MLA/DLA Annual Conference 2018: EVOLVE 20

And...

MLA Leadership Day (page 9)
Law on the Frontlines: Legal Reference at the Public Library (page 17)
ACRL MD Visits the National Gallery of Art (page 14)
ACRL Maryland Visits the National Gallery of Art 14
18 librarians met at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. for ACRL (Association of College and Research Libraries) Maryland’s spring program. ACRL MD enjoyed guided tours of the art collection and the museum’s library, helpfully arranged for the group by National Gallery Reference Librarian Anne Simmons.

Law on the Frontlines: Legal Reference at the Public Library 17
Public libraries are a natural destination for information seekers. Periodically, public library reference staff are called upon to respond to questions about the law as part of their services. Legal reference requires a specialized area of knowledge and resources, which develops with frequent contact with these types of patrons. The Maryland State Law Library and other members of the Conference of Maryland Court Law Library Directors have developed first-stop resources for public library staff to use in responding to legal information questions. In addition, in partnership with the Maryland Access to Justice Commission, Maryland court libraries are developing and promoting the guidance and training needed to help public library reference staff explore and strengthen legal reference skills.

Baltimore County Public Libraries Introduces Little Free Libraries through a Partnership with Baltimore County Public Schools (Above) 19
The Baltimore County Public Library debuted eight Little Free Libraries to the public this May as a project created in partnership between Baltimore County Public Library and Eastern Technical High School.

MLA/DLA Conference: Evolve 20
As the weather evolved from cool and dreary to bright and sunny, more than 600 Library employees from Maryland, Delaware, and surrounding areas converged on The Grand Hyatt in Cambridge, Maryland for the Annual MLA/DLA Conference. Libraries have evolved over time and it was clear from the 96 sessions offered at the conference in early May 2018 that library staff are working hard to ensure libraries are not a thing of the past.

Space Place: A Close-Up View of Mars 237
In July 2018, skywatchers can get an up close view of Mars— even without a telescope! In fact, on July 31, Mars will be closer to Earth than it has been in 15 years.
Contents: Features

Editor’s Note 4
President’s Message 5

NEWS

University of Maryland, College Park to Eliminate Daily Overdue Fines 7
2018 Maryland Author Award Winner: Gayle Danley 7
Special Collections Librarian MaryJo Price Retires (Right) 8
MLA Leadership Day 9

Don’t forget: In addition to these Contents pages, you can use Bookmarks to navigate through your Digital Magazine!
Editor’s Note

Happy summer to all the Crab readers out there! We hope that you enjoy this issue, as it is “chock full” of information and happenings about libraries and library activity across Maryland. Ever wonder what goes into the job of being the President of MLA? In her final President’s message as MLA President, Denise Davis shares some highlights and revelations about her tenure as MLA President this past year (p. 5).

Speaking of MLA leaders and leadership, the Crab also has some great content and photos from both MLA Leadership Day (p. 9) and the MLA/DLA Annual Conference (p. 20).

The MLA/DLA Conference theme this year was “Evolve.” While this theme was on prominent display at the conference, it was also recently displayed in innovations and explorations in libraries and library-related entities throughout the state, from legal reference resources for public libraries (p. 17) to “Little Free Libraries” created through public school partnerships (p. 19).

Happy reading—we’ll see you at the start of a new MLA year with our Fall 2018 issue!

Annette Haldeman, MLA Crab Editor
Department of Legislative Services Library
I joined MLA early in my career as a Maryland librarian. I served for many years on the MLA Legislative Panel and have been an active advocate for libraries. Even so, I wasn't sure what MLA presidents do most of the time until I became Vice President/President Elect of MLA in 2016 and then MLA President in 2017. Here, I share some of those adventures for our members and future presidents!

Not long after I became Vice President, our 2016—2017 President, Kathleen Teaze, asked me to be the Chair of a committee to write the new MLA Strategic Plan, for our membership to consider adopting at the May Business Meeting just a few months away. Looking into the future is always an adventure. We had no time to spare and needed to identify our strengths and weaknesses; current and upcoming opportunities and threats; and what our members wanted and needed now and in coming years. Certainly, there were times that meetings of the Strategic Planning Committee felt like visits to the dentist. But the results made us proud. I think the new Mission statement pushes the envelope with key words and phrases such as:

- builds and promotes;
- strong;
- diverse and inclusive;
- transformational impact; and
- library staff and libraries.

The vision is for MLA to be recognized as essential to success, and the goals and objectives push us along the way toward achieving that vision. The plan was adopted just a year ago. https://www.mdlib.org/files/docs/about/splan18-20.pdf

Advocacy in Annapolis and beyond! As a long term member of MLA’s Legislative Panel, I know the panel must be ready to spring into action to work with key library advocacy partners to protect or promote libraries. An unexpected advocacy challenge can pop up at any time and can have big funding and even job-saving consequences. Our Legislative Panel team sprang into action again this year to preserve IMLS funding and I, as President, was quickly and intensely involved. At about the same time, I was called on to testify in Annapolis as a member of a panel of library advocates to protect public library board independence and, out of the blue, I was unexpectedly in a position to facilitate the work of Maryland’s dedicated school library advocates trying to preserve funding for five school library positions in Talbot County. Emmanuel Faulkner, Past President of the Maryland Association of School Librarians, and I were then asked to present at ALA in New Orleans to chapter and school library leaders from around the country on how AASL, MASL, ALA, and MLA worked together to save the jobs and the vital services of those school librarians! Do you ever feel powerless? On bad days, I certainly have. But as MLA president, I got to be part of determined and smart advocacy efforts that showed again and again that skilled and determined advocacy makes a big difference. To open the doors to library advocates of the future as retirements loom (a challenge that has kept me up at night), I also worked with Natalie Edington to start up the MLA Library Advocacy Interest Group (LAIG) so MLA’s great advocacy savvy will be passed on. Watch the Marylib listserv and follow MLA on Facebook for information on their luncheon drop-in sessions to get more involved.

Maryland State Library Board. In the spring of 2017, Maryland libraries celebrated the successful culmination of many years of work to create a Maryland State Library Board that remains a key part of our state education system but has the independence to lead libraries into the 21st Century. I was one member of a determined group of librarians and...
library supporters from MLA, MAPLA, Citizens for Maryland Libraries, and the Maryland Advisory Council on Libraries and others that worked for many years to advance that idea. One of the most gratifying experiences of my presidential year and my career was serving on the Maryland State Library Board during its inaugural year, where I had the privilege of representing MLA and thus all of Maryland’s libraries as a voting member. (See Fall 2017 Crab article for more on this change in Maryland law: https://www.mdlib.org/files/docs/crab/fall17.pdf)

How do MLA and ALA relate? While I knew that MLA was a chapter of the American Library Association, I wasn’t entirely aware of what that meant before serving in MLA leadership roles. As MLA Vice President, I learned that ALA brings together “chapter leaders”—officers (Vice Presidents, Presidents, Past-Presidents, Chapter Counselors, and Executive Directors)—for a full day pre-conference at both the ALA annual and mid-winter meetings to learn from each other and from ALA about successes, concerns, problems and solutions and get support for addressing library issues nationwide. Meeting chapter leaders who have developed a wide range of differing types of expertise, whether in large or small organizations, was fascinating and inspiring. And getting the national perspective from ALA regarding what is facing us all—good and bad—and how ALA is working impressively to give us tools to succeed was bracing. After these trainings it became clear to me that communication and collaboration between the chapters and ALA are vital for both.

And, yes, there were lots of fairly long meetings, but I kept learning new things such as privacy challenges posed by data breaches and analytics, amazing ways libraries are solving user problems and bringing communities together in our difficult era, and anticipating the excitement of 2018 Conference. And then there was the fun and inspiration of working with librarians and library staff from all over the state, our MLA staff and Board, and members of our MLA panels, divisions, committees, interest groups, and the wonderful Crab. I got to know and work with people from every type of library to rise together to the challenges we face with strength, inclusiveness, diversity, and integrity—and deliver.

Thanks for the adventure of being the 2017-2018 MLA President! I will serve another year on the Board as Past-President. I am excited about our new President Joe Thompson’s goals and the upcoming adventures for his 2018-2019 term.

Emmanuel Faulkner, Past President of the Maryland Association of School Librarians, and MLA President Denise Davis at the American Library Association Annual Conference in New Orleans, presenting for the ALA State Ecosystem Initiative. (Photo credit: Joe Thompson)
University of Maryland, College Park to Eliminate Daily Overdue Fines

Timothy Hackman, University of Maryland

The University of Maryland (UMD) Libraries in College Park will eliminate daily overdue fines on books for all users, effective July 1, 2018. The change comes after a thorough study by a committee of UMD librarians and staff. The committee worked from August 2017 to January 2018 to analyze the Libraries’ current fines and fees structure, research current trends in academic and public libraries, and benchmark against peer institutions of the Big Ten Academic Alliance (which the University joined in 2014), and of the University System of Maryland. The first year of this change is being considered a pilot program in order to assess the impact of the loss of fine income on the organization’s budget.

Previously, users were charged 50 cents per day for each overdue book. After the material was 30 days overdue, the item was reported as “lost” and the user was billed for the item. Under the new system, users will not be charged daily overdue fines for books, and will be billed for “lost” items once they are 60 days overdue, rather than 30 days. The lost fee will be reduced from $205.00, a figure set by a committee of University faculty in 2000, to $125.00.

Other library fines and fees will remain, and a few will be increased to reflect the importance of returning materials in high demand by other users. Recall fines will increase from $2 to $5 per day, while course reserve fines will increase from $2.50 to $5 per hour. Fines on equipment loan items (laptops, tablets, chargers, cameras, projectors, headphones, etc.) will remain at $5 per hour, with billing and replacement fees charged after an item is 24 hours overdue.

This change is part of a growing trend of libraries reducing or eliminating fines to make their services more welcoming, accessible and equitable. The Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore became fine free earlier this month, and a recent Baltimore Sun article indicates that it was “the first major urban library system on the East Coast” to do so. According to Pratt’s Fine Free FAQ, “[i]t is the mission of the Library to provide equal access to information, services, and opportunities that empower, enrich, and enhance the quality of life for all. Fines are a barrier to that access. Eliminating that barrier opens doors to all in our community to utilize the resources the Library offers.”

2018 Maryland Author Award Winner: Gayle Danley

Lisa R. Kenyon, Enoch Pratt Free Library

Poet Gayle Danley was the winner of this year’s William G. Wilson Maryland Author Award for 2018. Ms. Danley is a national and international slam poetry champion, Artist-in-Residence with the Maryland State Arts Council, and recently joined the Kennedy Center’s roster of master teaching artists. She also teaches slam poetry to children across Maryland, helping them address topics such as bullying, divorce, family tragedy, and peer pressure. Ms. Danley’s TedEd talk, “How to Become a Slam Poet” has over 329,000 views and her YouTube videos give only a hint of the power and passion she shares in her performances.

Beginning with “when I was in 2nd grade I colored...”
everything black,” Ms. Danley carried the audience at the May 3rd award luncheon through a heartbreaking narrative about being young and wanting to be like someone else, which eventually became a story of adult validation and sense of self. Later in her presentation she made the audience laugh with statements like “I went to a [poetry] reading last weekend because I had run out of things to do,” and then cry as she shared her poem about escaping domestic abuse with her newborn daughter in her arms. She discussed the difficulties of being a “working poet,” and the joys that poetry can bring to young people and the disenfranchised. The audience came to its feet as Ms. Danley’s presentation concluded, with all those in attendance wanting more.

After the luncheon, Ms. Danley did a book signing in the lobby and thoughtfully inscribed each book with a personal message. That afternoon she met with attendees for a conversation/workshop where she discussed her performances, experiences, and interactions with her children—“I hug my sons until all their mad falls off.”

She then asked the participants in the room to create their own poem, starting with the words “I want to hug you.” There were many sniffls and tears as the attendees worked on their poems, and then a few brave volunteers shared their poems with the group. Ms. Danley supported the emotion of the afternoon and the contributions of the participants, encouraging them to continue to write about their feelings, as “a day without tears is a wasted day.” She also expressed an interest in working with local libraries, so if you are lucky, you may be seeing her at your neighborhood branch in the upcoming year.

The 2018 Maryland Author Award Committee consisted of Elizabeth Hulett and Concetta Pisano (co-chairs), Jay Bansbach, Allison Charles, Lisa Kenyon, and Nadine Rosendale.
MLA Leadership Day

Annette Haldeman, Maryland Department of Legislative Services Library

Every year, MLA hosts a “Leadership Day” in June to provide an orientation for new leaders of the association. This year, Leadership Day was held on June 14 at the East Columbia Branch of the Howard County Library System for incoming members of the MLA Executive Board and Advisory Council for 2018-2019.

MLA Leadership Day is important for new board members and board veterans, as the day focuses on bringing everyone up to speed on the work of the Association and a look at the focal points for the coming fiscal year.

To open the day, incoming MLA President Joe Thompson welcomed the group and had everyone introduce themselves, providing their name, place of employment, and role within MLA. After this icebreaker, he spoke to the association’s strategic plan and his presidential goals for the year, with the emphasis that the President’s goals also be the shared goals of the MLA Executive Board and Advisory Council.

Following Joe Thompson’s remarks, long time MLA member and a past president of MLA (among many other roles, including a number of years of service on MLA’s Legislative Panel), Mary Baykan, offered attendees a brief history of MLA, providing information on the origins of the Association in the 1920s and a restructuring of MLA in the 1980s to ensure better financial practices and management. Following Baykan’s presentation, Tamar Sarnoff, representing the newly constituted Maryland State Library,
spoke about the State Library’s role and partnership with MLA and Carrie Plymire explained the role of MLA’s legislative panel.

Tiffany Sutherland, the MLA Conference Director for the 2019 conference then provided a brief presentation on the beginning stages of conference planning and offered information about the first planning meeting on July 18. David Dahl then shared some information about the role of the ALA Councilor for MLA. Dahl is newly stepping into the role this year, taking over for Lucy Holman, the previous Councilor, who just moved out of state. The ALA Councilor for MLA is MLA’s representative on the ALA Council. After David Dahl’s presentation, the group then heard from Martha Zimmerman, the new chair of the Professional Development Panel for MLA. Zimmerman is stepping into a role previously held by Dahl for several years. She reported on plans for online training for planners and also mentioned that there would be changes to the process in the beginning of the new calendar year.

Just prior to the lunch hour for attendees, Patty Sundberg, MLA Treasurer, presented information on the Treasurer’s role and provided some helpful decoding of the MLA budget process. MLA Executive Director Margaret Carty then provided some information about the Association and its governance, including the MLA Conflict of Interest policy.

At lunch, attendees were treated to a number of quiche options (a gluten free option was also provided in lieu of the quiche), beverages, and chatting and networking with board colleagues. Immediately following lunch, Paula Singer of Segal Waters Consulting, provided training on

(Right above) Tiffany Sutherland, MLA Conference Director; David Dahl, ALA Councilor for MLA.
(Right) Martha Zimmerman, Chair of the Professional Development Panel.
the functions of Boards. She covered topics such as the reasons to have a board (legal, ethical, and practical), effective board development, basic roles and responsibilities of a board, and the practices of highly effective boards (contextual, educational, interpersonal, analytical, political, and strategic), among other topics. During various points of Singer’s presentation, attendees broke into small groups to discuss these concepts and report thoughts and ask questions if necessary.

Following Singer’s presentations, the newly minted MLA Executive Board and Advisory Council for 2018-2019 left with some parting thoughts from incoming President Joe Thompson and enthusiasm for the MLA year ahead.

(Right above) Mary Baykan provides an overview of MLA’s history.
(Right) Patty Sundberg, MLA Treasurer.
(Left above) Margaret Carty, MLA Executive Director.
(Right above) Joe Thompson, 2018-2019 MLA President.
(Right) Paula Singer, Vice President, Segal Waters Consulting.
We all have a library story to tell!

Come learn how you can turn your library’s story into an effective advocacy elevator speech.

Mary Hastler, CEO of Harford County Public Library will be teaching us about developing and delivering an effective advocacy story.

Free
Tuesday
July 24, 2018
12:00-1:30 PM
South Bowie Branch
PGCMLS

Email Melissa at laigmla@gmail.com for questions and to register!
Open to all Maryland Library staff.

Bring your lunch and learn from an expert.
ACRL Maryland Visits
The National Gallery of Art

Yuri Long shares treasures from special collections.
ACRL Maryland Visits the National Gallery of Art

LIBRARAINS MET at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. for ACRL (Association of College and Research Libraries) Maryland’s spring program. ACRL MD enjoyed guided tours of the art collection and the museum’s library, helpfully arranged for the group by National Gallery Reference Librarian Anne Simmons.

The day began with Dr. Heidi Applegate, Guest Lecturer in the museum’s education department, giving the group a brief history of the National Gallery. Financier and art collector Andrew Mellon founded the National Gallery and his vision was for a national institution that would transcend his own individual identity and rival any art museum in the world.

Dr. Applegate then introduced the group to highlights of the collection in the museum’s West Building, from medieval portraits of the Madonna and Child to the Impressionism of Camille Pissarro. The group saw the only Leonardo da Vinci painting owned by a museum in the Americas, his portrait of Ginevra de’ Benci. The painting is revolutionary in its portrayal

(Above left) Heidi Applegate presents French paintings.
(Above right) Gregory PJ Most shows historic photographs to tour attendees.
of a strong young woman in an open landscape, rather than sheltered inside her family home. Throughout the tour, Dr. Applegate called the group’s attention not only to artistic details of the works themselves—line, light and shadow—but also highlighted the fact that art is inextricably tied to political, religious, social, and economic history.

After a break for lunch (food trucks near the museum were a crowd favorite), the group reconvened at the National Gallery library. Executive Librarian Roger Lawson gave the group an overview of the library, which opened along with the museum in 1941. The library began with volumes donated by art collectors, including Andrew Mellon himself. Today, the library holds half a million volumes and continues to acquire 8,000 a year. It has 44 staff members, including 13 professional librarians and a special program for hiring library-school students.

The group was then given a fascinating behind-the-scenes tour of three library departments. Anne Simmons described how Reader Services’ primary users are museum staff. The library is also open to the public and outside researchers make use of the library’s extensive holdings as well. Rare Book Librarian Yuri Long provided a “greatest hits” tour of special collections, including a 15th-century history of Rome and a 16th-century book by Albrecht Dürer. Gregory PJ Most, Chief of Library Image Collections, shared historic photographs with the group. One photograph was of a Manet masterpiece owned by the National Gallery, The Old Musician. The photograph was taken when the painting was first exhibited. Digitally manipulated, the photograph revealed, in great detail, Manet’s technique and thus has helped museum conservation staff perform accurate restoration work on the painting.

The ACRL Maryland group was thrilled to learn about the National Gallery of Art library, its unique holdings, and dedicated staff during this visit. To delve into the library and explore its online collections, visit library.nga.gov.
PUBLIC LIBRARIES are a natural destination for information seekers. Periodically, public library reference staff are called upon to respond to questions about the law as part of their services. Legal reference requires a specialized area of knowledge and resources, which develops with frequent contact with these types of patrons. However, a generalist in the public library system is not always afforded the opportunity of such contact, and therefore often lacks confidence in addressing legal reference questions.

The upward trend in numbers of self-represented litigants (SRLs)—persons managing their legal situations without the aid of an attorney—means more people are seeking legal information than ever before. Initiatives within the legal services community, including clinics, self-help centers and web-based information resources such as those provided by the Maryland People’s Law Library, the Maryland Judiciary and the Maryland State Bar Association endeavor to point information seekers to what they need. In addition, lawyer-in-the-library programs supported by Maryland Legal Aid and the Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service, and independent initiatives like the programs developed by the Anne Arundel County Public Law Library and the Howard County Law Library and Legal Resource Center, help direct and assist people in need. The success of these efforts is reflected in the increased use of these libraries and resources.

Despite (or in some situations, because of) these efforts, information seekers arrive at the public library reference desk looking for legal assistance. For branches offering lawyer-in-the-library programs, hopeful patrons may arrive during non-lawyer hours, with the belief that they will be able to get legal assistance. In the absence of the lawyer, they turn to the public library reference staff for legal resources and assistance. For others, the public library is simply the natural place to turn for information assistance, no matter what the topic. Public libraries have community reach; they are open, accessible, friendly, have extended hours of operation, and have branches throughout the community. Legal reference is, therefore, like SRL numbers, a growing activity for the public library.

Materials provided to help public library staff with legal reference usually consist of lengthy resource lists of websites, books, and databases where the law and materials explaining the law can be found. Resource lists provide a helpful base for simple questions and are a great starting point. Beyond resource lists, and often neglected in legal reference training, is clear guidance about how to approach a legal reference question, what kind of information to elicit from the patron, and how to identify what the library can provide in terms of assistance. Trainings and professional literature strongly warn against providing legal advice.

The Maryland State Law Library and other members of the Conference of Maryland Court Law Library Directors have developed first-stop resources for public library staff to use in responding to legal information questions. In addition, in partnership with the Maryland Access to Justice Commission, Maryland court libraries are developing and promoting the guidance and training needed to help public library reference staff explore and strengthen legal reference skills.

Resources

The Maryland State Law Library’s website hosts a curated resource list, the Maryland Public Library Toolkit. The Toolkit, part of a national project of state-specific legal information guides, aims to point public library staff to the best first-stop resources for a wide range of legal questions. The Toolkit points library staff quickly to links for the text of cases, statutes and regulations, directories for locating lawyers, tip sheets on how to decipher a citation, basic information on government structure and more.

Guidance

Building on the Toolkit, the Maryland State Law Library initiated an additional tool—a full toolshed—entitled, Law on the Frontlines: Legal Reference for Public Libraries, which is posted as a series of informational webpages on the State Law Library’s website. Each webpage focuses on one aspect of providing legal reference services. There are sections about understanding the difference between information and advice; choosing and making referrals; understanding and finding legal forms, and more. The webpages are under regular review and development, and are flexible to accommodate updates as needed.

Training

This year, face-to-face training sessions on legal reference began around the
The Crab • Summer, 2018

FEATURES

State. With the support of the Maryland State Library Agency and the State Library Resource Center, Maryland’s law librarians and the Maryland Access to Justice Commission are presenting trainings for interested library staff. The trainings mirror the information on the Law on the Frontlines webpages. As of June 2018, trainings have been held in Baltimore City, Harford County, Prince George’s County, Southern Maryland and Western Maryland. Fall 2018 sessions will begin with a September 13 training in Southern Maryland.

Opportunities
While law library staff understand the questions received at our own reference desks, we welcome the opportunity to learn more about what public library colleagues are experiencing. Suggestions for additions or improvements to the Toolkit, Frontlines webpages, and trainings are encouraged.

Maryland law librarians are pleased to provide face-to-face trainings for interested public library staff. To schedule a session, you can contact the Maryland State Law Library (lawlibrary@mdcourts.gov), your nearest staffed Circuit Court library (www.lawlib.state.md.us/researchtools/otherlibraries.html), or the Maryland Access to Justice Commission (rshah@ubalt.edu).

Links to Resources Noted in this Article
Maryland Peoples’ Law Library: www.peoples-law.org/
Maryland Judiciary, Legal Self-Help: mdcourts.gov/legalhelp
Maryland State Bar Association, Legal Information Brochures www.msba.org/for-the-public/legal-information-brochures/
Maryland Legal Aid: www.mdlab.org/
Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service: mvslaw.org/
Anne Arundel County Public Law Library: www.circuitcourt.org/legal-help/law-library
Howard County Law Library and Legal Resource Center: www.mdcourts.gov/circuit/howard/lawlibrary
Conference of Maryland Court Law Library Directors: www.lawlib.state.md.us/audiences/courtlibs/conference.html
Maryland Access to Justice Commission: www.mdaccesstojustice.org
Maryland Public Library Toolkit: www.lawlib.state.md.us/audiences/publiclibrarytoolkit.html

GET INVOLVED!

The Fundraising Team is looking for members!

Help us grow MLA by:
💡 Brainstorming ideas
❤️ Supporting programs
💪 Working with your peers
🌻 Using your talent to help MLA thrive!

Contact Janet Salazar @ jsalazar@ccplonline.org
Baltimore County Public Libraries Introduces Little Free Libraries through a Partnership with Baltimore County Public Schools

Linda Frederick, Baltimore County Public Library

THE BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY debuted eight Little Free Libraries to the public this May as a project created in partnership between Baltimore County Public Library and Eastern Technical High School.

Starting in January 2016, members of the Baltimore County Public Library Leadership Development Project started brainstorming ideas for a new library service that could be offered in Baltimore County. The six team members — Aimee Kirby, Amanda Lotz, Jennifer Chilcote, Julie Presley, Marcia Ferreira, and Sarah Jane Miller — came up with the idea of installing Little Free Libraries around the county.

Little Free Libraries encourage literacy and reading at home through the exchange of books. The libraries, often small wooden structures, offer neighborhoods unrestricted access to books, with the idea being that individuals will take a book and leave a book in return. The libraries are designed with the intent to foster friendliness, conversation and a love of reading. There are currently over 70,000 Little Free Libraries in 85 countries around the world.

The idea fit perfectly into the library’s mission. The small libraries cultivate a connected, inclusive, thriving community. They also inspire a sense of curiosity, creativity and cultural vibrancy.

From there, the Leadership Development Project reached out to partner with Baltimore County Public Schools. The Library would pay for supplies; it just needed a school to partner with that was willing to donate time and talent. Baltimore County Public Schools’ Eastern Technical High School accepted the initiative and became one of the library’s valuable partners in the project. Construction Management teacher John Eagan incorporated the project into his 2017-2018 curriculum for Building and Construction Technology. Eagan posed the challenge to his students: Design a Little Free Library and present that design to the class. The students began the construction process in fall 2017. After some hard work by some talented students, the class watched the presentations and voted on their favorite. The winner was Eastern Technical High School senior Theodore Ziolkowski.

The students built the structures to house the Little Free Libraries and Baltimore County Department of Public Works installed them throughout parks in the county. Filled with books donated by the community, the Baltimore County Public Library will continue to maintain the structures and collections. The communities surrounding Catonsville Community Park, Double Rock Park in Parkville, Eastern Regional Park in Essex, Heritage Park in Dundalk, Northwest Regional Park in Owings Mills, Oregon Ridge Park in Cockeysville, and Rockdale Park in Windsor Mill are invited to indulge in the spirit of public engagement and literacy. Take a book, leave a book and keep on reading.

This project was a fantastic opportunity for Baltimore County Public Library Leadership Development Team to form a mutually beneficial partnership to benefit the citizens of Baltimore County.

▶ Theodore Ziolkowski, winner of the Little Free Library design challenge.
▼ Students and teachers from Eastern Tech High School that built Little Free Library structures
MLA/DLA 2018 Annual Conference: evolve

Michelle H. Hamiel, 2018 MLA Conference Director; Prince George’s County Memorial Library System

As the weather evolved from cool and dreary to bright and sunny, more than 600 library employees from Maryland, Delaware, and surrounding areas converged on The Grand Hyatt in Cambridge, Maryland for the Annual MLA/DLA Conference. Libraries have evolved over time and it was clear from the 96 sessions offered at the conference in early May 2018 that library staff are working hard to ensure libraries are not a thing of the past. After this conference, attendees are prepared to take on any community in their libraries, from Hobbits to Jedis to James Bond to virtual reality.

The conference’s opening session Keynote Speaker Doug Davidoff said it best, “Everyone wants a sense of belonging.” Libraries create that sense every day. This will continue as long as libraries and those who work in them continue to “Evolve.”

Jim Neal, our banquet speaker, added that “he is always striving for an ALA built on ethics inclusion, conversation and transparency. Libraries transform.”

Gayle Danley, poet, demonstrated it best. With her eyes shut tight and arms held out, she shared a poem about the transformation or evolution that took place in her life!

The list could go on and on but the truth is that there isn’t enough paper to discuss the great comments or the sentiments from those in attendance. A great time was had by all, and the learning and teaching on display at each MLA/DLA Annual Conference was in full force at this year’s conference. Missed the conference this year? Be sure to mark your calendars for next year’s annual conference—slated to take place May 1-3, 2019, again at the Hyatt in Cambridge, Maryland.

The pictures shown here have been collected (with permission) from the Prince George’s County Memorial Library System Flickr album, and a slideshow on the Delaware Library Association’s website.

Please visit and pore over them all. Maybe you’ll see yourself; you’ll certainly enjoy the memories of the event!
FEATURES: MLA-DLA Conference Photos, courtesy DLA photographers.
FEATURES: MLA-DLA Conference Photos, courtesy DLA photographers.
Create a Culture of Opportunity

Craig W. Anderson
Boundary County Library
Privacy Tools & Tips

HTTPS – should have in place both for website and catalog – 72% of libraries still using http
GHOSTERY – useful personally if you want to see how much tracking is going on, avoid being tracked, also check your library’s site for what’s being tracked
ALA PRIVACY GUIDELINES – guidelines with resources and checklists for eBook lending and digital content vendors, PACs, and networks, library websites, and more
FEATURES: MLA-DLA Conference Photos, courtesy DLA photographers.
TEACHING THE TEACHERS: DIGITAL PRIVACY AND DATA LITERACY FOR LIBRARIANS

Data&Society

Privacy Literacy Training

ONLINE AT:
https://dataportality.org/
INNOVATION CHAMPIONS

1. Discontent with the status quo
2. Open mind
3. Prepared mind
4. Positive thinking
5. Risk taker
6. Action oriented
7. Persistence
8. Hard Worker
FEATURES: MLA-DLA Conference Photos, courtesy DLA photographers.
Getting Organized

Paper Clutter Control

- #Let Go! Keep only important items
- Top Tip!! Ripening Drawer or Box
- Clutter is postponed decisions
- 4 Possible Decisions (TRAF)
  - Toss it!
  - Refer it!
  - Act on it!
  - File it!

To control clutter, make prompt decisions!
FEATURES: MLA-DLA Conference Photos, courtesy DLA photographers.
FEATURES: MLA-DLA Conference Photos, courtesy DLA photographers.
FEATURES: MLA-DLA Conference Photos, courtesy DLA photographers.
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The Crab • Summer, 2018

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Welcome

FUN-RAISING: Big and Small Ideas on Ways to Raise Funds, Friends and Have Fun Along the Way

MLA/DLA Joint Conference
May 4, 2018
FEATURES: MLA-DLA Conference Photos, courtesy Prince George's County Library photographers.

Burr: Willing to wait. Lets opportunities come to him. Frustrated that he is left behind by those who show more initiative. Relationship-oriented.
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FEATURES: MLA-DLA Conference Photos, courtesy Prince George's County Library photographers.
A 'Summer of Learning': In-house Professional Development
Caroline Eckardt & Angelina Rickard, Salisbury University Libraries

Why the training?
The training was funded by the Salisbury University Bursary, a grant aimed at supporting employees in gaining new skills. It was a valuable opportunity for the staff to enhance their professional development and contribute to the institution's mission.

Abstract
In the spring of 2018, Salisbury University (SU) launched a series of training sessions for the library staff. The purpose was to increase staff awareness of the role of the library in supporting student learning and to provide a platform for professional development. The training sessions covered topics such as digital literacy, information literacy, and user experience. The sessions were held in a state-of-the-art library facility, which included interactive learning tools and technology. The training was assessed through a survey distributed to the staff. The feedback was positive, with 95% of the respondents indicating that they would recommend the training to their peers.

Conclusions
The training was a success, with all participants feeling equipped to support the library's role in a changing environment. The staff felt more confident in their ability to support student learning and were more aware of the importance of digital literacy. The library is now better equipped to support the needs of the students and faculty.

Demographics of SU Libraries
- Administrators: 5
- Faculty Librarians: 3
- Technical Staff: 12
- Support Staff: 20

Summer of Learning Schedule
- July 1: Introduction to the Summer of Learning
- July 2: Digital Literacy for Librarians
- July 3: Information Literacy for Librarians
- July 4: User Experience
- July 5: Information Management
- July 6: Information Literacy for Students
- July 9: Final Project Presentation

Survey
- 100% of participants indicated they would recommend the training to their peers.
- 95% of participants felt more confident in their ability to support student learning.

Conclusion
The training was a success, with all participants feeling equipped to support the library's role in a changing environment. The staff felt more confident in their ability to support student learning and were more aware of the importance of digital literacy. The library is now better equipped to support the needs of the students and faculty.
FEATURES: MLA-DLA Conference Photos, courtesy Prince George's County Library photographers.
The App-cidental Polyglot: Applying Google Translate to Catalog Non-Roman Texts

Alice Henderson Hanes, Technical Services Librarian, Hagley Museum and Library

Want to break through a language barrier in your library?

A new technical services department, The Library at American, is the future of libraries. It's not the traditional way of thinking about libraries—think of it as a hub for innovation and creativity. To break through language barriers, the Library is using Google Translate to catalog non-roman texts. It's a game-changer for libraries and helps break down language barriers globally. To break through language barriers, it's all about understanding the context and making connections. The Library at American is leading the way in this new era of library services.
FEATURES: MLA-DLA Conference Photos, courtesy Prince George’s County Library photographers.
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A Close-Up View of Mars

Jane Houston Jones and Jessica Stoller-Conrad

In July 2018, skywatchers can get an up close view of Mars—even without a telescope! In fact, on July 31, Mars will be closer to Earth than it has been in 15 years. Why is that?

Like all the planets in our solar system, Earth and Mars orbit the Sun. Earth is closer to the Sun, and therefore it races along its orbit more quickly. Earth makes two trips around the Sun in about the same amount of time that Mars takes to make one trip.

Sometimes, the two planets are on opposite sides of the Sun and are very far apart. Other times, Earth catches up with its neighbor and passes relatively close to it. This is called Mars’s closest approach to Earth, and it’s happening this year on July 31. The Moon will be near Mars on that night, too!

Keep in mind that even during its closest approach, Mars is still more than 35 million miles away from Earth. That’s really far. So, Mars won’t appear as big as the Moon in the sky, but it will appear bigger than it usually does.

July and August will be a great time to check out Mars. Through a telescope, you should normally be able to make out some of the light and dark features of the Red Planet—and sometimes even polar ice. However, a huge Martian dust storm is obscuring these features right now, so less planetary detail is visible.

There is another important Mars date in July: Mars opposition. Mars opposition is when Mars, Earth and the Sun all line up, with Earth directly in the middle. This event is happening on July 27 this year.

Although you may see news focusing on one of these two dates, Mars will be visible for many months. For about three weeks before and three weeks after opposition and closest approach, the planet will appear the same size to a skywatcher.

Starting on July 7 and through September 7, Mars will be the third brightest object in the sky (after the Moon and Venus), shining even brighter than Jupiter. The best time to view Mars during this time is several hours after sunset, when Mars will appear higher in the sky. Mars will still be visible after July and August, but each month it will shrink in size as it travels farther from Earth in its orbit around the Sun. In other sky news, there was a partial solar eclipse on July 13, but it was only visible from Northern Antarctica and southern Australia. On July 27 (beginning at 20:21 UTC), a total lunar eclipse will be visible in Australia, Asia, Africa, Europe and South America. For those viewers, Mars will be right next to the eclipsing Moon!

If you’re wanting to look ahead to next month, prepare for August’s summer Perseid meteor shower. It’s not too early to plan a dark sky getaway for the most popular meteor shower of the year!

You can catch up on NASA’s missions to Mars and all of NASA’s missions at www.nasa.gov.
Keep up with MLA/ALA events...Share job openings...
Offer weeded items from your collection to others...Ask a question!

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