



# Delaware Library Association

Advocating, Empowering, and Educating a Diverse Library Community.

FALL  
2021

## QUARTERLY BULLETIN

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# 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.

## RACHEL JACKSON

### Vice President, and Conference Co-Chair

#### What's your current role in libraries?

I am the Director of the Georgetown Public Library.

#### What's your role in DLA?

I am the Vice President, and Conference Co-Chair along with Past President Catherine Wimberley

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

I am really excited about this year's MLA / DLA conference! The Conference will be May 4-6, 2022, and will be held at the Hyatt in Cambridge, MD. The DLA conference committee has come up with some very exciting programs, and I look forward to lots of fun and informative sessions!

#### What are you currently reading?

I just finished a book called *The Solace of Water* by Elizabeth Byler Younts. Goodreads calls it "an emotionally charged, captivating work of historical fiction" - I would have to agree! The beautiful writing made me feel the sorrow and the joy along with the characters, and I highly recommend it.

## CATHERINE WIMBERLY

### DLA Past President

#### What's your current role in libraries?

I am the Programs and Services Coordinator for New Castle County Libraries and am serving as the Interim Manager at the Brandywine Hundred Library

#### What's your role in DLA?

I am the Past President of DLA

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

Last year's Long Range Planning Committee made several recommendations that will help DLA build organizational capacity. I am excited to work with the Committee, EveryLibrary, and the Delaware Division of Libraries to determine how we can best implement the recommendations and set DLA up for future growth and success.

#### What are you currently reading?

*Fuzz: When Nature Breaks the Law* by Mary Roach

# Delaware Library Association Recommends Going Fine Free in Delaware Libraries

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The Social Justice Committee of the Delaware Library Association thanks the Delaware Library Consortium and the Delaware Division of Libraries for their decision to suspend fines during the COVID-19 pandemic. We believe the statewide suspension has set a positive precedent for moving forward as a fine-free system. As library workers, we believe that information access should be free and available to all people, at all times; and as members of this committee, we recognize that the issue of library fines is an issue of social justice.

When we impose fees on overdue items and block user access as those fees accrue, we create a barrier to access for the users who are most in need of the services we provide. There is also ample evidence that fines disproportionately impact people of color and those who are poor or unhoused. While these are examples of demonstrable negatives to charging fines, there are also demonstrable positives in doing away with them: research has shown that fines keep people from returning to the library, and ending fines encourages those users to come back. Not only that, it encourages those patrons with overdue books to return those materials without fear of repercussion, and in fact many libraries are learning that ending fines results in patrons bringing more books back to the library.

In the American Library Association's January 28, 2019 Resolution on Monetary Library Fines as a Form of Social Inequity, it was resolved to update the ALA policy manual to reflect that ALA "urges libraries to scrutinize their practices of imposing fines on library patrons and actively move towards eliminating them." The resolution also states that "monetary fines ultimately do not serve the core mission of the modern library".

With this in mind, the Social Justice Committee asks the Delaware Division of Libraries, our county divisions, and all public library directors in our state to continue in this positive direction and consider making the move to becoming permanently fine-free here in Delaware.

-This statement was approved by the executive board of the Delaware Library Association on October 5th, 2021.

Additional info can be found in the [Delaware Libraries Fines & Fees LibGuide](#)

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# An Update from the Public Library Division:

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The PLD board is excited to announce that on Friday, November 19th at 11 am, Meredith Farkas, from Portland Community College, will be presenting, "Building a Better Collective Future with Slow Librarianship." Registration and marketing will be available by the end of October or early November. This presentation will be virtual and will last for approximately one hour. If interested, Scott Businsky will remain on Zoom after the presentation for comments, questions, and suggestions about PLD.

The Showcase Showdown will officially relaunch on Friday, November 19th. We are finalizing details and will share information prior to the start of our presentation. We are working on updating the OverDrive and Libby brochures. In the coming weeks, drafts will be sent to PLD members for review and approval. Thank you to the PLD member who brought forward this suggestion! The PLD board has worked with colleagues across Delaware and Maryland to submit proposals for the 2022 DLA / MLA conference. We are grateful for the survey input from PLD members.



Get to know the board! VP/President-Elect Jamie Morris is an Adult Services Librarian at Dover Public Library. Her work during the pandemic remained mostly the same except she has had to get a lot more comfortable being filmed making crafts. She enjoys naps, hiking with her husband and two dogs, baking, and crochet. She hates seafood and is aware she is in the wrong part of the country for that unpopular opinion. Fall and winter are her favorite seasons and she can't wait to see if we get a lot of snow this year!

Secretary Adara Scholl is the Virtual Reference Services Specialist for DDL. Because of her introversion and general awkwardness, the pandemic hasn't drastically altered her general routine. She enjoys sundried clothes, eclectic music and living simply. She also enjoys making food, lotions, hand sanitizers, and cleaning supplies from scratch. She gardens alongside her husband, Kris (and by alongside, she means watching from inside the air-conditioned house). Kris and Adara have 3 children, who they affectionately refer to as "spawn," as well as 2 wonderful yet cowardly dogs. While working, she tends to listen to movie or video game soundtracks, most notably Gladiator and World of Warcraft. Her favorite part of working for DE Libraries is facilitating connections for all patrons as they pursue their interests and dreams.

Update submitted by the PLD Board.

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# 2022 MLA/DLA Conference

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The planning for the 2022 MLA/DLA Conference is well underway. Your DLA Conference Chairs, Rachel Jackson and I, are excited to share our updates.

The Conference will be May 4-6, 2022, and will be held at the Hyatt in Cambridge, MD. The goal is to have the conference take place in person. With that said, this past year and a half has taught us to be flexible. We are ready to pivot to a virtual program if it becomes necessary.

We are working to book Rebecca Tolley as our keynote speaker. Rebecca is a librarian with East Tennessee State University and the author of *A Trauma-Informed Approach to Library Services*. The presentation is under development, but it will include an introduction to Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) as well as a discussion of how libraries as community centers can develop a trauma-informed care culture; creating safe and welcoming spaces for the public.

Other conference programs include presentations on library and nonprofit relationships, the hotwash technique, USCIS, Prime Time Family Reading, restorative equity in the workplace, legislative questions, an intro to Discord and much more!

There will be a Silent Auction this year. Your contributions help raise money for DLA's work including training opportunities, advocacy work, and community grants. Last year we were able to raise almost \$1,000. Please work with your divisions, committees, and libraries to think of some great ideas to contribute to baskets!

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!

[catherine.wimberley@newcastlede.gov](mailto:catherine.wimberley@newcastlede.gov)

[rachel.jackson@lib.de.us](mailto:rachel.jackson@lib.de.us)

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# Legislative Visits and EveryLibrary Updates

In May of 2021, Delaware Libraries announced the launch of the Telehealth Kiosk and Device Lending Initiative. In this pilot, kiosks have been set up at Seaford, Laurel, and Milford libraries to increase access to health and social services to Delawareans. These kiosks are designed to provide a solution for Delawareans who need privacy and high-speed internet access for telehealth visits, job interviews, legal appointments, and more. The device loaning initiative features the deployment of hundreds of Chromebooks and Wi-Fi hotspots at public libraries throughout the state. This project was the vision of Nick Martin, Emerging Tech & Telehealth Consultant for the Delaware Division of Libraries.

Nick saw a need back in 2018 and made the focus of his work on providing access to quality healthcare, regardless of the location. This is the first statewide library-led telehealth initiative in the country, and it's garnering a lot of attention and praise. Congresswoman Lisa Blunt Rochester nominated the Telehealth in Delaware Libraries initiative as one of her Community Project Funding requests. Nick was also a recipient of the 2021 Lt. Governor's Wellness Leadership Challenge award. The winning recipients were individuals or organizations across Delaware that made a commitment to enacting better health and wellness for their communities, ultimately helping to elevate the well-being, productivity, and prosperity of the State of Delaware.



Nick had an opportunity to demonstrate a telehealth kiosk to Senator Tom Carper and Representative Lisa Blunt Rochester at the Milford Library on Friday, September 3, 2021. There are several factors that make the library take on telehealth unique and effective. Coming into a library carries a lot less stigma than entering a counselor or doctor's office, which can help put the public more at ease. The telehealth kiosks also serve as a community checkpoint. Individuals who are really sick need to go in to see the doctor, but those who aren't can schedule a private telehealth meeting. It helps keep the critical patients in the emergency rooms, and the doctors to focus on the right level of care. Some metrics of the program's success so far:

- The kiosks are seeing a pretty even split between patrons seeking "Counselor, therapist appointments, legal appointments, or job interviews"
- 55% of users set up a library card for the first time
- 70% male / 30% female use
- 56% said they would use the kiosk again

As Congresswoman Blunt Rochester said; health is bigger than just doctors. By libraries providing this service, as a community we are helping people to problem solve.

On September 3, 2021, Senator Tom Carper and Representative Lisa Blunt Rochester also visited the Harrington Public Library. The focus of this visit was to push for support for Build America's Libraries Act, which would provide federal funding for library construction. The Harrington Public Library is an example of a library that would benefit greatly from BALA funding. The library is currently located in a small former funeral home. They've been approved for library construction funding from the state but had to postpone the project due to a severe costly sewage problem in the town.

Library design plans were presented, and Senator Carper presented some good ideas on EPA loans to Daniel Tartt, Harrington City Manager.



## Giving Tuesday Campaign continued...

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Inviting legislators to your library is crucial. In order for library projects to be successful, everyone has to be in it together and engaged. As DLA continues to work with EveryLibrary we will continue to learn new skills relating to messaging, segmenting data, fundraising, and building support. Training provided by EveryLibrary is available on the Delaware Libraries Staff Academy under the Administration -> EveryLibrary category. Please take advantage of these information-packed tutorials. If you have questions about the Delaware Libraries Staff Academy please email [profdev@lib.de.us](mailto:profdev@lib.de.us).

Starting in November 2021 and running through April 2022, a new webinar will be released to the Delaware Libraries Staff Academy the beginning of the month. Each webinar will be followed by a live coaching session the second Tuesday of the month. Please watch your email for calendar links and registration information.



Want to be part of the action? Contact [michelle.hughes@lib.de.us](mailto:michelle.hughes@lib.de.us) to find out how. We'd love to have you part of the team!



# YALSA Grant Opportunities

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Each year YALSA offers more than \$195,000 in grants and awards to members who work with or on behalf of teens. Grants include:

Collection Development Grant This annual grant is funded by Baker & Taylor and awards \$1,000 to two YALSA members who represent a public library, and who work directly with young adults ages 12 to 18.

Great Books Giveaway Each year the YALSA office receives about 3,000 newly published children's, young adult, and adult books, videos, and CDs for review. YALSA and the cooperating publishers annually offer one year's worth of review materials to up to 3 libraries in need.

Frances Henne Research Grant This annual grant of \$1,000 provides seed money for small-scale projects which will encourage research that responds to the YALSA Research Agenda.

Innovation Award This annual \$500 award is funded by Friends of YALSA (FOY) for a member who has brought a new teen project idea to life (big or small) through their library. The innovation should illustrate YALSA's vision for teen services as outlined in: "The Future of Library Services for and with Teens: A Call to Action" and "Teen Services Competencies for Library Staff."

\*New\* Joann Sweetland Lum Memorial Grant This annual \$1000 grant recognizes a librarian who has a creative, innovative project that promotes literacy (digital, media, visual, computer, data, financial, civic/ethical, news, information, multicultural, and/or cultural literacy).

MAE Award for Best Literature Program for Teens The Margaret A. Edwards Trust (MAE Award) is designed to honor a YALSA member who has developed an outstanding young adult reading or literature program. The award provides \$500 to the winner and \$500 to the winner's library or library agency.

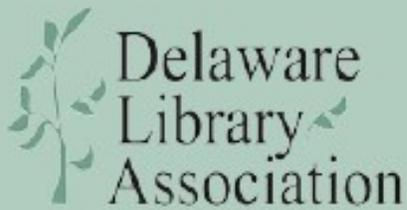
YALSA Volunteer of the Year Awards acknowledges the contributions of YALSA members who have demonstrated outstanding service to the mission, goals, and work of YALSA during a given service year. The recognition includes a one-year membership to YALSA and a commemorative certificate for each category's winner(s). To nominate yourself, a group, or an individual, please use this online form.

YALSA Writing Award This award honors the best writing in YALSA's blogs and journals. Prizes will be given for a winning article in each of the journals and blogs.

Scholarships, Stipends, and Fellowships YALSA offer various scholarships and stipends each year. Scroll to the bottom of the page to view.

For more information, visit the YALSA grants website.





**The Public Library  
Division Presents:**

**Meredith Farkas**

Faculty Librarian  
Portland Community College

## **BUILDING A BETTER COLLECTIVE FUTURE WITH SLOW LIBRARIANSHIP**

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Slow librarianship presents an approach that rejects achievement culture and focuses on values-driven work, relationships, solidarity, antiracism, and reflective practice.

Meredith Farkas will explore both individual and collective strategies to inspire workplace empowerment, align our work with our values, support well-being, and most importantly, to slow down.

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REGISTRATION:

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/  
PLDPRESENTATION](https://tinyurl.com/PLDPRESENTATION)

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH**

**11:00 AM**

**ZOOM**

# Giving Tuesday Campaign

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The EveryLibrary Institute is proposing to launch a statewide crowdfunding campaign across Delaware on [FundLibraries.org](#) for [Giving Tuesday 2021](#), which is November 30, 2021.

Fundlibraries.org is the first and only crowdfunding website dedicated solely to innovative library and literacy projects in school, public, and academic communities. This fundraising website is simple to use. It is a one-stop fundraising platform for libraries and library support organizations that connects great ideas in need of crowdsourced funding with tens of thousands of potential donors in the state and across the country. As a 501c3 non-profit organization, the EveryLibrary Institute acts as the fiscal agent to collect charitable donations from individuals and corporate donors and disburses them directly to either the library or a local Friends Group at the close of the fundraising campaign.

The benefit of using fundlibraries.org for your Giving Tuesday campaign is that all campaigns will be promoted through EveryLibrary's extensive network of library supporters throughout the state. Because EveryLibrary keeps and manages the data, they make it available to participating libraries. This is also an excellent opportunity to grow your donor lists for any future fundraising efforts.

EveryLibrary is working with the Delaware Library Association, Friends of Delaware Libraries, and the Delaware Division of Libraries to establish and promote Giving Tuesday as a special fundraising event. Every library in Delaware will have the opportunity to participate in a campaign that is specific to each library on fundlibraries.org. The EveryLibrary Institute will provide training, consulting, fundraising templates, and communication materials, and press releases to libraries to make it very easy to participate. EveryLibrary Institute will support earned and paid media to drive traffic and raise awareness of your campaigns.

A template will be designed for Delaware libraries. Logos from participating libraries will be included. Several screenshots are attached to this email that provides a mock-up of the fundlibraries.org Delaware template.

Using the Delaware template with your logo, The EveryLibrary Institute will build, manage, and run a crowdfunding campaign on behalf of your library. The library is encouraged to provide feedback and approval on campaign collateral, text, and images in the crowdfunding campaign page, and opportunities to ensure that libraries can provide feedback on materials will be provided.

The EveryLibrary Institute will provide marketing and advertising support and launch a marketing campaign across the state for all participating libraries.

FundLibraries.org brings together EveryLibrary's huge network of people in Delaware who believe in the transformational work of librarians. Unlike other crowdfunding sites, FundLibraries.org will dedicate advertising dollars and use its proven expertise in marketing libraries to create and cultivate an audience for every campaign on the platform. We know that "the crowd" we have gathered is open to giving, interested in libraries, and engaged with helping librarians succeed in your mission.

If you are interested in participating, or if you are looking for more information, please consult the following resources:

- EveryLibrary Institute's [webinar](#) on crowdfunding through fundlibraries.org
- Review the [fundlibraries.org guide](#).

All donations are secured and cleared via Stripe. Donations through these fundraising campaigns are tax-deductible for charitable purposes. Each participating library will receive contact information for all donors to their individual campaigns for follow-up and relationship building. The EveryLibrary Institute will hold back 9.5% for credit card fees, bank charges, and overhead.

## Giving Tuesday Campaign continued...

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### Action Items:

- Please let us know if your library would like to participate at [everylibrary@listserv.lib.de.us](mailto:everylibrary@listserv.lib.de.us).
- If your library is already participating in a Giving Tuesday event or United Way campaign, please let us know that information as well.

We are excited about this crowdfunding effort and believe it can be a big step in keeping your library thriving in the future.



# Building a Library Coalition - an EveryLibrary Training

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Coalitions are at the heart of library funding success stories. Too often, library leaders are isolated from other parts of the community and may not know how to start or join a coalition. Learn how to break through those barriers by being neighborly and build the coalition you need to increase the reach and potential of your organization through stronger relationships. This session will help you identify the organizations, agencies, and stakeholder groups you need to become aligned with and learn how to frame the conversation with individuals and organizations about the library in a new, high-impact way.

This training is available on the Delaware Libraries Staff Academy. If you are not sure whether you have a DLSA login, please email [profdev@lib.de.us](mailto:profdev@lib.de.us) for assistance.

A LIVE coaching session will be held Wednesday, November 10th at 10 am. Please register for the live coaching session on LibCal. Direct link to the event: <https://delawarelibraries.libcal.com/event/8360391>

This training is the first session in a 6 part planned training event. Future dates and training topics:

- December - VALUES-ALIGNED BUDGETING FOR TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS
  - Live coaching session Wednesday, December 8th
- January - ARE YOU MARKETING OR JUST ADVERTISING
  - Live coaching session Wednesday, January 12th
- February - TELLING THE RIGHT STORY: COMMUNICATIONS THAT GOES BEYOND BUILDING USE
  - Live coaching session - Wednesday, February 9th
- March - MESSAGING FOR RESULTS
  - Live coaching session Wednesday, March 9th
- April - BIG DATA AND ADVANCED MARKETING TOOLS FOR LIBRARIES
  - Live coaching session Wednesday, April 13th

Webinars will be available in the Delaware Libraries Staff Academy the 1st of every month.



# "The Sum of Us" Book Study Group Sponsored by DLA Social Justice Committee

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The DLA Social Justice Committee is hosting a 3-week book study group on *The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together* by Heather McGhee. The study group will meet from 1:30-3 pm on Wednesdays between January 19 and February 2 (edited). Registration is required and open to DLA members. [Click here to register.](#)

This professional development opportunity is being offered in cooperation with the YWCA Dialogue to Action program. The DLA study group will use the book discussion materials developed by the YWCA. Participants are encouraged to check out highlights from the recent Building Opportunity keynote featuring the author, Heather McGhee.

DLA members who cannot participate in this study group may contact the YWCA to join other study groups in the community. The DLA Social Justice Committee encourages members to engage in a variety of anti-racist learning opportunities. See the list of anti-racist readings and resources linked to the recent DLA Statement on Racial Justice.

- Wednesday, January 19, 1:30-3 pm
  - Wednesday, January 26, 1:30-3 pm
  - Wednesday, February 2, 1:30-3 pm
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# 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/](http://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](http://dla.lib.de.us)



# Write for The DLA Bulletin!

The DLA bulletin is published quarterly.

To submit an article, click on this image.

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:**

- Winter 2022 – Deadline for submissions: Sunday, January 23rd, 2022
- Spring 2022 – Deadline for submissions: Sunday, April 24th, 2022
- Summer 2022 – Deadline for submissions: Sunday, July 24th, 2022
- Fall 2022 – Deadline for submissions: Sunday, October 23th, 2022

