



2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

CONNECTING THE DOTS



OCTOBER 18-20, 2023
KALAMAZOO, MI

ALL-CONFERENCE



PREMIERE



CHAMPION



SUPPORTER



Special thanks to Metcom for printing this program.

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

6:00 - 9:30 PM Early Arrivals Bar Crawl

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

8:30 - 9:45 AM New Attendee Welcome Breakfast
 10:00 - 11:30 AM Opening Keynote with Abra Berens
 11:00 AM - 4:30 PM Exhibit Hall Open
 1:30 - 2:30 PM Breakout Sessions
 3:00 - 4:00 PM Breakout Sessions
 4:30 - 5:30 PM Breakout Sessions
 6:15 - 7:00 PM Cocktail Reception
 7:00 - 9:30 PM Michigan Library Awards

Thursday, October 19, 2023

8:00 - 9:00 AM Think Space Cohort Breakfast
 8:00 - 9:00 AM Breakfast Service
 9:30 - 10:30 AM Keynote Session with Ellen Hopkins
 10:30 AM - 4:00 PM Exhibit Hall Open
 11:15 - 12:15 PM Breakout Sessions
 12:15 - 1:30 PM Lunch – Featuring the A to Z Spelling Bee
 1:45 - 2:45 PM Breakout Sessions
 3:15 - 4:00 PM ALA Policy Corps Panel Conversation
 4:00 - 5:00 PM MLA Annual Meeting
 5:15 - 6:15 PM Breakout Sessions
 6:30 - 9:30 PM Reception at Kalamazoo Public Library

Friday, October 20, 2023

8:00 - 9:00 AM Breakfast Service
 9:00 - 10:00 AM Breakout Sessions
 10:15 - 11:15 AM Breakout Sessions
 11:30 AM - 12:45 PM Closing Keynote with Stephen Jackson



DEBORAH E. MIKULA

Connect the Dots. Who doesn't remember solving these puzzles as children? We got our pencils or crayons, and we drew a line from dot to dot to dot until the outline of the object was revealed. Now that we are older and more mature we still play this game, but we don't call it connect the dots. We talk about it as building our networks. By connecting many differing points of view and ideas the big picture will emerge. We don't typically go sequentially, and it is sometimes very chaotic, but it is well worth the time and effort.

I have always believed that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts, and when you've successfully connected all the dots and listened to everyone's concerns – that is when the magic happens. Good ideas get tempered and improved while flawed ideas get challenged and rejected. The same is true in our communities when we collaborate to build our networks and convince those outside our walls that libraries are valuable assets and can be used to achieve a more vibrant and dynamic community. When we work with others, share resources, learn each other's strengths and step into their shoes, we can have impact in solving much larger challenges in our communities. It is time to widen our circles.

Create the bridge, create the rapport, create the relationships, connect the dots.

Deborah E. Mikula

MLA Executive Director



DILLON GESHEL

Welcome to the Michigan Library Association's 2023 Annual Conference! This year's conference theme, Connecting the Dots, highlights what I value most about our state-wide conference. This is an opportunity for you and your peers to exchange ideas, build relationships, and discover new professional connections. Whether you are exploring a new career in libraries or looking to strengthen your skills as an experienced librarian, we want to help you connect the dots between ideas, opportunities, and people.

Last year's annual conference saw a substantial increase in first-time attendees, and really got our conference workgroup thinking – How can we best ensure that new attendees feel welcome? How can we prioritize social engagement and peer-to-peer activities that help newcomers grow their networks? And what can we do to connect new attendees to potential future mentors, and facilitate growth for new library leaders? I'm happy to share that this conference offers engaging sessions and activities that answer those questions.

If this is your first time at an MLA annual conference, I hope to see you at Wednesday morning's New Attendee Welcome Breakfast. This is an event designed to help you make the most of your week of learning here in Kalamazoo. You'll hear from conference workgroup members and leaders from several partner organizations across Michigan. I can't wait to see you soon!

Dillon Geschel

MLA President and 2023 Conference Chair

MLA 2023 Board of Directors

Dillon Geschel | President

Superiorland Library Cooperative

Lisa Waskin | Secretary/Treasurer

Superior District Library

Tashia Miller | ALA Councilor

University of Michigan

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Ferndale Area District Library

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Mary Higginbottom-Johnson

Muskegon Area District Library

Michele Howard

Traverse Area District Library

Shaunna Martz

Kent District Library

Cathleen Russ

West Bloomfield Township Public Library

Sophia Ward-Brewer

Grand Rapids Community College Library

Deborah E. Mikula | Ex-Officio

Michigan Library Association

Randy Riley | Ex-Officio

Library of Michigan

MLA 2023 Annual Conference Workgroup

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Superiorland Library Cooperative

Wesleyann Johnson | Vice-Chair

Centerline Public Library

Katherine Bryant

Bloomfield Township Public Library

Lisa Burns

Dearborn Public Library

Rebekah Craft

Baldwin Public Library

Andrea Ingmire

Peter White Public Library

Amber Johnson

Chesterfield Township Library

Mary Higginbottom-Johnson

Muskegon Area District Library

Kevin King

Kalamazoo Public Library

Cindy Mack

Brighton District Library

Sara Magnuson

Kent District Library

James Pugh

Orion Township Public Library

Holly Teasdale

Lyon Township Public Library

Sophia Ward-Brewer

Grand Rapids Community College Library

Lisa Waskin

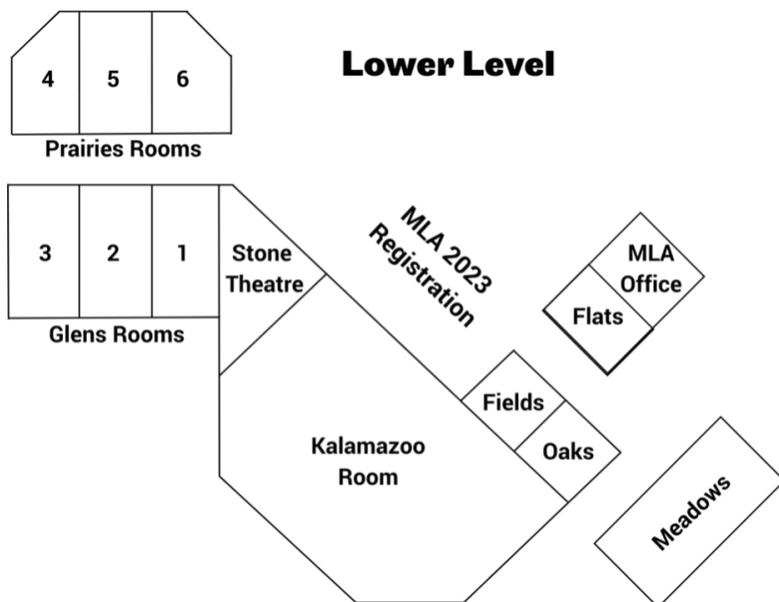
Superior District Library

Tim Wiggins

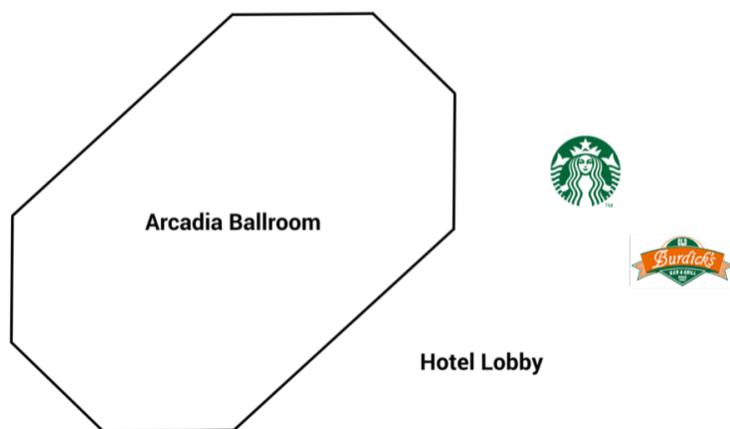
Niles District Library

Elissa Zimmer

Van Buren District Library



Lobby Level



Conference Hours

Day	Registration	Exhibit Hall	Bookstore
Oct. 17 - 20	Lower Level	Kalamazoo	Fields
Tuesday	5:00 - 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	8:00 AM - 5:45 PM	11:00 AM - 4:30 PM	11:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Thursday	7:30 AM - 5:15 PM	11:30 AM - 4:00 PM	11:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Friday	8:00 - 11:30 AM		8:00 - 11:00 AM

WiFi Information

Network: MiLibraries Password: connectingthedots

Mobile App

We have reduced the size of our printed program book and encourage attendees to download the mobile app to view session handouts, see exhibitor information, play interactive games, and connect with fellow attendees.



Download the ConferenceBeat App from the App Store or Google Play and find MLA 2023 Annual Conference, or use the QR code to view the app on your phone's web browser.

Get Social

Use the hashtags #mla23ac and #connectingthedots to follow along and add to the conversation. Don't forget to tag MLA!

General Information

Headshot Portrait Studio

Oaks Room

Stop into the Oaks Room during the conference to get a complimentary head shot courtesy of Fast Forward Libraries and Sarah Hill Photography.

Bookstore

Fields Room

The 2023 onsite bookstore is provided courtesy of **this is a bookstore** and **Bookbug**. Visit them in Kalamazoo or online at bookbugkalamazoo.com

Silent Auction

Lower Level

Bid on a wide selection of items donated by our vendors and members and help support the MLA scholarship and advocacy funds. Item pickup and payment due at registration desk on Friday morning. Open during exhibit hall hours.

Calm Room

Flats Room

Need a break? Large gatherings can feel overwhelming and sometimes we just need a quiet place to rest for a moment between sessions. Stop into the Flats Room if you want a respite from the bustle. Open during registration hours.

Restrooms and Nursing Room

Restrooms are located near the Stone Theatre on the lower level or Arcadia Ballroom and Old Burdicks Restaurant on the lobby level.

Additional gender-neutral restrooms and a nursing room are located on the second floor near the Gilmore Boardroom.

COVID-19 Test Kits

Feeling meh? COVID-19 test kits are available at the registration desk courtesy of MDHHS. Please do your part to keep yourself and colleagues safe and healthy!



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For over 50 years **MCD Architects** has been providing excellence in design and planning for our many public library clients. Our experienced design team works with dedication, commitment, and enthusiasm to advance public libraries in communities large and small across Michigan. Thank you for trusting us over the years with your library's design needs, and thank you for continuing to trust us for what's next...

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✉ ss@mcdarchitects.com 📍 33610 Grand River Farmington, MI 48335

Early Arrivals Bar Crawl

6:00 - 9:30 PM (Meet in Lobby by 5:45 PM), Tuesday, October 17

Check out a few of Kalamazoo's most exciting nightlife spots with stops at Dabney and Company and LFG before concluding with a trivia competition at Crawlspace Comedy Theatre with trivia host Matt Eickhoff.

New Attendee Welcome Breakfast

Meadows Room | 8:30 - 9:45 AM, Wednesday, October 18

Make connections and learn some tips and tricks for getting the most out of your conference experience. Representatives from MLA, The Library of Michigan, Michigan Cooperative Directors Association, and MCLS will also be on hand to help you make the most of resources available in the state. In need of a conference buddy? This is the perfect place to start!

A to Z Spelling Bee – Sponsored by A to Z Databases

Arcadia Ballroom | 12:30 - 1:30 PM, Thursday, October 19

Join us for the A to Z Spelling Bee, where library staff from across the state will compete to spell their way to victory! Put your spelling skills to the test, challenge your fellow bookworms, and seize the chance to be named MLA Spelling Bee CHAMPION. Whether you're a spelling whiz or just want to have some wordy fun, this is your moment to shine.

Nominating Committee Board of Directors Q&A Session

Stone Theatre | 5:15 - 5:45 PM, Thursday, October 19

Interested in serving on the board of directors for the Michigan Library Association? Join the members of the MLA Nominating Committee for an informal discussion on the roles/responsibilities of serving on the board.

Kalamazoo Public Library Reception – Sponsored by Daniels and Zermack

Kalamazoo Public Library | 6:30 - 9:00 PM, Thursday, October 19

You are invited to the Kalamazoo Public Library for an evening of food, drink, and fun! Activities will include crafts, video games, scavenger hunt, local history collections, the Idea Lab, green screen studio, and more. The event will also feature the Food for Thought Idea Exchange, so you can go home with recipes to replicate successful programs and services in your library.

Library Libations Cocktail Reception

Arcadia Ballroom, Pre-Function | 6:15 - 7:00 PM, Wednesday, October 18

Connect with your statewide colleagues and exhibitors ahead of the 2023 Michigan Library Awards. Library themed drinks and hors d'oeuvres provided.

Awards Ceremony and Dinner

Arcadia Ballroom | 7:00 - 9:30 PM, Wednesday, October 18

The Michigan Library Awards are awarded annually and are considered the state's highest honors within the library community. The awards celebrate the excellence, accomplishments, dedication and service of library staff, trustees, and supporters in Michigan libraries.

Entertainment

The KalHaven Strings were founded in 2014 as graduate students at Western Michigan University. Members Megan Healy, Timothy Cuffman, James Saunders, and Lydia Raymond are skilled in performing a variety of styles, from Vivaldi to Roddy Ricch, Metallica to Taylor Swift, Post Malone to Bach, and more. Members can also be found performing with the Kalamazoo, Lansing, Fort Wayne, South Bend, and West Michigan symphony orchestras and teaching local youth.

2023 Michigan Library Awards

Heart of a Champion Award

Support Staff of the Year Award

Rising Star Award

Library of Michigan Citation of Excellence Awards

Lifetime Legislative Leader Award

Frances H. Pletz Award for Excellence in Service to Youth

Intellectual Freedom Award

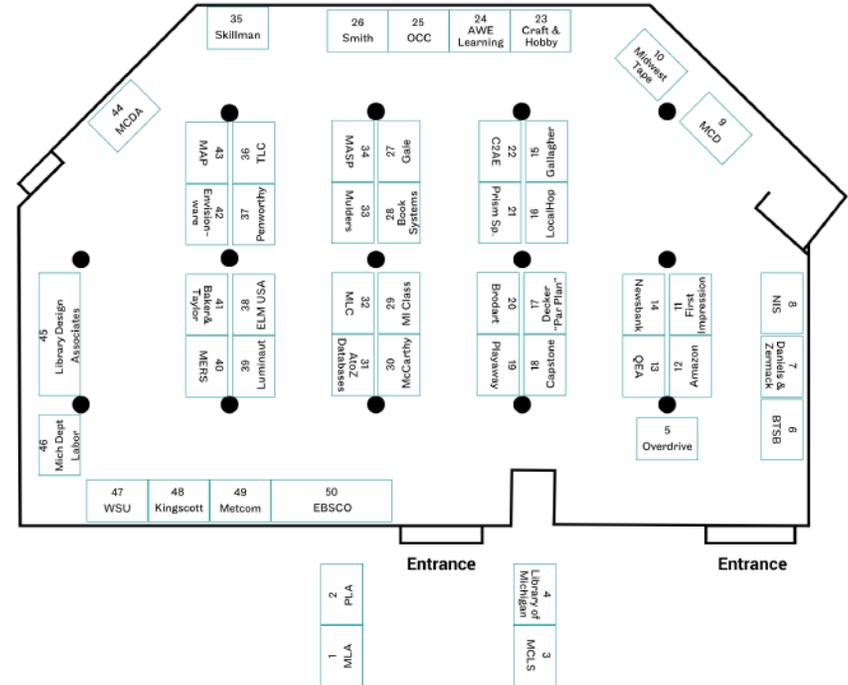
Public Librarian of the Year Award

Lifetime Achievement Award

State Librarian Excellence Award

1	Michigan Library Association
2	Public Library Association
3	Midwest Collaborative for Library Services
4	Library of Michigan
5	OverDrive
6	Bound to Stay Bound Books
7	Daniels and Zermack Architects
8	National Insurance Services
9	MCD Architects
10	Midwest Tape Hoopla
11	First Impression Print and Marketing
12	Amazon Business
13	Quinn Evans Architects
14	NewsBank, Inc.
15	Risk Program Administrators – Gallagher
16	LocalHop
17	Decker Agency/"Par Plan"
18	Capstone Publishing
19	Playaway Pre-Loaded Products
20	Brodart Co.
21	Prism Specialties
22	C2AE
23	Craft & Hobby
24	AWE Learning
25	Oakland Community College

26	Smith Imaging Solutions
27	Gale
28	Book Systems, Inc.
29	Michigan CLASS
30	McCarthy & Smith, Inc.
31	AtoZ Databases
32	The Michigan Learning Channel
33	Mulder's Moving & Storage, Inc.
34	Michigan After School Partnership
35	The Skillman Corporation
36	The Library Corporation
37	Penworthy Company
38	ELM USA
39	Luminaut
40	Municipal Employee's Retirement System
41	Baker & Taylor
42	EnvisionWare
43	Michigan Activity Pass
44	Michigan Cooperative Directors Assoc.
45	Library Design Associates, Inc.
46	State of MI Labor & Economic Opportunity
47	Wayne State Information Sciences
48	Kingscott Architects
49	Metcom, Inc.
50	EBSCO Information Services



More Info In The App

Download the ConferenceBeat App and find MLA 2023 Annual Conference to learn more about our exhibitors and connect with representatives.

Exhibitors I Want To Connect With

Keynote Sessions

How Libraries Help Foster Authorship with Abra Berens

Arcadia Ballroom | 10:30 - 11:30 AM, Wednesday, October 18

Book Signing: 11:40 AM - 12:15 PM

Chef and author, Abra Berens, will lead a conversation about how rural Michigan libraries helped further her career and made it possible to write her three, critically acclaimed cookbooks. This discussion will also delve into the process of cookbook writing. After the talk, Abra will be on hand to answer questions and sign copies of all three of her books: "Ruffage," "Grist," and "Pulp."



ABRA BERENS

Abra Berens is a chef, former farmer, and writer. She started cooking at the storied Zingerman's Deli in Ann Arbor, MI. She then went on to train in the garden-focused kitchen at Ballymaloe Cookery School in Cork, Ireland, co-founded Bare Knuckle Farm in Northport, MI, and helmed the café at Local Foods in Chicago, IL before finally returning to Granor Farm in Three Oaks, MI where she combines her love of farms and restaurants to create one-of-a-kind dinners celebrating the best of Southwest Michigan's diverse agriculture.

Writing the Righteous Fight: Why "Controversial" Books Must Remain on Library Shelves with Ellen Hopkins

Arcadia Ballroom | 9:30 - 10:30 AM, Thursday, October 19

Book Signing: 10:40 - 11:15 AM

As one of the "most banned authors in the US," Ellen Hopkins has been fighting book removals at an exhausting pace. Her first YA novel, CRANK, sits near the top of book banning hit lists. The book was inspired by the personal story of her daughter's addiction and how quickly a teen can lose her dreams to substance abuse. Hopkins' subsequent novels tackle issues young adults face every day. Hopkins's motives are often questioned, but she wants to arm kids with knowledge to help them make better choices and develop understanding and empathy. You'll hear how she has accomplished those goals and why she's determined to help keep controversial books on library bookshelves.



ELLEN HOPKINS

Ellen Hopkins is a poet, freelance writer, and the award-winning author of twenty nonfiction titles, three novels for adults, and 13 New York Times Bestselling novels-in-verse. She has published hundreds of articles on subjects ranging from aviation to child abuse to winegrowing. Ellen is a regular speaker at schools, book festivals, and writers conferences across the US, and now throughout the world.

Connecting the Dots Between Restorative Practices and Public Libraries with Stephen Jackson

Arcadia Ballroom | 11:30 AM - 12:45 PM, Friday, October 20

Restorative Practices are a set of values, beliefs and guidelines that lay the framework for engaging with individuals both within and outside of the organization. They promote community and help to build trusting relationships that ultimately lessen the likelihood of causing harm to others. This discussion will share the importance and impact of utilizing restorative practices in public libraries to promote organizational well-being and shift the landscape of how we engage and learn with one another to create a shared experience that elevates individuals as well as the libraries they serve.



STEPHEN JACKSON

Stephen Jackson is a motivational speaker, published author, restorative justice practitioner, licensed mental health counselor and champion for equity and inclusion. He is the founder of Global CommUnity Associates and serves as the Director of Equity and Anti-Racism at Oak Park Public Library (IL). He values public service and contributing to people's lives through utilizing both Restorative Justice and Restorative Practices to create positive and safe cultures for organizations and communities.

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All-Conference Sessions

ALA Policy Corps Panel on Intellectual Freedom

Arcadia Ballroom | 3:15 - 4:00 PM, Thursday, October 19

Through the national campaign, Unite Against Book Bans, the American Library Association's Policy Corps is actively spreading a unified message in collaboration with ALA's Office of Intellectual Freedom, supporting librarians in their efforts to oppose book bans. Policy Corp members are working to change the narrative around book banning as part of the UABB campaign. Find out what that impactful messaging entails and hear actionable, experienced intelligence to assist you in your community before and after the censor is at the door.

Kent Oliver, Senior Fellow for ALA's Public Policy and Advocacy Office, will facilitate a discussion with **Larry Neal**, Policy Corps member and Michigan librarian, **Joyce McIntosh** from the Office for Intellectual Freedom and the Freedom to Read Foundation (and a Michigan native!), and **Amy Churchill**, a Michigan library director on the front lines of book banning.



KENT OLIVER



LARRY NEAL



JOYCE MCINTOSH



AMY CHURCHILL

2023 Annual Membership Meeting

Arcadia Ballroom | 4:00 - 5:00 PM, Thursday, October 19

Join us for your association's annual meeting where we will present MLA's 2022 - 2023 year-end review, strategic planning committee report, treasurer's report, legislative report, Intellectual Freedom taskforce information, and announce the 2024 Annual Conference. Michigan Humanities will also be in attendance to award MLA the 2023 Outstanding Humanities Organization Award.

Annual Conference registration is not required, and all members are encouraged to attend and participate in the annual meeting.



The Michigan Library Association leads the advancement of all Michigan libraries through advocacy, education and engagement.



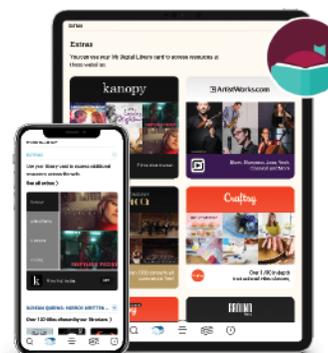
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Belleville Area District Library

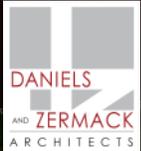


Mount Clemens Public Library | Youth Area



Mount Clemens Public Library

Ypsilanti District Library | Superior Branch



■ Planning ■ Architecture
■ Interiors ■ Sustainable Design

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Michigan's Online Career Exploration Tool

Welcome to Pathfinder, a free online career exploration tool designed for student's parents and job seekers!

The goal of Pathfinder is to increase the number of Michigan residents with high-quality, in-demand degrees and credentials. The online tool provides real-time current Michigan labor market information, as well as data on education and training programs, to help you make informed choices about your educational path and career options. You also get the guidance you need with a personalized educational development plan, or roadmap!

With Pathfinder, you can:

- Search for exciting and interesting careers
- Discover schools in Michigan that offer programs of interest
- See detailed job projections, annual openings, growth potential, salaries for Michigan
- View Michigan's top careers

Create a Personalized Career Roadmap Today!

Pathfinder.MiTalent.org



EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING



Get an Educational Roadmap In 3 Easy Steps

Start by visiting Pathfinder.MiTalent.org, then complete the following steps:

1. Choose an Occupation
2. Choose a Field of Study
3. Choose a School

Completing this process will generate a customized roadmap that can help guide you to your chosen career destination! Completed paths can also be emailed and printed for later viewing.

#STRONGER TOGETHER

Breakout Sessions

1:30 - 2:30 PM, Wednesday, October 18

Everyday Evaluation: Using Evaluative Thinking in Your Library

Track: Connections | Room: Glens 1

Become an evaluative-thinking expert. Leave with a plan to incorporate organizational learning and evaluation at your library.

Speakers:

Andrea Vernola, Kalamazoo Public Library
Allison Priuer, DARE Impact Consulting

Increasing Accessibility in Libraries with Virtual Tours

Track: Unity | Room: Glens 2

Learn how to use virtual tours as a tool for increasing your library's accessibility for all members of your community.

Speakers:

Melissa Cole, Capital Area District Libraries
Meegan Winters, Able Eyes

Connecting the Dots from Childhood to Adulthood

Track: Unity | Room: Glens 3

Connect the dots between ages, departments and community members to get everyone reading!

Speakers:

Rachel Manela and Danielle Mazur, Novi Public Library

Michigan Supreme Court Records & Briefs: Introduction & Demonstration

Track: Networking | Prairies 4

Come learn the new online versions! This is a great resource for academic, public, school, & special libraries.

Speakers:

Michelle LaLonde and Kathryn Polgar, Wayne State University

Connecting with Donor Dots: Public Library Fundraising Dos and Don'ts

Track: Networking | Prairies 5

Fundraising can be a successful way for a library to raise funds-but it's important to know the limits and requirements.

Speakers:

Clare Membiela, Library of Michigan
Anne Seurnyck, Foster, Swift, Collins and Smith, PC

Grant Opportunities and Program Partnerships with Your Library and Michigan Humanities

Track: Connections | Prairies 5

Michigan Humanities will share current grant and program offerings available to Michigan libraries.

Speakers:

Estee Schlenner and Jennifer Rupp, Michigan Humanities

The Power of Play: Playful Programming for ALL Ages

Track: Unity | Room: Stone Theatre

We all know young children learn through play, but what other benefits can play offer? Get inspired to create!

Speakers:

Elizabeth Griffin, Loutit District Library
Christina LeVey Rowland and Diana Wenger, Muskegon Area District Library

Breakout Sessions

3:00 - 4:00 PM, Wednesday, October 18

BPL'S Books Unbanned: Libraries Resisting Censorship

Track: Networking | Room: Glens 2

Learn more about the Books Unbanned campaign, and how all libraries can take steps to center teen voices and defend Intellectual Freedom.

Speakers:

Karen Keys and Jackson Gomes, Brooklyn Public Library (NY)

How to Use Collaboration to Overcome Funding Challenges

Track: Networking | Room: Glens 2

Kalkaska County Library and community partners are collaborating to overcome funding obstacles and improve quality of life and equity.

Speakers:

Cash Cook, Kalkaska DDA
Rick Heitmeyer, Kalkaska Public Schools
Mike Jantz and Dennis Jensen, C2AE
John Roberts, Kalkaska County Public Library

Breaking Down Barriers: Hosting a Living Library

Track: Unity | Room: Glens 3

Muskegon Area District Library shares how they cultivated community and diversity with their oral history 'Humans of Muskegon' project.

Speakers:

Philip Croff, Sarah Rinsema-Sybenga and Holly Pelkey, Muskegon Area District Library

How to Win in a Landslide: Successful Resident Advocacy Campaign

Track: Unity | Room: Prairies 4

Learn how a local resident group became community organizers and rallied the Township to handily defeat the exit proposal.

Speakers:

Jennifer Folsom and Amanda Gerheardt

Reimagining Your Emergency Action Plan

Track: Networking | Room: Prairies 5

This session will cover federal regulations and real-world solutions designed to help keep you safe in the workplace.

Speakers:

Aaron Witt, A-Train Tactical, LLC

After the Audit: Sustainable Steps to Maintaining a Diverse Collection

Track: Connections | Room: Prairies 6

What do you do with the information your library gained from your diversity audit? We'll show you!

Speakers:

Tammy Schneider, Kent District Library
Marie Mulder, Kent District Library
Liz Guarino-Kozlowicz, Kent District Library

Connecting the Community with the College Library

Track: Connections | Room: Stone Theatre

A community college library serves the college and the community. Learn how we are connecting with both.

Speakers:

Jill Sodt, Mott Community College

Breakout Sessions

4:30 - 5:30 PM, Wednesday, October 18

BPL'S Books Unbanned: Libraries Resisting Censorship

Track: Unity | Room: Glens 1

Learn more about the Books Unbanned campaign, and how all libraries can take steps to center teen voices and defend Intellectual Freedom.

Speakers:

Karen Keys and Jackson Gomes, Brooklyn Public Library (NY)

How to Comply with Michigan's Wage and Hour Laws

Track: Unity | Room: Glens 2

This session will discuss the current status of the law since two ballot initiatives in 2018 sought to significantly change wage and paid leave requirements.

Speakers:

Michael Blum, Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith PC

Small Libraries, Big Ideas

Track: Networking | Room: Glens 3

Want to learn how to accomplish big things in your small library? Ideas including working with other libraries, schools and service groups will be discussed.

Speakers:

Cindi Place, Bellaire Public Library

Connect Your Community to the MeL eResources

Track: Connections | Room: Glens 3

In this session we will discuss how the MeL eResource content can be a vital source of knowledge for community partners.

Speakers:

Laura Warren-Gross, MCLS

Helping the Unhoused: Community Change Driven by the Library Board and Library Director

Track: Networking | Room: Prairies 5

When TADL was inundated with behavior policy violations, the TADL Board and the Director worked with community organizations to take action.

Speakers:

Marylee Pakieser and Michele Howard, Traverse Area District Library

Get SLIC with Library Initiatives: A Model

Track: Connections | Room: Prairies 6

"I wish I'd known about that!" De-silo and connect your library's projects, initiatives and more with the Canton Public Library's SLIC model.

Speakers:

Laura Fawcett and Laurie Golden, Canton Public Library

The (Digital) Experts Are In!: A Digital Practice Open Forum

Track: Networking | Room: Stone Theatre

Bring questions to this audience-driven session where three experts and your colleagues provide insight about good practice for digital collections.

Speakers:

Richard Adler, Michigan Service Hub
Chelsea Denault, MCLS
Biz Gallo, Library of Michigan

Breakout Sessions

11:15 AM - 12:15 PM, Thursday, October 19

Connecting the Dots Between Public Libraries and Schools

Track: *Networking* | **Room:** *Glens 1*

Learn new ideas for engaging students, educators, and families with library resources.

Speakers:

Jennifer DeGroat, Lynn Harper, Thais Rousseau, Capital Area District Libraries

Ask the Lawyer

Track: *Connections* | **Room:** *Glens 2*

Ask the lawyer your burning library law questions

Speakers:

Mike Blum and Anne Seuryneck, Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith PC

Best Meeting Ever!: Gathering with Intentionality and Purpose

Track: *Connections* | **Room:** *Glens 3*

Practical tips and tools for applying purpose and intentionality to all the ways we gather with others, at work and in life!

Speakers:

Jan Davidson, MCLS

Jumpstart Your Strategic Planning Process

Track: *Connections* | **Room:** *Prairies 4*

Engaging in thoughtful pre-planning provides a library the opportunity to create more equitable, inclusive programs and resources for their entire community.

Speakers:

Pam Seabolt and Lissa Krull, MCLS

Climate Action in Libraries

Track: *Unity* | **Room:** *Prairies 5*

Climate action work can feel overwhelming, but libraries can lead the way towards impactful change.

Speakers:

Lisa Kropp, Lindenhurst Memorial Library (NY)
Jennifer Ferriss, Saratoga Springs Public Library (NY)

Dots on the MAP: An EDI Model

Track: *Networking* | **Room:** *Prairies 6*

Come find out how Michigan Activity Pass helps connect the dots on the MAP. Hear how EDI and accessibility are integrated into the all new MAP product.

Speakers:

DJ Bond and Steven Bowers, The Library Network
Amy Rosen, White Lake Township Public Library

Michigan Library Advocacy Update

Track: *Unity* | **Room:** *Stone Theatre*

Advocacy is one of the pillars of MLA's work, so what is actually happening in Lansing? Come hear from MLA's lobbyist and Michigan library leaders!

Speakers:

Bob Devries, Governmental Consulting Service Inc.
Val Meyerson, Petoskey District Library
Jenny Marr, Ferndale Area District Library

Breakout Sessions

1:45 PM - 2:45 PM, Thursday, October 19

What's All This Then? Explaining Censorship to Patrons

Track: *Unity* | **Room:** *Glens 1*

Library staff can find engaging and effective ways to inform their patrons about intellectual freedom in the face of rising censorship.

Speakers:

Jeff Milo and Mary Grahame Hunter, Ferndale Area District Library

Effective Use of Social Media & Crisis Management for Public Libraries

Track: *Networking* | **Room:** *Glens 2*

Learn pragmatic, practical tips to survive the initial stages of a crisis and emerge with your reputation intact or even enhanced.

Speakers:

Thom Fladung, Hennes Communications

Public Libraries and Public Schools: Creating Spaces that Connect

Track: *Networking* | **Room:** *Glens 3*

As core community spaces that are cut from the same cloth, building connections between libraries and school can maximize public impact.

Speakers:

Eric Lieske, Flint Cultural Center Academy
Kay Schwartz, Flint Public Library
Samantha Szeszulski, Kingscott Architects

FOIA and the OMA: Back to the Basics

Track: *Connections* | **Room:** *Prairies 4*

Education regarding Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of Information Act.

Speakers:

Anne Seuryneck, Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith PC

Trans Staff and Patrons: Where to Begin, Next Steps

Track: *Unity* | **Room:** *Prairies 5*

Come learn best practices and tips for advocating for your trans and gender-nonconforming staff and patrons.

Speakers:

Simon DeSalvo and Damon Verdema

Serving Library Patrons with Memory Loss

Track: *Networking* | **Room:** *Prairies 6*

Librarians specializing in services to senior citizens share why and how to connect with patrons with memory loss and their caregivers.

Speakers:

Chris Wisswell and Meghan Mott, Clinton-Macomb Public Library

Kalamazoo Author Panel

Track: *Connections* | **Room:** *Stone Theatre*

The Kalamazoo area is rich with literary talent! Hear from many of these authors as to why great writing thrives in any community.

Speakers:

Kevin King, Kalamazoo Public Library
David Small, Bonnie Jo Campbell, Emmy Kastner, Authors

Breakout Sessions

5:15 PM - 6:15 PM, Thursday, October 19

The First Amendment, Censorship and Spine Labels

Track: Unity | **Room:** Glens 1

Are spine labels a first amendment issue? Can libraries limit minors' access to explicit video games? Why don't books have ratings? Find out in this session!

Speakers:

Anne Seuryneck, Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith PC
Clare Membiela, Library of Michigan

Integrating Your Makerspace into Your Library

Track: Unity | **Room:** Glens 2

Your makerspace isn't just for patrons! You can use it too, and it can benefit your library in astonishing ways!

Speakers:

Jeff Jimison, The Idea Lab at Baldwin Public Library

The Barbershop in the Library: How Creative Partnerships Inspire Patrons

Track: Unity | **Room:** Glens 3

Authors don't just read books, they bring them to life in unique ways at local libraries.

Speakers:

Sean Hollins and Sonya Hollins, Season Press LLC

Thinking Outside the Box: Reader's Advisory and Library Book Boxes

Track: Connections | **Room:** Prairies 5

Looking for a fresh way to deliver readers' advisory? Come learn how we launched our popular monthly Book Box program for Babies, Tweens, and Teens.

Speakers:

Nicole Cook, Laurie Walters, Kate Wheeler, Brighton District Library

Connecting Resources, Libraries and Education: A Dialogue on Professional Development in Michigan

Track: Networking | **Room:** Prairies 6

Come meet with UMSI faculty about how we can work with you to enhance your skills and your library's capacity.

Speakers:

Kristin Fontichiaro, Jesse Johnston, Cliff Lampe,
University of Michigan School of Information



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Breakout Sessions

9:00 - 10:00 AM, Friday, October 20

Looking at Library Safety and Security Through a Trauma-Informed Lens

Track: *Connections* | **Room:** *Glens 1*

Increase the feeling of safety in your library by wearing a trauma-informed lens!

Speakers:

Kevin King, Kalamazoo Public Library

Grant Writing: Tips and Tricks

Track: *Networking* | **Room:** *Glens 2*

Interested in ways to acquire grant funding for your library? Not sure how to start or where to go for information? This session is designed to help.

Speakers:

Cindi Place, Bellaire Public Library

Examining Early Literacy Spaces: Are We on the Right Track?

Track: *Unity* | **Room:** *Glens 3*

"Play is like medicine for my children. For most children, it's fun to play, but for our children, it's a need."

Speakers:

Kimberly Bolan, Allen County Public Library (IN)
Erin Jennings, Luminaut

Cultivating Community: Libraries & Food Insecurity

Track: *Unity* | **Room:** *Prairies 4*

Looking for a fresh way to deliver readers' advisory? Come learn how we launched our popular monthly Book Box program for Babies, Tweens, and Teens.

Speakers:

Nicole Cook, Laurie Walters, Kate Wheeler, Brighton District Library

Managing Contentious Patrons: Part I

Track: *Unity* | **Room:** *Prairies 5*

Learn how to manage and disarm angry and abusive patrons in an informative, and loud, interactive two-part session.

Speakers:

Kristin Fontichiaro, University of Michigan School of Information
Clare Membiela, Library of Michigan

Making Meaningful DEI Changes

Track: *Unity* | **Room:** *Prairies 6*

Learn to make easy and meaningful DEI improvements at your library.

Speakers:

Dan Major, Lori Morris, Troy Walker, Orion Township Public Library

A Holistic Approach to Strategic Planning

Track: *Connections* | **Room:** *Stone Theatre*

Don't create a strategic plan in a silo! Come learn how to holistically design a strategic planning process to level up your library!

Speakers:

Dan Major, Lori Morris, Troy Walker, Orion Township Public Library

Breakout Sessions

10:15 - 11:15 AM, Friday, October 20

A Human-Centered Approach to Designing Library Services

Track: Networking | Room: Glens 1

Learn about human-centered design and use your new superpower to reimagine and create library services designed to include the whole community.

Speakers:

Heather Wood-Gramza, Library of Michigan
Katie Rothley, Northville District Library

Intellectual Freedom: A Discussion with Michigan Library Directors

Track: Networking | Room: Glens 2

Library directors around the state will share their experiences navigating book challenges within their communities.

Speakers:

Rebekah Craft, Baldwin Public Library
Amy Churchill, Lapeer District Library
Andrea Ingmire, Peter White Public Library
Juliane Morian, Rochester Hills Public Library
Val Meyerson, Petoskey District Library

Marketing Your Library: From Research to Evaluation

Track: Networking | Room: Glens 3

A panel of library marketing professionals will discuss the importance of marketing research, plans, communications, and knowing your audience.

Speakers:

Jeff Milo, Ferndale Area District Library
Victoria Meadows, Capital Area District Libraries
Jenny Kobiela-Mondor and Mary Ruthko, MCLS
Storm Kopitsch, Fowlerville District Library

Extra! Extra! Libraries Learning to Digitize Newspapers

Track: Unity | Room: Prairies 4

Learn everything you need to know about historic newspaper digitization and discover what statewide resources are available to your library!

Speakers:

Carrie Marsh, Central Michigan University
Biz Gallo, Library of Michigan

Managing Contentious Patrons: Part II

Track: Unity | Room: Prairies 5

Learn how to manage and disarm angry and abusive patrons in an informative, and loud, interactive two-part session.

Speakers:

Kristin Fontichiaro, University of Michigan School of Information
Clare Membiela, Library of Michigan

Aspiring Entrepreneurs and Your Library: A Perfect Match!

Track: Connections | Room: Prairies 6

Connect the dots with your aspiring entrepreneurs. Supporting underserved communities and being an engine of economic opportunity is easier than you might think!

Speakers:

Hillary Hentschel, Novi Public Library; Jan Murphy, Gale Cengage; David Silberman, Clarkston Independence District Library; Emily Tobin, West Bloomfield Township Public Library; Sherri Vaughn, Farmington Community Library

Connecting the Dots: Building Lasting Relationships with Teens Through Outreach and Adaptable Programming

Track: Connections | Room: Stone Theatre

We'll discuss everything from outreach to multi-library programming, successes and failures, and ways we've each adapted services to work for us.

Speakers:

Therese Bulszewicz, Romeo District Library; Erin Delore, Warren Public Library; Jocelyn Levin, Lyon Township Public Library; Colleen McWinnie, Clinton-Macomb Public Library; Julianne Novetsky, Warren Public Library; Jennifer Perryman, Milan Public Library



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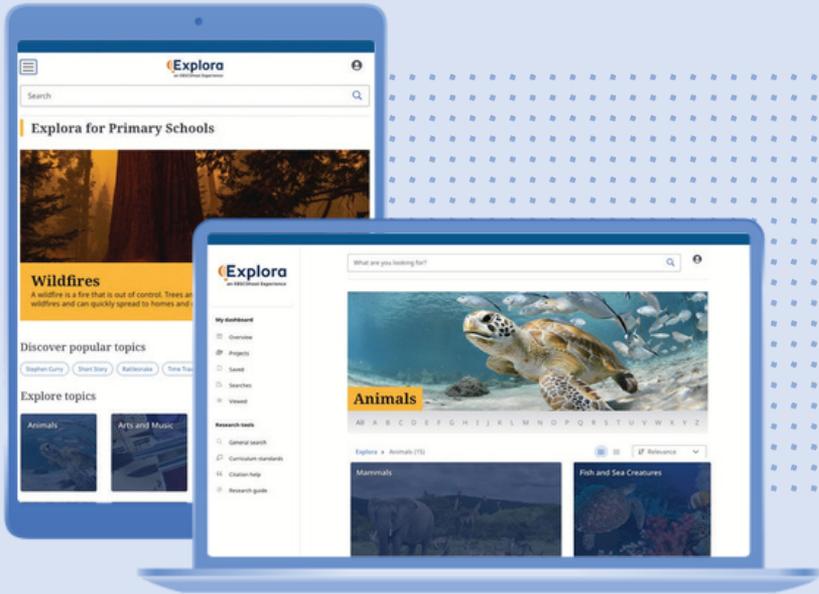
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At the heart of this year's conference theme, "Connecting the Dots," lies the belief that libraries are the cornerstones of knowledge, community and innovation. EBSCO is excited to be a part of your library's journey towards a brighter future.

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