Greetings, fellow MLA Members!

Transitioning to the summer is always a roller coaster in libraries; the same is true for MLA.

To start with, the Intellectual Freedom Committee was nominated for, and won the Robert B. Downs Intellectual Freedom Award! They were recognized (right) with an awards ceremony and reception during the ALA Annual Conference in San Diego, and had a chance to meet personally with incoming ALA President (and local KCPL librarian!), Cindy Hohl. This group works incredibly hard (many of you have likely attended their workshops at conference and throughout the state), and it’s wonderful to see them receive recognition for their consistent dedication. Read more about this on page 11.

Speaking of the ALA Annual Conference, President-Elect Rachelle Brandel and I both attended the conference and represented Missouri at the State Chapter Leaders Forum. This forum is a daylong event at ALA for chapter representatives to work together and share ideas with other states, and we took away quite a few new strategies for partnerships and conferences. Our colleagues in other states are going through many of the same difficulties we are, and many conversations revolved around resources for support and ways to communicate the value of libraries most effectively.

It was wonderful to see so many MLA members in San Diego, and to see so many of our colleagues from MASL. Our increased partnerships with MASL this past year have been a highlight of my Presidency. I plan to attend the MASL board meeting later this month during their annual conference, and IFC is partnering with MASL on an upcoming grant application (hopefully there will be more news to share about that in the future). Our Legislative Committee Chair, Cody Croan, also attended the ALA Law for Librarians training with a MASL representative, ensuring Missouri was well represented. He will be presenting on what he learned at the MLA Annual Conference, so keep an eye out for that session in addition to materials he’ll be sharing.

Speaking of conference, registration for the 2024 MLA Annual Conference is open! Make sure to take advantage of the early bird pricing, and mark your calendars. I’m looking forward to seeing you in Kansas City September 25-27 and appreciating the work that the Conference Committee has done to celebrate the ways that Missouri libraries “Innovate, Integrate, and Inspire.”

You’ll also see a message from the Legislative Committee that the State Aid and REAL funding MLA and Advocacy Day focused on were appropriated and signed by the governor. This is great news, and the committee will be meeting soon to start reviewing the last legislative session and start planning for next year.

Finally, the MLA Nominating Committee, Past-President Otter Bowman, Board Member Nathan Elwood and I, are excited to share with you the candidates for this year’s MLA election. Please look at the amazing pool of candidates (pp. 4-9) in preparation for voting beginning in August. (Make sure to renew your membership in order to vote and get the best conference deals!)

Everything mentioned above is thanks to the incredible work of library employees and MLA volunteers in Missouri. Please consider getting involved, and email me if you have any questions.

Kimberly Moeller
MLA President 2024
mlapresident@molib.org
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### Another Way MLA “Serves” Its Members

In addition to registration discounts for the annual MLA Conference and other training, your membership to the Missouri Library Associations allows you to keep up through seven different email discussion lists, with the option of a daily summary. These listservs are:

- MLA General Membership
- GENE
- Intellectual Freedom
- MACRL
- PEER
- PLCI
- Tech Services

To sign up, log into the [MLA website](http://www.mla.org) for instructions. Easy-peasy! If you want to know more about discussion lists, visit this site. Need help? Contact [mla@amigos.org](mailto:mla@amigos.org).
## Calendar of Events

Training opportunities such as these teach skills and strategies, and introduce you to titles and new resources, in addition what you’ll find in the Amigos article. Find start times, links to descriptions, and any registration fees. Schedule subject to change. Have a training source you’d like to recommend? Email satterfieldk@mrrl.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time (CDT)</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 16</td>
<td>1 pm</td>
<td>Fall Series Nonfiction</td>
<td>Booklist</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 17</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>NCompass Live: Think Outside the Box: Transformative Training with Breakout Challenges</td>
<td>Nebraska Library Commissions</td>
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<td>1 pm</td>
<td>Build a Needs Assessment Strategy</td>
<td>Niche Academy</td>
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<td>Past to the Future: Intersections of Digitization, AI, and the Digital Humanities</td>
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<td>1 pm</td>
<td>Design Basics: How to Create Better Visuals</td>
<td>ALA</td>
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<td>2 pm</td>
<td>Cultural Humility in Library Work</td>
<td>WebJunction</td>
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<td>July 18</td>
<td>12 pm</td>
<td>Prompts for Purpose: A Nonprofit’s Guide to Making the Most of an AI-Assistant</td>
<td>CharityHowTo</td>
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<td>1 pm</td>
<td>Negotiation for Library Workers: Concepts and Competencies</td>
<td>Lyrasis</td>
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<td>1 pm</td>
<td>NASA Engages, NASA’s New Online Platform for Sharing Our Mission with Communities</td>
<td>FDLP</td>
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<td>July 23</td>
<td>1 pm</td>
<td>A Recipe for Special Collections: Using Cookbooks to Create More Inclusive Collections</td>
<td>ASERL</td>
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<td>1 pm</td>
<td>Dementia Inclusive Library Service</td>
<td>PLA</td>
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<td>1 pm</td>
<td>Discover New Sci-Fi, Fantasy, &amp; Horror Titles</td>
<td>Booklist</td>
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<td>July 24</td>
<td>1 pm</td>
<td>Surprise! You’re a Cataloger</td>
<td>Niche Academy</td>
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<td>July 25</td>
<td>12 pm</td>
<td>Building Bridges: Collecting Culturally Relevant Data</td>
<td>Research Institute for Public Libraries</td>
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<td>1 pm</td>
<td>Comics Resources for Libraries</td>
<td>Booklist</td>
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<td>July 30</td>
<td>9 am</td>
<td>EBSCO Host for Reliable Resources</td>
<td>MOREnet</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>eBooks for Everyone!</td>
<td>MOREnet</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12 pm</td>
<td>Sponsors: How to Find Them &amp; Create a Win-Win</td>
<td>ProductiveFundraising</td>
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<td>1 pm</td>
<td>Service Enterprise: Transform Your Organization with Strategic Volunteer Engagement</td>
<td>VolunteerMatch</td>
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<td>1 pm</td>
<td>Introduction to Proposal Writing</td>
<td>Candid Learning</td>
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<td>1 pm</td>
<td>Technology in Public Libraries: Results from PLAs 2023 Annual Survey</td>
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<td>August 1</td>
<td>11 am</td>
<td>Marketing Trends Nonprofits Need to Know (and Embrace)</td>
<td>Firespring</td>
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<td>August 5</td>
<td>9 am</td>
<td>EBSCO Host for Research</td>
<td>MOREnet</td>
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<td>11 am</td>
<td>Missouri History and Genealogy Resources</td>
<td>MOREnet</td>
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<td>1 pm</td>
<td>Getting Familiar with Google Meet</td>
<td>MOREnet</td>
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<td>August 6</td>
<td>2 pm</td>
<td>Cut Costs and Get Creative with Nonprofit Appeals</td>
<td>Firespring</td>
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<td>August 7</td>
<td>1 pm</td>
<td>Trailblazing Pathways Across the Digital Divide</td>
<td>ALA</td>
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<td>1 pm</td>
<td>&quot;Toxic,&quot; Traumatized, or Neurodivergent?Setting Appropriate Boundaries Without Writing, Anyone Off</td>
<td>Niche Academy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1:30 pm</td>
<td>Boost Creative Thinking to Serve Kids: The Six Thinking Hats Technique</td>
<td>ALSC</td>
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<td>August 13</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>Eat, Play, Read</td>
<td>MALA</td>
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<td>August 14</td>
<td>1 pm</td>
<td>MacKids School &amp; Library Fall Preview Event</td>
<td>Booklist</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 15</td>
<td>1 pm</td>
<td>I Stream, You Stream: Offering Customizable Streaming Apps for Checkout</td>
<td>PL A</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 20</td>
<td>2 pm</td>
<td>Boost your Nonprofit’s Cybersecurity: 10 Expert Tips for Safeguarding Your Organization</td>
<td>Firespring</td>
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<td>August 21</td>
<td>1:30 pm</td>
<td>Tackling Controversial Topics with Kids in the Library</td>
<td>ALSC</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 22</td>
<td>12 pm</td>
<td>10 Quick Tips to Supercharge Your Next Fundraising Appeal</td>
<td>ProductiveFundraising</td>
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<td>2 pm</td>
<td>Programming for Teens: Understanding Teen Needs Through a Holistic Perspective</td>
<td>MALA</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 28</td>
<td>1 pm</td>
<td>Civic Literacy in Public Libraries: What, Why, and How</td>
<td>Niche Academy</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 25-27</td>
<td>2024 MLA Conference: Innovate, Integrate, Inspire: Crafting the Future Library Experience (Kansas City, MO)</td>
<td>MLA</td>
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## Share your opinion!

Help us to improve the Event Calendar by answering a few questions at moinfo@molib.org:

1) Do you use the Event Calendar: Each issue Most issues Not usually/not at all
2) What is one thing that would make the Event Calendar more useful to you?
3) Any other comments? Thanks for your input!
Candidates for President-Elect

Jason Phinney
Adult Services Librarian II, Jefferson County Library-Windsor Branch

Jason Phinney is the Adult Services Librarian II at the Windsor Branch of the Jefferson County Library located in Barnhart, MO. He has been in his current position for 8 years and has worked for Jefferson County Library for nearly 9 years total. Previously, he has worked at Jefferson College Library as a part-time Reference Librarian. He graduated with an MLS from Emporia State University in August 2015 and completed a Graduate Assistantship at the Center for Great Plains Studies while attending Emporia State. He has been a member of ALA since he started attending Emporia State, and he was a member and officer of Emporia State’s Student Chapter of ALA (SCALA). He has been a member of MLA since 2016. He currently serves as an editor for the MO INFO publication subcommittee and he is completing the second of his two-year Member-at-Large term on the MLA Executive Board. It has been a rewarding experience.

Candidate statement: If elected as MLA President-Elect, then I will continue my commitment to making MLA a rewarding, fruitful, inclusive experience for all Missouri library staff. I know there have been some difficult times for libraries recently, but I am confident that we will continue to not just keep going, but thrive as libraries. Libraries aren’t just about books. We’re community hubs. We offer infinitely more than simply books, as you know. I am committed to serving my library community, including MLA, to the best of my ability. I will work tirelessly to advocate for my fellow library staff and libraries. I love libraries and our patrons as I am confident all of you do, also. I would be honored to serve my fellow library staff in this capacity. I ask that you would consider voting for me to represent you as President-Elect on the Missouri Library Association Executive Board.

Shannon Midyett
Director, Poplar Bluff Municipal Library

Shannon Midyett is the Library Director of the Poplar Bluff Municipal Library. She has been with PBMLD since starting as a Page Shelver in 1993. Shannon earned her BS in Organizational Management from William Woods University in 2008 and her MLIS from the University of Missouri in 2022. Shannon was active locally and statewide to ensure the passage of legislation establishing sales tax funding for Missouri libraries. She was a key team member in the passage of a local ballot initiative, Proposition 1, in 2012 that established a quarter-cent sales tax for Poplar Bluff Municipal Library, tripling its annual revenue. Serving at PBMLD when it was the pilot library for the Missouri Evergreen Consortium (MEC) project, she has been active in the MEC community since its inception in 2012. Shannon has just begun her second term as Treasurer of the MEC Executive Board. She served as Chair of the Missouri Evergreen Board from 2020 to 2022 and as Past-Chair in 2023. She held the role of Secretary and Member-at-Large on the Missouri Library Association Board from 2020 to 2022. She has been a member of the Missouri Library Association, American Library Association, and Public Library Association for more than 15 years.

Candidate statement: I am honored to be considered for the role of President-Elect with the Missouri Library Association. I have seen firsthand time and time again the transformative power of libraries. I have served my community through our local library for over 30 years beginning in high school as a page and working my way up to Library Director. MLA has been vital to ensuring libraries across Missouri can continue to make an impact on the lives of our patrons and the citizens of Missouri. If elected, I will be committed to continuing MLA’s long-standing tradition of upholding intellectual freedom, strengthening Missouri’s libraries, providing professional development opportunities for library professionals, and, ultimately, ensuring the continued delivery of life-changing service to our communities.

(Continued on next page)
Candidates for Member-at-Large

Dr. Greg Carter  
Director, West Plains Public Library

Dr. Greg Carter is currently serving as the library director of the West Plains Public Library. Before serving as the library director, Carter spent fifteen years in public education at West Plains R-7 School District as a classroom teacher, elementary librarian, and central office administrator. Carter holds academic degrees from Missouri State University, William Woods University, University of Missouri, and a Doctorate in Education from Saint Louis University. He currently lives in West Plains, MO where he was born and raised.

Candidate statement: If entrusted with a leadership position in the Missouri Library Association, he will be dedicated to amplifying the voices of librarians across our state, advocating for resources that empower communities, and ensuring that every Missourian has access to the transformative power of libraries.

Colleen Norman, Programming and Signature Events Manager, Mid-Continent Public Library

My name is Colleen Norman and I have been a librarian in Missouri since 2014. I started my library work as a youth services staff member, then was an assistant manager at 2 branches over 5 years, I was the assistant manager for youth services after that, and am now the programming and signature events manager for Mid-Continent Public Library. I have been involved with the Missouri Library Association since 2018, first as one of the coordinators for the 2019 conference, then as a member of the Intellectual Freedom Committee, serving as chair of the committee in 2023.

Candidate statement: Through the IFC, I have traveled the state and country offering the Introduction to Intellectual Freedom workshop developed by the IFC to library staff, board members, and trustees. I’ve been involved with the board through these various roles and would like to have the opportunity to try on a new MLA hat as a member at large for the MLA board. The work of MLA and its various committees and communities of interest is vital to libraries across the state and I would be honored to continue my work with MLA in a new capacity.

Wendy Rigby  
Lead Library Assistant, Daniel Boone Regional Library

My name is Wendy Rigby and I have worked at the Columbia Public Library, part of the Daniel Boone Regional Library, since 2004. I started part-time in Circulation to help pay my son's college tuition, and later moved to a full-time position once my youngest child started school. I am currently a Lead Library Assistant and part of the Circulation Leadership Team. I enjoy the dynamic environment and constant challenges of the Circulation workroom.

Candidate statement: In May of 2022, the staff of the Daniel Boone Regional Library voted to form Daniel Boone Regional Library Workers United, the first unionized library in Missouri. I served as our Union's President for two years and was instrumental in writing and winning our first contract. I am currently the Vice President of DBRLWU, along with serving as a Steward. It is rewarding to be a part of our library's history and to continue supporting the members of our bargaining unit. With our first contract, we won some ground-breaking improvements for our staff. I hope, as a member of the MLA Board, I would contribute the same qualities that made our unionization a success; leadership, teamwork, and the desire to improve the working conditions and the lives of all who choose this noble profession. Thank you for your consideration.

(Continued on next page)
Jaclyn Crow,  
**Teen Specialist, St. Louis Public Library, and Co-Project Manager for Reading Nation Waterfall**  
Jaclyn Crow is a Missouri native currently residing in St. Louis City. She will be graduating with her MLIS from San Jose State University in December 2024. Currently, she works as a Teen Specialist for the St. Louis Public Library, as well as a Co-Project Manager for the IMLS-funded Reading Nation Waterfall program. In the future, Jaclyn intends to work with digital preservation of cultural heritage materials. Youth services will always be near and dear to her, however, and she would also like to work with libraries and museums to increase youth engagement with primary sources of information for education.

**Candidate statement:** I am running to be a Member-at-Large of the MLA executive board for many reasons. First, I would like to give back to the MLA as it has given to me. Through conferences, trainings, and connections the organization has helped me grow in my professional career more than any other association I have been invested in. Further, in my personal and professional life I have experienced libraries of many shapes and sizes—rural and urban; large and small; academic, school, public, and tribal—and feel that these varying exposures have afforded me valuable insights in promoting the relevance of libraries today. Finally, the importance of advocating for our state’s libraries could not be more critical now. As someone working directly with youth being affected by legislation attempting to limit their access to information, I have also seen firsthand the impact of libraries in helping youth and communities thrive. It is my hope that as a Member-at-Large of the MLA executive board I can contribute to the strength and growth of our libraries for those who rely on the work we do.

Lisa Thorp  
**Social Sciences Librarian, St. Louis Public Library**  
Lisa Thorp (she/her) is the Social Sciences librarian at St. Louis Public Library, overseeing one of the adult nonfiction rooms (call numbers 001-399) at SLPL’s Central Library, where she also runs the Grants & Foundation Center (the Library’s nonprofit resource center). Lisa earned her Library degree from the University of Missouri in 2014, and has been with SLPL since 2016. Lisa received her B.A. in French and Philosophy and a law degree (both in the last century) and practiced law for eighteen years before transitioning to library work; conveniently Lisa has both the philosophy (100s) & law (340s) books in “her” room at Central.

One of Lisa’s passions is democracy and voter engagement. Lisa oversees voter registration for all SLPL locations, and in 2022 was co-recipient of an ALA Civic Imagination Station grant, along with St. Louis artist and activist, Joan Lipkin. After working with the 11 other cohorts around the country and each other, Lisa and Joan conceived of Voters of St. Louis, which they continue to develop with the hope of increasing voter registration and turnout, as well as more informed and enthusiastic (perhaps even joyful?) participants in the democratic process.

**Candidate statement:** I was surprised and honored to be invited to throw my hat into the ring for Member-at-Large on the MLA Board. To be perfectly candid I’ve been an imperfect MLA member, but have used this as an opportunity to remedy that and am once again in good standing. As is often the case with later in life “converts” (in my case, to the profession of librarian), I am a rather fierce advocate for all things library, especially the important role that public libraries play in a community and the free access of information. I admire the work that the MLA has done advocating for and educating folks about intellectual freedom and I would welcome the opportunity to be a part of the conversation in its work on that front and generally (as stated in the MLA mission) “to promote library service, the profession of librarianship, and cooperation among all types of libraries and organizations concerned with library service in the State of Missouri.”

(Continued on next page)
Dr. Denice Adkins  
**Associate Director of the School of Information Science & Learning Technologies, University of Missouri**

Dr. Denice Adkins is professor and associate director of the School of Information Science & Learning Technologies, University of Missouri and co-editor of the Journal of Education for Library & Information Science. Her research interests include public libraries, services to the Latinx community and other underserved populations, reader advisory research, and youth services. Her previous elected positions include President and Treasurer for REFORMA (The National Association to Promote Library & Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-Speaking) and councilor-at-large for the American Library Association.

**Candidate statement:** I am running because I want to make a positive difference to Missouri’s library community and help to celebrate the hard work that MLA members put into this organization every day. I have seen many of my former students go on to MLA leadership and use their skills and gifts in support of Missouri’s libraries and library staff. I want to do my part to continue MLA’s legacy of being a safe and supportive space for our library staff to develop the skills and strengths needed to succeed in our unique context.

**Candidates for ALA Councilor-Elect**

**Cindy Thompson, MA, PhD**  
**Dean of Libraries, University of Missouri-Kansas City**

Cindy Thompson, MA, PhD, is the Dean of Libraries at the University of Missouri-Kansas City’s University Libraries. She began at UMKC in 2006 as the Interlibrary Loan Librarian and took on increasing responsibilities until she attained her current position. At the UMKC Libraries Cindy has been engaged in a number of significant initiatives, including more than ten years of phased renovation, collaboration across campuses and communities, and active work with the Missouri Library Association. In addition to serving on or working with nearly every committee and CI in MLA, she has served as President, Treasurer, and Member-at-Large for the MLA board, served as chair PEER CI and raised significant funds for the Bohley Scholarship, and currently chairs the Access & Innovation Fund Committee and co-chairs the You Belong Committee. Her research interests lie with organizational structure, strategic change management, and building strong cultures within organizations.

**Candidate statement:** The Missouri Library Association is an organization with significant history, and I am honored to be in the running to represent this vibrant group as our ALA Councilor. I have been an MLA member for my entire career, and have found participation to be rich and fulfilling. In my variety of roles with MLA, I have been thrilled to see the exciting direction we are taking as an organization – one that is focused on serving its community through ways that are meaningful and inclusive. As ALA Councilor, I would not only be poised to advocate for issues of importance in our state and share the great work we are doing in MLA, but can also tap the wealth of knowledge available to us through the council to help continue this trajectory. My hope is that the incredible work at MLA around intellectual freedom, advocacy, and inclusion will be even more successful with increased partnerships with other chapters and ALA, which I will work to accomplish as ALA Councilor.

(Continued on next page)
Kaite Mediatore Stover  
Director of Readers’ Services, Kansas City Public Library  

Kaite Mediatore Stover is the Director of Readers' Services for The Kansas City Public Library. She holds Masters degrees in Library Science and English Literature from Emporia State University. Stover is the co-editor of The Readers' Advisory Handbook (ALA Editions 2010). She has contributed chapters to Research-Based Readers' Advisory (ALA Editions 2008) and Integrated Advisory Service (Libraries Unlimited 2010). Stover wrote the "He Reads, She Reads" column for Booklist with David Wright from 2004-2016 and "Under the Radar" for Public Libraries from 2012-2017. Stover has published articles in Reference & User Services Quarterly, Library Journal, Wilson Library Bulletin, Young Adult Library Services, The Emporia Gazette, The Kansas City Kansan, Present Magazine, INK, and The Kansas City Star. Stover served on the Penguin Random House Library Advisory Board and is a founding member and former Steering Committee member for LibraryReads. She is the recipient of the 2018 Margaret E. Monroe Award, 2012 Allie Beth Martin Award, and was named a Library Journal Mover & Shaker in 2003. Stover speaks regularly at international, national, regional, and state conferences on readers, reading, trends in publishing and reading, and training for library staff with an emphasis on readers' advisory and customer service. She has served ALA on the following committees/capacities: Chair, Booklist Advisory Council; ALEX Awards, Carnegie Medal Award, Dartmouth Award, Louis B. Shores Award, Sophie Brody Medal Award, and ALA Councilor-at-Large from 2021-2023.

Candidate statement: As ALA CaL from 2021 to 2023, I was part of the governing body that worked on the reimagining and retooling of ALA Council. I’m proud of the new structures coming into place to allow for more diversity in Council. This was not easy work. I went into ALA willing to listen to all viewpoints and vote for resolutions, policies, and changes that would benefit as many ALA members as possible.

Steven V. Potter, MaLS, MPA, BA  
Executive Director, Missouri Evergreen  

Like many, Steven Potter has navigated the challenging, unexpected, and at times traumatic landscape of the past several years. Yet, amidst these trials Missouri libraries and the dedicated individuals within them have proven their indispensable value to individuals, communities, and the nation's health.

Steven has a long history of working for over 35 years in Missouri's libraries and the library community. He is currently the Principal at Potter Training and Consulting; he also serves as the Executive Director for the Missouri Evergreen Consortium. He works closely with the seventy-seven libraries in the consortium and hears their concerns regularly. He was a member of the administrative team at Mid-Continent Public Library for twenty-seven years, including twelve years as the Library Director. Before working in library administration, he worked in technical services, I.T., the MCPL warehouse, and various other jobs at Mid-Continent Public Library. If there is a library task you might identify, Steven has carried it out at some point.

Advocacy is not just a professional duty for Steven, it is a personal commitment that has shaped his life. As an instructor at the University of Missouri and a member of the SISLT Advisory Council, he has actively contributed to the development of the library community. His longstanding memberships in MLA, ALA, and PLA reflects his continuous engagement in advocating for Missouri Libraries. He has participated in numerous Library Advocacy Days and National Library Legislative Days, and his membership in the MLA Legislative Committee for decades has provided him with a wealth of experience in advocating for libraries.

Candidate statement: If elected as the ALA Chapter Councilor from Missouri, I will bring my decades of experience and my current work with libraries of all sizes. I will not only represent you, but I will also bring my personal and professional experiences and sensibilities to the job. As a moderate and a pragmatist, I will ensure that ALA's approach is inclusive and beneficial to all, including rural or exurban Missouri libraries. However, I am a staunch believer in intellectual freedom,
freedom of inquiry, and freedom to read. These values are the backbone of our library community, and I will never compromise on them. I deeply value all efforts to support literacy, and I am committed to fostering a culture of learning and exploration in our libraries.

I appreciate your consideration and thank you for all you do for your community and for Missouri's libraries.

Jodie Borgerding
Instruction Library, Washington University Libraries

Jodie Borgerding is an Instruction Librarian at Washington University Libraries. She collaborates with faculty and first-year students in the College Writing Program to enhance information literacy and library instruction. She is also an adjunct instructor at the School of Information Science and Learning Technologies at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Before her current roles, Jodie held positions with Amigos Library Services, Webster University, and Saint Louis University.

Since 2007, Jodie has actively contributed to the Missouri Library Association. She served in leadership positions in various committees and Communities of Interest, including MACRL, Computer and Information Technology, Media and Publications, and Conference Site Selection. From 2013 to 2015, she served on the MLA Board as a Member at Large and was President in 2016. Jodie is also an active member of ALA, ACRL, and RUSA.

Jodie holds an undergraduate degree in English with an emphasis in journalism from Missouri State University. She earned a Master of Arts in Library and Information Science from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Candidate statement: I am interested in running for the position of ALA Chapter Councilor to fulfill the crucial role of being a strong advocate for Missouri libraries within the Council. Given my prior leadership experience with MLA and ongoing involvement in ALA, I possess a distinctive advantage in effectively representing the interests and concerns of Missouri libraries on the national level. I aim to advocate for the needs of Missouri libraries, contribute to significant discussions, influence policy decisions, and actively contribute to shaping the future of the library profession.

MLA Legislative Committee

It's a brand new fiscal year for the state of Missouri, and I wanted to share a quick message about the success of your efforts and fellow library champions who advocated for library funding during this most recent legislative session.

During the session, the House and Senate appropriated the full amounts requested for State Aid and REAL funding. That's $4.5 million for State Aid to public libraries and $3.1 million for REAL funding.

Each year, the Governor has until June 30 to approve or veto any parts of the budget. This deadline ensures that a budget is in place for the start of the fiscal year which begins July 1.

I am happy to relay that the full amount for State Aid and REAL were retained as appropriated by the House and the Senate! Thank you to everyone who spoke with their legislators about the importance of libraries serving Missouri’s communities and how vital state funding is to support these services!

As always, please, do not hesitate to let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you for providing excellent library services to your communities!

Best Regards,
Cody Croan, MLA Legislative Committee, Chair
Meet This Issue’s Featured Library Employee
for the Missouri Library Association, Marina Trifan!

What is your name, your library, and your role at the library?
My name is Marina Trifan, and I am the Genealogy Librarian for the St. Joseph Public Library.

What originally got you interested in working at a library?
My parents are both historians, my grandma was a reference librarian, and my grandpa was a genealogy enthusiast. I was oddly destined for this job; I just didn’t know it for quite some time.

Originally I was spending a lot of time at the library doing research for a job I had at a local museum. When a position became available in the Reference Department, I realized that the part of my museum job that I truly enjoyed was the time I spent at the library- now I get to work on research that interests me full-time!

What keeps you coming back every day?
There is always something new to uncover or another rabbit hole to explore. It is very fulfilling to get to tell the stories of those who came before us, particularly those who often go overlooked or forgotten.

What’s challenging about your work?
Learning how to decipher handwriting from the 1800s has certainly been a journey! The sheer scale of a lot of my work has also been quite challenging. In 2019 I began a project that is still ongoing to create an interactive map with precise geo-locations of all the cemeteries in Buchanan County. Many of the cemeteries are small, rural, family cemeteries, so locating them is sometimes very difficult. I have had to scramble up hills, traipse through the woods, jump over irrigation ditches, and walk through miles of corn fields!

Has your work made you either curious, or passionate, or awestruck about something?
I have become very passionate about cemetery preservation and education. In addition to being burial places, cemeteries provide a record of community and individual histories. They are local history museums, filled with art and sculpture, and surrounded by flora and fauna. By being able to connect various records and stories to the burial places it makes history very personal and tangible.

Who is one of your mentors? Tell us about them.
Though it may be cliché, my family has absolutely filled that role for me. My parents and grandparents all fostered a deep love of reading, history, and exploring the world around us in interesting and different ways. My grandparents never got a chance to see me in this role, but I am sure they would have found it funny how I managed to combine both of their interests into a career that fits me so well.

What have you read or watched lately that you enjoyed?
T. Kingfisher has quickly become one of my favorite authors lately. The Hollow Places was so spooky in such an unusual way! I never expected otters or willow trees to become nightmare fuel.

Who should we highlight next? Nominate them!
Nominate someone to be our next Featured Library Employee! They could be:

…a new employee you’d like to introduce
…someone with a unique job or career path
…someone you find inspirational or whose gifts should be more widely known

Submit name(s) and contact information, along with place of employment, to Bailey Compton at bcompton@stchlibrary.org. We’ll do all the work of contacting; we just need you to connect us!
An award ceremony was held at the ALA Annual Meeting on June 29, 2024, for the 2023 Robert B. Downs Intellectual Freedom Award. Colleen Norman represented the committee with an amazing speech in receiving this award, and many of the committee members and colleagues attended in support and celebration.

This award, established by the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in 1969, is given annually to an individual or group in recognition of their dedication to intellectual freedom, and resistance to censorship. They join previous award winners like the New College of Florida Defenders, ALA’s Office of Intellectual Freedom, and the Education Justice Project. You can read details about the IFC's work and the award in the official announcement from the University of Illinois.

The award recognizes the IFC's development of the Introduction to Intellectual Freedom workshop, which has been presented countless times at library development days, school board meetings, and conferences in numerous states (including as a preconference at MLA!). Other highlights include communication with schools, libraries, and media outlets throughout the tumultuous last few years, advocating for students and community patrons while speaking out against censorship. You can find much of the committees’ work over the past few years on this list of the MLA’s IFC selected documentation.

The MLA IFC has collaborated over the past few years with the Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL). Both groups are currently working on an ALA grant that will give library workers in Missouri a helpline for challenges and concerns. ALA gave everyone a chance to meet up in person. Though there were laughs, encouragement, and great food, brainstorming was inevitable with these people. Thanks to ALA President and IFC member, Cindy Hohl, for hosting!
The 2024 conference theme is *Innovate, Integrate, and Inspire: Crafting the Future Library Experience*. We are pleased to announce our keynote speakers:

**Opening Keynote Speaker**

Cindy Hohl, MBA/MLIS, is a member of the Santee Sioux Nation and works as the director of policy analysis and operational support at the Kansas City Public Library. She is a past president of the American Indian Library Association (AILA) and works with librarians to share information across the globe as a member of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) Indigenous Matters Section and in her work as Co-Chair on the Tribal Library Council for the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums (ATALM). With a passion for upholding Intellectual Freedom, Cindy serves as an ex-officio trustee on the executive board of the Freedom to Read Foundation and as a member of the Missouri Library Association Intellectual Freedom Committee. As a proud ALA Spectrum Scholar, she strives to increase diversity in the library field through mentorship, recruitment, and advocacy.

Cindy is the 2024-25 President of the American Library Association and the first Spectrum Scholar to be elected to the role. Cindy holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Friends University, a Master of Business Administration degree from Baker University and a Master of Library and Information Science degree from Wayne State University.

**Closing Keynote Speaker**

Cory Scheer is the Founder and CEO of TrustCentric™ Consulting, an organizational and leadership development firm. TrustCentric™ helps leaders, teams, and organizations become more trustworthy, focused, and productive by: using empirical evidence to define reality, implementing a proven trust building framework, and walking alongside clients to develop clear, obtainable, and long lasting data informed strategies for success. Core solutions that TrustCentric™ provides include: Comprehensive Organizational Trust Assessments©, Executive and Team Coaching, Strengthening Organizational Trust Workshops, Strategic Planning Retreats, Keynote / Seminar Speaking, Leadership Development Cohorts, and ongoing organizational and leadership development consultative support.

In addition to over 25 years in leadership roles in multiple sectors, Cory has obtained an Executive MBA (Rockhurst University) and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis (University of Missouri). Cory has worked with small businesses, school districts, corporations, nonprofit organizations, higher education institutions, ministries, the military, and municipalities to provide vital support and clear direction on how to ensure people, practices, and policies become more trustworthy so that key performance indicators improve.

Attendee Registration
Early bird registration is $170.00 for MLA members or $300.00 for non-members. Early bird registration is open now! Regular rates will be charged after August 9th. You can register at molib.org/event-5736695.

Vendor Registration Now Open
Vendor registration is open! Information on pricing and how to register can be found at molib.org/event-5712214

Upcoming Information
Keep an eye out for the soon to be released full schedule of breakout sessions for attendees and many more exciting updates on the MLA Conference in the months to come.

Follow @molibconf on Instagram and Missouri Library Association (MLA) on Facebook for more exciting info.

Sincerely, The 2024 Missouri Library Association Conference Committee
Stephanie Shade (she/her) and Michael Engelman (he/him), Conference Co-Coordinators

YSCI Committee

Are you currently working in youth services at a library in Missouri? Have you ever been to the Missouri Library Association conference? See below for a great opportunity to attend this year’s MLA Conference and further your professional development!

The Patt Behler Call-to-Conference Award is sponsored by the Youth Services Community of Interest and is offered to introduce working librarians to the activities and programs of MLA and YSCI and to encourage involvement and ongoing participation in the professional activities of those organizations.

a. Anyone who is currently working as a librarian with a major responsibility for serving children in any library in Missouri and who has not previously attended an MLA Conference is eligible. Preference will be given to applicants from outside the local conference site area.

b. The grant includes payment to cover first-time membership dues for MLA (if applicable); conference registration fees; Thusnelda Schmidt Lecture and meal expenses; and an autographed copy of one of the presenter’s books (if applicable).

c. Grantees must sign an agreement to attend the Thusnelda Schmidt Lecture and the YSCI meal function.

See the details for submission on the application form. Applications are due by August 1, 2024.

We hope to see you at the conference!

Katie Long YSCI@molib.org
Amigos Introduces Hyku Institutional Repository Service with Free Information Sessions

Amigos is pleased to introduce new technology hosting services for Hyku, a powerful open-source repository solution tailored for small- to medium-sized libraries. Hyku can be used as an institutional repository and a digital repository for cultural heritage items, open educational resources, and theses and dissertations.

As part of this new service, Amigos is hosting two information sessions (the first took place in June) to demonstrate Hyku’s uses, features, shared search functionality, and real-library use cases. Sessions are free for anyone interested.

Discover Hyku: Empowering Libraries with Open-Source Repository Solutions (September 23, 1:30–2:30 pm)

For more information about Amigos’ Hyku service, contact technologysolutions@amigos.org.

Member Discount News

Looking for Deals on Library Supplies? Save With Amigos Discount Direct!

Part of Amigos Member Discount Services, Discount Direct saves members money by providing the opportunity to order library supplies and consulting services directly from vendors at negotiated discounts. View this article to learn how to save on Biblioteca, DEMCO, Gaylord, Skilltype, and other vendors.

2024 Nexis Uni Upgrade Updates

Amigos vendor partner, LexisNexis recently announced an upgrade to Nexis Uni and is providing an Early Access Period for librarians. Learn more about the Nexis Uni Upgrade in this article.

Continuing Education News

Amigos Online Conferences - Easy to Access. Meaningful to Attend

Online conferences are a no-charge benefit for Amigos member libraries.

Register today for access to recent conferences:

- Leading. Partnering. Connecting. The Amigos Member Conference 2024
- Creative Solutions in Cataloging, Acquisitions, and Resources Management
- Reimagining Libraries: Exploring the AI & VR Revolution in Library Services
- Libraries Address Inequities

Please Note: Attendees registered for the live event already have access to the past conference recordings. To view the recordings, login with the credentials provided for attending the live conference.

Continuing Education Schedule Includes Free and Discounted Offerings for Members

Online topical conferences, the annual member conference, Know and Go sessions, and NISO member webinars are all no charge to Amigos members. Upcoming free opportunities can be found on the Amigos Free for Members page. Additionally, many Live Online workshops are offered and discounted for members. Non-member registration is also available. Review the Continuing Education Schedule for the latest additions and updates!

(Continued on next page)
Earn Your Metadata Management Tools Micro-Credential with Amigos!

Do you work with large amounts of metadata? Do you wish you had ways to work with this metadata more efficiently? This three-course micro-credential series will introduce you to MarcEdit and OpenRefine, two powerful tools for manipulating data, plus the Python programming language. Attendees will learn how these tools can help them perform metadata magic in a fraction of the time. Each course requires a written assignment.

Register today for the first course in the series, Introduction to MarcEdit!

The Metadata Management Tools Micro-Credential is made up of three separate two-hour courses (10 am-12 pm) and one capstone:

- Introduction to MarcEdit August 6, 2024
- Introduction to OpenRefine August 13, 2024
- Programming with Python and PyMARC August 20, 2024
- Micro-Credentialing & Capstone Project self-paced

Many libraries expect their staff to continually seek out learning opportunities. The Amigos micro-credential program provides staff at member libraries that opportunity. A micro-credential is a short, competency-based recognition that allows a library staff member to demonstrate mastery in a particular area and to record that mastery on a resume or CV.

MOBIUS Goes Live with FOLIO LSP with Support from EBSCO Information Services

EBSCO Information Services (EBSCO) has assisted MOBIUS, one of the largest consortia in the United States, in migrating to the FOLIO Library Services Platform (LSP). EBSCO FOLIO has provided hosting and support services for the FOLIO migration, providing 62 academic libraries representing diverse institutions with access to the open-source platform.

FOLIO will provide a cutting-edge system that caters to the needs of modern and unique library systems like MOBIUS. EBSCO has played a pivotal role in this migration process, providing the staffing and support to migrate MOBIUS' diverse partner libraries, large and small.

MOBIUS Executive Director, Donna Bacon, expresses that the move to FOLIO is not just a migration but an exciting opportunity for MOBIUS members to leverage open-source resources with expert support. "Our involvement in open initiatives like FOLIO will be a significant step in streamlining our workflows while leveraging modern technologies. We are eager to contribute to FOLIO's continued development, which will undoubtedly bring positive change to our workflows and the vast community we serve."

EBSCO Information Services Director of SaaS Innovation, Christopher Holly, says, “MOBIUS' adoption of FOLIO opens doors for other libraries and library systems to join the open community. FOLIO offers flexible solutions that can change as the consortium grows and evolves — ensuring that all libraries, regardless of their existing systems, can be part of this collaborative effort. This large-scale adoption underscores the impact of the transition to FOLIO in the library community and the diverse libraries these initiatives were made to support."

(Continued on next page)
The Open Resource Sharing Coalition (OpenRS) welcomes MOBIUS as its first Consortial Member Implementer

The collaborative resource sharing initiative of the Open Library Foundation (OLF), welcomes its first implementer, MOBIUS. MOBIUS is using EBSCO Information Services (EBSCO) as its OpenRS service provider, providing the consortium with implementation, hosting, training and support services.

As a founding member of the OpenRS coalition, MOBIUS has been instrumental in developing the new open-source resource sharing platform. Since the project's inception in August 2023, MOBIUS and the OpenRS Founding Council, a diverse group of consortia, libraries, and vendors, have been working closely to build a consortial resource-sharing solution. This collaborative effort was born out of the recognition that there is currently no solution in the market that fully addresses direct, unmediated resource sharing for consortia, especially those made up of different types of libraries (including public and academic) or that use different integrated library systems (ILS).

As open-source software, OpenRS, uses the newest development methods and tools to keep it modern and current. It is built using containerized modules, making it ideal for both local hosting and hosted service providers while working to develop those different needs into a robust system that provides configuration options rather than a monolithic software stack. While the initial release of OpenRS will focus on consortial physical borrowing needs, the longer-term roadmap anticipates expansion into areas such as non-returnables and controlled digital lending (CDL).

MOBIUS Executive Director, Donna Bacon, says, "Watching OpenRS come to life this past year has been a rewarding experience for MOBIUS. Our libraries played a critical role in testing the software and were excited to see the first transactions come through the system. We are proud to be a partner in developing this groundbreaking open-source resource-sharing platform which will provide a much-needed solution for consortia worldwide."

Functionality that is especially important to consortia, including unmediated patron requesting of materials, has not yet been fully addressed in other solutions. Together, the OpenRS founders have developed software systems, protocols, and best practices that foster collaboration and support for this new resource sharing platform. OpenRS functionality is continuously improving based on coalition feedback. Additional features and functionality will be implemented over the coming months and years.

MOSS (MOBIUS Open Source Solutions) News

In December 2023, the North Carolina Community College Evergreen shared ILS group (NCCCE) successfully migrated 25 of its libraries to the Evergreen ILS and went live on MOBIUS's MOSS (MOBIUS Open Source Solutions) hosting service. Previously, these libraries were on SirsiDynix's Horizon and Symphony. MOBIUS staff worked with the group's steering team for over a year, performed data migration services, and also provided data hosting, server support, training, and system support to NCCCE. NCCCE upgraded from Evergreen version 3.11.1 to 3.13.0 in late June. A second cohort of 25 community college libraries will join NCCCE on Evergreen in December 2024 and MOBIUS has now begun working with them on their migration process.

MOBIUS is also working with Cape Fear (NC) Community College to migrate them from Sierra to a standalone instance of Evergreen with their go-live in late July. MOBIUS is beginning work on the migration of the Robeson County (NC) Public Library to the NC Cardinal consortium.

This spring, MOBIUS's MOSS staff participated in the Evergreen community's Bug Squashing Week--a time for community members to create, test, and commit bug fixes for the software. They also participated in the 3-day Evergreen International Online Conference and MOBIUS had a booth in the virtual exhibit hall of the conference.

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MOSS staff assisted with the MOBIUS FOLIO migration in several ways including extracting data and developing code. MOSS staff also had leadership roles in the Evergreen community, serving as the chairs of the documentation and the developers' interest groups, the version 3.13 release team, the conference planning committee, and participating in many other committees and interest groups.

Kara Whatley Appointed MU Vice Provost and University Librarian

The University of Missouri Libraries are pleased to share the appointment of Kara Whatley as vice provost for libraries and university librarian, effective Oct. 1, 2024. Whatley is currently the university librarian at California Institute of Technology (Caltech) and serves as the chief executive of the Caltech Library system.

Whatley’s previous roles include positions of increasing leadership at Texas Tech University Libraries and New York University Libraries. Throughout her career, she has shown a consistent strategic focus on catalyzing information discovery, preservation, and sharing to support the university mission.

She is a member of the Association of College Research Libraries (ACRL) and is currently serving as the ACRL Division Councilor and the ACRL representative to the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Science and Technologies section. She also currently serves as a member of the Elsevier North American Library Advisory Board, the EBSCO North American Deans and Directors Library Advisory Board, and the Springer Nature Library Advisory Board.

The Libraries are also pleased to share that Jeannette Pierce will serve as interim vice provost for libraries and university librarian until Whatley’s arrival in October. Pierce has a strong track record of leadership and is well positioned to continue the libraries’ momentum in the interim period. Please join us in welcoming Kara Whatley to Mizzou and congratulating Jeannette Pierce on her interim appointment.
Jefferson County Library

Spirit Week and New Cards

Jefferson County Library celebrated the American Library Association's National Library Week themes with a personalized Jefferson County Library Spirit Week! All week long, staff hyped the library with costumes for Superhero Day, Pajama Day, Literary Character Day, and more.

“Many patrons took the time to approach the various staff that dressed up to tell them how it brightened their day,” said JCL staff member Melissa Lomax. “They were having fun because we were having fun, and it created an enjoyable atmosphere all week.”

And, as part of the celebration, the library unveiled a gift for patrons: five new library card designs! Cat people, dog people, and, of course, book people, will all find their niche reflected in the new cards. Three designs were purchased from the ALA graphics store, and two were created in-house.

So far, the cards seem to be a hit among all ages. “One of my favorite interactions is when a more mature patron comes in for a new card, and they get almost giddy when we tell them there are options,” Lomax said.

Current cardholders can swap out their old card for a new one for free through July 31. For new cardholders, too, these designs are now offered alongside the traditional logo card.

Touch a Truck

A monster truck, a SWAT BearCat, and a waste can washing vehicle walk into a library parking lot…

There’s no punch line; this was the scene at Jefferson County Library’s Touch a Truck event on May 18! Altogether, twelve of the county’s most fascinating vehicles assembled on the parking lot of JCL’s Northwest Branch for the weekend activity.

Kids of all ages jumped inside a fire truck, experienced the backseat of a police vehicle, and climbed aboard a dump truck, among other experiences. Free face painting and free balloon art were offered, as well.

Over 400 people enjoyed the day, some driving over an hour to attend. And many of them found their way inside the library, too.

“We issued library cards to several families who had not been to our library before,” said Cindy Hayes, Northwest District manager. “Many asked if we would have it again next year; some said they had never heard of such an event before, but they loved it and will be back.”

This was the fifth year that Hayes has offered this event, and she plans to continue annually. A partnership with the city has increased the success over the years – the community Memorial Day parade is held on the same day and ends at the library, providing a seamless transition from one event to another.
Montgomery City Public Library

The Montgomery City Public Library is enjoying an action-packed summer reading program. One exciting event was celebrating International Mud Day on June 29 from 9:30-11:30 am. We had several stations outside including a mud pool, mud pie making, mud sculpture making, mud painting, and muddy explosions.

Inside we had animal foot printing with stamps, mud dough, mud painting, mud stories, and mud snacks. We invited the fire department to bring a truck and they did not disappoint! They were great at hosing off muddy kiddos and the parking lot when we were finished.

(Continued on next page)
We had a host of great volunteers who donated not only time, but dirt, containers, and miscellaneous items for decorating pies and sculptures. Parents and grandparents got as muddy as the kids! Laughter was everywhere. We will definitely do this again next year!

Another fun program was “Take a Librarian on an Adventure!” Patrons could choose a librarian’s picture and pose them for photos on the beach, in a tent, on a boat, in the backyard, in the garden… anywhere. The patrons emailed photos back to the library. The photos and stories were posted on the Montgomery City Public Library’s Facebook page.

The librarians traveled as far as Colorado, North Carolina, Louisiana, Nebraska, and Iowa. Some stayed closer to home by visiting the Scholars Academy at the University of Missouri, a wildflower garden, the Walt Disney Museum, the St. Louis Art Museum, a pool, and backyard gatherings.

It’s been fun to see the adventures the librarians get to have outside of the library world!
Joplin Public Library

Joplin Reads Together Second Year Success

Joplin Reads Together is a community-focused, month-long event centered upon one adult book. The book selection for the library's second year was *The Henna Artist*, by Alka Joshi. Accompanying programs were well attended (see graphic) and the highlight of the month was the author visit with Ms. Joshi.

Joplin Reads Together was successful in increasing awareness of the library and its services, providing a shared experience, promoting reading, and fostering connection to local organizations. The program is extremely popular with the Joplin community and library staff plan to continue the program next year.

Community partners included Post Art Library, Friends of the Joplin Public Library, Joplin Chamber of Commerce, and Missouri Southern State University Spiva Library, with special thanks to Friends of the Joplin Public Library for their sponsorship of the author visit.

Kiwanis Club of Joplin Facilitates Replacement of Statue

In 2020, in honor of their 100-year anniversary, Kiwanis Club of Joplin presented the Joplin Public Library with “Two Kids on Bench” by Max Turner. The beautifully detailed, two-tone solid 100% American bronze statue was a whimsical rendition of two children reading a storybook. Placed near the entryway of the library, it was a special piece that was beloved by many, especially parents and children.

After the statue was stolen in May 2023, an arrest was made quickly by the Joplin Police Department, but the original statue was never recovered. The loss was felt by the community as a whole.

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Generously, the Kiwanis Club took the lead on procuring a replacement statue. Along with monetary contributions by the Kiwanis Club, major contributions were made by local residents James and Barbara Hicklin and David and Debra Humphreys. In addition to facilitating the donation, the Kiwanis Club will also be providing insurance on the replacement statue.

The new statue was installed on May 15, thanks to the hard work of the Joplin Parks and Recreation Department. A dedication ceremony was held Monday, May 20, at the Joplin Public Library, where following a short dedication event, attendees signed thank you cards for those who made the replacement gift possible and enjoyed light refreshments.

The Concert Truck at Joplin Public Library

Joplin Public Library was one of seven stops in the month of May for The Concert Truck, a 16-foot box truck traveling music venue that transforms into a mobile concert stage and hosts two musicians that played piano and violin.

The Concert Truck was brought to Joplin by Connect2Culture, the local community arts agency, who partnered with Joplin Public Library to be one of the host locations. Fifty-five patrons attended the performance held in the library’s Outdoor Classroom on Sunday, May 18.

Christian County Library

American Libraries Magazine Highlights Local Gravestone Cleaning Event

Our monthly Uncovering History: Gravestone Cleaning community beautification and genealogy event was featured in the May issue of American Libraries. Read the full story online of how this program is not only a restoration effort but a celebration of history and the enduring spirit of those who came before us.

(Continued on next page)
First Local Authors Expo a Success
There were over 200 attendees and 43 authors at our first local authors expo. Community members discovered the depth of local literary voices by visiting with them one-on-one. In addition to the tabling and prize drawings, the authors led 20 minute workshops from “How to Keep Historical Fiction from Sounding Like a Lesson,” to “The Value of Audiobooks for Listeners and Authors.”

Learn and Play with Free Family Discovery Center Passes
Thanks to our Christian County Friends of the Library, we now offer family passes to the Discover Center in Springfield! Each family pass grants up to six people daily admission for a week at a time. This addition to the collection provides access to new learning opportunities with hands-on STEM activities and experiences and provides cost savings of $50 to families.

2nd Annual One Nixa, One Read Kick-Off Event
We had an amazing turnout at this year’s One Nixa, One Read kick-off, sponsored by the City of Nixa, Nixa Public Schools and the Christian County Library. Over 500 people stopped by for an evening filled with music, food and a free copy of, “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.” This city-wide community event focuses on neighborliness and family-friendly programming. A big thank you to CC Rhythm (a performing musical group of individuals with developmental disabilities) who put on another great performance.
The Missouri Library Association, Columbia, MO, est. 1900, is the Missouri State Chapter of the American Library Association, Chicago, IL

**MO INFO**

*Newsletter of the Missouri Library Association*

MO INFO (ISSN 0884-2205) is published six times/year (mid-January, March, May, July, September, and November). We can be reached at moinfo@molib.org.

You can find this and back issues of MO INFO on the MLA membership webpage: molib.org/Mo-Info-Archives

The newsletter is put together by MO INFO Subcommittee of the MLA Media and Publications Committee:

Ken Satterfield, Chair (2024)
Editors:
Bailey Compton, Emma Fernandez, Erin Niederberger, Jason Phinney, Nicole Walsh, and Alex Womack

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**2024 MLA Executive Board**

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Tiffany Davis
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**Member-At-Large**
Christina Pryor
Associate University Librarian for Specialized Libraries University of Missouri-Columbia

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Windsor Branch, Jefferson County Library