Dare to Imagine:  
2016 TLA Conference

The 2016 TLA Conference will be held April 6-8 at the MeadowView Conference Resort and Convention Center, 1901 MeadowView Parkway Kingsport, TN 37660. Hope to see you there!

Keynote Speaker: Award-Winning Southern Writer, Sharyn McCrumb

Sharyn McCrumb is best known for her Appalachian “Ballad” novels, set in the North Carolina/Tennessee mountains, including the New York Times Best Sellers *The Ballad of Tom Dooley*, *She Walks These Hills* and *The Rosewood Casket*. A forthcoming novel, *Prayers the Devil Answers*, will be published in May, 2016. Her novel, *King's Mountain*, received a DAR Award from the Edward Buncombe Chapter (N.C.) and is taught in schools and featured at a number of historical museums. Her books are frequently used in One Community/One Book programs. A graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill, with an M.A. in English from Virginia Tech, McCrumb was the first writer-in-residence at King College in Tennessee. In 2005 she was honored as the Writer of the Year at Emory & Henry College.

Children and Young Adults Luncheon: Pat Mora

This year’s CYA luncheon (Thursday, April 7) speaker will be Mexican-American author, poet, and advocate for the Hispanic community, Pat Mora. Many of her books are bilingual, presenting topics affecting Mexican-American families and culture. Pat is a literacy advocate excited about sharing what she calls “bookjoy.” Pat founded El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children’s Day/Book Day) also known as Día, which promotes creatively linking all children and families to books and establishing the annual April Children’s Day/Book Day celebrations across the country. April 2016 will be Día’s 20th Anniversary.

Trustees/Friends Luncheon: Susan J. Schmidt

Susan J. Schmidt, President-elect of the ALA United for Libraries (http://www.ala.org/united/) will be the Trustees/Friends luncheon (Friday, April 8) speaker and will conduct an afternoon session on fundraising and foundations. Susan is a former Friends of Libraries U.S.A. (FOLUSA) president and long-time board member. Susan has been an active participant in and speaker at ALA’s Advocacy Institute since its inception and helps to coordinate United for Libraries’ popular Nuts & Bolts program for Friends, Trustees, and Foundations which is held at both ALA Midwinter Meeting and ALA Annual Conference each year.
**President’s Point of View**

Happy New Year!

I hope that this year has started well for you! I wish for you and yours a blessed New Year! Selfishly, I sure hope 2016 is a better year for me. Once again, we are counting down to the Annual Conference, April 6-8, 2016 to be held at the MeadowView Convention Center in beautiful Kingsport. I am so looking forward to the conference: spring in East Tennessee, seeing friends, and learning about what our inventive colleagues are doing to meet the needs of library users. Our conference theme is “Dare to Imagine.” This theme defines our current emphasis in reviewing our structure as an association and what we can do to ensure a strong presence in the future. The Conference Committee has been carefully planning what I know will be an awesome conference. Won’t you join us? Until then: “Dare to Imagine!”

—Susan Jennings
TLA President

**Preconference Sessions**

Share your successes, concerns, or disasters with implementing the new Information Literacy Framework with others in a round table discussion titled “From Standards to Frameworks: Engaging your Imagination,” co-sponsored by the Instruction Roundtable and the College and University Libraries Section (CULS). We will have a discussion, presentation, and Q&A about where we are now in implementation and where we will go from here.

“Every Child Ready to Read” with Alexandra Burns and Pat Bashir. These dynamite librarians will share their ideas and experiences with the Every Child Ready to Read toolkit, now in its second edition, with attendees. ECRR2 is now available in Spanish with more languages slated for the future, and Pat will share her own experiences with hosting these awesome events with Spanish speaking customers.

**NMRT Social and “Lunch Buddies”!**

Please make plans to attend the New Members Roundtable events at this year’s conference including the NMRT Social Hour on April 6th from 5-6 pm in the conference hotel (exact location TBD). NMRT will also coordinate dine-arounds with a new “Lunch Buddies” program. Details of all these events will be sent out through the TLA listserv—stay tuned for more info!

**Career Services is Working for You!**

The TLA Career Services Committee has been busy this year improving our offerings!

**Conference Presentation:** The Career Services committee is offering a panel discussion entitled, “Tips & Tricks for the Library Resume.” Come learn more about how to best present yourself via your resume and what hiring managers look for in a resume. The panel will represent the entire library spectrum, with experts from school, public, special and academic libraries. Whatever you might be interested in learning about your resume/CV, start making a list of questions to ask today. We look forward to working with you!

**Conference Career Assistance:** We are offering drop-in assistance with resumes, cover letters, interviews, and career questions at this year’s annual conference again. Bring your questions and any related documents, and our volunteers are happy to give you feedback to help you land your next great job or just improve your LinkedIn profile! See the conference program for the “when and where.”

**TLA Officer Nominees**

**Vice President/President-Elect:**
- Jeffie Nicholson, Adult Services Manager, Williamson County Public Library

**Recording Secretary:**
- Margaret Brown, Catalog Librarian, Williamson County Public Library
- Jena M. Gray, Assistant Director, Fayetteville Lincoln County Public Library
The TLA Conference Books & Baskets Sale and Auction event is our major fundraiser for the Dr. Edwin S. Gleaves Scholarship and the Conference Internship Program (CIP). For the upcoming conference we need baskets and single items for the auction and used books for our book sale!

If you would like to donate, please e-mail Christina Chester-Fangman, TLA Scholarship Committee Co-chair, at chesterfangmane@apsu.edu.

Conference Presentations to Look For

CYA: “DIA IN A DAY: The quick and easy, down-and-dirty of DIA (Diversity in Action)”. Join us for an entertaining presentation, full of ideas that will make your DIA program a total success! Celebrating our communities through culturally diverse programs provides children the opportunity to understand others and to get to know people from all over the world, regardless of their religion, skin color, or language. We will feature fun, easy and inexpensive ways to celebrate DIA.

Intellectual Freedom:
“Wikipedia and Your Library” Wikipedia is the world’s go-to knowledge source. Unlike with sources that came before, libraries can have an active role in creating and improving content in Wikipedia. This workshop will demonstrate 1) how Wikipedia can be used to advance information literacy, and 2) how to host successful Wikipedia edit-a-thons. Bring a laptop. We will get our hands dirty editing.

Public Libraries Section: Join us for a moderated panel discussion about trends in public libraries. This aims to be an open discussion, so bring questions and experiences to share. Of course, there are many more presentations coming from public librarians all across the state on all types of topics, including programming of various kinds. Check your conference program!

Conference Business Meetings

Jennifer May, chair of the School Libraries Section, invites you to attend their business meeting this year! Check the conference program so you don’t miss it.

Are you passionate about free speech, censorship, privacy and net neutrality? If you answered “Yes!” then come to the Intellectual Freedom Committee business meeting. We’ll discuss what the Intellectual Freedom Committee does, what it can do better, and how you can get involved.

Nicole Tekulve invites you to attend the NMRT business meeting to help plan for the coming year and find out how the NMRT is serving you!

Public Library Section’s annual business meeting is 100% open to ALL public librarians, staff, and enthusiasts. This will be an ideas-sharing session about how our Section can better serve our librarians and library staff. We will also take a few moments to nominate and elect a new chair and vice-chair. This is a great networking opportunity, as well as a great time to express any opinions and thoughts you may have about our organization and Section.

Building Bridges: Working Together to Address Youth Homelessness

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville School of Information Sciences (SIS) and The Center for Literacy, Education & Employment (CLEE) invite library staff, library students, social workers, social work students, public health workers and students, service providers, members of the faith community, parents, youth, and all others who are interested in working together to address LGBTQ youth homelessness and youth homelessness in general. This Summit will provide a venue where we can share our expertise, ask questions and strategize. To truly address LGBTQ youth homelessness, we all need to work together. We look forward to your participation as we listen, learn, discuss, and plan. We will be joined by experts from across the country.

This event will be live-streamed on March 9, 2016. Please consider joining us, in person or online. To register, please follow this link: http://bit.ly/1TK3CQY

For more information, email Dr. Julie Ann Winkelstein, Postdoctoral Researcher at jwinkels@utk.edu.
David Marshall Stewart, age 99, passed away August 14, 2015. Mr. Stewart, a 1939 graduate of the Peabody School of Library Science in Nashville, was director of library projects in Tennessee for the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and Head of Brister Library at Memphis State College. He served as an officer in the U.S. Navy from 1942 to 1946. In June 1960, Marshall became Chief Librarian of the Public Library of Nashville and Davidson County (PLNDC). During Stewart’s tenure, PLNDC moved into a new main building, increased its branch facilities five-fold, and started the Nashville Talking Library, an audio-reading and information broadcast service.

Mr. Stewart served as 1966-1967 TLA President and received the 1981-1982 TLA Honor Award. His son, Jim, notes that Stewart “will be remembered for his kindness. He had a rare and great understanding of people. He had the gift of picking the right person for the job, making for smoothly running organizations at CIA and PLNDC. As a boss, he was businesslike but a caring friend.”

Larry Romans. Many of us lost a close friend and TLA lost an irreplaceable member. Susan Jennings said it best in her email, “If you know me, you know that I am truly heartbroken over the loss of this precious friend and staunch ALA and TLA supporter. He touched our profession so profoundly and we will forever be the better for his involvement in our lives. And as for me... There was no better friend and encourager.”

The Newsletter will include a more thorough remembrance and tribute to Larry in our Spring issue.

—Anthony H. Prince, Jr.
Newsletter Editor

In Memoriam

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