

THE TLA NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2018

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“Home of the Blues” the Place to be “All In for Tennessee Libraries”

Your TLA Annual Conference 2018 Planning Committee is fine-tuning a jam in Memphis that we hope will be music to your ears, and looks forward to seeing you Wednesday - Friday, April 4 - 6.

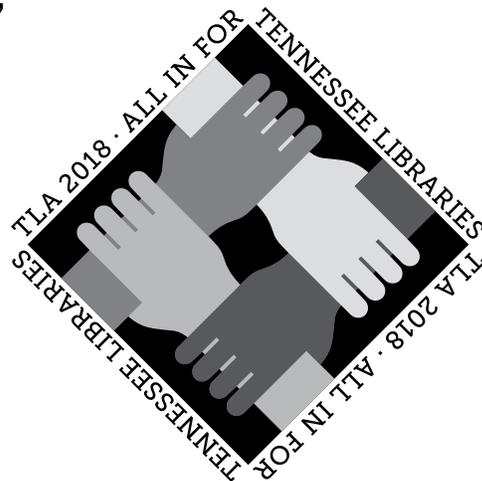
Of particular note:

- James LaRue (Director of ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom) will be the keynote speaker at the General Session
- Mr. LaRue and Marci Merola (Director of ALA's Office for Library Advocacy) will be presenting the Advocacy Bootcamp pre-conference on Wednesday, April 4
- Joy Bailey Bryant (Lord Cultural Consulting, Planning & Management) will be speaking on Dr. Martin Luther King's Dream and the Cultural Design of Libraries at the Trustees and Friends of Libraries Luncheon

on Friday, April 6

- A wide range of programs and speakers...something for everyone
- Early bird registration and the Group Rate Code (LA0403 - that's zero four zero three) for the \$129 room rate at the Memphis Hilton are on the Conference website; Thursday, March 15 is the last day for both the early bird and room discounts
- The All-Conference Reception will be held onsite at the Memphis Hilton

Information about the four pre-conferences is already on the Conference website; watch that space for TLA's New Members Round Table's webinar about how to register for conference, using Sched to plan your conference activities, conference insider tips, things to do in Memphis—and more!



On a related track: April 4, 2018 is the fiftieth anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis. Google MLK50 events Memphis for an idea of events through which the city is commemorating Dr. King.

—With excitement,
Your Annual Conference
2018 Planning Committee

NMRT Webinar

Want to know what to expect at a TLA conference? Attend NMRT's upcoming webinar on Monday, March 5 at 6:30 pm CST/ 7:30 pm EST- Everything you ever wanted to know about TLA Conference 2018! We'll talk about conference registration, planning your conference schedule, and things to do in Memphis. Sign up to attend on the TLA website or at http://bit.ly/nmrt_tla_2018

From the TLA Scholarship Committee...

The silent auction at each annual conference is one of the Scholarship Committee's biggest fundraisers. Please consider donating an item for the auction (such as a craft or theme basket) or bidding on an item. It is a lot of fun! Some of our past theme baskets include a "TLA President's Basket," a "You Deserve a ME Day: With a Good Book, a Glass of Wine, and Chocolate!," and a "Sundae Afternoon."

If you would like to donate to the auction, or if you have questions,

please contact the 2017-2018 Scholarship Committee Co-chairs Michael Hale at assistant@wtclibrary.org or James Gill at jgill@southcollegetn.edu. We are looking forward to seeing y'all in Memphis!



President's Corner

Welcome to 2018! The Board and I decided to ring in 2018 by resolving to vote on the implementation of our Restructuring Task Force's recommendations at our December 2017 meeting. By now you should have received two ballots, one to amend our bylaws per their recommendations, and the other to vote in our future officers. Please take the time to look over the new bylaws and vote on them. Our hope is to create opportunities for further engagement and participation in our organization. Your vote does matter. This change is not possible without you. The second ballot for our future leaders is online and will only take a few seconds for you to participate. TLA needs you, your voice, and your participation.

Speaking of your voice, Tennessee Library Legislative Day is March 14 and I hope you have

registered to attend. As we are looking at a federal budget recommendation from the White House to again eliminate IMLS and IAL funding for libraries in 2019, TLLD is a great opportunity to learn about advocating for our libraries, speaking with our legislators and an opportunity to meet with them. We convinced Congress to fund both IMLS and IAL last year and I know we can do it again.

As we are saying this year, All In for Tennessee Libraries! Let's show and share our strengths at TLLD and in April at the annual conference. Registration is now open and the preconference information is posted on our website with more information about additional sessions to come. We will also be in Memphis as they start a yearlong commemoration from April 4 2017 to April 4, 2018 of the 50th anniversary of the death of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. There's a lot



to do and much to be inspired by in our near future.

So if you are indeed All In for Tennessee Libraries, I will definitely see you at Tennessee Library Legislative Day in March and again in Memphis in April.

—*Jeffie Nicholson*
TLA President

Tenn-Share Awards, October 27, 2017

The 2017 TEL Trainer of the Year Award was presented to Debra Mattingly, Assistant Director of the Clinch River Regional Library. Debra is a tremendous advocate for TEL, conducting extensive TEL training with public libraries and school districts in east Tennessee. She presents on TEL at conferences, conducts region-wide TEL in-services, and travels to individual libraries to do hands on training for library staff. She also has been instrumental in improving the discoverability of TEL by making sure all her libraries have links to TEL databases on their websites.

The 2017 Deanna Nipp-Kientz Memorial Service Award was presented to Elizabeth Kozlowski, Director of the White House Public

Library in recognition and thanks for her exemplary volunteer spirit. President Leah Allison said Elizabeth "is a servant-leader in the truest sense of the word. She works hard at promoting Tenn-Share and it is during her time as Marketing chair that Tenn-Share has seen the creation of promotional materials such as its newsletter, Facebook posts, and a first ever video outlining what the organization can do for its member institutions." This award was first presented in 2012 in honor of Deanna Nipp-Kientz.

The 2017 Tennessee Resource Sharing Award was given to Carolyn Runyon, Assistant Head of Collection Services and Director of Special Collections, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga; and Mark

Baggett, Head of Digital Initiatives, University of Tennessee, Knoxville; for their exemplary leadership of the Digital Library of Tennessee (DLTN) Committee. Both have gone above and beyond the call of duty to get this initiative off the ground, and it is thanks to their hard work that DLTN has contributed over 165,000 records to the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA). Mark works tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure that our OAI feed is spotless and ready for ingestion. Meanwhile, Carolyn has worked with new contributors like the Country Music Hall of Fame on metadata remediation. Their passion and commitment inspires the whole committee.

A County Commissioner, an Alderman, and Library Advocacy

Without Googling, can you name your county commissioners? Your city council members? Your state representative and state senator? The various district numbers in which you live?

If you can't, don't worry, you're in the majority. (Now Google to learn them. I'll wait.)

According to a 2017 study by Haven Insights, only 37% of the population can name their Congressional representation. (Frieling, 2017). While I didn't find a study, I'm positive the percentage is much lower for naming county and city representatives—or their actual importance in our everyday lives.

For librarians, that importance is magnified as the local government is, in most cases, also the library's funding body. To underscore this point, I reached out to a couple friends of mine—one serving as a county commissioner, and one as an alderman.

The county commissioner gets right to the heart of the matter. "The majority of the funding and maintenance of the libraries fall to the county government," she says "The library is a line item in the annual budget."

My friend on city council spoke of why it's important to develop rela-

tionships with your local government representatives.

"It's incredibly important that librarians maintain a positive relationship with city leaders; these are the very people who will decide their funding! They must see the library as a valuable asset to the community," she says.

She even went on to give some ideas on exactly how to begin developing relationships between the library and the local government.

"Send invitations to [library] events—Harry Potter Nights, Storytime, etc.—make a good impression. Give presentations at city board meetings—'Look at this cute artwork these kids did during craft time! Look at these incredible numbers of participants in this program!'—this forces a board to see the value the service provides."

I would also add to her comments by suggesting this: If your funding body doesn't require you to make an in-person report, request one. It is up to you, not the commissioners or city council, to create and foster these relationships. It's also important that your staff and library board all know the names and faces of the commissioners and city council members.

One bad staff interaction could tank your funding increase request.

So, now that you know who your commissioners are, give them a call and invite them to visit your library. Ask to be placed on the meeting agenda to present your impressive library stats. Attend meetings to familiarize yourself on how your local government works. Attend TLA's Library Legislative Day on March 14th to learn new advocacy tips and meet with your state reps.

I know it can be nerve-racking to stand in front of the commission or city council, but my alderman friend has some encouraging words for timid talkers.

"Believe me, there are plenty of people sitting in these meetings who are stressing the value of their contributions to the city. Librarians should most certainly toot their own horns!"

—Sharon Kay Edwards

Tenn-Share Board of Directors

Tenn-Share is pleased to announce the Board of Directors for 2018. Remember, they are your representatives to tell Tenn-Share what your library needs or wants related to resource sharing, and what you need or want related to information sharing with electronic resource librarian colleagues. The new members are in **bold**.

Executive Committee:

- President: Patricia Van Zandt,

East Tennessee State University

- Vice President/President: **Stuart Gaetjens**, Tennessee Tech University
- Past-President: Leah Allison, St. George's Independent School, Collierville
- Secretary: Heidi Busch, University of Tennessee, Martin
- Treasurer: **Karen White**, University of Tennessee, Martin

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Tenn-Share Events

Monday, June 4

Board meeting (tentative)

Wednesday, September 26

Board meeting

Thursday, September 27

DataFest (FREE!)

Thursday, September 27

School Library Collection Fair
(FREE!)

Friday, September 28

Fall Conference

Register for these events online:
<http://www.tenn-share.org/tsevents>. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Stuart Gaetjens (sgaetjens@tntech.edu).



P.O. Box 241074
Memphis, TN
38124-1074
Phone: 901.485.6952

2017-2018 Executive Committee:

Jeffie Nicholson,
President
jefferuth@gmail.com

Heather Lanier,
Vice-President / President-Elect
heather.lanier@brentwoodtn.gov

Christina Chester-Fangman,
Recording Secretary
chester-fangman@apsu.edu

Richard Groves,
Past President
richardpgroves@gmail.com

Annelle R. Huggins,
Executive Director
arhuggins1@comcast.net

Send feedback to:
Sharon Holderman,
Newsletter Editor
sholderman@tntech.edu

Tenn-Share Board of Directors (continued)

Board Representatives, Academic Libraries:

- **Caitlin Harrington**, University of Memphis
- **Michael Hooper**, Austin Peay State University
- Lori Warren, Chattanooga State Community College

Board Representative, Public Libraries:

- Jaclyn Anderson, Chattanooga Public Library
- **Lantonio Jackson**, Jackson-Madison County Public Library
- April White, Knox County Public Library

Board Representatives, School Libraries:

- Joyce Claassen, Hillsboro Public Library, Nashville
- **LeAn Inman**, Arlington High School
- Carla Whiles, Harold McCormick Elementary School, Elizabethton

Board Representatives, Special Libraries:

- **Amy Gideon**, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesiology, Nashville
- Jan Haley, Saint Thomas Hospital West, Nashville

Tenn-Share News

Here are the upcoming database renewals, all with discounts. Contact exccdir@tenn-share.org if you have questions or want to join the discount groups.

- Alexander Street Press: Academic Video Online, American History in Video, Literature, American Film Scripts
- Movie Licensing USA: Public
- Teton Press: STAT!Ref Medical
- Statista
- OCLC



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