

THE TLA NEWSLETTER

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Tenn-Share Fall Conference Brief

Tenn-Share invites librarians from across the state to attend Fall Conference 2019 to learn how to weather the Data Storm! This year's theme connects librarians across library types with new methods, strategies, and support for navigating the confluence of big data, internal statistics, reports, and data analytics. Find out how to take the lead in your community to provide better data resources, tools, and skills as an effective steward of digital collections and data. Network with colleagues to see how to

harness the information at our fingertips into a better environment for our communities and users.

This year's keynote speaker is David Green—Chapel Hill's (NC) open data program manager and Chapel Hill Public Library's library systems manager. Green switched career paths when he saw librarians fighting for people and their civil liberties. He previously worked at academic libraries, special libraries, and for the Associations of Research Libraries (ARL).

Fall Conference will also offer two optional workshops: Text Mining and Data Curation. The workshops will be hosted by the UT Libraries' Monica Ihli and Chris Eaker. Each workshop costs an additional \$10 to the Fall Conference registration fee.

Registration for Fall Conference is open and costs \$35 for Tenn-Share members or \$50 for non-members. The conference will be at the Nashville Public Library Conference Center Friday, October 18.

We Need Your Voices! Community-Based Cultural Heritage Survey

We need help from colleagues like you to gather information about participatory archiving, the process of collecting and preserving materials in partnership with community members.

University Archives & Special Collections (UASC) in the Joseph P. Healey Library at the University of Massachusetts Boston recently launched a two-year project, "Destination Preservation," to build an accessible, adaptable, and engaging "roadmap" to guide libraries of all kinds and sizes through the participatory archiving process.

We are seeking input from staff and volunteers representing a wide range of institutions committed to documenting shared cultural heritage, including libraries, archives, historical societies, museums, and cultural centers. We would be grateful if you

would please complete our survey to share your experiences and perspectives with us by September 15, 2019.

The survey is between 31 and 75 questions, and we estimate it will take about 35 minutes to complete. Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary.

Please complete the entire survey before closing your browser. While you can use the arrows in the bottom right corner to go back and change previous answers in the survey, you will not be able to exit and return to saved answers.

As a thank you for those who complete the survey, we will be raffling off the chance to win one of three \$100 Amazon gift cards.

The results of this survey will inform the development of a suite of resources empowering libraries to

plan participatory archiving programs with the communities they serve, preserve the resulting digital collections, and make those collections accessible to the public.

Thank you for helping us by taking our survey! Please share the survey with your networks and any relevant stakeholders you think would benefit from the roadmap.

We're excited to share what we learn from you all and look forward to creating a roadmap that incorporates your wisdom!

If you have questions about the survey, would like to participate in material reviews, or would like to receive a copy of the final survey results, please contact the Community Archiving Grant Project Manager, Sarah Collins, at Sarah.Collins@umb.edu.

President's Corner

Welcome to a new year of TLA membership! I am honored and privileged to serve our beloved organization in the presidential capacity. This will undoubtedly be a busy year for Tennessee libraries and TLA. Preparations for our annual conference, held in Knoxville this year, are well underway. This is a special year for us, as our longtime friend, member, and Executive Director Annelle Hugins retires. Annelle is a rich resource of information, history, and leadership. She will be greatly missed in her capacity as Executive Director, and we thank her for her years of dedication from the bottoms of our hearts. As the board moves to find and appoint a new Executive Director, we ask the membership for patience and understanding. We are working hard to undergo as seamless a transition as possible.

Although finding our new Executive Director is top priority, I have several goals I hope to achieve in cooperation with our board, Advisory Council and members. First, the

Continuing Education Committee and I are working to find ways and outlets to bring at least some portion of the annual conference online for our members unable to make it to Knoxville. We hope to find affordable ways to test this idea for future conferences, using the 2020 conference as a test scenario. Second, we will be seeking member input about reworking the TLA logo to better align with our online URL and distinction as the Tennessee Library Association. In short, I would like to go from TLA to TNLA in our official logo. Finally, as we progress through the year, we will undergo the process of a renewed organizational strategic plan. Clearly, we have much to cover in a short amount of time. In addition to these larger goals, we will work to investigate additional revenue streams/fundraising as well as continue to streamline and improve our new structure. This will be a busy year, but I look forward to the challenges it brings and the opportunity to work with our members and serve you all to the best of



my abilities. Thank you for entrusting the presidential office to me and thank you to all my fellow board members and advisory council members for your hard work and dedication to this organization we all love.

I welcome your thoughts and ideas throughout the year. I have established a new email address to better organize my TLA inbox. Please reach out to tnlapresident2019@gmail.com with your thoughts and/or suggestions.

—Jill Rael
TLA President



YALSA's Symposium

Registration is open now for YALSA's 2019 Young Adult Services Symposium. The symposium will be held Nov. 1-3, 2019, in Memphis, TN with the theme "Show Up and Advocate: Supporting Teens in the Face of Adversity." Programs will cover the entire spectrum of topics related to providing services for and with young adults.

Want updates? Sign up here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/X5ZTCB5>. To register online, visit <http://www.ala.org/Template.cfm?Section=eventsconf&Template=/Conference/ConferenceList.cfm&ConferenceTypeCode=M>

UT Libraries Helps Launch New Digital Library of Tennessee Portal

The Digital Library of Tennessee (DLTN) committee recently announced the launch of its new research website, making Tennessee one of the first states with a localized portal of the Digital Public Library of America. The Tennessee portal brings together more than 100,000 digital representations of unique cultural heritage artifacts from throughout the state. The University of Tennessee Libraries has contributed approximately a quarter of the Tennessee portal's records and formed partnerships across the state that helped make this portal possible.

Working in partnership with Tenn-Share and the Tennessee State Library and Archives, the UT Libraries acts as a service hub to the Digital Public Library of America. Since 2015, UT librarians and partner repositories have worked to identify primary sources from Tennessee libraries, archives, and museums and to collect descriptive records and thumbnail images of those items for contribution. This technical process makes each resource findable and provides information on proper usage of the object.

The new portal, available at tn.dp.la, links the user to these digitized primary sources—including maps, musical performances, photographs, newspapers, postcards, and oral histories—putting Tennessee resources at the forefront. The homepage highlights historical narratives that are supported by strong collections, such as the state's role in the Civil Rights Movement, the Great War, and the ratification of the 19th amendment to the United States Constitution. While these materials are also available through the Digital Public Library of America, this new portal brings greater attention to the open access resources of the state and

makes it easier for individuals to find Tennessee-specific materials.

Significant among the contributions of the UT Libraries is the Volunteer Voices collection: The UT Libraries digitized and hosts the materials of 63 libraries, archives, and museums in the state that did not have the technical capacity to do so themselves. The formation of Volunteer Voices and its partnerships was also influential in the creation of the Digital Library of Tennessee committee, strengthening statewide alliances in information sharing.

Another contribution currently highlighted on the new homepage under “Vintage Postcards,” is UT's Postcards from the Great Smoky Mountains collection. Meredith Hale, UT metadata librarian and DLTN representative, notes this collection as one of her favorites: “It does a great job of documenting America's most-visited national park while also showing how the form of postcards has changed over time.”

Through digitization and descriptive records, the Digital Library of Tennessee is making rare and unique materials specific to Tennessee's history centrally available to the public at large. “It has the power to introduce anyone, including independent researchers, elementary school students, and university students, to visual, textual, and auditory information to help them create meaningful arguments for their research and better understand their relationship to Tennessee,” said Hale.

The Digital Library of Tennessee is the product of five years of collaboration among its partner repositories, which include the Country Music Hall of Fame® and Museum, Knox County Public Library, Calvin M. McClung Historical Collection, Memphis Public Library, Middle Tennes-

see State University, Nashville Public Library, Rhodes College, Tennessee State Library and Archives, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, and the University of Tennessee.

The Digital Library of Tennessee is made possible with support from the University of Tennessee, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Tenn-Share, and the Digital Public Library of America. If you would like to learn more, including how to contribute your institution's unique material, please visit Digital Library of Tennessee tn.dp.la/about.

Legislative Action and Input Needed!

In addition to our coordinated and individual efforts on Library Legislative Day this past spring, TLA, TASL, and the State Library and Archives have combined to write a letter to Governor Lee. This letter urges him to include Tennessee Librarians in his discussions about the 11 distressed TN counties. To make this letter have a larger impact, we solicit the signature of all librarians and library workers in Tennessee in all types of libraries. You can find the letter and add your signature to it by clicking on this link: <https://forms.gle/JovxY8cL2M9NdbMe7>

The deadline for signing is noon on Friday, September 20. Feel free to share this letter with other librarians, library workers, Friends groups, board members, and trustees and request their signature. Thank you so much!

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Notes from the President of Friends of Tennessee Libraries

In preparation for our new year, we are reviewing our organization and defining our goals. And we are looking for Regional Representatives for the Hatchie River, Holston River, Obion River, Ocoee River, Red River, Stones River regions. Regional Representatives monitor and report on the Friends groups in their area at our quarterly meetings (two in person and two by conference call). This is a vital position that allows us to serve as a source of ideas and problem-solving for existing Friends groups and an excellent resource for those wanting to start a Friends group.

For more information about this volunteer position, contact djohnson@sevierlibrary.org.

Tennessee's Governor Bill Lee has just granted a Friends of Libraries Week Proclamation for the week of October 20-26, 2019. The Friends of Tennessee Libraries request this every year to celebrate the importance and impact of our Friends groups. As of last year, Tennessee is the only state where the Governor declares FOL Week.

To view the proclamation, visit <https://tnsos.net/publications/proclamations/files/1765.pdf>

