



## Professional Development Websites for Librarians

Librarians are notoriously good at using the internet. We can find anything for anyone, given enough time. Wouldn't it be wonderful if someone could tell us, once in a while, where we can find good websites to bolster our own professional development? If so, then read on!

What follows is a brief synopsis of some internet sources to whet your appetite. The first site is a popular one in that category and may be one that you are

familiar with. If that is not the case, check it out! The second site is a similar one in scope but one that is less popular on the web. *May your internet endeavors be ever in your favor.*

### Articles and information from collectives

#### [In the Library with the Lead Pipe](#)

This is the go-to site for articles about a plethora of topics from a wide range of

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## Collection Development Grant for Teen Items

Do you wish there was extra money to buy more items for your library's teen section? Are your teens wishing they had a larger selection of materials at their public library? Then this might be your lucky day! The Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) is now accepting applications for the BWI/YALSA Collection Development Grant. The \$1,000 grant, made possible by BWI, will be awarded to up to two YALSA members to be used to support the purchase of new materials to support collection development in public libraries. The grant is also designed to recognize the excellent work of those YALSA members working directly with young adults ages 12-18 in a public library.

The committee is looking for proposals

that present innovative ideas on how to expand young adult collections. Applicants will be judged on the basis of the degree of need for additional materials for young adults in their library, the degree of their current collection's use, and the benefits this grant will bring to young adults. Other criteria, grant information and the application form can be found on the [YALSA Awards and Grants website](#). Applications must be submitted online no later than December 1, 2013.

#### [Joella Peterson](#)

Youth Services Librarian  
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## Message from the President

### *Settling in as the New Leader*

I am excited and happy to be your new AzLA President, and to welcome Dan Stanton as President-elect, Denise Keller as our new Treasurer; and Amber Kent as the new Central Region Representative.

We had a wonderful annual conference at the beautiful Radisson Fort McDowell. The keynote speaker, Jamie LaRue, stayed for the whole conference, attended many sessions, and participated in a wrap-up session with board members. Jamie followed up on a discussion that he started at the wrap-up session on his blog, which you can [read online](#). We had many great programs at the conference, with time for making new friends and reconnecting with old friends. I was happy to be able to recruit a couple of conference committee co-chairs for the 2014 conference. Casey Van Haren and Claudia Leon will assist Ginny Pannabecker with planning the next conference.

If you haven't heard, I plan to add a new feature to the conference next year; we will have a One Book/One Conference program. We will select one book for everyone who is interested to read ahead of time, and then discuss the book and meet the author at the conference. Melanie Edens from Glendale Public Library will head that program. We need to decide on a title to read soon, but you still have time to make suggestions. Please send me email if

you know of a book you think will be suitable for this program.

I am also happy to announce the theme for the 2014 joint AzLA/MPLA conference: **Libraries: Best of the West**. This theme will encourage programs highlighting the best our libraries in Arizona and the Mountain Plains Library Association states have to offer; creative approaches, new ideas and services, unique collections and more.

The AzLA Regional forum is scheduled to occur on March 12, 2014 with a theme of partnerships. The forum location has not yet been decided, but it will be in either Apache or Navajo County. Be watching for more information about this.

I am still settling into my new position and hope to have more to share with you as I become acquainted with the Board members, Committee Chairs, and Division Heads. I suspect that there are some committee positions that still need filling, and I will be asking for interested folks to step up and volunteer their time and energy to help AzLA grow and become more valuable to all Arizona librarians.

As we head into the holiday season, I hope you all have warm homes, good food, and friends and loved ones to join in your celebrations.

**Ann Boles**  
AzLA President



**Ann Boles**  
AzLA President

**“I am also happy to announce the theme for the 2014 joint AzLA/MPLA conference: Libraries: Best of the West.”**

## Professional Development (cont.)

authors. *In the Library with the Lead Pipe* describes themselves as “a team of librarians working in various types of libraries across the United States. In addition to essays by its editorial board, *In the Library with the Lead Pipe* features articles by guests representing other perspectives including educators, administrators, library support staff, and community members.” Articles are in-depth and peer-reviewed and a new article is posted every other Wednesday. The website is easy to search with a menu bar on the right showing recent article titles, a tag cloud, and archives by month. Article archives go back as far as 2008.

If you like *In the Library with the Lead Pipe*, check out:

### [Closed Stacks](#)

While *In the Library with the Lead Pipe* does produce articles more regularly, *Closed Stacks* is similar in that it too is a collaborative blog from a team of writers but their authors vary more greatly, ranging from suburban public librarians to MLS students and graduates. *Closed Stacks* states that they are “a collaborative blog written by a variety of different types of librarians. We try to entertain, educate, and enlighten as best we can, and are always open to constructive criticism.” Authors sign their articles with silly pseudonyms like Miss Information, Librarian Rx and Penny Dreadful. Unfortunately, the most recent article is from August, the only posting for 2013. In the previous year, there were only two articles. 2008-2011 seems to be their heyday since articles in the archives appear

nearly once a month. As such, the archives of articles stretches back even further than that of *Lead Pipe*, all the way to 2007. Hopefully *Closed Stacks* will resume their former publishing frequency since it is one of the few alternative collectives available for librarians other than *Lead Pipe*.

### Personal Blogs

#### [The Annoyed Librarian](#)

*Library Journal's* blog of choice is written by an anonymous female librarian whose catch line is “Whatever it is, I’m against it.” The journal goes on to describe the author as “possibly the most successful, respected, and desirable librarian of her generation. She has no other interest than to bring her wit and wisdom to the huddled librarian masses yearning to breathe free.” Blogs are posted regularly – every three to five day – on a variety of topics.

The Annoyed Librarian also does a decent job of responding to comments about her posts so even though she is anonymous, she doesn’t cower behind the curtain of anonymity without some accountability.

For a change of pace, check out:

#### [Librarian In Black](#)

The Librarian in Black is also a female librarian blogging about topics “related to librarianship, technology, web services, and current trends.” She blogs almost every month and most months she posts two to three times. Some of



How I envision “The Annoyed Librarian.”

**“*Library Journal's* blog of choice [The Annoyed Librarian] is written by an anonymous female librarian whose catch line is ‘Whatever it is, I’m against it.’”**

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## Professional Development (cont.)

her blogs are personal, like her stories of struggling with cancer, but many others deal with librarianship as a whole. The author, Sarah Houghton, is the Director for the San Rafael Public Library in California.

### Job Searching for Librarians

#### [American Library Association Joblist](#)

The *ALA Joblist* is probably the most well-known of all library job search sites. It is easy to use and the home page displays recent jobs including the job title, location, salary (if specified), posting date and closing deadline. Searches can be further specified by state, library type, job category, institution name, full-time/part-time status, and more!

ALA is very well known. So take a look at:

#### [I Need a Library Job](#)

While not as vast or infinitely searchable as *ALA's Joblist*, *INALJ's* job section lets you search by state and then lists the job title, company name, location, and apply by date. The site is better, however, in that it doesn't merely list jobs. The site also has articles about job searching, interviewing techniques, professional development, and other jobs in related fields. There is an entire section of success stories as well. Perhaps one of the most useful parts is the fixed bottom left column, which lists keywords for library-related job searches or industries where library skills are valued, such as market analyst or information architect.

### Humor

#### [Awful Library Books](#)

"Hoarding is not collection develop-

ment" is the philosophy of librarians Mary Kelly and Holly Hibner who blog about books that are "amusing or questionable" and seem to be prime candidates for the MUSTY weeding system of deselection. Books are chosen because of their distasteful covers or horrible inside photos while others are merely because of the title (meaning YES, the book IS judged by its cover). Some of my favorite book titles include *God's Callgirl*; *Latawyna, the Naughty Horse, Learns to Say No to Drugs*; and *My Dad's Definitely Not a Drunk!* Speaking of bad book titles, how about more accurate ones for our ease of understanding?

#### [Better Book Titles](#)

This is a very different kind of website – made for the bibliophile in all of us. If you need a quick laugh, this website will oblige. Take for instance Harper Lee's *To Kill A Mockingbird* when it is retitled as *My Dad is Cooler than Your Dad*, or Shakespeare's *King Lear* retitled as *It's Time to Put Dad in a Home*. *Better Book Titles* classifies themselves as a "blog for people who do not have thousands of hours to read book reviews or blurbs or first sentences. I will cut through all the cryptic crap, and give you the meat of the story in one condensed image."

Since we need to keep our sense of humor, it was really difficult to pick only two. Here, then, is a third.

#### [A Librarian's Guide to Etiquette](#)

This tongue-in-cheek website sheds unorthodox light on library etiquette. The postings range from advice about how to celebrate National Bookmobile Day ("by going for a joyride in the library's

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**"If you need a quick laugh, [Better Book Titles] will oblige. Take for instance Harper Lee's *To Kill A Mockingbird* when it is retitled as *My Dad is Cooler than Your Dad*, or Shakespeare's *King Lear* retitled as *It's Time to Put Dad in a Home*."**

## Professional Development (cont.)

bookmobile...or through the reference room on a fully loaded book cart”) to introductions of new policies (“do so with intentionally bad grammar and spelling. Your library’s patrons will be so infuriated and distracted by the mistakes in the sign...they won’t protest the

policy itself”). The *Guide* is written by J. Vance, a librarian at Middle Tennessee State University.

[Kim Belair](#)

Librarian I

Mesa Public Library

## Invitation to Libraries to Celebrate the Wilderness Act’s 50th Anniversary

The nation will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act beginning in 2014, with most events happening in September of 2014. The Wilderness Act was landmark legislation which helped to set aside and protect millions of acres of land, placing it under the management of the National Wilderness Protection System. Arizona is home to vast parcels of pristine wilderness, providing recreational opportunities for our citizens and contributing to a thriving tourism industry, one of the backbones of our economy.

We have much to celebrate as a result of this legislation, and we are in the process of planning events all over the state. Organizations and government agencies such as the National Park Service, Forest Service, Wilderness Society, Arizona Wilderness Coalition, Sierra Club, Great Old Broads for Wilderness and local governing bodies have formed coalitions to plan activities and publicize

events. Libraries are places of gathering and learning for all, and we encourage them to join us in our efforts to promote this statewide effort. We invite libraries throughout the state to participate by hosting a display of wilderness-related books and other resources, hosting talks about books that have a wilderness theme, or putting together a lecture series on wilderness-related topics. The possibilities are endless!

Any library that wishes to participate is encouraged to contact the statewide coordinator of Wilderness 50th events, [Stephanie MacDonald](#). She will be happy to put you in touch with your local planning group.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to work together on this great project!

**Sarah King**

Secretary, Northern Arizona Planning Group

## The Children’s Author/Illustrator Network

The Author/Illustrator Network has been updated for July/August on the [AzLA website](#). Look for the Children’s Author/Illustrator Network on the AzLA homepage under “Quick Links.”

Author/Illustrator programs are the delight of children, teachers and parents,

and Arizona librarians are fortunate to have a one-stop shop for calendars, contact and scheduling information of local and visiting authors. Mary Wong creates this resource list for librarians and teachers throughout the state.

## Library Spotlight

### North High School Library

**Do you have a library to suggest? It can be an academic library, public library, school library, or special library, even an online-only library, as long as it's managed within/related specifically to Arizona! Email your suggestions to [Virginia.Pannabecker@asu.edu](mailto:Virginia.Pannabecker@asu.edu).**

[North High School Library](#) is in the center of [North High School](#), which is one of eleven comprehensive schools in the [Phoenix Union High School District](#) (PUHSD). It's open to almost 2,700 students, plus faculty and staff, from 7am-4:30pm, Monday through Friday. Ms. Sally Roof, Librarian Information Specialist, manages the library, five media center areas, and a faculty materials center. North Library's staff share Sal-

ly's emphasis on student success: providing resources, services, and programming to ensure student learning and growth with great customer service! North Library staff include Library Media Tech, Ms. Sabina Iniguez and two Computer

Lab Assistants, Mr. Richard Campbell and Mr. Daniel Quiroz, who troubleshoot two computer labs each. North Library's importance to students shows in high usage, program attendance, and in annual parental approval ratings of over 80%.

Student and curriculum-centered design is key in North Library collections, spaces, and programming. Displays feature

student-designed exhibits, like October's [National Hispanic Heritage Month](#) display highlighting important Arizonan Hispanic community members, cultural works, and events. Student art work depicting North architectural features decorates the 'diner' booth reading area. Window nooks around the library that used to be concrete are now cozy, inviting places, after Ms. Roof worked with Family and Consumer Sciences teacher,



*North High School Library student-designed 'Living Room' reading area with reading nooks along the wall featuring student-made cushions.*

Ms. Phyllis Harper, on a project where students learned upholstery techniques and created cushions for students to enjoy the nooks for leisure reading. The 'living room' area was also designed by students.

North Library's collection is extensive, including more than meets the eye with PUHSD libraries' inter-school loan program that allows students access to library items throughout the district. Ms. Roof monitors the collection to keep it up to date and complete for the school's curricular needs, current interests, and

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**“Window nooks around the library that used to be concrete are now cozy, inviting places, after...a project where students learned upholstery techniques and created cushions for students to enjoy the nooks for leisure reading.”**

## Library Spotlight (cont.)

materials from and about diverse cultures. The library includes Spanish-language and French-language materials on many topics and each is marked with colorful acid-free spine labels for easy browsing. Browsable of the collection is another student request that Ms. Roof and her staff responded to by adding spine labels and short genre code



*Students studying and working in the library during lunch.*

stickers. Did you attend North? The North Yearbook collection is complete through 1940, which was the first graduating class. Yearbooks from 1940-1988 were digitized, with the digitization generously donated by Classmates.com as a result of Ms. Roof's close work with them.

Leaders in educational technology, Sally Roof and other PUHSD librarians are often charged with selecting technolo-

## Library Staff Spotlight

### *Sally Roof*

The times before school, during lunch, breaks, and after school are busy at the [North High Library](#)! Sally Roof, Librarian Information Specialist, provides a comfortable place for studying or reading outside class. During lunch, while many students get assistance from library staff, use library resources, or study, others are here for the English Book Club. Facilitated by Sally, this is a student-directed club, currently reading *Divergent* by Veroni-

ca Roth. Seeing how student-driven clubs influence engagement and learning, Sally works with other North faculty to equip and support clubs, with recent new additions including the Spanish Book Club and the Short Film Club. Sally provides meeting space, equipment, and advertises activities on the library display screen.

gies, and encouraging and training others in their use within the libraries, school courses, and elsewhere. Online resources like research databases, e-books, and streaming video ([AZ Department of Education's IDEAL online education resources portal](#)) are highly supported by Ms. Roof who works to collaboratively develop policies and access for

the PUHSD community. Sally sees digital literacy and proficiency in using multiple devices as important in high school curriculum and a key opportunity for library involvement. Through technology and resource support, class information literacy sessions, and extracurricular programs, Sally and library staff demonstrate their commitment to student learning and success.

Sally looks for unique opportunities to

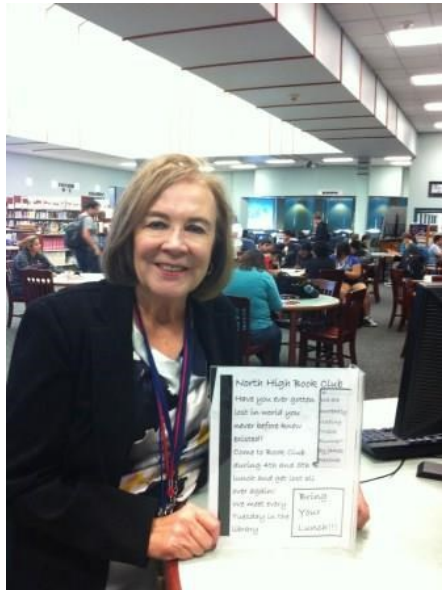
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## Library Staff Spotlight (cont.)

supplement collections at North, and to provide special curricular and community programming. One example is the NEH and ALA [Bridging Cultures Bookshelf: Muslim Journeys](#) collection and programming grant. Although this grant targeted academic, public, and community college libraries, Sally made her case for North and succeeded. Other popular library-hosted programs include College Depot nights and cultural celebrations like Día de los Muertos, for which the library is currently decorated with various altars representing collaborative student work from classes or clubs. The altars will be judged by community college teachers and community leaders familiar with their cultural heritage.

Sally came to North four years ago with substantial and diverse experience in librarianship and teaching: from academic librarianship, including Arizona State, Grand Canyon, and George Washington universities, to corporate librarianship at the Calgon Corporation, and as a teacher/librarian at Madison Meadows Middle School. She sees an unquestionable need to have qualified librarians in schools. Many elementary, middle, and high school libraries are below par from lack of funding, advocacy, and staffing by qualified librarians. Sally believes that students need to experience a superior library and librarian who can open a world of knowledge and resources to succeed in education and

in life. Sally has her Masters of Science in Library Science, her MA in Education, and is a National Board Certified Teacher (NBCT) and certification mentor. She manages the library and technology centers, is the Instructional Leader for the Library and Information and Media Center, consulting with teachers to incorporate [Arizona College and Career Ready Standards](#), and is the North [International Baccalaureate \(IB\) program](#) Research Advisor. Sally is a strong supporter of intercampus and community activities, coordinating annual events and participating in the PUHSD Professional Learning Community.



*Sally Roof, Librarian Information Specialist.*

Sally's long-term planning reflects her focus on digital literacy and her goals to anticipate the needs of North and PUHSD students, parents, and educators. One example includes providing access to introductory college-level materials for college readiness and specialized learning programs like [IB](#), Advanced Placement (AP), Honors, and [AVID](#) to strengthen connections between high school and college. Sally introduces students to local community and state college library use options and skills in using research databases. Sally is always on the look out for further options to best support North and PUHSD students' learning and success.

### Contact Info for librarian

[Sally Roof](#)  
 Librarian Information Specialist  
[North High School Library](#)  
 (602) 764-6623



## Emerging Technologies

### *Can I Get Some Streaming With That?*

Technology's march into our living rooms continues this holiday season with the announcement that Amazon is releasing a set-top box. This device is similar to the Roku boxes and will allow users to stream online videos from Amazon as well as other services in addition to accessing various apps. The only problem is this holiday season you can throw a rock and hit a device that streams video to your TV.

For the sake of bringing everyone up to speed, streaming video is the process of playing movies, television shows, or other videos that exist remotely through the internet and on your TV. The best example of this is Netflix. The movies exist on their servers but zip along your internet connection to your TV through a host of devices. You can also stream videos through your home network from a connected PC or storage device.

Since Roku released their first box, these devices have multiplied to include Apple TV, Google TV (soon to be Android TV), Chromecast, and WD TV to name just a few. This technology has also found its way into Blu-ray players, game consoles, and TVs. The new Xbox One and PlayStation 4 will use this technology to do much more than play games.

Accessing any of this technology is as easy as connecting your device to your TV and internet connection (broadband only please) and subscribing to one or more services. Before you think this is all some new age free buffet of digital

content, know that all these services involve either a subscription or some form of advertising. Compared to your cable or satellite bills these fees are peanuts. In my house we have Netflix, Hulu Plus, and Amazon Video for less than \$25 a month, which is less than half of what our satellite bill used to be.

Streaming your home videos and music is a little more difficult and involves setting up a wired or wireless home network. If you have more than one PC in your home on the internet, you already have this in place. You can also use a DNLA certified device, which makes things much easier. DNLA is an industry standard that allows multimedia devices to communicate over Wi-Fi with each other. For a Windows 7 or 8 PC it is as simple as sharing a directory or the whole computer with the network. You will then be able to access the media files (music, photos, videos) with any other DNLA device connected to the network. For larger files, like movies, many new routers have USB ports so you can connect an external hard drive to the router which then turns it into a media server.

So if you find yourself in possession of a new device this holiday season, check out some of its streaming capabilities. It could open up a whole new world of entertainment for you. As I said earlier you may find it hard not to find this functionality added to anything electronic in the very near future. [Did someone say streaming refrigerators?](#)

**“Accessing any of this technology is as easy as connecting your device to your TV and internet connection (broadband only please) and subscribing to one or more services.”**

Emerging Technologies is sponsored by the MCLC TechTalk Committee and is written by Vinny Alascia, Librarian at the Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records, and TechTalk Co-Chair. Visit the Tech Talk blog at <http://mclctechtalk.wordpress.com/>.



## From The Mountain Plains Library Association

### 2013 Tri-Conference - All Travelers Welcomed

In September, I had the pleasure of participating in the 2013 SDLA/NDLA/MPLA Tri-Conference on behalf of AzLA. I've been attending MPLA Conferences since 2003, and this time around I got to show off MPLA to a couple of ASU colleagues; and vice-versa. In honor of the Tri-Conference, I give you the Tri-Conference Tri-Report featuring Ginny Pannabecker and Anali Perry.

Sioux Falls, SD was unseasonably warm and I was pleased to not have to use my Arizona winter jacket (a hooded sweat-shirt). Our hosts, SDLA and NDLA, were warm as well, opening their annual combined conference to their road warrior colleagues in MPLA. There were plenty of MPLA presentations in the program, and lots of opportunities for networking and visiting vendors.

The preliminary numbers from the conference included:

- 391 Full conference attendees
- 53 single day attendees
- 76 out-of-state MPLA attendees
- 15 NDLA/MPLA attendees
- 54 SDLA/MPLA attendees
- 67 Vendor booths

It would be wonderful to get MPLA numbers like this next year when AzLA welcomes MPLA to conference 2014!

MPLA meetings were both fun and productive. In addition to our usual 2 business meetings bookending the conference with old/new officers, we got insight on personality types from MPLA Web Master (and Oklahoma State Uni-

versity Psychology Librarian) Dan Chaney. We also took a good hard look at the pros/cons of reintroducing Interest Groups to MPLA through a focus group discussion led by MPLA Communications Committee Chair (and Oklahoma State University Digital Library Services Librarian) Nicole Sump-Crethar. With people from different states cycling on and off the Board, MPLA meetings are a great time to see old friends and get to know new ones. My one complaint was that my presentation was at the same time as Ginny and Anali's session on [Open Access!](#)

I have to say that I expected opening Keynote Speaker, Travel Writer Rick Steves, to be a bit of a lightweight. His topic, [Travel as a Political Act](#), blew me away. He used statistics and anecdotes to challenge the audience to step up and use travel as an opportunity to experience other people, places, and cultures, and break down misconceptions between us and the rest of the world. Travel as education/experience.

Another standout speaker was the perennially awesome Maureen Sullivan. Fresh off her year as ALA President, and gearing up for the 2014 MPLA Leadership Institute, Maureen addressed, "The Promise of [Libraries Transforming Communities](#)". Libraries have always been a welcoming place in the community; it is time for us to 'turn outwards' and serve as a convener/facilitator of public

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**"His topic, Travel as a Political Act, blew me away. He used statistics and anecdotes to challenge the audience to step up and use travel as an opportunity to experience other people, places, and cultures, and break down misconceptions between us and the rest of the world."**

## From MPLA (cont.)

knowledge that leads to our communities being the best they can be.

And finally, I got to say goodbye to Jerry O'Donnell, who presented in Sioux Falls ten days before he was due to retire. Jerry has been with the Census Bureau's Denver Regional Office for years and has also been a fixture at AzLA Annual Conferences. No matter what the Census Bureau was up to with its data sets and reporting mechanisms, Jerry was always able to provide guidance in making huge amounts of data accessible. I want to thank him again and wish him well.

**Ginny reports:** I joined MPLA 3 years ago after hearing its praises sung by Anali, Dan, and others, and they were not misleading. This was my first MPLA conference too and it was a wonderful event with great speakers and educational programs.

In addition to programs already mentioned by Dan and Anali, one of the top presentations was the "Lean Serendipity" MPLA Professional Forum presentation by Kristi Tornquist and Carrie Steinlicht, South Dakota State University. They gave an engaging presentation on Lean - a process management method that focuses on one product or service at a time, the needs and perspectives of primary stakeholder/s (patients, customer, etc.), and brings invested staff together to visualize all steps and processes to identify and work through roadblocks to solutions.

I also enjoyed Nicole Sump-Crethar's presentation, "Accidental Director: Making Video Tutorials," where she highlighted the essentials of online learning tuto-

rials: content, interactivity, multimedia, and game-like qualities. She provided suggestions for free video tutorial software such as Jing. In "The Facts of Fiction: Information Literacy for Creative Writing," Melissa Clark demonstrated short information literacy activities while presenting on sources and techniques to incorporate information literacy in Creative Writing library sessions. For example, she asked everyone to take 5 minutes to begin a story about a soldier on the way home the day after the U.S. Civil War had ended. Following that exercise, it was immediately evident how much information one would need to write such a story in a way that would ring true - and a great way to focus in on finding and using primary and secondary sources. Lindsay Twa's presentation, "An Art Historian, Copyright, Haiti, and Tracking Permissions: Stories that Librarians & Other Sleuths Can Appreciate" provided spell-binding accounts of difficult copyright permissions tracking along with an introduction to striking works of art. And, Peter Kraus' "A Course in Scholarly Publishing for Undergraduates at the University of Utah," provided a useful template and great inspiration for information literacy integration into a for-credit elective course model that also promotes publication skills for undergraduates aspiring to professional positions or graduate programs.

All in all, it was an excellent experience. Thank you very much to MPLA, SDLA, and NDLA for putting on such an inspiring continuing education event.

**Anali says,** "I, too, attended the SDLA/NDLA/MPLA Tri-Conference in Sioux Falls, SD. It was a pleasure to attend the conference with my colleagues, Dan

**"Melissa Clark demonstrated short information literacy activities while presenting on sources and techniques to incorporate information literacy in Creative Writing library sessions."**

## From MPLA (cont.)

Stanton and Virginia Pannabecker - we had our own little Arizona embassy! This was my first MPLA Conference, and I had a great time.

The conference was very well-organized, with some really nice programs. Virginia Pannabecker and I gave a presentation on open access that was really well attended. Dan already highlighted the keynote speakers, who were both fantastic! Additionally, one of the presentations I attended is worth special mention: Jo Budler, the State Librarian for Kansas (and Library Journal's [Librarian of the Year 2013](#)), gave one of the best [presentations about leadership](#) (.ppt) I have ever heard in a one-hour session. I'm really coming to associate MPLA as

the place to go to learn about library leadership! (Cough - MPLA Leadership Institute-cough).

I'd heard that MPLA was a good community, and now I know from experience that it's true! While everyone I met was friendly and nice, the MPLA folks went above and beyond to make me feel welcome. I truly recommend considering MPLA as an opportunity for professional involvement if you're looking for an organization somewhat larger than AzLA, but not on a national level. I'm looking forward to our AzLA/MPLA joint conference next year!"

[Dan Stanton](#)

MPLA Representative  
480-965-1798

## Arizona Humanities Council Brings Family Literacy Program to Scottsdale

The Arizona Humanities Council is delighted to announce that Scottsdale Public Library and Pima County Public Libraries were selected to participate in the PRIME TIME FAMILY READING TIME®, a free reading, discussion and storytelling series based on award-winning illustrated children's books for families and children ages 6 to 10. Scottsdale Public Library will debut PRIME TIME at the Paiute Neighborhood Center in October, and Pima County will begin their program in Spring 2014.

PRIME TIME is designed to strengthen the interest and skills of parents and children in reading and becoming active library users. The program typically serves 20-25 families at a 90-minute session each week over a course of 6-weeks. At the start of each session, families gather to enjoy a nutritious meal. As studies have shown, hunger has a

direct impact on a child's ability to be able to focus and learn. Sessions include reading children's books by a storyteller, followed by a discussion about the themes in the books. Additionally, the program can be presented in English or as a bilingual Spanish/English program, there are literacy activities for younger siblings ages 3-5 designed for their age group. Families also learn about library resources and services to encourage life-long reading and education.

The syllabus for this year's set of books is titled, "It's a Small World After All: Global Citizenship Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" in which families will explore themes of social justice, peace and conflict, communications, work and economy, and more. The book list includes cherished titles such as *A Chair for My Mother* by Vera B. Williams, as well as

## Arizona Humanities Council... (cont.)

newer additions like *Click, Clack Moo: Cows That Type* by Doreen Cronin.

“Good reading ability in children is an important indicator of future academic success and PRIME TIME fosters a lifelong love of learning through reading,” says Brenda Thomson, Executive Director for the Arizona Humanities Council. “We are very excited to be part of this nationwide effort that offers an opportunity for families to learn to read together in a humanities-based project. Public libraries have long been places where adults and children can learn and practice new skills. This project offers a unique opportunity for the library to expand family literacy opportunities and make a significant contribution to a more literate nation.”

If you are interested in hosting PRIME TIME at your library, please contact Jamie Martin, Programs and Grants Man-

ager for the Arizona Humanities Council at 602-257-0335 x26 or [jmartin@azhumanities.org](mailto:jmartin@azhumanities.org).

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PRIME TIME, an award-winning family literacy program from The Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities in partnership with the American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office began in 1991 at the East Baton Rouge (LA) Parish Library and spread to surrounding states with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Since its inception, over 24,000 individuals have participated in more than 750 PRIME TIME programs in 36 states and the Virgin Islands.

[Marilyn Murphy](#)

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## LITA Forum in Louisville, Kentucky

In terms of practical program ideas and resources, the LITA Forum is the best conference I’ve been to in years. The theme for the forum was *Creation, Collaboration, Community*. There was a scavenger hunt/geocache game during the forum with QR codes and a simple story (follow Ellie the Elephant to the prize) which made the breaks between sessions fun. We heard from some big movers and shakers during the keynote lectures. The talks were relevant and amusing, and left us with good questions to consider about the future.

My only goal for this forum was to gain Makerspace knowledge. Phoenix Public Library is planning a new 10,000 square foot Makerspace and I wanted to arm myself with all of the tools I could find to

make this a successful venture. Needless to say, I took the Maker Track. Mini motors, LED Throwies, and crazy ideas were everywhere! Following is a summary of concepts to consider; software I intend to investigate and utilize; hardware I learned about; programs I plan to copy, and other thoughts I hope to follow up on. Needless to say, this was a very full conference and it will take me months to catch up to all this new stuff!

Concepts to consider while creating a Makerspace:

- Makerspaces are not about tools, they are about community. You can have a Makerspace with any kind of make and take or DIY program; you do not need a 3D printer. Makerspaces remove barriers and allow people to collaborate in

**“You can have a Makerspace with any kind of make and take or DIY program; you do not need a 3D printer.”**

## From MPLA (cont.)

new ways. No one needs to be an expert. They can dabble, take on multiple trades, and share without knowing it all. Libraries are moving to be creative community spaces. The Maker Movement aligns with this perfectly. We are already doing much of the programming. The most important part is developing relationships in the community.

- We should be thinking very strategically about our partners. Why not AIG, Honeywell, Intel, Google, GE, or Qualcomm? These may be good places to begin looking for programming grants. Innovation and Making are valuable skills to these employers.
- Go from a planning place to a tinkering place! Your Makerspace should be messy, noisy, have easy to move furniture and encourage Design/Ideation and Collaboration/Practice. Also you should have whiteboards everywhere.

Software you should try to familiarize yourself with:

- Engage 3D + Lucid Streaming allows you to use gesture control digitally
- 3D modeling: Blender, Wings3D, Matter Remix, Sketchup, Tinker Cad, 123D Catch
- Pepakura Designer Database

Hardware you might want to look up:

- Idea Paint – use paint to create whiteboards anywhere.
- Ardweeny / Lilly Pads used for creating e-textiles. Get kids sewing tech gear into their clothes!
- HAM Radio Station
- Fabtotem (upcoming, all in one 3D printer, scanner, CNC machine)
- Library Box (allows you to have downloadable files to share without having the internet available)

Sample Programs

- 24 Hour Hackathon (Chattanooga)
- How to Fest: Learn 50 things in 5 hours (Louisville)
- Digital Graffiti (Northeast Kansas)
- Young Filmmakers Festival (Louisville)
- DIY Rocketry (Louisville)
- National Day of Civic Hacking (Chattanooga)
- Use 3D modeling software to create pumpkin stencils and have a carving party (Northeast Kansas)
- E-textiles are all the rage everywhere. You sew simple circuitry into cloth and have a blinking headband or a bicycle jacket that can signal your turns.

Websites to check out:

- [Sparkfun.com](http://Sparkfun.com)
- [Make it @ your library](http://Makeit@yourlibrary.com)
- [LVL1.org](http://LVL1.org)
- [Hackerspaces.org](http://Hackerspaces.org)
- [Adafruit.com](http://Adafruit.com)
- [MakerShed.com](http://MakerShed.com)
- [Instructables.com](http://Instructables.com)

Libraries to watch:

- Allen County Maker Station: Jeff Krull
- Cleveland Central: Felton Thomas
- DeLaMare Library: Tod Colgrove
- Nova Labs Virginia: Travis Good
- Chattanooga: Nathaniel Hill

What libraries need next:

- A source for best practices
- A database of maker helpers
- New sources of funding
- Maker Kits that are reusable and can be checked out by the public
- A source to find good projects

[Terry Ann Lawler](mailto:TerryAnn.Lawler@phoenixlibrary.org)

Phoenix Public Library  
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