



# Courier/ILL Newsletter | November 17, 2023

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November Stats  
are due by Dec. 5

## MALA Updates

### Upcoming MALA Courier Holidays

MALA will be closed on Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 in observance of Thanksgiving; there will be no courier service on those days.

In addition, MALA will be closed on Monday, December 25 and Monday, January 1; there will be no courier service on those days.

### YOUR Upcoming Holidays - have you reported?

Please make sure that you report ALL of your closures around the holidays to MALA so we can notify your courier. Click here [here](#).

### Reporting Closures and Missed Stops

Just a reminder as we move into winter... please report any closures due to inclement weather as soon as possible so MALA can notify your courier. **Likewise, please report a missed stop immediately so that we can potentially arrange a make-up delivery.** In both instances, use the Courier Delivery Issues report found [here](#).

### December Meet and Greet Courier Meeting

*Join Katrina High for the monthly Meet & Greet. Meet new librarians, share information and learn what's going on around the state.*

#### Topic: December Meet and Greet

Time: Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 02:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84300066370?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84300066370?pwd=WG0zUnd5aU1NWWNGQkVzSUZlNWVvZz09)

[pwd=WG0zUnd5aU1NWWNGQkVzSUZlNWVvZz09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84300066370?pwd=WG0zUnd5aU1NWWNGQkVzSUZlNWVvZz09)

Meeting ID: 843 0006 6370

Passcode: 164610

## Thinking of a Master's In Library Science?

*Dr. Cynthia Dudenhoffer, University of Missouri and Dr. Andrew Smith, Emporia State University SLIM*

### Tuesday, December 5th at 10 a.m.

Many librarians have asked the question, "Do I need a Master's in Library Science to be a librarian?" Dr. Dudenhoffer and Dr. Smith may be able to help answer this question. Hear their experiences and thoughts on the degree, and answer many questions like: Is it worth it? What can I do with this degree? Am I more marketable? What kind of jobs require a Master's that I'm not eligible for without having one?

While choosing to pursue further education is a personal choice, you can get some insight from our guest professors on their experiences and thoughts.

[Register here](#)

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## AI-Assisted Libraries: Synergistic Solutions for the Digital Era

*Arnessa Dowell, Kent County Public Library*

### Thursday, January 25th 2024 at 10 a.m.

Are you looking for an extra hand? Are you understaffed and feeling overwhelmed? Or are you a small library looking for ways to save time and money? Well, if the answer is yes, then this program is for you! Participants will unlock the full potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI), learning how it can improve workflows, streamline operations, and improve user experiences. Through this interactive session and real-world case study, attendees will gain invaluable insights and practical skills to apply in their own libraries. Our program covers the latest AI tools and technologies, along with best practices for successful implementation. Take advantage of this unique opportunity to equip yourself with the knowledge and resources needed to drive real change in your library and end burnout!

[Register here](#)

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## Improving Library Services for Justice-Involved Patrons

*Megan Phifer-Davis and Rebecca Clarke, St. Louis County Library*

### Thursday, February 22nd 2024 at 10 a.m.

Discover innovative methods St. Louis County Library (SLCL) has developed to serve justice-involved people in St. Louis. Learn how SLCL has successfully brought virtual library programming to individuals at the St. Louis County Justice Center, with more than 60,000 views of 50 library programs in just six months. Learn how the Reference department supports currently incarcerated patrons through their Reference by Mail service, as well as supporting formerly incarcerated patrons with starting their own business through the Small Business Launchpad. Finally, learn how innovative collaboration among Bail Project St. Louis, prosecutors, defense attorneys, and the circuit court led to the creation of the Tap-In Center at St. Louis County library. The Tap In Center provides a welcoming and safe space for individuals to meet with an attorney, get their case information and court date, apply for a public defender, and even resolve active criminal warrants--all in a safe place without risk of arrest.

[Register here](#)

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## 2023-24 MALAPro Memberships

MALAPro is our annual membership program that houses all of MALA's online professional development opportunities. MALAPro offers you discounted rates to attend 20+ live webinars annually, as well as two FREE preselected webinars each year. Additionally, members have access to past webinars for free through MALAPro's Niche Academy library.

[Purchase your Membership here](#)

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Missouri Secretary of State  
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