

SUMMER
2021



QUARTERLY BULLETIN

Tables of Contents

Member Spotlight

Scott Businsky	2
Jen Wilson	3

Events

A Celebration of Community: New London Road and School Hill	4
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Committee/Division Updates

Legislative Action Committee Updates	5
Reflections on the MLA/DLA Conference	6
Public Library Division Updates	7
MLA/DLA Conference 2022	8

News

New Consortium Public Libraries Collection	
Development Policy	9
New Citizen Science Course	10

Advertisements

DLA Grant	11
Chromebook & Hotspot	12
Emedia / DLA Bulletin	13

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

In every newsletter, we will shine a spotlight on a DLA member. We ask some questions to get to know members better and post their answers in our bulletin.

This month's spotlight is on two rising members of the executive board.

SCOTT BUSINSKY Public Library Division President

What's your current role in libraries?

I am a youth services librarian at Elsmere Library. During the pandemic, I've tried to find creative ways to engage with the community and provide unique virtual programming. One of the things I launched at Elsmere was a cookie recipe swap recipe book in the fall & winter. We were able to compile recipes and family stories from members of the Elsmere community. The recipe book provided some semblance of connection in an increasingly isolated world. For over a year, I've facilitated a Scratch Coding Club for kids. It has proven to be successful, and I've built a core group of regular attendees. A unique programming opportunity occurred because of the pandemic when I started to co-host trivia programs with Anne Arundel County Public Library (MD). This has been a great partnership.



What's your role in DLA?

I am currently serving as President of PLD. I'm also involved with the youth services division, correctional services initiatives, the social justice committee, and DLA communications. The correctional services group is excited to increase our engagement and services to our incarcerated patrons. My involvement with DLA has been a wonderful experience. I'm afforded the opportunity to work with colleagues from various library fields in solving issues and implementing new resources and services. I've learned a lot about Delaware Libraries and the mechanisms of DLA. I hope to stay involved with DLA in the future.

What are you excited to do with DLA in the coming year?

I am excited to increase engagement with PLD members. The executive board has a few ideas that we hope to implement. In addition to a Fall Workshop and the DLA/MLA Conference planning, we are looking to relaunch the Showcase Showdown initiative and possibly begin workplace-related book discussion groups. PLD executive board welcomes ideas for increased involvement of our PLD members.

What are you currently reading?

I am listening to The Witches: Salem, 1692 by Stacy Schiff.

I am reading The John Carlos Story: The Sports Moment That Changed the World by John Carlos

I am watching Veep and beginning a Judd Apatow mini marathon (what can I say, his movies make me laugh!)

I am listening to a playlist I made of artists that appeared at the Harlem Cultural Festival (1969)

JEN WILSON

DLA President

What's your current role in libraries?

I currently work as the Principal Library Assistant at the New Castle Public Library. New Castle is a big supporter of DLA – our director Julie Kirk is an active member, and I get to work with our Nominating Committee chair Tyler Antoine, our Communications Committee co-chair Nicole Ballance (and until recently, our Membership chair Sara Thomas!). I'm excited to be joining their staff full time. It's a fun change to be in a more front-of-house role after previously working as a library specialist who primarily did tech services work.



What's your role in DLA?

I joined the association last year at the suggestion of my friend and then past president Alison Wessel, who encouraged me to run for the open vice-president role. I would not be here today without her leadership and encouragement! It was a great experience to work alongside her as the co-chair of the Conference Committee and to get to know the other members of the executive board. Our association is full of wonderful and supportive people! I just transitioned into the role of president and am looking forward to what this year brings.

What are you excited to do with DLA in the coming year?

I hope to see DLA continue to build supportive connections with library workers across our state – I've greatly benefited from being a member of DLA and I hope we can continue to prove the value of our organization and bring new members on board. I think we have some very engaged division leadership this year and I can't wait to see their ideas in action. I'm looking forward to continuing to work alongside and within DLA's committees to support and advocate for Delaware libraries, and to promote our values of intellectual freedom and access - I'm especially looking forward to seeing our Social Justice Committee continue the amazing work they've done over the last year.

What are you currently reading?

I just finished a very creepy and unsettling little horror novel called "Come Closer", by Sara Gran. I recommend it if you're into that kind of thing! I don't tend to read a ton of horror, so if you do and you have a recommendation for me, let me know at jennifer.wilson@lib.de.us.

Know someone that deserves to be in the spotlight? Fill out this [form](#) and we will interview them for the next bulletin!

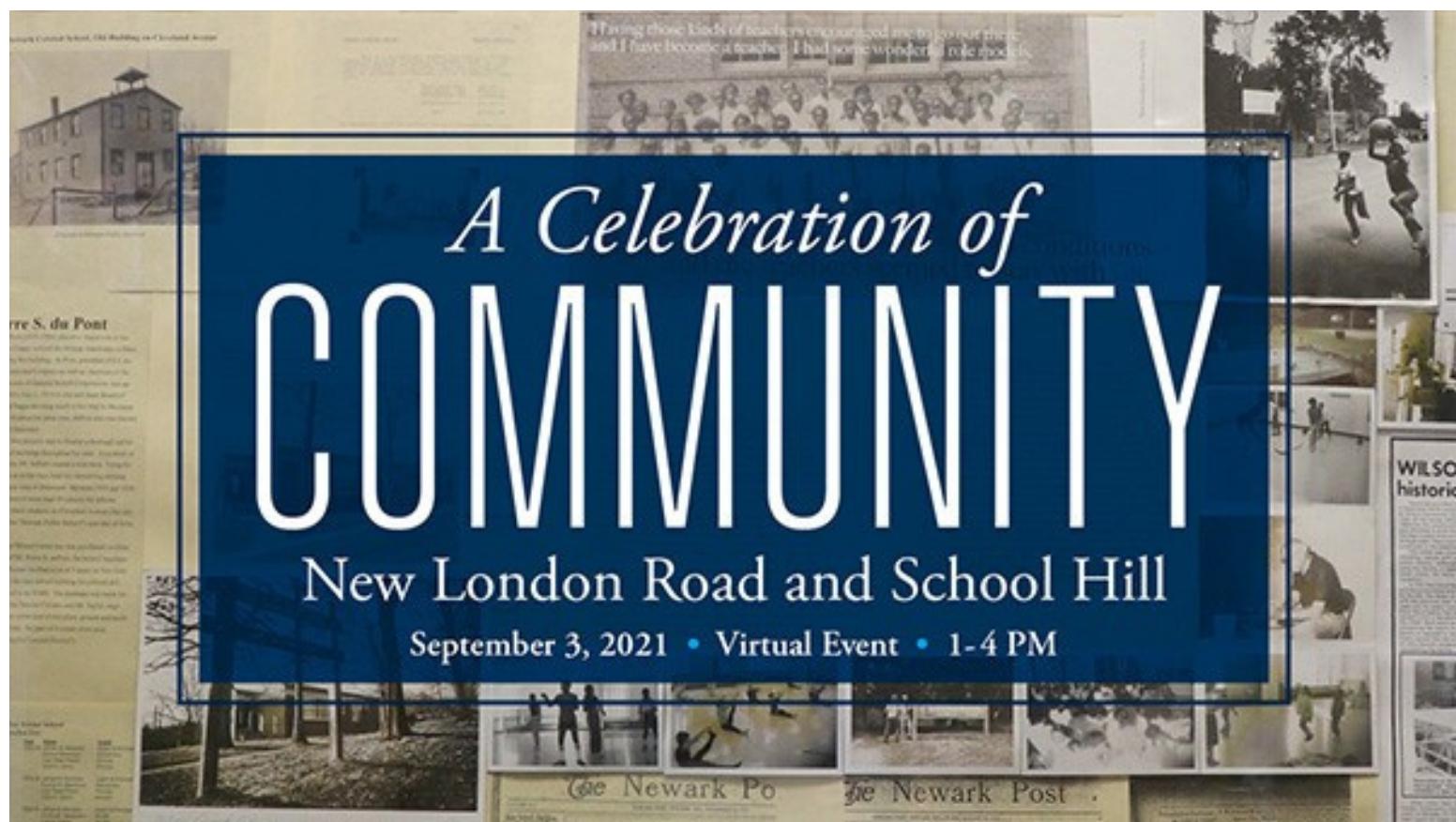
A Celebration of Community: New London Road and School Hill

Some of you may be familiar with Newark's vibrant historic African American community known as School Hill that is located just north of the University of Delaware on New London Avenue. Although many of the visual reminders of the community have disappeared over the years as the University has expanded, the community members are still active and there is an ongoing push to preserve the rich history. Whether you are already familiar with the community or you are interested in learning more, I invite you to save the date for an engaging virtual event being held on Friday, September 3, 2021 entitled "A Celebration of Community: New London Road and School Hill". Presenters include Dr. Freeman Williams, Syl Woolford, Dr. Jesse Erickson, Dr. Curtis Small, and Kobe Baker.

Visit our [events page](#) for more information and to RSVP.

This program is supported, in part, by a grant from the Delaware Library Association. The Delaware Library Association promotes the profession of librarianship, advocates for library services, and works to increase public awareness of the value and impact of libraries.

Submitted by Molly Olney-Zide



Legislative Action Committee Updates

The DLA Legislative Action committee is excited to start working with the team at EveryLibrary and EveryLibrary Institute.

EveryLibrary is the first and only national organization dedicated to building voter support for libraries. Their primary work is to build a national network of Americans who will take action to create a better future for library funding at all levels of government. They achieve this by speaking directly to the public about the value and relevance of libraries and librarians.



The EveryLibrary Institute is a companion organization to EveryLibrary, the first nationwide political action committee for librarians in the United States. The EveryLibrary Institute is a separate non-profit focused on public education and engagement about libraries and librarians. The EveryLibrary Institute's key role in the advocacy process is to create the infrastructure and political power and influence that our partners require in order to make successful asks of government and consult on tools and strategies to satisfy these asks.

Core training is in the process of being developed, and will be rolled out later in the year. However, for anyone that missed the initial introductory meeting with John Chrastka from EveryLibrary, the recording can be located on the DLA [libguide](#) - click on the EveryLibrary tab. Watching this introductory meeting is a crucial first step in understanding the purpose and scope of this initiative.

Please remember to continue to advocate for federal funding for libraries. Representative Blunt Rochester has signed her support to the Build America's Libraries Act (S.127 / H.R. 1581) but Senator Coons and Senator Carper have not! In the coming weeks, Congress will prepare legislation to make massive investments in our nation's infrastructure, and we need to ensure that libraries aren't left out. Resources, form letters, and information are available on the [DLA website](#).

Please reach out to our Senators and tell them that libraries are infrastructure!

Interested in joining the legislative action committee? Please reach out to michelle.hughes@lib.de.us with any questions. This is a perfect time to join as we start to plan for the FY22 advocacy year.

Submitted by Michelle Hughes, Legislative Action Committee Chair

Reflections on the MLA/DLA Conference

DLA's Social Justice Committee and the College and Research Libraries Division awarded sponsorships to the MLA/DLA Conference 2021. Below, DLA member and sponsorship recipient Adara Scholl shares her reflections from the conference.

What was your biggest takeaway from the MLA/DLA Conference?

It was such a privilege to attend the MLA/DLA Conference this year. It provided much needed catharsis and inspiration amidst an intense school semester and an even more trying year. I appreciated the representation across ages, genders, and races; I was even more taken aback by the urgency expressed by both speakers and audience members with regard to the pursuit of equal representation and resource access.

The juxtaposition of limitlessness and equality within a community resonated with me throughout the sessions. Dr. Lacey's exposition on the history of the census was enlightening, and also, surprisingly, convicting. I was challenged to confront internal biases and reevaluate ignorant perceptions. Furthermore, the information shared amplified the positive correlation between inadequate representation of constituents and stagnation within a community.

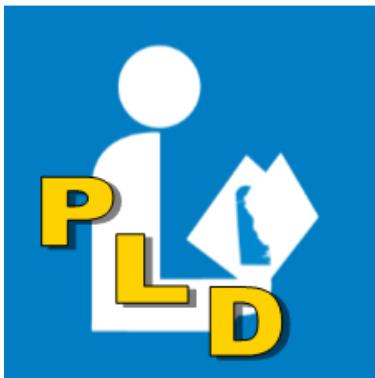
Learning the connection between perfectionism and white supremacy in Wyatt Fertig's session, *I Can Be Perfect, I Promise!* dynamically shifted my thinking. Instead of attempting to thrive in meritocracy, I am even more emboldened to pursue the less trodden path toward self acceptance and genuine service to others. I simply loved the last keynote session. Dhonielle Clayton provided ample practical tips for creating diverse material collections. By developing collections with intentionality and community input, library inventories can more accurately reflect intersectionalities currently underrepresented (if at all). This inevitably results in an increased breadth of perspective and, most poignantly, a more empathetic and connected community.

The MLA/DLA Conference brought to light a profound truth- equality is the bedrock of progress. To truly have libraries without limits, we must tenaciously pursue equal recognition, inclusion, and access within our communities. I am beyond grateful to have attended the conference, and I have already begun implementing the lessons learned in both my work and home life.

Submitted by Kayla Abnor



Public Library Division Updates



With the new PLD executive board in place, we are generating ideas for increased engagement of PLD members and planning for a Fall 2021 workshop and the 2022 DLA/MLA conference. The Showcase Showdown contest will resume in the near future. More information will be sent out to the DLA Listserv.

Other engagement ideas, such as book discussion groups and an internal wiki to share information and resources related to public libraries, have been ideas discussed by the PLD executive board. At this time, decisions regarding these engagement ideas have not been finalized.

If you have other ideas about PLD engagement or any questions, we would be very grateful for your input.

We look forward to engaging with PLD members throughout the year. It has been incredibly inspiring to see how our colleagues across Delaware have adapted to the pandemic and continue to create a new and more inclusive future for public libraries. We hope to continue that momentum with our Fall workshop and the DLA/MLA conference.

Thank you,
PLD Executive Board

MLA/DLA Conference 2022

Happy Summer! My name is Rachel Jackson, I am the Director of the Georgetown Public Library and the new Vice President/Conference Co-Chair of DLA. I am honored to be a part of this organization, and I look forward to working with you all.

Catherine Wimberley, Past President/Conference Co-Chair, and I are excited to share some Conference highlights with you below!

Planning is already underway for the 2022 MLA/DLA Conference – the goal is to be in person! The Conference will be May 4-6, 2022, and will be held at the Hyatt in Cambridge, MD.

Our DLA Conference Committee has already been hard at work coming up with ideas, and we welcome more thoughts from all of you! Please feel free to email either Co-Chair with suggestions or ideas for speakers and programs you would like to see at the conference.

There will be a Silent Auction again this year for the MLA/DLA conference, so please work with your divisions and think of some great ideas to contribute to baskets!

If anyone is interested in volunteering to help with the MLA/DLA website, please let us know that as well. Our counterparts at MLA need help to design the website on Wix and loading information into Sched, and we would love to have some DLA representatives assist with this.

Our emails are listed below; please feel free to reach out with questions, suggestions, and ideas. I am looking forward to seeing you all at our Conference in the spring!

Rachel.Jackson@lib.de.us

Catherine.Wimberley@newcastlede.gov

New Consortium Public Libraries Collection Development Policy



On July 1st, the Delaware Library Consortium's Public Library Policy Steering Committee adopted the **Public Libraries Collection Development Policy**.

The new policy was drafted this spring by the Consortium's Collection Development Policy subcommittee, led by Kathy Graybeal, Sussex County Librarian, and Kevin Swed, Appoquinimink Library Manager. The 2021 document is grounded in previous Consortium collection development work.

The policy applies to public libraries in the Delaware Library Consortium. It recognizes that each member public library builds their own collection to serve its own clientele and community while participating in the shared Consortium collection. Individual libraries have their own collection development policies while the Consortium policy provides a broad, unifying framework for all public libraries.

Collection development in Consortium public libraries is based on the principles espoused in the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights, The Freedom to Read Statement, The Freedom to View Statement, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion and the Diverse Collections statements, and the Code of Ethics, which are included in the policy.

The policy also includes a standardized process and form for addressing challenges to library collection holdings.

Now that the policy has been adopted by the Public Library Policy Steering Committee, it will also be considered for adoption by the Council on Libraries at its August 2021 meeting.

The Consortium's Public Libraries Collection Development Policy is available [here](#). The Consortium's overall Collection Development Committee is also working on collection audits and the Library of Things this year.

Submitted by Anne Hiller Clark, Delaware Division of Libraries

New Citizen Science Course

Announcing a New Citizen Science Course Focused on Community and Environmental Health Science is for everyone!

Through citizen science and community-driven research, non-scientists can advance health and wellness in communities. Now you can explore citizen science through the lens of community and environmental health with a new edX course, [Citizen Science: Gearing Up for Discovery](#); developed at the Health Sciences and Human Services Library (HSHSL) at the University of Maryland, Baltimore.

The self-paced course builds skills in non-scientists who want to develop or participate in a citizen science project, especially those focused on addressing local health concerns. The course will guide you through the process of project development, including planning, training volunteers, collecting and managing your data, and communicating results to the wider community. Short, engaging videos use scenarios to bring the process to life, and activities and quizzes give participants a chance to explore the topic in greater depth. [Enroll now!](#)

Gearing Up is free for everyone and a certificate option is available for \$25.

This project has been funded in part with Federal funds from the Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, National Library of Medicine, under Grant Number UG4LM012340 with the University of Maryland, Baltimore. This project has been funded in part with Federal funds from the Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, National Library of Medicine, under Grant Number UG4LM012340 with the University of Maryland, Baltimore.





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT GRANT UP TO \$1,500 AWARD DLA MEMBERS ONLY

Overview

The objective of a DLA funded grant is to provide funds that help cover library programs or exhibitions that foster a sense of community engagement, and/or present timely topics of interest in areas such as civics, humanities, pop culture, world events, literature, health, family, or other areas as deemed appropriate.

Applications can be submitted for new and ongoing programs.

Requirements

- Application must be submitted by an active DLA member or from a library with an active DLA institution membership.
- The max amount awarded will be \$1,500.
- The grant application must be completed online. Mailed applications will not be accepted.
- All promotional pieces must include the DLA logo and mission statement.
- Final report must be submitted after conclusion of awarded program.

How to apply

- Visit dla.lib.de.us/about-us/grant/
- Review the grant applicant fact sheet.
- Complete the online application.
- Application deadline is December 31, 2021.
- Winning applicants will be notified by Early February, 2022.

For additional information visit dla.lib.de.us



Need to Borrow a Chromebook or Wi-Fi Hotspot?

Get Connected at Delaware Libraries!

Chromebooks (computers) & Wi-Fi Hotspots provide patrons access to the internet for job searching, telehealth appointments, and more!



Chromebooks are a new type of laptop computer. They run Chrome operating system with the best of Google built-in and multiple layers of security.



"MiFi" is a wireless router that acts as a mobile Wi-Fi hotspot allowing your devices to connect to the internet.

You can borrow one or both from Delaware Libraries for Free!

DelawareLibraries.org/devices

DelawareLibraries.org
A row of five small icons: a magnifying glass, two people, a atom symbol, a flame, and a butterfly.

Have Questions?

answers.delawarelibraries.org

(302) 257-3030 – voice

(302) 613-7477 – text



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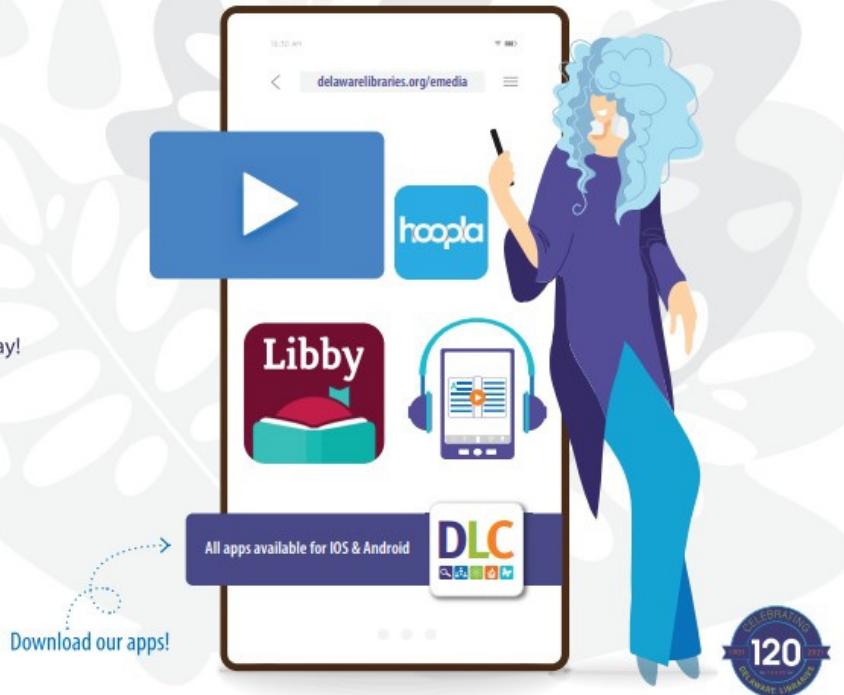
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Write for the DLA Bulletin!

The DLA bulletin is published quarterly. To submit an article, follow the link below. Articles can also be emailed to the DLA email if you do not have a Gmail or have trouble submitting through the Google form.



Deadlines for future DLA Bulletins:

Fall 2021 – Deadline for submissions: Sunday, October 24th, 2021

- Publication: Friday, October 29th, 2021

Winter 2022 – Deadline for submissions: Sunday, January 23rd, 2022

- Publication: Friday, January 28th, 2022

Spring 2022 – Deadline for submissions: Sunday, April 24th, 2021

- Publication: Friday, April 29th, 2021

Summer 2022 – Deadline for submissions: Sunday, July 24th, 2021

- Publication: Friday, July 39th, 2021

The DLA bulletin is published quarterly. To submit an article, click the picture above. Articles can also be emailed to the DLA email (dla@lib.de.us) if you do not have a Gmail or have trouble submitting through the Google form.