MALA Updates

Happy New Fiscal Year
July 1 was the beginning of new fiscal year for MALA. We continue with the same MALA Get Connected members with the addition of Sarcoxie Public Library. See that updated list here.

Please make sure you are using the latest label to send materials - do not hoard labels. See the latest labels here.

Excess Courier Bags
Please return all excess courier bags to MALA so we can get them back in the system. Thank you.

Courier Totes
We have several MALA Courier Totes available. These totes can be used to hold outgoing materials at the library, or they may be sent with couriers. If a significant number of items are going to one library, the items can be sent in a tote, zip-tied closed, with the library’s courier label taped to the top of the tote. If you need courier totes, please request them through our “Report Courier Delivery Service Issues/Request Supplies” form. We do not have an endless supply of totes, so we encourage you to only let the courier take a tote if they are also leaving one.

August 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: Meet and Greet
Time: Wednesday, Aug 14, 2024 at 2:30 PM Central Time
Join Zoom Meeting
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84300066370?pwd=WG0zUnd5aU1NWWNGQkVzSUZNWVMvZz09
Meeting ID: 843 0006 6370
Passcode: 164610

New Format for Collecting Stats for July Reporting
MALA will begin collecting additional statistics for the State Library in July; please start counting these new statistics for your July stats. The reporting document will have a slightly different format (see sample formatting below). Your July Stats are due by August 5.
Continue to report all outgoing library materials, including items you are lending and items you are returning. After recording the total outgoing materials, you will answer some additional questions about items sent to and received from the following:

- MOBIUS libraries
- AMIGOS/TAE libraries
- COKAMO libraries

**Individual Items**
Total of each individual outgoing library materials sent on the courier. This includes items you are lending as well as the items you are returning. This should be the total number of materials sent out, not the number of bags/boxes.

Your answer

**Mobius Items**
Total outgoing items sent to Mobius libraries. This includes items you are lending as well as the items you are returning.

Your answer

**COKAMO Items**
Total outgoing items sent to COKAMO/Clic libraries. This includes items you are lending as well as the items you are returning.

Your answer

**TAE/Amigos Items**
Total outgoing items sent to TAE/Amigos libraries. This includes items you are lending as well as the items you are returning.

Your answer

Please review your form before submitting.

- I have reviewed my responses to this form and confirm their accuracy.

A copy of your responses will be emailed to the address you provided.

Submit Clear form

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**Upcoming MALAPro Webinars**

*Network. Learn. Grow.*
Tuesday, August 13th at 10 a.m.
Eat, Play, Read: Growing food security at your library will discuss the Independence Public Library’s (IPL) process of starting a gardening initiative, as well as sharing the results of their first six months of the initiative. Participants will leave with their own plans to start a similar initiative at their library. Recognizing a growing health concern in Montgomery County, which ranks as one of the unhealthiest counties in Kansas, the Independence Public Library saw first-hand how food security affects our patrons. From disruptive youth who settle down after a healthy snack, to the senior who survives on one meal a day. The lack of healthy food lowers the quality of life for our patrons. IPL developed this initiative to provide hands-on learning to spark interest in growing food for the whole family. Eat, Play, Read, aims to connect families and individuals with limited resources to content experts, resource for healthy habits, and to create a food-secure community.
Register here

Programming for Teens: Understanding Teen Needs Through a Holistic Perspective
Alyssa LaRue, Teen and Adult Services Coordinator at Derby Public Library

Thursday, August 22nd at 2 p.m.
Programming for teenagers can be a daunting task. It’s difficult to understand what teens might be interested in and what resources they most need. This presentation will explore the teen through a bio-psycho-social lens, offering information on teen development and how to adapt that development into a programming model. Presented by a ten-year teen librarian, Masters-level social worker, and Registered Yoga Teacher, this presentation will offer practical techniques for making connections with teens, managing behaviors, and creating programs that inform, teach, and entertain your youth population.
Register here

September Readers’ Advisory, Building a Culture Around Books and Reading in Your Library
Angela Stratham - Reader Services Librarian at Mid-Continent Public Library, and Amber Liposchak - Collection Development at Olathe Public Library

Thursday, September 12th at 2 p.m.
Free for MALAPro members!

Readers’ advisory is not just about helping readers find specific books they like, but also celebrating and promoting the importance and joys of reading itself. Come join us in a discussion on how to build and sustain a culture around books and reading in your library and in library staff. We’ll talk reading challenges, knowledge sharing, and other ways to get your staff thinking and talking about books.
Register here

Reducing Social Isolation in Seniors: Connection Through Technology
Becky Stewart - Caregiver Advisor/Information & Referral Specialist, Starting Point; Macon County Health Department. And Katie Eychison - Librarian, Decatur Public Library

Tuesday, September 17th at 10 a.m.
Learn how to reduce social isolation among community members through community partnerships. In Decatur Illinois, the organization Starting Point works with the Illinois Department on Aging to serve seniors in our community. They wanted to combat the issue of social isolation that’s felt by many seniors—especially those who are homebound. Starting Point got a grant to provide free tablets to seniors who quality for the program as a way to provide connection to the outside world. Through the tablet, these individuals can video chat with family and friends, participate in virtual programming and access free e-resources through the local library. However, the issue was, how do we provide technology to a group of individuals who might not be tech savvy? The library was the key to the solution and we’ll explain how we made that happen. In this session, we’ll lay out the data collected on social isolation in Decatur, details about the grant and then how we implemented the tablet formatting program.
Register here
MALAPro 2024-25 Membership

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 networking webinars each year. Additionally, members have access to past webinars for free through MALAPro’s Niche Academy library.

MALAPro 2024-25 Membership Tiers
Individual Member - $50
Libraries with 2-15 staff - $125
Libraries with 16-30 staff - $200
Libraries with 31-25 staff - $250
Libraries with 76+ staff - $300
Regional Library Systems serving populations up to 500,000 - $500
Regional Library Systems from 500,000 to 1 million - $750
Regional Library Systems serving populations over 1 million - $1200

Purchase your Membership here

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