

# american libraries

May 2018

THE MAGAZINE OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

MARSHALL BREEDING'S

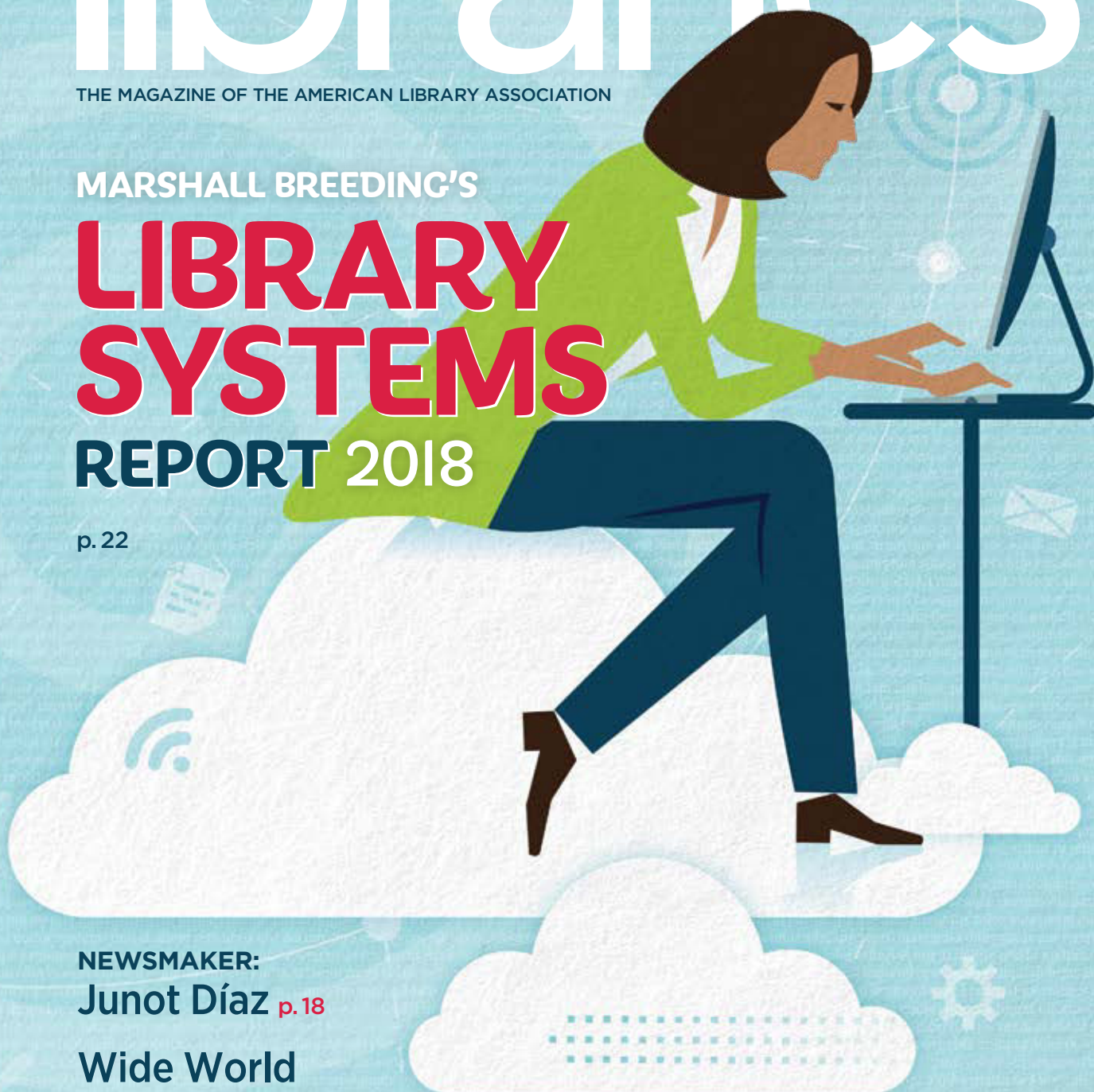
## LIBRARY SYSTEMS REPORT 2018

p. 22

NEWSMAKER:  
Junot Díaz p.18

Wide World  
of E-Sports p.12

**PLUS:** Adulting 101,  
Pop Culture Librarian,  
Notable Dissertations



# BANNED BOOKS WEEK

## September 23-29, 2018

Banned Books Week is an opportunity to spotlight recent and historical attempts to remove books from libraries and schools, and highlight the powerful stories of readers and librarians who defended the freedom to read. Now is not the time to stay silent about censorship. Encourage readers to raise their megaphones and speak out for banned books with these bold graphics! For more information about banned books, visit [ala.org/bbooks](http://ala.org/bbooks).



Speak Out Banned Books Poster



**I Read Banned Books  
Poster File**

Spotlight a local author or reader with this layered PSD file! Customize with five background and three text color options.



**Speak Out Banned Books  
Mini Poster File**

Four color variations



**Field Report 2017**

Includes 91 descriptions of public challenges to materials and services – an excellent handout!



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I Read Banned Books Sticker



**Speak Out Banned Books  
Buttons**



**Banned Books: Defending Our  
Freedom to Read**

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**▶ [alastore.ala.org](http://alastore.ala.org)**

Submit your order by **September 12, 2018**  
to receive your materials in time for Banned  
Books Week using standard shipping.



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from the  
EDITOR

## Trends and Tradition



Sanhita SinhaRoy

This year marks five years of Marshall Breeding's annual Library Systems Report in the pages of *American Libraries* (cover story, p. 22). Those familiar with this popular report know that the breadth of Breeding's research is extensive. As he notes in the story, traditional library services and legacy products are making way for new technologies that aim to improve engagement with communities and enhance academic research. It's a trend toward products and services that are both reliable and adaptable.

The world of e-sports has taken off in recent years, with top players earning millions in tournaments, and sponsors and fans flocking to these interactive competitions of online gaming. As Timothy Inklebarger reports on page 12, several university programs are partnering with their libraries to create space and resources for gamers. And some public libraries are getting into the action too.

If you missed Junot Díaz at the Midwinter Meeting in Denver in February, you may not know that the Pulitzer Prize-winning author gave a popular—and widely retweeted—talk at the conference (“Junot Díaz Gets Real,” bit.ly/diazMW). We followed up with Díaz to discuss his passion for libraries, including why he wants to be buried in one (p. 18).

The Emerging Leaders program is recognizing its 13th class. These are the future leaders who will inspire change in their communities and will help influence the Association and the profession for years to come. You'll see in the profiles and project descriptions, beginning on page 36, that this year's group of Emerging Leaders is committed to engagement, collaboration, and equity of access. They present a spirit of advocacy and activism, and they, no doubt, will do amazing things.

And finally, with this issue we wish a fond farewell to longtime columnist Joseph Janes (p. 20), who recently accepted a position as a contributing editor with *Publishers Weekly*. Joe began his column for *American Libraries* in September 2002, and I had the pleasure of editing many of them over the years. His writing made me think, laugh, and take pride in the library profession. We wish him the best of luck.

*Sanhita*

ALA's  
Emerging  
Leaders  
promise  
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in their  
communities  
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profession  
for years  
to come.



# Hope, Power, Action

Despite funding victories, advocacy challenges remain



Jim Neal

**T**he American Library Association (ALA) has always viewed advocating for libraries—both in the national legislative and legal arenas—as fundamental to our ability to serve our communities and to extend equity of access to information. We are now facing political challenges on numerous fronts: to the core policy and funding priorities that define our work and in areas such as research and education funding, social justice, and civil rights.

The current and prospectively annual battles over funding for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and Innovative Approaches to Literacy have dominated our advocacy work. We have sustained and even expanded funding for IMLS in FY2018, but we are already pushing for support for FY2019 appropriations.

At the same time, other important aspects of our policy agenda demand attention. These include:

- internet development and telecommunications policy, such as E-Rate and net neutrality
- civil liberties and intellectual freedom, especially in the face of heightened national security provisions
- copyright and intellectual property, defending fair use, supporting the Marrakesh Treaty (which allows for making documents and books accessible for people with print disabilities), and preserving the Copyright Office in the Library of Congress
- government information, including revisions to the Federal Depository Library Program

ALA and its members also care deeply about a wide range of social and economic issues, such as immigration, gun violence, sustainability, diversity and inclusion, voting rights, women's rights, LGBT rights, and economic equity. In these cases, we often rely on coalitions with other national organizations that take the advocacy lead in these critical policy areas.

In addition, we find many of the policy priorities have strong ties to state and local developments, thus emphasizing how critical it will be for ALA to work effectively through its chapters and its members. The global context for many policy issues requires that we build strong partnerships with colleagues and organizations around the world.

What are our responsibilities as individual library workers and library supporters? We should be knowledgeable policy resources for our communities. We should be effective political and legislative advocates for the interests of our communities. We should educate our communities on priority policy issues. We should document the impact of legal and legislative actions on our ability to serve our communities. We should promote community political coalitions. We should enable successful models and programs that support our political agenda. And we should be in constant communication with our local and national political leaders, showing them the outstanding work libraries are accomplishing.

To this end, the ALA Policy Corps—with its first class of 12 library and information professionals—will work in 2018 to develop deep and sustained knowledge of national public policies and will receive training in such areas as public speaking and media engagement. The next priority is to build a national network of advocates, eventually with at least one individual in each of the 435 congressional districts, working closely with ALA staff and with state chapters and library networks.

It is imperative that library workers have a voice, not only in defending but also in shaping national policies that are critical to our communities, our profession, and our nation. We achieve hope, power, and action through collaboration. **AL**

---

**JIM NEAL** is university librarian emeritus at Columbia University in New York.

Library workers must have a voice in defending and shaping policies critical to our communities.

## Video for All

As video content becomes more ubiquitous in our daily lives, there needs to be an increased focused on accessibility. Good piece from *American Libraries* ("Making Video Content Accessible," The Scoop, Feb. 13) on making video accessible for more people.

**Mary Chute**  
Trenton, New Jersey

## Estevez and *The Public*

Excellent interview ("Newsmaker: Emilio Estevez," Mar./Apr., p. 20). Nothing smacks of privilege more than people who think public libraries are obsolete.

**Lisa Nielsen Agnew**  
Madison, Wisconsin

## School Library Support

The issue that Jim Neal brings up ("Fight for School Libraries," Mar./Apr., p. 4) is one of which we are painfully aware in Michigan. The ratio of school library media specialists to students is one of the lowest in the nation (bit.ly/2DYe0Cv), and our 4th-grade reading scores are closely aligned with this data. Academic librarians are noting the negative impact of these statistics on students' college readiness, and the Michigan Academic Library Association has issued a statement in support of school libraries.

We have been working to develop collaborative relationships with our colleagues in other types of libraries, and we are starting to see success.

We welcome the opportunity for participation in this discussion! If convening a meeting, please keep in mind the school year and work to make sure it is scheduled at a time when teachers would be able to attend.

**Lisa Kelley**  
Waterford, Michigan

## Inspirational Dude

When I was an undergraduate freshman, I heard Junot Díaz ("Junot Díaz Gets Real," The Scoop, Feb. 11) speak at Rutgers University. I was so inspired by him, I decided to become an English major on the spot. Ten years later I'm a librarian and Junot remains one of my favorite dudes.

**Jenny Zbrizher**  
Morristown, New Jersey

*For more on Junot Díaz, check out our Newsmaker on page 18.*

## Participate to Preserve

Preservation is good; offering opportunities for those interested in participating is even better ("To Preserve and Protect," Mar./Apr., p. 48). Let's keep traditions alive by doing.

**M. Alison Tillman**  
Williston, Florida

## The Baddest of Badasses

Perhaps the baddest of this badass bunch ("The Badass



Librarians of *Jeopardy!*," Nov./Dec., p. 32) was Lynn Hammerlund, who was a winning *Jeopardy!* contestant in 2012 and was named a Library Luminary by the Illinois

Library Association in 2013. Sadly, Lynn passed away in 2016, or she surely would have been interviewed for this article.

**Stephen Patrick Bero**  
Round Lake, Illinois

## Resist, Don't Accept

I unapologetically refuse to accept that the beliefs of white supremacists and neo-Nazis can be harmlessly defined as diverging opinions ("Are Libraries Neutral?," The Scoop, Feb. 12). We cannot allow the Overton window to keep getting wider without resisting, and we should certainly not be accepting.

**Katherine Anderson**  
Clementon, New Jersey

## CORRECTIONS

In "Out of the Branches, into the Woods" (Jan./Feb., p. 18), Colorado's program funding was described incorrectly. The backpacks were produced by Colorado's Department of Education and Colorado Parks and Wildlife; Colorado State Library used its Library Services and Technology Act funds to buy field guides for the packs. In addition, the number of states involved in the program was incorrectly reported. Alaska and Montana do not currently have backpack programs.

What an innovative project!!!

**@MEGGIELEGGIES**  
in response to  
"Community Fabric"  
(Mar./Apr., p. 16)

Wonderful @DeweyDecibel. Really enjoyed listening to the conversation tonight.

**@AMYDYEREEVES**  
in response to *Dewey Decibel* podcast's  
"Saving Lost Cinema"  
episode (Mar. 5)

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## Federal Library Funding Increases through September; Fight Continues

After a yearlong advocacy campaign to protect federal funding for libraries, library supporters have notched a major victory. On March 23, Congress passed and the president signed a fiscal year (FY) 2018 omnibus budget deal that funds government programs through September. The bill included funding increases for programs that had been threatened with elimination: a \$9 million increase for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), bringing its total budget to \$240 million, including \$5.7 million more for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), which will have a budget of \$189.2 million; and an unexpected \$700 million increase for Title IV education programs, a part of the Every Student Succeeds Act, which opens doors to new funding for school libraries and more than doubles its previous budget.

The bill also added a requirement that the Library of Congress publish Congressional Research Service reports, ensuring permanent public access to valuable government information, a policy provision that has been on American Library Association's (ALA) advocacy agenda for years.

ALA President Jim Neal applauded the collective efforts of ALA members and the library community. He credited library advocates for the record number of legislators who signed

the 2018 "Dear Appropriator" letters in favor of the LSTA and Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) programs.

However, the FY2019 budget released by the White House on February 12 proposed the elimination of IMLS and IAL again.

"The FY2018 budget passage represents a major win for libraries—a win that needs to fuel even more aggressive efforts to advocate for federal library funding in FY2019," said Neal in a March 23 statement. "To protect federal library funding, we need to keep reminding Congress that libraries bring leaders and experts together to solve difficult problems, that we deliver opportunities, from academic success to work readiness. We need to invite elected leaders into our libraries to see what we do for their constituents with a small investment of federal dollars. And we need to engage our library users and other community leaders in this important work."

The 2019 appropriations process began in March with the circulation of "Dear Appropriator" letters and will continue until Congress passes an FY2019 Appropriations bill.

For federal advocacy tools, including a list of members of Congress who have signed FY2019 appropriation letters, visit [ala.org/fundlibraries](http://ala.org/fundlibraries). ●

### Multicultural Awards Added to 2019 YMA Lineup

In an effort to raise awareness about and encourage the creation of books that depict diverse cultures or are written by authors of color, ALA and its professional affiliates will add announcements to its 2019 ALA Youth Media Awards (YMA) highlighting titles selected by the American Indian Library Association, the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association, and the Association of Jewish Libraries.

According to the University of Wisconsin's Cooperative Children's Book Center (CCBC), of the 3,400 books written for

children that the CCBC received in 2016, only one third were by or about people of color.

"Often children in the United States are not exposed to print or digital materials that reflect themselves or their culture," said ALA President Jim Neal in the January 30 press release. "A child's lack of exposure to other cultures paves the way to bigotry and cultural invisibility. The addition of professional affiliate awards can only assist with our efforts to encourage understanding and abolish cultural invisibility."

For more information about the YMA, visit [ilovelibraries.org/yma](http://ilovelibraries.org/yma).

### 2018 Madison Award Triggers Procedural Review

In response to feedback from members following the 2018 James Madison Award announcement on March 9, ALA Executive Director Mary Ghikas stated to ALA Council and related committees on March 20 that the procedure for giving the Madison Award and other recognitions or awards currently being handled outside of normal ALA practice would be reviewed.

Other awards that are pending review include the L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award, the Eileen Cooke State and Local Madison Award, and the White House



# ALA Affirms Net Neutrality as a Key to Intellectual Freedom

At the 2018 ALA Midwinter Meeting, ALA Council adopted the statement “Net Neutrality: An Intellectual Freedom Issue.” Written by the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC), the document affirms that net neutrality is essential to the promotion and practice of intellectual freedom and the free exercise of democracy.

In June 2017, ALA President Jim Neal requested a net neutrality position paper written from an intellectual freedom perspective. The IFC structured the paper to respond to arguments in the anticipated fight to preserve net neutrality. On December 14, the Federal Communications Commission voted to repeal net neutrality.

“The net neutrality statement is timeless, reflecting the core values of ALA and its members,” said IFC Chair Helen Adams in a February 22 press release.

The document makes clear connections between net neutrality and libraries, democracy, intellectual freedom, and equitable access. It also recognizes the work of the ALA Washington Office and other ALA advocacy efforts to defend net neutrality.

“There are many forms of censorship. Tilting the playing field toward a few players is one of them,” said Office for Intellectual Freedom Director James LaRue in the same release.

The statement was endorsed by the Committee on Legislation, the Intellectual Freedom Round Table, the Committee on Professional Ethics, the American Association of School Librarians (AASL), the Library Information Technology Association, and the IFC Privacy Subcommittee. •

Conference on Library and Information Services Task Force Award.

The ALA Committee on Organization (COO) is conducting the review and will make recommendations regarding an appropriate procedure and mechanism for member engagement in the process and decision making. COO and ALA Awards Committee will develop a recommendation and consult with the ALA Executive Board to ensure appropriate review and action.

## ALA and AASL Joint Statement on Florida Senate Bill 7026

ALA President Jim Neal and AASL President Steven Yates released a joint

statement on March 18 in response to legislation that will allow for the arming of school librarians in Florida schools. Senate Bill 7026 permits librarians, counselors, and coaches to carry firearms in Florida public schools.

“The ALA and AASL support the efforts of Florida Association for Media in Education and Florida Library Association to provide safe and accessible learning spaces for students and learners of all ages,” stated Neal and Yates.

They said in the statement that school librarians are invaluable teachers who offer an enriching learning environment for students and colleagues throughout the school and that firearms in school

## CALENDAR

MAY 1-7

**Choose Privacy Week**

[chooseprivacyweek.org](http://chooseprivacyweek.org)

MAY 7-8

**National Library Legislative Day**

[ala.org/advocacy/advleg/nlld](http://ala.org/advocacy/advleg/nlld)

MAY 7-11

**Virtual Library Legislative Day**

[bit.ly/ALAVirtualLegislativeDay18](http://bit.ly/ALAVirtualLegislativeDay18)

JUNE

**GLBT Book Month**

[ala.org/glbttbookmonth](http://ala.org/glbttbookmonth)

JUNE 21-26

**ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition** | New Orleans

[alaannual.org](http://alaannual.org)

SEPT.

**Library Card Sign-Up Month**

[ala.org/librarycardsignup](http://ala.org/librarycardsignup)

SEPT. 23-29

**Banned Books Week**

[ala.org/bbooks](http://ala.org/bbooks)

SEPT. 26

**Banned Websites Awareness Day**

[ala.org/aasl/advocacy/bwad](http://ala.org/aasl/advocacy/bwad)

SEPT. 26-30

**Joint Conference of Librarians of Color** | Albuquerque, New Mexico

[jclcinc.org/conference/2018](http://jclcinc.org/conference/2018)

SEPT. 27-29

**ALSC National Institute**

Cincinnati

[ala.org/alsc/confevents/institute](http://ala.org/alsc/confevents/institute)

OCT. 7-13

**Teen Read Week**

[teenreadweek.ning.com](http://teenreadweek.ning.com)

OCT. 21-27

**National Friends of Libraries Week**

[bit.ly/alafolweek](http://bit.ly/alafolweek)

OCT. 22-28

**Open Access Week**

[openaccessweek.org](http://openaccessweek.org)

NOV.

**Picture Book Month**

[facebook.com/picturebookmonth](http://facebook.com/picturebookmonth)

NOV. 4-10

**International Games Week**

[games.ala.org](http://games.ala.org)

# ALA Selects Cushman & Wakefield as Strategic Real Estate Advisors

ALA has appointed Chicago-based firm Cushman & Wakefield as its real estate advisory firm to help develop real estate options that support the Association's mission, business, and financial goals.

As the real estate advisor, Cushman & Wakefield will provide consulting services to optimize the value of ALA's Chicago headquarters at 40–50 East Huron to “help ALA achieve greater operational excellence, grow its membership base, and have more resources to invest in programs and services for members,” according to a February 28 statement.

ALA President Jim Neal explained in a March 1 message to ALA Council and leadership that the ALA Executive Board is exploring the various options available for critical

investments, including IT, staff and staff development, and new or refreshed business operations.

“One of the benefits of retaining a global firm like Cushman & Wakefield is our access to broad and deep data, which can ultimately inform smarter, faster real estate decisions for sophisticated organizations like ALA that have ambitious growth goals,” said J. Frank Franzese, executive vice president of Cushman & Wakefield. “We are in enthusiastic support of ALA's mission to develop, promote, and improve libraries and access to information services to enhance learning for all ages. We look forward to a strategic working relationship with them to determine the highest and best use of their real estate here in Chicago.” ●

libraries would undermine the sense of security that is critical to students.

“While we are all too aware of the gun violence that affects the communities that we serve, including our schools, we do not believe that allowing the arming of school librarians with guns is the answer to preventing violence and mass shootings. Schools need more resources, including the expertise of a certified school librarian for teaching and learning,” they concluded.

## Center for the Future of Libraries Fellowship Proposals

The ALA Center for the Future of Libraries is seeking applications for the Future of Libraries Fellowship, which provides an individual or group with \$10,000 to advance new ideas and perspectives for the future of libraries through the creation of a public product—such as a report, white paper, video, resource, or tool—that will help library professionals envision the future of library collections, services, spaces, technologies, or partnerships. Projects may build on existing work, research, or initiatives of the Association, its offices, divisions, and round tables, or explore new directions and interests.

The fellowship is available to individuals in the library profession as well as those from other disciplines with a demonstrated interest in libraries and their futures. The fellowship does not include a residency requirement, and international colleagues are encouraged to apply.

Further information, including considerations for those interested in applying, instructions for submitting an application, evaluation and selection information, and a timeline for the fellowship, are available at [bit.ly/ALAFutureFellowship](http://bit.ly/ALAFutureFellowship).

## COA Announces 2018 Accreditation Decisions

The ALA Committee on Accreditation (COA) has announced actions taken at the 2018 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver.

A May 2017 policy revision to enhance public disclosure went into effect with the 2018 accreditation decisions.

Continued Accreditation status was granted to the following programs, with the next comprehensive review visit scheduled to take place in fall 2024:

- master of science in library and information science at Drexel University

- master of science in library and information science at Simmons College
- master of library and information science at St. Catherine University
- master of library and information science at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

ALA accreditation indicates that the program has undergone a self-evaluation process, has been externally reviewed, and meets the Standards for Accreditation of master's programs in library and information studies, established by COA and adopted by ALA Council. COA evaluates each program for conformity to the standards, which address systematic planning; curriculum; faculty; students; and administration, finances, and resources.

A complete list of programs and degrees accredited by ALA can be found at [bit.ly/ALAAccrediteddir](http://bit.ly/ALAAccrediteddir).

## Choice Releases White Paper on Institutional Repositories

Choice magazine has published the first in a series of white papers designed to provide actionable intelligence around topics of importance to the academic library community. This first paper, “The

Evolving Institutional Repository Landscape,” offers a look into the current state of and future prospects for institutional repositories (IR).

Researched and written by Judy Luther, president of Informed Strategies, the white paper provides an overview of IRs based on interviews with industry leaders supplemented by an open survey that gathered data from more than 150 North American universities. The work explores current usage patterns and practices, where IRs fit in an evolving scholarly and academic ecosystem, and realistic paths for future development.

“The Evolving Institutional Repository Landscape” is available at [choice360.org/librarianship/whitepaper](http://choice360.org/librarianship/whitepaper).

## Barnes, Chen, Garcia, and McCauley Join Executive Board

Tamika Barnes, Diane R. Chen, Edward A. Garcia, and Maria Taesil Hudson McCauley have been elected to serve on the ALA Executive Board. The new board members were elected by the ALA Council in a vote taken at the 2018 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver.

Barnes, Garcia, and McCauley will each serve three-year terms beginning in July 2018 and concluding in June 2021. Chen was elected to complete the unexpired term of Loida Garcia-Febo, who was elected ALA president-elect in April 2017. Her term began immediately and will conclude at the close of the 2018 Annual Conference in New Orleans.

## Ethiopian Library Wins IRRT Mission Enhancement Grant

The Axumite Heritage Foundation Library in Ethiopia is the first recipient of the ALA International Relations Round Table (IRRT) Mission Enhancement Grant.

The Axumite Heritage Foundation will receive a \$1,000 grant to support a new Chromebook lab in the Foundation Library in Axum. In October 2017, 30 Chromebooks and a portable plug-and-play RACHEL server loaded with the entire Ethiopian secondary school curriculum, were sent to the Foundation

Library. The server also includes content from a variety of other organizations, including Khan Academy, the African Storybook project, TED talks, and MedlinePlus Medical Encyclopedia.

Funds from the grant will support the purchase of an uninterrupted power supply and other supplies, and local meetings and translation services during the coming year.

Information about the grant is available at [ala.org/rt/irrt-mission-enhancement-grant](http://ala.org/rt/irrt-mission-enhancement-grant).

## ASCLA Library Accessibility Toolkits Updated

The Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA) has updated 15 of its Library Accessibility Toolkits to better serve patrons.

The toolkits help library professionals understand the challenges and opportunities presented by issues of equitable access for library users who have cognitive, mental, or emotional illnesses; users with learning and/or developmental disabilities; users with sensory disabilities; users with service animals; users who need assistive technology; and users with physical disabilities. Each guide provides an overview, recommended hardware and software solutions, tips, and resources.

The toolkits are available at [ascladirect.org/resources](http://ascladirect.org/resources).

## Treshani Perera Awarded First Lois Mai Chan Grant

The inaugural 2018 Lois Mai Chan Professional Development Grant has been awarded to Treshani Perera, a recent graduate of the School of Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee.

The grant was established in 2017 by the Cataloging and Metadata Management Section (CaMMS) of the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) to support travel to the ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition for librarians and paraprofessionals from traditionally underrepresented groups

# 2018 Virtual Membership Meeting

ALA members have an online forum where they can be heard: Virtual Membership Meetings (VMMs).

VMMs are part of ALA's ongoing efforts to reach out to members and get their input on strategic direction, budget priorities, and topics of interest. The 2018 Virtual Membership Meeting (VMM18) will take place May 17, from 1:30–2:30 p.m. Central time. It will be a fast-paced session to allow for member interaction. All ALA personal members may register and participate. Live captioning will be provided.

To allow members to share what's happening at their libraries, VMM18 will incorporate images and video links submitted by members that show either a library's community involvement and outreach or unique and interesting things that make the library a 21st-century facility.

Many members gather together to view the VMM. It is a chance to share the experience with colleagues from your community and across the world. For complete details, visit [ala.org/membership/vmm](http://ala.org/membership/vmm).





who are new to the metadata field. The recipient will work with a member of the grant jury or the CaMMS Executive Committee to identify relevant programs and interest group sessions to attend; attend at least one CaMMS program, committee meeting, or interest group meeting; and record her conference experience for *ALCTS News*.

Perera has worked as an intern at the Southeastern Wisconsin Information Technology Exchange Library Consortium in Milwaukee, the Ward Irish Music Archives in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, and in several areas at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee Libraries.

### AASL Seeks Bloggers for *Knowledge Quest*

AASL seeks bloggers for its *Knowledge Quest* website ([knowledgequest.aasl.org](http://knowledgequest.aasl.org)). Applicants should demonstrate the ability to write a blog post of 500–700 words on a topic of interest to school library and education professionals on a monthly basis. The position is a minimum one-year commitment, and applicants must be a current, personal member of AASL to be considered.

Apply at [knowledgequest.aasl.org/bloggers](http://knowledgequest.aasl.org/bloggers) by May 23.

Applications will be reviewed by the *Knowledge Quest* editorial board, and notifications will be made in late June.

### K–8 Libraries Invited to Apply for 2018 Sara Jaffarian Award

School libraries are invited to apply for the 2018 Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award for Exemplary Humanities Programming, a \$5,000 award recognizing outstanding humanities programming in kindergarten through 8th grade.

School libraries, public or private, that serve K–8 students are eligible. Nominated programs must have taken place during the current school year. Programs that are still in progress as of the award deadline are eligible, and libraries are encouraged to self-nominate. Eligible humanities programs may be focused in



Grove City (Ohio) Library

## Last Chance for 2018 Design Showcase Submissions

The deadline to submit designs for *American Libraries*' 2018 Library Design Showcase, our annual feature celebrating new and newly renovated or expanded libraries of all types, is May 31. The showcase will be featured in *American Libraries*' September/October 2018 issue.

We are looking for 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 high-tech facilities with audio and video production studios.

If your library is on the cutting edge, we want our readers to know about it. To be eligible, projects must have been completed between May 1, 2017, and April 30, 2018.

To have your library considered, send a completed submission form ([bit.ly/2zbCZDI](http://bit.ly/2zbCZDI)), along with at least five high-resolution digital images with photographer credits, to *American Libraries*, Attn: Library Design Showcase, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611. Submissions can also be sent via Dropbox to [pmorehart@ala.org](mailto:pmorehart@ala.org). Unfortunately, not all submissions can be featured.

View last year's showcase at [bit.ly/2gJEJNj](http://bit.ly/2gJEJNj). For more information, email [pmorehart@ala.org](mailto:pmorehart@ala.org). ●

subject areas including social studies, drama, art, music, foreign language, and culture. Programs should focus on broadening perspectives and helping

students understand the world and their place in it. They should be initiated and coordinated by the school librarian and exemplify the role of the library program

in advancing the overall educational goals of the school.

Nominations will be accepted until May 4. Applications, award guidelines, and a list of previous winners are available at [ala.org/jaffarian](http://ala.org/jaffarian).

### ALSC Invites Applications for 2019 Arbuthnot Lecture

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) and the 2019 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture Committee are seeking applications to host the 2019 event featuring Debbie Reese, a scholar, blogger, and advocate for indigenous peoples. Reese is a longtime advocate for Native representation and is a former teacher and university professor. She earned her PhD in curriculum and instruction from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she also helped establish the Native American House and American Indian

Studies program. She also has an MLIS degree from San José State University. Reese is tribally enrolled at Nambé Owingeh Pueblo in New Mexico.

The Arbuthnot Lecture, traditionally held in April or May, is an annual event in which an author, critic, librarian, historian, or teacher of children's literature presents a paper that makes a significant contribution to the field. A library school, department of education in a college or university, or a children's library system may be considered.

Applications are due May 15. Host site application forms can be downloaded at [bit.ly/Arbuthnot2019](http://bit.ly/Arbuthnot2019). Information about host site responsibilities is included in the application materials.

### New E-Course: Sign Language for Children

ALA Publishing eLearning Solutions has announced a new facilitated e-course,

"Sign Language for Children in Storytime or in the Classroom: A Practical Guide." Sign Language expert Kathy MacMillan will lead this six-week course starting on May 7.

This new course will explore the benefits of signing with all children, with instruction covering basic American Sign Language (ASL) vocabulary appropriate for use with children in library and classroom settings, and teaching stories, songs, and other activities that incorporate ASL. MacMillan will provide linguistic and cultural context to help make programming more accessible.

Register at [alastore.ala.org](http://alastore.ala.org). Participants will need regular access to a computer with an internet connection for online message board participation, viewing online video, listening to streaming audio (MP3 files), and downloading and viewing PDF and PowerPoint files. **AL**



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# TRENDS



Students play videogames during the grand opening of the Nest, the e-sports facility at University of North Texas in Denton.

## Wide World of E-Sports

Online gaming a hit at public and university libraries

BY Timothy  
Inklebarger

Online videogames and libraries: They might not seem like an obvious match. But public and university libraries are attracting a new generation of patrons and students by getting into the e-sports game.

The biggest competitions in the world of e-sports—of which the most popular include *League of Legends*, *Super Smash Bros.*, and *Overwatch*—fetch top players millions of dollars in prizes, and in 2017 the industry is estimated to have earned \$696 million in revenue. Universities across the country have established e-sports teams, and some of the top programs have partnered with libraries to create spaces for gamers.

Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, spent more than \$100,000 on its new e-sports arena, located in the university's King Library, and University of North Texas (UNT), in Denton, opened e-sports facilities at two different campus libraries in 2017 at a cost of some \$200,000.

A handful of public libraries also have taken notice of the online gaming trend, holding competitions and even setting up state-of-the-art computers with enough processing power to meet the needs of serious players.

Librarians and administrators say the gaming events are exposing new patrons to the library at the local level and getting university students out of dorm rooms and socializing.

### Higher ed and e-sports

Diane Robson, a librarian at UNT Media Library and faculty advisor to the university's e-sports student group, says the school opened its two facilities, known as the Nests, in the late summer and fall of 2017. The main Nest, located at UNT Media Library, is equipped with 21 Dell Alienware Aurora VR-capable gaming PCs, while its smaller Nest at its Discovery Park Library has six more.

Robson says she gets "a lot of naysayers about games" but that student retention is the main motivation for e-sports at UNT.

"The university is not just a school; we have a lot of kids living in the dorms, so we want them to have a full life," she says. "Games are a part of that. Most universities are doing things to get (students) out and engaged and not hiding in their rooms." Recent studies have found that millennials are



increasingly spending more time at home than previous generations. Streaming television and smartphone entertainment is slowly replacing real-life interaction with other people.

The e-sports program is a collaboration between the university library and UNT's student affairs and recreational sports departments.

Although the spaces were created at the request of members of UNT's e-sports student group for tournaments and practice, the Nests can be reserved by any student. That's one of the biggest differences between UNT's Nests and Miami University's e-sports arena, which is dedicated to the e-sports team.

Jerome U. Conley, dean and university librarian for Miami University Libraries, says he had never heard of e-sports a year and a half ago when he was approached by Glenn Platt, director of the university's Armstrong Institute for Interactive Media Studies, to establish the arena.

The space includes 16 computers, large screens around the perimeter of the room where games are broadcast, and gaming furniture in the school colors of red and black. "It looks like a set from *Star*

*Wars* or *Star Trek* to some degree," Conley says.

He explains that gaming design is offered as a major at Miami University, and the facility is viewed more as a recruitment tool for prospective students than as a social outlet.

The arena, which Conley says cost the school "just over six figures," is prominently located on the first floor of the library, while the older gaming lab is located in the library's basement.

"We felt it was a good use of this space," he says, adding, "So far, it's knocking it out of the park in terms of usage."

### Public libraries embrace gaming

University libraries with big budgets are not the only institutions embracing e-sports; public library systems are beginning to see the advantage online gaming brings in attracting patrons.

Perhaps the most sophisticated e-sports program in the country can be found at Cleveland Public Library (CPL), where users have access to 15 powerful computers equipped for online gaming and 15 game consoles by Nintendo, PlayStation, and Xbox.

Tristan Wheeler, the system's audiovisual and event planning specialist, says CPL has provided gaming consoles at the library for years but took the program to the next level last year with an internal grant of \$4,800, which was used to purchase the first five PCs.

Gaming is exposing new patrons to the library and getting university students out of dorms and socializing.

## BY THE NUMBERS

# Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month



*Life and Activities of Shakyamuni Buddha Incarnate, 1486*

**39**

Years ago that Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week was first observed. In 1990, the week was expanded to the month of May.

**130+**

Number of languages represented by

the items in the Library of Congress's Asian Reading Room collection.

**21 million**

Number of people in the United States who are Asian or of Asian descent, according to a 2015 estimate by the US Census. Another estimated 1.5 million people are Hawaiian and Pacific Islander.

**27,499**

Number of ranks that Viet Thanh Nguyen's *The Sympathizer* jumped in overall Amazon sales less than a day after it was announced the book had won the Pulitzer Prize, according to *Time* magazine. (Listen to our interview with Nguyen on the *Dewey Decibel* podcast, after he won the Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction: [bit.ly/2G92IFZ](http://bit.ly/2G92IFZ).)



Continued on page 15 ▶



A library patron practices new sewing skills at *Adulthood 101*, a program at Forsyth County Public Library in Cumming, Georgia.

# Adulthood 101

When libraries teach basic life skills

BY Anne Ford

When Teresa Lucas decided to teach basic life skills to young adults via an “Adulthood 101” library program series last year, she was not expecting a media onslaught. But that’s what she got.

“We had tens of thousands of Facebook hits, of calls, of emails. It was crazy,” says Lucas, who is assistant director of library services at North Bend (Oreg.) Public Library (NBPL). “Other libraries were saying: ‘Oh, tell me more, tell me more!’ At one point, I could barely keep up.”

The frenzy reached its zenith on March 29, when Kelly Ripa, cohost of the nationally syndicated morning talk show *Live with Kelly* (now *Live with Kelly and Ryan*), said to much applause from the live audience, “They should offer this everywhere, not just at the North Bend Public Library.”

The good news for Ripa and those who agree with her: NBPL is just one of many that have launched classes aimed at teaching young adults how to balance a checkbook, cook a meal, sew on a button, shop for auto insurance, and perform other necessities of life. Libraries in Birmingham, Alabama; Bozeman, Montana; Los Angeles; New York City; Pittsburgh; Tucson, Arizona,

and many other locations are offering these classes, which vary in their content but which are almost always marketed as *Adulthood 101* or a variant thereof.

Lucas herself got the idea for an *Adulthood 101* series after seeing the concept pop up on several Facebook library programming groups. “I used to work in the school district, and I know all about teaching to the test,” she says. “I know kids miss a lot of things that are important to real-life experience.”

Lucas partnered with another staffer, library assistant Clara Piazzola, to create a monthly series of six programs focused on cooking, finances, job hunting, news literacy, apartment living, and miscellaneous topics such as cleaning an oven and checking engine oil. Expenses were virtually zero: “For the first one [on cooking], we went to the dollar store and bought aluminum foil, tortillas, cheese, and PAM cooking spray. I think we spent \$4,” Lucas says. She and Piazzola taught nearly all the classes themselves, except for the session

on finances, which a local banker volunteered to teach.

Though the series was advertised for ages 16–25, most of the 20-some people who attended were teenagers and their parents. That doesn’t bother Lucas, but she does wish that attendance numbers better reflected the media enthusiasm the series received. In hindsight, she says she would have held the classes at a different time and perhaps in a different location.

“It was on a Saturday, and oftentimes teens don’t want to give up their Saturdays, especially to learn something,” she says. “And our library is not near the school; kids have to make a big effort to get here.”

Another library that offered an *Adulthood 101* series—Forsyth County Public Library (FCPL) in Cumming, Georgia—had some surprises as well. Information Specialist Jennifer Forbes got the idea for the program after hearing “a lot of people complain that they didn’t learn how to do this in school, or their parents didn’t show them, or they didn’t have a good relationship with their parents, or they were in foster care and didn’t have anybody available to show them,” she says. “So I thought anyone who missed out on some of this might benefit.”

Attendance was high—but while Forbes had aimed the series at adults 18–30, she found that most of the attendees were either teenagers or older adults, even senior citizens.

A flier for North Bend (Oreg.) Public Library’s program.



Photo: Jennifer Forbes

"One of the older adults was a widower who said that his wife had done some of these things," such as sewing, couponing, and meal planning, she says. "After she passed away, he wasn't 100% sure how to do all of them, so he was learning as well, and he felt comfortable enough to come and learn with the younger people."

FCPL's Adulting 101 series ran once a month last year from January to May and again from September to December. The most popular topics were health insurance, résumé/interview skills, and car maintenance and buying. A few attendees came to more than one program, but most people "picked what they needed to know and came to it," says Forbes. The least-attended program was the one on meal planning, though she's not sure if that's because of the topic or because it was held in holiday-heavy December.

Like its counterpart in North Bend, FCPL incurred minimal costs for Adulting 101. Local community members volunteered their time to teach, and few supplies were needed, apart from needles, thread, and hemming tape for the program on sewing basics. ("I actually went to that class myself and learned some stuff," Forbes says.)

In a time when millennials are often depicted as annoyingly helpless, did Lucas or Forbes encounter any resistance to the notion of teaching basic life skills to young adults?

"Oh, of course, because people don't like change," Lucas says. "But nobody was really against it. They just thought these things should have been taught in school or at home."

In contrast, Forbes says, she encountered no resistance at all. In fact, at her then-supervisor's suggestion, she offered an additional series as well: Retirement 101. **AL**

**ANNE FORD** is *American Libraries* editor-at-large.



Participants pack the Learning Commons at Cleveland Public Library's Main Library for a 2017 e-sports event.

◀ Continued from page 13

E-sports tournaments, which are now held six times a year at CPL, can draw as many as 200 patrons, Wheeler says.

"One of the aspects of our strategic plan was to allow Cleveland [residents] to reach out to outside cultures," he says. The e-sports events fulfill that by attracting a broad cross section of patrons of different ages, races, genders, and socioeconomic standing, Wheeler says. "It services a demographic that doesn't frequent the library; they're not necessarily able to afford PCs at home because they do cost so much money," he says.

Requests from young patrons have driven the e-sports program at East Brunswick (N.J.) Public Library, according to the system's teen librarian Jessica Schneider.

"I'm not a gamer at all," she says, adding that she was convinced by one of the library's information technology workers to install the popular game *League of Legends* on the teen space computers in 2013.

She says interest in e-sports ebbs and flows at the library, depending on the enthusiasm of young patrons. "I only do [e-sports tournaments] if I have a teen volunteer who wants to run them," Schneider says, noting that a couple of kids have recently asked the library to host one.

Unlike Cleveland's program, the East Brunswick e-sports program costs next to nothing, according to Schneider. Tournaments are hosted after hours at the library, where teens pay \$5 for a seat at one of the library's 44 computers. The funds cover the cost of pizza, snacks, and prizes, she says.

Libraries interested in holding their own e-sports tournaments should make sure their computers have the most updated software to avoid lag times during the games, she suggests.

"After running into that problem a couple of times, we figured it out, and now IT makes sure to update the games overnight," Schneider says. **AL**

**TIMOTHY INKLEBARGER** is a writer living in Chicago.





Adult literacy program assistant Olivia Trevino helps Efen Sanchez with the Leamos course at the Louis Robidoux branch of the Riverside County (Calif.) Library System.

# Learning Spanish First

California libraries pilot unique literacy program

In California, more than 565,000 Spanish-speaking adults cannot read or write in any language, according to the 2010–2012 American Community Survey. This affects their ability to learn English, to support their children's education, and to advance in the workplace. It often leaves them feeling vulnerable and isolated. In 2015, the James Irvine Foundation funded an online Spanish literacy course, Leamos (Let's Read), through the Los Angeles nonprofit Centro Latino for Literacy. The California State Library then awarded a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant to the Southern California Library Cooperative to expand the program across the state. Leamos's developer had agreed to waive the licensing fee for selected public libraries to host the course, noting that libraries are community anchors—modern-day *zócalos* (the public squares familiar to immigrants from Latin America). Having had three years of experience with Leamos as adult education and literacy coordinator at the Azusa City (Calif.) Library, Cathay Reta was excited to become project coordinator of the Leamos @ the Library initiative. The 2015–2017 pilot project explored Leamos's fit with 18 public libraries.

BY Cathay Reta

At age 7, Efen Sanchez got separated from his mother in the crowd at a Mexico City festival and wound up living on the streets. He never went to school or learned to read. In his early 30s he moved to the US. Now, at age 52, Sanchez has learned to read and write in Spanish. He was one of the first adults to enroll in the Leamos course at the Louis Robidoux branch of the Riverside County (Calif.) Library System.

Leamos is a licensed online course geared to adult learners. Typically, learners need assistance logging into the course but, with practice using the mouse, they soon become adept using it alone. A virtual instructor takes them through 46 lessons to learn how to read and write basic Spanish. Some libraries set class times in their computer labs, some provide volunteer tutors to work with learners, and others involve library staff to provide

needed support. Learners can also study at home or anywhere that has internet access after becoming comfortable with the course.

Once mastered, the course provides a solid foundation for successfully participating in English as a second language (ESL) classes, a goal for many of the program's learners. Without a foundation in Spanish literacy, most nonliterate Spanish speakers find ESL classes too difficult, and they drop out—that was Sanchez's experience. Now, however, he is not only learning English, but he has also passed the written test to get his driver's license, which he proudly displayed when he spoke about the program at the 2017 California Library Association conference.

Leamos @ the Library was developed with two goals: to teach basic literacy skills to Spanish speakers, and to explore its effectiveness as a tool to reach nonlibrary users. The results? We reached 117 adult learners, more than half of whom (66 individuals) got their first library card when they enrolled in the program. Many became regular patrons and began to use other library services, as we had hoped. For example, since Santa Monica Public Library patron Maria C. (last name withheld) learned to read, she can hardly put a book down. When her brother-in-law asked, "What happened to your house? It's not as clean as it used to be," she replied, "Oh, now I'm reading!" In the summer of 2017, she read 20 books and received a Summer Reading Program certificate of completion.

While success stories like these have been repeated across the state,

they have not come easily, and they have not happened in every community. We learned that it takes time to build a level of trust that makes it safe for the target population to respond.

Not all of the libraries were successful at recruiting learners. Even if staffers saw a need in the community, they couldn't always connect to patrons by the end of the project. For some it was because of staffing constraints and a lack of time to devote to the project. One library lost its two Spanish-speaking staff members just as the project launched. Other libraries never found quite the right mix to make it work. Still, most of the libraries that participated agree it is worth the effort.

LSTA funding brought the participating library coordinators together for half-day workshops twice throughout the initiative. The coordinators identified key issues and shared their experiences. Their input served as the foundation for the Leamos @ the Library Toolkit, which contains outreach suggestions, tips, sample materials, and templates to help other libraries to implement the program. It can be downloaded for free at [bit.ly/al-leamos](http://bit.ly/al-leamos). Leamos is now owned by ProLiteracy ([proliteracy.org/leamos](http://proliteracy.org/leamos)), which continues to support its use in libraries.

Although the two-year Leamos @ the Library project has ended, it successfully demonstrated that libraries are a good home for its use. Roseville Public Library faced many challenges to recruit learners, but never gave up. Literacy Librarian Penny Himeline says the satisfaction of watching a young father learn to read and begin to use library services made the program worthwhile. "Just to see the joy on his face is amazing," she says. "To hear him say 'I can read to my daughter' is phenomenal!" **AL**

**CATHAY RETA** retired from Azusa City (Calif.) Library in 2017 and works as a literacy consultant in California. She serves on the Leamos advisory board.

## GLOBAL REACH

### Bibliotheca Palatina Reunited Digitally

**GERMANY** After centuries of separation, one of the most valuable collections of manuscripts from the Middle Ages and Early Modern Age, the Bibliotheca Palatina ([bit.ly/2pJgTmm](http://bit.ly/2pJgTmm)), has been virtually reunited. While some of the 5,000 printed books and 3,524

manuscripts are now held by Heidelberg University, the bulk of the original collection is now an integral part of the Vatican Library. Heidelberg University Library digitized not only the German manuscripts in its own holdings but also the Latin codices housed in Rome.

—*Medievalists.net*, Feb. 21.



*Wahrsagebuch*,  
Cod. Pal. germ. 7,  
fol. 2v and 3r,  
15th century, held  
at Heidelberg  
University.

**AUSTRIA** This year is the 650th anniversary of the Austrian National Library in Vienna, which dates itself

to 1368 when a gold-lettered, richly illuminated evangeliary was completed for Duke Albert III. Through January 13, 2019, the library's State Hall will display the treasures of the library—manuscripts, early prints, maps, photos, and artwork. A special highlight will be the exhibit of the month, when selected items will be on display that for conservation reasons are only rarely exposed to the light of day.

—*Austrian National Library*.

**AUSTRALIA** A literary treasure trove of 21,000 novels, novellas, and short stories in an archive of Australian historical newspapers has been collected in a new online database ([bit.ly/2uexpPV](http://bit.ly/2uexpPV)). Associate Professor Katherine Bode at the Australian National University is calling for the public's help to read and edit the forgotten titles. Many of the works are uniquely Australian and had been serialized in newspapers and journals at a time when the cost of producing and purchasing books was prohibitive and lending libraries few.

—*The Sydney Morning Herald*, Mar. 1.

**CANADA** As overdose deaths began to soar several years ago, many libraries responded by introducing new overdose policies such as voluntary naloxone training. But at Vancouver (B.C.) Public Library, workers were at first prohibited from administering the drug, even when they sought out training on their own. The city confirmed on March 23 that library staff will now be allowed to use naloxone, as long as they have been trained. Vancouver City Manager Sadhu Johnston said the change marks a shift away from the city's reliance on first responders, who until now had been the only ones allowed to administer the opioid-blocking medication.—*Global News BC*, Mar. 23;

*Toronto Globe and Mail*, Mar. 16. ●

# Junot Díaz

Celebrated author spins a tale for young readers



Junot Díaz, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* (Riverhead Books, 2007), has focused his unique storytelling gifts on a younger audience with his first picture book for kids, *Islandborn* (Dial Books, 2018). The story of a young girl from the Dominican Republic living in the US who interviews her neighbors about life in their home country, *Islandborn* finds Díaz exploring themes that run through his previous work—the immigrant experience, confronting fears, an embrace of life—through a child’s eyes. *American Libraries* spoke with Díaz in February at the 2018 Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits in Denver about his new book and the role of libraries in his life.

## **Islandborn is your first book for kids. What was its inspiration?**

There were multiple inspirations. A lot of it was being a writer with godchildren, nephews, and nieces always saying, “Hey, will you write us a story?” And knowing that I should write them a story, because when I was growing up a kid of color in this country there was so little for us. There’s more now, thank God, but still not enough. I also wanted to write something about what it means to come from families that survive horrors like dictatorship, and how those stories can be approached by children.

**This book is full of energy, light, and music. But you don’t shy away from darkness. Though not explicitly stated, the monster in the book appears to be a reference to former Dominican Republic dictator Rafael Trujillo. Was it important to depict an unvarnished reality for kids?** I think anyone who works in this field has talked endlessly about how aware children are of the toughness of life. So for me, I just kind of jumped on the bandwagon of all these artists and writers who are being honest about what children already know best—that the world is tough—and try to do it in a way that keeps the

magic alive and doesn’t make a person reading the book feel more scared by encountering this scary monster. By the end, the point is to leave kids feeling more empowered and less scared. That’s hopefully the trick inside the book. The little fear I induce reduces the greater fear of being a child.

## **The main character’s life parallels the lives of hundreds of thousands of immigrant children in the US right now. Was writing this book an effort to reach those kids and let them know they’re not alone?**

Yeah, it’s a climate of anti-immigrant racism and rampant xenophobia. And I experienced that when I was a young person. It’s not as if the current climate is an out-of-nowhere phenomenon. Of course, I wanted to speak to my experience and offer my take as a way for young people who’ve shared similar experiences to find themselves. But the book also offers somewhat of a methodology for young

people. How do we think about living in two worlds? How do we think about dealing with secrets and silences that not even our parents want to face? A lot of young people come out of histories like mine where our parents were keeping silent, and we knew the silence was there but we couldn’t figure out a way to approach it. Our parents weren’t interested in talking about it. So in some ways *Islandborn* is a way of bearing witness. I think that’s very important for children with backgrounds like mine.

## **You’ve spoken and written at length about the importance of the library in your life growing up as an immigrant. What role does the library play in your life now?**

I would say, “What role *doesn’t* the library play in my life?” I’ve spent the last 14 years living exactly one block and some feet from the largest public library in our city. And I don’t think that’s an accident, given the fact that I had to walk so far to get to the library as a kid. If I had my druthers, I would be buried in a library or inside a coffin that resembled one—that’s how I feel about them. I continue to patronize my local library; I continue to rely heavily on my university library. My librarians are partners in my art and will continue to be so. **AL**



Photo: Nina Subin





“Many schools even don’t have buildings. Talking about a library is a luxury.”

**FRESHTA KARIM**, creator of a library bus in Kabul, quoted in “Library on Wheels Brings Joy of Books to Afghan Kids,” Associated Press, March 16.

“My mission on the reference desk was the same as it is now: To inform the public that is hungry for answers to their questions. At the reference desk it was, ‘What is the capital of Montana?’ And now it’s: ‘Who is this person who is being retweeted by our president?’ or, ‘Who is the person who runs the Internet Research Agency?’”

**BRANDY ZADROZNY**, quoted in “Librarian-Turned-Journalist Rises; She ‘Helped Us Be This Giant Scoop Factory,’” Poynter, March 4.

“When it comes to trust, it’s worth knowing our weak spots as well as celebrating our strengths. Libraries will never be everyone’s cup of tea. And public confidence is not something to get complacent about, especially when our environment is polluted with information that truly can’t be trusted and we, the librarians, are encouraging everyone to question their sources and think critically. Blind trust in anything is not a good idea these days, and every source has to prove itself worthy.”

**LAURIE PUTNAM**, “In Libraries We Trust,” Next Libraries, March 15.

“IT’S A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF HOW TIME AND TIME AGAIN, THE GOVERNMENT TURNS TO LIBRARIES TO STEP UP AND FILL IN. LIBRARIANS ARE ROUTINELY READY TO STEP UP AND MEET THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY. THIS DEFINITELY RAISES THE BAR.”

**JEREMY JOHANNESSEN**, executive director of the New York Library Association, quoted in “Once It Was Overdue Books. Now Librarians Fight Overdoses,” *The New York Times*, February 28.

“Local public libraries are an antidote to much of what ails us today. Cold corporate expansion, divisiveness, anger, and the mistrust of government may reign outside. But in the library we see equal access, a pursuit of knowledge and differing views, and public support for a taxpayer-funded service that everyone seems happy with.”

**TIM KROHN**, “Libraries the Antidote to the Crazy,” *Mankato (Minn.) Free Press*, March 17.

# The Last Story

A fond farewell after 16 years

I remember with great clarity how this all started. I was sitting at the kitchen table in the summer of 2002, cleaning out my mother's house after her passing, when the phone rang with an offer to take over the Internet Librarian column from Karen G. Schneider, who continues to write and think deeply about matters important to us all. It's probably funny for some people newer to our ranks to even think about why we would need to have an Internet Librarian column, though for those years around the turn of the millennium, it had its value. Then in 2012, playing off the tagline I closed all my columns with, I transitioned to this new title, where I have happily written about broader matters for several more years.

My mom was the first of many inspirations in my professional life. She took a job at our smallish public library when I was a kid. I started hanging around there, which led to helping out, shelving, and eventually working the desk, and I never really left. She and my dad worked very hard to make sure I could do whatever I wanted, and I was lucky to find something I was good at and loved early on. Through all the twists and turns of my career and life, that joy and satisfaction have remained. Much of that I've documented here; much water has gone under many bridges, and we've covered a lot of territory together. Now the time has come for us to part as I'll be starting a new adventure as a contributing editor for *Publishers Weekly* soon.

Many thanks and debts of gratitude are required. To all the wonderful people I've had the good fortune to work with at *American Libraries*—from former Editor



and Publisher Leonard Kniffel, who made that fateful phone call, through former Managing Editor Gordon Flagg, former Senior Editor Beverly Goldberg, and most recently Interim Editor and Publisher Sanhita SinhaRoy and Senior Editor Amy Carlton, all of whom helped me to sound as though I knew what I was talking about, and who all showed grace and patience with my continual inability to make a deadline. (This one included.)

Thanks also and especially to all of you—I hope I have been able to share some insights or ideas, raise a few questions or a few eyebrows, and perhaps give you a chuckle now and then.

I remain as I started, forever optimistic for a profession that has nourished and, okay, occasionally frustrated me for decades. As I always tell my students

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and anybody else who will listen, there is no finer, more worthwhile, or more valuable work to be done, and that will continue to be so in a future brighter still with so many people so dedicated and working so hard to make our institutions, our profession, and our work more authentic and meaningful to all our gloriously myriad communities. Keep doing all those great things.

Just this afternoon, I was at my branch library to return a book and pick up a couple more. That's among the most mundane of library activities and simultaneously one of the most profound. Encouraging the simple yet powerful act of reading, fostering equity and equality of access, maintaining the freedom to read and think as one likes without fear of censorship or censure—these form the foundation of all our other activities and services past, present, and future.

As for my tagline? In that first column, it was completely unthinking; as anybody who knows me will tell you, I am forever saying it, because I forever have story after story. (Ask my students.) Then I sort of kept using it, and 16 years and 130 columns later, here we are. I have loved writing this column. Sharing these stories with you has been one of the signal joys and honors of my professional life. I bid you all a heartfelt *au revoir* ... but for now, this story must come to its end. **AL**

**JOSEPH JANES** is associate professor at the Information School of the University of Washington in Seattle and author of *Documents That Changed the Way We Live* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2017).

# Institutional Neutrality Isn't Reality

Libraries and higher ed must acknowledge that some expression oppresses others

**O**n February 10, University of Washington (UW) Libraries in Seattle closed in response to a rally being held on campus. I'm a current MLIS student at UW's iSchool, and the closure occurred while I was attending the American Library Association's (ALA) 2018 Midwinter Meeting in Denver.

The rally was hosted by the UW College Republicans, who invited Patriot Prayer—a right-wing group based in the Pacific Northwest—as a way to exercise free speech rights. As many open-carry advocates, white supremacists, and neo-Nazis voiced their intentions to attend the rally, fears of maintaining campus safety increased. (Just last year, a protester was shot and injured at an on-campus speech that featured conservative provocateur Milo Yiannopoulos.) Instead of canceling the rally, the administration shut down the majority of the university and encouraged students to stay away altogether.

On February 11, I sat watching the ALA President's Program, where panelists debated the question, "Are libraries neutral?" It seemed baffling to me to be having such a discussion when, just a day before, I saw how baseless the claim of institutional neutrality can be. The affirmative debaters' main talking points echoed those of the UW administration, citing values of civil debate and freedom of expression. But in reality, principles of free, democratic expression come up empty in a material world where, historically, violence and oppression have been America's backbone. Libraries and higher education institutions must acknowledge that freedom of expression is not coming from a neutral playing field;



some expressions actively and effectively silence others.

In order for the UW College Republicans to host Patriot Prayer, the university had to pay a \$17,000 security bill. Bus routes were canceled in adjacent areas, cutting off transportation service for workers and residents. A body-positive fashion show was canceled, as was an event celebrating high-achieving black high school students. Additionally, three main libraries on campus were shuttered, affecting students, faculty, and members of the public. In exchange for Patriot Prayer taking up space, marginalized groups were removed and vital community resources made inaccessible. This material space that we all occupy is full of inequalities and power structures that protect some and endanger others. At the end of the day, libraries and academic institutions must assess whose freedoms are overriding those of others.

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At the Midwinter debate, I felt compelled to speak up and ask the panel how material violence plays into all of this, because some of the pro-neutrality arguments were ahistorical, immaterial, and contradictory. James LaRue, director of ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom, stated, "Can librarians punch Nazis because of what they believe? Then we deny them the common legacy of humanity—the right to be really wrong in public." This made me ask, in light of those campus events, whose safety is going to be sacrificed while we wait around for a Nazi's right to be proven wrong? Whose dignity, agency, and access will be postponed? How many lives will be lost while we wait for the falsehoods of Nazi rhetoric to surface? Giving Nazis the space to be wrong makes me feel as though we are failing those whose existence is threatened on a daily basis.

As an MLIS student, seeing my campus libraries close in response to the rally was discouraging. As the violence of extreme right-wing demonstration takes up more material space in mainstream society, how will libraries react? I am not here to argue whether libraries are neutral or not, and neither are many of my fellow library students. As a future librarian, I acknowledge that I live in a world full of injustice and inequality. To claim libraries are neutral, in aspiration or practice, is to be blind to the realities of violence and oppression that marginalized groups face every day. **AL**

**JULIE JONES** is an MLIS student at the University of Washington's Information School in Seattle.



# LIBRARY SYSTEMS REPORT 2018





# New technologies enable an expanded vision of library services

by Marshall Breeding

Technologies that focus on supporting traditional library services no longer meet the needs of libraries that wish to strengthen their involvement in new service areas.

Academic libraries are looking beyond efficiencies in collection management or improvements in library-provided discovery services. Instead, they are addressing broader education needs by inserting relevant resources into platforms that support the curriculum and enhance their institutions' research activities. Public libraries seek technologies that improve engagement with their communities. These libraries value reliable and feature-rich automation systems, and they are especially drawn to those that help them deliver compelling digital services. Basic library resource management and discovery capabilities no longer differentiate competitors in this market of mature products.

Library services platforms (LSPs) have been in use for more than half a decade and are a proven solution with products that continue to mature and evolve. The move from legacy products to an LSP may provide new efficiencies for internal library operations, but current models extend deeper into the academic enterprise.



A plethora of integrated library systems (ILS) with long lineages pervades the industry. In many respects these products have not only matured in functionality but have also adapted to changing expectations. The ILS continues to be the dominant solution for public, school, and special libraries, though it faces formidable challenges from LSPs in the academic library sphere.

In 2017, many ILS vendors devoted considerable development efforts to web-based interfaces. Many have evolved from earlier client-server technologies with graphic interfaces installed on the computers of staff members or service desks. The age of client-server computing has passed, and the transition to web interfaces is long overdue. Libraries seek fully web-based products without compromising the rich functionality and efficiencies embodied in legacy platforms. It's unfortunate at this late phase of the cycle of cloud computing that development efforts are consumed in a lateral move toward new interfaces at the expense of innovations.

### A year of gentle consolidation

Multiple business transitions have caused incremental changes in the overall industry. These events strengthened trends from previous years but did not represent disruptive change. This quiet year should not be taken as a sign that consolidation

has run its course. Libraries should anticipate more active changes ahead.

The consolidation of the special library software sector continued with Lucidea's acquisition of Eloquent Systems, which focuses on technologies for corporate, legal, and other special libraries. Through a series of acquisitions, Lucidea accumulated a broad portfolio of products, including CuadraSTAR, Inmagic, LookUp Precision, LawPort, and Argus, all complementing their SydneyPLUS products. The ILS market for special libraries includes a variety of niche products that do not necessarily directly compete. By assembling this group of products, Lucidea can address almost all aspects of this market and preserve the brands of the incumbent companies.

OCLC significantly strengthened its position on resource sharing by creating new products and services and acquiring new business. In addition to its already dominant position as a centralized interlibrary loan (ILL) service provided through WorldShare ILL, OCLC expanded into consortial resource sharing with its January 2017 acquisition of Ottawa-based Relais International. This acquisition placed OCLC in the dominant position in both areas.

In the international sector, Axiell Group solidified its position with the Elib ebook distribution platform by gaining full ownership, acquiring the interests of a consortium of publishers that had helped establish the business. The company has divested its stake in Bibliotheca. In August 2017, Axiell acquired ATP Automation Ltd Oy, a Finnish company specializing in products for materials handling and logistics.

Prior to its acquisition, ATP was a business partner with Axiell for 10 years. Through an ongoing series of business transactions, Axiell has expanded its offerings and strengthened its position as a global competitor in library management, material handling, and digital media.

System services provider Civica changed ownership through its acquisition by Partners Group from OMERS Private Equity in a deal valued at more than \$1 billion.

### Publishers and workflow technologies

Consistent with the trend of content companies becoming more involved in technology platforms and tools, Elsevier acquired Bepress in August 2017. Bepress offers Digital Commons, a commercial institutional repository platform in a field dominated by open source products. Elsevier also acquired altmetrics company Plum Analytics from EBSCO Information Services in February 2017. These transactions continue Elsevier's recent moves to position itself as an analytics and workflow company and not just a publisher of scholarly content. Also exemplifying this trend is Clarivate Analytics' acquisition in June 2017 of the Publons service that assists researchers in tracking and showcasing peer review activities.

## ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

In previous cycles of technology development, index-based discovery services and LSPs emerged to support access, discovery, and management of complex, multifformat collections. Discovery services such as Primo and Summon from ProQuest, OCLC's WorldCat Discovery Service, and EBSCO Discovery Service



## ABOUT THE REPORT

**T**he Library Systems Report 2018 documents ongoing investments of libraries in strategic technology products made in 2017. It covers organizations, both for-profit and nonprofit, offering strategic resource management products—especially integrated library systems and library services platforms—and comprehensive discovery products. The vendors included have responded to a survey requesting details about their organization, sales performance, and narrative explanations of accomplishments. Additional sources consulted include press releases, news articles, and other publicly available information. Most of the organizations provided lists of libraries represented in the statistics reported, allowing for more detailed analysis and validation. Product listings in the vendor directory are not comprehensive. ●

have become well established. Most academic libraries have invested in one of these broad-based search tools. Discovery of library-provided resources remains a complex issue with many unfulfilled expectations. Most institutions are using an index-based discovery service, but many challenges remain in improving discoverability in other contexts, especially through general search engines. LSPs have seen widespread adoption, enabling academic and research libraries to manage print and electronic collections through a sophisticated set of interrelated task workflows. Ex Libris's Alma currently dominates LSPs, with OCLC's WorldShare Management Services (WMS) holding a strong secondary position. FOLIO remains in the wings poised to join—or even disrupt—the competition once a functional product has been delivered.

LSPs are now the mainstream approach for supporting resource management and daily operations of academic libraries. These products have not yet become ubiquitous, though they continue to dominate in new procurement scenarios. A significant proportion of academic libraries rely

on longstanding ILS implementations. A large portion of these libraries are engaged in selection processes that will culminate in the continuing decline of the ILS in this sector.

The advent of the open source FOLIO initiative has drawn the attention of many academic libraries concerned with the narrow slate of commercial choices and interested in exploring alternatives. At least some of these libraries have deferred decisions to move from their legacy ILS to one of the established LSPs until it becomes evident whether FOLIO can offer a competitive alternative.

**EX LIBRIS**, owned by ProQuest since December 2015, continues as the dominant technology provider for academic libraries. It is pressing forward to create new products to support library involvement with the broader institution. ProQuest ranks as one of the largest companies offering library products and services. The company has a complex ownership structure: Cambridge Information Group holds the controlling shares; Goldman Sachs has also made significant investments.

Matti Shem-Tov, president and CEO of Ex Libris since 2003, was appointed the top executive for ProQuest in November 2017, succeeding Kurt Sanford, who had led the company since July 2011. Shem-Tov has seen Ex Libris through four ownership arrangements, culminating in its acquisition by ProQuest. With Shem-Tov at the helm, Bar Veinstein advances to the position of president of Ex Libris from his former role as executive vice president of resource management.

Ex Libris's Alma LSP has gained a substantial installed base five years beyond its first use at Boston College, with Carnegie Mellon University as its 1,000th customer. Forty-five members of the Association of Research Libraries have selected Alma. Migrations to Alma this year came mostly from those using its Aleph (117 libraries) and Voyager (18) ILS products, though it captured academics using ILS products from competing companies, including Symphony (19), Library.Solution (12), Millennium (10), and Sierra (5). Most Alma deals come packaged with its Primo discovery service, though beginning in 2017 Summon has become a supported option. Ex Libris also supports open source discovery interfaces such as VuFind and Blacklight. No business agreement has been reached to enable EBSCO Discovery Service to fully interoperate with Alma.

Ex Libris faces immediate competition from OCLC's WMS and potential disruption by FOLIO, but since 2012 it has seen increasing adoptions of Alma. The service is an immediately available option for academic libraries that want to replace aging legacy systems and invest in new areas of strategic interest to their institutions. Although Alma has matured through about seven years of development, Ex Libris continues to enhance it with features consistent with its own development



agenda and through recommendations from libraries using the product. New versions are deployed monthly.

Ex Libris intends to include BIBFRAME in the development agenda for Alma. Support for BIBFRAME will be phased in, enabling libraries using Alma to transition gradually to the new metadata framework without disrupting their existing workflows based on MARC or Dublin Core.

Throughout its corporate history, Ex Libris has expanded its business by creating products in nontraditional categories. Its commercialization of SFX in 1999, for example, launched the genre of OpenURL-based link resolvers. The company moved into digital preservation with Rosetta in 2009. Its Leganto reading list management application, launched in 2015, has been implemented in 45 institutions as of February. CampusM, acquired in April 2015, provides a mobile-oriented content delivery platform for the broader campus and has been implemented in 81 institutions, including 50 in the UK.

Responding to the need for universities to better manage, assess, and showcase their research programs, Ex Libris launched its new research services platform, Esplo, in February. Developed in partnership with five major universities in the US and UK, Esplo will create a new set of services based on the Alma platform in support of such research activities as tracking research publications, funding opportunities, and creating researcher profiles, and will provide reports and analytics. Esplo addresses three key stakeholders within the university: individual researchers,

the institutional research office responsible for administration and compliance of funded projects, and librarians providing research support. Esplo taps into other ProQuest assets, such as Pivot, a comprehensive repository of funding opportunities available to researchers.

**OCLC'S** WMS is another highly competitive LSP. Although its level of adoption ranks below that of Alma, WMS supports a comprehensive set of workflows for print and electronic resources through web-based interfaces and a multitenant platform. Midsized academic libraries represent the largest number of implementations, though some very large and complex organizations also selected WMS in 2017. Following the 2017 launch of Voilà, a new national union catalog for Canada, Library and Archives Canada will transition from its locally developed AMICUS ILS to WMS.

In 2017, OCLC launched Digby, a new mobile app for WMS, supporting staff activities performed away from service desks, such as retrieving lists of requested items from the stacks and reshelving materials.

OCLC continues to support and enhance the CONTENTdm digital asset management platform. The product is currently used in more than 2,500 institutions. Major enhancements include redesigned interfaces and internal technologies. CONTENTdm now supports International Image Interoperability Framework–defined image and presentation APIs, enabling digital images to be accessed through a variety of external tools and platforms.

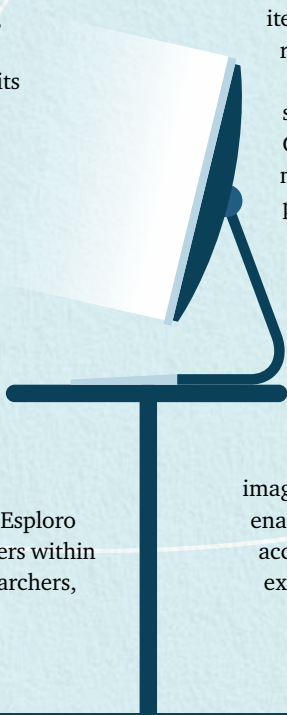
### EBSCO INFORMATION SERVICES

ranks as one of the largest organizations providing content and technology products. It operates as the largest subsidiary of EBSCO Industries, a holding company with a diverse range of business activities. EBSCO is owned by the Stephens family, who founded the company and controls its board of directors. Tim Collins, long-standing president of EBSCO Information Services, has also served as chief executive officer of EBSCO Industries since July 2014. Last year that role was assumed by David Walker, with Collins now focusing on the leadership of EBSCO Information Services.

On the content front, EBSCOhost databases span many disciplines and involve high-quality subject indexing performed by experts and supplemented by technical processes. EBSCO continues to be one of the few remaining serials subscription agents. In addition to brokering serials for libraries, EBSCO offers GOBI as a tool for ordering books.

Among its technology products, deployed through software as a service, is EBSCO Discovery Service, which has been implemented by more libraries than any competing index-based discovery service. In recent years, EBSCO has reworked its products for managing and linking to electronic resources into Full Text Finder, which includes a comprehensive knowledge base of e-resources and holdings as well as an interface for users to gain access to their library's subscribed resources.

EBSCO has helped launch the **FOLIO** project to develop an open source LSP, in addition to the content and technology products it offers directly. The company has made major investments to fund the project and has provided direct and indirect support for its design and development.





# Vendor Directory

The FOLIO project offers a fresh idea in library resource management, with a modular approach to functionality implemented through microservices architecture. EBSCO has provided funding and direction to Index Data, an open source development firm, to create its core infrastructure. Index Data championed the project throughout the library community, familiar with its work as a major developer of open source technology components used within a variety of environments.

EBSCO envisions FOLIO as a technology framework that will disrupt the current market of LSPs that are tightly bundled with their own discovery services. These bundled offerings result in a competitive environment that disadvantages EBSCO Discovery Service, despite its efforts to integrate with all the major ILSes. FOLIO's modular design will accommodate any discovery product and EBSCO will naturally ensure that its own products are integrated.

While FOLIO generally aligns with its product strategies, EBSCO will not exert direct control over the project. The governance of the FOLIO project is shared among multiple stakeholders, including the Open Library Environment, an expanding array of organizations participating in its development; libraries that lend resources to the project; and EBSCO, which has made the most substantial financial investments. The Open Library Environment is the official entity that holds the copyrights associated with the software and handles other legal and administrative activities.

The FOLIO project has been in development for about two years. If current timelines prevail, libraries will begin using it by late 2018 or in 2019. Chalmers University of Technology in Sweden has stepped forward as a pilot site for its services.

## Auto-Graphics

auto-graphics.com  
PRODUCTS: SHAREit, VERSO

## Axiell Group

axiell.com  
PRODUCTS: Arena, Aurora, BOOK-IT, DDElibra, Quria, WeLib

## Baratz

baratz.es  
PRODUCT: Absys.Net

## BiblioCommons

bibliocommons.com  
PRODUCTS: BiblioCore, BiblioEvents, BiblioWeb

## Biblionix

biblionix.com  
PRODUCT: Apollo

## Book Systems

booksys.com  
PRODUCT: Atrium

## ByWater Solutions

bywatersolutions.com  
PRODUCT: Koha support

## Capita

capita-libraries.co.uk  
PRODUCTS: Alto, Chorus

## Civica Library Solutions

civica.com.au  
PRODUCT: Spydus

## COMPanion Corp./ Alexandria

goalexandria.com  
PRODUCT: Alexandria

## EBSCO Information Services

ebsco.com  
PRODUCTS: EBSCO Discovery Service,

FOLIO support, Full Text Finder, GOBI

## Equinox Open Library Initiative

equinoxinitiative.org  
PRODUCTS: Evergreen and Koha support

## Ex Libris, a ProQuest Company

exlibrisgroup.com  
PRODUCTS: Aleph, Alma, campusM, Leganto, Primo, Rosetta, Summon

## Follett

follettlearning.com  
PRODUCT: Destiny

## Infor Library and Information Solutions

infor.com/libraries  
PRODUCT: V-smart

## InfoVision Software

infovisionsoftware.com  
PRODUCT: Evolve

## Innovative Interfaces, Inc.

iii.com  
PRODUCTS: Encore, Polaris, Sierra, Virtua

## Insignia Software

insigniasoftware.com  
PRODUCT: Library System Enterprise

## Keystone Systems

klas.com  
PRODUCT: KLAS

## LibraryWorld

libraryworld.com  
PRODUCT: LibraryWorld

## The Library Corporation

TLCdelivers.com  
PRODUCTS: CARL•X, Library•Solution

## Lucidea

lucidea.com  
PRODUCTS: CuadraSTAR, Inmagic, SydneyPLUS

## Mandarin Library Automation

mlasolutions.com  
PRODUCT: Mandarin M5

## Media Flex

mediaflex.net  
PRODUCT: OPALS support

## OCLC

oclc.org  
PRODUCTS: Tipasa, WorldCat Discovery, WorldShare Management Services

## Prima

prima.com.br  
PRODUCTS: Philos, SophiA

## PTFS Europe

ptfs-europe.com  
PRODUCTS: Biblioovation, rebus:list and Koha support

## SirsiDynix

sirsidynix.com  
PRODUCTS: BLUEcloud suite, Horizon, Symphony

## Soutron Global

soutronglobal.com  
PRODUCT: Soutron

## TIND Technologies

tind.io  
PRODUCTS: TIND DA, TIND ILS, TIND IR, TIND RDM



This year has seen significant expansion for the project. Ten organizations are involved in its development, including Index Data, EBSCO, Stacks, Qulto, and Frontside Software. Libraries participate in FOLIO through software development and by providing experts to help with functional requirements, testing and quality assurance, and education and promotion.

An initial version of FOLIO capable of providing basic library automation has not been released. To date, no libraries have implemented FOLIO, so there are no statistics to report and its economic impact remains difficult to assess. The libraries committed to the project mean lost opportunities for proprietary LSPs.

**TIND** offers a suite of products based on technology developed at the CERN research facility in Switzerland. Although a startup with less than a dozen employees, it is establishing itself both in the US and internationally.


The company made a high-profile entry into the US market when Caltech libraries selected TIND ILS. This year Caltech became the first organization to implement the TIND RDM as a research data

repository. The Caltech Data Repository enables any researcher to submit data sets for preservation.

This year the UC Berkeley Law Library selected the TIND ILS and will enhance its serials and acquisitions modules. Millersville (Pa.) University migrated to TIND Digital Asset Management from CONTENTdm.

### ILS COMPANIES

SirsiDynix and Innovative Interfaces are the two largest companies competing in the ILS arena that have not been absorbed by one of the top-level industry players. Both tried to transform their long-standing successful but aging ILS products into platforms based on modern architectures that can support libraries across multiple sectors. SirsiDynix and Innovative both have academic libraries as a large percentage of their customer base and face challenges defending themselves against companies such as Ex Libris that offer ever-expanding products and services designed specifically for academia.



For the last five years **SIRSIDYNIX** has worked to complete its BLUEcloud suite. The company's two flagship ILS products Symphony and Horizon, though stable and rich in features, are based on aging internal architectures and use graphical staff clients

that must be installed on computers throughout the library to access backend features. The BLUEcloud suite features web-based interfaces, delivered through a multitenant platform, that can work with either of its ILS products.

The development of BLUEcloud has taken many years. It will ultimately enable the company to offer a fully web-based environment without the need for local staff clients. The project faces challenges to deliver the advanced functionality seen in the graphical staff clients through a web-based interface. Until each BLUEcloud module reaches that sophistication, libraries can continue to use the graphical clients or have a mixed environment. For the modules replicating similar functionality, libraries can use the BLUEcloud versions without additional cost beyond their standard maintenance fees. BLUEcloud modules providing new capabilities are offered as added cost options. SirsiDynix reports that more than 2,000 of its customers have adopted at least one of the BLUEcloud modules.

This year SirsiDynix introduced BLUEcloud Mobile, an app designed for library users to discover and access library resources. BLUEcloud Mobile supersedes the company's previous mobile apps, such as BookMyne. BLUEcloud Mobile followed an accelerated development timeline. Announced in March 2017, its initial version was delivered by the fourth quarter of the year. This product has been well received, with more sales in its initial year than any of its other products. Enhancements to BLUEcloud Mobile planned for 2018 include the capabilities to work with non-SirsiDynix ILS products.

SirsiDynix attributes the rapid development to its comprehensive APIs and web services architecture inherent in the BLUEcloud platform. The company states that investments it has made in supporting



## OCLC expands resource sharing

Marking its 50th year, OCLC continues as a catalyst for cooperation among libraries supported by a wide array of technology platforms and member services. From the original 54 libraries in Ohio, OCLC membership now totals more than 16,000 libraries in 120 countries. OCLC operates as a nonprofit organization with multiple layers of governance, including global and regional councils and an executive leadership team.

In addition to its acquisition of Relais International, OCLC introduced products to strengthen its resource-sharing services to libraries. Tipasa, an ILL management utility, was introduced by OCLC in January 2017 after development that began in March 2016. It addresses the functionality of ILLiad, a Windows-based ILL utility. ILLiad was developed by Atlas Systems, a spin-off developed by Virginia Tech University and exclusively distributed by OCLC since 2000. Tipasa, now in use by 163 libraries, has automated borrowing and lending activities across multiple resource-sharing services through a web-based interface. It represents an effort not only to modernize the technology of ILLiad but also to integrate this critical area of ILL management onto its strategic platform.

OCLC launched Syndeo in February as a new suite of services based on the WorldShare Platform to support national and regional collaborative catalogs and resource sharing. Some capabilities provided through Syndeo include support for specialized authority vocabularies and copy cataloging workflows that may differ from those in the global WorldCat framework. Syndeo addresses national catalog projects such as that for Library and Archives Canada, which has engaged with OCLC for deployment via WorldCat and need specialized support. ●

this integration layer will enable speedy development of future modules and apps.

Work continues on BLUEcloud Acquisitions, developed in partnership with the South Australian Public Library Network. The module is currently running as a live pilot and is expected to be made available to all customers this year. SirsiDynix also continues development of BLUEcloud eResource Management, based on the code of the open source Coral platform.

In a separate development effort, SirsiDynix has created SymphonyWeb as

a web-based version of its Symphony ILS. The company's long-term strategic direction continues to be based on BLUEcloud, but it also needs to support clients who need a fully web-based ILS. SymphonyWeb uses web interfaces that directly interact with a Symphony server making use of proprietary mechanisms rather than operating through the more open web services layer.

SirsiDynix signed 90 new contracts for Symphony in 2017 (down from 143 reported in 2016) and added 10 libraries

to Horizon. Twenty-eight libraries selected its EOS.Web ILS.

**INNOVATIVE INTERFACES**, marking its 40th year in business, has developed multiple generations of ILS products and has cultivated a large customer base in almost all regions of the world. On the ILS front, the company offers two flagship products: Sierra, the latest generation of its internally developed system, and Polaris, which it acquired in 2014. Sierra has been implemented by libraries of all types in many countries. Polaris was designed specifically for public libraries and has not been implemented outside the United States and Canada. Innovative also continues to support Millennium, the predecessor to Sierra, though its implementations continue to decline as libraries upgrade or shift to other products. The company has developed Encore as its strategic discovery interface. Encore Duet combines this discovery interface with the article-level index of EBSCO Discovery Service for mutual customers of those products. Innovative Resource Sharing, formerly INN-Reach and ArticleReach, supports consortial borrowing among libraries using different ILS products. The VITAL digital asset management system, based on Fedora, was acquired from VTLS and continues to be developed and supported. Virtua, the ILS acquired from VTLS, is no longer being actively marketed and developed.

Product development activities carried out in 2017 include enhancements to Sierra to improve scalability that allows it to serve large organizations. An expanded set of APIs was created to address additional patron and accounting transactions.

Polaris was originally developed with Windows-based staff clients. In recent



years, a new set of web-based staff applications has been developed to form the Polaris Web Application, formerly branded as Leap. It was enhanced in 2017 to operate in multiple languages, support Unicode, and follow a responsive design. New APIs have been implemented for Innovative Resource Sharing to enable interoperability with ILS products outside of Innovative's own offerings without the need for the cumbersome direct consortial borrowing transaction broker.

Innovative announced an initiative to develop a new platform based on native linked data architecture to support a new set of technology products and services. Dubbed the Context Engine, this platform transforms existing MARC formats into linked data, integrating external data sources into its internal repositories and allowing the library to deliver experiences to its users based on their research interests or demographic characteristics. Innovative reports that it has completed a proof of concept for the Context Engine, and it plans to release a context-based discovery service in 2018 as well as a discovery-based analytics service.

Innovative is owned by investment firms HGGC and JMI Equity Partners. James Tallman has been its CEO since January 2016. Innovative recently appointed three new executives: Kathryn Harnish as senior vice president for product strategy, Amy Hayes as senior vice president for marketing, and Tom Jacobson, a veteran of the company, returned as vice president, executive library advocate and strategist.

**THE LIBRARY CORPORATION (TLC)** provides automation products and bibliographical services for public and school libraries. Its Library.Solution finds use primarily in mid-sized public libraries

and school districts. This year saw the selection of Library.Solution by two major school districts in Texas. Now in its version 5.0 release, Library.Solution continues to see substantial ongoing development. The LS2 Cataloging Module enables a wide range of staff members who process materials, including those without extensive cataloging skills, to quickly and accurately describe library materials.

CARL•X, designed for larger libraries, has seen a surge of interest, with selections by two major organizations: Somerset County (N.J.) Library System and the Library Network, a consortium of 75 libraries in southeast Michigan.

In addition to its ILS products, TLC has also introduced its SmartTECH line of products, which provides materials for hands-on STEM learning experiences.

**AUTO-GRAPHICS**, the only publicly traded company in the industry, offers both the VERSO ILS and the SHAREit resource-sharing and ILL platform. Both products target public libraries. The company strives to increase the reach of VERSO to larger public libraries and to position SHAREit as a platform able to work with all major ILS products through established standards and protocols. Small and mid-sized libraries have been the target audience for VERSO, but the product is also used by larger libraries. Auto-Graphics has enhanced VERSO with features of interest to multibranch public libraries. VERSO was selected by 23 libraries in 2017, increasing total installations to 525. In May 2017 the company released a Library Mobile for VERSO mobile app.

This year SHAREit was selected by the Vermont Department of Libraries to provide wider access of materials to 549 libraries. The product has been

implemented for ILL and resource sharing in 14 states.

## PUBLIC LIBRARIES

**BIBLIOCOMMONS** specializes in patron interfaces for public libraries. BiblioCore is its discovery service that extends the conventional relevancy-based search and faceted navigation to include such social features as the creation and sharing of resource lists. BiblioWeb serves as a comprehensive portal for a public library, standing in for its entire website. BiblioCommons stands out as the only commercial interface able to displace the built-in catalogs of major ILS products. In 2017, the company reworked the search facility of BiblioCore for faster and smoother performance. BiblioWeb improved compliance to accessibility standards and refined usability. About a dozen libraries implemented BiblioCore or BiblioWeb in 2017.

BiblioCommons reported a total workforce of 69 in 2017, with 54 allocated to development, a much higher proportion than any other company.

## OPEN SOURCE ILS

**BYWATER SOLUTIONS** offers commercial support services to libraries using open source products. The company has become the leading provider in the US for services surrounding the open source Koha ILS. The company works primarily with public and academic libraries, but it also includes school and special libraries among its clientele.



The company reached an important threshold when it was selected by the libraries of Virginia Tech University to support their migration from Sierra to the Koha ILS and Coral electronic resource management system. It entered a partnership with EBSCO Information Services to provide support for the open source FOLIO LSP. The partnership will be based on hosting infrastructure EBSCO and ByWater Solutions delivering customer support services.

ByWater has attracted libraries using major ILS products to Koha, including those using Symphony (13 libraries), Library.Solution (6), Millennium (6), Sierra (3), WorldShare Management Services (1), and the open source Evergreen ILS (3). With comprehensive support services from ByWater Solutions, libraries can move to an open source ILS with no more internal technical expertise required for a proprietary product.

**THE EQUINOX OPEN LIBRARY INITIATIVE**, operating as a nonprofit corporation, provides services for libraries using open source technologies, including the Evergreen ILS for consortia; Koha, which it supports for standalone libraries; and Fulfillment, a resource-sharing environment. Equinox has developed Sequoia, a multitenant environment for hosting deployments of open source applications with high reliability and stability, with tools for deployment, monitoring, and other advanced capabilities required by a high-capacity data center.

In addition to hosting and support services, Equinox remains deeply involved in the ongoing development of Evergreen. The organization retains some of the original developers of the software created for the PINES consortium in Georgia. In 2017 efforts were concentrated on developing

web-based staff interfaces able to replace the previous clients, which needed to be installed on local computers. With this work complete, Equinox commenced migrating its customers to the new clients in 2017 and will continue the process through 2018.

## SCHOOL AND SMALL LIBRARIES

**FOLLETT SCHOOL SOLUTIONS** operates as a business unit of Follett Corporation, one of the largest organizations offering library products and services. This division employs 1,482 people, with 169 involved in software development.

Library software represents a relatively small portion of Follett's overall business activities. The broader organization also operates college bookstores, distributes educational materials, and provides training across multiple practical professions. Baker & Taylor, now a wholly owned subsidiary of Follett, contributes around \$1 billion to the company annually through global sales to libraries and retail outlets. The company is privately owned by the Follett family, with estimated revenues of more than \$3 billion.

The Destiny library management system, though a relatively small portion of the company's business activities, ranks as the dominant product in pre-K-12 libraries in the United States.

**BIBLIONIX** has developed its web-based Apollo ILS primarily for small public libraries, though the company continues to reach into the midsized league. Now in its 11th year, the company remains privately owned and profitable. In 2017,

56 new libraries subscribed to Apollo, increasing the total installations to 664. In recent years Apollo has attracted libraries previously operating larger ILS products, including Polaris (5 libraries), Library.Solution (3), Symphony (3), Sierra (2), and Millennium (1) in addition to those moving from other products oriented to small libraries. Apollo improved its catalog search results, fine collection, and catalog display status this year.

**BOOK SYSTEMS'** Atrium ILS is mostly used by small public and K-12 school libraries. The company continues to offer Concourse, a legacy product which has not seen significant decline in use, with 9,933 installations continuing in 2017.

The company made multiple enhancements to Atrium this year, including integration of content from ProQuest Syndetics for its OPAC Snapshot Unbound module, which is deployed through a mobile friendly responsive design. Book Systems offers a mobile app to collect payments using services such as Square, PayPal, and ProPay. The Librista patron-facing app includes new search capabilities, access to community events, and personal account management. Librista can be easily connected to any library using Atrium. Additional interoperability capabilities were developed this year, including single sign-in using Google, resource sharing with OCLC WMS using NISO Circulation Interchange Protocol, additional integrations with ebook lending platforms from Hoopla and Bibliotheca's cloudLibrary, and an extension of its capabilities with OverDrive.

**MANDARIN LIBRARY AUTOMATION** specializes in technology products for small libraries, including K-12 schools, public libraries, colleges, and



other organizations. Its current product, Mandarin M5, is a web-based application available for installation on local computers or as a hosted service. The previous product, Mandarin M3, remains in use and continues to see new installations. This year the company focused on the development of a new reports module for Mandarin M5. The module will be delivered with a variety of standard reports. Customized reports can be created by the company's support personnel, which are then available for use by the library.

**COMPANION CORPORATION** offers the Alexandria ILS, primarily used by K–12 schools and other small libraries. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the launch of Alexandria. The company has recently developed the capability for integration between Alexandria or Textbook Tracker, and a school or district student information system through a partnership with Clever.

Libraries purchasing Alexandria are entitled to all future software enhancements without additional cost beyond standard support fees. New updates are issued monthly. COMPanion has invested in cloud hosting capabilities that enable libraries to use the product with lower technical overhead.

Alexandria is the second-largest provider of library software to the K–12 school market in the US, with installations in more than 14,000 individual libraries. COMPanion is a privately-owned company. Although it does not comment on specific revenue or profit statistics, it reports that it operates with adequate cash flow and working capital to sustain its business, and has little or no debt obligations.

**LIBRARYWORLD** serves small libraries with limited budgets, offering a fully

web-based library automation system available at an affordable price. The company did not report statistics on new adoptions this year, but the total number of installations stands at 3,373. Developments in 2017 include incorporating support for the Z39.50 standard, allowing libraries to make their collections available to resource sharing environments or other applications using this protocol. All libraries using LibraryWorld enjoy access to new capabilities without additional cost beyond established subscription fees.

## SPECIAL LIBRARIES

**KEYSTONE SYSTEMS** has traditionally specialized in the relatively small niche of libraries serving individuals with visual disabilities with its KLAS integrated library system. These libraries typically fulfill much of the resources requested by their users through mail and other delivery services. This year, Keystone expanded with new library software modules geared toward serving professional associations. Features addressed in this package include personalized member profiles, user-contributed content, browsing based on interest categories, and integration with the core management systems used by the association. A small, privately-owned company, Keystone has 16 employees, a slight increase from 2016.

**LUCIDEA** specializes in technologies for corporate, legal, and special libraries and has accumulated a broad portfolio of products through the acquisition of other companies also involved in this arena. Besides making new business acquisitions, Lucidea continues to enhance each of its

products. In 2017, the company established Lucidea Press, a publishing division offering professional development resources geared toward librarians and knowledge management professionals.

**SOUTRON GLOBAL** focuses on products for corporate, legal, and other special libraries. The company continues to enhance the Soutron ILS. Acquisitions and serials modules were developed for the product in 2017, featuring a new user interface that allows simpler data entry and processing workflows. The company also modernized the technical architecture. Remaining with the Microsoft technology stack, it replaced existing .Net routines with equivalent .Net Core components.

The company saw an uptick in interest in its Archival product in 2017, both by existing clients adding this capability to their implementations and by new customers. Soutron has also expanded its customer base to include many organizations with nontraditional library collections. The company notes a trend of organizations consolidating data from multiple legacy implementations into single unified environments.

## INTERNATIONAL

Although the library technology industry includes quite a few global companies, many remain active only within a given country or region. A full understanding of the industry requires consideration of companies and products not well known in the US. Considerable innovation can be seen in these organizations, and future phases of business may bring them to new geographic markets.



**AXIELL** has entered a phase of ambitious product development through the introduction of an LSP for public libraries and a web-based product for schools. Although the company lacks a major presence in libraries in the US and Canada, it ranks as one of the larger library technology companies globally, with a workforce of 305—a number that has increased annually since 2009.

As one of the major providers for public libraries, museums, and archives in other countries, Axiell holds an important position in the global industry. Its library products are dominant in Scandinavian countries and serve a small but significant percentage of libraries in the UK. Ann Melaerts, previously leading the library business for INFOR, joined Axiell in August 2017 as vice president and business area director for its public libraries division.

Its current profile was established through a series of mergers of companies providing library automation throughout Scandinavia and the UK in the early to mid-2000s. Following its initial period of consolidation, Axiell continued to support the full range of products created by the organizations it subsumed. Only in recent years has the company begun to phase them out. Libraries using Origo, Libra, and PallasPro are encouraged to adopt its other actively developed and supported products. This move will narrow the previous glut of products to a single supported offering per country.

Axiell has introduced WeLib, a web-based library management system for schools. Initially created for school libraries in Sweden, Axiell plans to market it in other countries in 2018. WeLib has been implemented in about one quarter of school libraries in Sweden.

Besides its involvement with maintaining its traditional ILS product line, Axiell has launched Quria, an ambitious project

to create an LSP for public libraries. This product embraces the key technical and functional characteristics of the genre, but designed for public libraries. Quria has been deployed on a web-native multitenant platform, focusing initially on management and delivery of digital content but also including the traditional features needed for print collections. Following the successful completion of its initial version, Quria has been implemented in the Drammen Public Library in Norway. Northamptonshire libraries have opted to partner with Axiell as a pilot site for the first implementation of Quria in the UK.

In a public library technology arena dominated by long-standing ILS products, Quria represents a unique position as an LSP developed with a fresh look at digital-first expectations deployed through contemporary architectures and components. Quria will not only provide an eventual migration option for libraries using legacy ILS products, but may also provide Axiell an opportunity to enter additional geographic markets.

**CIVICA** specializes in providing software and business process outsourcing to a wide range of government agencies

and departments. Responsibility for the Spydus ILS falls within the company's libraries and education business and represents a tiny portion of Civica's total business activity. Spydus has seen a long evolution spanning three decades. Civica's library products have been implemented in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Taiwan, and the UK, with a small presence in the US and Canada. Several libraries in Australia selected Spydus, many of which moved from Amlib systems which are no longer fully supported by OCLC. In early 2018 the company was reselected by the National Library Board of Singapore following a comprehensive search. In addition to new contracts, some of its existing consortia expended to include more libraries, both in the UK and Australia.

In 2017, Spydus focused on the development of Version 11, completing the long-standing process of transition to all web-based interfaces with the reports as the final module to be transitioned. With a fully web-based system, libraries will no longer have to manage client software on local computers, significantly reducing operational overhead. Future development will focus on addressing new areas of functionality.





### INFOR LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SOLUTIONS

is a small business unit of Infor, a large software and services firm involved in a wide range of business sectors. Its library business employs 65 people. Intended primarily for public libraries, Infor offers the V-smart ILS as its flagship product. Vubis Smart, the previous version, also remains in use. A specialized version of the product, V@school, serves school libraries. Infor also offers Iguana, a comprehensive portal for libraries, which can be deployed to replace a library's entire website. This year Infor began a major rewrite of Iguana, with will be released as Version 5. Iguana DAM was recently released to provide a digital asset management solution for libraries.

In 2017, the company's product suite updated all web-based interfaces with a responsive design and enhancements to meet requirements for accessibility. New APIs have been implemented across each product to enable greater openness and interoperability with external applications. V-smart has been enhanced to support BIBFRAME for bibliographic metadata. Ebook lending has been streamlined through the integration with OverDrive.

This year saw a major leadership change, with the departure of Melaerts and the appointment of Jean-François Piat, formerly responsible for the company's library activities in France.

**CAPITA LIBRARIES** is a business unit within a large company that provides technology and outsourcing to a variety of local government services. The company's ILS, Alto, branded as Soprano, is offered exclusively in the UK. New clients included Black Country Libraries, including library services in Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall, and Wolverhampton. Capita reported 30 people employed by its library division.

**PTFS EUROPE** provides support services for open source software applications, primarily the Koha ILS and the Coral electronic resource management system. The company also distributes the Knowledge digital asset management system produced by PTFS, the US company with which PTFS Europe is loosely associated.

The company saw a significant spike in new support contracts in 2017, with 30 libraries selecting Koha based on its services. Many of these contracts were from major universities or government agencies migrating from mainline proprietary products. PTFS Europe, in partnership with Interleaf Technology, was awarded a major contract to provide Koha, Coral, and rebus:list to the 13 Institutes of Technology in Ireland, and is a framework agreement that makes the product suite potentially available to all academic institutions in Ireland.

This year PTFS Europe divested its rebus:list reading list management solution to Kortext and the UK Copyright Licensing Agency. These organizations plan significant enhancements to the product. This divestment also enables PTFS Europe to focus more resources on its support services. Interest in reading list management systems emerged early in the UK. Rebus:list, launched by PTFS in 2012, represented an alternative to Talis Aspire, which since its release in 2009 has dominated this niche. Ex Libris joined the competition in this product genre in 2015 with its launch of Leganto.

**BARATZ**, based in Madrid, provides its AbsysNet ILS to libraries in Spain, France, and Latin America. In 2017, its development efforts focused on adapting its web-based interfaces to a responsive design in support of all screen sizes and devices. In addition to ongoing enhancements to the

current version of AbsysNet, Baratz continues the development of a new-generation version, embodying new architectures and technology components. Both the current and next generation of AbsysNet have been empowered with a rich set of APIs to enable connection with external resources and systems. The company has grown its workforce to 80 employees, an increase from 76 in 2016.

Though not active in the US, **PRIMA** is well established as a provider of technology products to libraries in Brazil, with a growing international footprint. The company has more than 100 installations in Spain and is expanding into other countries in Latin America.

Prima offers two major ILSes—Sophia for all types of larger libraries and Philos for school libraries—and has recently developed web-based versions of both products. The company now emphasizes its software as a service offering and is working to migrate its clients using the legacy client software to the hosted web-based version. Prima also developed a data mining tool, able to work with a data warehouse populated by data from the library's ILS to reveal statistical trends and indicators relating to collection development, circulation of materials, patron activity, and online catalog use patterns. The interface, delivered through an HTML5 application, allows a librarian to examine data in a variety of ways, applying filters, producing exportable graphs or tables, and selecting views by an individual library facility or an entire system or consortium.

Prima recently integrated a variety of external services, including EBSCO Discovery Service, the ODILO ebook lending platform, and content providers such as Elsevier and Pearson, as well as Brazilian publishers and digital services.



## Sales leaders and trends

Companies saw continued momentum in the LSP arena in 2017, especially with academic libraries moving away from ILS products in favor of the broader scope of management options available with LSPs. ILSes continue to reign as the dominant solution for public libraries.

Ex Libris enjoyed robust sales across different products. Alma had its strongest sales year ever in 2017—166 contracts representing 266 libraries, with 1,095 total libraries using or installing the product. The company supplements sales of its flagship LSP with sales of Primo (126), 360 Link (54), SFX (33), Aleph (6), Rosetta (3), and 360 Resource Manager (1). The Leganto list manager saw 37 new sales.

OCLC inked 52 new contracts spanning 54 libraries for WMS, resulting in an installed base of 521 libraries. It also continues to support legacy ILS products, mostly in Europe, for ongoing revenue. OCLC's resource sharing products, such as Tipasa, represent further opportunities for business.

SirsiDynix led in ILS sales with 90 contracts. Down significantly from 142 contracts in 2016, the company's 2017 numbers are still impressive in a year of depressed sales among traditional ILS products. SirsiDynix saw strong sales of premium BLUEcloud modules: Enterprise (89), Analytics (51), MobileCirc (33), eResource Central (30), Portfolio (24), and Visibility (20). EOS.Web had 28 new contracts with 1,078 total installations. Total installations of Symphony stand at 2,551.

Innovative reported 31 new contracts for Sierra (61 libraries, 931 total installations). Polaris continues to be marketed, but had only two new sales (26 libraries, 557 cumulative installations).

## Integrated Library Systems

PRODUCT	COMPANY	CONTRACTS	INSTALLED
<b>Symphony</b>	SirsiDynix	<b>90</b>	<b>2,551</b>
<b>Evergreen</b> (open source)	Equinox	<b>12</b>	<b>1,671</b>
<b>Koha</b> (open source)	ByWater Solutions	<b>47</b>	<b>996</b>
<b>Sierra</b>	Innovative Interfaces	<b>31</b>	<b>931</b>
<b>Horizon</b>	SirsiDynix	<b>10</b>	<b>917</b>
<b>Library.Solution</b>	TLC	<b>11</b>	<b>753</b>
<b>Polaris</b>	Innovative Interfaces	<b>2</b>	<b>557</b>
<b>VERSO</b>	Auto-Graphics	<b>23</b>	<b>525</b>
<b>V-smart</b>	Infor	<b>28</b>	<b>342</b>
<b>CARL•X</b>	TLC	<b>6</b>	<b>108</b>
<b>Koha</b> (open source)	Equinox	<b>1</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Bibliovation</b>	LibLime/PTFS	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>TIND ILS</b>	TIND	<b>2</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Spydus</b>	Civica	<b>62</b>	<b>214</b>

For additional statistics on sales trends, installations, and service platforms and discovery systems, visit [americanlibrariesmagazine.org](http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org).

In the small public library arena, Biblionix made 56 new sales for Apollo, increasing installations to 664. While these numbers are impressive, they represent a lower level of revenue relative to companies dealing with larger libraries.

In the open source arena, ByWater Solutions signed 47 service contracts for Koha and increased its overall base

to 996 libraries—down from the 70 new contracts the company signed in 2016, but still a strong showing in a year of high ILS turnover. **AL**



**MARSHALL BREEDING** is an independent consultant, speaker, and author. He writes and edits the website Library Technology Guides ([librarytechnology.org](http://librarytechnology.org)).


*Meet the*  
**CLASS OF 2018**

# *Emerging* **LEADERS**

**T**hey're the new faces greeting patrons and students at the reference desk, recommending books in the stacks, and experimenting with fresh ideas behind the scenes. These are the library world's rising stars, the generation that will move, shape, and influence the present and future of the Association and the library profession. These are the American Library Association's (ALA) Emerging Leaders of 2018.

Initiated in 1997 as a one-year program under former ALA President Mary R. Somerville and revived in 2006 under former ALA President Leslie Burger, Emerging Leaders recognizes the best and brightest new leaders in our profession. It's open to librarians of any age who are new to the library profession and who have fewer than five years of experience working at a professional or paraprofessional level.

The program allows participants to get on the fast track to ALA, participate in project-planning groups, network, gain an inside look into the Association's structure, and serve the profession in a leadership capacity early in their careers.

At the 2018 Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits in Denver, the new Emerging Leaders were divided into groups to complete projects for ALA units and affiliates. The results will be unveiled at the 2018 ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in New Orleans. We joined them in Denver and asked them what the future holds for the library profession. 



## *Team B*

From left: Netanel Ganin,  
Garrison Libby, Rhiannon  
Sorrell, Jessica Colbert,  
Aisha Conner-Gaten





## Team A

From left: Katie Greenleaf Martin, Kaitlin Frick, Angela Ocana, Juan Rivera, Allie Stevens, Julie Stivers

### SPONSOR

American Association of School Librarians

### PROJECT

Defending Intellectual Freedom: LGBTQ Materials in School Libraries

“As librarians we must adapt to a world where books are no longer the main gateway to knowledge, while preserving our rich heritage bound in paper and ink. Most important, we must continue to provide access to information in all its forms to all who seek it.”

—Katie Greenleaf Martin



### SPONSOR

American Indian Library Association

### PROJECT

Tribal Libraries, Museums, and Archives of United States Directory and Interactive Map

“The future of librarianship presents ample opportunities for engagement and collaboration, particularly in support of communities at risk. There will be a need for the library as a study space, meeting place, and training center, and we need to be the advocates and activists that sustain these spaces.”

—Aisha Conner-Gaten



## Team C

From left: Stephanie Anderson, Nicole Husbands, Tasha Nins, Jacqueline Quinn, Raina Tuakoi

### SPONSOR

Association for Library Service to Children

### PROJECT

Cultural Competency in Youth Librarianship

“Librarians will serve as agents of change and curators of truth, as we strive to offer access to our patrons and guide them to valid and accurate information, especially in an era of political tension and as net neutrality ceases to be supported federally.”

—Jacqueline Quinn

“There are still so many barriers to students being able to afford an education, and we need to step up our game to ensure that communities that have been historically disenfranchised do not continue to be shut out. We need to ask ourselves: How do we reinforce and how can we resist systemic racism? We cannot be and are not neutral.”

—Jenny Yap



## Team D

From left: Brittany Fiedler, Michelle McCarthy-Behler, Ashlyn Velte, Jenny Yap

### SPONSOR

Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Instruction Section

### PROJECT

Strategic Member Engagement for the ACRL Instruction Section's Next Five Years





## Team E

From left: Kenya Flash, Ashleigh Coren, Joanna Chen Cham, Hailley Fargo, Ashley Howell

### SPONSOR

ACRL Residency Interest Group

### PROJECT

Hearing Voices: Collecting Residents' Oral Histories

"In the *Parable of the Sower*, Octavia E. Butler describes God as change, which was perceived as the only constant. The library profession is entering a similar stage. In spite of holding on to many values, we will need to embrace change in the profession, in the ways in which we advocate and promote ourselves, and in how we preserve and provide access."

—Kenya Flash

"Successful librarianship can be defined as providing information and support to all, especially where it is most needed. Our best future is one where libraries adapt those ideals to fit their own context, focusing on what works rather than clinging to a traditional definition of what a library or librarian should look like."

—Stephen G. Krueger



## Team F

From left: Allison DeVito, Javier Garibay, Stephen G. Krueger, Jessica Thorlakson, Katherine Van Arsdale

### SPONSOR

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table

### PROJECT

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table Archive



## Team G

From left: Lindsay Inge Carpenter, Twanna Hodge, Joi Jackson, Gina Kromhout, Grace Yan Liu

### SPONSOR

International Relations Round Table

### PROJECT

Toward Increasing Engagement of International New Professional Leaders in ALA Activities

“Libraries need to go beyond traditional expectations and change how people perceive them—and how librarians perceive their communities. We need to learn more about biases and how they may affect our practice and profession.”  
—Twanna Hodge

“As a member of the special collections community, we need to persist in our efforts to make collections more accessible and approachable. The future must include steady progress in addressing the public’s fundamental misunderstandings of the care, use, and value of special libraries, archives, and rare book collections.”  
—Elspeth Olson



## Team H

From left: Phillip Carter II, Adam Chang, Jewel Davis, Elspeth Olson, Samantha Quiñon, Mea Warren

### SPONSOR

New Members Round Table

### PROJECT

Professional Development Programming Kits for ALA Student Chapters





## Team I

From left: Crystal Chen, Tracy Drake, Aurelia Mandani, A. J. Muhammad, Claire Nickerson

### SPONSOR

Public Library Association

### PROJECT

Creating Data-Driven Professional Development Pathways for Public Library Staff

“The future will consist of delivering services outside library walls. Successfully connecting with the community hinges on understanding its value system, needs, and vision. This will help establish the library as an anchor institution and partner with a vested interest in the community’s success.”

—Tracy Drake

“Given the increasingly divided and harsh world in which we live, the role of librarians will be one of compassion. We will be the institutional voice in our users’ lives reminding them that they are heard, they are worthy, and we are here for them.”

—Kathy Kosinski



## Team J

From left: Kathy Kosinski, Madeline Jarvis, Tess Wilson, Lina Bertinelli

### SPONSOR

United for Libraries

### PROJECT

Beyond Using the Library: Engaging Millennials as Advocates and Civic Library Leaders



# *Bringing* **WIKIPEDIA** *into the* **LIBRARY**

Creating a community around open access

BY ALEX STINSON and JASON EVANS





This is an excerpt  
from *Leveraging  
Wikipedia: Connect-  
ing Communities of  
Knowledge*, edited  
by Merrilee Proffitt  
(ALA Editions, 2018).

Photo: © Rawpixel.com/Adobe Stock

Wikipedia might seem like a librarian's nemesis, but the online encyclopedia, its community, and libraries are increasingly working together to provide free and open information to all.

Wikipedia contributors and librarians share similar skills: an understanding of quality research materials, an interest in effective citation and attribution, and clear public communication. Wikipedia's "sum of all human knowledge" mission also aligns with the service-focused goals of librarianship, where patron access to public knowledge drives both activities.

A difference between the two communities is their degree of formal responsibility. Librarians are trained professionals working in institutions with public charges to create information access, while Wikipedians are (for the most part) volunteers whose interests align with their hobbies and values. The closeness of their goals, skills, and interests means that finding common ground for collaboration is not only possible but easy. But finding the right people to collaborate with on this broad, and frankly never-ending, mission is an important first step to effective collaboration.

### Finding allies in the Wikipedia movement

Wikipedia's barriers for participation are fairly low. Almost anyone can contribute to its content pages. Nearly 20,000 new accounts register on Wikipedia projects every month, and English-language Wikipedia alone has 130,000–140,000 accounts that make at least one edit per month. In this context, even the formal organizations that support the Wikipedia community—such as the Wikimedia Foundation that administers the trademarks and servers that keep the websites operating—have almost no control over governance, editorial practices, or decision making that creates the content on Wikipedia, Wikimedia Commons, Wikidata, and other Wikipedia projects, except for defining terms of use for participation and the privacy policy.

If power rests with the community, who is that volunteer community? Every month, 75,000–80,000 individual Wikipedia accounts contribute five or more edits to 280 foreign-language Wikipedias or Wikimedia projects. English-language Wikipedia receives about 30,000 of these contributions each month. That may seem like a large number, but in practice five contributions to Wikipedia is casual participation in the project.

For librarians looking to increase engagement with local communities, Wikipedia offers a ready-built platform in multiple languages, where people can work with libraries to improve Wikipedia content relating to their interests or expertise.

Historically, communities of Wikipedia editors have developed organically and independently, with little intentional cohesion. However, efforts are increasing around the world to grow local editing communities around specific interest groups, volunteers, and educational initiatives into more formal organizations, called affiliates. Wikipedia affiliates principally come in two major types: user groups and chapters. Both function as conduits for building relationships between local volunteers and potential partners and collaborators, including libraries.

Libraries and organizations that want to participate in Wikipedia beyond simply contributing content may find its network and culture complicated to navigate. Working with affiliates and finding an individual Wikipedia contributor to help interface with other experienced volunteers lowers the participation barrier, allowing a Wikipedia-experienced partner to provide community expertise while an organizational partner such as a library contributes its knowledge and network.

### Creating Wikipedians in your community

Once you define the Wikipedia activity you want to pursue, whether it's an edit-a-thon, uploading open access content, or creating an editing group to focus on a particular topic, it's important to bring volunteers to the projects.

Wikipedia volunteers often have a range of motivations, capacities, and organizational skills that may or may not meet the needs of formal institutions. They may invest energy only in projects in which they are most passionate. You might find that local Wikipedians don't want to focus on topics you are interested in. What do you do then?

The best approach is to develop interest in Wikipedia contributions from other volunteer communities in your area. Typically these new contributors come from hobbyists or volunteers already associated with your library or other local cultural organizations. Local history societies, and social, charitable, and educational groups may offer some of the best allies. For librarians looking to increase engagement with local communities, Wikipedia offers a ready-built platform in multiple languages, where people can work with libraries to improve Wikipedia content relating to their interests or expertise.

### Integrating volunteers into the library

Codifying the roles of volunteer Wikipedia contributors within your organization can greatly strengthen the effectiveness of the projects. Instead of hosting volunteers for one-off editing events or data donations, giving them formal roles can allow them to develop a more strategic and integrated plan. They can work closely with library staff, the Wikipedia community, and other volunteers to identify common objectives and implement mutually beneficial programs. It also allows library administration to recognize the work and its place within the organization. Integrating Wikipedia volunteers into your library and formalizing their roles places faith in them as individuals and can motivate them to stay engaged longer.

**Staff champions.** A cost-effective way to integrate Wikipedia into a library's strategy is to allow staff members to organize activities and work on projects within the course of their own work. Employees can allocate a certain amount of their work hours to Wikipedia projects, typically with a broader public access or outreach mission in mind.

Tactics used by libraries to contribute to Wikipedia include:





- At the US National Archive and Records Administration (NARA), the social media and digital innovation offices supported an informal Wikipedia editing guideline similar to its other social media guidelines.

- The State Library of New South Wales (SLNSW) in Australia created a formal policy on staff integrating Wikipedia projects into organizational workflows.

The tactic used by NARA, a more informal one, gives permission for staff; the tactic used by SLNSW is a longer, more formal process, but it has been effective at not only giving approval but also providing a rationale for integrating Wikipedia work into organizational priorities with an inclusive strategic buy-in. Either method allows staffers to justify Wikipedia programming within their jobs.

Within many organizations that don't formalize the strategic interest in Wikipedia projects, staffers often take on Wikipedia collaborations beyond their staff roles. Expecting staffers to do this work in addition to their existing jobs can lead to uneven focus and can contribute to the underrecognition of something that is fundamental to organizational missions: a strategy for broader public access to collections and specialized knowledge.

Many organizations are not ready to invest staff time to develop a case for Wikipedia contributions as part of a broader public-access strategy. Instead, some will build another role into their staff, using either volunteers or term-based employees.

**Wikipedians in residence.** Employing a Wikipedian in residence (WIR) is a common way to incorporate a Wikipedia presence in a library. A WIR integrates Wikipedia projects into an organization's workflows and practice. Their role is not to edit Wikipedia on behalf of the institution but to focus on projects that grow the understanding, skills, and capacity of the organization to successfully engage with Wikipedia projects and to improve its broader strategy for open, public engagement with institutional content.

This role usually includes a number of subactivities, such as creating a free-licensing or open access policy for digital heritage assets; training staff members in Wikipedia editing or open-licensing; organizing events, edit-a-thons, or other contribution activities that use institutional expertise; and facilitating the donation of media to Wikimedia Commons. These residencies typically last at least six months, though some have been shorter. Most organizations find that they need at least a year of a residency to fully integrate organizational capacity with a broader "public access through Wikipedia" strategy, and a handful of these roles have extended to a semipermanent or permanent basis, as it has been at NARA.

**Students.** A common pattern that emerges among WIR and staff champions: They were often high-performing students (usually graduate students) in a field related to the institution's focus—either library science, museum studies, archival studies—or a related writing-focused program, such as art history, history, or a social science. Student employees offer a low-cost, low-risk introduction where the institutional supervisor and his or her student learn how to effectively participate within the guidelines established by the Wikipedia community. Important to this process is creating the expectation that students not only add references to a digital institutional resource but expand content using different kinds of research from beyond the institution.

Wikipedia ran an experiment with several academic and research libraries to systematize these kinds of internships into cohorts. Outcomes were high and produced a better quality of Wikipedia content than typical documented student work, but the cohort model was intensive to organize. By building champions out of students and their supervisors, the institution is able to do low-risk experiments while learning about Wikipedia projects and test whether the student can be a good long-term advocate as a staff champion or WIR.

## Innovating, growing, and supporting communities

Models for engaging volunteers, collaborators, and champions are still fluid—outreach with organizations has only been systematically approached by the international Wikipedia community since 2010–2011. Wikipedia is still learning what consistently creates desired outcomes and how to best serve the missions of both libraries and Wikipedia.

Within this shifting context and understanding of how these collaborations work, Wikipedia allies in libraries must continue iterating upon what we know about community engagement: Librarians have much more experience with public programming around access to knowledge than Wikipedia. Finding ways to make Wikipedia participation relevant to local stakeholders is important for both communities in the long term. Wikipedia is at a critical point. A slow decline in active contributors on its projects, from peak participation during 2007–2009, has leveled off. Ultimately libraries and Wikipedia need to figure out how to bring the right participants back into these collaborations to maintain public access to this knowledge. **AL**



**ALEX STINSON** is a strategist at the Wikimedia Foundation.

**JASON EVANS** is Wikipedian in residence at the National Library of Wales.

# Notable Dissertations

Turning student research into everyday practice

by Kathy Rosa

Whether they address literacy, library design, open access, or another equally important topic, dissertations advance knowledge of the LIS field, spur interest in further research, and fuel the design of LIS learning experiences. Their authors use both qualitative and quantitative approaches, conduct interviews and surveys, analyze photos and floor plans, observe library activity, and interpret historical documents, all in the name of informing best practices. Presented here are eight dissertations to inspire the work of school, public, special, and academic librarians.

How were these dissertations selected? Each year I locate and read the many wonderful LIS dissertations out there via university digital archives and online databases. I select dissertations that have practical implications for libraries. Next I look for a variety of methodologies, including quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods approaches. Those most relevant to current issues and with measurable recommendations for change are chosen for this article.

The authors and their topics are:

**JASON KELLY ALSTON** (PhD, University of South Carolina, Columbia) explored the experiences of past and current participants in library diversity residencies.

**ANNA CARELLO** (EdD, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia) studied how library design affects


multiple literacy skills in early childhood.

**ASHLEY CROSS** (EdD, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California) examined makerspaces in the K–12 school setting.

**AMANDA NICHOLS HESS** (PhD, Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan) studied the role of academic librarians as teachers.







**M. CATHERINE PETERS** (PhD, State University of New York at Albany) looked at the phenomena of personal digital archiving through the lens of critical realism.

**SARA QUAGLIAROLI** (EdD, Johnson and Wales University, Providence, Rhode Island) researched the influence of library leadership on the transformation of academic library spaces.

**KRISTEN M. SCHUSTER** (PhD, University of Missouri, Columbia) explored the experiences of 15 Midwestern communities that built public libraries funded by Andrew Carnegie.

**AHMET M. TMAVA** (PhD, University of North Texas, Denton) examined faculty attitudes toward open access institutional repositories. [AL](#)



**KATHY ROSA**  
is director of  
ALA's Library  
and Research  
Center.

## Causes of Satisfaction and Dissatisfaction for Diversity Resident Librarians: A Mixed-Methods Study Using Herzberg's Motivation-Hygiene Theory

**SUMMARY:** Alston studied the experiences of librarians who participated in a residency librarian work program—a program designed to give recent graduates real work experience with the goal of recruiting and retaining diversity in the library pro-

fession. Most diversity residencies are hosted by academic libraries, although OCLC and Los Angeles Public Library also host such residencies. Alston used surveys and in-depth interviews to gather data about recent and past participants in diversity programs. While many residents reported positive work experiences, some challenges emerged. Among the causes of dissatisfaction for the residents were lack of acceptance in the workplace by other staff, lack of

guidance from management, and lack of meaningful work. Mentors, a key to resident satisfaction, were not always provided.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Managers of residency programs may increase residents' satisfaction by formalizing the following recommendations: Other staff need to be made aware of who the residents are and what the purpose of the program is; staff and residents should be given a chance to get to know each other; diversity residents need to know who will provide guidance, such as supervisors or administrators assigned to the project; the people providing guidance should have time to devote to the residents; meaningful and challenging work should be offered; and residents should have support from assigned mentors.

**DISSERTATION:**  
[bit.ly/2prfgJP](http://bit.ly/2prfgJP)



**Jason Kelly Alston**

PhD, University of  
South Carolina

## The Impact of School Library Design on the Development of Multiple Literacy Skills in Early Childhood Students

**SUMMARY:** The ubiquity of electronic devices has called into question the traditional relationship of libraries to print resources. This qualitative research study sought to



Anna Carello

EdD, University of Pennsylvania

understand, by examining the role of the library in four separate schools, how young students use libraries to develop digital, informational, tactile, and print literacy. In doing so, Carello explores the question of how libraries should change and grow in response to the digital age.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

School administrators

facing budget cuts often contemplate closing their school's library; however, such action has dire implications, as Carello points out. Students rely on libraries and the books therein for glimpses into other life experiences, which in turn have strong implications for identity formation and the development of personal agency. Carello also recommends that school officials familiarize themselves with their school libraries in order to understand their effect on the school's learning culture; that the definition of literacy include the concept of reading for pleasure; that school librarians and teachers maintain strong lines of communication; and that library media specialists consider putting portable digital tools into the hands of students rather than relying on, for example, a bank of computers that cannot be moved.

**DISSERTATION:**  
[bit.ly/2GclzuB](http://bit.ly/2GclzuB)

## Tinkering in K-12: An Exploratory Mixed-Methods Study of Makerspaces in Schools as an Application of Constructivist Learning

**SUMMARY:** Makerspaces are more popular than ever. Makerspaces can empower students to invent, prototype, and tinker with low-cost technology tools such as micro-circuits and fabrication tools such as 3D printers.



Ashley Cross

EdD, Pepperdine University

While they have been studied in other settings such as museums, libraries, and after-school programs, little research has been conducted within the K-12 school day. This exploratory mixed-methods study examined school and participant demographics and makerspace setups, as well as intersections of technology, content, and pedagogy. Cross conducted interviews with selected participants based on diversity of teacher gender, professional background, and school environment. To better understand

K-12 makerspace implementation, the study uses a constructivist approach to examine seven characteristics of makerspaces: setting, computational thinking, participant structures, teacher training, gender and racial issues, assessment, and sustainability.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Makerspaces have the potential to enhance learning with constructivist pedagogies.

To make their makerspaces successful, classrooms or schools need space allocated for makerspace equipment, supplies, and student work. Librarians are more likely to have makerspace instruction and experience. Professional development for teachers in makerspaces may encourage their development. As with STEM, female teachers and students may be reluctant adopters, and learning experiences designed to encourage adoption could be helpful. The expense of equipment and supplies can be daunting. Yet many makerspaces are begun with inexpensive supplies.

**DISSERTATION:**  
[bit.ly/2prXe9D](http://bit.ly/2prXe9D)



## From Information Experts to Expert Educators?

### Academic Librarians' Experiences with Perspective Transformation and Their Teaching Identities

**SUMMARY:** Nichols Hess explores the ways in which academic librarians see teaching as a part of their professional identity. Adults yearn to understand and make meaning of experience; without opportunities to do so, they may be unable to experience transformative change. Nichols Hess demonstrates that academic librarians often view themselves as teachers, performing learning tasks in the library and in other campus settings. The transformation into librarian and educator needs the support of library leaders and administration as well as interactions with peers and other faculty. An academic librarian's identity



Amanda Nichols Hess

PhD, Oakland University

may also be influenced by work responsibilities, age, graduation dates, and time spent teaching.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Academic librarians can actively pursue opportunities for growth as teachers. Professional workshops and conferences provide both library and pedagogy sessions. Professional development sessions also provide librarians with opportunities to build relationships. Work peers can share professional growth, while supervisors can support and encourage professional development through funding and schedules, and journaling can help process personal and professional growth. Giving back—that is, presenting or publishing about the transformation into librarian as educator—will reinforce professional growth. LIS educators can be mindful of the pedagogical needs of prospective academic librarians.

**DISSERTATION:**  
[bit.ly/2FOOPbk](http://bit.ly/2FOOPbk)

## Personal Digital Archiving in Public Libraries: A Critical Realist Approach

**SUMMARY:** It is commonplace for people to save digital photos, recordings, videos, and documents, thus creating personal digital archives. Often people rely on the devices, resources, and training offered



M. Catherine Peters

PhD, State University of New York at Albany

at public libraries to complete these tasks. Peters looks at personal digital archiving in public libraries through two case studies. Factors such as internet use policies, acceptable use policies, and how they shape technology access were also considered. She found that while public libraries purport to serve everyone, restrictions apply, based on accepted social and behavioral norms. Structures such as fines, filters, payment for visitor passes, requirements for library cards, library printing, software and reservation software, and time limits can serve as barriers. In addition, mastering privacy functions is a challenge.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Policy restrictions apply to users who may not have steady access to internet-enabled devices or desktop computers for completing personal information management. Librarians and other decision makers need to be aware of how policies and procedures limit access and determine how to change policies and procedures to empower personal digital archiving. Information sessions that demonstrate ways to retrieve, edit, and save personal files and documents in different software will aid users who must employ different workstations. Privacy is both a policy issue and a space issue. The library can design space with privacy in mind for the personal digital archivist.

**DISSERTATION:**  
[bit.ly/2FNAIbE](http://bit.ly/2FNAIbE)

## Library Leadership Engagement for Transformative Academic Library Spaces

**SUMMARY:** Quagliaroli seeks to understand the experience of organizational leaders and their engagement with stakeholders during the creation of library learning spaces. To that end, she interviews library leaders who have led the



Sara Quagliaroli

EdD, Johnson and Wales University

creation of library learning spaces. By analyzing the interviews, she identifies a framework for a leadership engagement process: (1) input: leadership characteristics and project ignition; (2) project drivers: institutional authority, mission, and needs; (3) building on relational capital; (4) persistence through planned change; and (5) maintaining sustainable spaces. Quagliaroli hopes to contribute to a greater

understanding of leadership requirements for library space design projects.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Hire change-oriented librarians who have experience and knowledge of library space design, experience with successful fundraising, the ability to persist through challenges, experience and confidence with evidence-based decision making, and experience building and maintaining collaborative relationships with external stakeholders. Build relationships with institution development officers, create a library Friends group, and start growing relationships before you have a project. Include faculty early in the process to encourage buy-in; foster relationships with administration, deans, and student life personnel; and be able to demonstrate the contribution of the library and library learning spaces to research and teaching.

**DISSERTATION:**  
[bit.ly/2GNMOsU](http://bit.ly/2GNMOsU)

## A Sequential Exploratory Mixed-Methods Study of Carnegie Libraries and the Library Profession, 1900–1910

**SUMMARY:** Schuster studies the development of Carnegie libraries in the early 20th-century Midwest, using written records, images, blueprints, Carnegie library loan applications, and library literature. Using both



Kristen M. Schuster

PhD, University of Missouri

broad qualitative data and specific quantitative data, she looks at 15 communities in the Midwest that built libraries thanks to Andrew Carnegie's financial resources. In contrast to previous work on this topic, Schuster's dissertation takes into account trends in library history. She also examines the role that professional rhetoric played in the development of these libraries.

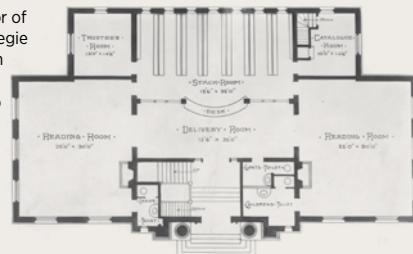
**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Two additional areas of library work are of particular interest: cataloging and services for children. The description and

management of collections required librarians to master technical skills that would allow them to build a card catalog. Understanding trends and practices promoted in library training programs will support further investigations into the effects library design had on perceptions of librarians as professionals (and vice versa).

Continuing in the vein of investigating how spaces designed to promote literacy and self-improvement affected perceptions of librarians, future research will investigate spaces used for special services or programming.

**DISSERTATION:**  
[bit.ly/2pqwwOW](http://bit.ly/2pqwwOW)

Main floor of the Carnegie Library in Coshoc-ton, Ohio





## Investigating Factors That Affect Faculty Attitudes Towards Participation in Open Access Institutional Repositories

**SUMMARY:** Many colleges and universities have developed open access institutional repositories (IR) during the past decade, yet a literature search reveals low levels of faculty participation. Tmava uses quantitative

and qualitative methods to study faculty needs and attitudes toward open access IRs. Faculty members showed a lack of understanding of open access principles, and almost half of participants were not aware of university open access policy. Many faculty members approve of the principles of open access yet do not participate. The results reveal

that faculty intent to deposit work in IRs can be affected by factors such as age, college, rank, and status.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Tmava recommends that IR staff and librarians develop clear and engaging outreach programs.

Information from successful open access publishing endeavors could be shared with faculty, for example. Outreach and networking will increase faculty familiarity with open access principles and policies and may serve to encourage faculty use of the IR. He suggests that IR staff and librarians communicate directly with faculty to learn about and address concerns. Needs assessments are useful in determining faculty views about open access and IRs based on the variables of faculty age, college, rank, and status.

**DISSERTATION:**  
[bit.ly/2pqR5LH](http://bit.ly/2pqR5LH)



Ahmet M. Tmava

PhD, University  
of North Texas

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# 2018 Annual Conference

# Must-Do's

Join the  
conversation  
in New Orleans,  
June 21–26

**L**ibraries are committed to information, interaction, and innovation—and so is the American Library Association (ALA). The 2018 Annual Conference and Exhibition in New Orleans (June 21–26) promises professional development, products and services, networking, and new titles and technologies to inspire your work. Hear from hundreds of bestselling authors and compelling speakers, explore exhibits, celebrate award winners, and take ideas back to your communities.

Use the Annual Conference Scheduler ([2018.alaannual.org/scheduler](http://2018.alaannual.org/scheduler)) to start planning.

## Speakers who inspire

ALA President Jim Neal welcomes Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist, filmmaker, immigrant rights advocate, and CEO of Define American **Jose Antonio Vargas** as his President's Program speaker (June 24).

This year's slate of Auditorium Speaker Session presenters includes presidential historian and Pulitzer Prize–winning author **Doris Kearns Goodwin** (June 23).

Television, theater, and film actress **Viola Davis**—author of the forthcoming children's book *Corduroy Takes a Bow*—will be the Closing Session speaker (June 26).

ALA divisions invite all attendees to hear speakers at the division presidents' and chairs' programs, including:

## Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden

will speak about forging library services that meet the needs of today's varied and diverse populations in a program sponsored by RUSA (June 23).

Panelists **Chris Bourj** (director, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Libraries), **Karen G. Schneider** (dean of the library, Sonoma State University), **Derrick Jefferson** (communication librarian, American University), and **Fobazi M. Ettarh** (student success librarian, California State University, Dominguez Hills) will examine structural inequalities in a session moderated by **Eamon Twell** (reference and instruction librarian, Long Island University Brooklyn) and sponsored by ACRL (June 23).

Culinary and cultural historian **Michael W. Twitty** will discuss his book *The Cooking Gene* and his journey to uncover the history of Southern food in his own family in a program sponsored by ALCTS (June 25).

Moderator **Mimi Lee** (diversity and literacy consultant, New Jersey State







Jose Antonio  
Vargas

Doris Kearns  
Goodwin

Viola  
Davis

Library) and panelists will highlight Arab-American poetry, fiction, non-fiction, and children's literature in a program cosponsored by the Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table and Office of Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services (June 23).

The Intellectual Freedom Round Table will sponsor a debate moderated by **Bill Marden**, director of privacy and compliance at New York Public Library, on the subject of Big Data analytics in the library world (June 23).

Sponsored by the Retired Members Round Table, author **Denise George** will speak about her writing and research process for her latest novel *The Lost Eleven: The Forgotten Story of Black American Soldiers Brutally Massacred in World War II*, coauthored with Robert Child (June 24).

**Mary Niall Mitchell**, associate professor of history at the University of New Orleans and author of *Raising Freedom's Child: Black Children and Visions of the Future after Slavery*, will present the Edward G. Holley Memorial Lecture for the Library History Round Table (June 24).

### In the exhibit hall

The exhibit hall is a lively and essential part of your conference. Discover more than 900 organizations and vendors, convene with colleagues, browse new products and titles, meet authors, and enjoy live events. Features include the Book Buzz

Theater, PopTop Stage, Graphic Novel and Gaming Stage, What's Cooking @ ALA, Artist Alley, and specialty pavilions devoted to mobile apps, zines, diversity, and more.

### Ticketed events

Find tickets for preconferences, award celebrations, receptions, and more at [2018.alaannual.org/ticketed-events](http://2018.alaannual.org/ticketed-events).

Award-winning and honor book authors will speak about their writing at the **Michael L. Printz Award Reception**, presented by YALSA and *Booklist* (June 22).

The **Coretta Scott King Book Awards Breakfast** celebrates leading authors and illustrators of quality children's books depicting the African-American experience (June 24).

The **Newbery-Caldecott-Wilder Banquet** recognizes authors and illustrators of the year's most distinguished books for children (June 24).

Comedian and United for Libraries spokesperson **Paula Poundstone** will headline The Laugh's On Us, featuring bestselling humor authors (June 24).

Open to all conference attendees, the **International Librarians Reception** welcomes librarians from more than 70 countries with an evening of culture, ideas, and regional cuisine (June 25).

### Continue the conversation

Attend peer-led poster sessions (June 23–24) and keep up

## STAY Updated

Use the **2018 ALA Annual Conference Scheduler** ([2018.alaannual.org/scheduler](http://2018.alaannual.org/scheduler)) to browse sessions, add and update events, create a private or shareable calendar, and keep track of exhibitor meetings. Look for the mobile app coming later in May.



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Keep up with #alaac18 on Instagram ([instagram.com/americanlibraryassociation](http://instagram.com/americanlibraryassociation))

with ALA Washington Office updates throughout the conference.

The **PR Xchange** offers an opportunity to sample promotional materials from libraries across North America (June 24), and the **PR Xchange Awards** will recognize the best library public relations and marketing from the past year (June 24).

Be sure to visit the JobLIST Placement and Career Development Center for guidance, workshops, and résumé review ([bit.ly/2rXX4ey](http://bit.ly/2rXX4ey)). **AL**

## COMING NEXT MONTH

Catch our conference preview, dining guide, and New Orleans recommendations in the June issue.



# Get Out of the Library

## Embedding librarians in our communities

Libraries are still important to the communities we serve, but the ways in which our patrons seek information and use our resources have changed with the growth of the web. Academic libraries have seen a steady decline in reference traffic since 1998, and the 2017 *Public Library Data Service Report* shows an almost 10% decline in reference transactions versus the previous fiscal year. According to the Pew Research Center, “librarian” is still among the most trusted occupations in our communities, but our patrons’ habits have changed while many of our service models have stayed the same.

Many libraries have turned to embedded librarianship as one solution to better serving patrons and demonstrating value to their communities. The term comes from the expression *embedded journalism*, which was first used at the start of the Iraq War in 2003 when journalists traveled with military units and reported from within the action itself. Similarly, being an embedded librarian means being where your patrons are. Embedding looks different depending on the type of library and the goals of the project, but all embedded librarian projects are focused on being part of the patron’s environment so that they can be available at points of need rather than expecting patrons to come to the library.

I teach a course on librarian embedment at San José State University’s iSchool, so I read many case studies about it. Some of my favorite examples include the Community College of Vermont’s support of classes via the learning management system ([bit.ly/alembed1](http://bit.ly/alembed1)), Queensland University of Technology in Australia’s incremental embedment into an engineering course



([bit.ly/alembed2](http://bit.ly/alembed2)), and Mount Royal University in Calgary’s experiment measuring the impact of various levels of embedment, from assignment design collaboration to coteaching ([bit.ly/alembed3](http://bit.ly/alembed3)). Each case study demonstrates common potentials and pitfalls of embedment within a course or curriculum. Librarian embedment can go beyond course-specific support and includes moving offices to or holding office hours in the departments with which they liaise ([bit.ly/alembed4](http://bit.ly/alembed4)), providing reference services in high-traffic spaces across campus ([bit.ly/alembed5](http://bit.ly/alembed5)), and becoming part of faculty research teams ([bit.ly/alembed6](http://bit.ly/alembed6)).

Similarly, librarians in K–12 settings can support instructors’ assignment and course design ([bit.ly/alembed7](http://bit.ly/alembed7)), support students’ online course activities with online guides ([bit.ly/alembed8](http://bit.ly/alembed8)), or even coteach classes ([bit.ly/alembed9](http://bit.ly/alembed9)).

In public libraries, the goal is also to embed library resources and librarian

support at their patrons’ points of need. This can include having a librarian provide reference support at local community organizations such as those that support small businesses, veterans, immigrants, or the homeless; librarians supporting municipal planning and local government with research; or providing library services at community events ([bit.ly/alembed10](http://bit.ly/alembed10)). All of these options bring library services to members of the community who may never have thought of visiting the library or about how it could help them.

Embedded librarianship is about building strong relationships within the communities libraries serve and requires a deep understanding of the needs and habits of our patrons. One major challenge with embedment is workload. Some models can be labor-intensive, and having librarians leave the building can spread staff even thinner. Many libraries that have done embedded projects have tried small-scale pilots to anticipate the impact on their staffing and patrons. It’s possible that the success of an embedded librarian project will depend on altering existing services or staffing.

The environment in which libraries operate has changed significantly over the past two decades, so we have to consider changing our service models to meet current and emerging needs. Finding ways to support patrons without expecting them to visit the library can help libraries become even more vital to their communities. **AL**

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

Embedded  
librarianship is about  
building strong  
relationships within  
communities.



# Futureproofing Your Library

Stay on track with tech

Our world is going through some major technology upheavals. The way many of us do simple things like reading a book is changing, and these transitions affect libraries. What once worked may not work anymore.

Most likely your library still has traditional library customers who ask questions at the reference desk and check out physical books. You also have a new breed of library customer who brings in any number of electronic devices and expects those devices to work with your library's technology. They want to plug into your public computers. They want to connect to the library's Wi-Fi network. They want to upload and download content from their device to Facebook, Instagram, or YouTube. They want to download ebooks, digital audiobooks, and music. And they want to recharge their devices.

Libraries need to figure out how to serve this new subset of their customer base. If we aren't successful in making this technology transition, patrons who have transitioned already will simply bypass the library by finding answers (though not always the best ones) through Google, purchasing books through Amazon, or downloading music from iTunes.

Technology affects our traditional users too. The books, magazines, and newspapers they love to read are moving to digital formats. Library staffers must be ready to help these customers find their news and entertainment sources in online and digital formats.

Here are some things you can do right now to futureproof your library.

- **Scan the horizon for emerging trends.** Following a trend watcher



will alert you to emerging technology trends that may affect the library profession. Some organizations to follow include the American Library Association (ALA)'s Center for the Future of Libraries ([ala.org/tools/future/trends](http://ala.org/tools/future/trends)), District Dispatch (the ALA Washington Office blog at [districtdispatch.org](http://districtdispatch.org)), and The Digital Shift (a blog on new media at [thedigitalshift.com](http://thedigitalshift.com)). Many individuals within the library tech community publish blogs focused on emerging technology; by following these key players you can quickly update your knowledge on the latest trends. Some bloggers to follow include Jason Griffey at Pattern Recognition ([jasongriffey.net/wp/](http://jasongriffey.net/wp/)); Aaron Tay at Musings about Librarianship ([bit.ly/2FfZwPO](http://bit.ly/2FfZwPO)); and Jessamyn West at Librarian.net. Attending conferences, such as ALA Annual, the Computers in

If your library's budget allows it, buy some of the new tech tools and let staff members learn hands-on.

Libraries Conference, or a local technology seminar, is also a good way to learn from many technology-oriented people.

- **Train customers and staff.** Teach your staff how to use consumer technology tools so that you can successfully help your library customers. For example, train staff on new ebook apps. In today's world, patrons might receive iTunes gift cards with instructions to visit an app store and install the OverDrive or Hoopla apps on their device. Afterward, they might visit the library for help. We need to know how to search for and download an ebook in our collection and become familiar with multiple ebook databases and devices so we can help customers interact with our digital collections. We don't have to be experts on every device someone brings in, but we do need to capably help our customers get started.
- **If possible, set up a technology petting zoo.** If your library's budget allows it, buy some of the new tech tools and let staff members learn hands-on. This will allow them to see how a new device works before they encounter it for the first time with a customer. Having no plan for staying on top of technology change guarantees failure and irrelevance. Instead of that bleak outlook, let's learn to ride these technology changes as they happen and be ready and waiting for our customers when they come to us with new tools and questions. **AL**

**DAVID LEE KING** is digital services director at Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library. Adapted from "How to Stay on Top of Emerging Technology Trends for Libraries," *Library Technology Reports* vol. 54, no. 2 (Feb./Mar.).

# Helping Hands

Libraries connect kids with volunteer opportunities

Volunteering has a lot of benefits for kids. It can help them learn job skills, instill in them a lifelong desire to give back to their communities, and broaden several of the assets that the non-profit Search Institute identifies as necessary for successful youth development. Volunteering is a great way for young people to make their mark on the world, and libraries are an ideal place for them to start that journey.

At the New Albany–Floyd County (Ind.) Public Library, where I work, we have a teen volunteer program that starts at age 11. We get a high volume of requests for volunteer hours because of a service requirement at a nearby middle school. We're one of the only games in town for these kids, many of whom are too young to volunteer at most places in our community. To meet the demand for volunteer projects—which swells as the project's due dates approach—we started a regular program called Crafting for a Cause.

Crafting for a Cause is a two-hour drop-in program open to tweens and teens, and its format could easily be tweaked to include a wide range of ages or entire families. We've partnered with a local animal shelter to provide handmade pet toys, ornament Styrofoam shelters for feral cats, and decorate cookies for first responders. This has been one of our most popular programs; not only does it help our students meet their service requirements, but it brings new kids into the library.

Some opportunities target younger audiences, like the Junior Volunteers program that Youth Services Manager Dawn Wacek started at La Crosse (Wis.) Public



Library. Open to grades 3–6, the program focuses on empowering children to take care of a place they love—the library itself. When kids sign up to be Junior Volunteers, they commit to a weekly hour of service that may include different tasks around the children's room, such as straightening materials, prepping craft supplies, or recommending books.

"I am looking for children and families to feel that the library is theirs, and that this space and the people working here care about them," says Wacek. "Whether the kids are great volunteers or terrible ones in terms of how well they clean baby toys or cut name tags, that isn't as important to me as seeing them excited to be here and talking to us about their lives and interests." Not only does onsite service strengthen kids' relationships to

the library, Wacek says volunteers tell their friends and family about the wonders inside.

You can also reach children and families by including a service component as part of your library's summer or winter reading programs. Cedar Mill Community Libraries in Portland, Oregon, has done this since 2015 with its Read for Goats challenge. If area families meet the requisite number of reading hours, library staffers solicit donations to purchase two goats via the global humanitarian agency Mercy Corps, which are given to an overseas family in need as a means of earning income. Challenge participants have met the goal each year.

This program has led to some valuable connections for Cedar Mill Community Libraries, including partnerships with local schools—with teachers who have adjusted the program to fit their classrooms—and local service organizations, such as the Rotary Club, that have contributed funding. Kids who are not typically motivated by reading program prizes may be compelled to participate by the idea of meeting a challenge and helping others. Adding a service component to your library reading programs also opens a door to conversations about how and why we should be aware of our global community.

Giving back never goes out of style, and plenty of kids are willing to lend a hand when they know where to look. Help our young people help their communities by facilitating these service opportunities through your library. **AL**

**ABBY JOHNSON** is collection development leader at New Albany–Floyd County (Ind.) Public Library. Blog: [abbythelibrarian.com](http://abbythelibrarian.com).

Reach children  
and families by  
including a service  
component as  
part of your  
library's reading  
programs.





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4-WEEK ECOURSE

## Instructional Design for Online Teaching and Learning

with Diane Kovacs

**Begins Monday,  
June 4, 2018**

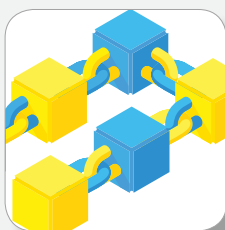


4-WEEK ECOURSE

## Digital Humanities for All Librarians

with Laura Braunstein

**Begins Monday,  
June 4, 2018**



30-MINUTE  
MICROLEARNING EVENT

## Blockchain Explained

with Jason Griffey

**Wednesday,  
June 6, 2018**

12:00 p.m. Eastern



4-WEEK ECOURSE

## Genealogical Research for Librarians

with June Power

**Begins Monday,  
June 11, 2018**



90-MINUTE WORKSHOP

## Avoid Programming Burnout

Tap into Your  
Interests to Stay  
Engaged

with Katie LaMantia  
and Emily Vinci

**Wednesday,  
June 20, 2018**

2:30 p.m. Eastern

For a full listing of current workshops  
and eCourses, visit [alastore.ala.org](http://alastore.ala.org).

**ALA** American  
Library  
Association

# Learning Outside the Box

What they don't teach you in library school

I got in trouble years ago when I told an interviewer that library school doesn't really prepare students for work in a library. It does, but not completely.

MLIS courses aren't broad enough to include all aspects of the job, or at least to the depth needed once hired. That, of course, makes continued professional development so critical.



Building or renovating a library is often only cursorily covered. *The Practical Handbook of Library Architecture: Creating Building Spaces That Work*, by Fred Schlipf and John A. Moor-

man, is long overdue. Its functional predecessor, *Planning Academic and Research Library Buildings*, third edition, by Philip D. Leighton and David C. Weber (ALA Editions, 1999), answers many questions about what is needed in the traditional library. But libraries are not

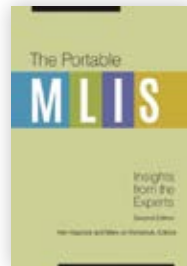


## librarian's library

by Karen Muller

traditional anymore. Space is needed for collaborative activities, electronics, programming, and new collection formats. The authors, both experienced librarians and library consultants, start by asking prospective builders or remodelers of libraries to first visit many libraries, critically evaluate everything, and consider what is working and what is not. They offer questions to ask, then follow with a chapter that explains why certain features are not optimal for a library. Subsequent chapters detail what functions the new or renovated space must support, along with numbers that help estimate how much space will be needed. This book will not tell you succinctly how many square feet are needed for a specific

number of library users, but it will offer ways to start planning. Information is also included on the role of architects and building consultants, site selection, bidding, construction, costs, and funding, as well as pointers and details on seating, service desks, restrooms, workrooms, and technical components, such as lighting, staircases, HVAC, plumbing, and security. Most important, this book is readable. The authors say things that building planners need to hear and heed. ALA Editions, 2018. 1040 P. \$149. PBK. 978-0-8389-1553-0.



Librarians learn the basics of intellectual freedom and can apply the principles to their work, but can definitive statements be quickly found when drafting a rationale? Or even if

the MLIS program includes cataloging, are the concepts of information organization clear enough to explain why a new online

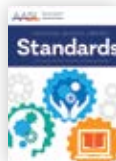
## THE BESTSELLERS LIST

### TOP 3 IN PRINT

#### 1 | National School Library Standards for Learners, School Librarians, and School Libraries

by American Association of School Librarians

The new revised *Standards* enables school librarians to influence, lead, and develop plans that meet today's educational landscape.



#### 2 | The Librarian's Guide to Homelessness: An Empathy-Driven Approach to Solving Problems, Preventing Conflict, and Serving Everyone

by Ryan J. Dowd

This one-of-a-kind guide empowers library staff to treat homeless individuals with dignity.



#### 3 | The Makerspace Librarian's Sourcebook

by Ellyssa Kroski, editor

This hands-on sourcebook includes everything libraries need to know about the major topics, tools, and technologies relevant to makerspaces today.





system is needed? *The Portable MLIS: Insights from the Experts*, edited by Ken Haycock and Mary-Jo Romaniuk, now in its second edition, is a compendium that provides quick access to important concepts in library service, with references to policy statements and sources for more information. Its essays reinforce key elements of professional practice, from foundations, values, functions, and competencies to reference, evaluation, and marketing. There are useful appendices with policy documents and resources, as well as chapters on careers and other roles for MLIS professionals. Libraries Unlimited, 2017. 378 P. \$55. PBK. 978-1-4408-5203-9. (Also available as an ebook.)



Libraries have been using databases for decades, but the proliferation of online resources has made understanding licensing critical for librarians in all types of libraries and in most roles. *Licensing Digital Content: A Practical Guide for Librarians*, by Lesley Ellen Harris, now in its third edition, addresses important questions. Harris begins by explaining the need for licensing arrangements when accessing content from an aggregator such

as LexisNexis, as well as when authorizing the use of a photographic image owned by the library. She then reviews the basics of the process and terminology, explains the impact of typical clauses, and seeks to clarify the negotiation process. A glossary and checklist for licensing clauses round out the volume. ALA Editions, 2018. 176 P. \$65. PBK. 978-0-8389-1630-8.



Sometimes libraries just don't work the way they should, and it is imperative to resolve the issues. In *The Dysfunctional Library: Challenges and Solutions to Workplace Relationships*, by Jo Henry, Joe Eshleman, and Richard Moniz, the authors look at why a library environment may need remediation. The authors start by recommending that readers reflect on their own behaviors first. They then address incivility in the work environment, staff behaviors that may be adversely affecting team performance, and workplace politics. They also take a long look at skills for conflict management, collaboration, and teamwork, but conclude on a positive note, encouraging constructive leadership norms. ALA Editions, 2018. 216 P. \$57.60. PBK. 978-0-8389-1623-0.



As a line professional in a large department, I didn't need to know much about budgets. As a manager, I had to learn fast. *Financial Management in Academic Libraries:*

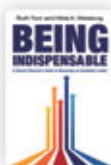
*Data-Driven Planning and Budgeting*, by Robert E. Dugan and Peter Hernon, would have been helpful then. The authors provide fundamental tools for an academic context, with concepts of strategic planning, descriptions of budget types, definitions of costs included in budgets, explanations of where to seek information to help define budgets, and explanations of allocation formulas. There are chapters on managing a budget and reporting results, whether interim or year-end. Unpopular topics such as managing reductions and fraud are also addressed. Each chapter includes both bibliographical references and a bibliography for instances where the overview lacks needed depth. Association of College and Research Libraries, 2017. 200 P. \$56. PBK. 978-0-8389-8943-2. [AL](#)

**KAREN MULLER** was librarian and knowledge management specialist for the ALA Library until her retirement in December 2017.

## The Top-Selling Books from ALA Publishing (Since March 1, 2018)

### TOP 3 IN EBOOKS

**1 | Being Indispensable: A School Librarian's Guide to Becoming an Invaluable Leader** by Ruth Toor and Hilda K. Weisburg



This book gives readers all the strategies they need to become the kind of leader their school can't do without.

**2 | Managing the Successful School Library: Strategic Planning and Reflective Practice** by Lesley S. J. Farmer



Farmer takes a deep, more professional look at management that applies theories and principles to real-world situations.

**3 | The Neal-Schuman Library Technology Companion: A Basic Guide for Library Staff, 5th edition** by John J. Burke



This primer gives readers a sound and sensible way to consider, access, and use library technologies to better meet library users' needs.

# SOLUTIONS

Products and services



Students assemble the *Ultimate Shootout* game from the littleBits Code Kit.

## Coding for Fun

Problem-solving games for computational thinking

With computing jobs projected to grow two times faster than other fields, coding skills are an increasingly important literacy area. Libraries play a vital role in introducing these skills to their youngest community members. There are a number of games that introduce computational concepts through play, making it easy and fun to practice computational thinking and problem solving.

### LittleBits Code Kit

LittleBits has been used in classrooms and makerspaces for years as a platform for building and experimenting with electronics. The Code Kit, released in summer 2017, is its first education-oriented kit to incorporate simple coding into projects.

The kit introduces an LED matrix and a “codeBit” to the littleBits collection of electronic building blocks. While coding was possible with littleBits before, with the more advanced Arduino bit, the codeBit is the first designed specifically for introductory use by students. The new codeBit is programmable through a web app (compatible with Windows, Mac, and Chromebook operating systems), using a block-based, drag-and-drop language based on Google’s Blockly language.

The Code Kit includes 16 bits, 30 accessories, quick-start guides, and instructions for building and coding four separate games geared toward students in grades 3–8. Online resources include lesson plans and resources for additional projects. Remixing and building on these games is

encouraged, and with the wide range of other bit functions available separately and in other kits, there are many possibilities.

Bits are color-coded so each bit type—power, input, and output—is easily identifiable. Small magnets make connections between pieces easy. More advanced bits, such as the cloud and Arduino bits, can be integrated into any kit and allow makers to experiment with technologies that are becoming ubiquitous in everyday devices.

The Code Kit is available for \$299.95 through the littleBits website with a 5% discount for educators, and through a variety of educational suppliers. For more information, visit [littlebits.cc/products/code-kit](http://littlebits.cc/products/code-kit).

### Turing Tumble

*Turing Tumble* seems simple: a series of movable pieces guides marbles down an angled game board, with the goal of creating different outputs. Designed, prototyped, and successfully Kickstarted last year by Paul and Alyssa Boswell, both former educators, the game uses these simple actions to demonstrate the most basic inner workings of computers.

Each piece functions as a part of the electrical processes that happen inside computers, with small ramps acting as wires, marbles as electricity, and “bits”—effectively on-off switches that change directions when marbles land on them—acting as variables and memory storage. Puzzle solutions demonstrate pattern generation and simple mathematical calculations



## SUBMISSIONS

To have a new product considered, contact Carrie Smith at [casmith@ala.org](mailto:casmith@ala.org).

## CASE STUDY

# Creating Stories with ScratchJr

### How do you incorporate ScratchJr into lessons?

For me, ScratchJr blends well with reading comprehension skills. Students create projects to share the main idea and details of a story by creating pages within the project. ScratchJr has students learn story elements like character and setting naturally as students code a character to move and choose a background as the setting.

**USER:** Kelly Hincks, lower school librarian, Detroit Country Day School, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan



**PRODUCT:** ScratchJr

**DETAILS:** ScratchJr is a free app, designed for children ages 5–7, that allows kids to program interactive stories and games using a visual coding language.

### How does ScratchJr serve your library's and students' needs?

As a librarian, my goal is to expose students to all forms of literacy. Coding, to me, is another form. The color-coded block language used in the app allows students to easily see each part of their program. To them it is like building a puzzle that will make something move. The ScratchJr website has a wealth of information available to teachers, librarians, and parents.

### What are the main benefits?

Allowing children to improve their computational thinking skills is probably the biggest benefit I see. Students have to think in a systematic way when they are coding, and the ScratchJr app allows them to do that. While the language of coding is ever-changing, the process stays the same. Teaching students that process is really the key to all types of learning.

Another benefit is student engagement. Students are eager to participate, and even the most reluctant readers are excited about discussing elements of the story when we mix it with coding. Additionally, it gives even the quietest students a voice. Since there is a recording option within the ScratchJr app, students can share their responses without having to do it in front of a large group.

### What would you like to see improved or added to this resource?

It is important for us to share this work with parents and other stakeholders. As the app is set up now, a project can easily be saved to the device within the app and emailed, but it has to be opened in the ScratchJr app. Many parents do not have the app on their personal devices. It would be wonderful if, in the future, the projects could be shared more easily or uploaded to other apps. ●

The *Turing Tumble* game board set with a pattern-generating program.



such as multiplication and division. The game is “Turing complete,” which means that with a large enough board, the pieces could be used to build a system capable of performing any computing task.

*Turing Tumble* comes with a booklet of 60 story-based logic puzzles designed for ages 8 and up, which teach and then build upon programming skills as they increase in difficulty. A graphic novel illustrated by one of Paul Boswell's former computer science students provides a narrative framework for the puzzles, with each solution bringing a stranded space explorer closer to rescue.

Replacement pieces can be purchased online or 3D printed using the CAD files included in the virtual pack. A small community of makers is active on the forum, accessible through the website, sharing 3D printing files and advice as well as puzzle solutions.

*Turing Tumble* is available directly from the creators through [turingtumble.com](http://turingtumble.com) for \$64.95, or through TLC's SmartTech shop ([tlcsmarttech.shop](http://tlcsmarttech.shop)), its library distribution partner, for \$59.95. TLC also offers volume discounts for larger orders. **AL**



Students use ScratchJr to program the actions of characters in stories.

# PEOPLE

## Announcements

### ON THE MOVE

**Emily Boss** became head of metadata and cataloging at the University of Nevada, Reno, in January.

In November **Catherine Callegari** became director of Gay-Kimball Library in Troy, New Hampshire.

February 1 **Denise Corcoran** became director of Great Neck (N.Y.) Library.

**Alice Darnton** joined Pierce County (Wash.) Library System in January as manager of the South Hill branch.



January 19 **Deborah Dutcher** became youth and adult services librarian at New Hampshire State Library in Concord.

**Jennifer T. Fowler** joined Sayville (N.Y.) Library as director in February.

The University of Nevada, Reno, appointed **Nathan Gerth** as digital archivist in February.

January 8 **Nathan Kelber** joined the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Library as digital scholarship specialist.

February 1 **Anne Langley** became dean of the University of Connecticut Library in Storrs.

**Sarah Moore** joined Hussey-Mayfield Memorial Public Library in Zionsville, Indiana, February 19 as executive director.

**Lisa Rosenblum** became director of King County (Wash.) Library System January 16.

In January **Tim Sage** became manager of the Parkland/Spanaway branch of Pierce County (Wash.) Library System.

**Teresa Schultz** became liaison and instruction librarian for the social sciences at University of Nevada, Reno, in January.

### Kudos

**Ben Hunter**, associate dean of libraries at the University of Idaho in Moscow, was named the Idaho Library Association's 2017 Librarian of the Year. ●

In January **Teresa Slobuski** became head librarian at the Penn State University Brandywine campus.

February 12 **Eric Taggart** joined Rodman Public Library in Alliance, Ohio, as executive director.

**Rayla Tokarz** joined the University of Nevada, Reno, as information literacy librarian in January.

Cleveland Public Library appointed **Tena Wilson** as deputy director and chief operating officer effective February 5.

### PROMOTIONS

Coshocton (Ohio) Public Library promoted **Jennifer Austin** to director February 10.

Arlington Heights (Ill.) Memorial Library promoted **Trixie Dantis** to manager of youth services February 12.



**Claire Kandle** was promoted to youth services manager at Dover (Ohio) Public Library in January.

Andover (Ohio) Public Library promoted **Nancy Logan** to director February 14.

Cutchogue (N.Y.) New Suffolk Free Library promoted **Rosemary Martilotta** to director February 5.

In December **Shannon Meyer** was promoted to assistant manager of access services at Arlington Heights (Ill.) Memorial Library.

Arlington Heights (Ill.) Memorial Library promoted **Maria Papanastassiou** to assistant manager for children's services in December.

**Cynthia M. Parkhill** became library technician at Santa Rosa (Calif.) Charter School for the Arts in February.

**Andrea Placher** was promoted to director of Williston (N.Dak.) Community Library in January.

### RETIREMENTS

**Marcia Boosinger** retired in January as associate dean for public services at Auburn (Ala.) University Libraries.

**Luis Herrera**, San Francisco city librarian, retired February 23.

**Margaret Jasinski** retired as collection services manager at Arlington Heights (Ill.) Memorial Library January 24.

In December **Debbie Slais** retired as director of Williston (N.Dak.) Community Library.

### AT ALA

ALA Executive Board Secretariat **LaTasha Bryant** left ALA January 26.

ALA's Washington Office promoted **Shawnda Hines** to assistant director of communications in February.

ALA's Washington Office promoted **Lisa Lindle** to manager of grassroots and advocacy outreach in February.

**Megan Ortegon** became a manager of public policy for ALA's Washington Office in February.

**Daniel Snedden** joined ALA's Washington Office as a manager of public policy in February.

**Emily Wagner** was promoted to assistant director of knowledge management and communications at ALA's Washington Office in February. [AL](#)



## In Memory

**John Byrum**, 77, chief of several divisions at the Library of Congress from 1976 until his 2006 retirement, died January 12. Byrum oversaw several international cooperative cataloging efforts and served as American Library Association (ALA) representative to the Joint Steering Committee for Revision of the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules. He was a founding member of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Study Group on the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records and chaired IFLA's International Standard for Bibliographic Description Review Group. He received ALA's Margaret Mann Citation for outstanding professional achievement in cataloging in 1998, and the Melvil Dewey Medal in 2006 for creative professional achievement in library management, training, cataloging and classification, and the tools and techniques of librarianship.

**Donald G. Kelsey**, 78, library facilities planning officer at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis from 1968 until his 2004 retirement, died October 26. His career included the planning of 15 new or renovated libraries at the university. Kelsey was active in ALA, serving and chairing many Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA) committees, including chairing the LAMA President's Program Committee in 2001–2002.

**Warren Boehm Kuhn**, 94, dean of library services emeritus at Iowa State University (ISU), died February 19. His career spanned 45 years in library administration at Princeton University, Stanford University, University of New Mexico, Arizona State University, New York Public Library, and ISU, where he served from 1967 until his retirement in 1989. He oversaw the construction of Stanford's J. Henry Meyer Memorial Library and became its first director. He also supervised the creation of the Julian Street Library at Princeton. He served in the US Army in World War II and the Korean War, where he was awarded the Bronze Star.



**Mary Larsgaard**, 71, librarian emerita at the University of California, Santa Barbara, died July 18. Larsgaard joined UCSB in 1988 and served as head of the Davidson Library Map and Imagery Laboratory from 2008–2009. She was active in the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services and the Map and Geospatial Information Round Table.

**Guy Logsdon**, 83, director of the University of Tulsa (Okla.) library from 1967 until retiring in 1981, died February 5. Logsdon was an expert on Western swing music and folk musician Woody Guthrie, consulting on the 1976 Guthrie biographical movie *Bound for Glory* and founding the Woody Guthrie Folk Festival. He was also a board member of the Oklahoma Historical Society and of the National Fiddler Hall of Fame.

**J. Carlyle Parker**, 86, head of public services at Stanislaus State College Library (now California State University, Stanislaus) from 1963 until his 1994 retirement, died February 1. In 1994, Parker received the Genealogical Publishing Company Award from the Reference and User Services Association's History Section, recognizing professional achievement in historical reference and research librarianship.

**Karen M. Russ**, 47, research and community engagement librarian and associate professor at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, died December 15. Russ joined the library as government documents librarian in 1996. She was well known for her work with the Federal Depository Library Program, recently serving as chair of the Depository Library Council to the US Government Publishing Office. She also was an advocate for services to the disabled. She received the Teresa Haven Distinguished Professional Award from the Arkansas affiliate of the Association on Higher Education and Disability in 2016.

**Henry R. Stewart**, 74, dean of Troy (Ala.) University Libraries from 1996–2014, died February 1. Stewart was a longtime member of the Alabama Library Association and served as president in 2001–2002 and as the chapter's ALA Councilor from 2009–2015. He received the Alabama Library Association's Distinguished Service Award in 2013. Prior to joining Troy University, he served as director of William Allen White Library at Emporia (Kans.) State University and associate dean at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia.



**Jennifer Charmaine Thompson**, 61, a librarian for many years at the New York Institute of Technology in Old Westbury, died February 14. She was an active member of the Association of College and Research Libraries and had previously worked for Queens (N.Y.) Library, State University of New York at Albany, University of Michigan, New York University, and the US Department of Energy. ●



## Pop Culture Paradise

**S**tar Trek glasses from Taco Bell. A copy of the first bodice-ripper ever published (1972's *The Flame and the Flower*). Personal-growth leaflets with titles such as *The Tyranny of Bad Habits* and *Shall I Become a Smoker?*

When researchers need to study these or other pieces of American ephemera created after 1876, they head to the Ray and Pat Browne Library for Popular Culture Studies at Ohio's Bowling Green State University Libraries.

Founded almost 50 years ago, the library holds one of the largest comics collections in the country, as well as an extensive collection of mysteries, sci-fi/fantasy novels, and other popular fiction—not to mention 20,000–30,000 romance novels. But it's liberally salted with more eclectic items, such as bridge tally cards, matchbox covers, and ice-cream-themed greeting cards.

Most of the library's material doesn't circulate—it's too fragile. But head librarian Nancy Down and her staff

are happy to help students and visiting scholars find what they're after and use it in the reading room.

Among recent requests Down has fulfilled: automobile pamphlets dating back to the 1940s.

Down also fields donation requests from people hoping to leave their collections to the library, a situation that forces her to think strategically. "It would be impossible to collect everything," she says. "I have to think about how things fit into what we have already. But the biggest challenge is to think ahead and look at the potential for future scholarship. What will people be studying 10 or 20 years from now?" **AL**

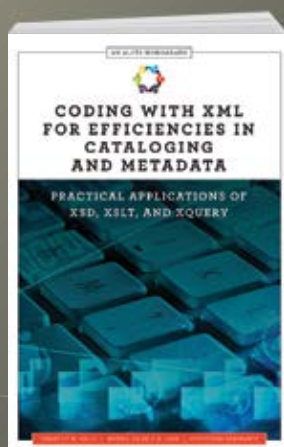
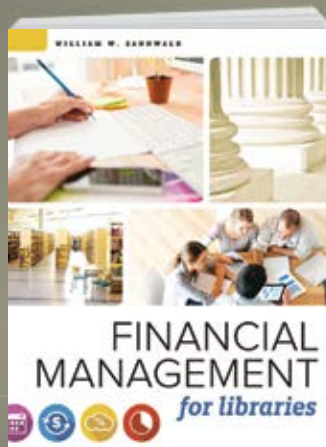
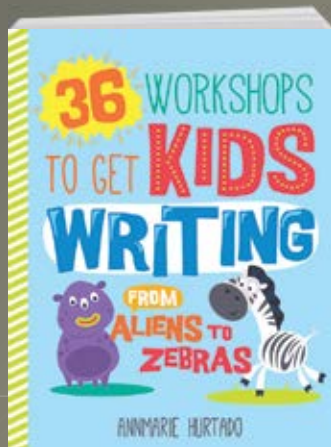
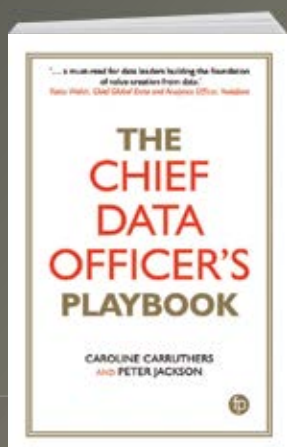
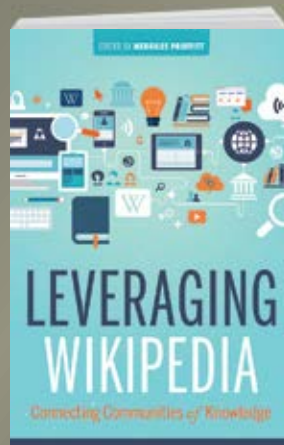
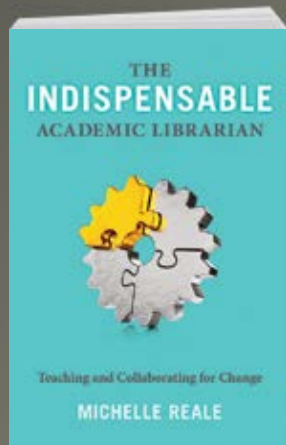
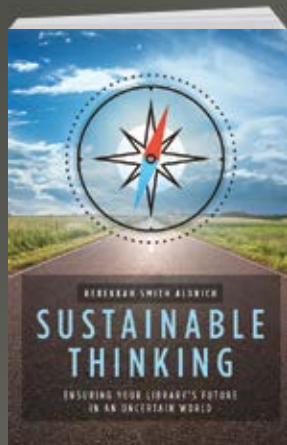
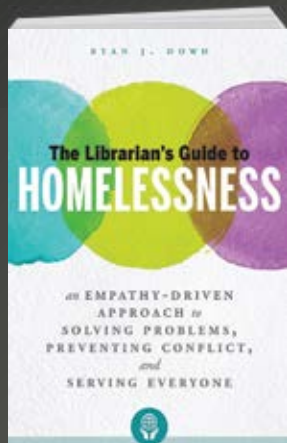
**THE BOOKEND** showcases librarians, their work, and their work spaces. For consideration, please send press material to [americanlibraries@ala.org](mailto:americanlibraries@ala.org).





# NEW BOOKS

from ALA Editions and ALA Neal-Schuman





Knowledge

# connects the dots

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