MALA Updates

More Library Materials through USPS
Recently MALA was made aware that once again library materials were sent through USPS. Henry is not certain how many items were involved but we believe that it was a smaller amount than the incident in the autumn. We are taking steps to make sure this does not occur again. If you receive a MALA courier bag through USPS and it is not for your library, please send it on to the destination library; the label should still be intact on the courier bag. If you are not sure who it goes to, please send it back to MALA with a short note explaining the situation. We are very sorry for this inconvenience.

April Meet and Greet Courier Meeting
Join Linda Tarantino, MALA’s Courier Coordinator, for an online meeting to share information, problems, solutions or just visit about courier related items.

Topic: Meet & Greet
Time: Apr 14, 2021 02:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
https://zoom.us/j/96152273212?pwd=NWRGNyszZ3JmcjV6IUI5WEoYaHdadz09

Annual Agreements
Watch for your Annual Agreement and annual fee (if appropriate) to come through your director's inbox this month. Annual Agreements are due back by June 14. Invoices are due by August 2. If you have had a director change over this fiscal year and have not yet notified MALA, please send the new contact information to marcychiasson@mid-americalibraryalliance.org ASAP. Thanks.

MALA Totes
If your library has spare MALA totes, please send them back to the MALA office. We need to keep them moving throughout the system.

Upcoming MALAPro Webinars

Tackling Teen Programming 101
with Jennifer McCulley, Youth Services Coordinator, McPherson Public Library

Wednesday, April 21, 2021, 2:00-3:00 PM
Libraries are constantly competing for their teen patron’s time and attention. From extra school activities to even part-time jobs, librarians seemed to be overwhelmed with the task of planning teen programming. Join Jennifer McCulley for this one-hour presentation as we dive into how to utilize the past and present for inspiration. Participants will learn valuable ideas and techniques that will have their teen audience buzzing about their library activities.

Register here

Readers’ Advisory: The Importance of Representation
with Margo Moore, Youth Services Assistant, Lawrence Public Library and Kimberly Lopez, Readers’ Services Assistant, Lawrence Public Library

Wednesday, May 12, 2021, 10:00-11:00 AM

Representation in books matter! Join Margo Moore and Kimberly Lopez as they give a well-rounded overview on titles your library can champion that feature trans characters and/or trans authors. In this one-hour webinar, participants will learn how they can utilize readers’ advisory to cultivate a welcoming environment for trans patrons of all ages while remaining cognizant of the issues that could specifically affect trans patrons in your communities.

Register here

The Foundation for Building a Successful Team
with Pat Wagner, Management Consultant, Pattern Research

Thursday, May 20, 2021, 10:00-11:00 AM

Team building is an essential component to running a successful organization. Working in harmony with one another can be a difficult task, even for some of the best communicators. Join Pat Wagner, for this one-hour session as we dive into key aspects of how to establish or re-establish our team communication. Attendees will learn how to cooperate with peers and staff members as we re-connect from the previous year.

Register here