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ALA 2014 Scholarship Online Application Now Available

The American Library Association (ALA) has more than $300,000 for students who are studying library science or school librarianship at the master's degree level.

Scholarships typically range from $1,500 to $7,000 per student per year. The application and instructions are available online. The application deadline is March 1, 2014.

There are many types of scholarships available for the study of librarianship. These include scholarships for students who are interested in Children's Librarianship, Youth Librarianship, Federal Librarianship, new media and Library Automation.

In addition, there are also scholarships available for minorities, persons with disabilities and for library support staff currently seeking an MLS.

To be considered for one of these scholarships, applicants must attend a master's degree program in library and information science that has been accredited by the ALA. Applicants interested in school librarianship must attend a program that meets ALA curriculum guidelines for the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Complete guidelines and instructions are available on the website.

The scholarship process is open annually from October through March. More information is available online or by calling the ALA Scholarship Clearinghouse at (800) 545-2433, ext. 4279 or emailing scholarships@ala.org.

"Anyone who thinks this world is without magic, hasn't been to a library."
- Amy Dominy

Dr. Pasco runs an “outside” comps review with Amanda Lewis and Michael Elsener
Declaration for the Right to Libraries


LIBRARIES CHANGE LIVES
Declaration for the Right to Libraries

In the spirit of the United States Declaration of Independence and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, we believe that libraries are essential to a democratic society. Every day, in countless communities across our nation and the world, millions of children, students and adults use libraries to learn, grow and achieve their dreams. In addition to a vast array of books, computers and other resources, library users benefit from the expert teaching and guidance of librarians and library staff to help expand their minds and open new worlds. We declare and affirm our right to quality libraries public, school, academic, and special – and urge you to show your support by signing your name to this Declaration for the Right to Libraries.

LIBRARIES EMPOWER THE INDIVIDUAL

Whether developing skills to succeed in school, looking for a job, exploring possible careers, having a baby, or planning retirement, people of all ages turn to libraries for instruction, support, and access to computers and other resources to help them lead better lives.

LIBRARIES SUPPORT LITERACY AND LIFELONG LEARNING.

Many children and adults learn to read at their school and public libraries via story times, research projects, summer reading, tutoring and other opportunities. Others come to the library to learn the technology and information skills that help them answer their questions, discover new interests, and share their ideas with others.

LIBRARIES STRENGTHEN FAMILIES.

Families find a comfortable, welcoming space and a wealth of resources to help them learn, grow and play together.

LIBRARIES ARE THE GREAT EQUALIZER.

Libraries serve people of every age, education level, income level, ethnicity and physical ability. For many people, libraries provide resources that they could not otherwise afford – resources they need to live, learn, work and govern.

LIBRARIES BUILD COMMUNITIES.

Libraries bring people together, both in person and online, to have conversations and to learn from and help each other. Libraries provide support for seniors, immigrants and others with special needs.

LIBRARIES PROTECT OUR RIGHT TO KNOW.

Our right to read, seek information, and speak freely must not be taken for granted. Libraries and librarians actively defend this most basic freedom as guaranteed by the First Amendment.

LIBRARIES STRENGTHEN OUR NATION.

The economic health and successful governance of our nation depend on people who are literate and informed. School, public, academic, and special libraries support this basic right.

LIBRARIES ADVANCE RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP.

Knowledge grows from knowledge. Whether doing a school assignment, seeking a cure for cancer, pursuing an academic degree, or developing a more fuel efficient engine, scholars and researchers of all ages depend on the knowledge and expertise that libraries and librarians offer.

LIBRARIES HELP US TO BETTER UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER.

People from all walks of life come together at libraries to discuss issues of common concern. Libraries provide programs, collections, and meeting spaces to help us share and learn from our differences.

LIBRARIES PRESERVE OUR NATION’S CULTURAL HERITAGE.

The past is key to our future. Libraries collect, digitize, and preserve original and unique historical documents that help us to better understand our past, present and future.

A library book, I imagine, is a happy book.

-Cornelia Funke
PHOTO COLLAGE: September class weekend

From Top Left: Erica Rose - Introduction to Information Technology Professor
Top Right: Jamie Towne & Jessy Swift - sharing a laugh before class. Middle Left: Jessica Valasek, Stefanie Skrdla, & Lindsay Healey - Middle Right: Joyce Neujahr - wondering what she got herself into agreeing to teach the crazy class below. Bottom: The Management of Information Agencies Class - showing they’re serious about the future of libraries.
STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: Anneka Ramirez

What is your education/library/professional background?

I graduated from Norfolk Senior High School. Then I attended Western Washington University in Bellingham, WA where I earned my BA in American Cultural Studies with an emphasis in Cultural Anthropology. I began my MLS studies at the University of Missouri-Columbia in January of this year.

I have worked as the Director of the Scribner Public Library for the past 2.5 years but have recently made the decision to move on. I will be pursuing my MLS full time.

What is on your reading list? What are your favorites/your recommended/your want to read lists?

Favorites: Pilars of the Earth by Ken Follett; Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza by Gloria Anzalda; Me Talk Pretty One Day by David Sedaris; Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston; Deadwood by Pete Dexter; and probably a gazillion others

Recommend: Feminist Theory: From Margin to Center by bell hooks; Caleb’s Crossing by Geraldine Brooks; The Diviners by Libba Bray; Digital Dead End: Fighting for Social Justice in the Information Age by Virginia Eubanks

Want to read: Sleepwalk with Me and Other Painfully True Stories by Mike Birbiglia; The Kid: What Happened After My Boyfriend and I Decided to Go Get Pregnant by Dan Savage; Rum Punch by Elmore Leonard; all of John Green’s books; Ask the Passengers by A.S. King;

“I was born with a reading list I will never finish.”
-Maud Casey

What is on your professional reading list?

Running the Books: The Adventures of an Accidental Prison Librarian by Avi Steinberg; The Book Whisperer: Awakening the Inner Reader in Every Child by Donalyn Miller; Young Adult Literature: From Romance to Realism by Michael Cart; Tubes: A Journey to the Center of the Internet by Andrew Blum; and of course the beat goes on...

What do you do in your “down time”? Do you have any hobbies? How do you relax?

Well, I read but that pretty much goes without saying. Recently I have come to understand the power of a good run. I love to crochet, play board games, revel in the beauty of our world, spray paint things, write poetry, practice yoga, play Frisbee golf, spend time with family and friends and laugh (I love to laugh).

What deep dark secret would you like to share?

It is possible that my first name was inspired by a model in Playboy. Also, I find gas station hot dogs delicious.

Name one of your personal or professional qualities that will make you a leader in 21st century library and information centers.

I am inclusive and intentional about my interactions with people.

What advice do you have for other students who are currently enrolled in Library Science studies?

Meet people! Take all the opportunities you can to meet folks in Librayland.

What do you see as key future trends and challenges for Library Information Specialists?

It will be challenging for Library Information Specialists to continue to counter many opinions that libraries are irrelevant and becoming obsolete. Staying ahead of the game, with creativity and innovation, requires constant diligence, but I think many librarians are up to the challenge.

What do you think will be your legacy in this profession?

I hope my legacy will be creating a welcoming and safe space in a world that so often appears treacherous and cold; space to learn and create and share without judgment.

What is your favorite quote?

“Let your soul stand cool and composed before a million universes.”

Attention NLA/NSLA First Time Members and Attendees!

Help! I would really like to attend the NLA/NSLA conference but I’ve never been before! What do I do? Where do I go? I’m not sure how to make sense of this conference schedule. How do I know what sessions to attend? How can I find other first-time attendees? What do you do at the vendor exhibits? I feel like I’m the only one that doesn’t know what’s going on.

Is this you? Are you attending the 2013 NLA/NSLA conference for the first time in 2013? The NMRT (New Members Round Table) and 5 professional librarians are looking forward to meeting you in October. Look for our easily identified table close to the entrance of the conference Thursday and Friday. We will have signage identifying our presence, guidance for navigating the conference, and a special “gift” for first-time attendees.

Join us at the NMRT networking breakfast session Thursday morning to meet other first-timers and begin making connections immediately. We’re looking forward to meeting you!

~ Marie Reidelbach, Kathy Tooker, Gail Formanack, Terry Wingate, and Joyce Neujahr.

Wednesday Night Welcoming Event

Join fellow librarians for a night at the movies! Doors open at 6 p.m. so you can meet up with friends from across the state, and the movie *Desk Ser* begins at 7 p.m. One free drink ticket (beer, wine, soda or water) per attendee will be provided. Concession stand will also be available. Don’t forget to try the original hot buttered popcorn recipe from The World Theatre of yesteryear!

Need a ride to the event? Kearney Trolleys, sponsored by Midwest Shelving, will be providing transportation between the Younes Conference Center and World Theatre. Trolleys will shuttle to the World Theatre from 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. and back to the Younes Conference Center from 9 p.m. – 10 p.m. Meet Amy Wenzl and your fellow classmates at 6 p.m. by the conference center entrance to ride the trolley over together.

A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies...
The man who never reads lives only one.”
– George R.R. Martin
SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

There is funding available for students pursuing library studies. Please take advantage of these opportunities. These scholarships are waiting to be snapped up by deserving students like you. Make the decision to apply. Your educational journey is worthwhile, but it’s not free. Let ALA, NLA, and NEMA help!

For Nebraska School Librarians Association Scholarships, visit:
https://sites.google.com/site/neschoollibrariansassociation/nsla-scholarships

Nebraska Library Association Scholarships
http://nebraskanlibraries.org/member-resources/scholarships/

American Library Association Scholarships
http://www.ala.org/educationcareers/scholarships

DON’T FORGET MIZZOU!

As Missouri students you are eligible to fill out the Missouri Application for Graduate Scholarships. By submitting a completed Application for Graduate Scholarships, you will be considered for over 100 scholarships available through the University of Missouri College of Education.

The 2013-2014 application will be available to download on January 1, 2013, and completed applications are due March 1, 2013. This is a great opportunity to fund your education, so don’t miss out!

For more information and to download the application form, visit:
http://education.missouri.edu/academics/financial_aid/scholarships-graduate.php

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https://sites.google.com/site/neschoollibrariansassociation/nsla-scholarships

Nebraska Library Association Scholarships
http://nebraskanlibraries.org/member-resources/scholarships/

American Library Association Scholarships
http://www.ala.org/educationcareers/scholarships

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

It’s important for all of our students to keep up with the current library job postings. You never know when your “perfect” job might come along. We regularly send out an email with the current postings. Please read these! Even if you’re not looking for a job, you may see something that you want to pass on to a classmate or colleague. In addition to reading these emails, take the initiative to check the website periodically. We only send out Nebraska postings, but you can view regional postings by accessing the website.

Visit: http://nowhiringatyourlibrary.nebraska.gov/JobsAndCareers.asp and check out who is looking to hire in Nebraska and in other states as well. Directions: Once you access this link, select “view by location”, pick your state and then hit “GO”. This site provides access to postings in Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming.