



OCTOBER 10-13, 2023

VICKSBURG CONVENTION CENTER

1600 Dr. Briggs Hopson Blvd
Vicksburg, MS 39180

Logo and program designed by Janessa Ullendorf

From the President

I write this today after returning from a week at the Association for Rural & Small Libraries conference in Wichita, KS and to say that I came back rejuvenated would be an understatement. Over the course of several days, I presented sessions to lively and wonderful librarians who are out there on the front lines of some of the smallest and most challenge riddled libraries in the country. Their sense of strength and perseverance was cathartic and inspiring.

As we enter our own state library conference, my hope is that you will be refreshed and find new encouragement for the important work we all do in serving our communities. While we face challenges – economic, social, political, and interpersonal – we know that the work is worth it. The communities we serve are worth it. The impacts we make on the lives of individuals is worth it. The growth and development of our peers is worth it. You are worth it.

Thank you for all the work you are doing in your libraries and while it can sometimes be difficult to do, I hope we take the time this year at MLA Annual Conference 2023 to come together and celebrate the work and remember – we are making a difference and that will always be worth it.

Phillip Carter

From the Vice President

We are thrilled that you all decided to join us for the 2023 MLA Conference. The conference planning team has worked hard to provide you all with valuable professional development experiences via our programs, posters, and vendor interactions. If you aren't already an active MLA member, I hope you will take the time to speak with those who are and will consider getting involved with MLA. If you see me around the conference, please say "hi" and let me know how your conference experience is going.

Ashley S. Dees



The Mississippi Library Association's mission
Is to provide professional leadership for the development, promotion, and improvement of library and information services and the profession of librarianship in order to enhance learning and ensure access to information for all.

P.O. Box 13687 Jackson, MS 39236 • 601.981.4586 • info@misslib.org • misslib.org

AT A GLANCE

REGISTRATION

Tuesday, October 10 11 AM – 4 PM
Wednesday, October 11 8 AM – 4 PM
Thursday, October 12 8 AM – 4 PM

SILENT AUCTION

BIDDING

Tuesday, October 10

Bidding opens at 1 PM

Thursday, October 12

Bidding closes at 3 PM

Pick up items from 4 – 5 PM

Last chance to pick up items:

Friday, October 13 from 9 – 10 AM

SCHOLARSHIP RAFFLE

TICKET PRICES

1 – \$2 | 3 – \$5

Tickets available for purchase at:

Hospitality, Registration, or Silent Auction

Tickets may also be purchased online at

misslib.org/raffle

PRIZES

2 – 1-Year MLA Memberships

1 – 1-Year MLA Full Conference Registration

Winning tickets will be announced at the President's Bash. If winner is not at the event, they will receive a text message informing them of their win.

Prizes may be claimed at the same time as the Silent Auction pick up, or at the Bash if the winner is present.

CONFERENCE T-SHIRT



URL:
tinyurl.com/MLAConTee

EXHIBITS AND VENDORS — Exhibit Hall A

Wednesday, October 11 10 AM – 5 PM
Thursday, October 12 9 AM – 4 PM

COFFEE

Wednesday, October 11 8 – 9:30 AM
Thursday, October 12 8 – 9:30 AM

OFF-SITE LOCATION

The Roof at 1311

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Long Range Planning	Fawn Ussery, Delta State University
Membership	Courtney Hicks, Northwest Mississippi Community College
National Library Week	Tori Hopper, Columbus-Lowndes Public Library System
Nominating	Rachelle Moore, Holmes Community College
	Josh Cromwell, The University of Southern Mississippi
Publicity	Janessa Ullendorf, Harrison County Library System
Scholarship	Justin Easterday, The University of Southern Mississippi
Web	Jennifer Todd, Mississippi Library Commission

2023 MLA ROUND TABLE CHAIRS

Black Caucus	Blanche Sanders, Alcorn State University
Gaming	Hannah Myers, Lamar County Library System
Marketing/PR	Janessa Ullendorf, Harrison County Library System
New Member	David Powell, First Regional Library System
Social Justice	Dawn Zimmerer, Madison County Library System
Technical Services	Lauren Geiger, Mississippi State University
Young Persons' Services	Tori Hopper, Columbus-Lowndes Public Library System

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MLA President’s Welcome	2
At a Glance	3
MLA Executive Board, Committee and Round Table Chairs	4
Pre-Conference	6
Sponsors	7
Poster Session Lightning Rounds	8
Keynote Speaker: Pamela D. C. Junior	10
Mississippi Author Award Recipients	11
2023 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE	
Tuesday, October 10	13
Wednesday, October 11	14
Thursday, October 12	18
Friday, October 13	23

PRE-CONFERENCE

Retrain Your Brain: Communication Strategies to Improve Your Work Culture and Community Connections

Tuesday, October 10 | 1 – 4 PM | EXHIBIT HALL B

Successful libraries are built by successful teams. Focusing on individual and shared purposes and fostering a respectful environment can help your team build a culture of community and collaboration. Communication plays such an integral role in successful team building that it's often the first thing people think of when there's a problem they can't define.

In this session, participants will experience a collaborative knowledge-building discussion focused on communication strategies and actively work together to incorporate positive communication skills. You will better understand the connection between a shared individual and collective purpose and their impact on overall workplace culture. Not only will you leave with an updated communication toolkit for creating a dynamic team culture, you'll also take away concrete ideas for improvement and services to incorporate at your library.



CRYSTAL GATES is the Executive Director of the North Little Rock Public Library System. As a professional librarian with more than thirteen years of administrative experience, she has successfully managed traditional library services in addition to policy-writing, grant administration, capital projects, and rebuilding dynamic, positive work cultures and relationships with stakeholders. She believes in life-long learning and service and is actively involved in numerous professional and civic associations. She currently serves as the Southeastern Library Association President and an ALA Chapter Councilor for Arkansas.

FRIENDS OF THE MISSISSIPPI LIBRARIES, INC. is a nonprofit organization of library supporters devoted to encouraging, promoting, and advocating reading and library service through public, academic, special, and school libraries in Mississippi. There are over a 130 active Friends groups across the state with close to 3700 members.

For more information about Friends of Mississippi Libraries, including information on starting a chapter, visit: mlc.lib.ms.us/ms-libraries/library-development

For questions about Friends of Mississippi Libraries, contact: Lacy Ellinwood at lEllinwood@mlc.lib.ms.us

THE MARGARET MURRAY GRANT

The purpose of the Margaret Murray grant is to advance library programming and literacy for Mississippi public libraries through activities sponsored by the local Friends of Mississippi Libraries chapters.

Funds are earmarked for programming, collection development, and literacy activities. Funds are not intended for administrative or operational use.

SPONSORS

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MLA Awards Luncheon

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[Southern Miss School of Library & Information Science](#)

[Friends of Southaven Library](#) (Mississippi Author Awards)

[Friends of the Warren County-Vicksburg Public Library](#) (Scholarship)

SILVER

Morning Coffee

Wednesday, October 11

Sponsored by [Midwest Tape/hoopla Digital](#)
midwesttape.com

Thursday, October 12

Sponsored by [Biblionix](#)
biblionix.com



Thank you!

POSTER SESSION LIGHTNING ROUNDS

Wednesday, October 11 | 9:30 – 10:20 AM | ROOM 1

TITLE: Climate Change Movies and Documentaries for Academic and Public Library Collections

Joyce Shaw — Gunter Library, USM's Gulf Coast Research Laboratory

Megan Le — Gulf Coast Library, The University of Southern Mississippi

Gunter Library, as part of work to support a sustainability and resiliency project at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory's Marine Education Center, selected and reviewed popular movies and documentaries that featured global warming or impacts of climate change. These films share a dual purpose: to entertain and educate. Using these movies and documentaries in an educational setting add science to stories for students and others who may access and process information better with pictures and sound than via print. By having both fiction (cli-fi) and documentaries, movie clips can be incorporated into a wide range of formal and informal programming from supplementing STEM classes to library and community-based resiliency and sustainability events and workshops. The list includes a brief description of each film or documentary, its rating, and any awards or honors it received.

TITLE: Library Makers: A Community for Learners and Leaders

Maya Berry — R. C. Pugh Library, Northwest Mississippi Community College

Learn more about Library Makers: A Community for Learners and Leaders! The Library Makers group is a national community of library practitioners designed to share resources and learnings about how library maker programs can be sustainable assets that are responsive to the needs of their local communities. Supported by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), this initiative is led by a diverse (rural, suburban, urban) set of libraries that are geographically dispersed and experienced in different aspects of maker programming. Maya Berry, digital librarian at Northwest Mississippi Community College, is an inaugural Ambassador of the Library Makers group and is delighted to share this new resource with Mississippi librarians. This lightning talk/poster session is for all library staff at all libraries: From large libraries that have dedicated Makerspaces to those smaller libraries who push their maker supplies/equipment around their library on carts (Maya's been there/done that!), and all libraries in between, you are all welcome! Join our group, and let's share ideas and resources!



POSTER SESSION LIGHTNING ROUNDS

Thursday, October 12 | 9:30 – 10:20 AM | ROOM 1

TITLE: Faculty Motivations for Embedding Librarians in Undergraduate Courses at South-Sun State College

Kayla Kuni — Pasco-Hernando State College (FL)

Embedded librarians can provide students with needed support in and out of the classroom. The work of embedded librarians is not just limited to students though. Faculty members may find that embedding librarians in their courses can help them build closer relationships with other members of their academic community in addition to helping students with predefined aspects of the course. The research questions for a current study ask what motivates faculty to embed librarians in their classes, how these embedded librarians are used to promote student learning, and how relationships between faculty and librarians are developed before, during, and after the embedding process for a class has occurred. This poster will contain a problem of practice, as well as details about the study, the methodology, and data collection and analysis procedures. The study will be ongoing at the time of the conference, so findings will not be available at the time of the presentation.

TITLE: Emerging Technologies in Academic Libraries

Lara Taylor — Mississippi State University Libraries

The MSU Libraries Emerging Technologies Committee is officially charged to investigate innovative technologies from within the library sphere and from non-academic entities. The Emerging Technologies Committee works with library staff to propose, implement, and apply emerging technologies to the benefit of the library and its mission. This committee also pursues grant funding opportunities, develops workflows for incorporating the new technologies into the library, and provides structures for maintaining and growing the implemented technologies.

TITLE: STEM and the Art of Inspiration: DSU, The AAUW, and the 2023 Tech Savvy Event

Michael Emerson — Delta State University

In the Spring semester of 2023, academic librarians from Delta State University (DSU) teamed up with the American Association of University Women (AAUW) to host a digital escape room for the 2023 Tech Savvy Conference. Tech Savvy is a one-day event that aims to introduce young women in the sixth through ninth grades to STEM fields. This poster will demonstrate how the library partnered with the AAUW and professional women who work in STEM fields to inspire young women to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. This poster fits the MLA conference theme of supporting our communities by demonstrating how libraries can inspire the next generation of STEM professionals.

TITLE: Developing Community Engagement: Exploring a Partnership between Oxford High School and the University of Mississippi

Melissa Dennis — The University of Mississippi

Amanda Osborne — Oxford High School

Partnerships between school libraries and academic libraries can benefit the librarians involved as well as their students by enhancing professional development skills and supporting student learning. In 2022, Amanda Osborne, Oxford High School librarian and USM graduate student, met with Melissa Dennis, Head of Research and Instruction Services at the UM Libraries, to discuss community engagement in Oxford. This initial talk escalated a timeline of events for librarians at UM, who were seeking ways to build sustainable programs with community partners as part of the university's strategic goal alignment. This poster presents the school library and academic library viewpoints used to create engaging outreach opportunities for academic librarians, school librarians, and high school students in North Mississippi. This poster highlights the challenges, opportunities, partnership expansion, and events that led to new community engagements for academic librarians and school librarians at the University of Mississippi.

KEYNOTE LUNCHEON: Pamela D. C. Junior

11:30 AM – 1:50 PM | Exhibit Hall B



Motivational speaker, historian, and women’s activist, Pamela D. C. Junior recently retired as the director of the Two Mississippi Museums in Jackson, Mississippi. As former manager of Smith Robertson Museum and Cultural Center, Pamela fought passionately and tirelessly to make the museum a first-class place of interpretation, bringing the museum from financial struggles to features across the nation, most notably, one of CNN’s “50 States, 50 Spots.” After seventeen years of service at Smith Robertson Museum, Pamela became the inaugural director of the first state-sponsored civil rights museum in the nation, the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum, where she welcomed more than 250,000 visitors in her first year. In July 2019, Pamela was promoted to director of the Two Mississippi Museums where she continues her tireless work to share the stories of Mississippi with audiences from all over the world.

Motivational speaker, historian, and women’s activist, Pamela D. C. Junior is the director of the Two Mississippi Museums in Jackson, Mississippi. As former manager of Smith Robertson Museum and Cultural Center, Pamela fought passionately and tirelessly to make the museum a first-class place of interpretation, bringing the museum from financial struggles to features across the nation, most notably, one of CNN’s “50 States, 50 Spots.” After seventeen years of service at Smith Robertson Museum, Pamela became the inaugural director of the first state-sponsored civil rights museum in the nation, the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum, where she welcomed more than 250,000 visitors in her first year. In July 2019, Pamela was promoted to director of the Two Mississippi Museums where she continues her tireless work to share the stories of Mississippi with audiences from all over the world.

Pamela has been honored over the years for her professional work as well as her community work, i.e. Margaret Walker Center’s coveted “For My People Award”, Visit Jackson’s Hometown Hero Award, Magnolia Bar Association’s Harriet Tubman Award, Leontyne Price Award from Who’s Who of Mississippi Women and others that are too numerous to name.

Pamela continues to serve her community with her appointments as a board member for Visit Jackson, an advisory board member for the Mississippi Book Festival, and most recently, a member of the International Women’s Forum

Most recently, Pamela has turned to another page in her life. She’s now retired. Her new life page-turner is sharing stories of African American history, and the civil and human rights history of Mississippi. She’s also highly recommended in developing small museum spaces throughout the state. The stories of Black Mississippians can’t be forgotten. We must make room for these American stories. They are the fabric and the thread of Mississippi.



MISSISSIPPI AUTHOR AWARDS

Ticketed Event

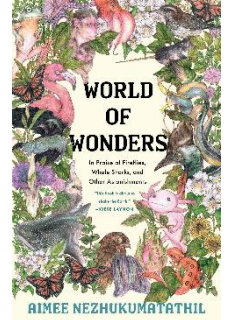
Thursday, October 12 | 6 PM | Exhibit Hall B



AIMEE NEZHUKUMATATHIL

2023 Winner for Nonfiction – *World of Wonders*

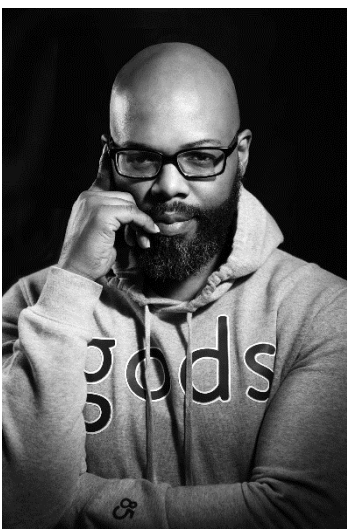
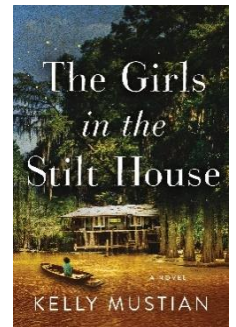
Aimee Nezhukumatathil is the author of a book of nature essays, *World of Wonders: In Praise of Fireflies, Whale Sharks, & Other Astonishments*, which was named a finalist for the Kirkus Prize in non-fiction, and four award-winning poetry collections, most recently, *Oceanic*. Awards for her writing include fellowships from the Mississippi Arts Council, Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Award for poetry, National Endowment of the Arts, and the Guggenheim Foundation. Her writing has appeared in *NYTimes Magazine*, *ESPN*, and *Best American Poetry*. She is professor of English and Creative Writing in the University of Mississippi's MFA program.



KELLY MUSTIAN

2023 Winner for Fiction – *The Girls in the Stilt House*

Kelly Mustian is the author of the USA Today and SIBA bestselling novel *The Girls in the Stilt House*, which *Publishers Weekly* describes as a “remarkable debut” and a “nearly flawless tale of loss, perseverance, and redemption.” The novel was shortlisted for the 2022 *Crook’s Corner Book Prize* for best debut novel set in the American South. Kelly’s work has appeared in numerous journals and magazines, and she is a past recipient of an artist grant from the North Carolina Arts and Science Council. Originally from Natchez, Mississippi, she now lives in North Carolina.



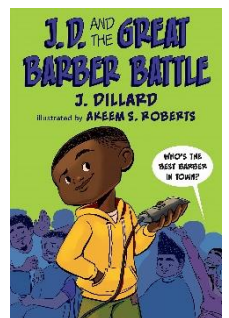
J. DILLARD

2023 Winner for Youth – *J.D. and the Great Barber Battle*

“Follow Your Clippers” is the lifelong mantra that continues to inspire J. Dillard to achieve phenomenal success as a children’s book author, a Master Barber, and a barberpreneur™.

Dillard is the author of the semi-autobiographical children’s book series “J.D. the Kid Barber. Like the main character, Dillard’s barber career began at a very young age after his mother’s failed haircut attempts resulted in his peers bullying him at school in Meridian, Mississippi.


Today, he’s a highly sought-after barber who makes house calls and travels worldwide with his clients, who are celebrity influencers. A trailblazing leader, Dillard is widely credited with influencing the barber industry’s dynamic growth.



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Save the Date

2024

Children's Book Festival

APRIL 10-12



Southern Miss
Medallion Winner

CYNTHIA LEITICH SMITH

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Early Registration

1:00 PM

Silent Auction — Bidding Open

1:00 – 4:00 PM



PRE-CONFERENCE — Retrain Your Brain: Communication Strategies to Improve Your Work Culture and Community Connections — EXHIBIT HALL B

Successful libraries are built by successful teams. Focusing on individual and shared purposes and fostering a respectful environment can help your team build a culture of community and collaboration. Communication plays such an integral role in successful team building that it's often the first thing people think of when there's a problem they can't define.

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4:00 – 5:00 PM

MLA Executive Board Meeting — ROOM 5

The board meeting is open to any MLA members who wish to attend.

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

8:30 – 9:20 AM

Black Caucus Round Table Meeting — ROOM 5

8:30 – 9:20 AM

New Members Round Table Meeting — ROOM 4

9:30 – 10:20 AM



Poster Session Lightning Rounds — ROOM 1

Lightning Rounds to consist of short presentations up to 10 minutes each though may be shorter.

9:30 – 10:20 AM



Unwind Your Mind: Incorporating a Wellness Series at Your Library — ROOM 2

Melissa Wright — Northwest Mississippi Community College

Courtney Hicks — Northwest Mississippi Community College

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Northwest Mississippi Community College librarians noticed an increased level of stress and anxiety among our students, faculty, and staff. To mitigate the increasing anxiety levels among our community, we applied for and received a grant from the Institute of Library and Museum Services (IMLS) to incorporate new “zen” spaces, materials, and programs to address mindfulness, mental health, and overall wellness in our college. This session will share a year-long series of community outreach wellness programs that participants can take home and implement within their own libraries. Each program will be highlighted, along with attendance, program costs, community partnerships, marketing materials, and ideas for how other libraries might do similar programs on a small budget. Feedback from program participants and highlights of what worked well and what we will change in future programming will also be shared. Plus, you might learn a yoga move or two!

9:30 – 10:20 AM



Was That Legit? What Proxy Logs Can Tell Us About eResource Use — ROOM 3

Kristin Rogers — The University of Mississippi

Proxy logs offer a wealth of information for libraries. In addition to helping with collection development and access issues, proxy logs can provide data for security breaches and excessive use. How are bots or hackers getting through the authentication process? How are they not being caught by the vendor or the proxy service? This session will look at what data proxy logs can provide to see if use is legit or a result of a breach.

9:30 – 10:20 AM



One Shot to Get It Right: Assessment Techniques for One-Shot Sessions — ROOM 4

Hannah Madonna — The University of Southern Mississippi

For many librarians who do instruction, the one-shot session is all the time we have with students or patrons. With limited time, it can be difficult enough to hold the group's interest and deliver a lesson on information literacy they will retain. Even more difficult than that is to evaluate how well the librarian has done during the session. Assessment is vital, both to ensure retention and to improve instruction. This presentation will present techniques that can be used, both during one-shot sessions and after, such as: learning outcomes, active learning activities, curriculum mapping, and reflection. Though most relevant to librarians in academic institutions, anyone who teaches one-shot sessions can benefit from these easy-to-implement techniques for evaluation and assessment.

10:30 – 11:20 AM

Exhibitor Meet & Greet — EXHIBIT HALL A

11:30 AM – 1:50 PM

MLA AWARDS LUNCHEON — EXHIBIT HALL B

Join us as we recognize Mississippi library professionals, staff, students, and supporters for excellence in service, marketing, scholarship, and advocacy.

2:00 – 2:50 PM



What Became of Dr. Smith? The State Law Library's Quest to Find Out — ROOM 1

Stephen Parks — State Law Library of Mississippi

Sponsored by the Special Libraries Section

A chance meeting in 2018 between State Librarian Stephen Parks and Nashville-based artist Noah Saterstrom has led to an upcoming exhibit What Became of Dr. Smith at the Mississippi Museum of Art. Researching his family's history with mental illness in Mississippi, Saterstrom shared with Parks his interest in trying to find out what happened to his great-grandfather, Dr. David Smith. Since that meeting five years ago, Parks and the State Law Library have helped piece together parts of the puzzle of Smith's disappearance through court documents, historical records, and newspapers. This session will discuss Parks' research process and findings as well as exhibit a few of the art pieces that Saterstrom has created throughout the search for Dr. Smith.

2:00 – 2:50 PM



Artificial Intelligence, Academic Libraries, and Related Topics — ROOM 2

Panel Discussion

Sponsored by the ACRL Section

How will Artificial Intelligence affect academic libraries? How will AI affect in person research and reference services?

2:00 – 2:50 PM



Bringing STEAM to Teens! — ROOM 3

David Powell — First Regional Library

Hanna Lee, Megan Lindsay, Kayla Taylor, Blake Nash, David Brown — FRL

During Spring 2022, First Regional Library launched Teen STEAM centers at five branches within its system. This session will tell the story of how this came to be, from the initial vision to launch and beyond. Topics addressed include planning, funding, acquisition, installation, promotion, daily operation, best practices, and lessons learned. This panel presentation will feature staff who played different roles in this project, followed by a question-and-answer session. Session attendees will get specific details on how these centers work and ideas for facilitating teen STEAM exploration that can be flexible depending on space, budget, and other constraints.



ELSEVIER

2:00 – 2:50 PM



Grant Us the Serenity: Challenges and Achievements at the One Year Mark —

ROOM 4

Panel Discussion

The University of Southern Mississippi Special Collections will review year one of a two-years grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. Drawing on the manuscript collections in the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection and underrepresented communities, the grant also provides a learning experience for students of Library and Information Science and related fields.

Lorraine A. Stuart, principal on the grant, will reflect on the grant process, progress and setbacks, the benefits and challenges of the student-based structure, and unforeseen setbacks. Assistant curators, Karlie Herndon and Jessica Clark, will talk about the collections undertaken in the first year and the day-to-day administration of the grant. Margaret Ellis will provide a student’s perspective. The session will appeal to those engaged in archival work, immersed in, or considering a grant project, and those interested in collections of Young Adult authors, LGBTQ activists, photographers, women, and people of color.

3:00 – 3:50 PM



Check Your Bias at the Door — ROOM 1

Dawn Zimmerer — Madison County Library System

Mac Buntin

Sponsored by the Social Justice Round Table

This program will investigate the inherent biases surrounding the publishing and reviews in children's literature. Attendees will be asked to examine their part in restricting access to information for the patrons they serve. The group will discuss how they can actively lessen the influences of bias in their collection development. Bias is part of everyday life and most of us blissfully spend our days ignorant of how our own internal biases influence our professional decisions. As librarians, we are trained and indoctrinated to order from known publishers as a means of quality control. Most of us have Collection Development policies that require two or three professional reviews or inclusion on a Notable booklist. How then do we practice inclusivity of new authors and imprints? How do we promote access without compromising quality or ignoring those policies that structure our daily activities? The presenters and the attendees will confront these issues head-on and investigate viable alternatives promoting enhanced access. Specifically, we will talk about substitutes for the tried-and-true methods that most of have been taught and continue to follow.

3:00 – 3:50 PM



When Life Gives You Lemons: Overcoming Obstacles to Expand Services and Better Serve Our Communities — ROOM 2

Courtney Hicks — Northwest Mississippi Community College

Workshop

We are all confronted with issues within our libraries that impact our daily work. Let’s solve some of them together. You’ll be asked to roll up your sleeves and collaborate to solve problems in our library community. Participants will provide the problem scenarios prior to the session and five scenarios will be chosen for the group to solve together. There will be the opportunity for frank talk and collaboration, and at the end of the session you will have strategies in your toolbox to deal with any similar problems you might face now or in the future.



3:00 – 3:50 PM



Beehive Resource Sharing — ROOM 3

Tracy Carr — Mississippi Library Commission

Alex Brower — Mississippi Library Commission

This program will discuss updates to and training on the Beehive Resource Sharing system for public library interlibrary loan staff.

3:00 – 3:50 PM

Technical Services Round Table Meeting — ROOM 5

4:00 – 4:50 PM



Developing Partnerships Workshop — ROOM 1

Melissa Dennis — University of Mississippi

A "happy hour" type of presentation that will be activity-based. During this 45-minute session, lessons will be shared with MLA participants through activities. Participants will partner up with another session member for activities on creating goals and developing trust in partnerships. Participants will take away a list of resources and ideas for developing and enhancing community partnerships in their libraries.

4:00 – 4:50 PM



Eagle Art: Hinds Community College Cataloging Art Objects — ROOM 2

Judy Hilkert — Hinds Community College

Daniel Shemwell, Sybyl Stringer, Sarah Teasley, LeeReyna Lopez-Leyva — HCC

Bonnie Bennet — University of Arkansas at Little Rock

Anita Winger — Mississippi Library Partnership

The program will discuss the many aspects, people and problems involved when a college Art Department and the Library collaborate at Hinds Community College to catalog Hinds' Art Department's Art Collection for checkout. This discussion includes the increasing importance in libraries creating and improving liaisons with other academic departments. Next, the process of proposing a solution to a non-library department as well as choosing a course of action. Then, you will always have unanticipated problem resolution which includes savvy APIs, partnerships, and catalogers. Finally, rolling out a beta product and working out the details. Discussion of aspects to allow non-library departments to check out items. Finally, the future of the project of continuous improvements and creating finding aids.

Explore the collection: tinyurl.com/HCC-ARTCOLLECTION

4:00 – 4:50 PM



DIY "Happy" Hour — ROOM 3

Selena Swink — Lake Public Library (CMRLS)

Come wind down after a long day of learning and use your brain for something fun. We will present a craft that you may be able to use at your local library. You'll be able to make one too, so you have a "happy" to take home with you.

4:00 – 4:50 PM

Sirsi User's Group Meeting — ROOM 4

6:00 – 9:00 PM

PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION & SCHOLARSHIP BASH — THE ROOF AT 1311

Ticketed Event — \$40

Join your colleagues and enjoy a fun evening at The Roof at 1311 (located above Key City Brewery). The Scholarship Raffle winners will be announced during this event.

This event helps fund the Peggy May Scholarship, Terry Lajaunie Annual Conference Scholarship, and Virginia Brocks-Shedd Scholarship.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

8:00 – 9:20 AM

MLA Past Presidents Breakfast — ROOM 7

8:30 – 9:20 AM

IHL Collections Committee Meeting — ROOM 5

8:30 – 9:20 AM

ACRL Section Meeting — ROOM 4

8:30 – 9:20 AM

School Library Section Meeting — ROOM 6

9:30 – 10:20 AM



Poster Session Lightning Rounds — ROOM 1

Lightning Rounds to consist of short presentations up to 10 minutes each though may be shorter.

9:30 – 10:20 AM



SLIS Updates & Input — ROOM 2

Stacy Creel — The University of Southern Mississippi

Brendan Fay — The University of Southern Mississippi

Join SLIS for updates on curriculum, faculty, and programs and provide feedback on what is going on at Southern Miss SLIS. Coffee and light snacks provided.

9:30 – 10:20 AM



Hone Your Information Literacy Superpowers! — ROOM 3

Joshua Martinez — Britannica Education

The very big, very real task of today's educators is to ignite in students the desire to discover while also arming them with the judgment to wade through false and misleading information from questionable sources. Students must learn to understand and respect different perspectives, as well as develop the communication skills to express their own. Students who internalize these information literacy competencies dramatically increase their potential for success in learning across the board.

In this hands-on workshop, we will cover the student skill sets necessary to develop information literacy and provide targeted learning tasks for educators to empower students to uncover information needs and determine how to locate, evaluate, and use the information they find with features and strategies to support ALL students to engage with a variety of complex text types with confidence.

9:30 – 10:20 AM



Leading Library Units: Lessons Learned in the First Few Months of Leadership Positions — ROOM 4

Cathy Austin — Mississippi State University

Lauren Geiger — Mississippi State University

This session will present the perspectives of two early career tenure-track librarians who have recently moved into leadership positions, and manage different units consisting of multiple personnel within the same library. We will discuss what we have learned in our first few months in our new roles, as well as the tools and knowledge we believe are important for others navigating the first few months of a new leadership position. Managing others can be difficult especially when you are also learning a new job, and it can be daunting to identify everything you need to know. The information in this session will help to serve as a guide for those new to leadership and management.

10:30 – 11:20 AM



Battle Against Book Bans: Supporting Your Community's Right to Read —

ROOM 1

Sonnet Ireland — Washington Parish Library

Library staff across this country are fighting to survive efforts to ban books and defund their libraries. Some have even experienced harassment and threats of personal violence. Louisiana, for example, has become a hotbed of these attacks with groups traveling from parish to parish to attack Library Boards, directors, and library staff. Learn how this crisis started for Louisiana libraries back in 2016, how it has grown to the current level of upheaval, and how library supporters have been fighting back—what has worked and what hasn't. Learn about some extreme cases across the country, particularly in the southeastern region of the US. Find out how you can prepare your library (and community) before it's too late.

Attendees will be able to: identify warning signs of trouble brewing in the community, recognize and connect to community allies and supporters, and protect their staff and patrons from harassment and threats of violence.

10:30 – 11:20 AM



Your Library, My Library, Our Libraries — ROOM 2

Miriam Garner — Houston High School, Houston, MS

Sponsored by the School Library Section

This session will give you ways to work with your hometown's public library, academic library, and/or school libraries. Every library receives different resources and engages in different ways with patrons; however, students need to learn how to use all kinds of libraries, and we need to all know how to benefit each other.

10:30 – 11:20 AM



Approaches for a More Inclusive Humanities: Two Librarians of Color Are

Unimpressed with the Literary Canon — ROOM 3

Denisha Cook — Delta State University

C.T. Salazar — Delta State University

This presentation offers a community reading approach from an intersectional feminist perspective that decenters the whiteness of the literary classics. Two librarians offer new approaches to reader's advisory for today's readers trying to tackle yesterday's classics. Join us for this presentation on easy approaches for getting your community to tackle those less-than-300-page works of great literature.

10:30 – 11:20 AM



Emerging Technologies in Academic Libraries — ROOM 4

Panel Discussion

Libraries of all shapes and sizes try their best to give their patrons just about every service and opportunity. However, newer technologies can be problematic. Due to limited funding, libraries generally want to invest in technologies that will last and have an impact. Researching these various technologies can also be difficult since staffing can be short in many institutions. To deal with the technology question, Mississippi State University Library formed the Emerging Technologies Committee. This committee is in charge of looking at various technologies either released to the public or being utilized by other universities and working to implement them at MSU. This panel will discuss how the Emerging Technology Committee was formed, some current goals and projects, and current steps they are taking to implement and add them to MSU's Mitchell Memorial Library.

10:30 – 11:20 AM

IHL Libraries Consortium Deans Meeting — ROOM 5

11:30 AM – 1:50 PM

KEYNOTE LUNCHEON: PAMELA D. C. JUNIOR — EXHIBIT HALL B

Sponsored by the Black Caucus Round Table

2:00 – 2:50 PM



Policies to Protect Your Libraries — ROOM 1

Harley Rogers — University of Mississippi

This program will provide an overview of best practices to consider when constructing and improving library selection and reconsideration policies. Material challenges are at an all-time high and show no sign of decreasing. The presentation aims to help public, academic, and school libraries develop policies protecting themselves and their users when handling material challenges. Clear policies provide authority for why materials were purchased and ensure there is little question about the reconsideration process. Participants are encouraged to bring their library's policies, as they will have time to workshop with peers at the end of the presentation.

2:00 – 2:50 PM



Wow! You Can Catalog That? — ROOM 2

Panel Discussion

Sponsored by the Technical Services Round Table

On an average day, library catalogers tend to add records of hardcover or softbound books into their collections. There are some rare occasions when they have some really eclectic and weird materials to come across their desk. Most records are drawn up from scratch. Creating a thorough record to provide good details can often be confusing, frustrating, and intimidating. In this panel discussion, a few catalogers will share with you the process they used to create records for things like story panels, inflatable costumes, a vintage pocket mirror, dolls, and even concrete! By the time you leave, you won't have to question: Wow! You Can Catalog That?

2:00 – 2:50 PM



In the Weeds: Managing, Evaluating, and Deselecting Print and E-book

Business Collections in Academic Libraries — ROOM 3

Camille McCutcheon — University of South Carolina Upstate

A change in business librarian provided an opportunity to evaluate the library's print (circulating and reference) collection at a regional comprehensive university. Consisting of approximately 10,000 items, the business print collection had never been evaluated. During summer 2022, the first phase of books was pulled. After these titles were reviewed and removed, they discovered that a substantial number of outdated materials remained. As part of their plan to withdraw more titles, the decision was made to evaluate the library's largely outdated 7,500 business e-book collection.

This program will highlight the process, including criteria used and will provide suggestions for other librarians who need to evaluate their own business collections. At the end of the session, participants will be able to describe criteria for evaluating and withdrawing print and e-books; explain challenges that may arise during a project; and report the process for withdrawing print and e-books from the collection.

This program was co-authored by John Siegel, who was unable to join us. He can be reached at jsiegel2@uscupstate.edu for any questions.

2:00 – 2:50 PM

Public Libraries Section Meeting — ROOM 4

EBSCO

3:00 – 3:50 PM



Serving the Underserved: Mississippi’s Incarcerated Patrons — ROOM 1

Shellie Zeigler — Mississippi Library Commission

Sponsored by the Social Justice Round Table

The Mississippi Library Commission started providing book club discussions with Mississippi Correctional Facilities in September 2022. They have partnered with the Mississippi Humanities Council to facilitate the book clubs. The Mississippi Humanities Council provides the books for every person in the book club, and the Mississippi Library Commission provides the book club facilitator. These book clubs help inmates develop positive social skills, such as respectful listening and speaking. And as inmates read and discuss, they also develop more substantial reading, communication, and listening skills. These skills help them make meaningful life changes and reintegrate more successfully into the community upon release. MLC Library Consultant Shellie Zeigler has facilitated book discussions at Parchman Correctional Facility and Delta Correctional Facility in Mississippi. Zeigler will discuss the importance of offering incarcerated individuals a place of respect and dignity and an avenue to share their feelings and vulnerability.

3:00 – 3:50 PM



Celebrating Diverse Perspectives and the Disability Experience in Children’s Literature: Identifying Resources to Enrich Your Library’s Juvenile Collection — ROOM 2

Camille McCutcheon — University of South Carolina Upstate

In times of tight budgets, librarians need to have resources they can consult to purchase quality materials for juvenile collections. Librarians are familiar with the multicultural and international awards that ALA sponsors; yet, there are others such as the Children’s Africana Book Awards that promote multiculturalism. Although these awards raise awareness of the earth’s many peoples and cultures, there are other diverse points of view to consider. Aside from the ALA-sponsored Schneider Family Book Award winners which portray the disability experience, what resources can librarians consult to identify books on topics such as children who have diabetes, are neurodivergent, or who are blind or visually impaired? Additionally, what resources can librarians use to find juvenile titles for children who are blind or neurodivergent? This presentation will highlight resources including web sites, book awards, annual best book lists, and publishers that school, public, and academic librarians can consult to build solid collections.

3:00 – 3:50 PM



Everything on the Internet is True! — ROOM 3

Miriam Garner — Houston High School, Houston, MS

This will focus more on school librarians and how to help your students look for credible sources. We will discuss different technology tools that can be used to help our students in the classroom. The library has become the technology hub of many schools and even communities; therefore, I hope to give you some ways to use technology in a more engaging and trustworthy manner. This could also help public librarians understand more about what is happening in the school and how they can be more helpful with students come in to use their resources.



3:00 – 3:50 PM



Do You Copy? Developing a Copyright Education Initiative at Your Library — ROOM 4

Josh Cromwell — The University of Southern Mississippi
Samantha Bull — The University of Southern Mississippi

While most librarians may not have law degrees, they do interact with copyright law on a regular basis. So how can they utilize this knowledge for the good of their patrons? In this session, we will outline strategies for developing a copyright education initiative at your library. We will provide examples of training sessions we have led for our campus community on topics including the basics of copyright, using copyrighted materials in the classroom, Fair Use, the Public Domain, and more. We will also discuss how librarians at any type of library may consider incorporating copyright education into their programming. (The sessions provided are not offered as legal advice to patrons, but as educational overviews that will help them understand what the law entails.) While the presenters come from an academic library context, this session should be applicable to librarians from all types of libraries.

4:00 – 4:50 PM



How Have Mississippi Libraries Fared with Their Digital Services After COVID? — ROOM 2

Xinyu Cindy Yu Mills — The University of Southern Mississippi

This program intends to further evaluate how Mississippi libraries use digital technology to improve accessibility to their collections and services after COVID. This year 2023 marks libraries' full return to normal services. During COVID, Mississippi libraries went through disruption and met challenges by revitalizing services to keep libraries open. The State of America's Libraries Report of 2023 featured the year of 2022 as the year of adaptability and innovation. Many libraries' services during COVID were 'digital' in a sense. This year new talks have sparked on the future of libraries. It is exciting that libraries still remain relevant to communities after COVID but more demands on libraries' technology and services to be more digital, connected, and accessible. What do Mississippi libraries respond to new demands in terms of digital technology and services? How do Mississippi libraries better support their patrons?

4:00 – 4:50 PM



Rethinking Technical Services: Reorganizing in the Box — ROOM 3

Melissa Brooks — The University of Southern Mississippi

Technical Services is where the 'magic happens.' But what is the story behind the 'magic?' Join me as I discuss staffing and workflow changes in The University of Southern Mississippi Libraries. Topics of discussion include breaking down silos, building responsive collections and electronic resources, and making it all work.

6:00 – 9:00 PM

MISSISSIPPI AUTHOR AWARDS — EXHIBIT HALL B

Ticketed Event — \$50

Celebrate Mississippi authors at the Authors' Awards Dinner honoring Kelly Mustian: Winner for Fiction – *The Girls in the Stilt House*; Aimee Nezhukumatahil: Winner for Non-Fiction – *World of Wonders*; and J Dillard: Winner for Youth – *J.D. and the Great Barber Battle*.



9:00 – 9:50 AM



Early Childhood Development: Library and Excel by 5 Partnerships — ROOM 1 **Panel Discussion**

Excel by 5 is a Mississippi only community-based certification designed to improve a child's well-being by age five. Since 2004, Excel by 5 has encouraged community-based collaborations to work strategically to use and enhance existing resources to optimize the care and education of young children. The certification process sets forth a variety of standards involving parent engagement, community participation, early education, and health to help communities focus on supporting young children and their families. The goals of Excel by 5 complement the mission of libraries in Mississippi, and a partnership between the two can greatly benefit the community they serve. The form and scope of these partnerships can range from simply having library staff serve as members of local Excel by 5 Coalitions, to a library housing a Family Resource Center and offering joint programs. Our presentation will feature a panel of five librarians who will discuss what a library-Excel by 5 partnership looks like in their communities.

9:00 – 9:50 AM



Harnessing the Power of AI — ROOM 2

Sarah Mangrum — The University of Southern Mississippi

In the digital age, librarians are experiencing a transformative shift in their roles, and AI is emerging as a valuable tool to enhance their efficiency and impact. This dynamic session is designed to equip librarians with practical insight into leveraging artificial intelligence to streamline their daily tasks and elevate their contributions. Discover how AI can enhance the lesson planning process for school librarians; explore the potential of AI in curating educational resources tailored to specific topics and age groups; or uncover strategies to streamline administrative duties and optimize resources. This session is designed for people at all levels of technical expertise. No prior knowledge of AI is required to benefit from the content.

9:00 – 9:50 AM



Universities as a Community Resource — ROOM 3

Stacy Creel — The University of Southern Mississippi

Universities embrace experiential learning and service learning. How can public libraries tap into them as community partners and resources? Where do you go for ideas? Who do you contact? This session will provide background information and ideas to start you on the path to partnership with your communities' academic location.



10:00 – 10:50 AM



Librarian in the Classroom: The Benefits of a Practicing Librarian Teaching MLIS — ROOM 3

Holly Miller — The University of Southern Mississippi
Stacy Creel — The University of Southern Mississippi

In 2015, the School of Library and Information Science (SLIS), recognized the need for an electronic resource course and began the process of modifying a dormant course to create LIS 654: e-Resources Management. It became active in 2016, but the current faculty felt they lacked the expertise to teach it. During the Summer 2023 session at The University of Southern Mississippi, Dr. Miller stepped out of her 'behind the scenes' role in Technical Services to teach the e-Resources course for SLIS. This presentation will tell the story of co-developing the course in Electronic Resource Management (ERM) and teaching 10+ students from different backgrounds and career paths. It will focus on how this experience changed Dr. Miller's view of ERM and made her a better Electronic Resources Librarian, and how this course meets the growing need for electronic resource librarians.

10:00 – 10:50 AM



Hallucinated Sources: An Analysis of AI-Generated Citations at the University of Mississippi — ROOM 4

Alex P. Watson — University of Mississippi

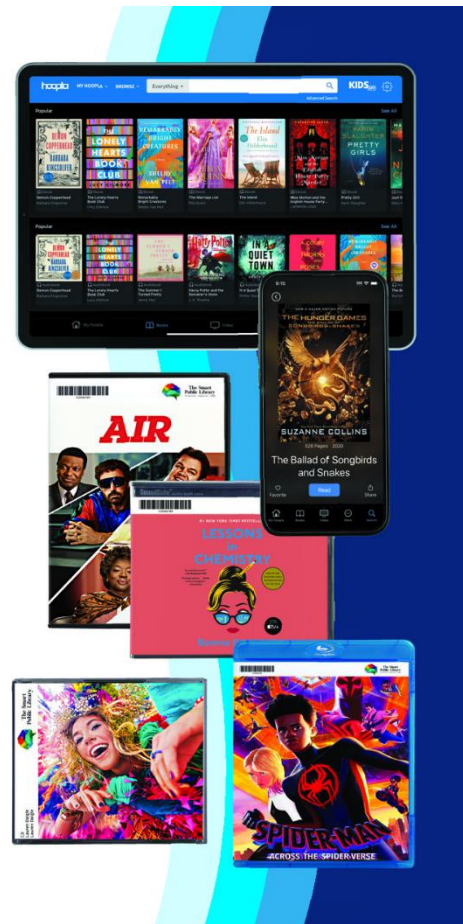
Program is an analysis of "hallucinated" (i.e. created using generative AI like ChatGPT) sources submitted to the University of Mississippi during spring 2023 by students. Program analyzes these citations with an emphasis on educating library staff who may have to deal with information requests for nonexistent items.

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- **Vocational & Career Collection** offers 300+ trade and industry-related periodicals for high schools, community colleges, trade schools and libraries.



Don't forget Readers' Advisory!

Mississippi libraries also have access to **NovelList** and **NovelList K-8**, databases of reading recommendations that help connect you to your readers, and your readers to books they'll love.

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