted in October 2015. Respondents chose all answers that applied to their libraries.

Digital humanities demands new research skills, giving librarians an opportunity to expand their role in instruction.

their findings into digital time lines or online maps. Thanks to freely available content-management tools like Omeka, classes can easily build online exhibits that allow them to tell stories with primary-source material. Assignments like this can be an engaging way for students to connect with library resources and help them develop new skills.

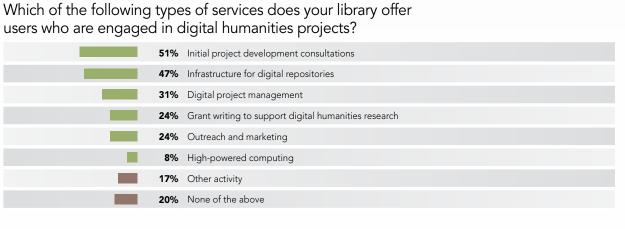
Common characteristics

Many libraries are currently providing excellent examples of how to go beyond being a service provider by becoming a valuable research partner. These libraries share certain characteristics: They encourage their librarians to stay engaged with both their users and their peers, they build on existing strengths, and they aren't afraid to experiment.

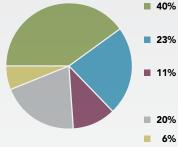
1. Stay engaged. Because people define DH differently, librarians must be engaged with their communities. Librarians need to know what kinds of projects interest researchers and what is holding them back. Thomas Padilla, digital scholarship librarian at Michigan State University Libraries in East Lansing, found that his users who were interested in text mining said that "getting access to data and learning how to work with it is a challenge." For Padilla, this provides an opportunity for librarians to "add additional value to their collections by treating them as data and helping their communities work with them as such."

Engagement should also expand to the global networks of researchers and librarians at other institutions, who can be vital sources of ideas, inspiration, and support. Librarians may find that their local communities are unsure where to start thinking about incorporating technology into their work and could benefit from seeing examples. Staying connected to other librarians and digital humanists via social media and professional organizations is a great way to learn about what people are working on and how they are dealing with common challenges. Sarah Potvin, coeditor in chief at dh+lib and digital scholarship librarian at Texas A&M in College Station, highlights the value of these networks, describing digital humanities as "a community of learners, where no one person or group can wield total authority or knowledge. It's that spirit-of learning and curiosity, of looking at questions from such different disciplinary angles-that I find most welcoming and fruitful."

2. Play to your strengths. While it may seem like a new direction for libraries, getting involved in DH can be a great way for librarians to build on what they do best: working with users on research projects and helping students learn valuable research skills. Laurie Allen, coordinator for digital scholarship and services at Haverford (Pa.) College, says that "library organizations already include people who are fluent in so many parts of DH: Reference librarians understand scholarship, are good listeners, and know their communities; catalogers understand how to organize information; and technologists can figure out how tools work, and how to improve upon them."



Results from the American Libraries/Gale Cengage survey of librarians, conducted in October 2015. Respondents chose all answers that applied to their libraries.



What does the best model for digital humanities look like?

- Network model: In this model, multiple units whose services were formed to meet a specific need and have developed over time come together to form a system of end-to-end support.
- Service model: In this model, the service unit seeks to meet the demand expressed by faculty, often with a strong focus on meeting an individual's research needs.
- 11% Lab model: In this model, the lab tends to have a specific focus, tied either to the mission of the campus or to the aims of their founders, which necessarily means that many do not take on responsibility for digital projects that fall outside of the scope.
 - 20% Don't know
 - 6% Other

Results from the American Libraries/Gale Cengage survey of librarians, conducted in October 2015.



The American Libraries/Gale Cengage survey supports Allen's assertion, noting that libraries are leveraging their best-known strengths for DH, including preservation assistance, metadata enhancement, and accommodation of digital objects in institutional repositories.

Just as DH produces new forms of scholarship, it also demands new research skills. This gives librarians an opportunity to expand their role in instruction. To this end, Padilla and colleagues in the library at Michigan State received a small grant from the Association for Computers and the Humanities "to bring together disciplinary faculty and librarians from around the state of Michigan to test the utility of cross walking Association of College and Research Libraries' Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education, competencies from the Data Information Literacy Project, and disciplinary learning competencies in order to design more effective digital humanities instruction." The team at Michigan State learned that by working collaboratively, they were able to "foster mutually beneficial conversations about digital humanities instruction design between librarians and disciplinary faculty."

3. Don't be afraid to experiment. While librarians will find that their core strengths are vital to DH work, new tools and techniques are constantly emerging. Allen, reflecting on her experiences working with students at Haverford, says, "The more our libraries can build our technical, labor, and administrative infrastructures to facilitate experimentation, the easier DH will be."

Unfortunately, experimentation is sometimes one of the hardest things for libraries to do because it resists standardization, often requires additional spending, and raises difficult questions about long-term preservation. While there are certainly ways to experiment thoughtfully by managing expectations and making informed decisions about tools and methods, embracing experimentation also means embracing the possibility of failure. Potvin says, "By acknowledging that failure itself can be productive

and instructive, I think we are freeing ourselves and our institutions to embrace change and all the bumps and knocks that may accompany it.'

Looking ahead

In capturing how libraries and librarians are contributing to digital humanities at their institutions, it's important to note how much community engagement goes hand in hand with building capacity for DH. Indeed, more than 40% of survey respondents said their libraries are advocating for coordinated, cross-campus support for digital humanities. The interdisciplinarity of projects, which almost three-quarters of survey respondents confirmed their libraries encourage and facilitate, can also generate a sense of community.

At the same time, there are signs that a better understanding of libraries' roles in digital humanities projects is needed; most librarians claimed their organizations do not have a policy or written statement that characterizes the support they provide for DH activities. Funding sources are also an issue. If DH succeeds best when it's a communal effort at institutions, even interinstitutionally, then the responsibility for funding it should be more evenly distributed across those involved. Performing a needs assessment or an environmental scan can help clarify what the appropriate responses and approaches should be.

Almost as key is a willingness to participate in a culture of experimentation and, thus, of openness to failure as a learning opportunity. Not every project undertaken needs to go down the path of production.



STEWART VARNER is digital scholarship librarian and subject liaison for American studies, American history, and British history at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. PATRICIA HSWE is digital content strategist and codepartment head of publishing and curation services at Penn State University Libraries, where she also

leads user services for Scholarsphere, Penn State's institutional repository.

What's in Store for EBOOKS?

Looking at the digital future of libraries in 2016 and beyond

By Alan S. Inouye

n 2008, a little more than \$1 out of every \$100 in total publishing trade revenue went to ebook sales. Just four short years later, it had jumped to \$23 of every \$100. The 2014 data—from the Association of American Publishers (AAP)—also shows that the ebook market share continues to hover around a guarter of total trade sales.

What accounts for the sudden and rapid growth? One answer: the introduction of Amazon's Kindle in 2007. In response to the disruption that ensued—specifically for library ebook sales and lending—ALA established a working group on libraries and digital issues (now known as the Digital Content Working Group, or DCWG) to help navigate the Association and the library community through the tumult, such as when some of the largest publishers wouldn't even sell ebooks to libraries.

Now that the initial crisis has subsided and the market share has leveled off, it's a good time to assess what's in store for ebooks—and especially for libraries and other intermediaries, such as bookstores—in 2016 and beyond.

We interviewed four prominent figures in the ebook sector-three from the industry and one from libraries—to get their varying perspectives:



ANDREW ALBANESE,

senior writer and features editor for Publishers Weekly. He has held editorial positions at Oxford University Press, Penguin Books USA, and Library Journal.



JAMES LARUE, former director of **Douglas County** (Colo.) Libraries who led pathbreaking efforts on library ebook lending until 2014. He writes, speaks, and consults on leadership, organizational development, and the future of libraries.



MIKE SHATZKIN,

founder and CEO of The Idea Logical Company and conference council chair of the Digital Book World conference. He has been involved in the publishing business for nearly 50 years.



MAJA THOMAS,

consultant and longtime publishing executive and entrepreneur. She is a former senior vice president at Hachette Book Group.

AMERICAN LIBRARIES: After several years of rapid growth, the market share for ebooks has plateaued. What accounts for this shift, and do you expect growth to resume in the next year or two?

LARUE: There are several factors for the plateau, I suspect. First, even the most assiduous reader cannot keep up with the flood of new content. After every big change, there's a natural slide back to the comforts of what worked before. Ebooks aren't going away, and they represent such a potential gain for authors—in speed to market and share of revenue-that ebooks will, I predict, surge again inevitably. For libraries, our digital collections have grown much more slowly than the marketplace. We're seeing this advanced market segment moving to nonlibrary and nontraditional sources. Wooing them back to the library won't be easy.

THOMAS: The rapid expansion in ebooks was unusual, even compared with other shifts such as in digital music, which wasn't as sudden, and audiobooks took 20 years. We saw a steep adoption curve among core readers. Publishers hoped that this growth would extend beyond core readers, but that didn't happen. This shift to devices caused an initial surge in purchases, but once readers had a base catalog of titles, new purchases resumed at the normal rate for new purchases.

Market share in the 20% range is a substantial business and not a disappointment. In fact, the market stability we've seen is reassuring to

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01 of 2016

A BRIEF HISTORY OF EBOOK PUBLISHING

NOVEMBER 2007

Amazon unveils the Kindle ebook reader. Its launch initiated the era of ebooks for the mass market. 2 NOVEMBER 2010 The State Library of Kansas takes leadership on the portability of library ebook purchases by contacting publishers to obtain permission to move content from the OverDrive platform.

3 | MARCH 2011

HarperCollins restricts library ebook lending, limiting library ebook licenses to 26 loans. After hitting the cap, a library would have to repurchase rights for further lending. Until this change, library ebook purchases from HarperCollins had an indefinite term.

publishers as the hardcover and paperback businesses were not destroyed as feared. But it is clear that ebooks are here to stay. I expect measured growth in percentage terms over the next years as digital natives become an increasing proportion of consumers.

2008

SHATZKIN: The plateauing effect derives from three factors present during the initial surge of ebook sales and ebook readers: People would purchase titles that they love and want on their device. Then there are reference works. And finally there are aspirational acquisitions of what people would like to read. These were largely one-time purchases; once filled, people's purchasing level reverted back to their reading pace. I expect sales will rise again but not at the dramatic pace of three or four years ago.

ALBANESE: With so much consumption now happening on the same screen, we are in a moment in time when we are figuring out what the true value proposition is for ebooks—not only in terms of buying access to a locked-down file that lives in the ether versus buying a print book, but between paying \$14.99 for a single ebook title versus \$8.99 a month for unlimited Netflix viewing.

But I also believe that the major publishers are seeing more competition from indie ebooks and self-published ebooks. Amazon has a million titles accessible, many of which are free or very inexpensive. I think the internet has leveled the playing field a bit for self-published and small indie publishers, enabling more players to reach more readers, and these sales are not measured—at least not reliably—in industry statistics.

Anecdotally, I think people are reading digitally more than ever before, despite the plateau in the reported ebook statistics. In the long run, most people expect the plateau to end and growth to resume, quite possibly fueled by reading on mobile phones.

2009

Technology has the potential to enable significant innovation in ebook products, yet we have seen mostly incremental improvements. Is this trend likely to continue?

ALBANESE: For the near future, yes, incremental improvement at best—and this, to me, is the only plateau we should be paying attention to. Every-thing on my digital device gets cooler and cooler, it seems, except ebooks, which still, to this point, are mostly re-creations of print books on digital screens. And despite their lack of innovation, ebooks are getting more expensive.

There is a simple explanation as to why: The publishing business is still largely based on print, and publishers are trying to manage their legacy print businesses and their emerging digital businesses to some sort of equilibrium on a timeline they can handle. Keep in mind that publishers control the book reader technology—that is, print. But for ebooks, the reading experience is largely mediated by third-party platforms. Innovation will happen, but it will take a bit of time, though more publishers are willing to experiment.

LARUE: The short answer is that big publishers are even slower to embrace significant change than libraries. They persist in seeing ebooks as the digitized file only, a product they think they understand. If they can take an existing product and find a new and higher margin, that's cheap and easy. Most publishers haven't really grasped the idea of added value, the capacity of the e-publication to include audio and video clips, to feature author

SEPTEMBER 2011



ALA has its first leadership meeting in New York

with the publishing community. ALA President Molly Raphael, Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels, and OITP Director Alan S. Inouye meet with Tom Allen and Tina Jordan, president and vice president of the Association of American Publishers (AAP).

OCTOBER 2011

ALA establishes a working group on libraries and digital content (DCWG)-cochaired by Robert Wolven and Sari Feldman-to provide Association-wide engagement on digital content issues.

FEBRUARY 2012



Douglas County (Colo.) Libraries launches a new initiative to enable libraries to host ebooks directly rather than depending on an intermediary company, and to provide libraries with options for lower costs and more control.

Penguin withdraws from the library ebook market. In November 2011, Penguin began its withdrawal by terminating library access to its frontlist ebook titles. Three months later, Penguin also terminated access to its backlist ebooks, though libraries had continued access to already-purchased ebooks.

2012

2010

interviews or special edition illustrations. Why? Because those features represent new costs, but they have not yet demonstrated new profit. As always, it will take some risk-taking companies-probably not the Big Five [Hachette Book Group, HarperCollins, Macmillan, Penguin Random House, and Simon & Schuster]-to show how it's done. Meanwhile, children's publishers still seem to be the most innovative. In part, this is attributable to an audience that is more technology curious.

SHATZKIN: Yes, I see this trend continuing. The idea that people will cotton to a completely new product that incorporates video, audio, interactivity, and other novel capabilities

has been an illusion chased by various people for the past 25 years. Maybe someday something will be created, but if so, I suspect it will not emerge from book publishing but rather from the movie, game, or other industry sector. Book reading is a rather wellestablished practice. Digital technology has made that practice easier, cheaper, and more portable. But going from incremental improvements to the expectation that people want something completely different is a romantic notion.

THOMAS: Publishers were super excited about the opportunity to innovate in digital books and experiment with a bunch of things, such as interactivity. However, consumers did not care; they yawned at the bells and whistles we created. Of course, adding such features generates more costs, but consumers were not willing to pay for them. So we concluded

"Everything on my digital device gets cooler except ebooks, which still are mostly re-creations of print books on digital screens."

2011

-ANDREW ALBANESE

that there wasn't enough of a market there to justify incorporating major technological innovations in ebooks. One important exception are ebooks intended for children. In this market segment, technological enhancements are more important because many competitors for children's attention have those features. Publishers in this market segment are being aggressive in the use of technological innovation, such as personal customization.

What are your thoughts about the evolution of bookstores, distributors, libraries, and other intermediaries? Any significant changes looming?

ALBANESE: It's challenging to be an intermediary at a time when technology is enabling unprecedented direct-to-consumer interaction. So, if you are going to be an intermediary, you better add value. And you better continue to keep an eye on the future. I'd like to see more openness. Many intermediaries have launched their businesses-Amazon, for example-on closed, proprietary platforms that lock consumers in, which is far from ideal. In fact, I think it is dangerous.

THOMAS: Many independent bookstores did close, but we are now seeing a resurgence. Nothing is more surprising than Amazon opening a brick-and-mortar store, which is novel for a digital-first company. The Amazon store uses dynamic pricing, matching store prices to Amazon online pricing. So Amazon may be an innovator in this other direction too: digital to physical. With this investment, it is another signal

7 MARCH 2012



Random House dramatically increases prices

for library ebook sales. While retaining a de facto purchase model (perpetual license), the prices charged to libraries rose sharply-in some cases tripling.

8 SEPTEMBER 2012

ALA issues an open letter to publishers. ALA President Maureen Sullivan calls on publishers to reconsider their stance on library ebook lending. Concurrently, Sullivan and other ALA representatives meet with about 100 publishing industry staff at the headquarters of AAP.

2013

9 APRIL 2013

Simon & Schuster enters the library ebook market. It announces a library ebook pilot with several New York City-area libraries. For the first time, all the largest publishers are engaged in ebook lending with libraries.

10 | MAY 2013



Califa launches Enki. The Enki COK platform is designed to host and lend library-managed ebooks using the Douglas County model.

that people think print will be around in a significant way for some time to come. The in-person, physical store experience does have value that cannot be duplicated online. And the same thing is true for libraries: Parents will continue to want to take their kids to story hour, and that cannot be replicated on the web.

LARUE: The problem of the 21st century is being noticed. Bookstores and libraries remain one of the few social places where people can browse for new content. The resurgence of independent bookstores-although by no means uniform across the United States-is a sign that people still want to read, and they're curious about what's hot. But we-bookstores,

libraries, and distributors-still haven't solved how to display e-only titles. I am still surprised we haven't seen any joint marketing efforts by publishers and distributors. Right now, the two best bets in the market are Odilo and Total Boox: alternatives that are at least experimenting with discounts and the elimination of early limits to borrowing.

SHATZKIN: Bookstores are challenged by two major transitions: First, from reading on paper to reading on screens, and second, from buying in stores to buying online. These two migrations threaten bookstores-and publishers too, since part of a publisher's value is getting an author's work into bookstores and other intermediaries.

Bookstores remain important to publishers and distributors, but as people buy more ebooks, those transactions won't be happening in bookstores.

"Now that we are getting beyond the recession of the past years, the library community has an opportunity for true innovation. It's time to be bold." —JAMES LARUE

Over time, it is going to be harder for bookstores to survive, but they won't disappear like video or record stores.

2014

What should the library community emphasize in the next couple of years? What's your opinion on nonprofit efforts to provide ebook services in the library market?

THOMAS: Libraries are key to the reading ecosystem. Their importance cannot be overstated. Libraries provide consumers with no-risk ways to try new media. The large majority of people are not early adopters, so having a place where anyone can walk in and try out and learn about new technologies-accessing ebooks on smartphones, preloaded iPads or

Kindles, and the like-is enormously useful. What's more, librarians also learn about the newest services and technologies and provide information and objective feedback about them.

Regarding ebook services, the proliferation of titles-through inexpensive (for example, \$1.99 titles) and self-published ebooks creates opportunity for new players (and potentially for libraries). At face value, this phenomenon poisons the well: The reader is now exposed to a much more uneven experience than when publishers previously served as gatekeepers to ensure minimum quality levels. While barriers for authors are lower, readers face a higher chance of a truly poor experience. Thus, there is space for new players of curatorial or recommendation services beyond the bestseller list. Which of these many works are solid works worth reading and how can the reader discover and obtain them?

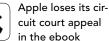
11 JANUARY 2014

2015



Total Boox launches at the 2014 ALA Midwinter & Exhibits, becoming the first pay-per-use ebook provider.

12 JUNE 2015



antitrust case. The decision found that the company colluded with major publishers to raise ebook prices. Apple has appealed to the US Supreme Court.

13 DECEMBER 2015

2016

ALA leadership makes its ninth delegation visit to New York City. Led by ALA President Sari Feldman and DCWG Cochairs Carolyn Anthony and Erika Linke, representatives meet with major publishers and other publishing stakeholders to highlight the library community's valuable role in the publishing and reading ecosystem and to urge improved terms for library ebook access.

ALBANESE: Libraries are in a very precarious spot right now. It would be a mistake to accept the current restrictions on library ebook lending as the way things have to be. For example, I don't see any reason why a library should not be able to buy ebooks like they buy print books, and at the same prices. To me, there is virtually no difference between a print book and a copy of a digital book that is locked down and can be read by only one user at a time. And I have yet to hear a compelling argument otherwise.

Amazon and Netflix are redefining consumer expectations for accessing digital content, and libraries cannot allow themselves to settle on a plateau of mediocrity. I understand the fear and caution that came with the early days of digital. But publishers and libraries are invested in the same things. Together, they should form a bulwark against companies whose innovation in the short term comes with a price in the long term.

And a library's own nonprofit ebook services are a necessary component for that future. One key challenge is to move from being content collectors and purchasers to providing tools and platforms to foster creativity. Collecting, preserving, and making available a community's cultural output should remain a vital role for libraries. We can figure out a way to offer access to the new bestseller, but that may be the least of the challenges facing libraries in the digital future.

SHATZKIN: When Andrew Carnegie began to put money into libraries, it was the only place for most people to have access to reading. The idea that libraries are a place to collect books is increasingly obviated by the digital reality, and I'd expect to see fewer books in libraries in the long run. In particular, the subscription ebook business threatens libraries, but it isn't clear yet how commercially

viable it will be. Many libraries understand that the subscriber ebook business competes with them.

On the other hand, librarianship is needed more than ever as there is more and more to read. There is real value in having professionals help navigate all that material, much of it unknown to most people. Now that has real value. As a result, libraries in the digital world will be different than in the physical world, but I don't know how that gets sorted out. I see the library having decreasing value in the future but the librarian having increasing value.

LARUE: I continue to believe that libraries have to dive into and dedicate real money to the new independent publisher content and self-published content. But I don't think it can be done without a network of larger library consortia, librarian-managed repositories. I like very much the Open Books initiative, the Digital Public Library of America, the Library Simplified app, and the experiments of Unglue.it. The good news: It does seem that the profession is still tinkering at the edges and trying to stay in the game.

However, the library community should not invest in incremental ideas. Why invest in a statewide integrated library system? It doesn't solve any new problems. Address the actual critical issues. Now that we are getting beyond the recession of the past years and with a large cadre of senior librarians on the cusp of retiring, the library community has an opportunity for true innovation. It is time to be bold. Let's try stuff.



ALAN S. INOUYE is director of ALA's Office for Information Technology Policy, based in Washington, D.C.

THE EVOLVING

Cataloging tech from scrolls to computers

By Karen Coyle

CLC printed its last library catalog cards on October 1, 2015, ending an era that lasted more than 150 years. As technology changes library cataloging, we look back at its history and forward into its future.

Today when we say "technology," it is often shorthand for "computer technology." Of course this is not the only technology in our lives, but it is the one that defines our modern age. A century and a half ago, the defining technology was electricity and all things electric.



The light bulb was literally the bright idea of the day. Today we have LED light bulbs that we can control with a smartphone app, turning on the lights when we are still on our way home, or creating a romantic atmosphere by changing the color and intensity of the light at the touch of a screen.

If we move back in time, we see ages defined by their technological innovations: steam power, water power, or the precision use of metals that made it possible to create accurate timepieces and to



from FRBR Before and After: A Look at Our Bibliographic Models by Karen Coyle (ALA Editions, 2016).

automate the production of fine cloth. We can go back to the printing press, clearly a defining technology for all that came after it. Printing technology depended both on innovation with metals and also on the development of papermaking techniques that greatly improved on previous writing surfaces, like sheepskin, papyrus, wax, clay, and stone.

Basically, it's technology all the way back to fire and the first stone axes. We naturally take for granted the technologies that precede our own age, and we marvel at the ones that are new. Libraries of course have been technology-based from the beginning of their history. Some of the earliest libraries that we know of were furnished with writings in the form of scrolls. Medieval libraries held bound manuscripts. The big leap forward was the Gutenberg revolution and the concomitant increase in the production of copies of texts. The number of books increased, and their abundance made them more affordable. Other technologies also affected libraries, such as the development of electric lighting, which reduced the threat of fire and allowed readers to make use of the library outside of daylight hours.

In the 18th and 19th centuries, not only were more copies of books produced than ever before, but the numbers of new writings and new editions also grew. Library holdings thus increased as well, which led to difficulties in keeping up with an inventory of the items held. Today we assume that every library has a catalog, but even in the 1800s some libraries had no actual record of their holdings or relied on a brief author list. Much "finding"

A woman using the card catalog at the main reading room of the Library of Congress, circa 1940.

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Pages from Lawrence University's handwritten library catalog, circa 1855. done in libraries at the time relied on the memory of the librarian. Charles Ammi Cutter (1837– 1903), writing about the catalog of the Harvard College Library in 1869, took pity on the librarian overseeing a collection of 20,000 books without a proper catalog, who had to attempt to answer subject-based queries using only his own knowledge of the collection's content.

The birth of the catalog

The library catalog technology of Cutter's day was a printed book. Printed book catalogs had the same advantages as books themselves: They could be produced in multiple copies and were highly portable. A library could give a copy of its catalog to another library, thus making it possible for users to discover, at a distance, that a library had the item sought. The disadvantages of the printed book catalog, however, became more serious as library collections grew and the rate of growth increased. A library catalog needed near-constant updating. Yet the time required to produce a printed book catalog (in an era in which printing required that each page be typeset) meant that the catalog could be seriously out of date as it came off the press. Updating such a catalog meant reprinting it in its entirely, or staving off an expensive new edition by producing supplementary volumes of newly acquired works, which then made searching quite tedious.

In the mid-1800s the library card catalog was already winning hearts and minds. Cutter attributed the 1861 development of the card catalog to Ezra Abbot (1819–1884), assistant librarian of Harvard College. Although neither the book catalog nor the card catalog meets all needs as efficiently as one would desire, the card catalog had already proven itself as an up-to-date instrument for library users and librarians alike.

Markus Krajewski, in his book on the history of card files, *Paper Machines: About Cards and Catalogs, 1548– 1929* (2011), shows that cards on paper slips had been used in earlier times, in particular by the early bibliographers and encyclopedists who needed to

create an ordered presentation of a large number of individual entries. It was libraries, however, that demonstrated how useful and flexible the card catalog could be.

Cards were lauded by Melvil Dewey (1851– 1931) in his introduction to early editions of his Decimal Classification, although his classification and "relativ index" in no way required the use of a card system. However, the "Co-Operation Committee" of the newly formed American Library Association (ALA) announced its decision on the standardization of the catalog card in 1877; not coincidentally, Dewey's library service company, The Library Bureau, founded in 1876, was poised to provide the cards to libraries at a cost lower than custom-produced card stock.



Catalog card printing at the Library of Congress, circa 1920.

The Library Bureau soon branched out into the provision of catalog furniture and a variety of card-based products for a growing business records market. In fact, before long, providing cards to libraries was only a small portion of The Library Bureau's revenue as businesses and other enterprises in the United States and Europe turned to card systems for record keeping. Krajewski considers these card systems the early precursors of the computerized database because of the way they atomized data into manipulatable units and allowed the reordering of the data for different purposes.

Uniform innovations

It should be obvious that both the book catalog and the card catalog were themselves technologies, each with different affordances. They also were affected by related technological developments, such as changes in printing technologies. The typewriter brought greater uniformity to the card catalog than even the neatest "library hand" could, and undoubtedly increased the amount of information that one could squeeze into the approximate three-by-five surface. When the Library of Congress (LC) developed printed card sets using the ALA standard size and offered them for sale starting in 1902, the use of the card catalog in US libraries was solidified.

After Dewey, the person who had the greatest effect on library technology was Henriette Avram (1919–2006), creator of the Machine Readable Cataloging (MARC) format. This was not only an innovation in terms of library technology, it was generally innovative in terms of the computing capability of the time. In the mid-1960s, when MARC was under development, computer capabilities for handling textual data were very crude. For example, look at a magazine mailing label. You will see uppercase characters only, limited field sizes, and often a lack of punctuation beyond perhaps a hash mark for apartment numbers. This is what all data looked like in 1965. However, libraries needed to represent actual document titles, author names, and languages other than English. This meant that the library data record needed to have variable length fields, full punctuation, and diacritical marks. Avram delivered a standard that was definitely ahead of its time.

Although the primary focus of the standard was to automate the printing of cards for LC's card service, Avram worked with staff at LC and other libraries involved in the project to leverage the



MARC record for other uses, such as the local printing of "new books" lists.

To make these possible, the standard included nontext fields (in MARC known as "fixed fields") that could be easily used by simple sort routines. The idea that the catalog could be created as a computerized, online access system from such records was still a decade away, but Librarian of Congress L. Quincy Mumford announced in his foreword to Avram's 1968 document *The MARC Pilot Project* that MARC records would be distributed beginning in that year, and that this "should facilitate the development of automation throughout the entire library community." And it did.

Dewey did not anticipate the availability of the LC printed card service when he proposed the standardization of the library catalog card, yet it was precisely that standardization that made it possible for libraries across America to add LC printed cards to their catalogs. Likewise, Avram did not anticipate the creation of the computerized online catalog during her early work on the MARC format, but it was the existence of years of library cataloging in a machine-readable form that made the Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) a possibility. Avram presents a magnetic tape containing 9,300 records to Richard Coward of the British National Bibliography, 1967.

Library catalogs moved online in the 1980s, some using the Dynix system.

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The next development in library catalog technology was the creation of that computerized catalog. It would be great to be able to say that the move from the card catalog to the online catalog was done mainly with the library user's needs in mind. That wasn't my experience working on the University of California's online catalog in the early 1980s. The primary motivators for that catalog were the need to share information about library holdings across the entire state university system (and the associated cost savings) and to move away from the expense and inefficiency of card production and the maintenance of very large card catalogs.

Going online

At the time that the library developed the first union catalog, which was generated from less than half a dozen years of MARC records created on the systems provided by the Ohio College Library Center (later known solely as OCLC) and the Research Libraries Group's RLIN system, the larger libraries in the University of California systems were running from 100,000 to 150,000 cards behind filing into their massive card catalogs. This meant that cards entered the catalog about three months after the book was cataloged and shelved. For a major research library, having a catalog that was three months out of date-and only promising to get worse as library staffing decreased due to budget cuts-made the online catalog solution a necessity.

We, and by "we" I mean all of us in library technology during this time, created those first systems using the data we had, not the data we would have liked to have had. The MARC records that we worked with were in essence the byproduct of card production. And now, some 35 years later, we are still using much the same data even though information technology has changed greatly during that time, potentially affording us many opportunities for innovation. Quite possibly the greatest mistake made in the last two to three decades was failing to create a new data standard that would be more suited to modern technology and less an imitation of the library card in machine-readable form. The MARC record, designed as a format to carry bibliographic data to the printer, was hardly suited to database storage and manipulation. That doesn't mean that databases couldn't be created, and to be sure all online catalogs have made use of database technology of some type to provide search and display capabilities, but it is far from ideal from an information technology standpoint.

The real problem is the mismatch of the models between the carefully groomed text of the catalog entry and the inherent functionality of the database management system. The catalog data was designed to be encountered in an alphabetical sequence of full headings, read as strings from left to right; strings such as "Tolkien, J. R. R. (John Ronald Reuel), 1892–1973" or "Tonkin, Gulf of, Region—Commerce—History—Congresses." Following the catalog model of which Charles Cutter was a primary proponent, the headings for authors, titles, and subjects are designed to be filed together in alphabetical order in a "dictionary catalog."

Managing and retrieving data

Database management systems, which are essential to permit efficient searching of large amounts of data, work on an entirely different principle from the sequential file. A database management system is able to perform what is called "random access," which is the ability to go seemingly directly to the entry or entries that match the query. These entries are then pulled from the database as a set. A set of retrieved entries may be from radically different areas of the alphabetical sequence, and once retrieved are no longer in the context intended by the alphabetical catalog.

Database management systems include the ability to treat each word in a sentence or string as a separate searchable unit. This has been accepted as a positive development by searchers, and is now such a common feature of searching that today most do not realize that it was a novelty to their elders. No longer does a search have to begin at the

same left-anchored entry determined by the library cataloging rules; no longer does the user need to know to search "Tonkin, Gulf of" and not "Gulf of Tonkin." Oddly enough, in spite of the overwhelming use of keyword searching in library catalogs, which has been shown to be preferred by users even when a left-anchored string search was also available, library cataloging has continued its focus on headings designed for discovery via an alphabetical sequence. The entire basis of the discovery mechanism addressed by the cataloging rules has been rendered moot in the design of online catalogs, and the basic functioning of the online catalog does not implement the intended model of the card catalog. Parallel to the oft-voiced complaint that systems developers simply did not understand the intention of the catalog, the misunderstanding actually goes both ways: Significant differences in retrieval methods, that is, sequential discovery on headings versus set retrieval on keywords, did not lead to any adaptation of cataloging output to facilitate the goals of the catalog in the new computerized environment. Library systems remain at this impasse, some 35 years into the history of the online catalog. The reasons for this are complex and have both social and economic components.

It is not easy to explain why change was not made at this point in our technology history, but at least one of the factors was the failure to understand that cataloging is a response to technical possibilities. Whether the catalog is a book, a card file, or an online system, it can only be implemented as an available technology.

Unlike most other communities, the library community continues to develop some key data standards that it claims are "technology neutral." It is, however, obvious that any data created today will be processed by computers, will be managed by database software, will be searched using database search capabilities, and will be accessed by users over a computer network. One ignores this technology at great peril. 📕



KAREN COYLE is a librarian with more than 30 years of experience with library technology who serves as consultant on a variety of issues relating to digital libraries. She has served on several standards committees, including the MARC standards group (MARBI) and the NISO committee AX for the OpenURL standard, and was an ALA representative on the ebook

standards development team that contributed to the ePub standard. She writes and speaks on a wide range of policy areas, including intellectual property, privacy, and public access to information.



Bridging the Gap through Digital lumanities

Join American Libraries and Gale Cengage at the 2016 ALA Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits for a panel discussion on the changing roles and structures of libraries as they relate to digital humanities research and projects. What opportunities does the field of digital humanities present for libraries to engage with faculty and to increase their overall value on campus?

PANELISTS:



KATHY ROSA Director of the ALA Office for

Research and

Statistics

MIDWINTER MEETING

😼 JANUARY 8-12, 2016

& EXHIBITS



PADILLA Digital Scholarship Librarian at Michigan State University Libraries

JON CAWTHORNE Dean of Libraries at West Virginia University Libraries

American Libraries and Gale Cengage: Digital Humanities in the Library

Sunday, January 10, 2016

■ 1–2:30 p.m.

BCEC 105



uring the 2015 election year, the ALA Office for Research and Statistics tracked 88 library referenda across 21 states. More than three-quarters of the measures passed, with 69 wins and only 18 losses (an additional one was advisory). Ohio and New York showed strong support of libraries by passing 20 and 23 referenda respectively.

The amount of requested funding ranged from a \$22 million bond for two new libraries and renovations in **Spokane Valley, Washington**, to a no-cost advisory referendum in **Colfax, Wisconsin**, to assess voter preferences for its library facility. The Spokane Valley bond failed narrowly, with 57% of the 60% required voters saying yes.

Colfax voters preferred to keep their library in the existing municipal building (63 votes); however, village officials will make the final decision. Other options under consideration include renovating and expanding the existing village hall basement (41 votes), building a standalone library (40 votes), or building a new combination library, village administration, and police facility (32 votes).

Libraries transform with community backing

Referenda funds are used to build new libraries, renovate existing facilities, and maintain library operations. In addition, the funds can provide opportunities to update technologies and expand collections and services to meet the changing needs of library patrons. San Francisco Public Library's 14-year Branch Library Improvement Program (BLIP, see sidebar below) and the newly passed referenda for Moffat Library of Washingtonville, New York, are examples of reinvesting, renewing, and reimagining public libraries.

The residents of Washingtonville, New York, passed a \$6.9 million bond that allows the community to renovate its Moffat Library, an 1887 historic landmark that was badly damaged by Hurricane Irene in 2011. On March 3, 733 voters (71.7%) said yes and 289 voters (28.3%) said no to the bond. The renovations will include updated technologies,

sustainable design features, and an open floor plan designed to maximize staff availability to library visitors. There will also be a children's craft and program room, a local history room, a conference room for home office meetings or tutoring, a teen gathering area, a glassed-in area for adult readers, a kitchenette for event use, and a park-like landscape setting. Site construction has begun, and the renovated library is expected to open in September 2017.



SEEING A RETURN IN SAN FRANCISCO

he San Francisco BLIP bond measure, passed in 2000, provided \$106 million to build and refurbish 24 neighborhood branch libraries. A September 2015 impact study, Reinvesting and Renewing for the 21st Century: A Community and Economic Benefits Study of San Francisco's Branch Library Improvement Program (sfpl.org/pdf/about/commission/ ReinvestingRenewing.pdf), showed that for every dollar invested in BLIP, San Francisco realized a return of between \$5.19 and \$9.11. Much of BLIP's success is attributed to the library and the city using a long-term programmatic approach, rather than an incremental approach. Including community members in the planning stages ensured that branch libraries reflected local needs and interests. San Francisco Public Library's new North Beach branch, which



The new North Beach branch library.

opened in May 2014, illustrates BLIP's success. Without the improvement program, the branch could have closed due to insufficient space, seismic safety, and a lack of accessibility. The new LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold building is 40% larger, accessible, includes a teen room, and is adjacent to the Joe DiMaggio Playground—giving the branch some green space and providing community recreational facilities to complement the library's commitment to learning.



STATE LISTINGS

CALIFORNIA

Voters approved Measure O, a sales tax increase, in Weed. While the tax will fund various municipal projects, priorities include senior services and the operations of the Weed branch of Siskiyou County Library. Of the 275 votes, 196 (71.3%) were for and 79 (28.7%) were against Measure O. The current sales tax of 7.5% will increase by 0.25%, a one-cent tax increase on a sale of \$4. In 2014, the State Equalization Board had overturned the passage of the same tax, then termed Measure J, because of language.

A parcel tax partially funds the South Pasadena Public Library system. The tax, which generated about \$230,000 per year, was set to expire in 2016. Voters said yes to Measure L, which will extend the tax by eight years and increase it based on property size. The votes cast by 1,455 voters resulted in 1,113 (76.5%) yes votes and 342 (23.5%) no votes. In California, parcel tax ballot measures require a two-thirds supermajority to pass.

South San Francisco Public Library-along with city parks, street maintenance, and fire safety services-will benefit by the passage of Measure W. The current sales tax of 9% will increase by 0.5%. Consumers will pay an additional 10 cents when they spend \$20 on items subject to the tax. The measure passed with 3,270 (61.5%) yes votes and 2,049 (38.5%) no votes in a turnout of 5.319 voters.



Arapahoe Library District Ballot Issue 4A, which increases taxes

by \$6 million annually, drew 47,124 voters. The yes votes totaled 26,021 (55.2%) and the no votes came to 21,103 (44.8%). The mill* levy will increase from 4.2 to 5.4 mills, which is about \$2.39 per month for the owner of a \$300,000 home. The money will fund additional staff, literacy programs, an updated book collection, and technology.

Residents voted to increase funding for Jefferson County Public Library by around \$8.86 million annually on Ballot Issue 1A. The mill levy increase (from 3.5 to 4.5) is the first since 1986. The tax increase is about 67 cents per \$100,000 of home value. The 179,724 voters split the outcome with 95,391 (53.1%) yes votes and 84,333 (46.9%) no votes. The library will restore hours; update

*One mill is equivalent to one-tenth of a cent or \$0.001. Property tax in dollar terms is calculated by multiplying the assessed property value and the mill rate and dividing by 1,000.

books, materials, and technology; renovate facilities; and improve service to the underserved.



Oxford residents approved a \$3.5 million bond issue to build a new public library. Of the 3,155 voters, 2,344 (74.3%) said yes and 811 (25.7%) said no. The building is expected to be completed in 2017. Features of the new 10,000-squarefoot facility will include areas for children and adults, a room for programs, energy-efficient LED lighting, and space for expansion. The bond will be paid over a 20-year period.





Burley Public Library won support for a two-year override levy of \$250,000 per year (\$500,000 total). The funds will be used for operations and maintenance. The 443 votes were split with 244 (55.1%) in favor and 199 (44.9%) against.

Voters supported Valley of the Tetons Library in Victor with a win of 725 (69.9%) for and 312 (30.1%) against. Of the 1,037 voters, twothirds were required to renew the library operating budget. The budget will be increased by \$200,000 per year for a total of \$450,000. The increase is targeted for the Driggs branch operating fund.



A \$59,000 levy increase was passed in the River East Library District in McHenry. The vote was divided by 130 (55.8%) for and 103 (44.2%) against the levy, for a total of 233 votes. Funds will be used to update technology, add video games and online resources, upgrade building and

grounds, and maintain the same number of hours per week.



The 1,458 active cardholders of Garner Public Library have been walking on carpet installed in 1977, when the building opened its doors. Voters recently passed a \$400,000 bond to help fund renovations and an addition to the library. When added to existing funds, the library will have close to \$1.1 million of the needed \$1.56 million estimated cost. The 446 voters approved passage with 386 (86.5%) for and 60 (13.5%) against. The city required 60% approval for the bond to pass. In addition to new carpeting, library visitors will benefit from more space, a new roof, heating and air-conditioning improvements, and electrical upgrades. A drive-up book drop and a 1,834-square-foot addition will complete the project.

The passage of **Knoxville** Public Measure B will provide \$2.5 million for an ongoing renovation and expansion project. A 60% supermajority of the 1,011 votes was required to pass the measure. There were 626 (61.9%) yes votes and 385 (38.1%) no votes. The additional space is needed to provide programs and house the collections and computers. In Phase 1, the library purchased the historic Dixie Cornell Gebhardt house next door. Phase 2 includes adding a one-story expansion on the west side of the library building. The estimated cost of the project is \$4.5 million.

Marshalltown Public Library will benefit from a property tax increase of 27 cents per \$1,000 of taxable home value. Of the 1,779 voters, 950 (53.4%) voted yes and 829 (46.6%) voted no. The funding will be used to build the collection, provide programs, and update technology. Hours of operation will increase to seven days per week.

LOUISIANA



East Baton Rouge Parish voters approved the renewal of a ll.l-mill, 10-year property tax. Voting results were 58.0% for and 42.0% against the tax. Plans for the funds include renovations of the Baker, Bluebonnet Regional, Central, Delmont Gardens, Greenwell Springs Regional, Jones Creek Regional, Scotlandville, and Zachary branches.

Hurricane Katrina and the levee breaches destroyed six branches of New Orleans Public Library in 2005. Staff positions were reduced by 90%. In 2015, voters decided to take a stand for the renewal and rebuilding of the library system. A 2.5-mill property tax was approved by 16,961 (74.7%) of the 22,700 voters; no votes amounted to 5,739 (25.3%). Funds are expected to total about \$8.25 million annually.





Troy Public Library and Adrian Public Library found success at the polls. Troy voters totaled 11,925, with 8,433 (70.7%) for and 3,492 (29.3%) against. The Adrian voter total was 1,187, with 723 (60.9%) for and 464 (39.1%) against.

MISSOURI



Polk County voters said yes to their first library levy increase since 1948. The increase of a 10-mill rate to 25 mills was voted on by 3,267 residents. There were 1,889 (57.8%) votes of approval and 1,378 (42.2%) votes against the measure.



In Belgrade, a mill levy for \$424,820 passed. The funds will be shared among the library, the fire department, and the police department. The voter total was 1,322, with 870 (65.8%) yes votes and 452 (34.2%) no votes.



■ The levy for **Gilmanton** Year-Round Library passed with 548 (54.7%) of the 1,002 voters saying yes. Votes against the measure totaled 454 (45.3%). The \$45,000 will go toward the library operating budget.



Voters approved a \$2.7 million a year, five-year property tax levy for **Eugene** Public Library. Currently, the Bethel and Sheldon branches are open 26 hours a week. The levy will provide funds to keep the branches open an additional 22 hours a week and restore three hours of service on Sunday mornings at the main library. The 34,658 votes were split between 18,294 (52.8%) yes and 16,364 (47.2%) no.

■ A replacement levy for the **Washington County** Cooperative Library Services passed, which will maintain and increase countywide library services at a new tax rate of 22 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. The first-year amount levied will be approximately \$12.7 million. Voter turnout was 72,554, result-



In New York, voters turned out in numbers ranging from 174 in Gloversville (population 15,315) to 8,637 in Poughkeepsie (population 30,639) to vote on measures to fund public libraries. Increases in funding ranged from about \$4,142 to \$84,000. Tax levy percentages ranged from about 1.4% to 3.54%.

	%	%	Total	
Library	For	Against	Votes	Purpose
Albany Public Library	71.2%	28.8%	3,056	Tax levy increase = 1.6%
Beaver Falls Library*				Increased funding from \$10,000 to \$20,000
Beekman Library, Hopewell Junction	60.6%	39.4%	1,877	Increased funding of \$17,871 to the sum of \$380,000
Bryant Library, Roslyn	78.0%	22.0%	944	Tax levy = 1.4% increase
Claverack Free Library	68.7%	31.3%	1,119	Increased funding = \$10,000 for operating expenses
Croghan Free Library*				Increased funding from \$30,000 to \$40,000
Dover Plains Library, Wingdale	66.6%	33.4%	1,118	Increased funding from \$225,000 to \$275,000
Elting Memorial Library, New Paltz	66.5%	33.5%	4,535	Funding increased by \$70,000, to \$466,000
Germantown Library	58.9%	41.1%	552	Funding increased by \$30,000, to \$88,000
Gloversville Public Library	75.9%	24.1%	174	Tax levy increase = 2.1%
Julia L. Butterfield Memorial Library, Cold Spring	56.2%	43.8%	921	Increased funding = \$73,150
Lockport Public Library	84.5%	15.5%	291	Tax levy increase = 1.83%
Mary L. Wilcox Memorial Library, Whitney Point, and Lisle Free Library	50.9%	49.1%	513	Annual levy of \$140,000
Millbrook Library	71.0%	29.0%	717	Increased funding from \$100,000 to \$184,000
Moffat Library, Washingtonville	71.7%	28.3%	1,022	Borrow up to \$6.9 million
North Merrick Public Library	68.2%	31.8%	148	Tax levy increase = 3.54%
Olive Free Library, West Shokan	71.5%	28.5%	1,200	Funding increased by \$4,142, to \$133,142
Potsdam Public Library	76.4%	23.6%	275	Increase levy of 98 cents per \$1,000
Poughkeepsie Public Library	66.7%	33.3%	8,637	District budget approved = \$7,449,138
Sarah Hull Hallock Free Library, Milton	62.9%	37.1%	1,387	Funding increased by \$12,500, to \$132,500
Stanford Free Library, Stanfordville	66.3%	33.7%	803	Increase of \$19,000, to total \$142,000
Valatie Free Library	63.7%	36.3%	2,178	Funding increased by \$5,850, to \$70,850
Wood Library, Canandaigua	61.1%	38.9%		Tax levy increase = 1.97%

*Beaver Falls and Croghan libraries are part of the \$17.3 million Beaver Falls budget, passed with 74.7% for, 25.3% against.

ing in 45,761 (63.1%) for and 26,793 (36.9%) against the measure.



■ Fort Bend County bonds in the amount of \$19.8 million were approved by 33,787 (69.9%) voters in November. Naysayers included 14,536 (30.1%) of the 48,323 voters. Fort Bend County Library will purchase land, build new facilities, and renovate existing facili

ties. In addition to the main George Memorial Library, branches include Albert George, Bob Lutts Fulshear/ Simonton, Cinco Ranch, First Colony, Fort Bend County Law Library, Mamie George, Missouri City, Sienna, Sugar Land, and University.



With the success of a \$498,000 bond, **Poultney** Public Library plans

to expand the library and make repairs to the building and grounds. The vote was 387 (70.6%) for and 161 (29.4%) against, a total of 548 votes. ■



KATHY ROSA is director of ALA's Office for Research and Statistics, which provides leadership and expert advice to ALA staff, members, and the public on all matters related to research and statistics about

libraries, librarians, and other staff; represents the Association to federal agencies on these issues; and initiates projects needed to expand the knowledge base of the field through research and the collection of useful statistics.



Ohioans rallied for libraries at the polls with numbers ranging from 23,247 voters in Akron–Summit County Library District (population 377,588) to 516 voters in Liberty Center (population 1,170). About 152,750 voters turned out to vote for or against levies that were primarily renewals of existing taxes.

Library	% For	% Against	Total Votes	Purpose
Akron–Summit County Public Library	69.6%		23,247	
Barberton Public Library	62.3%	37.7%	1,531	5-year tax levy, 0.58-mill increase
Brown Memorial Library, Lewisburg	79.6%	20.4%	544	Renewal of a 5-year, 1-mill levy
Chillicothe and Ross County Public Library	54.9%	45.1%	18,388	Tax increase of \$3.40 a month on a \$100,000 property
Findlay–Hancock County Public Library	83.5%	16.5%	5,806	Approved levy; for a \$100,000 home, about \$18 a year
Holgate Community Library	67.0%	33.0%	776	5-year, 2-mill levy
Kirtland Public Library, Willoughby	65.5%	34.5%	3,047	1-mill levy that generates \$318,000 per year
Lane Public Library	78.3%	21.7%	5,971	Renewal of a 0.75-mill levy
Liberty Center Library	77.3%	22.7%	516	5-year, 1.3-mill renewal
Louisville Public Library	74.2%	25.8%	2,096	1-mill tax renewal
Marion Lawrence Library, Gratis	55.1%	44.9%	292	Levy of \$2.33 per month per \$80,000 of property
Marvin Memorial Library, Shelby	63.3%	36.7%	1,038	1.75-mill renewal
Massillon Public Library	56.2%	43.8%	8,902	1.9-mill renewal and an additional 1 mill
MidPointe Library System, Middletown	81.3%	18.7%	5,964	Renewal of a 5-year, 1-mill levy; for a \$100,000 home, about \$22.97 a year
Perry Public Library	51.7%	48.3%	2,794	5-year levy to generate about \$322,501 annually; \$26.25 per year per \$100,000 of property valuation
Piqua Public Library	64.1%	35.9%	5,900	1.3-mill renewal
Preble County District Library	70.8%	29.2%	12,323	1-mill levy; \$2.91 per month per \$100,000 of assessed property value
Reed Memorial Library, Ravenna	66.3%	33.7%	5,390	1.5-mill renewal to generate \$464,000 per year for 5 years
Rodman Public Library, Alliance	83.7%	16.3%	2,174	1.5-mill levy
Washington County Public Library	68.0%	32.0%	16,735	1-mill tax renewal



THANK YOU, 2015–2016 LIBRARY CHAMPIONS!

ALA LIBRARY CHAMPION SUSTAINER \$25,000 AND ABOVE



Todd Vasos, CEO

The Dollar General Literacy Foundation is proud to be a longstanding supporter of the American Library Association. Libraries play an important role in the vitality of our communities. They are more than a place filled with books that enable us to explore the world, enrich our creativity, and dare to dream. The modern day library also is a place that enriches our education experience and our everyday lives



Through our partnership with ALA, together we have: helped adults learn to read; provided instruction for individuals preparing for the high school equivalency exam; helped youth read on grade level with their peers; rebuilt public school libraries destroyed by natural disaster or fire; provided grants to expand and diversify collections; and engaged teens and other youth in literacy activities and internships.

www.dollargeneral.com

ALA LIBRARY CHAMPION SUSTAINER \$25,000 AND ABOVE

OverDrive

Steve Potash. CEO

For 25 years OverDrive has been on a mission to provide access to compelling, easy-to-use digital materials that reach, engage, and satisfy readers. Since 2002 we have worked with ALA member libraries to invent how libraries lend ebooks and digital audiobooks. In the spirit of continuous improvement and best practices, together with ALA we are engaged in library advocacy with publishers and authors to provide fair lending models and costs.



As our nation's libraries continue to play an essential role in our communities, OverDrive is committed to supporting the Libraries Transform campaign. Increasing public awareness of the vast resources available at our libraries is a key step toward its goals.

www.overdrive.com

ALA LIBRARY CHAMPION INVESTOR \$10,000



Annette Harwood Murphy, President and CEO The Library Corporation has operated continuously and under the same ownership

Ine Library Corporation has operated Conhinuously and Uniter hie same dwites hip since 1974, providing services to more than 4,500 libraries worldwide. TLC's automation and cataloging products include Library-Solution[®], Library Solution[®] for Schools, CARL•X[™], CARL•Connect, LS2 PAC, LS2 Kids, LS2 Staff, eBiblioFile, ITS•MARC[®], and RDAExpress—all backed by unparalleled customer support. Libraries that rely on TLC for enhanced staff and patron services include Los Angeles Public Library. Dallas Independent School District, Wellington City Libraries in New



Zealand, and the Hawaii State Department of Education. TLC is proud to support the Library Champions program, which recognizes the achievements of individual librarians while increasing public awareness and promoting advocacy programs.

LA's Library Champion program was launched by a select group of individual, corporate, and foundation supporters who joined together to form a broad-based group to advocate A and foundation supporters who joined ogenerit form a state state and a function of the library profession. Library Champions contribute annually to ALA's nationwide strategic communications effort about the value and benefits of libraries.

Contributions support ALA's efforts to provide free public awareness materials and resources directly to libraries plus support the Association's national initiatives such as National Library Week and Library Card Sign-Up Month. These special initiatives have been designed to increase public awareness of the importance of libraries as great democratic institutions, serving people of every age, income level, location, ethnicity, or physical ability.

When an individual, company, or foundation becomes a Library Champion, they make a positive impact on libraries and the lives of their community members every single day. Children are overcoming hurdles and becoming stronger readers. Seniors and families who are living on less are getting information and advice. The unemployed are gaining job-hunting skills and getting the support and internet access they need. Students and faculty consult with library personnel on their work requiring information resources.

Library Champions are among the greatest proponents of America's libraries. Their gift helps every child, young adult, or adult who walks through a door at a library or links to their online resources from home or school. Individuals, companies, and foundations can become a Library Champion by making a \$5,000 contribution or more to support ALA's public awareness and advocacy programs.

ALA LIBRARY CHAMPION INVESTOR \$10,000



Edwin Buckhalter, Chairman

It is beyond question that education is fundamental to our success as individuals and as a civilization. Libraries provide venues and communities where anyone, regardless of background, can acquire not only literacy and an education but also the unparalleled experience of sharing and growing together. Having access to so much of humanity's wit and wisdom available in a single building is a fantastic resource, but the intangible benefit of being able to find like-minded people with whom to browse for and discuss one's book choices is perhaps even more valuable. Severn House is delighted to continue its support for ALA's advocacy on behalf of American libraries.



www.severnhouse.com

ALA LIBRARY CHAMPION PATRON \$7,500



Bill Davison, CFO

SirsiDynix is proud to partner with ALA in helping libraries sustain their communities.

SirsiDynix is committed to providing the Best Library User Experience through unparalleled automation technology. Using Horizon and Symphony, the BLUEcloud LSP delivers an open, scalable, robust platform, giving libraries tools to save time, generate revenue, and provide many discovery tools to their users. It's an ever-evolving, flexible solution. To assist you in implementing our great products, the SirsiDynix teams are ready to

provide library staff with excellent training and customer service.



Together, SirsiDynix and more than 23,000 libraries bring the power of knowledge to users and communities around the world.

ALA LIBRARY CHAMPION MEMBER \$5,000



George Coe, President and CEO

Baker & Taylor's products and services are designed with you, our customer, in mind Since 1828, we have brought libraries the widest range of product offerings in the industry, as well as value-added and customized services to meet your needs, and ultimately, the needs of your patrons. We are



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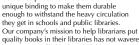
Karen Lotz. **President and Publisher**

At Candlewick Press, we dedicate ourselves to creating the highest quality books for young readers. Located in Somerville, Massachusetts, we are proud to be known as America's largest employee-owned independent children's publisher.

We honor librarians, who give as much care and attention to the alchemy of connecting readers and books as we try to give each of our titles. It is particularly important to us to support ALA's advocacy efforts in allowing young people from all backgrounds equal opportunity to learn that libraries—and books—are "for life."

www.candlewick.com





Bob Sibert, President

Nedra Sadorf, President

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services and extending your role in the

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quality books in their libraries has not wavered since my grandfather founded the company. BTSB supports ALA, librarians, and libraries in other ways, including scholarships for future children's librarians since 1985, sponsoring ALA's Robert F. Sibert Award for informational children's books since 2001, and providing travel grants to AASL's National Conference since 1997

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Bob McAndrew, President and COO

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Tim Collins, President and CEO, EBSCO Industries, Inc.

EBSCO would like to salute the library community and the good works being accomplished by librarians worldwide. Our association with ALA and other information and standards organizations



allows us to actively participate in the ongoing discourse among libraries, publishers, and vendors. It also gives EBSCO the opportunity to contribute to various sponsorship and scholarship programs and to recognize libraries that are promoting their services in new and unique ways. Our goal is to promote librarianship and see libraries flourish throughout the world as we have done throughout our 70-plus years in business

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Ron Mobed, CEO

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Paul Gazzolo Senior Vice President, General Manager, Gale

At Gale, a part of Cengage Learning, we know that libraries are essential to the health, wealth, and education of the communities they serve. Simply put—libraries

change lives, and that's why advocacy is at the core of our organization. Gale's unique products and services, along with our award-winning advocacy campaigns, enable us to partner directly with libraries to make a difference in their communities.

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Pamela Smith

Vice President, Global Library Sales With the largest inventory in the book industry, Ingram Library Services delivers innovative systems, expertise, and precise assistance in developing and maintaining your library's collection. Ingram helps librarians through our superior title selection,

easy-to-use search and ordering tools, collection analytics, and customized cataloging and processing. We offer expert collection development services from MLS-degreed librarians who use Ingram's vast inventory of content to help position your library for the future. We know librarians are busy, and Ingram is here to make sure you spend less time at your desk and more time with your community

www.ingramcontent.com/libraries



NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK 2016 LIBRARIES TRANSFORM

The theme for National Library Week, April 10–16, 2016, is Libraries Transform, which aligns with ALA's exciting new public awareness campaign that highlights the transformative nature of today's libraries and elevates the critical role libraries play in the digital age. The Libraries Transform theme will remind all Americans that library resources are transforming lives through digital literacy and lifelong learning, contributing to education, employment, entrepreneurship, engagement, and empowerment.

Visit the ALA Store at alastore.ala.org/nlw to purchase National Library Week products.

Thanks to support from ALA's Library Champions, free promotional tools, including a variety of free web graphics and customizable print and electronic public service announcements will be available at:

ala.org/NLW



iii innovative

William Schickling, Senior Vice President of Global Sales

At Innovative, we partner with thousands of libraries of all types to help them achieve success. Our staff includes more than 400 library and technology experts, with degreed librarians making up more than one-quarter of our workforce. We stay in close contact

with customers through formal development partnerships and conversations at Innovative Users Group meetings on four continents. We serve libraries in 66 countries and provide complete library automation solutions that include integrated library systems, mobile access, digital asset management, resource sharing, discovery, and reporting tools. We are honored to partner with ALA and the vibrant community of libraries

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"Library Champions"—to us it's an honored distinction, in a cause in which we truly believe. At Midwest Tape, a libraryexclusive media distribution company, we've been activist campaigning for libraries and their patrons across North America for more than a quarter century, cultivating ever-new ways of thinking about the A/V products and the services we provide. Today, with hoopladigital.com, a category-creating digital service providing online and mobile access to thousands of movies, music, and more, 24/7, our fight for library evolution and patron-driven acquisition in its truest sense—with no waiting for content—will continue.

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Jude Hayes, Manager of Consortia Sales, Academic & Library Solutions

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Joe Mansueto

Chairman, Founder, and CEO It is a pleasure to partner with an organization that looks for better ways to serve people. We at Morningstar are proud to be Library Champions and to support the American Library Association.

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Ron Dubberly, **President and CEO**

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contract provider of library operation services and solutions to public and government libraries. LSSI improves library services and operations of communities and institutions by focusing on established service priorities, customer service quality, best practices, and efficiencies. LSSI accomplishes more with our customers' library budgets. We identify and secure grants, leverage library automation and technology, and create library programs tailored to the needs of the local community.

www.lssi.com

OCLC

Skip Prichard, **President and CEO**

OCLC is proud to support the valuable work of the Library Champions program. As a nonprofit global library cooperative, OCLC provides shared technology services,

original research, and community programs so that libraries can better fuel learning, research, and innovation. It is through collaboration and sharing of the world's collected knowledge that libraries can help people find answers they need to solve problems. Together as OCLC, member libraries, staff, and partners make breakthroughs possible.

www.oclc.org

uest. Pro

Kurt Sanford, CEO

In Cosmos, Carl Sagan wrote, "The library connects us with the insight and knowledge, painfully extracted from Nature, of the greatest minds that ever were, with the best teachers, drawn from the entire planet and from all our history, to instruct us without tiring

and to inspire us to make our own contribution to the collective knowledge of the human species. I think the health of our civilization, the depth of our awareness about the underpinnings of our culture, and our concern for the future can all be tested by how well we support our libraries."

Need we say more?

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referenceUSA

Steve Laird, President

Reference USA is a powerful online reference and research tool providing library cardholders instant, real-time access to accurate, in-depth information on 24 million US businesses and 262 million US residents. ReferenceUSA makes it faster and easier to find new business opportunities, research executives and companies, find news articles, conduct job searches, research papers, locate addresses and phone numbers, conduct market research, and much more



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Jed Lyons, President and CEO

Rowman & Littlefield is one of the largest and fastest-growing independent publishers and distributors worldwide. This year we will publish more than 2.500 new academic, reference, and professional books in virtually all fields of the humanities and social sciences, as well as hundreds of trade books through our newly



acquired trade division, Globe Pequot. Each title is released simultaneously in print and ebook editions, and for sale through our own ebook store on our website. We also own National Book Network (NBN), NBN International, and Rowman & Littlefield International, based in the UK.

www.rowman.com

ovelibrari Supporting one of our nation's most important resources

Ilovelibraries.org, ALA's website for the public, has been retooled to provide library advocates everywhere with up-to-date information on what's happening in today's libraries. From the latest on library issues to tools for parents, recent winners of the I Love My Librarian Award, or the newest Booklist review, ilovelibraries.org is the place to celebrate—and support—libraries.

ilovelibraries.org









Blaise R. Simqu President and CEO

Founded in 1965 by Sara Miller McCune to support the dissemination of usable knowledge and educate a global community, SAGE publishes more than 850 journals and more than 800 new books each year, spanning

a wide range of subject areas. A growing selection of library products includes archives, data, case studies, and video. SAGE remains majority owned by our founder and after her lifetime will become owned by a charitable trust that secures the company's continued independence. Principal offices are located in London, Los Angeles, New Delhi, Singapore, and Washington, D.C.

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Scholastic is honored to join ALA in championing the important role school and oublic libraries play in providing children of all ages access to books, research, and technology. A longtime supporter of ALA, our company believes libraries are valuable resources

for improving student achievement and fostering a love of learning and books—books that "open a world of possible." Through Scholastic Library Publishing, we are proud to respond to libraries' needs with our award-winning children's books and our innovative digital programs of *Storia*[®], *Scholastic GO*™, *FreedomFlix*™, TrueFlix®, BookFlix®, and ScienceFlix™. Find our latest report, School Libraries Work!, at www.scholastic.com/SLW2016.

www.scholastic.com/librarypublishing

The mission of Sisters in Crime is to promote the ongoing advancement, recognition, and professional development of women crime writers. Sisters in Crime has a We Love Libraries program to give away \$1,000 each month to a library that has entered the program. Go to www.sistersincrime.org to access instructions. Our vision is to serve as the voice of excellence and diversity in crime writing. Join more than 3,600 members worldwide as we support our libraries. The organization includes authors, readers, publishers, agents, booksellers, and libraries. Sisters in Crime also has an interactive map on its homepage where librarians and the public can find their favorite authors and their books.

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Derk Haank, CEO

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Roger Horton, CFO.

Francis brings knowledge to life by providing researchers and students with the highest quality information across a range of specialties in humanities, social science, science, technology, and medicine. Taylor & Francis staff provide local expertise and support to our editors, societies, and authors, and tailored, efficient customer service to our library colleagues.

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LIBRARY CHAMPIONS MAKE IT POSSIBI F

to increase awareness and advocate the importance of libraries across the country and around the world. To learn how you can support the Libraries Transform campaign as a Library Champion-corporation, foundation, and individual-and speak up and speak out for libraries, please contact the ALA Development Office, at 800-545-2433, ext. 5050, or via email at development@ala.org.

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MIDWINTER PREVIEW

The conversation starts here...

<mark>By T</mark>erra Dankowski

ALA MIDWINTERJAN8122016BOSTON

B oston is a city of firsts. It is home to the first publicly supported free municipal library in the world, Boston Public Library, and the first US subway, the "T." The city boasts America's first public park, Boston Common, and first public secondary school, the still-operating Boston Latin School. It is the site of what is considered the first fatality of the American Revolution. Beantown established our country's first public school for African-American children, the first school for the blind, the first independent police department, and, yes, it's where you'll find the oldest continually operating bar in the US.

In many ways, Boston and librarians are a lot alike. They are innovators, educators, and revolutionaries. They are creators and curators, abetting progress, expanding services for their communities, and standing on the front lines when change is brewing—whether it's taxation without representation or legislation that threatens how we use and share information. And they like to have fun.

Boston is an ideal setting for the 2016 ALA Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits (January 8–12), as the Association reveals many firsts of its own. It's the first time the Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction and Nonfiction will be announced at the Reference and User Services Association's (RUSA) Book and Media Awards. It's the first year for Deep Dive Sessions, participatory half-day workshops that offer continuing education units (CEUs). And ALA is in its first year of Libraries Transform, a national public awareness campaign that shows the transformative and critical role that libraries play in the digital age and in the lives of the people they serve.

ARTHUR CURLEY MEMORIAL LECTURE

Saturday, January 9, 4–5 p.m.

Antibullying activist, motivational speaker, and author Lizzie Velasquez will bring to Midwinter her message of not allowing others to define you, and of turning negativity



into a motivating force. Velasquez, born with a rare syndrome that prevents her from gaining weight and causes accelerated aging, was first bullied as a

child in school and later as a teenager when she discovered a YouTube video labeling her "the world's ugliest woman." She decided to respond to bullies and tormentors by speaking out. She was the subject of the documentary *A Brave Heart: The Lizzie Velasquez Story*; has lobbied Congress to pass an antibullying bill; and presented a TEDx talk that has more than 9 million views on YouTube.

PRESIDENT'S PROGRAM

Sunday, January 10, 3:30–5:30 p.m. Join ALA President Sari Feldman as she welcomes **Sen. Cory Booker** (D-N.J.) as speaker of her ALA Pres-



ident's Program, in partnership with the Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. In his forthcoming book *United*, Booker explores the idea that

Cory Booker

connection and compassion must guide our nation toward a brighter future. He will share insights on economic growth, civic engagement, individual opportunity, and community progress.

IN THE EXHIBIT HALL

W ith more than 450 exhibitors offering the latest in products, titles, and services for every type of library, pavilions dedicated to niche areas, and stages featuring the hottest names in publishing, the exhibit hall at Midwinter is essential to learning and networking. For a full list of exhibitors, visit exhibitors.ala.org.

EXHIBIT HALL HOURS

The popular PopTop Stage features readings, discus-

details, visit alamidwinter.org/pop-top-stage.

We Need Diverse Books brings Kody Keplinger,

Malinda Lo, Adam Silvera, Heidi Heilig, and Marieke

how their books add to the diversity of children's litera-

ture and how best to introduce LGBTQIA+ and disabled

characters to library patrons, along with issues of privi-

lege, bias, and the ongoing need for these stories.

At Meet the Class of 2K16 Debuts, four young adult

debut authors—Elizabeth Briggs, Roshani Chokshi, Dana Elmendorf, and Emily Martin—introduce their

books, which cover first loves, second chances, time

travel, and otherworldly realms. Listen to panel

comparable titles already in the market.

members share their story's inspiration and offer

Meet the Class of 2K16 Debuts

Sunday, January 10, 4-4:50 p.m.

Nijkamp—ranging from debut authors to *New York Times* bestsellers—to its panel committed to diversifying library shelves, one book at a time. Panelists will discuss

We Need Diverse Books

Sunday, January 10, 11-11:50 a.m.

sions, presentations, and signings, covering genres such

as mystery, humor, romance, technology, and travel. For

POPTOP STAGE

Friday, January 8, 5:30–7 p.m. Saturday, January 9, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Sunday, January 10, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Monday, January 11, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.

BOOK BUZZ STAGE

Hear the latest buzz about the newest titles, in one convenient place in the exhibit hall, on **Saturday**, **January 9**, and **Sunday**, **January 10**, **9:30** a.m.-**4:15 p.m.**, and **Monday**, **January 11**, **9:30** a.m.-**12:15** p.m. For a complete list of participating publishers, visit alamidwinter.org/book-buzz-stage.

WHAT'S COOKING @ ALA DEMONSTRATION STAGE

Chefs, restaurant owners, and food personalities will be preparing their hottest recipes, sharing their cooking secrets, and autographing their latest cookbooks with these live, mouth-watering demonstrations. For the full lineup, including Joanne Chang, Nancy Harmon Jenkins and Sara Jenkins, and Leslie Feinberg and Brooke Siem, visit alamidwinter.org/ whats-cooking-stage.

Joanne Chang

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ALA MASTERS SERIES

Hear experts from across various library specialties describe their latest in-house innovations in these fast-paced, 45-minute sessions.

Measuring the Future

Saturday, January 9, 12:30–1:30 p.m. Jason Griffey, founder at Evenly Distributed, will cover how understanding your physical spaces can make your library better for everyone. He will show how longitudinal data about activity can allow you to plan staffing predictively, let you A/B test displays or furniture arrangements, and check which rooms are most popular during different parts of the day or year. The session will also source feedback for the Measure the Future project.

Sustainable Thinking

Sunday, January 10, 12:30–1:30 p.m. Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, library sustainability consultant, will discuss how libraries can take an active, visible role in building sustainable, resilient, and regenerative communities. The program covers a "whole systems approach" to building a base of support among the people our libraries serve.



Chelsea Clinton

CLOSING SPEAKER

Monday, January 11, 2-3 p.m. Chelsea Clinton will be the Closing Session speaker. She will speak about her new book, It's Your World: Get Informed, Get Inspired & Get Going!, which addresses our biggest challenges, offers ideas for action, and inspires readers of all ages to do their part to make the world a better place. Clinton, who currently serves as vice chair of the Bill, Hillary, and Chelsea Clinton Foundation-where she helps lead the work of the foundation across various initiatives, with a particular focus on work related to health, women and girls, creating service opportunities, and empowering the next generation of leaders-will close out the conference, speaking alongside Philomel Books executive editor Jill Santopolo.

IGNITE SESSIONS

Saturday to Monday, January 9–11, 11:30 a.m.–noon

Returning for its second year at Midwinter, Ignite Sessions offer a unique format—five-minute presentations, accompanied by 20 slides that advance automatically every 15 seconds. This year sessions cover topics such as new library directors, after-school gaming, community engagement, digital preservation, privacy, wearable tech, and open source. For a full lineup of all 18 sessions, visit alamidwinter.org/ ala-masters-and-ignite-sessions.

MLK JR. SUNRISE CELEBRATION

Monday, January 11, 6:30–7:30 a.m. Acclaimed civil rights activist, author, and academic Mary Frances Berry will keynote the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Observance and Sunrise Celebration at Midwinter. Berry, considered one of the most prominent activists in the cause of civil rights, gender equality, and social justice in the United States, will draw from her forthcoming book, *Five Dollars and a Pork*



Mary Frances Berry

activities are a form of voter suppression. Featured readings at the Sunrise Celebration will include selected passages from the works of King.

Chop Sandwich: Vote Buying and

the Corruption

of Democracy

February

2016), that

voter turnout

(Beacon Press,

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Get the latest updates on policy, research, statistics, and technology, based on surveys, reports, legislation and regulation, projects, beta trials, focus groups, and other data. Presenters include ALA divisions and offices, and other organizations. For a full list of News You Can Use sessions, visit bit.ly/1SxPitW.

Data Visualization for the Rest of Us: A Beginner's Guide

Saturday, January 9, 8:30–10 a.m.

This program stresses that you don't have to be a graphic designer to present your library statistics in a way that effectively communicates value. In this session from the **2015 Research Institute for Public Libraries,** attendees will learn visualization tips to tell a powerful story about your library.

Aspen Dialogue Report: Learn About the Action Guide for Use in Your Community

Saturday, January 9, 1–2:30 p.m.

Led by **Amy Garmer**, project director at the Aspen Institute, and **ALA Past President Maureen Sullivan**, the Aspen Dialogue Report: Learn About the Action Guide for Use in Your Community program introduces the guide, provides an update on project work, and reviews a toolkit of resources for library leaders to use in their communities.

Library Information Technology Association's Top Technology Trends Sunday, January 10, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Expert panelists describe advances in technology that are having an impact on the library world and what libraries can do to take advantage of these changes in the Library Information Technology Association's Top Technology Trends session.

THREE LIBRARIES TO SEE IN BOSTON



Boston Public Library 700 Boylston St.

Boston Public Library's stunning Central Library on Copley Square is an impressive feat of architecture. The McKim Building's elegance and proportions, marble vestibule, mural paintings, high-arched windows, peaceful interior courtyard, and iconic reading room can all be viewed on free, one-hour public tours offered daily. Parties of eight or more people must make reservations. For information, visit bpl.org/ central/tours.htm.



Warren Anatomical Museum 10 Shattuck St.

The museum at the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine, free and open to the public, displays 300 cases and artifacts from its collection—including the skull of Phineas Gage, a railway worker whose death-defying impalement gave medicine a first glimpse into the relationship between personality and the brain's frontal lobe. For more information, visit legacy.countway.harvard.edu/ menuNavigation/chom/warren.html.



Mary Baker Eddy Library 200 Massachusetts Ave.

Opened to honor the achievements of Mary Baker Eddy, the founder of the Church of Christ, Scientist and The Christian Science Monitor, the library's best-known feature is the three-story, stained-glass Mapparium with 206 LED fixtures that can be programmed to produce up to 16 million colors. Midwinter attendees get \$1 off admission with their badge. For information, visit marybakereddylibrary.org/planyour-visit.

AUDITORIUM SPEAKERS

Isaac Mizrahi

Saturday, January 9, 10-11 a.m. Designer, fashion industry leader, QVC star, and soon-to-be published memoirist Isaac Mizrahi will bring his trademark humor to the Auditorium



Speaker Series. Mizrahi's forthcoming memoir *I.M.* (2016) covers his growing up gay and overweight in a Jewish orthodox community in Brooklyn, his days at

the High School of Performing Arts and Parsons School of Design, and his rise in the fashion and business worlds.

Andre Dubus III

Saturday, January 9, 1–2 p.m. Bestselling author Andre Dubus III will discuss the pleasures of read-

ing in a con-

versation with

Nancy Pearl.

Dubus is the

author of six

ing House of

Sand and Fog.

His most recent

book, Dirty Love,

books, includ-



Andre Dubus III

was a New York Times Notable Book and Editors' Choice selection. Pearl, librarian, literary critic, and author, is a guest commentator on NPR's *Morning Edition* and has a monthly television show, Book Lust with Nancy Pearl.

Jo Ann Jenkins

Sunday, January 10, 10-11 a.m. Jo Ann Jenkins, former chief operating officer at the Library of Congress and current chief executive officer of AARP. will share her message of innovation and her more than 25 years of extensive leader-

ship, manage-

and business

experience.

speaker with a

strong sense of

social mission,

has transformed

organizations

Jenkins, a

ment, planning,



Jo Ann Jenkins

and led innovative policies at top levels of the nonprofit, philanthropic, and public sectors.

ALL ABOUT BOOKS

ERT/Booklist Author Forum

Friday, January 8, 4-5:15 p.m. Documentarian Ken Burns and creative nonfiction writers Mark Kurlansky and Terry Tempest Williams join Donna Seaman, Booklist's editor for adult books, to discuss the theme

of "The Writer

the challenges

and pleasures

of telling true

stories. Burns.

who has been

making films

for 35 years, is

known for titles

such as The Civil

The Roosevelts: An

Intimate Portrait.

and The National

Parks: America's

Best Idea. His

forthcoming

book, Grover

A Treasury of

American Presi-

will introduce

dents as lead-

ers and people.

Mark Kurlansky

is a former for-

eign correspon-

children to America's presi-

dents (July 2016),

Cleveland Again!:

War. Baseball.

as Witness." and



Ken Burns



Mark Kurlansky



Terry Tempest Williams

dent for International Herald Tribune, Chicago Tribune, Miami Herald, and Philadelphia Inquirer, and the bestselling author of 28 books, including the forthcoming Paper: Paging Through History (May 2016). Williams, awardwinning author of 14 books, conservationist, and activist, offers a literary celebration of our national parks in her forthcoming book, *The Hour of* Land: A Personal Topography of America's National Parks (June 2016). This

popular forum offers the first of many opportunities to hear and see favorite authors, illustrators, and publishers up close at Midwinter.

RUSA Book and Media Awards

Sunday, January 10, 5-7 p.m. For the first time ever, the Andrew **Carnegie Medals for Excellence** in Fiction and Nonfiction will be



announced at the RUSA Book and Media Awards. by librarian, author. and literary critic Nancy Pearl. As always, the RUSA advisory

Nancy Pearl

committees will reveal Notable Books, Reading List, and Listen List selections, along with the winners of the Dartmouth Medal, Sophie Brody Medal for Jewish literature, Zora Neale Hurston Award for achievement in promoting African-American literature, and Louis Shores Award for book reviewing.

Youth Media Awards

Monday, January 11, 8-9 a.m. Committees of librarians and media experts select the winners of the Youth Media Awards, which honor books, videos, and other outstanding materials for children and teens. Winners of the Caldecott, Coretta Scott King, Newbery, and Printz are among the prestigious awards and medals to be announced. Follow the results via live webcast or by following #alayma.

United for Libraries Gala Author Tea

Monday, January 11, 2-4 p.m. Authors Janice Y. K. Lee (The Expatriates, Penguin), Liz Moore (The Unseen World, W. W. Norton & Company), Val McDermid (Splinter the Silence, Perseus), Stephanie Danler (Sweetbitter, Penguin Random House), Jennifer

Haigh (Heat and Light, Harper-Collins), and Robyn Carr (What We Find, Harlequin) will discuss their writing lives and forthcoming books at the United for Libraries Gala Author Tea, sponsored by ReferenceUSA. Enjoy a light offering of tea, finger sandwiches, and sweets, followed by book signings. Tickets: \$60 in advance (\$55 United for Libraries members). \$65 onsite.

BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL MEETINGS

Friday, January 8

- 8:30 a.m.–12 p.m., ALA Executive Board Meeting I
- 12:30–2 p.m., BARC Meeting

Saturday, January 9

- 9–11 a.m., Finance and Audit Committee
- 12–1:30 p.m., BARC/ Finance and Audit Joint Committee Meeting
- 3–4:30 p.m., ALA Council/ Executive Board/Membership Information Session
- 4:30–5:30 p.m., ALA Presidential and Treasurer Candidates' Forum

Sunday, January 10

8:30–11 a.m., ALA Council I

Monday, January 11

- 7:30–9:30 a.m., Finance and Audit Committee
- 10 a.m.–12:15 p.m., ALA Council II
- 2–4:30 p.m., ALA Executive Board Meeting II

Tuesday, January 12

- 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., ALA Council III
- 1:30–4:30 p.m., ALA Executive Board Meeting III

Photos: Sylvia Plachy (Kurlansky); Marion Ettlinger (Williams)

STAY CONNECTED



with #alamw16 and at bit.ly/ALAinstagram

INSTITUTES FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Thursday, January 7, 8:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m. Friday, January 8, 8:30 a.m.–4 p.m. Topical pre-Midwinter Institutes and symposia offered by ALA divisions, offices, and round tables cover key areas, including career development, working with trustee boards, marketing a vision for your library, and more. For more information, visit alamidwinter.org/ ticketedevents.

DEEP DIVE SESSIONS

New in 2016, Deep Dive Workshops are half-day education sessions that offer active, participatory learning. CEUs will be available, with registration for each session capped at 25. Advance registration (separate from Midwinter registration) is required.

We Are All User Experience Librarians: Creating Change from the Trenches

Saturday, January 9, 1–4:15 p.m. "We Are All User Experience Librarians: Creating Change from the Trenches" focuses on user testing and understanding your users with limited budgets, so libraries can build the right services for their communities. Lead presenter **Courtney Greene McDonald**, head of the discovery and research services department at Indiana University Bloomington Libraries, and copresenters will cover user experience design, content strategy, and stakeholder assessments.

Trust and Opportunity: Transforming Libraries, Transforming Communities in Midsize Urban Settings

Sunday, January 10, 8:15-11:30 a.m. "Trust and Opportunity: Transforming Libraries, Transforming Communities in Midsize Urban Settings" will show how two midsized, urban public libraries-Hartford (Conn.) Public Library and Springfield (Mass.) City Library-are bringing residents, local organizations, and city leaders together to tackle daunting issues, including public safety. Representatives from both libraries will explain how they adopted and adapted the "turning outward" approach, created by The Harwood Institute for Public Innovation, to meet their communities' unique and changing needs.

Creating Out-of-This-World Children's Science Programming with Free NASA Resources

Sunday, January 10, 1–4:15 p.m. "Creating Out-of-This-World Children's Science Programming with Free NASA Resources" provides participants with a selection of hands-on NASA activities that are designed to engage children and their families in the library environment. Attendees will take home one-page guides designed specifically for library staff, families, and teachers relating to upcoming celestial, Earth, and NASA mission events in the coming year. Participants will walk away with information about connecting with potential partners, including members of NASA's Night Sky Network and Solar System Ambassadors.

ALA JOBLIST PLACEMENT CENTER

Saturday, January 9 and Sunday, January 10, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Sponsored by ALA's Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment, the Placement Center provides free career counseling and connects job seekers and employers. Job seekers can attend career guidance workshops, have résumés reviewed, and talk to employers. All services are free to job seekers and ALA membership is not required.

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Midwinter offers informal opportunities to ask questions, explore options, make recommendations, examine ideas, and reflect on the implications of updates, conversations, and what you've learned at the conference.

There are more than 200 **Discussion Groups**—loosely organized sessions on broad and timely topics, each sponsored by an ALA division, round table, or office. These highly interactive sessions are usually more of an open dialogue than strictly informational.

Kitchen-Table Conversations provide an opportunity to meet with others in the ALA community members, staff, attendees, external allies, and partners—to dig into our shared aspirations for ALA. Make connections at the **Networking Uncommons** space, a dedicated area at the convention center where you can gather in small groups to have a quick meeting, polish your presentation, follow up on a discussion, or recharge your batteries—literally and figuratively. Sign up for a time slot or just show up. The growing, participant-guided Unconference takes place on Friday, January 8, 9 a.m.–12 p.m. and brings the unstructured conversations people often have between conference sessions into the conference itself. Round out your experience at the end-of-conference Library Camp on Monday, January 11, **3:30–5 p.m.** Attendees will get together to talk about anything library- or conference-related with a focus on reflecting on what inspired you at the conference. ■

For an up-to-date list of dates and times, see the Midwinter scheduler at alamidwinter.org/scheduler.

LIBRARIES TRANSFORM

Minister attendees will have an opportunity to learn more about how to participate in and make the most of Libraries Transform, the new ALA national public awareness campaign. This new campaign highlights the transformative nature of libraries and the critical role they play in the digital age, including the critical roles of librarians, library staff, vendors, and supporters. The focus of the campaign is on what public, school, academic, and special libraries do for and with people, rather than what they have for people. The goal of the campaign is to change the conversation and, in so doing, to make a compelling case for funding.

Attendees will also find interactive activities in the Networking Uncommons and ALA Lounge, and are invited to take Libraries Transform ribbons, postcards, stickers, and window clings back home to their libraries.

Creativity, Innovation, and Change: Libraries Transform in the Digital Age!

Sunday, January 10, 1–2:30 p.m. ALA President Sari Feldman, Jonathan Zittrain, and others discuss innovative library environments and how we can illustrate value to decision makers and influencers.

Libraries Transform— Understanding Change

Saturday, January 9, 1–4 p.m. Trainers from Kotter International, experts in the process and leadership of change, will lead an interactive session to explore libraries' current context and look ahead to meeting imperatives for Libraries Transform. Session participants will address the questions: "Where am I in the process of leading change?" and "What do I need to be doing now to move my library into the future?"

Libraries Transform: **Civic and Social Innovation** Sunday, January 10, 8:30-11:30 a.m. (Civic Innovation) Monday, January 11, 8:30-11:30 a.m. (Social Innovation) Join Boston-based civic and social innovators, including representatives from Boston's Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics and Boston College's Center for Social Innovation, for two outward-looking forums exploring the changes happening in our communities. Attendees will be encouraged to think about how innovations can inspire our efforts to help libraries transform with three daily presenta-

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LIARANIESTRANSFORM.O	

A Libraries Transform banner hangs outside of Boston Public Library.

tions, and attendees are encouraged to drop in as their schedule allows.

If I Hadn't Believed It, I Wouldn't Have Seen It: **Exploring Systemic Racism** and Its Implications for **Our Lives and Work** Sunday, January 10, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Monday, January 11, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. The Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, with support from ALA President-Elect Julie Todaro, will offer workshops exploring the implications of race, systemic racism, and racial privilege in our personal and professional lives, with tools to recognize and address racism and other forms of oppression in our relationships, organizations, and institutions.

BOSTON'S BEST EATS

Where to dine during Midwinter

By Marie Morris



astern Massachusetts enjoys one of the country's most dynamic dining scenes, encompassing everything from budget-friendly storefronts for students to over-the-top places that put the "special" in "special occasion." These restaurant listings cover a range of cuisines and prices, emphasizing Boston neighborhoods that are convenient to Midwinter and its affiliated hotels: **Seaport District** (including **Fort Point**), **Downtown** and **Chinatown, North End** (Boston's Little Italy), **Back Bay,** and **South End.**

Early January can test even the sturdiest of Bostonians. Luckily, there's no better way to battle Mother Nature's winter assault than with New England's most famous culinary export: a bowl of hot clam chowder. You'll find options aplenty, as well as diverse dishes that vary from vegetarian food-truck snacks to luxurious steakhouse feasts. These listings only touch on Cambridge, a separate city with its own vibrant mix of restaurants. If you have the time and inclination to explore the other side of the Charles River, visit frommers.com or cambridgeusa.org for pointers.

PRICE GUIDE CAMBRIDGE NORTH Average price END per person for entrée without appetizers, drinks, tax, or tip. рошитоши **S:** under \$10 **\$\$:** \$11-\$20 **\$\$\$:** \$21-\$30 SEAPORT BACK \$\$\$\$: \$31 and up DISTRICT BAY CHINATOWN FORT POINT SOUTH Boston FND Convention Center

SEAPORT DISTRICT/ FORT POINT

Babbo Pizzeria 617-421-4466 babbopizzeria.com 11 Fan Pier Blvd.

Celebrity chef Mario Batali's first New England restaurant, in a cavernous space a block from the harbor, is a loud, lively destination for sublime brick-oven pizza and top-notch small plates. Try the potato and Brussels sprouts pizza with pancetta and smoked mozzarella (\$14), the guanciale pizza with egg, parmigiana, and scallions (\$14), or the grappacured salmon (\$7). Portions are modest—great for a reasonable lunch, even better for sharing satisfying tastes at dinner. Be sure to try at least one of the incredible pasta dishes like the pumpkin lune (\$15). L, D daily \$\$

The Barking Crab 617-426-2722 barkingcrab.com

88 Sleeper St. Overlooking the Fort Point Channel, this casual seafood restaurant and bar has a summery feel even in the depths of winter and a roaring wood stove to take the edge off the chill. Come here for simple fried, steamed, and broiled fish and shellfish, deftly prepared and served without pretension. *L*, *D* daily **\$5–\$\$\$**



Blue Dragon 617-338-8585 ming.com/blue-dragon.htm 324 A St.

Ming Tsai, who gained fame through his finedining restaurant in suburban Wellesley and genial presence on PBS, scores with this casual, friendly spot. It's popular for business lunches as well as groups sharing dishes and sampling creative cocktails. Asian meets trendy gastropub isn't an obvious combo, but bar food and strong flavors are a delicious match. Think fish and chips with black-vinegar aioli rather than malt vinegar, and pot stickers stuffed with Carolina pork barbecue (\$9). L (M–F), D (M–Sat) **\$\$**

Buco Trattoria 617-982-7949

bucotrattoria.com 300 Summer St.

A low-key spot on the lower level of a converted wool warehouse, Buco specializes in simple Italian cuisine—homemade pasta, panini, salads, and risotto. The atrium-like space can be loud, but you may not care when the food is this good. *B*, *L* (*M*–*F*) **\$\$**

The Daily Catch 617-772-4400 thedailycatch.com 2 Northern Ave., in the

Moakley Courthouse This is the place if you love seafood, garlic, or both. Unlike some restaurants that mess up anything trickier than deep-frying, it's a great choice for more complicated preparations: Try delectable monkfish marsala (\$21.75) or any dish with calamari (the house specialty). All food is prepared to order, and some dishes arrive still in the frying pan. There are other locations, including the North End original that opened in 1973, but the waterfront setting

Photos: Melissa Ostrow (top); Barking Crab



makes this one the jewel of the chain. *L*, *D* daily **\$\$-\$\$\$**

Legal Harborside 617-477-2900 270 Northern Ave. legalseafoods.com

The flagship of the internationally renowned Legal Sea Foods chain is this three-level harborfront restaurant, the only branch with a water view. It's hardly the back-alley local secret that foodies dream of, but it is terrific. From the celebrated clam chowder (\$6.95) to the simplest broiled filet to the fanciest shellfish concoction, everything is ultra-fresh, made from top-quality ingredients, and prepared with care. Ask your well-versed server for advice, or just order a big lobster. The wine list and desserts are also terrific. Check the website for info about the dozens of other locations, including Legal Test Kitchen at 225 Northern Ave. L, D daily \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$

DOWNTOWN/ CHINATOWN

Gene's Chinese Flatbread Cafe 617-482-1888 sites.google.com/site/genes chineseflatbreadcafe 86 Bedford St. The utilitarian space

The utilitarian space belies the culinary

TAKEOUT SPOTS NEAR THE CONVENTION CENTER

f the onsite dining options at the convention center and the pricey national names in the neighborhood don't butter your biscuit, try a local favorite for takeout. Two mouth-watering branches of local mini-chains, both within 10 minutes on foot, serve three meals daily. At both, you're welcome to sit, but be aware that they're extremely busy at lunch on weekdays.

Flour Bakery and Café, 12 Farnsworth St. (617-338-4333; flourbakery .com), brainchild of celebrated chef and cookbook author Joanne Chang, draws crowds for sandwiches, soups, and salads as well as delectable baked goods made in-house.

Longtime favorite **J. Pace & Son**, 1 Park Ln. (857-366-4640; jpaceandson .com), is a deli and grocery that also offers prepared meals and especially good Italian specialties.

Another old-school spot is a 20-minute walk (or five-minute cab ride) away, beyond the cruise-ship terminal. In addition to a huge variety of hot and cold sandwiches, **Scola's Sandwich**, 88 Black Falcon Ave. (617-478-0408), serves salads, pasta dishes, and excellent breakfast sandwiches.



delights at Gene's, which specializes in spicy dishes from Xi'an, in Shaanxi Province. The menu includes other tasty options—notably the eponymous flatbread but most people are here for the hand-pulled noodles. Thick and chewy, they're excellent served cold or in soup, and the version with cumin lamb (\$8.40) might just haunt your dreams. Cash only. *L*, *D* (*M*–*Sat*) **\$**

Great Taste Bakery and Restaurant 617-426-6688

bostongreattastebakery .com

61–63 Beach St.

The perfect combination of Hong Kong-style and Chinese-American classics is reason enough to seek out this nofrills double storefront. Bonus: Great Taste also boasts terrific à la carte dim sum and an excellent bakery that sells not-too-sweet Chinese treats like custard buns (\$.90) and egg custard tarts (\$.80) and Westernstyle layer cakes. *B, L, D daily* **\$-\$\$**

Sultan's Kitchen

617-570-9009 sultans-kitchen.com 116 State St. Mostly a takeout operation, Sultan's Kitchen has a small seating area and a huge reputation. It's an under-theradar favorite for business lunches over delectable Turkish and Middle Eastern specialties, wonderful soups, and a rainbow of salads. "Eat well like the sultans," indeed. L (M–Sat) \$

Trade

617-451-1234 trade-boston.com 540 Atlantic Ave.

Come for the raucous bar scene, stay for the creative Mediterranean and New American food: small plates, flatbreads, salads, pasta, and more, all perfect for sharing and sampling. Business travelers and foodies are equally happy in this glass-walled, highceilinged space—and they're all yelling about it. *L (M–Sat), D daily* **\$5–\$\$\$**

Union Oyster House 617-227-2750 unionoysterhouse.com 41 Union St.

The country's oldest restaurant (since 1826) is on the Freedom Trail—tourist central—but popular with locals. Simple, well-prepared food is the not-so-secret formula: super-fresh oysters (\$16.50) shucked while you watch, clam chowder, broiled and fried seafood, and gingerbread and Boston cream pie add up to a classic New England experience. *L*, *D* daily **\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

NORTH END

Antico Forno 617-723-6733 anticofornoboston.com 93 Salem St.

The forno (oven) is the wood-burning heart of this loud yet cozy place, which draws a steady stream of diners for excellent Italian and Italian-American cuisine, notably pizza—try the dessert version, with Nutella and fresh fruit (\$13). Baked pasta dishes, also served steaming hot from the oven, are another great choice. *L*, *D* daily **\$\$–\$\$\$**

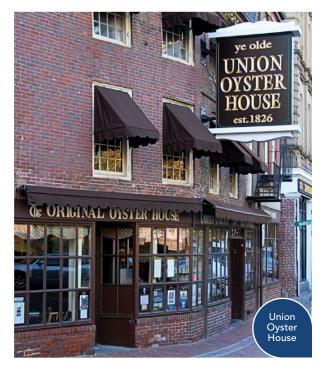
Artú

617-742-4336 artuboston.com 6 Prince St.

Though it's right on the Freedom Trail—which often means mediocre food and halfhearted service—Artú is a certified neighborhood favorite. It serves terrific roasted meats, pastas, salads, and (at lunch) panini and pizza to both out-of-towners and picky locals. *L*, *D daily* **\$-\$\$\$**

Galleria Umberto Rosticceria 617-227-5709 289 Hanover St.

Lunch at this dirt-cheap cafeteria-style place is a true Boston experience, especially if you like incredible Sicilian-style (thick crust) pizza. Locals, office workers, and sightseers form a line moments after the doors open. On



Hei La Moon 617-338-8813 heilamoon.com 88 Beach St.

Baked

rigatoni at Trade

> The best dim sum in the city—the variety is largest on weekends—brings huge crowds to this cavernous restaurant. It's worth the wait. *L*, *D* daily **\$-\$\$**

Sakurabana

617-542-4311 sakurabanaboston.com 57 Broad St.

Situated for decades on a nondescript Financial District corner, Sakurabana has outlasted countless show-off sushi places with its top-notch food and excellent service. It's a madhouse at midday (lunch boxes and specials are good deals starting at \$9) and calmer after work. L (M–F), D (M–Sat) **\$5–\$\$\$**

january/february 2016

ON THE GO: BOSTON'S FOOD TRUCKS

Although some of the city's dozens of food trucks come off the road in late fall, a surprising number operate in winter months. Lunch is by far the most popular meal; some trucks open early or close late, though usually not both. Boston's trucks serve an impressive variety of cuisines and dishes, from New England clam chowder to Asian noodles. Menus are heavy on salads and sandwiches, with plenty of proper meals in the mix.

Trucks often move around from day to day, and many don't operate weekends. In addition to regular stops within a 15-minute walk from the Convention Center in the Seaport District, popular locations include spots along the Rose Kennedy

Greenway downtown and around Copley Square in Back Bay. Visit cityofboston.gov/foodtrucks for hours and more information. Always check ahead for schedules, location, and payment options (at least one truck, Clover at Dewey Square, accepts credit cards only).





their paper plates: arancini (deep-fried rice balls stuffed with beef, peas, and cheese; \$3); meat, vegetable, and cheese calzones (\$4.25-\$4.75); and sublime panzarotti (mozzarella-stuffed fried potato croquettes; \$1.45). Cash only. L (M-Sat) \$

La Summa 617-523-9503 lasumma.com 30 Fleet St.

A neighborhood native owns and runs this southern Italian spot, a friendly place where many specialties are family recipes; try the handmade pasta. D daily **\$\$-\$\$\$**

Neptune Oyster 617-742-3474

neptuneoyster.com 63 Salem St.

As crowded as a rushhour subway car and about as noisy, this tiny place serves the best seafood in the North Endpossibly in all of Boston.

Be ready to wait. Then start with oysters, enticingly displayed in the window on ice. Move on to anything that sounds good; even the burger is terrific. The signature dish is the lobster roll, served cold with mayonnaise or hot with butter (\$29). L, D daily **\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

Regina Pizzeria 617-227-0765 pizzeriaregina.com 11¹/₂ Thacher St.

That picture you have in your head of a neighborhood pizza place in an old-time Italian neighborhood? With the oven that's been roaring since 1926, the waitresses who call you "honey," and the unbelievable pizza? This is that place. L, D daily \$

BACK BAY

Brasserie Jo

617-425-3240 brasseriejoboston.com 120 Huntington Ave., in the Colonnade Hotel **Boston**

A classic French brasserie with long hours and a wide-ranging menu, this lively yet elegant place is a welcome refuge from



the busy neighborhood throughout the day. Service is lovely, whether you're just grabbing a late-afternoon glass of wine or settling in for a date with a tower of pristine shellfish. B, L, D daily \$\$-\$\$\$

Cafe Jaffa

617-536-0230 cafejaffa.net 48 Gloucester St.

In a cozy space on a side street, this is an oasis of top-notch Middle Eastern food and a bargain for pricey Back Bay. Fill up on a sandwich or salad for less than 10 bucks, or splurge on a full meal with delicious mint lemonade. L, D daily **\$-\$\$**

Davio's Northern Italian Steakhouse 617-357-4810 davios.com

75 Arlington St. Northern Italian classics, including great risotto, share the menu with

steakhouse favorites. plus inventive starters like cheesesteak spring rolls (\$11), which were invented here. The dining room hums, but the noise level is surprisingly reasonable. Davio's isn't cheap, but it's worth every penny. Brunch (Sun), L (M–F), D daily **\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

Jasper White's **Summer Shack** 617-867-9955 summershackrestaurant .com

50 Dalton St.

Although it feels like a casual seaside place (think corn dogs, lobster rolls, fried clams), the Summer Shack tastes like the brainchild of a gourmet chef (think pan-roasted lobster with chervil and chives). Also at 149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., Cambridge (617-520-9500; L, D daily). L, D daily **\$\$-\$\$\$\$**



Mike & Patty's 617-423-3447 mikeandpattys.com 12 Church St.

This closet-size, mostly takeout place in Bay Village almost defies description; let's say "gourmet diner." Breakfast options-sandwiches on breads from top local bakeries—are sublime. At lunch, try a veggie sandwich with honey-whipped ricotta (\$9); you'll never miss the meat. *B*, *L* daily \$

Myers + Chang 617-542-5200 myersandchang.com

1145 Washington St. Try to hit this convivial spot with a group and share the familiar and unusual dishes, which incorporate flavors and preparations from all over the continent. Mix and match noodles, dumplings, salads, and main courses; quench the fire of the spicier options, such as the hot Szechuan dan dan noodles (\$12)

and the green papaya slaw (\$6), with sake or a cocktail. The glass-walled room can grow loud at night. Brunch (Sat, Sun), L (M–F), D daily \$\$

The Salty Pig

617-536-6200 thesaltypig.com 130 Dartmouth St.

It's all in the name: the specialty at this cavernous place is house-cured pork, aka "salty pig parts." Order à la carte from a selection of meats, pâtés, and sausages, choose one or more of the excellent cheeses and condiments. and wait while the kitchen assembles your charcuterie board. If that doesn't appeal, the salads, sandwiches, and pizzas are terrific, especially the roast pork shoulder sandwich with taleggio, Belgian endive, apple cider vinaigrette, and kohlrabi (\$13), and the pizza Toscana, with Salty Pig fennel sausage, escarole, mozzarella, and Calabrian chili (\$15). L, D daily \$\$

Sweet Cheeks Q 617-266-1300

sweetcheeksq.com 1381 Boylston St.

Almost everything about this upscale joint near Fenway Park is perfect succulent barbecue, fantastic side dishes, hospitable service, and biscuits so good you'll forsake your Southern grandma. But it's so loud! Come with someone you've been wanting to yell at, and go wild. L, D daily **\$\$-\$\$\$**



| january/february 2016

SOUTH END

Coppa

617-391-0902 coppaboston.com 253 Shawmut Ave.

Phenomenal bar snacks and cured meats, amazing pizza, and scrumptious pasta and main courses such as the spelt tagliatelle with wild mushroom, sage, and acorn squash (half portion: \$15; full portion: \$24) and the wood oven-roasted rock shrimp with chickpea purée, smoked sea salt, and Urfa peppers (\$13) draw huge crowds to this casual storefront. Portions are modest, which means the bill can mount quickly, but this is some of the best Italian food around. Brunch (Sun), L (M–F), D daily **\$\$-\$\$\$**

DeLux Café 617-338-5258 100 Chandler St.

A pregentrification throwback in an increasingly refined neighborhood, this is essentially a dive bar with excellent veggiefriendly food and a great beer menu. Try the stuffed poblanos (\$7.95) and the grilled cheese with fried green tomatoes, stewed peppers, and fontina cheese on sourdough bread (\$7.95). Part of the appeal is the décor—a scrapbook of 20th-century pop culture (posters, photos, postcards, and such). Check out the Elvis shrine. Cash only. D daily \$-\$\$



The Elephant Walk 617-247-1500 elephantwalk.com 1415 Washington St.

French on one side, Cambodian on the other, this is the most interesting menu in Boston—and some of the tastiest food. Spicy specialties such as the loc lac (spicy beef tenderloin, half portion: \$14; full portion: \$22) are worth seeking out. Many dishes are available in half portions, and vegetarian and vegan options are extensive. Also at 2067 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-492-6900; L [M-F], D daily). Brunch (Sat, Sun), L (Th–F), D daily **\$\$–\$\$\$**

Mike's City Diner

617-267-9393 mikescitydiner.com 1714 Washington St.

A neighborhood stalwart that serves huge portions of yummy diner classics, Mike's often has a line out the door on weekends—and with good reason. The Southender omelette with corned-beef hash and cheese (\$8.95) and Mike's Famous Pilgrim turkey

sandwich, complete with stuffing and cranberry sauce (\$9.25), are worth the wait. Note: The lunch menu is not served on weekends. Cash only. B daily, L (M–F) **\$-\$\$**

Picco Restaurant 617-927-0066 piccorestaurant.com 513 Tremont St.

The name is short for "pizza and ice cream company," and salads, pastas, sandwiches, and the occasional standout Mexican dish complement the divine brickoven pizza. Ice cream in a dish, cone, sundae, or soda makes a perfect chaser. L, D daily \$\$

South End Buttery 617-482-1015 southendbuttery.com

314 Shawmut Ave.

A satisfying combination of lively café and cozy restaurant, the Buttery is known for luscious baked goods, breakfast items, sandwiches, salads, and hearty soups. At dinner and weekend brunch, the back room and downstairs turn

into a sit-down comfortfood restaurant. In both spaces, takeout is always popular. Brunch (Sat, Sun), B, L, D daily **\$-\$\$\$**

Toro

617-536-4300 toro-restaurant.com/boston 1704 Washington St.

The original Toro (now overshadowed by its New York City sibling) is an excellent choice for lunch and less enjoyable though still delicious—at dinner, when noise and the long wait for a table can take a toll. At both meals, Barcelona-style tapas are sure to please. Mix hot and cold, meat and seafood, vegetables and more vegetables (\$5–\$23 per plate). The friendly waitstaff can help you decide whether and when to order more. Brunch (Sun), L (M–F), D daily \$\$-\$\$\$ I



Complete Idiot's Travel Guide to

Boston; and Boston for Dummies.

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Currents

Kaleema Abdurrahman joined the Hillcrest Heights branch of Prince George's County (Md.) Memorial Library System as a librarian.

Megan Austin joined the John E. Jaqua Law Library at the University of Oregon in Eugene as law instruction librarian.

Travis Bautz became director of MidPointe Library System in Middletown, Ohio, August 24. October 1 Joy Beckwith retired as children's librarian at Weston (Conn.) Public Library. David R. Benjamin joined the University of Central Florida Libraries in Orlando as head of special collections and university archives in

September.

Renée Bosman joined the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as government information librarian at Davis Library.

■ Yakima (Wash.) Valley Libraries appointed Danielle Elder as a librarian at its Central Library.

■ In August **Bonnie** Estrada retired as director of Talcott Free Library District in Rockton, Illinois.

Mary Margaret "Maggie" Farrell was appointed dean of libraries at Clemson (S.C.) University in July.

Brendan Fay recently joined Emporia (Kans.) State University as assistant professor of library and information management.

Joshua Finnell became scholarly communications

CITED

The South Central Chapter of the Medical Library Association has named Paula Craig, head librarian at Northwestern State University College of Nursing and Allied Health in Shreveport, Louisiana, as its Librarian of the Year.

Kathleen Hickey Green, a trustee at Massillon (Ohio) Public Library and a retired school librarian at Washington High School and Longfellow Junior High in Massillon, received the Ohio Library Council's Trustee Award of Achievement October 7. On September 25, New York State Senator

William J. Larkin presented a legislative resolution honoring Marilyn McIntosh, executive director of Monroe Free Library, on her retirement after 33 years of service.





Mary Margaret "Maggie" Farrell

librarian at Los Alamos (N.Mex.) National Laboratory in October.

Christine Fleischer became director of the Frank J. Basloe Library in Herkimer, New York.

Megan Goves was promoted to director of Talcott Free Library District in Rockton, Illinois, September 1.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Library promoted Nick Graham to university archivist October 1.

■ Wilma Grey, director of Newark (N.J.) Public Library, retired in October. Elizabeth Hanley

retired as head of youth services at Muskogee (Okla.) Public Library in October.

- November | Lisa Hughes retired as manager of Baltimore County Public Library's Towson branch.
- Christine Hughey retired as community librarian at Fort Vancouver (Wash.) Regional Library District's Washougal Community Library.
- Chemera "CJ" Ivory joined the University of Central Florida Libraries in Orlando as business librarian in August.



Sharon B Phillips

James Teliha

Michael Keepper retired as director of Herrin (Ill.) City Library September 30.

October 5 Nancy Kendzior became adult services manager at Geneva (Ill.) Public Library District.

■ In November, St. Pete Beach (Fla.) Public Library appointed Betcinda Kettells as public services coordinator.

October 1 Kim Kluge joined Beaver Dam (Wis.) Community Library as youth services librarian.

Jinxuan "Jenny" Ma recently became assistant professor of library and information management at Emporia (Kans.) State University.

Maureen Marton joined St. Pete Beach (Fla.) Public Library as technical services coordinator in November.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill appointed **Brian** Moynihan as head of health information technology initiatives at the Health Sciences Library October 1.

Lucie P. Osborn, county librarian of Laramie (Wyo.) County Library System, retired in June.

Sharon B. Phillips

joined New York State Library's Division of Library Development in Albany as library development specialist September 24.

Melissa Randall
 became electronic
 resources cataloger at
 Clemson (S.C.) University
 Libraries in September.

• Cari Rerat recently became the director of the Pryor (Okla.)Public Library.

• Cynthia K. Richey retired as director of Mt. Lebanon Public Library in Pittsburgh October 11, after 32 years with the library.

■ Joan M. Serpico joined Rider University's Moore Library in Lawrenceville, New Jersey, as assistant professor and librarian.

■ Paul Sharpe became university librarian at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley November 2.

• October 12 **Amelia Shelley** became executive director of Fort Vancouver (Wash.) Regional Library District.

■ James Teliha became director of the library and learning commons at Utica (N.Y.) College September 28.

Susan Ungham retired as manager of Medina





Mary Anne Waltz

Stephen Weiter

OBITUARIES

■ Muriel Breitenbach, 92, a longtime administrative secretary for the Association for Library Service to Children, died October 5.

■ Sister M. Dorothy Neuhofer, 84, university archivist and special collections librarian at Saint Leo (Fla.) University's Daniel J. Cannon Memorial Library, died October 14. Neuhofer was a member of the Benedictine Sisters of Florida, and worked at Cannon Library for 50 years, holding the rank of professor.



Stewart

David Marshall Stewart, 99, chief librarian of the Public Library of Nashville and Davidson County (Tenn.) from 1960 until his 1985 retirement.

died August 14. His accomplishments at the library included the

County (Ohio) District Library's Brunswick branch August 31.

• Sandy Valenti recently joined Emporia (Kans.) State University as assistant professor of library and information management.

■ James Walther recently became assistant professor of library and information management at Emporia (Kans.) State University.

• September 24 Mary Anne Waltz became a library development specialist for the New York State Library Division of Library Development in Albany. September 21 Stephen
 Weiter was appointed dean of university libraries at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan.

 Eric White became curator of rare books and special collections at Princeton (N.J.) University Library in September.

■ The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Library has promoted **Sarah Towner Wright** to clinical librarian and graduate medical education specialist in the Health Sciences Library.

At ALA

Brad Hooper, *Booklist* adult books editor, retired

Send notices and color photographs for Currents to Amy Carlton, acarlton@ala.org.

construction of a new main library and increasing the number of branches more than fivefold, founding the WPLN radio station in 1962 and the WPLN Talking Library for the Blind in 1976, and creating the now-statewide Library Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in 1978. He had previously worked at the Poinsett County, Arkansas, library system; the Works Progress Administration as director of library projects for Tennessee; the Library of Congress; and the CIA. He also served as president of ALA's Public Library Section in 1966–1967.

■ Linda Waddle, 78, deputy executive director of the Young Adult Library Services Association and the American Association of School Librarians from 1991 until her retirement in March 2002, died September 28 after a long illness.

> in October after more than 40 years with the magazine.

• Beth Nawalinski has been promoted to deputy director of United for Libraries.

■ Kimberly Redd, program officer for education in the Office for HR Development and Recruitment, has added responsibility for ALA-APA's certification programs to her duties.

Donna Seaman was promoted to editor, adult books, for *Booklist*.

■ **Rebecca Vnuk** was promoted to editor, collection management and library outreach, for *Booklist* November 2. ■

Your Story Matters

NerdCon honors the diversity of storytelling

by Jennifer Burek Pierce

erdCon: Stories. It was a thing." This was the prompt conclusion of organizer Hank Green as he spoke before an enthusiastic crowd of teens and tweens at NerdCon: Stories-a conference embracing "the power and magic of storytelling," featuring podcasters, novelists, cartoonists, musicians, and poets-on October 9, the morning it opened.

At 9:01, someone sitting near me in the auditorium of the Minneapolis Convention Center whispered to a friend, "They're late." When Green



appeared Hank minutes later, Green told his audience,

"Stories and each other are the most valuable things we have."

happy, raucous applause punctuated almost every sentence, particularly when he promised another Nerd-Con. less than 10 minutes

into the inaugural event. He told his audience, which included parents, educators, and librarians, that their attendance was "trusting" and said, "I'll try not to betray that trust. Stories and each other are the most valuable things we have."

What I can tell you after a weekend immersed in all things near and dear to nerds is that the nerds who convened this gathering share the philosophy that governs the way we build library collections and think about library users. There isn't one

story to tell about NerdCon, because NerdCon's fundamental assumption was that all stories matter and that there are many ways to tell them.

Billed as "the first of the NerdCons," although another California-based entity runs a conference with a nearly identical name, NerdCon declared its purpose as celebrating storytelling, writ large. In addition to popular young adult novelists like John Green (brother of Hank), Maggie Stiefvater, and Jacqueline Woodson, NerdCon included Welcome to Night Vale cast members, Harry Potter Alliance communications director Jackson Bird, and Every Single Word creator Dylan Marron. The link, besides what performance artist and comedian Desiree Burch called "our deepest nerdistry," was narrative and the myriad, multimedia ways it manifests in the 21st century.

NerdCon was a place where everyone got the joke, the allusion. I walked down hallways where Dungeon Masters discussed the properties of revenants and *Harry* Potter enthusiasts recognized one another by their house colors. Providing a brief, if satirical, history of literature, Paul Sabourin of comedic musical duo Paul and Storm highlighted events and authors from the 12th century to the late 20th centurya time when, as he put it, "Young adults learn to read, and J. K. Rowling kills millions of trees." He and others echoed the principles of collection development and readers' advisory when they declared popular fiction no less important than great books.

"I want to defend escapist fiction," John Green said. "I like fiction. I like reading it. I like writing it."

The considerable energy, humor, and cleverness didn't prevent attention to serious subjects. John Green noted that NerdCon coincided with Mental Illness Awareness Week and discussed stories as a release from the "absolutely exhausting and infuriating" challenges of "real stress and overwhelmingness." He said, "Because stories have that power, we have to be responsible in how we use them."

Presenters based in online environments, whether fan-created communities, YouTube, or podcasts, also had clear messages for young media users and creators. "Your experiences are far more universal than you think," author Mara Wilson observed. Presenters also encouraged respect for others' stories. Woodson spoke about the need "to see people as deeply human and that we all exist in that."

Young readers turned out for this new event, revealing that regardless of their enthusiasm for The Fault in Our Stars or Harry Potter, they regard stories as something taking place both on and off the page. For librarians who want to relive the camaraderie, laughter, and messages, video segments from this year's NerdCon are available on YouTube (bit.ly/1Q8IvYR).

JENNIFER BUREK PIERCE is associate professor of library and information science at the University of Iowa in Iowa City and author of What Adolescents Ought to Know. Email: jennifer-burek-pierce@uiowa.edu.

Classifieds | PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Career Leads from JobLIST

Your #1 source for job openings in Library and Information Science and Technology

LIBRARY DIRECTOR, Eau Claire, WI The Library Board is seeking an individual qualified to lead the L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library consisting of 46 employees and an annual budget in excess of \$4 million. Eau Claire, a university community of 67,000 people, is 90 miles east of the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area. The Director is responsible for developing and directing library policy and programs consistent with the direction of the Library Board of Trustees. In this capacity the Director is responsible for overall direction, organization and coordination of actions of all units within the public library. Assesses long-range library needs, recommends staffing levels, and hires upper-level staff. Shares with the Trustees the major responsibility for the library's development and fundraising functions. Starting salary negotiable depending upon education and experience. The Department provides an excellent fringe benefit package. Requirements:

- Master's degree in Library Science from an ALA-accredited library school and eligible for Grade 1 Wisconsin Public Library Certification
- Previous and progressively responsible library administration and leadership experience
- Excellent organizational and financial management skills

- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Ability to manage the growth and development of Eau Claire's premiere library while maintaining its relevance in a changing community
- Ability to leverage cutting-edge technology to keep the library competitive

Application Deadline: January 18, 2016. The application and related information is available online at the City of Eau Claire website, www .eauclairewi.gov/jobs. If you have any questions, please contact the City of Eau Claire Human Resources Department, 203 S. Farwell Street, P.O. Box 5148, Eau Claire, WI 54701, 715-839-4921. An Equal Opportunity Employer.

Georgia College & State University is currently seeking an Assistant Professor-Tenure Track; Scholarly Communication Librarian. To apply please visit: www.gcsujobs.com/postings/2489. Georgia College is an Affirmative Action/ Equal Opportunity Institution. www .gcsu.edu

CONTACT Email joblist@ala.org or call 800-545-2433, Patrick Burke, ext. 4216. Career Leads, American Libraries, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; fax 312-280-2520.



Librarian's Library

Aiding Student Research

by Karen Muller

ere in Chicago, middle and high school students are working on their Chicago History Fair projects, with the typical final product being a poster and a research paper. Students in other cities likely work on similar projects. On college campuses, students working on their own projects may realize they need more assistance from, well, someone-and of course we hope it will be a librarian skilled in research, or better yet, skilled in teaching how to do research. Here's a roundup of a few tools that might be of help this season.



One of my children received this as a holiday gift: *The Student's Survival Guide to Research*, by Monty L. McAdoo. This very readable guide instructs on the

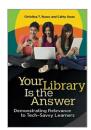
methodology of research, from choosing a topic to planning and doing research to producing the final product. McAdoo stresses the iterative nature of the process and introduces related concepts: time management, the role of the reference librarian, types of research sources, and plagiarism. The final chapter is a step -bystep procedure for researching a topic, referencing the preceding chapters. ALA NEAL-SCHUMAN, 2016. 232 P. \$50. PBK. 978-0-8389-1276-8

In Becoming an Embedded Librarian: Making Connections in the Classroom, Michelle Reale looks at the research process from the other side of the desk. An embedded librarian is "situated within and among those whom one is serving." The practice isn't new: Special librarians and departmental librarians often function as embedded librarians on college cam-



puses where collections are in the same facility where users work. Focusing on the classroom involvement of the embedded librarian. Reale

describes her experience in establishing a program, looking at the importance of building relationships, developing a teaching—and coaching—style, creating a brand, and setting goals. Reale reports her stumbles, failures, and successes, and confirms that building relationships with students through the classroom yields better researchers than "one-shot" instruction. ALA EDITIONS, 2016. 128 P. \$54. PBK. 978-0-8389-1367-3.



In high school, librarians work with students who do not know a world without Google. Your Library Is the Answer: Demonstrating Relevance to

Tech-Savvy Learners, by Christina T. Russo and Cathy Swan, covers social bookmarking, apps, and online learning sites that may be paired with classroom activities by teachers, and



We hope students working on projects will turn to a librarian skilled

in research for help.

provides practical guidance. This book is also a call to leadership in 21st-century learning, with chapters on advocacy, engagement, collaboration, instruction, networking, adaptation, and innovation. The authors offer pointers in responding to Common Core standards and working to build the library support into teaching and assessment. LIBRARIES UNLIMITED, 2015. 160 P. \$40. PBK. 978-1-5988-4933-2

A more traditional approach is *Introduction to Reference and Information Services in Today's School Library* by Lesley S. J. Farmer. She starts with assessing collection needs and building a collection that responds to those



needs, and then moves to providing the reference interactions and instructional support for both the physical collections and online resources.

Brief overviews of legal issues, adherence to standards, assessment, and ways to package information—blogs, podcasts, modular learning aids, pathfinders, and information gateways—are also covered.

ROWMAN & LITTLEFIELD, 2014. 196 P. \$61. PBK. 978-0-8108-8718-3 (ALSO AVAILABLE AS AN EBOOK.)

Finally, the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) offers two toolkits with skill sets that can be adapted to all types of libraries. Modern Pathfinders: Creating Better Research Guides by Jason Puckett is a practical guide for building handouts and web pages-using any type of program—to deliver a structured starting



place for research. Topics address: making certain that learning objectives are reflected in the pathfinder. that learning styles are considered, and that

the writing and visual structure of the document are well-adapted to web delivery. The development of a cohesive set of pathfinders is no light undertaking, so he also provides pointers for assessing the value of the pathfinders with tips for administering the program to ensure continued relevance and reliability of the research aids offered. ACRL, 2015, 156 P. \$42, PBK, 978-0-8389-8817-6 (ALSO AVAILABLE AS AN EBOOK.)

Owning and Using Scholarship: An IP Handbook for Teachers and Researchers, by Kevin L. Smith, covers intellectual property issues with regard to copyright, patents, and trademark. Looking at both the manage-



ment of intellectual property rights on campus as well as the user-oriented discussion of using copyrighted works for scholarly purposes, Smith

explores how copyright management extends scholarship. He also looks at technological protection and international implications. ACRL, 2014. 250 P. \$54. PBK. 978-0-8389-8747-6 (ALSO AVAILABLE AS AN EBOOK.)

THE BESTSELLERS LIST

THE TOP-SELLING BOOKS FROM ALA PUBLISHING (SINCE NOVEMBER 1, 2015)

TOP 3 IN PRINT



Connections in the Classroom Michelle Reale Readers will feel confident applying the lessons learned

1. Becoming an Embedded Librarian: Making

from Reale's firsthand account to their own experiences both in and out of the classroom.



2. FRBR, Before and After: A Look at Our Bibliographic Models

Karen Coyle

Coyle's articulate treatment of the issues at hand helps bridge the divide between traditional cataloging practice and the algorithmic metadata approach. (See excerpt, p. 48.)



3. The Weeding Handbook: A Shelf-by-Shelf Guide Rebecca Vnuk

Vnuk, author of the popular Weeding Tips column on Booklist Online, takes the guesswork out of this delicate but necessary process, giving public and school library staff the knowledge and confidence to effectively weed any collection, of any size.

TOP 3 IN EBOOKS



1. The Readers' Advisory Guide to Horror, 2nd edition Becky Siegel Spratford

As both an introductory guide for librarians just dipping their toes into the brackish water of scary fiction, as well as a fount of new ideas for horror-aware reference staff, Spratford's book is infernally appropriate.



2. The Top Technologies Every Librarian Needs to Know: A LITA Guide

Kenneth J. Varnum, editor

Varnum and his handpicked team of contributors show library technology staff and administrators where to invest time and money to receive the greatest benefits.



3. New on the Job: A School Librarian's Guide to Success, 2nd edition

Hilda K. Weisburg and Ruth Toor

From job search strategies to the nitty-gritty of creating acceptable use policies, this book shares the joys and perils of the profession, along with practical advice from decades of experience in school library programs.

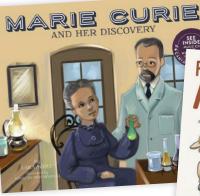
Music Makers

Cantata Learning

Cantata Learning is an educational publisher that creates books and music audio that address content areas for pre-K through 3rd-grade students, using familiar and original music, simple text, and age-appropriate illustrations. Simply put, the publisher pairs stories with music to reach kids.

Cantata offers books in a variety of genres: fiction, language arts, life sciences, math, science, social and emotional learning, and social sciences, as well as series books on animals, shapes, sing-alongs, and science biographies for younger readers. The music for each story is tailored to its specific audience: sing-alongs for younger children and illustrative, story-based songs for older children. The music comes on an accompanying CD and is also accessible online. Each book is fully illustrated and features a glossary and sturdy library binding.

Cantata also makes a variety of resources available on its website that teachers and librarians can use to enhance both their classroom presentations of Cantata books



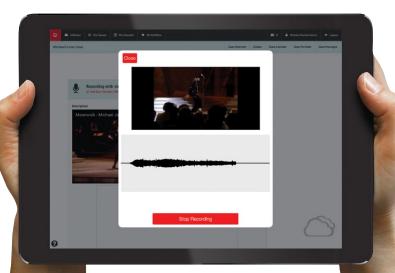
and their overall teaching methods, including videos, additional music, lesson plans, grade-specific teaching tips for Cantata titles, research, white papers, presentations, and printable posters.

Learn more about Cantata Learning at cantatalearning.com.

MusicFirst Student App

Digital music education company MusicFirst has created an app that streamlines music education for students and teachers, using cloudbased solutions.

The MusicFirst Student App allows students to continue their



Cantata Learning music books



in-school music learning outside of the classroom. When connected to a school or library's MusicFirst Online Classroom subscription, the app lets students view and complete assignments, using their iPhones or iPads.

To access the work, a student username and password must be set up by a teacher, librarian, or school administrator. Upon login, students will see a list of tasks assigned to them. If an assignment requires the students to make a recording, the app provides a recorder that allows students to play directly into the microphone on their mobile device. A metronome is built into the app, and time signatures and beats per minute can be adjusted to make music creation even easier.

After they are satisfied with their recording, students can use the app to submit the finished project directly to the MusicFirst cloud for their teachers to review from a desktop computer.

The MusicFirst Student App isn't just a standalone product; it is integrated into two of the most

WHISPERROOM FOR MAKERSPACES

Product: WhisperRoom, Inc., whisperroom.com

Details: The WhisperRoom is a sound isolation booth that significantly reduces ambient and acoustic noise



from outside the booth. It can be used as a vocal booth for recording music, voiceovers, and translations, as a broadcast booth, musical instrument practice space, as a medical or audiology testing lab, and more.

User (above): Jeff Beavers, Makers in Loudoun Libraries (MILL) studio coordinator, Gum Spring branch of the Loudoun County (Va.) Public Library in Stone Ridge

How do you use your WhisperRoom? This past June, we opened the MILL Studio, Loudoun County Public Library's first formal makerspace. The WhisperRoom is a prominent feature and provides our patrons an area to record with professional-level quality.

How does WhisperRoom serve your library's needs?

The WhisperRoom is one of the main attractions for the MILL Studio. Our teen and adult patrons regularly use the room to record music and podcasts. Many have expressed their gratitude for the space, saying they were previously spending more than \$100 an hour to record in a commercial studio.

What are the main benefits? The main benefit is sound reduction. The WhisperRoom is not completely

a soundproof, and those recording can often be heard from

soundproof, and those recording can often be heard from outside—at the volume of a whisper. Sound from outside the WhisperRoom does not get in, though, and this is where the real value lies. Our patrons are able to record without any background or otherwise unwanted noise.

What would you like to see improved or added to the WhisperRoom? I would have liked to see more sound dampening foam included in the cost of the initial purchase. We had to buy a dozen additional panels to fully cover the interior walls. Without these, the room barely muffled someone inside. The panels also came with only two adhesive Velcro strips each. This was not enough to keep them on the wall. After attempting several different solutions, we had to use a staple gun to keep the panels hanging.

successful cloud-based apps that MusicFirst offers, with complete integration of additional MusicFirst apps in the works. Focus on Sound, an app that introduces the sound of musical instruments and voices and educates students on musical terms using hundreds of photos, recordings, music scores, videos, and a fully integrated testing system; and Noteflight Learn, an app that offers access to a private online community for music education, complete with performance and assessment tools, can be accessed via the Music-First Student App. Tasks that have been assigned to students with these supplemental apps can be completed

and submitted to the cloud via the Student App.

The MusicFirst Student App is compatible with all Apple iOS mobile devices and is available for free at the Mac App Store.

Download it at itunes.apple.com/ us/app/musicfirst-student-app/ id1015314297.

To have a new product considered for this section, contact Phil Morehart at pmorehart@ala.org.

THE BOOKEND

Globe contains gold flakes suspended in liquid. This 1932 mechanical button also came in a GOP version with an elephant kicking a donkey.

HAVE NOTHING

HIDE

Preside

From George Washington's presidential inauguration in 1789.

Rebecca Lomax/American Libraries (Karpinski); Busy Beaver Button Company (buttons

Photos:

JOINE

PUSHING BUTTONS BUTTON MUSEUM ARCHIVES TINY PIECES OF HISTORY

MOCRATIC VO

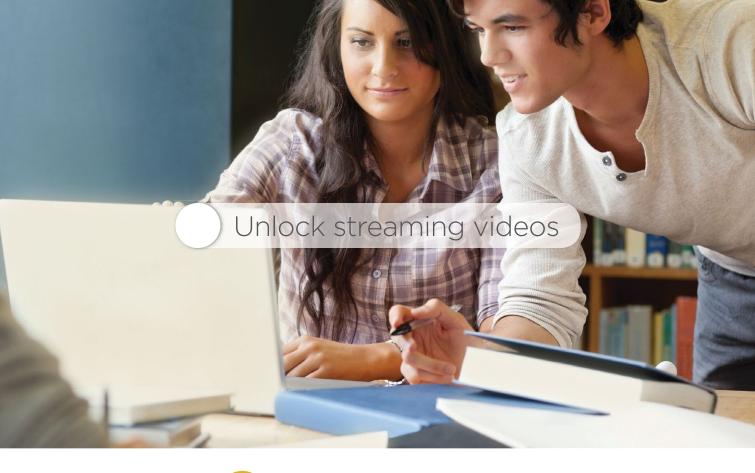
Busy Beaver Button Company started in a Chicago apartment in 1995, making one-inch buttons for local bands. As the company grew, so did its collection of rare, antique, and just plain odd buttons from around the country. Donated buttons also poured in, and the owners looked for a librarian intern to catalog and manage the thousands of artifacts.

Enter Christy Karpinski (right), who has since turned that internship into a permanent position as digital librarian and museum manager at Busy Beaver's Button Museum (buttonmuseum.org), which now displays 9,000 pinback pieces of cultural history and ephemera.

Karpinski's background is in photography, but she has also made websites and organized digital collections of photos, which spurred an interest in metadata. Metadata classes then led her to library school at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. "I was interested in organizing and structuring large amounts of information. But in the process of thinking about it all, I realized that I have always been interested in making information available to people," she says. At Busy Beaver, she photographs individual buttons and posts them for her own MLIS interns to research and catalog.

With the 2016 primary season under way, the Button Museum is highlighting its trove of political buttons, commemorating everything from Washington's 1789 inauguration through Obama's 2008 election night rally. The shop has received orders from 2016 candidates as well (though those clients are still confidential).

The Bookend showcases librarians, their work, and their work spaces. For consideration, please send press material to americanlibraries@ala.org.





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