

# THE TLA NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2015

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## Important Dates

**February/March:**  
2015 TLA Election

**March 1:**  
Deadline for applying for \$300  
Friends of the Library grants

**March 25:**  
Deadline for nominating  
recipients of FOTL  
Certificates of Appreciation

**April 12-18:**  
National Library Week

**April 22:**  
TLA Board of Directors Meeting,  
(location TBA, Memphis, TN)

**April 22-24:**  
TLA Annual Conference,  
(Hilton Hotel, Memphis, TN)

## Conference Keynote and Luncheon Speakers Announced!

**Keynote:** Grammy Award-winning writer Robert Gordon is the author of six books and producer/director of seven feature documentaries. He has focused on the American south—its music, art, and politics—to create an insider's portrait of his home that is both nuanced and coarse.

**Trustees/Friends Luncheon:**  
Miguel Figueroa is the Director of

the American Library Association's new Center for the Future of Libraries, a project to help identify emerging trends relevant to libraries and librarianship.

**Intellectual Freedom Luncheon:** Kristin Pekoll, Assistant Director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom.

## Get Hired! Panel Discussion

Take advantage of two great career-related activities at the TLA Conference! There will be a panel titled "Get Hired!" featuring librarians from public, academic, special, and school libraries who are responsible for hiring decisions within their library. They will discuss how the hiring process works and what applicants should expect throughout the process. The panel will also answer questions from the audience. Questions may also be submitted ahead of time

to RichardPGroves@gmail.com to be asked in the panel anonymously. There will also be Resume Reviews, where attendees will have their resumes reviewed and resume/cover letter questions answered. There will be multiple review opportunities throughout the duration of the conference.

—Sharon Holderman  
Co-Chair, Career Services Steering Committee

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## President's Point of View

Let me begin by wishing everyone a very Happy New Year! I trust that your holiday break (however long or short) was a time filled with the three “f’s” (family, food, and fun) and a period of renewal! I love the New Year because it brings a sense of new beginnings. But time passes way too fast! It’s hard for me to believe that the TLA year is halfway over! Soon, it will be time to elect a slate of new leaders and to transition to new leadership. Before that happens, we still have many things to do! One of those things is making plans to attend our TLA Annual Conference in Memphis in April (See [tnla.org](http://tnla.org) for more details!).

I can’t tell you how excited I am about our Annual Conference! Cathy Farley, Missy Dillingham, and the conference committee have been working hard to put together a phenomenal conference for all of us. Our conference theme is “TLA: A Place for Everyone at the Table.” I truly want everyone to feel welcome to this table. If you aren’t involved in TLA and would like to be, do not hesitate to let me know! Watch for opportunities to learn through webinars, local meetings and make plans now to

attend the Annual Conference...even if it’s for just one day!

There are so many great things that will happen at the conference but I’d like to highlight two events. Unless something changes, we will have Robert Gordon, author of “Respect Yourself: Stax Records and the Soul Explosion” as our keynote speaker. He will discuss Memphis and the impact of music and the Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s and 1960s. There will also be time for you to talk and meet with him that afternoon. For the reception this year, we are heading to the National Civil Rights Museum (formerly the Lorraine Motel) for another three “f’s” (food, fun, and fellowship) and a time to educate. This site ties nicely in with our keynote speaker since Stax Records and the Lorraine Motel have an intertwined history. The Lorraine Motel was upscale accommodations that catered to African Americans during the 1960s. Many of the Stax Records greats stayed there. The Lorraine Motel was a “home-away-from-home” while the artists were in Memphis. It was also the site of one of the most tragic events of the 1960s: the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther



King, Jr. Despite this tragedy, the Lorraine Motel has been transformed into not only a place of remembrance, but an educational facility dedicated to peace, change, and hope for future generations. Tours will be available as well so please plan to attend the reception! Of course, this is in addition to all the wonderful programs that will be offered during the Conference itself! Make plans now to attend! Hope to see you there!

In conclusion, as always, thank you for your support of TLA! Best wishes to all for a wonderful 2015! Thank you all for what you do every day!

—Susan Jennings  
TLA President

## Conference News from the Public Library Section

The Public Library Section will hold its business meeting on April 24th at 4:00 PM immediately following the last session of the conference.

We would also like to announce this year’s winner of the Tennesco

Scholarship, Pamela Rudnitzki, Director of the Wartburg Public Library in Morgan County!

—Jillian Rael  
Chair, Public Library Section



## Better Know the Scholarship Committee

This committee awards future librarians with funds to help them with college or the opportunity to network with other professionals in our field. When serving on this rewarding committee, the actual work can be accomplished within a six to nine month interval, dependent upon the TLA conference dates.

The deadlines should coordinate as much as possible with the TLA conference program printing which is annually established by the TLA Conference Committee. The committee is charged with ensuring TLA scholarships are distributed annually. The first scholarship that the committee must distribute is the Edwin S. Gleaves Scholarship, established in 2004, offering \$1,500 annually to assist library and/or information science students with educational expenses such as tuition, books, or technology. The committee chairs created an updated version of the

application with a request for necessary documents for a student to submit, which is posted on the TLA website. Each student meeting the deadline will be evaluated via a rubric scoring method. After discussion of the scores, the recipient is notified with the good news by the committee co-chairs.

The committee is also responsible for the TLA Conference Internship Program. Each year, TLA selects interns to assist with the annual conference. Being a TLA conference intern provides a wonderful opportunity to network with colleagues, develop professional contacts, and enjoy the conference experience. Conference interns complete four hours of work at the conference as assigned by the TLA Scholarship Committee in exchange for waived registration fees, a free ticket to the All-Conference Reception, a \$100 stipend to be used as desired to defray

costs of attending the conference, and formal recognition at the conference.

Finally, the committee has fun with a silent auction and used book sale in the exhibit hall during the TLA Conference. The committee collects gift baskets from libraries for the silent auction. The silent auction and book sale serve as fundraisers for future scholarships and intern programs.

We encourage you to consider serving on the Scholarship Committee since it is a “win-win” situation. You give to others —scholarships, professional networking, or the book a library worker has been meaning to read, and you receive —the benefits of working for a great cause, building relationships, and championing promising leaders of tomorrow.

—Susan Earl  
*Co-chair, Scholarship Committee*

## WebJunction

The Tennessee State Library and Archives is announcing the availability of WebJunction, a learning content website for libraries of all kinds. WebJunction brings current, relevant articles, online courses and webinars to the libraries throughout Tennessee on a wide range of topics.

The new service is available now.

Here is a list of what library staff can find on the site and throughout the year:

A catalog of free self-paced courses and curated webinar archives has been developed in collaboration with LibraryU, Infopeople, and other content providers. Seven new courses developed specifically for library workers have already been added

to the catalog this fall. To access this content, simply create your free account at [learn.webjunction.org](http://learn.webjunction.org).

Certificates of completion will be provided for courses finished or webinar archives viewed through the WebJunction catalog.

WebJunction hosts more than 20 live webinar sessions (<http://webjunction.org/events/webjunction.html>) throughout the year —free online events that allow library workers from around the world to meet and learn from library leaders and fellow library practitioners. Attendees are eligible to receive certificate of attendances.

Dozens of new articles on hot library topics written by WebJunction staff and library practitioners

are published on a regular basis and highlighted on the [WebJunction.org](http://WebJunction.org) homepage.

Crossroads e-newsletter is broadcast each month to announce upcoming learning opportunities and provide updates on what is happening in the library world. Make sure you and your colleagues are subscribed (<http://webjunction.org/explore-topics/wj-news/crossroads.html>)!

For more information, contact TSLA staff member Heather Lambert at 615-253-6445 or Heather.lambert@tn.gov or learn more about WebJunction online by visiting [learn.webjunction.org](http://learn.webjunction.org)



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## Pre-Conference Events

**Our Place – New Frontiers in Meeting Needs:** The College and University Libraries Section (CULS) will host a pre-conference panel discussion on providing a place for everyone at the table regarding library spaces, collections, and interactions. How have advances in STEM, social sciences or humanities allowed for the creation of new opportunities to meet our collective needs? For questions or to get involved with the College and University Libraries Section, contact Nancy Gibson, Chair, at 931-221-6166 or gibsonn@apsu.edu.

**Communicating Change to the Entire Staff:** Heather Lambert of

TSLA will lead a session on tailoring your message to individuals with different communication styles to effectively lead your organization through change. There is an \$18 materials fee for custom workbooks.

**Inventory: Yes, You Can! Today!:** Wendy Doucette and Jeri Paddock of East Tennessee State University and Theresa McMahan of Sullivan County Public Library will demonstrate how simple and fast it is to inventory your collection using materials already owned by most libraries (a laptop, Microsoft Excel software and a barcode scanner) and existing staff.

**Technology in Tennessee Libraries: Discussion of Standards and Practices:** The Library Technologies Roundtable will host a discussion aimed at creating a set of common values and principles for library technologies which will help the TLA Libraries Technology Round and TLA provide the best service to libraries in the state.

**Leadership Development Workshop:** If you are seeking the next level of leadership in your career or in TLA work, consider attending this pre-conference, where Leadership Institute guides will provide lectures, discussion, training, and mentoring.



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