Love talking about books? Join us for BEST 2020 – The Graphic Novel Edition, a celebration of children and teen graphic novel titles. Learn about the Black Eyed Susan Award and participate, via Zoom, in a half day of small group discussions of some of the 2020-2021 graphic novel nominees. Author and illustrator Robin Ha, creator of Almost American Girl, will be our keynote speaker. Paula Willey will tell us about some of the other graphic novel titles being published this year. Program check-in begins at 9:15 a.m., and the program will start at 9:30 a.m.

There will be two discussion groups, one for titles from the Grades 4-6 list and the other for titles from the Grades 6-12 list. Each group will meet twice so you can attend both. **Please read all the titles for each group.** Many of the titles are available in e-format as well as paper.

**Grades 4-6 Graphic Novels:** Hicotea by Lorena Alvarez; This Was our Pact by Ryan Andrews; Rocket to the Moon by Dan Brown; Dugout by Scott Morse; Stargazing by Jen Wang

**Grades 6-12 Graphic Novels:** Almost American Girl, by Robin Ha; White Bird, by R. J. Palacio;
Sleepless, Vol. 1, written by Sarah Vaughn and illustrated by Leila del Duca; Mooncakes written by Suzanne Walker and illustrated by Wendy Xu; Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up with Me, by Mariko Tamaki, illustrated by Rosemary Valero-O'Connell

This program has been approved for 3.5 contact hours of continuing education
Registration deadline is: September 8th
*Zoom link will be sent out Monday September 14th
To register online: https://www.mdlib.org/ev_calendar_day.asp?date=9%2F15%2F20&eventid=108

Intellectual Freedom Panel Presents

Defend Intellectual Freedom:
A Challenge Response Toolkit for Libraries
Thursday October 1st 10:00am – 12:00pm
Online Via Zoom*
Members: $12.50 Non-Members: $18.75 Students: $6.25

Having good conflict resolution skills will help you defend intellectual freedom in your library. This program will teach you effective strategies for responding to in-person complaints about library collections, programs or displays.

This program has been approved for 1.5 contact hours of continuing education
Registration deadline is: September 24th
*Zoom link will be sent out Wednesday September 30th
To register online: https://www.mdlib.org/ev_calendar_day.asp?date=10%2F1%2F20&eventid=105

Leadership Training Presents

MAPLA University: Racial Equity, Diversity & Inclusion
Wednesday October 21st 10:00am – 12:00pm
And
Friday October 23rd 10:00am—12:00pm
Online Via Zoom*
Members: $25.00 Non-Members: $37.50 Students: $12.50

Session 1: Wednesday, October 21, with Tonya Aikens and Christie Lassen
Title: Get REAL (Racial Equity at the Library)
Description: Achieving racial equity requires commitment to an internal journey of learning, growth and action. In this interactive session presenters will cover development of REAL talks at
Howard County Library System, discuss the parallel tracks of HCLS’ internal and external racial equity work and join participants in a live REAL conversation. Information and examples shared will provide perspective for attendees to develop internal racial equity work models appropriate to their unique systems. The presentation will conclude with Q & A and examples from the field. **Presenter will provide a pre-assignment (short reading and viewing) around October 12th.**

**Session 2:** Friday, October 23, Michelle Hamiel  
**Title:** What If: Creating an organizational culture in which everyone thrives  
**Description:** An organization in which everyone feels respected, trusted and valued is paramount to creating a diverse workforce and a culture of inclusivity. In order to do this one must first examine their work environment. The information provided is a first step in determining what is needed to improve your specific organization, in an effort to create a diverse and inclusive organization in which everyone thrives. **Presenter will provide a pre-assignment around October 12th.**

This program has been approved for 4 contact hours of continuing education  
Registration deadline is: October 12th

*Zoom links will be sent out Tuesday & Thursday*  
To register online: [https://www.mdlib.org/ev_calendar_day.asp?date=10%2F21%2F20&eventid=109](https://www.mdlib.org/ev_calendar_day.asp?date=10%2F21%2F20&eventid=109)

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**DIVISION, INTEREST GROUP, PANEL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**September**

2 **Membership Committee Meeting,** 2:00pm-3:30pm. Online via Zoom. Contact Tiffany Sutherland at tsutherland@calvertlibrary.info  
4 **Readers Advisory Interest Group Meeting,** 1:00pm-3:00pm. Online via Blackboard Ultra. Contact Meg Faller at mfaller@calvertlibrary.info  
7 **Labor Day.** MLA office closed.  
8 **RAIG-Social:** Black Authors Matter. 6:00pm-7:00pm. Online Via Blackboard Ultra. Contact Meg Faller at mfaller@calvertlibrary.org  
10 **Leadership Development Division Meeting,** 1:30 pm. Online via Zoom. Book discussion: *Such a Fun Age,* by Kiley Reid. Contact Anita Crawford at acrawford@bcpl.net.  
10 **Public Services Division Meeting,** 9:30am-12:00pm. Online via Zoom. Contact Pam Taylor at taylor@hcplonline.org  
11 **Legislative Panel,** 10:00am-12:00. Online via Zoom. Contact Andrea Berstler at aberstler@carr.org  
14 **Children’s Services Division Meeting,** 10:00am-12:30pm. Online via Blackboard Ultra. Contact Betsy Brannen at BBrannen@FrederickCountyMD.gov
15  CSD Program: BEST Program, see article above.
16  Executive Board Meeting 10:00am-Noon. Online via Zoom. Contact Margaret Carty at mcart@carr.org.
16  2021 Conference Committee Meeting, 1:00pm-3:00pm. Contact Tyler Wolfe at twolfe@bcpl.net.
16  Blue Crab Committee Meeting, Online via Blackboard Ulta. Contact Laura Bandoch at lbandoch@bcpl.net
17  ACRL-MD Meeting, 11:00am. Online via Blackboard Ulta. Contact Bria Sinnott at bsinnot@towson.edu
18  October 1 Staff Support Division Meeting, 1:30pm-3:30pm. Online via Zoom. Contact Robin Soma-Dudley at RSoma-Dudley@aacpl.net
18  IF Panel/LDD Trivia Night, 6:00pm-7:30pm. Online via Zoom. Contact Sara Brown sabrown@bcpl.net or Anita Crawford acrawford@bcpl.net
18  Future of Libraries Interest Group Meeting, 11:00am. Online via Zoom. Contact Tracy Miller at millert@hclonline.org.
18  Children’s’ Services Division Meeting, 10:00am-12:30pm. Online via Blackboard Ulta. Contact Betsy Brannon at BBrannon@FrederickCountyMD.gov
21  Future of Libraries Interest Group Meeting, 11:00am. Online via Zoom. Contact Tracy Miller at millert@hclonline.org.
21  ACRL-MD Meeting, 11:00am. Online via Blackboard Ulta. Contact Bria Sinnott at bsinnot@towson.edu
21  Steering Committee Meeting, 10:00am-Noon. Online via Zoom. Contact Margaret Carty at mcarty@mdlib.org.
21  Conference Committee Meeting, 1:00pm-3:00pm. Contact Tyler Wolfe at twolfe@bcpl.net.
21/23  MAPLA University. See article above

2020 MLA/DLA Conference - Into the Roaring 20s
Tuesday October 6 – Thursday December 17
Are you registered for the 2020 MLA/DLA Conference? It is simple: click on the link below and sign up to be able to attend the virtual sessions of your choice. Not able to attend when the schedule shows the presentation? We will be sending out the recording of each session so that you can listen when it’s convenient for you. Not sure if you are already registered? Contact the MLA office (mla@mdlib.org) and we will be happy to answer that question for you.
If you are already registered, we will be sending out a brochure with the titles of the sessions along with the Zoom link in the beginning of October.
If you haven’t registered yet here is the link to the registration form:
https://www.mdlib.org/ev_calendar_day.asp?date=10%2F19%2F20&eventid=90

2021 MLA/DLA Conference – Libraries Without Limits
Wednesday, May 5-Friday May 7, 2021

The 2021 Conference Committee decided on a theme: Libraries Without Limits. The divisions are meeting with their membership to develop programs that will take place next May. Tyler can always use more volunteers; there is a social committee, a silent auction committee and a marketing committee that would welcome new faces. Do you have some free time? Contact Tyler (twolfe@bcpl.net) and ask to be included the next time he sends out the Zoom link.

Readers Advisory Interest Group
Tuesday, September 8- 6:00pm – 8:00pm
#BlackAuthorsMatter: Juvenile and Teen Books

Read a great JF or YA book by a Black author recently? Let's talk! Sit back, grab a beverage, and join us for this relaxed social event where we'll be discussing myriad titles across multiple genres by Black authors, and you'll hear suggestions of what to read next! Online via Blackboard Ultra; see contact information above.
Please register me for the following: Members in good standing with any of these organizations are eligible to attend MLA programs at the member fee. REFORMA DC, WMRL, CML, MASL, MAILL, MD/SLA, DCLA, LLAM, CMCLD, CALD and DC/SLA

ALA’s Advocacy Academy October 11th & 12th, 2020
____Member $25.00  ____ Non-member $37.50  ____ Student $12.50

Defend Intellectual Freedom: A Challenge Response Toolkit for Libraries October 1, 2020
____Member $12.50  ____ Non-member $18.75  ____ Student $6.25

MAPLA University October 21st & 23rd 2020
____ Session 1  ______ Session 2  ______ Both Sessions
______Member $25.00  ____ Non-member $37.50  ____ Student $12.50

Maryland Library Association
1401 Hollins Street
Baltimore, MD 21223
Phone 410-947-5090 fax 410-947-5089
mla@mdlib.org