

Volume 81, No. 4

Winter 2018

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARIES



A Quarterly Publication of the
Mississippi Library Association
©2018

ISSN 0194-388X

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On the cover: *Webb's Landing* by Rachel Williams, Gautier Middle School's librarian. Spotted the group of pelicans down at Webb's Landing in Ocean Springs and took the picture on a cloudy Sunday afternoon. Image manipulated to mimic soft pastel water colors.

Mississippi Libraries is a quarterly, open access publication of the Mississippi Library Association (MLA). The articles, reports, and features herein represent viewpoints of their respective authors and are not necessarily the official options of the Association.

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President's Page

It's hard to believe that 2018 is almost over! It has been an honor to serve as the MLA President for 2018. I want to thank all of the Board members, section and roundtable chairs, and committee chairs for all of their hard work and commitment to MLA. MLA relies on volunteers who are passionate about advancing Mississippi Libraries through the development, promotion, and improvement of library and information services. We are always looking for more volunteers! If you are considering volunteering and are not sure where to start, contact me or any member of the executive board.

Your 2019 MLA executive board is already hard at work on plans for the upcoming year. President, Sarah Crisler-Ruskey, is working on committee chair appointments. Vice-President, Mary Beth Applin, is beginning to plan the 2019 MLA annual conference, which will be held at The Westin in Jackson, MS. We are excited to bring our annual conference back to Jackson. It



is my hope that a central location will allow more of our members and supporters to attend. The annual conference also provides great beginning volunteer opportunities. Working on a conference committee is a fantastic way to start becoming more involved with the association.

I am looking forward to remaining active as Past President. 2019 is already shaping up to be a great year and I'm excited to see what's in store. Best wishes for a safe and Happy New Year!



To join MLA, or to renew your membership:

<http://misslib.org/membership>

2018 MLA Executive Board Minutes:

<http://misslib.org/page-1860500>

Legal and Medical Research

Free Resources for the Public Librarian: A Workshop Recap

Stephen Parks

State Librarian

State Law Library of Mississippi

Tamara Nelson

Instruction & Research Librarian

Rowland Medical Library, UMMC

Justin Huckaby

Research, Instruction Services &

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Mississippi College Law Library

The Central Mississippi Library Council, a group comprised of sixteen libraries in the central region of Mississippi, held a workshop on “Legal & Medical Research: Free Resources for the Public Librarian” at the Mississippi Library Commission on October 4, 2018. Earlier in the year when discussing potential topics for workshop, librarians in the Council felt a topic such as this would be beneficial as many public librarians might hesitate when faced with a legal or medical reference question. The good news is that there are free resources available to assist us all. Below is a condensed version of the workshop in which Stephen Parks (State Law Library) presented on legal information, Tamara Nelson (Rowland Medical Library) presented on medical information, and Justin Huckaby (Mississippi College Law Library) presented on how to “DAVE it,” a useful tool for website evaluation.

FREE SOURCES OF LEGAL INFORMATION

If needing to locate relevant Mississippi case law, [Google Scholar](#) and the [Judicial Data Project](#) are two

good resources. *Google Scholar* includes published opinions of all fifty states since 1950, federal appellate courts since 1923, and the United States Supreme Court since 1791. To search for court opinions, users must first select the state or federal court in which they desire to search. Users then can perform simple Google-type searches with certain keywords they have pulled from a legal inquiry. Search results can be sorted by relevance or date. *Google Scholar* provides the word-for-word court opinion and links to other cases that the opinion cites to. *Google Scholar* is a great resource, but users should be cautioned that it has no sure-fire method of letting its users know if a case is still good law and being followed by subsequent courts.

The *Judicial Data Project* provides court opinions of Mississippi’s appellate courts since 2003. This site allows searching by keywords, by party names, by attorney names, and much more. Even more useful, the Project provides the court briefs that attorneys filed in each case, providing an even greater research tool for those interested. Being able to see what attorneys have used on a specific topic is useful in pointing users to other relevant cases.

If a patron is asking for “the law” on any specific topic, it is best to search for the statutory provision within the *Mississippi Code* that fits with the reference question being asked. The Mississippi Secretary of State provides free access to an online version of the [Mississippi Code](#),

which can be searched by keywords and by a table of contents search. For research purposes, the online version provides the statute’s history which is important to show how the law has changed and provides how current the statute is. However, a word of caution, this version of the online *Code* does not flag for the user statutes that might have been deemed unconstitutional by a court as many subscription based services will.

The Mississippi Legislature tackles many hot-button issues each year when it convenes in Jackson. Oftentimes, patrons will hear about proposed legislation and will want to know more about what it might do. Unfortunately, the Legislature neither records nor provides access to its floor debate after each day’s session. So, if a patron does not attend the legislative session or watch the live-feed online, they would be out of luck. However, the [Legislative History Project](#) provides a remedy for this. The project records the Legislature’s live feed each day, divides each day’s video into smaller segments based on each individual bill that is discussed, then provides it all online for free. Users of the project can search for videos based on bill number, bill author, and subject. On each individual bill’s page, users are given links to the text of the bill and links to the bill’s official history. The project began with the 2012 legislative session and is maintained by the Mississippi College Law Library.

FREE SOURCES OF HEALTH INFORMATION

There are numerous free sources of health information available to Mississippi libraries. [MAGNOLIA](#), the statewide consortium of databases funded by the Mississippi legislature, contains several database useful for answering consumer health questions. *Alt Health Watch*, *Consumer Health Complete*, *Psychology & Behavioral Sciences Collection* and *Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition* all provide access to resources on topics related to all areas of health and wellness with many containing full-text coverage. *Natural & Alternative Treatments* provides users with information on complementary and alternative medicine. The database *LexiPals* provides patient education pamphlets written in an easy to follow and understand format. *MAGNOLIA* also contains *Salud in Español*, which provides consumer health information for Spanish-speaking patrons.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) provides free access to health information to the general public through the [National Library of Medicine](#) (NLM). There are numerous online resources geared towards keeping the general public informed about health matters and to promote health literacy and work towards reducing health disparities. The [National Network of Libraries of Medicine](#) is an outreach unit of NLM which provides health outreach funding, free online classes, access to free educational materials, traveling exhibits and newsletters designed to keep network members informed. Membership in the network is FREE and encouraged for

all libraries.

[PubMed](#) is one of the most widely used comprehensive biomedical literature resource covering over 28 million citations with limited non-subscription full-text access. PubMed has several search features including MeSH which allows you to search for the medical subject heading used to index terms and also Clinical Queries which allows users to search by a specific etiology, prognosis, diagnosis, therapy or clinical guideline. PubMed Central (PMC) contains over 5.1 million free full-text articles from biomedical and life sciences journals archived by NLM.

There are several sources for drug information including the [Drug Information Portal](#) which contains over 49,000 entries. [RXNorm](#) provides the normalized or genetic names for clinical drugs. [LactMed](#) is a database containing drug interaction information for breastfeeding mothers. [DailyMed](#) contains over 99,000 prescription drug labels submitted by manufacturers. [The Dietary Supplement Label Database](#) includes dietary supplement labels for on and off-market drugs.

[TOXNET](#) is a toxicology data network which contains several different databases related to toxicology, hazardous chemicals, environmental health, and toxic release. [The Household Product Database](#) (HPD) provides safety and health information for products used in and around the home. [The Hazardous Substances Data Bank](#) (HSDB) provides comprehensive, peer-reviewed toxicology and environmental data for chemicals and information about safety and handling of those chemicals.

[MedlinePlus](#) is designed for patients and their families to find easy to read and comprehensive information on health and wellness topics. It also contains drug information and information on procedures and complementary medicine. There are useful tools such as games, a medical encyclopedia, lab test information bank, and health information in multiple languages. Other useful resources available through the National Library of Medicine include the [AidsInfo](#) database and [PillBox](#).

The National Library of Medicine also provides a [database](#) of free web resources designed for K-12 instruction. Topics ranging from Biology to Genetics may be found and include lesson plans and tutorials. There are also interactive games and digital collections available.

DAVE: WEB SITE EVALUATION

The Google Generation has arrived. Library patrons prefer researching online. They consider themselves technologically savvy and blindly trust commonly used search engines. The problem we as librarians are seeing today is that patrons are not properly evaluating their web sources before relying on the information. Because of this, I have developed a website evaluation system that I teach to my patrons. I call the system DAVE.

Librarians are not new to this problem of authentication and information literacy. We have traditionally taught our patrons to verify sources. Today, the issue presents itself because patrons are used to finding answers quickly and having them at their fingertips at all times. Librarians have developed different

methods to evaluate websites such as The CRAAP Test and The CARS Test. DAVE is just a variation of the similar models already developed. DAVE is simply Date, Authority, Verify, and Entirety.

The D of DAVE simply refers to Date. Date should be one of the easier pieces of information to locate on a website. Patrons should attempt to determine when the website or webpage was last updated. Generally, this information can be located in the date stamp or copyright information of the webpage. However, with the recent popularity of blogging, the dates of blog posts can satisfy this requirement regardless of the webpage's last update.

The A of DAVE refers to Authority. Patrons need to determine who authored the information located on the website. Is an actual author listed? Once the author is determined, the researcher needs to verify his/her/their expertise. I always tell my students, "You would not want

a police officer treating your case of the flu, so make sure you determine the author's credentials." If no author is listed, the patron will need to locate the owner of the website and follow the same process.

The V of DAVE refers to Verify. The researcher needs to determine if the website is reliable. What is the domain of the website? Does the information come from a .gov or .edu? These are questions the patrons will need to answer in order to complete this step of the process.

Finally, the E of DAVE refers to Entirety. This is probably the hardest step to complete because it requires an initial evaluation of oneself. What are our biases going into the research? The goal of Entirety is to determine if the website or webpage is complete. This requires an objective evaluation. If the researcher is more liberal or more conservative, he or she must acknowledge that point going into the research. Otherwise, our biases will cloud our

evaluations. We must determine the biases of the website. Is the website strictly liberal, strictly conservative, or does it provide viewpoints of the different ideologies equally? One caveat to remember when completing this point is that a website that caters to a particular ideology is not necessarily an unreliable website. With that said, the research should try to locate another website that includes the opposing viewpoint in order to make a more informed decision.

DAVE is not perfect. However, it is a step in the right direction. We as librarians must instill in our patrons the necessity of authentication and information literacy. Our patrons trust popular search engines at an alarming rate. The websites retrieved from them may not be trustworthy, especially in this new age of fake news, alternative facts, and Pizzagate. When in doubt, DAVE it.

A Needle in a Haystack

Finding Popular Mississippi Statistics

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Statistical data enriches and lends credence to any argument, but finding the right data can often be as difficult as finding a needle in a haystack. To make that haystack even bigger and more imposing, a number of problems currently exists facing researchers wanting to find statistics at state and local

levels. Online sources are now the norm but stay in an almost transitory state. Print staples such as *Mississippi Statistical Abstract* and *County and City Data Book* are long out of print. General compilations like *Statistical Abstract of the United States* are great, but, they rarely dig down into the county and local levels. Numerous broken links litter overstuffed library web pages despite the creators' good intentions. Google, the undisputed search king,

easily overwhelms users in just one or two searches with the amount of retrieved information.

To provide some direction and shrink that haystack just a little bit, this article offers a current snapshot of popular state statistics available online and in some standard print sources at local libraries. In the absence of a centralized state portal for statistics, primary responsibility lies with individual agencies for providing access to their own reports and

data; therefore, agency web sites are the logical places to begin searching. After consulting the following resources, search the agency web sites for additional links referring to DATA, RESOURCES, STATISTICS, PUBLICATIONS, and particularly ANNUAL REPORTS. Agency annual reports are always rich sources of information usually not found anywhere else.

AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Statistics Service - Mississippi Office - <https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics/byState/Mississippi>

Provides county estimates, a state overview, and access to current and historical Census of Agriculture data. The jewel of this site though is the searchable Quick Stats database of several commodities produced within the state. Users can limit results by a number of geographic units, and some data even goes back to 1850.

CASINOS AND TOURISM

Mississippi Gaming Commission - <http://www.ms gaming.com-mission.com>

The *Reports* section includes property and hotel data, tax and casino revenue, gaming device reports, and winning percentages for slot machines. Archival data currently goes back to 2000.

Visit Mississippi - <https://visitmississippi.org/contact-us/resources>

Provides basic tourism data as well as economic impact reports dating back to 2008.

CENSUS

American FactFinder - <https://factfinder.census.gov>

Gathers data from a number of surveys and censuses to provide straightforward data tables for cities, towns, and counties. Topics include age, education, income, poverty, and more. The Census Bureau plans to move to a new dissemination platform (<https://data.census.gov>) as early as the summer of 2019.

Census of Population and Housing - <https://www.census.gov/prod/www/decennial.html>

While American FactFinder is the go-to resource for Census data, the Population and Housing site provides a great deal of background reference material on each decennial census including geographic reference maps, special reports, and technical documentation.

Selected Historical Decennial Census Population and Housing Counts - <https://www.census.gov/population/www/censusdata/his-cendata.html>

Provides population and housing data for a wide variety of geographic units dating as far back as 1790.

CORRECTIONS

Mississippi Department of Corrections - <https://www.mdoc.ms.gov/Admin-Finance/Pages/Research-Statistics.aspx>

Provides access to monthly fact sheets, population reports, financial data, and recidivism statistics.

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

Economic Profiles - <http://extension.msstate.edu/economic-profiles>

Maintained by the Mississippi State University Extension Service, this site provides current economic, health, poverty, and retail profiles for the state, Congressional districts, every county, and select cities.

Mississippi Department of Revenue - <https://www.dor.ms.gov/Statistics/Pages/default.aspx>

Provides statistics for several categories including Department of Revenue transfers, sales tax, cash reports, gaming tax, petroleum, and motor vehicle title and registration.

EDUCATION

IHL Research and Planning - <http://www.mississippi.edu/research/stats.asp>

Focusing on the eight public colleges and universities in Mississippi, this site provides data on enrollment, degrees, faculty and student characteristics, and tuition. IHL also includes a number of additional factbooks and profiles dating back to 2010-2011. An "Interactive Data Portal" also allows users to manipulate and customize various data elements.

Mississippi Public Reports - <https://www.mdek12.org/OPR/Reporting>

Focusing on K-12 public education, these reports provide access to graduation and dropout rates, enrollment and assessment data, and the Superintendent's Annual Report which includes financial data, safety reports, and characteristics of students and faculty/staff. Most data goes back only to 2012-2013, and many of the reports include only raw data. The Mississippi Department of Education helpfully

includes contact information for questions and requests.

GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT

Mississippi Office of the State Auditor - <http://www.osa.ms.gov/reports>

Includes financial and performance audits for state and local government and public education.

PEER Reports - <https://www.peer.ms.gov>

Provides data-driven analyses of state agency programs' performance and expenditures. Reports are arranged chronologically, so using the search feature is the best way to find information on a specific agency or program.

Transparency MS - <https://www.ms.gov/dfa/transparency>

Promoting complete government transparency, this site provides a wealth of data on the state government's budget, expenditures, revenue, travel, and more. Data goes back anywhere from ten to twenty years.

HEALTH

Mississippi State Department of Health - <https://msdh.ms.gov>

The *Data and Statistics* section

provides a labyrinth of interesting and useful information on topics such as diseases, tobacco use, vital statistics (births, deaths, teen pregnancies, marriages, divorces), and county profiles. The Office of Public Health Statistics (<https://msdh.ms.gov/phs>) provides direct access to vital statistics, while the "Mississippi Statistically Automated Health Resource System" (MSTAHRS) (<http://mstahrs.msdh.ms.gov>) allows users to create customizable reports.

LABOR/BUSINESS

Labor Market Information - <https://www.mdes.ms.gov/information-center/labor-market-information>

Covers all aspects of Mississippi's workforce. Examples of data include annual averages (labor force and industry level employment), commuting patterns, wages, employment projections, occupations in demand, trends, and unemployment rates.



This list aims only to identify commonly requested statistics. Libraries should retain (or obtain) older copies of general compilations such as the Census Bureau's *County and City Data Book* and the *Mississippi Statistical Abstract*. While out

of print, these resources are invaluable for their breadth and especially for locating hard-to-find historical statistics that are usually missing from most agency web sites. As a supplement, the *Mississippi Official and Statistical Register* (the "Blue Book") provides very basic statistical information and has a long publication history.

Although librarians fight the good preservation fight, the rapid disappearance of online data ensures only doubt about whether information available today will be here tomorrow. While digital repositories like HathiTrust and the Internet Archive, containing millions of full-text sources, act as a remedy, local libraries remain the most dependable sources of information. The print antecedents of many of the resources described here reside in state and federal depositories around Mississippi, so all may not be lost if online searching proves fruitless. A listing of all state depositories, run by the Mississippi Library Commission, can be found at <https://mlc.lib.ms.us>. To identify federal depositories, run by the U.S. Government Publishing Office, please visit the *Federal Depository Library Directory* available at <https://www.fdlp.gov>.

Breaking Barriers

ESL and Continuing Education

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ABSTRACT

This short article discusses ESOL (English for Speakers of other Languages) and the population of non-native English speakers in Mississippi, specifically those identified by the Migration Policy Institute's 2016 "Language and Education" report. Contents also give a brief look at English Language Learners in Mississippi public schools, and the overall population numbers of non-native English speakers between the ages of 5-65 who identify as "less than very good" at speaking English. This article also discusses the role of ESL (English as a Second Language) services in continuing education and gives a glimpse of upcoming ESL resources provided by the Mississippi Library Commission.



With rising numbers of ELLs in the U.S., adult education policy, especially concerning ESL, has experienced several shifts. In a policy brief published by the Migration Policy Institute, English for Speakers of other Languages (ESOL) classes, provided by state-led adult education initiatives, have been contested due to flaws in instructional design (McHugh, Doxsee, 2018). As of 2014, with the passing of the *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act* (WIOA), the attainment of

post-secondary credentials or employment served as gauges to the level of success of an ESOL program. However, as McHugh and Doxsee write, most ESOL classes range anywhere from 120-160 hours, and of course, integrating into a new culture and community can take much longer. Additionally, this greatly undermines the importance of developing and maintaining other qualities of solidifying personal agency, such as digital literacy, and the ability to pursue self-directed studies (McHugh, Doxsee, 2018). The design of the WIOA prompted the integration of another model, English Plus Integration (EPI), which is aimed at the inclusion of local cultural and community resources for expanding the elements of adult ESL education. To quote, "Such a model (the EPI) can be expected to not only make much more effective use of immigrant adult learners' time in a program, it should also result in more effective use of other local integration resources and the strengths of existing organizations and institutions...an individual might delay applying for citizenship due to uncertainty where to find English-practice resources or affordable legal assistance, though free resources and advice may be available at local libraries" (McHugh, Doxsee, 2018).

According to the Migration Policy Institute, as of 2016 the total household population age five and over for Mississippi was 2,796,802. Of that number, approximately

109,238 people reported speaking another language besides English at home. Of the 109,238, an approximate 41,942 people age five and over reported as speaking English less than "very well," or in other words, less than proficient (Migration Policy Institute, 2016). Throughout the state of Mississippi, there are nearly 42,000 people between the ages of five and sixty-five who do not identify as proficient speakers of English. Divided evenly, that would be 750 people per Mississippi's 53 library system. The population of languages in Mississippi are also incredibly diverse. According to Data USA, the three most common languages are Spanish, Vietnamese, and French. Other prominent languages across the state include Chinese, Native North American, German, Gujarati, Arabic, Korean, Hindi, and Tagalog (Data USA, 2015)¹.

In 2016, *Mississippi Today* published an article on the number of English Language Learners, or ELLs, in Mississippi public schools. In 2013, the number of non-English speaking students was 7,739, and as of 2016, a nearly 50% growth occurred with the number totaling 11,404 (Royals, 2016). Currently, Mississippi has policy in place to address the rising number of ELLs in public schools through dual-language learning (U.S. Department of

¹ According to Data USA: "Due to sampling constraints, there is often a high margin of error when looking at data for smaller geographies. Apply caution when drawing conclusions from small geographic areas (for example: small counties, places and particularly tracts)." <https://datausa.io/about/datasets/>

Education, 2015). However, ELLs are still graduating at much lower rate than their English-speaking counterparts (Sanchez, 2017). Additionally, these students are only a part of the thousands of residents who identify as less than proficient at speaking English. This is where local centers and hubs like the public library serve as an ambassador to their community.

According to a Pew research study, 95% of Americans aged 16 and older agree that the resources offered at public libraries are integral in not only shaping their communities, but also in providing opportunity for success for everyone (Zickuhr, et al., 2013). Historically, libraries have served as centers for the pursuit of non-traditional education, especially for adult learning. The impact of continuing education does not stop at broadening one's knowledge. It results in the development of the learner's personal agency (Ross-Gordon, Rose, Kasworm, 2017). The case for providing ESL resources is no different. In a short study published in the *Journal of Urban Health*, from a series of interviews with residents across south Philadelphia, the city's most diverse area, many expressed desires for expanding opportunities for intercultural exchange, as well as increased access to ESL resources (Morgan, et al., 2017). The Free Library of Philadelphia conducts an "Edible Alphabet" program, where attendees can participate in a class that combines ESL learning, cooking skills, and life training skills (Morgan, et al., 2017). Patrons leave with having exercised their language abilities, expanded their knowledge of American food culture, as well as having deepened

5 TIPS FOR AN ESL CONVERSATION CLASS



Here is a list of quick, easy tips for sculpting your ESL conversation class



DETERMINE WHAT YOU WANT

Who is your class for? How long will each class last? How often will it be held? Think about the kind/amount of information you are looking to convey, and decide if a conversation class fits that image.



ADVERTISE IN MORE THAN ENGLISH, AND ADVERTISE EVERYWHERE

If you can, post flyers all over town. Think coffee shops and restaurants. Anywhere you can put a flyer, put one there. Translate flyers into languages besides English to attract a wider audience. Use Google Translate if no one on staff is bilingual!



BE PREPARED TO SCAFFOLD

Conversation classes are typically easier to plan for than traditional classroom style lessons. However, you still want to have clear goals for your class. Take a few minutes in the beginning to introduce the language goals of the day, and a small activity. Demonstrate how the language is used. Then, you can organize your conversation topics around that.



GET VOLUNTEERS IN ON THE MIX

The great thing about conversation classes are that they are casual. Once you've prepared sample topics to get your students started, conversation classes are usually student-led. If you have any volunteers at your library, see about having them supervise the class!



SMALL GROUPS ARE GOOD GROUPS

If you have more than four students in your class, break people into groups of two or three. This ensures that everyone has talking time, and people are not intimidated by speaking in front of a large group of people. Being in smaller groups also helps to foster social bonds between learners.

their understanding of fellow community members (Morgan, et al., 2017).

In Mississippi, libraries are a key resource for those looking to develop their ESL skills. In fact, there are Mississippi library systems which already host several computer-based, language learning programs. For patrons holding library cards, Central Mississippi Regional Library System and Madison County Library System offer free access to Rocket Languages for Libraries. Jackson-George Regional Library System and Hancock County Library System have Mango Languages for Libraries, and Copiah-Jefferson Regional Library offers not only translation services powered by Google Translate, but also links to ESL and education websites. The Mississippi Library Commission is currently developing a three-part webinar series

on the incorporation of ESL classes and resources into library programming. The Library Commission has also recently purchased two sets of beginner ESL textbooks, “English for Everyone,” for libraries across the state to check out. Mississippi is growing and globalizing. ESL education in the library, whether it be digital literacy courses, cooking and life skills, conversation classes, or traditional classroom style lessons, not only leads to the development of local communities through socialization and integration, but also one’s own personal agency in their community.

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Using Family Connections to Create Community Connections

How a Genealogy Fair Can Benefit the Community and the Library

Corinne Kennedy

Humanities Librarian

Jennifer McGillan

Coordinator of Manuscripts

DeeDee Baldwin

History Research Librarian

Mississippi State University Libraries

INTRODUCTION

Genealogy has been touted as one of the top hobbies in the United States by *Time*, ABC News, *USA Today*, and the *Wall Street Journal*. However, while it can be fun,

genealogy isn’t easy. Successful genealogical research can require advanced research skills and a high level of information literacy. The Mississippi State University Libraries Genealogy Fair was founded to assist Mississippians with developing these skills; to encourage genealogists to use resources held by the Libraries; and to create community connections that would support donations of historical material to the Libraries.

DEVELOPING & HOSTING MSU’S GENEALOGY FAIR

Mississippi State University (MSU) Libraries began holding an annual Genealogy Fair in 2006. The fair, named for E.O. Templeton Jr. in 2013, is geared for a general public audience, and features a variety of sessions, workshops, and research opportunities for history and genealogy enthusiasts. Attendees learn about genealogical resources held in the MSU Libraries’ collections,

develop and improve genealogical research skills, and pick up tips for preserving family history.

The E.O. Templeton, Jr. History & Genealogy Fair is held the first week-end of June every year. The fair committee begins planning the event in November of the preceding year in order to ensure successful booking of speakers and presenters, and because every part of the fair requires time and careful consideration.

The committee, comprised of faculty from Special Collections and Research Services, strives to create a fair that features information on popular topics in genealogy; that is accessible to all community members; that draws on the expertise available in the state and region; and that reflects the diversity of Oktibbeha County and the state of Mississippi.

Speakers are selected based on a variety of criteria, including topical expertise, the committee's previous experience with their work, recommendations from colleagues, and geographic proximity. Mississippi television personalities, representatives from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, the archivist from a local public library, and faculty from Mississippi State and the University of Mississippi have all been speakers at the event. Members of the committee attend other genealogy fairs in the region to identify possible speakers and get ideas for programming, and, of course, to learn more about genealogy.

The topics of the hands-on workshops vary, but usually focus on "hot topics" in genealogy research. There is always at least one workshop about online resources and

how to use them, which is led by MSU library faculty. Other topics have included identifying and using international sources, working with family narratives and unreliable narrators, working with archival materials in special collections, and preserving and organizing family history materials.

Until 2017, MSU's fair followed a format of two speakers in the morning, at one hour each with a break between them, followed by lunch and library museum tours. In the afternoon there was one additional speaker and one to three workshops. In 2017, the committee added genealogy and local history themed entertainment to the lunch time offerings, and started giving away door prizes.

Lunchtime entertainment is provided by students from the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science (MSMS) located nearby in Columbus, MS. Students who participate in the nationally acclaimed "Tales from the Crypt" program at MSMS conduct extensive research on an individual buried in Friendship Cemetery in Columbus, MS, and then write and perform a dramatic monologue about the person.

In addition to the student performances, attendees can use the lunch break to conduct research in the MSU Special Collections, or to tour the Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library and the Frank and Virginia Williams Collection of Lincolnia.

Door prizes were first offered in 2017 and included books about family history research. In 2018, a committee member solicited donations of door prizes from organizations identified as having products of interest to genealogists, with

enormously successful results. Almost two dozen donations were received, including a DNA test from Family Living, D/2 Biological grave-cleaning solution, a Doxie Flip portable scanner, 'My Family History' archival starter kits from Gaylord Library Supplies, books, tote bags, t-shirts, and a mug - all genealogy themed.

Innovations for 2018 included opting for a panel talk instead of a second single-speaker presentation, giving away packets of information about the university and Oktibbeha County, and inviting the Barnes and Noble on campus to sell books at the fair.

The panel featured two MSU faculty members and one independent researcher. The independent researcher was from Michigan, so as a library on a slim budget, MSU had to get creative to find a way for him to participate. The successful solution involved setting up a screen in the auditorium and arranging for the panelist to Skype in. Trials were performed before the event to make sure everything was in working order.

The packets of information about MSU and Oktibbeha County included brochures for museums located in Mitchell Memorial Library, informational brochures from vendors who cater to genealogists, and flyers for discounts on products from the vendors who donated door prizes for the event. The packets were assembled by library events staff.

Books donated for door prizes at the 2018 fair were on the theme of understanding and using your DNA test to trace your family roots. Due to the number of books donated by publishers, the committee arranged

for the first time to have the Barnes & Noble on MSU's campus have a presence at the fair to sell additional copies of the books that were donated as door prizes. This provided the attendants the option to buy books if they did not win one as a door prize.

The fair is promoted first via "save the date" cards sent out in early spring to previous attendees. In the weeks before the fair, information about the fair is shared on the Libraries' website, Facebook and Twitter pages, posters are distributed and posted on campus and in local businesses, and flyers are sent to all of MSU's consortium partners. In previous years, the event has been covered by the *Starkville Daily News* and other local news organizations.

At the end of the fair, attendees are asked to fill out a simple survey about the event. The committee uses those responses to assist with the planning of future fairs. The committee also considers information gleaned from their own conversations with attendees, and feedback received from the library administration.

WHY SHOULD AN ACADEMIC LIBRARY HAVE A GENEALOGY FAIR?

As a land-grant university, MSU's mandate and mission is to provide educational resources to the people of the state of Mississippi. The genealogy fair supports this mission by offering research skills training to the general public and introducing attendees to research resources within the library.

The genealogy fair also offers opportunities for library faculty to make connections and develop

relationships with community members, particularly with populations under-served by libraries and archives.

Furthermore, the fair is an opportunity to demonstrate to a community the benefits and purpose of donating family and other records to academic institutions.

Possible donors can see a practical example of how their records could assist other family history researchers in addition to supporting university faculty and students in their teaching and research. This is especially true of records of enslaved persons, such as receipts, probate records, and plantation records, which are vital for African-American genealogists as well as scholars of 19th-century America.

Donors can also see how papers are protected in a library, which offers secure, climate- and pest-controlled storage and professional attention, ensuring that their treasured records will be preserved for future generations. For some families, the library may qualify as "neutral territory" where access to records is not affected by familial politics and disagreements.

A genealogy fair is a perfect venue where librarians and archivists can demonstrate to donors that their papers don't have to come from a prominent or famous family to be valuable for research. "Average" is often better, as those papers will document and reflect a more common set of experiences.

Finally, the process of organizing the event facilitates making connections with other cultural organizations in the community, state, and region. Inviting colleagues and peers at other institutions to be speakers

or to have institutional displays can lead to other collaborations in the field of genealogy or other areas of library practice.

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING A FAIR AT OTHER INSTITUTIONS

For most institutions, funding will be a primary concern, and many of these suggestions are made with that in mind.

Whenever possible, use your own facilities. Not only does this save money, but it invites first-time visitors to become familiar with your library and feel "at home," encouraging future use. You probably don't need a huge space, especially if you're holding your first fair.

Be realistic with your expectations. Unless you have a huge budget to throw around, you won't ask Henry Louis Gates, Jr. to be your keynote speaker. Local genealogy enthusiasts, fellow librarians, and community historians often make your best speakers. Attendees love personal, local stories that relate to them and the people and places they know.

Attendees love variety. Fairs should include a mix of speakers, hands-on instruction at computers or with documents, panel discussions, interviews, and even performances. Try to offer something for everyone, from beginners to experts.

Don't be shy about contacting businesses and online sellers for door prizes and flyers for your guests' information packets. Many sellers are happy to promote their products and their brand in this way, and the worst they can do is say no. A handwritten thank-you card is always a nice touch when you receive

the item. In addition, follow up after the fair by sharing links to pictures or recordings of the event. If you make a good impression, they're likely to donate again.

Before the fair, test your set-ups and equipment. Make sure microphones are in good working order. Get computers started and logged in before workshops begin. Always have a back-up plan when it comes to technology.

Take advantage of social media. Make a Facebook event page; these get shared, and people see when their friends indicate that they're interested in an event. Spread the word on Twitter, and post photos from

the event on Instagram. Stream live video from your event on Facebook. Social media not only spreads the word leading up to your event, but it can get people excited about attending in the future.

If your library has the budget, it's best to make this kind of event free and open to the public. The idea is to bring in people who might not normally visit or use your library.

CONCLUSION

Genealogy is a popular hobby that requires both advanced research skills and a high level of information literacy, and depends heavily on individuals and families contributing

records to libraries and other cultural institutions. Holding a genealogy fair is a way for a library – academic or otherwise – to connect with their local community, and to demonstrate the value of library services, such as instruction in research skills and information literacy. It's also a way to promote the library's resources, and to encourage donations of historical material to special collections.

If you would like more information on hosting a fair at your own institution or want to schedule a genealogy workshop, you are invited to contact the authors.

MLA Annual Conference 2018 Recap

Everyone Belongs @ Mississippi Libraries

Sarah Crisler-Ruskey

MLA Vice-President

Our 2018 Annual Mississippi Library Association Conference took place this at the MSU Riley Center in Meridian, MS October 16-19 with the theme "Everyone Belongs @Mississippi Libraries," celebrating how all of our various libraries and library staff work to ensure access to information to all Mississippians.

There were 362 registered participants, including attendees, speakers and authors, and 60 vendors. 48 attendees earned 60 CEUs.

Librarians of all types from around the state shared research and ideas at 65 panels and events and 10 poster sessions and lightning rounds.

Sixty vendors exhibited, and Ebsco, Biblionix, and Sirsi generously sponsored conference events this year. We are also grateful for a federal LSTA grant administered by the Mississippi Library Commission for the Institute of Museum and Library Services that allowed us to present the ALA Advocacy Bootcamp Pre-Conference.

The silent auction supporting our Virginia Brocks-Shedd and Peggy May Scholarships raised \$916. In addition, the President's Bash raised \$1,078 to help Mississippi librarians further their education.

TUESDAY OCTOBER 16

Our Pre-Conference this year featured and Advocacy Bootcamp led by Megan Cusick, Grassroots Specialist from ALA's Library Advocacy

Office, and Kristin Pekoll, Assistant Director of ALA's Office of Intellectual Freedom. They provided a concrete action plan for advocating for our libraries. Forty-five participants attended the Bootcamp.

Tuesday evening, conference-goers enjoyed a screening of *Desk Set* and a live theater organ demonstration at the unique Temple Theater in downtown Meridian.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17

The opening General Session featured a conversation with librarians representing Academic, Public, School, and Special libraries, as well as Hulen Bivins, Executive Director of the Mississippi Library Commission. The panel focused on the state of Mississippi Libraries and our outlook for the future.

Organization President, Lauren Pressley, was the ACRL featured speaker. She presented on "The Future of Academic Libraries: Creating, Supporting, and Responding to Change."

The Technical Services Round Table hosted Lynn Burris and James Dunaway of the Mississippi Library Commission for a talk on RFP's.

Berlinda Williams-Strong's talk, "Icebergs DO Melt!" discussed transformation as the featured speaker for Beta Phi Mu.

Library Development Director at MLC, Lacy Ellinwood provided ways to think outside the box when dealing with local Friends Groups for the Friends of Mississippi Libraries, Inc. panel.

The newly-formed Gaming Round Table sponsored a well-attended gaming room with board games set up for drop-in gaming and discussions and planning for future events.

New members had the opportunity to learn more about MLA and meet officers during the conference, thanks to the efforts of the New Member Round Table.

The President's Bash, sponsored by SirsiDynix, took place at the outstanding MAX museum. Attendees enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and music by Daniel Houze on the terrace and had the opportunity to visit this exceptional new venue that documents Mississippi's rich musical, artistic, and literary heritage.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18

Congressman Gregg Harper gave the General Session address Thursday in the beautiful Theater at the Riley Center. A longtime friend of libraries, Congressman Harper

serves on the Joint Committee on Printing and the Library that oversees the Library of Congress.

The Black Caucus Luncheon featured authors Zion McThomas and LaDonna Marie.

The YPSRT hosted author Linda Jackson at their Thursday luncheon.

Stephen Parks, from the State Law Library, spoke on the history of the institution to the Special Libraries Section.

Author Al Ainsworth discussed storytelling with the School Library Section.

Thursday evening conference-goers gathered at the beautiful City Hall Auditorium to honor Mississippi Author Award Winners at an Awards Banquet sponsored by Billionix. Jessmyn Ward won the Fiction Award for *Sing, Unburied, Sing*. The two-time National Book Award winner was not able to attend but send a video message.

Angie Thomas received the Juvenile Audiences Award for *The Hate You Give*, which premiered as a major film in October. She was also unable to attend but addressed attendees via a video as well.

Dr. John Marszalek, David S. Nolen, and Louie P. Gallo won the Non-Fiction Award for their editing of *The Personal Memoirs of Ulysses S. Grant: The Complete Annotated Edition*.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19

Friday's Awards Breakfast, sponsored by EBSCO, concluded the conference and celebrated achievement by Mississippi libraries, staff, and supporters.

WINNERS OF THIS YEAR'S MLA AWARDS:

Peggy May Scholarship - Katherine Dutro

Virgia Brocks-Shedd Scholarship - Juana Harris

Past President's Award - Lacy Ellinwood, MLC

Peggy May Award - Richard O. Greene, Former Director of the Mid-Mississippi Regional Library System

Mary Julia Anderson Award - Selena Swink, Central Mississippi Regional Library System

Library Champion Award (2 WINNERS)

INDIVIDUAL - Rebecca Lewis Bolivar County Library System

ORGANIZATION - Excel by 5 - Hancock County

Outstanding Achievement Award - Sharman Bridges Smith - Former Executive Director of the Mississippi Library Commission

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY AWARDS

Chapter One Award - Friends of the Dorothy J. Lowe Memorial Library, which is part of the Tombigbee Regional Library System

Ruby Assaf Presidential Award - Michelle Parker with the Friends of the Jones County Libraries, which is a part of the Laurel-Jones County Library System

Carroon Apple Award - Bruce Golden, Jackson Public Schools

PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARDS

Best Newsletter Submitted by a Library Group - State Law Library of Mississippi

Best Effort by an Individual Library to Publicize Library Services Around a Single Theme or Event - Hancock County Library System for

their HCLS Comic Con

Best Year Round Coordinated Effort by a Group of Libraries to Publicize Library Services Around

a Single Theme or Event - First Regional Library System for their Winter Reading Challenge

Best Year Round Coordinated

Effort by a Group of Libraries to Publicize Library Services in General - First Regional Library System

State of Mississippi Libraries

Opening General Session of the 2018 MLA Annual Conference

School Libraries:

Amanda Osborne

Librarian, Oxford High School

Public Libraries:

Lori Barnes

Director, Jackson-George Regional Library System

Special Libraries:

Joyce M. Shaw

Head of Gunter Library, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory

Academic Libraries:

Stephen Cunetto

Associate Dean, Mississippi State University Libraries

After the conference, the panelists representing the four types of libraries submitted replies to the questions they had discussed on the state of Mississippi libraries.

WHAT ARE YOUR LIBRARIES' BIGGEST CHALLENGES?

AO — The biggest challenge as a school librarian is meeting the diverse needs of my school community. Serving as a source of information is only one of the many services the library provides. The library also offers curricular support in the areas of media and technology, printing services including 3D, makerspace opportunities, wellness events, speaker programs, author

visits, and other student/teacher services as needed. It is challenging to function in so many different ways.

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LB — Funding – It sounds cliché, but I would be surprised if any library of any type doesn't consider funding to be a big challenge. JGRSL has, this recent budget period, experienced the most challenging time as far as securing funds... most all of our municipalities are having a difficult time from a financial perspective. This funding problem filters down to all governmental agencies. We are grateful that our counties, primarily Jackson County – which has the largest employer in the state of Mississippi – are in a position to adequately fund us, thanks to the support of our elected officials.

Adequately serving special needs customers – While we have dealt with this for a while, our efforts in this area do not seem to be enough. I have collaborated with our county's sheriff, and we now realize that the opioid crisis our country is seeing is indeed contributing to our not being able to adequately serve users affected by this crisis. I know some library systems in other states are securing social workers to assist with

special needs customers; we are not in a position to do add that position because of the cost, even though it might be warranted at times in some of our libraries.

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JS — Special libraries must prove themselves to be of value every day. We must ensure our services always include "value-add." Doing this means setting a high bar for excellence in everything we do. Going the extra mile, taking ownership of every inquiry and process, and recognizing that our success is judged by how we help our library users be successful—those challenges provide the inspiration for why and how we have to prove our value to the administrators who are putting a dollar and cents on everything we do. Funding, always funding. Funding for people, services, collections, and access.

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SC — Academic libraries continue to face flat or dwindling budgets and rising journal costs. One of if not the largest expenditures for academic libraries continues to be the cost of supporting journal subscriptions in support of our academic and research missions. Most academic libraries are having to identify ways

to support their current subscriptions by realigning other budget lines or discontinuing subscriptions. This creates access issues for faculty, researchers and students as well as impacts faculty recruitment and retention.

Many academic libraries are also finding it difficult to fill open positions because applicant pools are slim. This is especially true of faculty positions that require more experience or a unique set of skills for the position. IT positions are increasing challenging to fill not to mention retaining the employees in those positions as they can gain some experience and then work for a corporation for more money.

Academic libraries are having to provide more specialized services to meet the growing needs of our Universities. This requires the academic libraries to either utilize open positions to hire employees with different skill sets related to data curation, management and visualization; digital scholarship; scholarly communication, etc. Academic libraries are being asked to support a variety of advanced services including development of grants; development and management of institutional and data repositories; support of digital scholarship; identifying, manipulating, storing and managing data; and hosting online journals. Likewise, academic libraries are supporting faculty and students by providing access to a variety of technologies that assist in advancing the teaching and research missions of the universities. Digital Humanities/Digital Scholarship Centers, Virtual Reality Labs, and Maker Spaces are popping up in academic libraries to provide students and faculty with access to

a wide variety of technology that advance teaching, research and learning. While these services provide great opportunities for libraries and provide their constituents with access to the technology, they are also require startup and ongoing funding.

WHAT NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN LIBRARY SERVICES ARE YOU MOST EXCITED ABOUT?

AO — I am most excited about the growing number of makerspace opportunities available in the Oxford High School Library. 3D printing is the newest addition that is changing the culture of the library into a creation and innovation hub. To date, I have collaborated with the AP Biology teacher to create molecular models on the 3D printer. The American history teacher is recreating the Civil War with 3D printed artillery, cavalry, and soldiers representing Union and Confederate troops. Currently, an English II class and I are working to print 3D houses that will be displayed at the Ford Center's annual Gingerbread Village. I'm looking forward to expanding makerspace opportunities in the areas of virtual reality, wide format printing, cricut designing, and green screen productions.



LB — Pop-Up Libraries – This is a spin on the traditional book-mobile in many ways, but it serves as not only an outlet to check out books, but also serves as a PR tool to promote library services, issue library cards, etc. The pop-up library appears at various events in the community on demand. I want one of these!

Drone Usage – I am intrigued by the idea of using drones for home delivery of library materials!



JS — In the past, library users engaged with the physical space in the library by browsing the print collections. Now they engage, but via all kinds of electronic access. The physical space has become more of a place of respite, escape, and informal gathering.

The most exciting change in service is the library providing workshops, seminars, training, and programs. Traditionally academic and public libraries have provided educational opportunities and programming, and now these activities are gaining popularity in special libraries. Educational opportunities and programming for library users will look beyond how-to-use databases or other resources kinds of training, and focus on helping to build skills for better speaking and presenting, understanding data management, learning to negotiate author's rights, and using standard and alternative metrics to measure and describe research impacts.



SC — One of the continuing developments in academic libraries that I think is exciting is the expanded use of technology in the library. Over my 20+ year career, I have seen the addition of personal computers, CD-ROM indices, online databases and the Internet all of which were embraced by libraries. Today, we are seeing even more technology being adopted by academic libraries including 3-D printers, 3-D scanners, virtual and augmented reality, gaming facilities, and data visualization

studios to name a few. These are all very specialized technologies and services that provide students not only with access to the technology that may be cost prohibitive for them to purchase on their own but also provides them with staff that can assist them in exploring the use of the technologies.

WHAT CHANGES IN LIBRARY SERVICES HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED IN YOUR CAREER?

AO — Technology has changed library services the most during my career. With greater emphasis on STEAM initiatives in the curriculum, the need for tech tools like 3D printers, VR headsets, and production equipment is growing. Making these tools available in the library is building new knowledge and encouraging creation among teachers and students.

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LB — Technology - I am in my 30th year of Librarianship. When I first became a library professional, there was no thought of having a computer in a library. Then we received our first fax machine from the state library agency to use for Interlibrary Loan purposes, and not long after, the Gates grants were initiated that changed everything... from how we manage our collections, to the clientele we serve...our missions became technology driven at that point. And we still must adapt to new technologies every day...it never ends!

Programming used to consist of a storytime, maybe a summer library program or two, and maybe a book club for adults. Now we are accustomed to offering as many as 100

programs or more each month on a variety of topics for a diverse group of library users.

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JS — Special libraries occupy a unique ecological niche in the world of libraries. They focus their energy on ensuring their primary user group has the resources and services they need to do their jobs. This includes the entire spectrum of special libraries—medical, legal, business, museums, governmental agencies, research, etc.

I have spent nearly 40 years working in special libraries—one the biggest changes is the speed at which we can provide materials requested by our library users. What used to be paper forms sent back and forth by mail to acquire a photocopy are submitted completely electronically for pdfs that are delivered within a few minutes.

At my first library job in 1976, we all used manual typewriters. I had to take a typing test as part of the hiring process.

WHAT CHANGES DO YOU SEE IN HOW LIBRARIES FUNCTION (IN THE NEXT 3 YEARS)?

AO — The biggest change I foresee in how the school library functions is the evolution of the library from its traditional role as a place to get information into a place that encourages the creation of information and innovation through the library's collection of things. I also see the library becoming more mobile in terms of expanding ebook and database collections. Redefining information services to include current and reliable reference and

nonfiction texts with multi-user capability and simultaneous access for students and teachers is crucial to keeping the library relevant in the school community.

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LB — More attention to self-service in libraries...more ways to streamline processes and procedures with fewer staff as we learn to do more with less. More intuitive apps will be utilized to be compatible with circ and catalog functions. A growing number of our customers may never come into our buildings.

I also believe there will be more attention on outreach services...we will need to place even more emphasis on going out in our communities to promote new services and technologies. Libraries will continue to place more of an emphasis on developing electronic collections, maybe at the cost of a significant amount of print collections.

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JS — Special libraries will continue to adapt to a rapidly changing information landscape. They will be flexible, engaged, and focused. They will have to collaborate more with users and be involved though the entire life cycle of research including providing supporting data for grants, collecting reports and research outputs for inclusion into institutional repositories, data management, documenting impacts, and promoting scholarly communication.

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SC — Over the next several years I believe academic libraries will continue to identify their unique collections and find ways of providing free

digital access to these collection. Libraries have been digitizing their collections for many years but as the technologies continue to evolve and the demand for open/free access to content rises I think we will see more libraries making their unique and rare collections available online and, we will see more reuse of this content in ways we never imagined.

Like so many industries, I think academic libraries will make greater efforts to hone and customize their services to meet the needs of its users. This will require a better understanding of our user's needs especially as it relates to online access to content and will require libraries to collect and analyze patron data.

We will also continue to see libraries investing more time, funding and effort in supporting all of the functions found within the research lifecycle as well as a continued push for more open access to

scholarly research and open educational resources.

Finally, libraries will continue to identify ways to maximize the use of their facilities to meet the growing request to provide more spaces for students to study, work collaboratively, and utilize and experiment with technology. This will require libraries to repurpose existing spaces and identifying ways to house their collections.

HOW DO LIBRARIES ENSURE “EVERYONE BELONGS” AT MISSISSIPPI LIBRARIES?

AO — By expanding the library's collection to include emerging technologies and digital texts, the library is working to democratize idea creation and mobilize information services providing more equality in terms of access to information and innovative opportunities to all

students and teachers in the school community.



LB — By planning a variety of programs to serve the needs of a multitude of customers.

By making certain the library's collections are diverse and that you have something for most everyone.

By listening to the needs of all library users.

By selecting and hiring a diverse staff to assist the customers in their various needs.



JS — Outreach, outreach, outreach! If we want to ensure everyone belongs, then then we need to let them know who we are and what we can do for them. We have to forge mutually beneficial partnerships that build relationships. When we engage, we enlarge our impact.

SLIS Notes

Teresa S. Welsh

Professor and Director

*School of Library and Information Science
The University of Southern Mississippi*

Greetings, dear scholars. Winter is a time of gift-giving and book-reading and librarians know that books are the best gifts.

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHILDREN

Some of the best books for gift giving or for collection development are award-winning children's books:

- ALSC Notable Lists of best children's books, audio, and video

www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/notalists

- Bachelder Award for outstanding books originally published in a foreign language then translated into English for publication in the U.S. www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/batchelderaward/batchelderabout
- Belpre' Award for best book by a Latino/Latina writer and illustrator www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/belpremedal
- Jack Ezra Keats New Writer Awards www.ezra-jack-keats.org/section/ezra-jack-keats-book-awards/
- British Carnegie Medal for

outstanding books written in English for children or young people

www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/carnegie.php

• British Kate Greenaway Medal for distinguished illustration in a children's book www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/greenaway.php

• Caldecott Award for most distinguished American picture book for children www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/caldecottmedal/caldecottmedal

• Coretta Scott King Award for outstanding African-American authors and illustrators www.ala.org/rt/emiert/cskbookawards

- Geisel Award for most distinguished American book for beginning readers www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/geiselaward
- Horn Book Awards for best picture book, fiction and poetry, and nonfiction www.hbook.com/boston-globe-horn-book-awards/
- Newbery Medal for most distinguished contribution to American children's literature www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/newberymedal/newberymedal
- Odyssey Award for best audio-book for children or young adults www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/odysseyaward
- Schneider Family Book Award for best book that depicts a disability www.ala.org/awardsgrants/schneider-family-book-award

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Award-winning books for young adults have great new books to spark a teen's interest:

- Alex Awards for ten books written for adults but that appeal to young adults www.ala.org/yalsa/alex-awards
- National Book Award for young people's literature for best book by an American citizen www.nationalbook.org/national-book-awards/
- Printz Award for excellence in young adult (YA) books www.ala.org/yalsa/printz
- William C. Morris Young Adult Debut Award for impressive new voice in YA literature www.ala.org/yalsa/morris
- YALSA's Best Books for Young Adults www.ala.org/yalsa/

booklists/bbya

- YALSA's Great Graphic Novels www.ala.org/yalsa/great-graphic-novels
- YALSA's Teens Top 10 picks by teens www.ala.org/yalsa/teenstopen

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADULTS

- National Book Foundation Awards for 2018, Fiction & Nonfiction www.nationalbook.org/awards-prizes/national-book-awards-2018/
- New York Times 100 Notable Books of 2018 www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/11/19/books/review/100-notable-books.html

FREE E-BOOKS

- Project Gutenberg www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/
- Open Culture www.openculture.com/free_ebooks
- Internet Archive <https://archive.org/>
- ManyBooks.net <https://manybooks.net/>
- LibriVox audiobooks <https://librivox.org/>

DONATIONS FOR EARLY LITERACY INITIATIVE

Would you like to give the gift of reading to young children in need? If so, donate to Council on Community Literacy and Reading (CCLR). Each dollar will purchase high-quality, hard-cover books from firstbook.org that CCLR will donate to young children in need. If you wish, you can donate online at <https://support.firstbook.org/fundraiser/1791847>.

UPCOMING EVENT: KAIGLER CHILDREN'S BOOK FESTIVAL

Early bird registration is still open for the 2019 Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival to be held April 3-5 at the Thad Cochran Center on the Southern Miss campus. www.usm.edu/childrens-book-festival/2019-registration-rates

The mission of the Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival is to recognize excellence in the field of children's literature and to provide librarians, teachers, researchers, and community members the opportunity to learn about and appreciate children's literature through presentations, workshops, and personal interactions with people of significance in the field. Many of the authors and illustrators on the best books lists above have been keynotes at the USM Children's Book Festival. The stellar keynote lineup for 2019 includes:

- Tamora Pierce, Southern Miss Medallion Winner
- Sophie Blackall, Ezra Jack Keats Award winner
- Brian Floca, author and illustrator
- Erin Entrada, 2018 Newbery Medal winner for Hello, Universe
- Bweela Steptoe, designer of wearable art
- Javaka Steptoe, illustrator winner for In Daddy's Arms I Am Tall
- Margarita Engle, National Young People's Poet Laureate
- William Joyce, winner of Coleen Salley Storytelling Award.

Two of our 2019 Kaigler keynotes are in talks to present to local schoolchildren. So far Caldecott Medal winner Brian Floca is confirmed to speak to Lillie Burney S.T.E.A.M.

Academy and each student has been provided a copy of Floca's *Locomotive*, winner of the 2014 Caldecott Medal.

Brian Floca was born and raised in Temple, Texas, and now lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. His books include *Moonshot: The Flight of Apollo 11*, *Lightship*, and *The Racecar Alphabet*. Brian illustrated Avi's *Poppy Stories* series, *Ballet for Martha: Making Appalachian Spring* by Jan Greenberg and Sandra Jordan, *Princess Cora and the Crocodile* by Laura Amy Schlitz, and *Hawk Rising* by Maria Gianferrari. In addition to the Caldecott Medal, Brian's books have twice been selected for the New York Times' annual 10 Best Illustrated Books list, received four Robert F. Sibert Honor awards for distinguished informational books as well as a silver medal from the Society of Illustrators.

For more information about the Children's Book Festival, see www.usm.edu/childrens-book-festival or contact:

Karen M. Rowell, MLIS (karen.rowell@usm.edu) Children's Book Festival Coordinator

Feedback and suggestions are welcome – send to slis@usm.edu or teresa.welsh@usm.edu

Visit www.usm.edu/sliss for additional information, email slis@usm.edu, or call 601.266.4228.

School of Library and Information Science presents the
52nd Annual Fay B. Kaigler

Children's Book Festival

April 3-5, 2019


Come celebrate 50 years of promoting excellence in children's literature with Southern Miss Medallion Winner

TAMORA PIERCE


ADDITIONAL SPEAKERS INCLUDE

Sophie Blackall Erin Entrada Kelly
Margarita Engle Bweela Steptoe
Brian Floca Javaka Steptoe
William Joyce


Featuring The Ezra Jack Keats Book Award Ceremony. The Magnolia Award winners will also be announced at the festival.




THE FAY B. KAIGLER
CHILDREN'S BOOK FESTIVAL



Ezra Jack Keats
BOOK AWARD



DE GRUMMOND
CHILDREN'S LITERATURE COLLECTION



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

USM.EDU/CHILDRENS-BOOK-FESTIVAL

News Briefs

Carol Green

Serials Librarian

University of Southern Mississippi

FRIENDS OF IUKA LIBRARY CELEBRATE 30 YEARS

The Friends of Iuka Library (Tishomingo County) celebrate their 30th birthday this year! Formed in 1988, the group has over 300 members on the roll with some of the original members still active in library events.

Accomplishments of the Friends of Iuka Library include:

- Instrumental in getting a library addition built in 1994-1995 plus an outbuilding to hold excess used book inventory and yard sale items
- Primary sponsor of annual Summer Reading Programs and National Library Week
- Bi-monthly Lunch Break programs that are free to the community with an optional \$2 sack lunch prepared by the Friends
- Fund raising activities such as used book sales, yard sales, beans & cornbread lunches, and other merchandise sales such as the Friends of the Library Cookbook, "I love books" tote bags and similar items. A steady monthly income stream is generated from the Friends' Book Store book sales inside the branch thanks to an incredibly dedicated volunteer (retired public school librarian) who single-handedly manages the Book Store.
- Bi-monthly newsletter mailed to all active members as well as complimentary copies to legislators,

local elected officials, key businesspeople, etc.

- Sponsors of the Children's Christmas Party and Easter Egg Hunt for 30 years
- Hosts of the Northeast Regional Library System annual staff meeting once every five years, providing breakfast and lunch (meetings rotate among the largest branches)
- Replaced all ten of the 20-year-old chairs at the public computer stations with comfortable new office chairs



Iuka Public Library



SRP 2018 group photo

Submitted by

Gwen Spain

Librarian

Iuka Public Library



UPDATES FROM THE STATE LAW LIBRARY OF MISSISSIPPI

The State Law Library of Mississippi has signed a Preservation Steward Agreement with the United States Government Publishing Office. Under this agreement, the Library pledges to permanently preserve its print collections of the *United States Reports*, *Statutes at Large*, and *Public Papers of the President*. The Preservation Steward Program was developed by GPO to support continued public access to historic government documents in print in the digital era. All depository libraries are invited to participate in the Preservation Steward Program. GPO also welcomes the opportunity to discuss possible partnerships with non-depository libraries. For more information on this and other preservation opportunities, visit <https://www.fdlp.gov/preservation/preservation-at-gpo>.

The Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries (SEAALL) has selected Jackson, MS as the host city of its 2020 Annual Meeting. Stephen Parks, State Librarian at the State Law Library of Mississippi, submitted the proposal in late 2017 with the announcement of Jackson's selection being made in early 2018. The SEAALL Annual Meeting was last in Mississippi in 1990 when Oxford hosted the program with the

theme of “An Anthology of Issues Facing Law Librarians.” Comprising over 500 individuals from eleven Southeastern states and Puerto Rico, SEAALL is an official chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries with its members coming from court, law firm, corporate, and academic law libraries. The three day conference, to be held in April 2020, will involve education sessions, workshops, library tours, and receptions.

*Submitted by
Stephen Parks
State Librarian
State Law Library of Mississippi*

WALKING DEAD DAY HOSTED BY JESSE YANCY MEMORIAL LIBRARY



Photographs of zombies by Janice Vaughn and Miranda Vaughn

Skybound and Image Comics celebrated the 15th anniversary of “The Walking Dead” #1 with the first-ever global Walking Dead Day on Saturday, October 13. The Jesse Yancy Memorial Library in Bruce, MS celebrated with a costume contest, trivia games, video clips, and some creepy refreshments. There was also a zombie makeup tutorial and demonstration.

*Submitted by
Janice Vaughn
Branch Manager
Jesse Yancy Memorial Library*

LAMAR COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM ELIMINATES FINES FOR OVERDUE BOOKS

The Lamar County Library System (LCLS) Board of Trustees recently voted to eliminate overdue materials fees for all patrons in the four branches of the Lamar County Library System. This change took effect on October 1, 2018.

LCLS Director, Phillip Carter, says “the board and I realized that the punitive nature of library overdue fines were contrary to the mission of the Lamar County Library System.”

Library fines for LCLS made up less than 1% of the library’s overall budget annually. This new policy does not affect the fees associated with lost or damaged materials.

For more information, contact Phillip Carter, LCLS Director at 601-794-3220 or email at pcarter@lclsms.org.

The Lamar County Library System is a public library system serving all citizens of Lamar County and the surrounding area with branches in Sumrall, Oak Grove, Purvis, and Lumberton.

*Submitted by
Phillip Carter
Director
Lamar County Library System*

GPO NAMES UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY THE BEST IN THE NATION

The U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) names the University of Mississippi’s J.D. Williams Library as the 2018 Federal Depository Library of the Year. The library was selected for its creative promotion of Government documents through campaigns, exhibits, and events. The J.D. Williams Library became a member of the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) in 1883. The library is the Regional depository library for Mississippi, serving ten selective depositories in the state.

To coincide with its 135th anniversary in the FDLP, the library hosted a year-long Government documents campaign. As part of the campaign, the library created a Government documents coloring book and bookmark and hosted anniversary-related events featuring various librarians and scholars as guest speakers. It produced seven new LibGuides on Government information and displayed six exhibits throughout the library that pointed users to the depository. For children, the library developed educational materials and engaged middle-school students with direct programming.

“I congratulate the staff at the J.D. Williams Library for its innovative and steadfast efforts in Keeping America Informed on the three branches of the Federal Government since 1883,” said Acting

GPO Deputy Director Herbert H. Jackson, Jr. “The library has demonstrated a rich legacy of service and learning. It serves as an example of the critical relationship GPO has with the library community in providing the public free access to Government information in digital and print formats.”

“UM Libraries are proud to be included among Federal Depository Libraries,” said Cecilia Botero, Dean of Libraries at the University of Mississippi. “The ability to offer the UM community and the people

of Mississippi free public access to these vitally important government documents is a responsibility we take seriously. We are honored to be chosen as the 2018 Federal Depository Library of the Year.”

This article was originally posted on the GPO website by Gary Somerset, Chief Public Relations Officer at the U.S. Government Publishing Office. Reprinted with permission.

*Submitted by
Melissa Dennis
Head of Research & Instruction
University of Mississippi Libraries*



Federal Depository Library of the Year 2018

People in the News

Carol Green

*Serials Librarian
University of Southern Mississippi*

The University of Southern Mississippi Libraries welcomed three new librarians this fall.

Jamie Stanfield is the Science, Technology, Nursing, and Allied Health Librarian at the Gulf Coast Library on the Southern Miss Gulf Park Campus. She received her bachelor's and master's degrees in history from West Texas A&M University, and her MLIS from Texas Women's University. Stanfield provides research services to ensure students are able to obtain relevant information for their research. She also develops library collections to best meet the needs of faculty and students and provides instruction and workshops on topics ranging from citation to research methods. Stanfield hopes to increase awareness of what the library offers all students, faculty and staff. Outreach

is one of her passions, and she plans to work with all disciplines in her area to spotlight services offered. Currently she is working with public librarians to continue the successful Science Café on the Coast program, and is revamping a 20th century warfare graphic novel collection to highlight works focusing on medicine and medical fields.

Justin Easterday is the Education and Human Sciences Librarian, also at the Gulf Coast Library. He received his BA in history from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs and his MLIS from Emporia State University. In his new position, Easterday functions as part of a team that establishes and improves library services, allowing the library to effectively assist students. He provides assistance with research, library instruction, collection development and additional support for faculty and students in the College of Health and Human Sciences on the Gulf Park campus. He also will

provide research consultations with students and plans to participate in community service.

Hali Black is the First Year Experience Librarian at Cook Library on the Southern Miss Hattiesburg campus. She received her BS in English from the University of North Alabama and her MLIS from the University of Alabama. She plans to complete an MA in English from the University of North Alabama in May 2019. Black serves as the primary contact between the Libraries and the Office of New Student and Retention Programs and the First Year Writing Program in the Department of English supporting the research and instructional needs of first-year students. Black will also participate in outreach initiatives to build awareness of library resources and services and actively cultivate relationships with University faculty, staff, and students. Black plans to collaborate with the First Year Writing Program to reevaluate the

instructional needs of first-year students and consider how the Libraries can better meet those needs. She also hopes to work with the Office of New Student and Retention Programs to develop a series of student success workshops to help students improve their time-management skills and maintain a healthy school/life balance. Additionally, she has an ongoing collection development project in collaboration with the Southern Miss Allies organization to expand materials on diversity awareness in Cook Library's Student Success Collection.



The Emily Jones Pointer Public Library in Como has a new Branch Manager. **Amy Henderson** has been with the library a little over a month. "We feel



very fortunate to have Amy working for First Regional Library's Como branch," said Barbara Evans, FRL's Assistant Director for Public Services. "She's hit the ground running by scheduling monthly family movie events at the request of patrons, and a series of pottery classes will start soon. Amy has over 8 years of library experience, and was most recently a Library Assistant at our Southaven Branch."

Mrs. Henderson holds a B.A. in Psychology from the University of Mississippi and has experience in programming for children and adults, conducting outreach, budgeting, and many other qualities that library officials say made her the best candidate for the job.

"I've enjoyed my time here in Como very much," said Henderson. "The staff and patrons have been so welcoming. I am looking forward to meeting more people in the

community, and to find new and exciting ways to provide the absolute best library service to the people of Como."

Amy Henderson may be reached at ahenderson@firstregional.org.



Brian Corrigan joined the University of Mississippi Libraries in October 2018 as a Library Specialist for Continuing Resources and Acquisitions. In May, he earned his MA in Public History from the University of North Alabama, where he worked as a graduate assistant in Archives and Special Collections. Over the past year, he served as the Music Preservation Consultant for the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area, revising and maintaining its Roots of American Music Trail website (<http://musictrail.una.edu>) and assisting in the production of video interviews for the site.

Book Reviews

Michele Frasier-Robinson

*Librarian for
Education & Psychology
University of Southern Mississippi*

Cutter, S.L., Emrich, C.T., Mitchell, J.T., Piegorsch, W.W., Smith, M.M., Weber, L.

Hurricane Katrina and the Forgotten Coast of Mississippi.

United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press, 2018. 194 pp. \$50 (paperback)

The goal of *Hurricane Katrina and the Forgotten Coast of Mississippi* is to "further our understanding of the

pace of recovery and its geographic extent [along with] the role of inequalities in the recovery process and those conditions that could give rise to a 'recovery divide'" (preface). The authors are forthcoming about aspects of recovery that are easier to quantify than others and that they base their research on the ability to "see" changes in the community and environment. To do this they take a multidisciplinary, sociological to geographical, approach to looking at what occurs during recovery after a natural disaster.

The organization of this book is important in that the authors start

with background information about the Mississippi Gulf Coast. For example, they investigate the founding of the coast and how past hurricanes have affected the area. Details about past hurricanes, such as Camille, are included to provide information about the recovery that laid the groundwork for the information the authors wish to present about Hurricane Katrina. They dig into the demographic makeup of the Gulf Coast, illustrating the diverse population of the area, and how the focus of the recovery efforts to different demographics lends itself to creating what the authors call a "recovery

divide.” They also include a chapter about how power, politics, and the economy had a hand in furthering the “recovery divide.”

This book is filled with information that is beneficial to the future study of natural disaster recovery and the pitfalls of which to be aware. The book, however, does have a few minor issues. One such issue is the feeling of starting and stopping with topics which occur throughout the book. A topic is addressed in one section of the book, only to be dismissed and then re-visited in a later chapter. This could have been alleviated with either a timeline that spans throughout the book or by simply adding a note in the text indicating that this topic will be discussed more in later chapters. Another issue is that the authors fail to touch on how other natural disasters had an effect on prolonging the recovery from Hurricane Katrina.

This book is beneficial to the study of natural disasters and the recovery process that follows. It is recommended for academic libraries and public libraries that have an interest in natural disasters, especially those libraries that are in hurricane-prone areas of the country.

Kathryn New
Arts and Humanities Librarian
University of Southern Mississippi



Eagles, Charles W.

Civil Rights Culture Wars: The Fight over a Mississippi Textbook.

Chapel Hill, North Carolina: The University of North Carolina Press, 2017. 298 pp. \$34.95

Civil Rights Culture Wars is an interesting chronicle of a controversial

textbook published in 1974. Authors James Loewen of Tougaloo College and Charles Sallis of Millsaps College set out to remove the bias from history textbooks in the state of Mississippi. The result of their efforts was *Mississippi: Conflict and Change*, a textbook unlike any other that had come before. It examined economic depression and violence in the state and included a number of topics on race and gender that had previously been ignored. Eagles effectively details Loewen and Sallis's intent to create and encourage a dialogue that considered the state of Mississippi's turbulent past as well as its future. The state funded adoption of this textbook was pivotal during a time when printed textbooks were the cornerstone of the American classroom. The print textbook fundamentally determined what was taught as well as learned.

The immense differences between the Loewen and Sallis text and earlier texts is a primary focus of this work. Eagles examines the history behind this significant textbook as well as the challenging road that was travelled by those fighting for its adoption. Prior to the textbook's adoption, Loewen and Sallis joined in a federal lawsuit challenging a ban after the book was initially rejected by the state textbook commission. In addition, Eagles provides a general historical view of textbooks and their place in education and he includes useful information on textbook production, marketing and sales.

Eagles provides a detailed history of the group of the writers that were involved in the Mississippi History project. They included a diverse mix of faculty and students from

Tougaloo College and Millsaps College. They contributed a great deal to *Conflict and Change*, with Loewen and Sallis playing major roles in the coordination effort. Eagles rounds out his work with a chapter that focuses on the reception of the work from students, teachers and state educational entities and moves towards a conclusion with a discussion of the controversy that surrounded the book and the fight that ensued to determine if the textbook would be adopted by public schools in the state. *Conflict and Change* was eventually approved for state adoption, and as a result of this victory, education and civil rights were forever altered in Mississippi.

Civil Rights Culture Wars is recommended for public and academic libraries. It is also appropriate for Mississippi history collections and African American studies collections.

Chameka Robinson
Associate Professor/Head, Access Services
Rowland Medical Library
University of Mississippi Medical Center



Foreman, Josh, and Ryan Starrett

Hidden History of Jackson

Charleston, South Carolina: The History Press, 2018. 160 pp. \$21.99 (paperback)

There are many long-forgotten stories about people or events throughout Mississippi's history. In an effort to record these stories for future generations, authors Foreman and Starrett have compiled a brief compendium of local history stories about Jackson, Mississippi. While there have been many books written about Jackson, Mississippi,

they typically focus on the Civil War or the civil rights movement. What makes *Hidden History* so refreshing is that it includes stories that are not so well-known, such as the story of Camp Clinton, a prisoner of war camp which housed high ranking Nazi generals during World War II; the founding of our state capital as a trading post in the 1700s; and the history of Malaco Records, home of southern soul, blues, and gospel music.

As native Jacksonians, both authors have conducted extensive research on the stories that they tell, using many primary sources, including a number of Mississippi newspapers such as the *Clarion-Ledger*, archival records, and interviews. The book contains many illustrations and photographs throughout each chapter, some of which were taken by Foreman, along with others from sources such as the Library of Congress. The authors also include notes, a bibliography, and a helpful index in the back matter.

Although *Hidden History of Jackson* is not a comprehensive look at Jackson or Mississippi history, it serves as an invitation to learn more about Jackson's history from its beginnings to the present day. As someone not native to Mississippi, I think that the book's twenty stories are highly informative, as they have introduced me to people and events I had not discovered before.

This book is a quick, enjoyable read, but it may not garner much interest in libraries outside of the Jackson area. This book is recommended for Jackson area libraries or libraries that have extensive Mississippi history collections.

Maya Berry
Digital Librarian
Northwest Mississippi Community College



Tyson, Tiffany Quay

The Past is Never

New York: Skyhorse Publishing,
2018. 275 pp. \$24.99 (hardcover).

In her second published novel, Tyson returns to the fictional delta town of White Forest, Mississippi to tell the story of a missing young girl named Pansy and the plight of her family in her absence. Bert, Willet, and Pansy had been told by their wayward father not to swim in the old rock quarry, as he insisted that the devil would find them there. Not heeding his advice, the strong-willed children do just that. Leaving Pansy to swim while they go off in search of food, the elder two return to find that their sibling has disappeared. When search efforts yield nothing, their mother seems to lose all will to live, and their father, whom they most suspect, is nowhere to be found. Everyone seems to have a theory about what happened to Pansy.

Alternating between two parallel narratives, one set in the present and the other in the past, Tyson uses magical realism to paint a vividly haunting picture where the reader is led to believe that truly anything is possible. Tyson masterfully eases her past narrative forward, eventually culminating in the two stories molding together as one. This unification of the past and the present is a wonderfully symbolic representation of the Faulkner quote that serves as the book's epigraph.

Blending elements of bildungsroman, mystery, and fantasy, Tyson has created a deceptively complex novel. She finds ways to incorporate themes as varied and far-reaching as abortion, racism, conspiracy theories, and family dynamics and secrets. Bert, Willet, and their mother each seem to deal with Pansy's disappearance in their own way. In the literal absence of their father and the figurative absence of their mother, Bert and Willet find themselves facing more responsibilities than their peers. Bert makes it her mission to keep her mother alive and take care of things at home, while Willet takes on the role of provider, taking construction jobs throughout the state. In the midst of these new tasks, their hope to find their younger sister never leaves their minds.

While the novel's principle setting is the Mississippi Delta, the action shifts to other locations throughout the story. The attitudes and characters may have a wide appeal in the South, but the themes of the novel are universal and could be relatable to almost anyone. Although it may not top any awards or best sellers lists, Tyson has put together an enjoyable, thought-provoking novel that is worth picking up by anyone who would like to add just a pinch of the supernatural into their literary fiction. This book is recommended for public libraries.

Jeffrey Martin
Library Manager
Itawamba County-Pratt Memorial Library

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Kristin Rogers

Electronic Resources & Discovery Librarian
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