MALA Update

Report emergency closures or ILL suspensions to MALA promptly
During the meeting with the State Library on Tuesday, some libraries indicated that they might close between Christmas and New Years; if your library needs to close for any reason that may affect courier delivery, please report the closure via MALA’s website at this link http://www.malalibraries.org/courier-service/courier-delivery-service-report-form/.

If you have any problems with the reporting form, call Linda Tarantino at 816-575-6067 or email her at linda.tarantino@mid-americanlibraryalliance.org to notify her of any closures. These closures are reported to Henry Industries so your courier driver can suspend deliveries.

Upcoming Courier Holidays
As we move into the holiday season, we want to remind you that there is no delivery service on the following MALA Courier holidays:

 Thursday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Day
 Friday, December 25 – Christmas Day
 Thursday, December 31 – New Year’s Eve Day
 Friday, January 1 – New Year’s Day

Joplin’s Patty Crane named Missouri’s Outstanding Professional Librarian
Reference Librarian Patty Crane of Joplin Public Library has been named the Missouri Library Association’s Outstanding Professional Librarian. This award recognizes a librarian with an MLS or MLIS degree who has made a significant contribution to the improvement and advancement of library and information services. Patty was recognized during the virtual MLA conference on September 30. Congratulations, Patty!
Join Zoom Meeting
https://zoom.us/j/94654581846?pwd=RW15ejlGc1VRY2krbWRoUWVHK2RNdz09

Upcoming MALA Webinars

Taking Care of Your Staff (and Yourself) During the COVID-19 Pandemic
with April Roy, Director, Plaza Branch, Kansas City Public Library

Wednesday, December 16, 2020, 2:00 to 3:00 PM
This FREE encore presentation of the popular one-hour program, co-sponsored by Missouri State Library, and MALA, will motivate and inspire staff and managers from libraries large and small. We are all navigating through uncharted waters created by the virus outbreak, ongoing library shutdowns, and the turmoil in our communities. MLA Past President and award-winning Library Director April Roy helps us confront painful realities, and proposes effective strategies to help all of us working in libraries to move forward with confidence and optimism into 2021.

Register here

Story Time and Outreach Skills in the Pandemic:
Staying Connected to Our Youngest Library Users
with Patrick Peterson, Children’s Services Librarian, Basehor Community Library

Tuesday, January 12, 2021, 2:00 to 3:00 PM
COVID-19 has dramatically changed the way we interact with our most faithful library patrons. Librarians have created virtual opportunities to replace library programs like story time and after school outreach, but we struggle with the lack of person-to-person interactions. Join Patrick Peterson as he shares his ideas about embracing virtual formats for our youngest users. This one-hour webinar will help you revitalize your story times and youth outreach with tips and tricks on how to engage youth, parents, and caregivers.

Register here

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