



Roundup

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Register for PLD Day

PLD Day registration is open! Join us on Wednesday, May 4th in lovely Stillwater, MN for a day of inspiring lightning talks, illustrious speakers, and Star Wars-themed networking opportunities! We're excited to welcome Valerie Horton of Minitex, who will speak about risk-taking and experimentation in public libraries. For more information and to register now, [click here](#).

Registration for ARLD Day 2016 is Open

WHAT: ARLD Day 2016

WHEN: April 29, 2016 (with Pre-Conference on April 28, 2016)

WHERE: Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Chaska, Minnesota

[Register Now!](#)

ARLD Day is just around the corner! Join us on April 29, 2016 as we explore critical and feminist pedagogy, library leadership, tribal college libraries and many other areas of academic libraries. This annual gathering is hosted by the Minnesota Library

Association's Academic and Research Libraries Division. Find out more about the [keynote speaker](#) and [breakout sessions](#).

We will also be conducting some ARLD business at ARLD Day. The ARLD Board has proposed some [needed changes](#) to the [ARLD Bylaws](#). ARLD Membership will vote on these changes prior to the Keynote Address and should take no more than 5 minutes.

Register for Workshop with ARLD Day Keynote Speaker Maria T. Accardi

Join the Instruction Roundtable for “From Cynicism to Empowerment: How Librarians Who Teach Can Resist Burnout,” a pre-ARLD Day workshop with keynote speaker Maria T. Accardi!

Librarians who teach often face marginal status in the campus community, faculty who do not understand information literacy and why it matters, the repetitive nature of one-shot library instruction, and a general lack of time and resources. These conditions can lead to the emotional distress, exhaustion, and cynicism that characterize burnout. This workshop will identify common causes of and solutions for burnout for librarians who teach and guide participants toward developing concrete strategies for enacting a burnout prevention and recovery plan, emphasizing self-care and personal empowerment to bring about change in their own lives.

The workshop will be held in the Cherrywood Room of the University of Minnesota St. Paul Student Union. The event will run from 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. with lunch included. Registration will be capped at 50. [Register now!](#)

Pre-conference on Wednesday, September 28th!

James LaRue, Director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom and Marci Merola, Director of the ALA Office for Library Advocacy will be presenting a pre-conference session on intellectual freedom and advocacy in Duluth.

LaRue described the session as “a day long boot camp on Advocacy and Intellectual Freedom. The idea is to weave these two topics together throughout a day of interactive engagement, and to equip librarians with techniques and values to be effective influencers of their institutions and communities. So there will be a lot about values, a lot about the foundation of the law, and a lot of very practical tips and tricks for getting your message across.”

The conference planning committee is working out the details. More information will be coming soon!

Call for Conference Proposals

The MLA 2016 Annual Conference will held in Duluth September 29-30. This year’s conference theme, 125 Years and Moving Forward is an opportunity to showcase our

successes and share our hopes for the future of library work. What positive impacts are we having today? How can we grow into the changing demographics of our state? What measures can we take as a profession to develop a workforce that reflects those demographics? How can we provide services that reflect the needs of our communities? These are just a few of the questions we'd like to discuss as we look ahead together. Do you have a great idea for a session that you would like to plan or present? Sessions will run 60 minutes—a length appropriate for 1-3 speakers. The format of the presentation may include single or multiple speakers, panel discussions, case studies, and/or demonstrations of projects.

The MLA Annual Conference equips library staff with new ideas and tools to stay up-to-date, innovate, and succeed in their careers. A presentation at the conference can have an immediate and lasting impact on local libraries. Please help shape the program at the 2016 conference.

[Learn more and submit a proposal](#)

Spotlight on MLA History: Minnesota Libraries on the Move (Part 2)

Last month we discussed MLA's role in developing Minnesota's traveling library program; in part 2 of this spotlight, let's take a look at a couple of artifacts relating to MLA's continued involvement with mobile and outreach services.

Pre-Internet, mobile services often took the form of bookmobiles. Early enthusiasm for bookmobiles can be seen this luncheon menu from the 1920 MLA conference in Hibbing, Minnesota. The die-cut (or hand-cut?) cover lovingly depicts the Hibbing's "walk-in travelling library." The customized delivery truck served local mining camps (and, by the way, is also recognized as the world's first [walk-in bookmobile](#)).



[1920 Minnesota Library Association menu and program](#), Hibbing, Minnesota, Minnesota Library Association Archives, Minnesota Historical Society.

Image available at Minnesota Reflections: <http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/ref/collection/p16022coll60/id/189>

Funding for mobile services has been a part of MLA's legislative program since the inception of the traveling library program (bookmobiles are still used for outreach in some Minnesota public libraries). From 1978-1989, the MLA even had its own Mobile Services Round Table (MSRT). Below is a photo printed in the summer 1994 newsletter showing the Dakota County Library parking lot during an MSRT meeting. Minutes from the meeting report that the coveted "Traveling Trophy" went to Walt Dunlap of the

Arrowhead Library System that year



"No you aren't seeing triple- there really are three Bookmobiles"

Photo and caption: MLA Newsletter, Vol. 21, No. 7. July/August 1994

On that note, here's poem written by poet [Molly Van Avery](#), known for her traveling poetry-mobile (and featured in last month's trivia question). Avery presented this poem at last year's conference "to honor and celebrate" the 125th Anniversary of the Minnesota Library Association.

Associate with me.

Catalog matters of the heart,
 carry learning across the arc of a life
 make all lives seen in the lines of text
 or in-between the aisles rows and stacks.
 Some facts change but some remain;
 every life of longing needs company for a while.
 Libraries gather in all of us, take in all of us
 even tendrils beyond their walls to feed the needs
 of the ordinary the extraordinary
 the forgotten, ignored, or poor.
 Libraries restore, offer resource for a life of more.
 By more I mean moor me in your safe harbor
 of access of yes you and yes this and try this
 and read this or let me show you how to find
 what you are looking for which is building
 beyond what has been before.
 Librarians, you are the means
 to the endless ends, the tenders of the tender
 human kind, your service grand.
 May you find what you need in one another
 in all the ways people find new worlds
 because of the work you do.
 Turn a new page, collect another volume
 your expansive story continues in generous grace~

-Molly Van Avery

MLA125 Reference Challenge: Research¹, Answer & Win²



In honor of MLA's 125th anniversary we're posing some 125 trivia questions from now until Annual Conference September 29-30 in Duluth.

How it works: Look for the question in your MLA Roundup. Submit your answer to the reference question to mla125trivia@gmail.com. All correct answers will be entered into a random drawing. There will be one winner for each question posted. Answers will be posted in the next Roundup.

The PRIZE: A limited edition Happy 125th MLA notebook.

March Question

Which MN public libraries are located at the following 125 street addresses:

- 125 West Main Street
- 125 West 3rd Avenue
- 125 West 11th Street

Good Luck!

¹Keep it real, google or the MLA website are all you really need here.

²Maybe win. Each correct response will be entered in a random drawing each month.

Member Spotlight - Gretchen Benson

The Roundup will occasionally feature one of our members and highlight the great work that is being done at libraries around the state. If you would like to share your story fill out our form [here](#). You can also nominate a colleague to be featured [here](#).

Name: Gretchen Benson

Organization: Anoka County Library, Ramsey County Library, Hennepin County Library

Position: Librarian

Introduce yourself: It has been said that I am currently working on a degree for 'comparative library studies', I work as a substitute librarian in three metropolitan counties; Anoka, Hennepin, and Ramsey. I earned my Masters degree from the University of St. Catherine in 2012. While I concentrated on technology and database management in graduate school, I have enjoyed working in public libraries across the metro area, and have concentrated my work in services for teens and adults.

What do you like most about working in libraries? I get to work across the metro at a variety of libraries, and meet some amazing people. I truly enjoy getting to meet staff at the various libraries and many great patrons. I love discussing graphic novels with patrons and have been known to exchange trivia with teens on the subject. Beyond this, I get to see first hand the large scope of services that libraries provide and the broad range of people we reach.

Why did you join MLA? What do you like most about being a member? I joined MLA because I wanted to be part of the larger conversation of libraries in Minnesota. I have always thought of the MLA as a place to share ideas in a larger context, which I find very exciting. I have really enjoyed the support from other members. I have had the opportunity to work with MLA members from all types of libraries and I have found them to be extremely knowledgeable, supportive, and encouraging.

What's a library program or service you're excited about? I am truly excited about the new ways that libraries are offering services to patrons. I find it interesting to find out how libraries are changing their approach to user instruction with new classes and technologies. The trend for connected learning as an approach for teen services is especially interesting. Focusing on the patron's interest and being able to connect library and local resources for that patron is work that I feel is fundamental in keeping libraries as a relevant resource for the community.

What question or issue should the Minnesota library community address next? I believe an issue that is becoming more important as technology is developed is how digital literacy affects patrons. The increase in e-resources makes it more imperative that libraries be able to respond to concerns over technology, whether it be to address how to integrate e-resources with traditional learning, or how digital content is tracked and monitored.

MLA Board Update

The MLA Board met on Friday, March 18th. The approved minutes from the previous month's meeting may be found [here](#). The agenda from each meeting is posted on [the Board of Directors page](#) several days prior to the meeting. Board meetings are open to the public and members are encouraged to attend.

Welcome new members!

The following have joined MLA this month. Welcome to MLA!

- Benjamin Belknap
- Jonathan Gaw
- Kristin Hall
- Terry Kalil
- Michele Leininger
- Samuel Neisen

Thank you renewing members!

MLA thanks all of those members who renewed during the month of March!

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