



CLAVIRTUAL

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

May 28th-June 5th

Using ZOOM



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A Message From Our CLA President:

Welcome to Connecticut Library Association's first virtual conference. It has been a challenging past few months and I know we're all swimming in information. CLA's virtual conference is a time for you to put present day struggles aside for a while and immerse yourself again in the fundamentals of librarianship, perhaps get some helpful tips on self-care, which is more important now than ever, and learn about the innovative and creative projects and initiatives your colleagues offer their communities. We're a group with a plethora of knowledge. I'm so happy we have this opportunity to share it. Thank you to everyone who has worked to make this event possible: Stephanie Prato, Chris Carney, Kym Powe, the section and committees for the contribution of the program content, and especially to Vice President Tom Piezzo and Alessandra Petrino for bringing this virtual conference to fruition. I'm so glad you're taking advantage of the opportunity to attend CLA's first virtual conference. I'm certain you'll find many possibilities for learning and to develop your skills.

Lisa Karim
CLA President



Day 1: Thursday, May 28th

Time	Session Information
Session 1: 9:30 AM– 10:30 AM	Lockdown Your Digital Life <i>Presenter: Amy VanDeVelde, Technology Program Director, The Oasis Institute</i> Use of the internet is a necessity for digital late adopters. Teaching device and software use is one thing. Teaching them online safely is another. Oasis Connections offered its first online safety class in 2004 and pioneered mobile phone training in 2008. The program offers the Cybercrime Fighters series of courses designed specifically FOR late adopters. This session will acquaint participants with the sort of technology lingo, and concepts that often alienate people who are digital late adopters, and introduce them to an interactive event model that can then be replicated in their own community.
Session 2: 11:00 AM– 12:00 PM	The Public Library Annual Report: Why we collect the data and how you can use it <i>Presenter: Maria Bernier, Connecticut State Library</i> Maria Bernier, State Data Coordinator, will give an overview of the 2019 Annual Report and Statistical Profile, as well as data from past years. She will show how to mine the data in Excel in order to answer specific questions and how you can use pre-made Excel and Tableau chart creators provided by the state library to tell your own library's story. If you'd like to learn how to use the Annual Report to your advantage, please attend.
Session 3: 12:30 PM– 1:30 PM	Improving the Health, Safety and Wellbeing of LGBTQ+ Communities <i>Presenter: Margot Malachowski, National Network of Libraries of Medicine, New England Region</i> LGBTQ+ individuals face barriers in accessing healthcare as a result of discrimination, misunderstanding, and fear. Consequently, many LGBTQ+ individuals do not regularly access appropriate and timely care. Our goal is to create welcoming, safe and informed spaces for LGBTQ+ individuals to reliably access the information and the care that they need. This session explores the health information needs of the LGBTQ+ community and the benefits of LGBTQ+ focused cultural competency/humility. We will identify electronic, print, and other resources for building quality LGBTQ+ health information collections and reference materials. We will discuss ideas for outreach strategies to the LGBTQ+ community.
Session 4: 2:00 PM-3:00 PM	IGNITE: Sparking STEM curiosity and growing girl leaders (even for the technologically-challenged) <i>Presenters: Marisa Hicking, and Jessica Noble, Avon Free Public Library</i> Are your teens looking for STEAM-based programming? Does STEAM intimidate you? Find out how Marisa Hicking, Teen Librarian, and Jess Noble, Technology & Technical Services Manager, crafted a program series at Avon Library tailored to girls' learning styles. In the span of one each program, a girl grows from a student to a leader on a new STEAM topic. Unlike sequential programs like Girls Who Code, whether a first-timer or a repeat participant, everyone starts fresh with the opportunity to be curious and explore. Walk away with reusable, affordable program ideas that you can customize for your community.

Day 2: Friday, May 29th

Time	Session Information
Session 1: 9:30 AM- 10:30 AM	<i>YA Smackdown</i> <i>Presenters: Anna Downing</i> , Farmington Public Libraries and <i>Marisa Hicking</i> , Avon Free Public Library A grassroots meet-up and idea generation tool for anyone providing library services to teens. Topics and questions are passed around to all attendees to gather a variety of answers and insights. Similar in style to Guerrilla Storytime.
Session 2: 11:00 AM- 12:00 PM	<i>Nama'st'ay in my chair: Chair Yoga for Librarians</i> <i>Presenter: Molly Virello</i> , Southington Public Library Sitting for long periods of time has been shown to be bad for your health, causing all kinds of stress, aches, and pains. Learn and move through a series of simple yoga postures that you can do right from your chair to release pain, banish fatigue, and enable you to refocus on your tasks. Chair yoga is just that, a series of yoga poses that you can do with or in a chair. It is for every body, no matter fitness or flexibility levels. Molly Virello is a registered yoga teacher, with over 3 years of teaching experience.
Session 3: 12:30 PM- 1:30 PM	<i>Brews and Clues: partnering with local breweries for pub trivia</i> <i>Presenters: Amanda Gilbertie</i> and <i>Tara Carvalho</i> , Danbury Public Library In November of 2018, the Danbury Library partnered with Charter Oak Brewing, a brewery in Danbury to offer a monthly trivia night. These nights attract an average of 50+ participants each month, provide an opportunity to reach out to a younger demographic, and are a ton of fun! Learn how we established our partnership, how we keep trivia fresh and engaging, and how you can do the same!
Session 4: 2:00 PM-3:00 PM	<i>Big disruptions can lead to big opportunities</i> <i>Presenter: Maxine Bleiweis</i> , Maxine Bleiweis & Associates The latest pandemic has stalled regular public library operations. How can we take advantage of this time to consider real change in operations and services that will benefit our communities? What might change for the good? This session will address a variety of areas of services, functions, and building design. Participants will have an opportunity to contribute some of their own thoughts and observations.

Day 3: Monday, June 1st

Time	Session Information
Session 1: 12:30 PM- 1:30 PM	Using Coda.io to Improve Staff Workflows <i>Presenter: Amanda L. Goodman, Darien Library</i> Learn how to make your spreadsheets and documents work harder by creating an "app" using Coda (https://coda.io/). In this session, Goodman will share how she created a new book groups' workflow in an attractive and easy to use interface. The new system tracks inventory, reading history, current checkouts, and helps staff to make recommendations. The app also ties into notification systems via email and calendar integrations. Staff can make better decisions and track the use of the collection over time through built in visualizations
Session 2: 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM	Drag Queens & Libraries <i>Presenters: Jennifer Billingsley, Russell Library, Middletown and Kristina Lareau, Ridgefield Library</i> Join Jennifer Billingsley (she/her), Director of Youth & Family Learning Department at Russell Library in Middletown and Kristina Lareau (she/her), Head of Children's Services in Ridgefield as they moderate a panel with some of Connecticut's premier Drag Queen performers including Frizzie, Rory and Summer.
Session 3: 3:30 PM- 4:30 PM	Professional is an Adjective Not a Noun! <i>Presenter: Beth Crowley, Cheshire Public Library</i> Whether you hope to advance in your library career or excel in your current position, there are strategies you can use to ensure you stand out as a high-performing employee. Beth Crowley, Director of the Cheshire Public Library, started her library career 21 years ago as a library aide eventually moving up the ladder to become a library director. Having worked in both support staff and supervisory positions, Beth will share her practical insights and tips on how you can be seen as a professional regardless of your specific job title or duties. Covering effective communication styles, understanding the importance of Emotional Intelligence, and ways to increase your knowledge and skill base, this session is aimed at employees in support staff or non-supervisory roles who want to maximize their performance at work.



Day 4: Tuesday, June 2nd

Time	Session Information
Session 1: 11:00 AM- 12:00 PM	Digital Storytelling with PechaKucha <i>Presenter: Linda Marchisio, Stamford High School Library Learning Commons</i> Reach Into the community by inviting people to tell their own true stories using the digital storytelling of PechaKucha which means the sound of conversation. Presenters share 20 compelling images shown for 20 seconds each as they share their story for a total of 6:40 minutes. People can share life events, research results, artistic creations, and many other topics building community while using digital storytelling. This is an introduction to PechaKucha. https://www.pechakucha.com/
Session 2: 12:30 PM- 1:30 PM	Self Care to support staff and patrons <i>Presenter: Linda Tumbarello, Psychotherapist in Private</i> Linda's self-care guidance positively aligns with Lance Warner's keynote speech, "Better Libraries and Stronger Communities Through Kindness, Empathy and Love," for it is through cultivating self-care and inner support that we are able to share kindness, empathy and love. Linda offers an approach to self-care that is about being kind, accepting and compassionate towards yourself — that is the heart of self-care. Practical tips will be offered to offset self-care challenges. Stress management can help staff be more empathetic and kind to patrons. Linda will share effective and fun 5 minute stress relievers that staff can use easily at work.
Session 3: 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM	A Crash Course in Open Access <i>Presenters: Danielle S. Apfelbaum, Farmingdale State College and Derek Stadler, LaGuardia Community College</i> Although open access publishing has been around for years, misconceptions about what "open" is and what it means for authors and users alike continue to persist. This session aims to demystify this multifaceted concept by introducing key terms and discussing the pros, cons, and future of the open access movement. By the end of this session, attendees will be able to describe and distinguish between common varieties of open access (e.g., green, gold, etc.), identify and decipher the popular Creative Commons open licenses (e.g., CC-BY, CC-BY-NC, etc.), and describe the current and potential impact of these aspects of OA on their patrons and stakeholders.
Session 4: 3:30 PM- 4:30 PM	Learning-Unlearning-Relearning Through Strategic Foresight: A CSL/ KEDGE Futures School Partnership <i>Presenter: Dawn La Valle, Connecticut State Library</i> Building on the CT State Library's successful EXCITE Transformation for Libraries LB21 grant project CSL is partnering with The Kedge Futures School (TFS) to offer Learning-Unlearning-Relearning Through Strategic Foresight. Kedge will facilitate two 3-day, flagship program, TFS with a library-specific focal issue, futures mindset and toolkit, resulting in the development of adaptable individuals with diverse strategic mindsets who are able to connect and capitalize on their changing business environment. Ultimately, they will learn a strategic framework that enables them to continuously learn-unlearn-relearn to lead discussion and action in the transformation of libraries. Join us to learn more about this opportunity

Day 5: Wednesday, June 3rd

Time	Session Information
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Session 1: Engaging Across Generations of Library Users: Designing for Learners of all Ages” - Double Session

9:30 AM-
11:30 AM

Presenters: Kara Gruss, Whit Iglehart, Jeanette O’Connell and Susan Pinckney, TSKP Studio; and Barbara Bailey, Glastonbury Public Library

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From spaces designed for play-based learning of Birth-to-5 and their caregivers; to reading, study and after-school spaces for elementary/pre-teens; to technology-rich study and Makerspaces for teens, public and school library programs and spaces must continually adapt to best serve and engage each successive generation of learner. This includes college-age and adult spaces for individual and group study, as well. Given funding limitations, expansive additions often not feasible, existing spaces must be re-imagined. We will discuss opportunities to reclaim space, programmatic needs, challenges and approaches for each age group, with case studies from urban (Hartford) to suburban (Glastonbury).

Session 2: You Are the Hero You've Been Waiting For

12:30 PM-
1:30 PM

Presenters: Sunnie Scarpa, E.C. Scranton Memorial Library; and Allison Murphy, Wallingford Public Library

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Whether you have a clear vision of your career path, or you're not sure where you're headed, come join us as we share our ideas and experiences overcoming imposter syndrome, gaining confidence, and pro-actively working towards our career goals. Attendees will come away inspired to attain librarian greatness, with specific ideas for genuine networking, continuing education, negotiation skills, and further reading.

Session 3: Building a Star Team

2:00 PM-
3:00 PM

Presenter: Deb Hoadley

Everyone wants to be a star and be a successful organization. Creating a team culture and working together is important in all libraries. We will discuss how to empower your staff using their strengths to build a successful, "star" team. We will review leadership principles based on the book, Strengths-Based Leadership: Great Leaders, Teams, and Why People Follow by Barry Conchie and Tom Rath. Come find out how you and your staff can shine!

Session 4: It Starts with Us: Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Libraries

3:30 PM-

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Presenters: Leticia Cotto, Customer Experience Officer, Hartford Public Library; Brandie Doyle, Assistant Director for Administrative Services, Russell Library; and Erica Byrne, ERB Consulting

What can we do to promote and foster equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) in our libraries, our staff, our users, and the broader community? This panel discussion will look at what has been done at Hartford Public Library and Russell Library (Middletown) to advance EDI in their institutions and their communities.

Day 6: Thursday, June 4th

Time	Session Information
Session 1: 9:30 AM- 11:30 AM	<p>The American Reading Crisis - What Every Librarian Needs To Know To Be Part of the Solution' - Double Session</p> <p><i>Presenter: Caroline Wilcox Ugurlu, PhD, Letters are Characters</i></p> <p>More than 60% of American 4th graders are not reaching literacy benchmarks. More than 100 million American adults can only read at basic level meaning that they could read a recipe but not detailed information about a prescription. We need to start community conversations about reading to understand why... beginning with a discussion about why reading is so important. Together we can make a course correction.</p> <p>During this double session, Caroline Wilcox Ugurlu, Ph.D., will unpack the things that we all need to know about reading for ourselves and for the children of our communities. She will provide a full description and demonstration of programs that can be added to library offerings to help ensure that children and adults read to their highest potential. Libraries are a critical part of the solution to the American reading crisis.</p> <p>During the talk you will learn about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How reading happens in the brain• How to examine the path to literacy so that we can ensure that all children read to their highest potential.• What is happening in schools across the country that either promotes reading success or leads to reading failure and what parents and caregivers can do to proactively ensure reading success for their little ones.• Why we need to read deeply... and how you can ensure that the children in your life will become deep readers.• How digital reading differs from reading books and how this is changing how we process what we read.• What libraries can do to be part of the solution.
Session 2: 12:30 PM- 2:30 PM	<p>To Fine, or Not to Fine: that is the Question-Double Session</p> <p><i>Presenters: Sam Cook, Systems Librarian for Public Services, Library Connection, Inc; Elizabeth Lane, Director, Bloomfield Library; and Rachel Gravel, Head of Borrowing and Technical Services, Simsbury Public Library</i></p> <p>We will be discussing the many dynamics of fines and going fine free. A panel of CT Librarians, Sam Cook-Systems Librarian for Public Services, Library Connection, Inc, Elizabeth Lane-Director, Bloomfield Library, and Rachel Gravel-Head of Borrowing and Technical Services, Simsbury Public Library, will be sharing with you their experiences with the elimination of overdue fines, and the collection of data around it.</p>

Day 7: Friday, June 5th: Exhibitor Showcase

30 Minute Sessions

Two Exhibitor Sessions Will Be Held in Each Time Slot– When Registering Choose the Exhibitor Slot You Wish to Attend

Time	Session Information
Session 1A:	Scholastic Library Publishing: Digital Overview
9:30 AM- 10:00AM	<i>Presented by Paul Davis and Tim Daley</i> Come learn about upcoming Scholastic Library Publishing Digital services.
Session 1B:	Connecticut Historical Society Museum and Library
9:30 AM- 10:00 AM	<i>Presented by Katerina Mazzacone</i> The Connecticut Historical Society has interactive educational programs for all ages! Join us to learn about the variety of adult and youth programming we can bring directly to your library, both in person and digitally. Topics include spies during the American Revolution, witch accusations in colonial Connecticut, strange items from our collection, and much more
Session 2A:	EBSCO: How to Support Job Seekers in a Post-Pandemic World
10:30 AM– 11:00 AM	<i>Presented by Elise Gold</i> Learn how Learning Express Job & Career Accelerator can help provide job seekers with the most comprehensive collection of job search and career exploration tools anywhere – all in one place and always available online.
Session 2B:	Downes Construction Company –Helping You Build New or Renovate Your Library <i>Presented by Nicole Demaio</i>
10:30 AM– 11:00 AM	<i>Planning your project from start to finish, by engaging the right building committee, legal and purchasing expertise, and design and construction support is key to keeping your project on budget and schedule. We will discuss how to renovate an occupied library or build new. We will bring our experience from libraries in Branford, Hartford, Bridgeport, Burlington and UCONN.</i>
Session 3A:	Rosen Publishing <i>Presented by Paul Davis</i>
11:30 AM- 12:00 PM	Come learn about upcoming Rosen Publishing releases.
Session 3B:	Weiss Financial Ratings <i>Presented by Paige Grillo</i>
11:30 AM- 12:00 PM	Paige Grillo from Weiss Financial Ratings will be presenting a demonstration of the Weiss Financial Ratings Database. Weiss Financial Ratings offers independent, unbiased financial strength ratings of banks, credit unions and insurance companies and conservative buy-hold-sell investment ratings of thousands of stocks, mutual funds and exchange-traded funds. Patrons can set up personal accounts and create a watchlist to get upgrade/downgrade notifications. For Patrons on Medicare, there is also a great tool to help them evaluate the available Medicare Supplement Insurance plans and make sure they are getting the best price. Weiss Financial Ratings Database was selected in 2018 by Library Journal as a Best Database.

Day 7: Friday, June 5th: Exhibitor Showcase

30 Minute Sessions

Two Exhibitor Sessions Will Be Held in Each Time Slot– When Registering Choose the Exhibitor Slot You Wish to Attend

Time	Session Information
Session 4A: 12:30 PM– 1:00 PM	Google <i>Presented by Julia Malecke</i> Connect with Customers and Manage Your Business Remotely: Discover Google tools that can help the businesses in your community work remotely during this time of uncertainty. Learn how to update critical business information online, keep customers informed, conduct virtual meetings, and access important files from anywhere. Plus, get insights on more online and timely resources for small businesses. This presentation, as well as the supplementary materials, are all available as free training materials to nonprofits via the Grow with Google Partner Program. Learn more about this program and how to apply.
Session 4B: 12:30 PM– 1:00 PM	Lothrop Associates, LLP <i>Presented by Robert Gabalski</i> Lothrop Associates LLP is a 48 person architectural firm based in White Plains, NY. In practice for over 50 years, Lothrop specializes in Library design and leads the way in designing libraries for the future. Our firm focuses on careful programming and meeting today's needs for libraries to be Community Centers with state-of-the-art technology and meeting space for patron groups of various sizes. Currently, Lothrop has over 20 active library projects in design and construction and our session will focus on two active Connecticut library projects: New Milford Public Library - Addition, Renovation and Restoration, and Stratford Public Library - Children's Library Renovation.
Session 5A: 1:30 PM– 2:00 PM	The Child's World <i>Presented by Paul Davis</i> Come learn about upcoming Child's World releases.
Session 5B: 1:30 PM– 2:00 PM	TSKP Studio <i>Presented by Kara Gruss</i> TSKP STUDIO is a partnership of collaborative architects and interior designers. We recognize that libraries are the heart of every community and the place where residents become citizens. We are dedicated to bringing design excellence to libraries with inspiring, functional, and healthy environments that attract users of all ages.
Session 6A 2:30 PM– 3:00 PM	Scholastic Library Publishing: Books <i>Presented by Paul Davis</i> Come learn about upcoming Scholastic Library Publishing Book releases.
Session 6B: 2:30 PM– 3:00 PM	Playaway Pre-Loaded Products: How are you reaching patrons that have no digital access? <i>Presented by Allison Cartellone</i> Playaway products are built for circulation and designed to help libraries promote literacy, bridge the digital divide, and make technology accessible to everyone. Pre-loaded with content and ready-to-use right off the shelf (no separate device or Internet access needed), our products help you give patrons of all ages access to audiobooks, learning tablets, and read-alongs. Come get to know Playaway, Playaway Launchpad, and Wonderbook! See you at 2:30

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Congratulations to our 2020 Award Winners:

Edith B. Nettleton Award

Recognizing an individual who has demonstrated an outstanding record of volunteer service to his or her library

Barbara Ritchie
Berlin, CT

Support Staff Award

Honoring an outstanding Library Assistant or Support Staff Member

Lynn Horka
Children's Library Assistant,
Rockville Public Library

Outstanding Librarian Award

Honoring the career accomplishments of a librarian who has demonstrated an outstanding record of service to his or her library and to the library profession

Lewis Daniels
Westbrook Public Library

Supporter of Support Staff Award

Honoring a library administrator or manager who promotes the role of library assistants and support staff

Frances Gibbs-Kail,
Public Library of New London

Special Achievement Award

Honoring an individual who has implemented a significant project or initiated an innovative program during the past year

Tina Panik
Avon Free Public Library

Intellectual Freedom Award

Recognizing an individual for the demonstration of extraordinary personal courage in the defense of intellectual freedom, or for the implementation of a successful and creative project developed to raise awareness of intellectual freedom issue, or for a published work on intellectual freedom

Sam Lee

Excellence in Public Service: Serving a Population Under 15,000

Honoring public libraries that have provided an outstanding program or service to their communities

Wilton Library

Excellence in public service: Serving a population over 15,000

Honoring public libraries that have provided an outstanding program or service to their communities

Waterford Public Library

Congratulations to our 2020 Award Winners:

Faith Hektoen Award

Recognizing career achievement in the field of Children's Services or an outstanding program or project that has made a significant impact on library service for children in Connecticut

Carol Waxman

Young Adult Services Award

Linda Williams

In recognition for her years of services to young adults and young adult librarians in the State of Connecticut

Scholarship Award

Presented to students in the field of librarianship by the career development committee

Jenna Bivona

Cora J. Belden Library in Rocky Hill

**Head to ctlibraryassociation.org
to see a video of our award
winners on our homepage**

Congratulations to our 2020

Publicity Award Winners

Recognizing accomplishments in design,
marketing, and publicity by Connecticut Libraries

Print Media

Fairfield Public Library

Stonewall 50: Celebrating Pride in Our Community Brochure

Designer: Philip Bahr

Electronic Media

New Haven Free Public Library

My NHFPL Story Videos

Designer: Travis Carbonella

Small Library Award

Kent Memorial Library, Kent

2019 Benefit Invitation & Program

Designer: Lucy C. Pierpont

Print Media

West Hartford Libraries

Trees of West Hartford Community Art Show

Designer: Joe Carieux, Adam Wisnieski, Maura Beaudreault, & Kirsten Kilbourn

Electronic Media

Stratford Library Association

Fairfield County Giving Day 2019: IMAC Campaign

Designer: Geri Diorio

Designer's Award

Cora J. Belden Library, Rocky Hill

Because of Winn Dixie Display

Designers: Carine Greene & Jennifer Zappulla