

Watering Young Imaginations: Librarians Doing the Decolonization Work

Afternoon Keynote with Alia Jones



Seeing is believing and Native children deserve stories that reflect their lived experiences. In this talk, Alia Jones will discuss the importance of rooting library practices in a foundation of equity, decolonization and respect for Indigenous knowledge & storytelling. She will also discuss the power of native stereotypes in media, the whiteness of LIS, the current state of Native KidLit and will encourage ways to connect with communities.

About Alia Jones:

Alia Jones is a blogger based in Cincinnati, Ohio (www.readitrealgood.com). Most recently she worked as a Library Services Assistant in the Youth Services department of her Public Library. As a member of ALSC, she had the privilege of serving on the 2020 Caldecott Awards Committee (THE UNDEFEATED, BEAR CAME ALONG, GOING DOWN HOME WITH DADDY & DOUBLE BASS BLUES). Prior to libraries, she worked as an indie children's bookseller and an English Teacher in South Korea. She cares about boosting #ownvoices literature for children, especially literature created by Black and Indigenous authors and illustrators.

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