

JANUARY 2025 ISSUE

THE HAPPENINGS



This Issue

- Letter from MLA
- Upcoming Programs
- Conference Announcement
- January & February Meetings

LETTER FROM THE MLA OFFICE STAFF

Our New Website is Almost Here!

We are thrilled to announce the Maryland Library Association's new website and member Info Hub will be going live in just over a week! This update will provide you with an enhanced experience, making it easier than ever to access resources, connect with fellow members, and stay up to date on all MLA activities.

During the transition, there may be minor disruptions in service as we work to ensure a smooth launch. We sincerely appreciate your patience as we make these improvements.

In case you missed it in December's newsletter, check out a sneak peek!



In addition, the application for Educational Grants is live! Recipients receive up to \$500 for school or a qualified workshop or training. Learn more and apply below.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year!

**Warm regards,
Maryland Library Association Team**



EDUCATIONAL GRANTS

Up to \$500 for school or a qualified workshop or training for Maryland Library Association members.

! APPLY NOW

Apply by January 22 using the QR code or URL below.

bit.ly/mlagrants



MLA CHATS:

**Censorship & Intellectual Freedom,
Diverse Collection Development,
and Readers Advisory**

Monday, January 27, 2025 |

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Online via Zoom.

[Register on mdlib.org.](#)

MLA Chats is a new virtual quarterly forum where MLA members can participate in a facilitated discussion on topics impacting their work and librarianship in general.

January's session will focus on censorship and intellectual freedom, diverse collection development, and readers advisory.

This session will be facilitated by Intellectual Freedom Panel members Arthur LaRue (Information Services Associate, Washington County Free Library), and Mike Kiel (Interim Head of Reference and Instruction, University of Baltimore).

You must be logged in to your MLA account in order to register. This will not be recorded. Please feel free to reach out to Nay Keppler with any questions!

Program Pricing:

FREE for MLA Members.

Must be a member to attend.



**LEGISLATIVE DAY
BREAKFAST RECEPTION**

with the Maryland Library Association

**Maryland Inn
Tuesday, February 11, 2025
7:30 to 9:00 a.m.**

Enjoy lite breakfast fare, coffee, and mingling!
Please RSVP using the QR code by February 6, 2024.

The Maryland Inn is located at 58 State Circle, Annapolis, MD 21401



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT DIVISION PRESENTS:

Psychologically Safe Leadership

Thursday, February 20, 2025 |

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Online via Zoom.

Register on mdlib.org.

Workplace safety is more than just physically ensuring the well-being of your staff. A psychologically safe leader looks to “prevent psychological harm, promote psychological health of workers, and address problems related to psychological health and safety.”

Bringing this process to Maryland Libraries is not easy. By defining a psychologically safe leader and identifying the harmful myths preventing psychological safety, all library leaders can learn to build a healthier workplace.

This will put us in a safer position to better promote mental health within our library community.

All levels of library leadership can benefit from developing this competency and contributing to a future of psychologically safe workplaces.

Program Pricing:

Members: \$12.50

Non-members: \$18.75

**Student, Retired, Unemployed,
or Friend:** \$6.25

SAVE THE DATE!

MLA | DLA Annual Conference

May 7-9, 2025

Ocean City, Maryland

**Early Bird Registration will
begin in early January!**

Keep an eye on your inbox for a registration announcement soon.



**JOIN TODAY & YOUR NEW
MEMBERSHIP COULD
EARN YOU \$300***

Visit www.servingamericaslibrarycommunity.org



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YOUTH SERVICES DIVISION PRESENTS:

**Black-Eyed Susan Tapestry (BEST)
2025—The Spring Edition****Thursday, March 6, 2025 |
9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

Online via Zoom.

[Register on mdlib.org](https://mdlib.org).

Love talking about books? Join us for BEST 2025—The Spring Edition, a celebration of Children's and Teen Fiction. Learn about the Black-Eyed Susan Award and participate, via Zoom, in a half day of small group discussions of some of the 2023-2024 Juvenile and Teen Fiction nominees.

Program check-in begins at 9:25 a.m., and the program will start at 9:30 a.m. There will be two discussion groups, meeting twice, so you can attend both sessions. Please read all the titles for each group

G. Z. Schmidt, author of *The Curious Vanishing of Beatrice Willoughby*, will be our keynote speaker.



Please read all the titles for each group.

Group 1 - Grades 3-5

- Crowder, Tracy Ocomy—*Montgomery and the Case of the Golden Key*
- Oh, Ellen—*You Are Here: Connecting Flights*
- Schmidt, G.Z.—*The Curious Vanishing of Beatrice Willoughby*
- Stead, Rebecca, and Mass, Wendy—*The Lost Library*
- Tandon, Nancy—*The Way I Say It*

Group 2 - Grades 6-12

- Andreu, Maria E.—*Love in English*
- Bow, Erin—*Simon Sort of Says*
- Gemeinhart, Dan—*Midnight Children*
- Hammonds, Jas—*We Deserve Monuments*
- Swinarski, Claire—*What Happened to Rachel Riley*

This program has been approved for 8.5 contact hours of continuing education for attendees. Facilitators will receive 12 contact hours! If you would like to be a facilitator, or if you have any questions, contact [Joe Farmarco](#) or [Noel Knepper](#).

Program Pricing:**Members:** \$30**Non-members:** \$45**Student, Retired, Unemployed,
or Friend:** \$30

Division, Caucus, Committee, Panel, and Interest Group Meetings

JANUARY 2025

- 3 Readers' Advisory Interest Group | 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.**
Online via Zoom.
 Contact Meg Faller at meg.faller@calvertlibrary.info
- 6 Future of Libraries Interest Group | 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**
Online via Zoom.
 Contact Tracy Miller at millert@hcplonline.org
- ACRL-MD | 11:00 a.m. - 12 noon**
Online via Zoom.
 Contact Kate Strain at kstrain@loyola.edu
- 8 Youth Services Division | 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.**
Online via Blackboard.
 Contact Karen Earp at kearp@wicomico.org
- BCMLA | 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.**
Online via Zoom.
 Contact Genive Purchase at gpurchase@prattlibrary.org
- Materials Interest Group | 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**
Online via Zoom.
 Contact Laura Bandoch at bandoch@hcplonline.org
- 9 Leadership Development Division | 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**
Online via Zoom.
 Contact Matthew Lowder at mlowder@cecilcountylibrary.org
- 10 Library Advocacy Interest Group | 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**
Online via Zoom.
 Contact Tif Sutherland at tiffany.sutherland@calvertlibrary.info
- 14 Social Committee | 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**
Online via Zoom.
 Contact Chelsea Shockley at cshockle@prattlibrary.org
- 15 Conference Committee | 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**
Online via Zoom.
 Contact Chelsea Shockley at cshockle@prattlibrary.org
- Executive Board Meeting 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m**
 Contact Joshua Stone at mlaexec@mdlib.org
- 16 Emerging Adults Interest Group | 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**
Online via Zoom.
 Contact Stephanie Wiant at swiant@frederickcountymd.gov
- Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Panel | 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**
Online via Zoom.
 Contact Conni Strittmatter at cstrittmatter@bcpl.net
- 22 Kids are Customers Planning Committee | 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.**
 Contact Katlyn McLimans at kmclimans@cecilcountylibrary.org
- 23 Marketing Committee | 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**
 Contact Amy Miller-Meyers at amymill@carr.org
- 27 LGBTQ+ Interest Group | 2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.**
Online via Zoom.
 Contact Shannon Carney at scarney@bcpl.net

Division, Caucus, Committee, Panel, and Interest Group Meetings**FEBRUARY 2025**

- 3 Future of Libraries Interest Group | 10:00 a.m.**
Online via Zoom.
Contact Tracy Miller at millert@hcplonline.org
- 5 BCMLA | 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.**
Online via Zoom.
Contact Genive Purchase at gpurchase@prattlibrary.org
- Intellectual Freedom Panel | 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.**
Online via Google Meets.
Contact Lloyd Jansen at ljansen@ccplonline.org
- 6 Support Staff Division | 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.**
Online via Zoom.
Contact Nicole Bega at nbega@stmalib.org
- Sustainability Interest Group | 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.**
Online via Zoom.
Contact Nicole Bega at nbega@stmalib.org
- 7 Library Advocacy Interest Group | 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**
Online via Zoom.
Contact Tif Sutherland at tiffany.sutherland@calvertlibrary.info
- 12 Youth Services Division | 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.**
Online via Blackboard.
Contact Karen Earp at kearp@wicomico.org
- 13 Emerging Adults Interest Group | 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**
Online via Zoom.
Contact Stephanie Wiant at swiant@frederickcountymd.gov
- 18 Social Committee | 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**
Online via Zoom.
Contact Chelsea Shockley at cshockle@prattlibrary.org
- 19 Conference Committee | 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**
Online via Zoom.
Contact Chelsea Shockley at cshockle@prattlibrary.org
- 20 ACRL-MD | 11:00 a.m. - 12 noon**
Online via Zoom.
Contact Kate Strain at kstrain@loyola.edu
- Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Panel | 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**
Online via Zoom.
Contact Conni Strittmatter at cstrittmatter@bcpl.net
- 24 LGBTQ+ Interest Group | 2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.**
Online via Zoom.
Contact Shannon Carney at scarney@bcpl.net
- 26 Kids are Customers Planning Committee | 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.**
Contact Katlyn McLimans at kmclimans@cecilcountylibrary.org
- 27 Marketing Committee | 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**
Contact Amy Miller-Meyers at amymill@carr.org