Annual Conference

Palaces for the People
Welcome to the Virtual Conference

CONGRATULATIONS!

We have made it this far into 2020. What a crazy, unprecedented year of firsts for us all! Although many libraries were closed to patrons during the pandemic's initial months, libraries continued to serve their communities with unique ideas for services from grab bags to curbside services to virtual assistance.

This virtual conference is a first for the organization, too. Thank you to everyone who proposed ideas and sessions for the upcoming month.

I want to give a huge thank you to EBSCO Information Services. The company made a generous donation to the organization, allowing the Library Association to have guest speakers for the conference and update its website. Please stop by the virtual vendor session on October 28 to preview the company's products.

Take care!
Heather

Registration Information
To register to attend the virtual conference, please use this link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/wvlawl

Encourage all of your staff members to register individually, so they may get West Virginia Library Commission continuing education credit. To receive full conference credit, all individuals must attend four (4) sessions. General sessions, division, and roundtable meetings do not count towards conference credit.
October 7, 2020 Sessions

10:00 am - First General Session

11:00 am - Marshall University Autism Training Center
Presenter: Julia Haines

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is the fastest growing developmental disorder in the United States. As the prevalence increases, individuals with ASD are entering Public Libraries in increasing numbers. Though characteristics vary in every person, individuals on the autism spectrum typically face communicative, sensory and social challenges. If the library can serve as a safe and welcoming place for these students, it will help contribute to their ultimate success. Here we will discuss some practical programming ideas that can be implemented in your library. Of course, not everything will work well for every library, but with some experimentation and perseverance you'll find things that are effective.

1:00 pm - Keynote Speaker

Ryan Dowd

Ryan has spent most of his career as Executive Director of Hesed House, a large homeless shelter outside of Chicago, Illinois. In addition to running the shelter, Ryan trains organizations around the world how to compassionately manage problematic behavior from troubled individuals. His book, The Librarian's Guide to Homelessness was published by the American Library Association. Ryan.

3:30 pm - First Person Language

Presenter: Jodi Maiolo
October 8, 2020 Sessions

10:00 am - Tails are Wagging for Summer Reading
Presenter: Lisa Hechesky, WV Library Commission
We will talk about what's new for Summer Reading 2021 plus recap the wild year of 2020. The 2021 theme is all about animals. Come see samples of the artwork, the manual, and the products. Plus get the latest information on summer. Also, we will have a sharing session recap of 2020 Summer Reading.

1:00 pm - Envisioning Your Book Chat: Going Virtual
Presenters: David Blake, Ashley Brown, & Bianca Prince, KCPL
Meeting the needs of public library patrons during the social distancing era of Covid-19 and limited in-person services can be challenging. Many public libraries have active book chat communities that have been unable to meet due to adhering to COVID-19 precautions. Kanawha County Public Library created a Virtual Book Chat model that has been extremely successful throughout the pandemic. Instead of discussing specific titles, KCPL's book chat discusses such important matters as, “If you had to choose 3 book characters to team up with during a zombie outbreak, who would you choose?” Join the KCPL Virtual Book Chat team to learn strategies you can use to implement or improve your own virtual book chat.

3:00 pm - Book an Adventure: 2020 Family Reading Week
Presenter: Lisa Hechesky, WV Library Commission
Let WV Family Read Week (November 15-21) whisk you away with adventures real and imaged. This session will explain the week’s theme, the family guidebook, the library toolkit, and some fun ways to travel without leaving home! Remember: there are no limits to adventure with a library card.
October 9, 2020 - Division Meetings

10:00 am
Academic Division

11:00 am
Trustee Division

1:00 pm
Special Library Division

2:00 pm
School Library Division

3:00 pm
Public Library Division
October 13, 2020

1:30 pm

**Not Your Average Youth Services Training, Part 1**

Presenters: Lisa Hechesky, WV Library Commission & Denise Norris, So. Charleston Public Library

Want to learn ways to better serve teens in your library? You’re in luck! YALSA’s Transforming Teen Services: A Train the Trainer Approach (T3) explores different methods to engage your young adult patrons. First lesson in the program is understanding Connected Learning (CL). In this course, we will explain what it is, how it is useful when working with teens, and much more. *This course will require some work on your own outside of the meetings.*

The **Not Your Average Youth Services Training** session is limited to 15 individuals. Use this link to register, [https://airtable.com/shrs3VqG1Ks2SdSKH](https://airtable.com/shrs3VqG1Ks2SdSKH). The Library Commission is offering this session again in the upcoming months. Please watch the WV Libraries Summer Reading Supporters and West Virginia Public Library Directors and Branch Manager Facebook groups for announcements.
October 15, 2020

10:00 am - The West Virginia Newspaper Portal: Free Access to History for All
Presenters: Nicholas Gardner & Seth Caudill, Potomac State College
The West Virginia Newspapers Portal managed by Potomac State College's campus library provides free online access to historic West Virginia Newspapers digitized from microfilm reels. The project has expanded in the past three years from dealing with only one county to partnering with academic, public, and archives around the state to expand coverage. If you are considering a microfilm digitization project at your library, we would love to partner with you. Contact Nick Gardner, gardner@mail.wvu.edu or Seth Caudill, seth.caudill@mail.wvu.edu.

11:00 am - What's New with WVInfoDepot.org
Presenter: Gena Chattin, WV Library Commission
WVInfoDepot.org may look the same, but we’ve made some subtle changes over the summer to West Virginia's eLibrary that we hope will make big improvements for our users. From preschool to grad school and out of school entirely, there is something in WVInfoDepot for every type of patron. As a result, we made updates with all the types of librarians who support them in mind. New features include tutorials, updated database descriptions, resources for library staff and educators, and more. Meanwhile, there are a few older features you may not have noticed that could help you guide your users to interesting and life-changing information. Come see what's new and what might be new to you.
October 15, 2020 - Continued

1:00 pm - With the People
Presenter: Betty Knighton

*With the People* is an initiative of the National Issues Forums Institute and growing network of national, state, and local partners. It is based on the idea that democracy is strengthened when citizens, institutions, and governments find ways to talk and work with each other.

3:00 pm - West Virginia Libraries Special Collections Survey
Presenter: Gena Chattin, WV Library Commission

The Library Commission is revising and redistributing its special collections survey to state libraries in order to update its 2015 findings. All state libraries should participate if only to tell us they do not have any special collections. Those that do have special collections are strongly encouraged to respond with an update. We plan to become a participant in the DPLA hub for our region, Digital Virginias, as well as implement a state digital library that will provide basic catalog listings for both print and digital special collections statewide. In this brief session, we'll talk about the survey, how you can participate, and planned next steps.
October 16, 2020 - Roundtable Meetings

10:00 am
Government Documents

11:00 am
Library Instruction

12:00 pm
Inclusion and Diversity

1:00 pm
Youth Services

2:00 pm
Digital

3:00 pm
Technical Services

4:00 pm
Reference and Interlibrary Loan
October 20, 2020

10:00 am - Opioid Use in Libraries and How We Can be Prepared

Presenters: Sara Ramezani, Cabell County Public Libraries, John Faria, Jackson County Public Library, and Erika Connelly, Kanawha County Public Library System

Join a discussion on opioid use in libraries and how their libraries have become prepared to address it. Further discussion will reflect how staff can be trained, where help can be found, and how to even pinpoint the issues libraries might have. Please come prepared with questions, comments, and concerns that you have in order to help them direct your response to your own communities.

11:00 am - AmeriCorps Seed Dating

Presenter: Dana Bryant, Volunteer West Virginia

Does your library need volunteers? Come meet your match! Whether you are looking for a full-time volunteer or a team of volunteers, National Service programs like AmeriCorps and Senior Corps could be a great fit. During this session you will learn: 1) A brief introduction to National Service - AmeriCorps & Senior Corps. 2) How National Service volunteers can help your library. 3) How to get connected with AmeriCorps & Senior Corps programs in West Virginia. Come find a National Service program that makes your heart sing!

1:30 pm - Not Your Average Youth Services Training, Part 2

Presenters: Lisa Hechesky, WV Library Commission & Denise Norris, So. Charleston Public Library
Awards and Scholarship Ceremony

OCTOBER 22, 2020, AT 3:30 PM
October 23, 2020 - Other Group Meetings

10:00 am
West Virginia Library Network

2:00 pm
WV-READS
October 27, 2020

10:00 am - I Said Yes, Now What Do I Do? An Orientation for New Trustees
Presenter: Heather Campbell-Shock, WV Library Commission
Newly appointed trustees often find themselves to have innate knowledge about the local library in particular and other library issues in general. This presentation will introduce new board members to their role and answer common questions.

11:00 am - Rethinking the Way Your Organization Problem-Solves: Integrating a Team Approach to Challenging Issues
Presenters: Ashley Brown, Marsha Alford, Teddy Claypool, & Sarah Mitchell, Kanawha County Public Library
In the fall of 2019, KCPL began implementing a new strategy of problem-solving consistent issues throughout the system by involving all levels of staff system-wide, as well as engaging in issue specific meetings. Throughout this process, KCPL targeted the following areas: increasing STEM programming and accessing patron program needs, addressing organizational processes related to employee satisfaction, and increasing circulation of electronic resources. While COVID-19 contributed additional challenges to meeting these goals, KCPL was successful in adapting these strategies and continuing new initiatives throughout COVID. This panel of KCPL administration and staff will share the decision-making process of choosing focused initiatives, the implementation of these new strategies, and the lessons learned and outcomes of this innovative project.
1:00 pm - Making Better Surveys and Communicating the Results

Presenter: Gena Chattin, WV Library Commission

Everyone is tired of surveys, but done right, they can be a valuable tool to help illustrate the work you are doing or back up your requests for the help you need to do more. We'll discuss ways to create more effective surveys that assess needs and measure progress in meaningful ways that can be communicated to your community, funders, and elected officials.
October 29, 2020

10:00 am
Third General Session

11:30 am
Executive Board Meeting with 2020 & 2021 Board Members
Reflections

Use this space to list any new ideas formed, concepts considered, musings, or anything else the might prove helpful to you in the future.

Ahas! What are some insights you have learned from today’s sessions?

Next Steps - List 1-3 next steps related to what. You learned today. What is your timeline for completing these?