Show Your Shine!

Call for Program Session Proposals Closes March 15

Do you have something that works for you and your library, and you are eager to share it with other librarians in your field? Maybe you have a program, a way to motivate your co-workers, an excellent relationship with your board or local government, or a novel initiative, come share your knowledge!

The Pennsylvania Library Association’s 2019 Conference Program Committee seeks program session proposals for libraries of all types. Hot topics suggested by 2018 conference attendees include:

- Advocacy
- Boards
- Staff management
- Career development
- Customer service
- Library safety

For a full list of suggestions, click here.

There is much to be gained by being a program presenter such as the title of expert on a topic you’re passionate about as well as potential opportunities post-conference for speaking engagements and publications—not to mention, the satisfaction in sharing your knowledge with other libraries.

For more information on the process, click here.
Erie, PA is truly a place for everyone. If you haven’t made the journey to this part of Northwest PA in quite some time, now is the opportunity to make plans on sites you don’t want to miss!

- **Bayfront Convention Center**: The conference center overlooks Lake Erie’s Bayfront and out onto the 3,200 square acre Presque Isle Peninsula. Two hotels are attached for lodging and dining: Sheraton and Courtyard by Marriott.
- **Presque Isle**: Take a break and collect your thoughts with a hop over to the peninsula. Enjoy trails for walking, biking, rollerblading, and bird watching. You can also visit historical sites and enjoy the view of the lake from the beach.

How will you get here? No matter where you’re travelling from, explore all of your options:

- **Bus Trip**: Combine forces with your chapter, library district, and large libraries to organize a central location or pick-up locations for a bus trip. Up the ante by adding CE credits to your trip:
  - Arrange trivia and other travel games with educational content
  - Ask participants to offer brief presentations
  - Schedule pit-stops at library-related/educational locations
  - Cue up the bus TV with CE-level material
- **Carpool**: For small groups and staff from the same library, travel together to share costs and use the time to discuss plans to maximize your attendance.

Click on the sites below to learn more about the Erie area:

- Erie Art Museum
- ExpERIEnce Children’s Museum
- Lake Erie Ale Trail
- Lake Erie Wine Country
- Presque Isle Downs and Casino
- Splash Lagoon
- Visit Erie
Kathy Parry: Rubber Band Resilient

President’s Opening Keynote Luncheon
+ additional breakout session

It’s easy to think it won’t happen to you; the tragic event, the lost client, the economic downturn. Road blocks and unforeseen adversity, both personal and professional, stretch us every day. In this powerful keynote, Kathy will share how devastating news led her on a journey to discovering the keys to thriving in the face of challenging circumstances. Kathy will inspire and encourage the audience to stretch, not snap, when faced with disruption. Learn the secrets, tips, and tactics to becoming Rubber Band Resilient. Known for her candid stories and optimistic approach, Kathy is an expert in creating energetic teams and engaged professionals.

Kathy is known for her humorous, yet inspirational speaking style. A recognized authority in personal energy and productivity, Kathy uses her passion to ignite positive changes for professional services leaders and early-career associates. Kathy holds degrees in Business and Food Management from Miami University and coaching certification from WellCoaches. She is a professional member of The National Speakers Association and Hung Over, Sleep-Deprived, Over-Caffeinated and Living on Pizza and Eating for Energy. Kathy lives in Pittsburgh, PA. She enjoys a mild dark chocolate addiction and cooking for her hungry friends.

Nancy Pearl: Library Superhero

Breakfast with the President Keynote
+ additional breakout session

Nancy Pearl regularly speaks about the importance and pleasure of reading at libraries, literacy organizations, and community groups around the world. She can be found on NPR’s Morning Edition and KWGS-FM in Tulsa, Oklahoma talking about her favorite books. Her monthly television show on the Seattle Channel, Book Lust with Nancy Pearl, features interviews with authors, poets, and other literary figures.

Among her many honors are the 2011 Librarian of the Year Award from Library Journal and the 2011 Lifetime Achievement Award from Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association. Nancy is the creator of the internationally recognized program If All of Seattle Read the Same Book, and was the inspiration for the Archee McPhee “Librarian Action Figure.”

Nancy is a best-selling author, librarian, and literary critic, but first and foremost, she is a reader and has spent her life promoting reading as one of the most beneficial and joyful experiences in life.

(And yes, we will have the action figures for sale at the PaLA store.)
In order to make a conference of this scale happen with success, many dedicated volunteers work together to create worthwhile, educational experiences. Check out the names below for familiar faces and new friends.

As we near closer to the event, they’ll be reaching out for your input, scheduling program sessions, arranging networking events, and doing all they can to make sure that the 2019 conference is one of our best yet!

Conference Committee

Chair: Paula J. Collins
Administrative Support: Dan Flaherty, Oil City Library
Exhibits: Leslie LaBarte, Warren County Library Association & Sheryl Thomas, Erie County Public Library
Fundraising/Sponsorships: Jennifer Knisely, Altoona Public Library & Erin Wincek, Erie County Public Library
Local Authors: Randalee Gross, Erie County Public Library & Karl Rebon, Reynoldsdale Public Library
Local Information/Tours: Marcia Wilking, Erie County Public Library & Erin Wincek, Erie County Public Library
Mobile App: Carolyn Blatchley, Cumberland County Library System & Dan Flaherty, Oil City Library
PaLA Store: Brenda Beikert, Knox Public Library & Marcia Wilking, Erie County Public Library
Performers Showcase: Tracy Blair, Corry Public Library & Annie Welsh, Oil City Library
Poster Sessions: Rachel Stevenson, Erie County Public Library & Ed Wolf, Peters Township Public Library
Programming: Cathi Alloway, Schlow Centre Region Library; Nicole Henline, Monroeville Public Library, Karen Niemla, Hammermill & Ridge Libraries, Mercyhurst University Library & Ann Snowman, Pennsylvania State University Libraries
Publicity: Jessica Church, Punxsutawney Memorial Library
Registration: Kelli Knapp, Warren County Library Association & Leslie Swope, St. Mary’s Public Library
Signage: Brady Clemens, Central PA Library District
Special Events: Lisa Erickson, Huntington County Library
Technical Arrangements: Anitra Gates, Erie County Public Library & Andrew Miller, Erie County Public Library
Volunteer Coordinator: Amy Geisinger, New Castle Library Center

For all of the news related to the upcoming conference, stay in the loop with:
- PaLA Facebook
- PaLA Website
- PA Forward Facebook
- PaLA Bulletin articles
- E-mail listerv communication
- Chapter meetings & updates

Photos of Erie, PA & Bayfront Convention Center courtesy of VisitErie.

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