

THE TLA NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2014

WWW.TNLA.ORG

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Important Dates

TLA Board Meeting
@ various locations
via GoToMeeting:
February 22, 2014
10:00 – Noon CST

Tennessee Library
Legislative Day:
March 5

TLA Annual Conference:
April 30 – May 2, 2014

National Library Legislative Day,
Washington, D.C.:
May 5 – 6

Tenn-Share DataFest and
Fall Conference:
September 25 – 26

Tell Your Story: The TLA Annual Conference Keynote Speaker

Our General Session speaker will be Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and best-selling author Rick Bragg. His works include *The Most They Ever Had*, *The Prince of Frogtown*, *I Am a Soldier, Too: The Jessica Lynch Story*, *Ava's Man*, *Somebody Told Me: The Newspaper Stories of Rick Bragg*, *All Over But the Shoutin'*, and a monthly column in *Southern Living* magazine.

The 2014 TLA Annual Conference is April 30 – May 2 at Embassy Suites Hotel and Convention Center in Murfreesboro. Watch your inbox and TLA's website and social media for upcoming details!



And the Tensco PLS Scholarship Winner is... Jillian Rael

The Public Library Section of the Tennessee Library Association is happy to announce that Jillian Rael has been awarded the Tensco PLS Scholarship for 2014. The scholarship secures full pre-conference and conference registrations, tickets to all meals offered at the conference, the conference reception, and a three-night stay at the conference hotel. Jillian is the Director of the Fayetteville-Lincoln County Public Library

and is currently in the PLMI (Public Library Management Institute) Training Program. Jillian writes, "To my knowledge, our library has never attended TLA Conferences, and this grant will allow me the opportunity to show how important it is." Congratulations to Jillian!

—Janet Walker, Public Library Section
janetkwalker@comcast.net



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President's Point of View

Do you remember your first TLA conference? Maybe you're like me and they all kind of blend together—but in a good way!

I have found librarians to be friendly and helpful—but you knew that. I have also learned a lot at the TLA Conferences, and without fail, presenters are happy to answer questions and follow up with you if you want to know about the topic on which they presented. I have also presented myself, and found the librarians in the audience to be attentive and supportive. There are going to be some terrific presentations and speakers at this year's conference—you won't want to miss it! I learn as much at TLA as I do at national conferences, and I like the mix of school, public, academic, and

special librarians represented.

Last year at conference we heard some great library stories – like the Friends of Benton County Library, who raised over \$22,000 in only four months in their community of 16,000 to save their public library. And we got to experience the “Out of the Box” story of the Chattanooga Public Library, when we held the TLA reception in their maker space.

There are stories behind every presentation and speaker, every vendor and conference intern. And they wouldn't be at TLA if it wasn't a library story.

I've been asking, “What's your story?” for a while—now it's time to tell your story. Send me an email (rkinnersley@trevecca.edu) and tell me your TLA conference story, or



your library story. I'll share your stories during conference, and we'll post them on the TLA web site.

I can't wait to hear your story!

—Ruth Kinnersley
TLA President

Tennessee Library Legislative Day 2014

It's time to make plans for Tennessee Library Legislative Day 2014. We've designated March 5, 2014 as our day for library advocates from across the state to visit with their elected officials in Nashville. There is no cost to register!

To register or learn more about the day's schedule of events and locations, please visit the Tennessee Library Association website at: <https://m360.tnla.org/ViewEvent.aspx?id=88823&instance=0>

—Cara Huvieler,
Legislation Committee, Chair
huvielerc@brentwood-tn.org

TLA Election Time

Ballot and Voting Schedule:

- All TLA members who paid their 2014 dues by the close of the day, January 31, 2014 are eligible to vote.
- Week of February 16, 2014: Ballot information will be sent to all eligible voters by email. Paper ballots will be mailed to those who request it or who do not have an email address in the TLA database.
- March 22, 2014: Voting will close. Paper ballots must be postmarked no later than March 22, 2014.

Candidates: Full biographical information will be included with the ballots.

Vice-President/President Elect:

- Pamela R. Dennis, Learning Commons Coordinator, University of Memphis, McWherter Library

Recording Secretary:

- Amy Dye-Reeves, Library Media Specialist, Jefferson County Schools
- Heather Lanier, Circulation

Supervisor, The Brentwood Library

The *Newsletter* wishes the candidates for Recording Secretary the best of luck! As for Vice-President, the *Newsletter* heartily endorses Dr. Dennis and predicts a landslide victory.

Brown Bag Lunch Series

The Staff Development Committee presents the Brown Bag Lunch Series. All sessions at noon (CST) via GotoMeeting:
March – TBA
April 9 – Laureen Cantwell, Instructional Services Librarian, University of Memphis: “Presentation Software”
May 7 – Erin Francoeur, Library Director, Finney County Public Library: “Nature Explore Center”

Themed Baskets: FUN-draising for TLA Scholarships

We are FUN-draising again! Yes, indeed the Scholarship Committee is spicing things up. Do you knit, crochet, weave, sculpt, paint, or sew? Do you make jewelry, rugs, hats, bags, etc.? Or, maybe you just want to put a basket of cool stuff together! We would love for you to donate a gift for the TLA Scholarship's Themed Basket Fundraiser/Silent-Auction. Try to say that three times in a row! We need donated baskets and we need people to bid on them! Perhaps you

would like to ask your local Friends of the Library, or even work with your colleagues, to put a themed basket together. Have fun with it! Someone asked, "Can I do a sock basket?" Absolutely, knock your socks off! Then, come view our beautifully created baskets and other lovely handmade goods at the 2014 TLA Conference, which is right before Mother's Day. You can find something unique for your sweet mother! Last year we had a Cupcake Basket, a Gardening

basket, a Fiesta Party basket, a Knitting/Crocheting basket, a Christmas basket, a Salon basket, and so much more! We cannot wait to see the creativity that flows through TLA! So, prepare yourself and please join in! And bring cash or checks (and cookies: we eat—you shop)!

—Susan Earl and Karen White
Scholarship Committee, Co-Chairs
EarlS@brentwood-tn.org
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The 40th Anniversary of National Library Legislative Day

Every year, a group of excited, dedicated, and knowledgeable Tennessee library advocates make their way to our nation's capital. The reason? National Library Legislative Day (NLLD).

This year, NLLD will be held on Monday, May 5, and Tuesday, May 6. National Library Legislative Day is sponsored by the Washington office of the American Library Association along with other library-related groups including Friends of Libraries

U.S.A. Well over 300 library advocates from all over the country are expected to attend. This two-day event will start with a day of briefing sessions about current federal legislation that will impact our libraries. The location will be at the Liaison Hotel Capitol Hill.

The larger the Tennessee group traveling to D.C., the bigger our impact. We would love to have additional staff, Friends and Trustees join us as we advocate for our libraries. We

are particularly in need of representatives from the western part of the state.

Please contact us if you would like to join us in this "Lesson in Democracy" or if you have any questions. You will come home tired, but excited, and knowing that you have "walked the walk" for libraries.

—Vivian R. Wynn and Susan Earl,
TN State Coordinators for NLLD
vwynn91@bellsouth.net
EarlS@brentwood-tn.org

LearningExpress Library 3.0 has come to Tennessee!

TEL now includes the most up-to-date version of the test preparation tools of LearningExpress Library, including updated high school equivalency tests, computer skills tutorials, and new test-taking modes.

LearningExpress Library 3.0 has a sleek new platform that is tablet-friendly and puts all of the content at your fingertips. Use the search box on the main page to quickly find any of the ebooks, tutorials or online practice tests. The practice tests are now available in 3 different modes:

- Learner: an untimed overview of the test material where patrons can

check their answers as they go.

- Practice: the traditional practice test; the time is not enforced and answers can be reviewed at the end.
- Simulation: the most like the real test-taking experience. When time is up, the test is scored.

All of the practice tests provide detailed score reports, with recommendations for future study and a complete answer guide to review. Patrons will need to create a new account for LearningExpress 3.0, and manually transfer any content out of the older version before it is discontinued in May 2014.

The online tutorials in LearningExpress Library have also been updated, and include a variety of test preparation and computer software programs. Patrons can work through these tutorials on their own, save and come back to them at another time or location, and receive a certificate of completion to add to personnel files or job applications.

Questions? Please contact TEL Coordinator Wendy Cornelisen at wendy.cornelisen@tn.gov or 615-532-4627.

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Learn about Altmetrics at the Annual Conference

The Publications Advisory Board is sponsoring a session at the Annual Conference called “How Numbers Tell Our Stories.” Cody Behles, Emerging Technologies Librarian at the University of Memphis, will speak on altmetrics. This is an important emerging trend in scholarly communication – going beyond just citations

and impact factor to show how one’s work is affecting the field of study. Social media, datasets, and other alternative measures of scholarly impact will be covered.

Send any and all feedback, including relevant, irrelevant, and irreverent to: Anthony Prince, Newsletter Editor, aprincl@tnstate.edu.

Save the Date!

The Tenn-Share DataFest and Fall Conference will be held this year on Thursday and Friday, September 25 and 26. This year we celebrate 10 years of DataFest with a special reception, and, of course, the best mix of librarians, vendors, sessions, and networking opportunities! More information will follow at <http://www.tenn-share.org/datafest>.

—Leah R. Allison,
Tenn-Share President Elect
lallison@sgis.org



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