Join Us for the Library Instruction Tennessee (LIT) Conference

Register for the 2021 LIT Conference on the TNLA website. Registration is free! The conference is virtual! https://www.tnla.org/events/Event-Details.aspx?id=1480632

The theme for LIT 2021 is PERSISTENCE & RESILIENCE.

LIT 2021 will be held virtually during the week of June 7-11. Registration will be open until June 7. LIT is a sub-group of the TLA Access and Patron Services Roundtable.

Find the 2021 LIT conference schedule at https://libraryinstructiontn.org/2021-conference-schedule/

Thank You, Conference Planning Committee!

On behalf of the TLA Advisory Council and Board, I extend our gratitude to the TLA Conference Planning Committee. Their months of behind-the-scenes preparation and hard work really shined. Thank you so much for all your efforts on behalf of this Association!

For those who registered and attended, the conference recordings are now available and will be available to you through Sched until December 31, 2021.

—Cathy Farley, TLA Executive Director

2021 TLA Honors and Award Recipients

2021 Conference Interns:
• Ola Bradford
• Sara Schultz

2021 Gleaves Scholarship:
• Alissa Browning-Couch

2021 Friend of the Year Award:
• Blount County Friends of the Library
• Emma Ruth Catlette, Charter Member, Kodak Friends of the Library

2021 Tennessee History Book Award:
• Tullahoma by David A. Powell and Eric J. Whittenberg

2021 TLA President’s Award:
• Chuck Sherrill

Chuck Sherrill has been a longtime member of the Tennessee Library Association. Throughout his tenure as the State Librarian and Archivist and member of TLA, Chuck has made an enormous commitment to the field of librarianship, the association, and our state. As a long-standing officer in TLA, Chuck has consistently provided an immense wealth of knowledge of the association’s history and much needed insight as we continue to push our work forward. In addition to this, Chuck has been instrumental in relocation of the Tennessee State Libraries and Archives, slated to open this month. In honor of his tireless work for the field of librarianship, the state of Tennessee, and TLA, we bestow the President’s Award upon Chuck Sherrill.

Chuck Sherrill, recipient of the 2021 TLA President’s Award
Recognition of 2020 TLA Honors and Award Recipients

2020 Conference Interns:
- Clancy Anderson, Cara Brown,
- Lisa Curtin, Alicia Foster,
- Maggie George, Erin Lankford,
- Frankie Elizabeth McGinnis,
- Ashley Orehek, Anna Phillips,
- Katie Rosenberg, Christy Schwab

Frances Neal Cheney Award:
- Missy Dillingham

Louise Meredith School Library Media Award:
- Karen Callis

Daniel Taylor Memorial Award:
- Jenny Claiborne

James E. Ward Instruction Award:
- Karen Dearing

Friend of the Year Award:
  eBay Team, Blount County Friends of the Library

Friend of the Year Award:
  Friends of the Spring Hill Library

Tennsco Scholarship:
- Lori N. Forrest

Gleaves Scholarship:
- Katelyn Boggs

TLA Intellectual Freedom Award:
- Julia Watts

Tennessee History Book Award:
  *Lady First: The World of First Lady Sarah Polk* by Amy S. Greenberg

Trustee of the Year Award:
- Michie Daniel

Making a Difference Award:
- Dwight Hunter

TLA President’s Award:
- Sharon Kay Edwards

TLA Honor Award:
- Meredith Goins

TLA Honorary Membership Award:
- Annelle Huggins

Election Results

**TLA Elections:**
Congratulations to the following officers elected by the Tennessee Library Association:

- Vice-President/President Elect: Dwight Hunter
- Recording Secretary: Eryn Duffee
- Academic Libraries At Large Representative: Jennifer Harris
- Special Libraries At Large Representative: Chuck Sherrill
- ALA Chapter Representative: Erika Long

**Tennessee Association of School Librarians:**
Congratulations to the following officers of the Tennessee Association of School Librarians:

- President: Lindsey Kimery
- President Elect: Katie Capshaw
- Treasurer: Ginny Britt
- Secretary: Brandi Hartsell
- Past President: Vicki Winstead

Annelle Huggins began her Library career at an early age—she learned to shelve books for her aunt! Those early introductions to the library world led her down a path of devotion to libraries everywhere. Annelle received her BS from University of Central Oklahoma, her MLS from Peabody, and MEd from Texas A & M, where she had her first paying library job as the Assistant Acquisitions Librarian. She then worked at the University of Oklahoma on her way to the University of Memphis. Upon accepting a position at U of M as the Coordinator of Technical Services, she promptly joined the Tennessee Library Association in 1981. In her 39 years (so far!) at TLA, Annelle has served on just about every committee you can name. She served as TLAs president for the 1997-1998 term and then as TLAs ALA Councilor for seven years. She was selected as TLAs first Executive Director in 2001 and served for 18 years in that capacity until her retirement in December 2019. Annelle’s steady presence and quiet strength carried this Association through many struggles throughout the years. If Past Presidents were given an opportunity to testify, the one constant thread uniting the experiences from that diverse group would be Annelle’s love for this Association and its members. Her wisdom and knowledge of this Association are legendary, as is she herself.
In October of 2020, the Col. Murfee chapter of the DAR contacted Rutherford County Library System Director Rita Shacklett about an educational and environmental opportunity. They had learned that the Rice Century Farm in Wilson County had started a tree farm focusing on American Heritage Trees. American Heritage Tree Farm is a non-profit that combines our nation’s historic heritage with conservation.

The Technology Engagement Center had space on its site for saplings. The City of Murfreesboro Street Department took part in selecting the appropriate varieties, picked up the trees, and planted them last November. All eight saplings handled the move and the winter well. On Arbor Day, there was an official dedication of the new trees.

There is no physical pathway connecting the trees yet, so TEC staffer Tye Gannon created a virtual tour using the Pocket Sights Tour Guide app (available via Google Play and the Apple Store). Look for “American Heritage Tree Tour” by Rutherford County Library System and check it out! Of the eight new trees on the TEC’s property, several are understory trees and some we hope will grow to be proud replacements for the larger trees that were lost due to the construction of this new library.

—Kathleen Tyree

A group of 100 volunteers who responded successfully to the challenges of COVID-19 and a 99-year-old woman who has supported her library and inspired countless other library supporters throughout the years have been honored by Friends of Tennessee Libraries (FOTL) and the Tennessee Library Association (TLA). Blount County Friends of the Library in Maryville and Emma Ruth in Kodak have been named Friends of the Year for 2020 for having made significant contributions to the advancement of libraries in Tennessee.

When the pandemic made the Blount County Friends’ on-site quarterly book sales impossible, the group initiated new opportunities: appointment-only sales on site on selected days, a new retail store within the Blount County Public Library, and sponsorship of a community market on the grounds of the library. Organized as teams that handle donations, screen donations, support eBay sales, support special collections, and support on-site books sales, the Blount County Friends maintained an earning level nearly equal to that of non-pandemic times. Whether working from home or on site at the library, volunteers have continued to raise funds to support the library in spite of COVID-19.

Emma Ruth Catlett, who celebrated her 99th birthday this year, continues to take an active role in supporting libraries and Friends of the Library groups. A charter member of Friends of Kodak Library, Mrs. Catlett took on the role of president for three years when she was 90. She chaired the Kodak Library’s Nominating Committee when she was 98. She bakes Amish friendship bread that is sold at fundraising events. She makes phone calls and writes notes and letters to Friends members, library staff, library supporters, and elected officials. Sevier County Public Library System Director Rhonda Tippitt said, “You would be hard pressed to find a better Friend for any library than Mrs. Emma Ruth Catlett. She’s been a faithful supper of Kodak Library and the Sevier County Public Library system for several decades. Her early commitment to seeing the Kodak/Northview area had public library service was a key to the Kodak Branch Library’s establishment.”

Friends of Tennessee Libraries and Tennessee Library Association Name 2020 Friends of the Year