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UNO Library Science Education

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Perhaps no place in any community is so totally democratic as the town library. The only entrance requirement is interest.
~Lady Bird Johnson

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Advice from the Frontlines
Shari Spiehs-Hudson
Springfield and Westmont Elementary Schools,
Springfield Platteview Community School District

In your capacity as a professional librarian, what aspects of your job bring you the most joy?

There are many aspects of being a school librarian that bring me joy. First, and foremost, I love seeing the smiles on faces when I am able to help kids and teachers solve problems. Whether it’s finding a book, an online resource, or fixing an iPad - being able to help someone makes me feel like a Library Super Hero!

- being able to help someone makes me feel like a Library Super Hero! Secondly, my job is never boring! Each day is different - I see different groups of students on an 8-day cycle. Some days I teach all day, I also schedule time to collaborate and plan with colleagues, as well as assist in problem solving technology issues and working on developing our print, digital and media collection.

Please discuss one personal characteristic that you feel has contributed to your success as a school librarian?

Flexibility and adaptability go hand in hand. The longer I am a school librarian, I am finding that schedules and daily routines change, projects are never the same from year to year, and of course, our online resources and devices change all the time. Being able to go with the flow and

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“I love seeing the smiles on faces when I am able to help kids and teachers solve problems. Whether it’s finding a book, an online resource, or fixing an iPad - being able to help someone makes me feel like a Library Super Hero!”
adapt to meet the needs of students and teachers will ensure success for all!

"The trick to education is to teach people in such a way that they don't realize they're learning until it's too late."
~Doc Edgerton.

The AASL Standards for the 21st Century learner ask today’s school librarians to rethink and redesign their work with students to ensure mastery of the skills and dispositions necessary for personal and academic success. Please share a lesson, unit, or experience that represents the best of you as a Teacher and Information Specialist.

I have spent a lot of time this year collaborating with teachers and teaching students about ethical information seeking behavior. Not only have I had the students practice using all kinds of materials to locate information for reports, but also how to give credit to the authors of the original material. Learning how to paraphrase and use in-text citations has been insightful for everyone. The best compliment I have received was when a fifth-grade teacher told me she had students use in-text citations on the written portion of a reading test.

Please share a favorite book you have read recently.

I can't seem to read just one book at a time! Right now I am reading *Pioneer Girl: The Annotated Autobiography*, edited by Pamela Smith Hill, Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina*, and *A Diamond in the Desert* by Kathryn Fitzmaurice. These three books summarize me quite well - I am a farm girl who loves the classics. I also love to read the Golden Sower nominees.

Please share a favorite website you have used for instruction or professional development.

I find myself using many lessons from readwritethink.org. In addition, many of the great resources I send out to teachers comes from ilearntechnology.com.

What is your favorite quote?

The current quote at the bottom of my e-mail is: "The trick to education is to teach people in such a way that they don't realize they're learning until it's too late." Doc Edgerton. This quote is meaningful to me for a few reasons. First, it is true. There are always kids who don’t have the greatest attitude towards school, so you have to find a way to make part of their day enjoyable or meaningful. Secondly, we both graduated from Aurora (NE) High School, and I had the opportunity to work at the Edgerton Science Center during the summer of my college years.
Student Spotlight: Tina LaMontagne
Patriot Elementary, Papillion-LaVista School District

What is your education / library/experience background?

Currently I am a third grade teacher at Patriot Elementary in the Papillion-LaVista School District. This is my seventh year of teaching. Before switching to third grade I was a kindergarten teacher for 2 years. I really enjoyed seeing the growth that the little ones made from the beginning of the year to the end but the independence of my third graders is a nice change.

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

Some Right now I am reading “Rules,” by Cynthia Lord as a read aloud to my class. It is one of my all-time favorites. I loved the Divergent Series and will recommend “Wonder,” by R.J. Palacio and “Storm Mountain,” by Tom Birdseye to anyone who likes to read books that tug on your heart strings. For my own reading pleasure I like to listen to books while I do other chores. I have been a member of the Audible book club for about 8 years. Mysteries are my favorite! The In Death series by J.D. Robb are my go to listens.

“I see so many students, my own children included, who have lost that reading spark and I want to be the person who lights it again.”

What professional journal or article have you read and would recommend? Why?

The last professional book that I read that I really enjoyed was Igniting a Passion for Reading: Successful Strategies for Building Lifetime Readers by Steven L. Layne. I really enjoyed this book because he is passionate about creating an environment where students LOVE to read! He explains and gives great personal examples of how teachers can get involved in fostering that excitement in students of all ages.

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

When I am not teaching my 21 kiddos at school I am the mother of 3 kiddos of my Continued on page 5
own. I have a Junior, an eighth grader, and a sixth grader. They keep me very busy. They play a variety of sports so I am a taxi most of the year. My favorite sports to watch are baseball and softball. To relax I like to scrapbook with by friends.

**What deep dark secret would you like to share?**

It’s not really a deep and dark secret and if you ask my teammates and may family they would tell you it’s a fact. I really dislike winter! I would give anything to live in a place where winter didn’t exist but LaVista is our home so I guess I’m stuck with winter for a little while longer.

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

I love to share my love of reading with others. I have to admit that I get a little too excited when I have a student or a coworker come and ask my opinion about choosing a good fit book. Sharing what reading can bring to others is such a great feeling and an even better feeling is when you have recommended a book and that person comes back and tells you how much they enjoyed it.

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

Be excited about sharing your knowledge with your students, your teammates, and your community. I have formed a close collaborative bond with the Children’s Librarian at the Sump Memorial Library and to have a resource like that for feedback and ideas is priceless when you are just starting out.

**What do you see as key future trends and challenges for school librarians?**

I see the future as a school Library Media Specialist being one that is ever changing and flexible. With technology and education changing by the minute we will need to be ever changing and flexible in our thinking and teaching as well. Being a 21st century librarian in a 21st century library will be a challenge but it is one that I am excited to take on and make my own.

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

I would like people to remember me as a librarian who fostered or rekindled my student’s love of books and reading. I see so many students, my own children included, who have lost that reading spark and I want to be the person who lights it again.

**Favorite Quote:**

*Every day may not be good. But there is something good in every day.*

~Author Unknown
Join the Metro Reading Council and meet Bruce Arant!

Did you know???

Dr. Melissa Cast-Brede, College of Education Criss Library Liaison, is available in the Roskens Hall Student Lounge on 2nd floor, two days a week for personal, one-on-one librarian/student interactions. No question is too big or too small.

• Need the perfect book recommendation?
• Having trouble with APA citation?
• Need help finding a statistic?
• Need a book or journal not available at UNO?
• Would you like to check out an iPad or Kindle?
• Not sure which journal to use?

ASK MELISSA!!!

Melissa is available in Roskens Hall Mondays and Tuesdays from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

“It is an awfully sad misconception that librarians simply check books in and out. The library is the heart of a school, and without a librarian, it is but an empty shell.”

~Jarrett J. Krosoczka

Join the Metro Reading Council and meet Bruce Arant!
Announcements:
Scholarships, Registration, Comprehensive Exams, Graduation

Scholarships

**NSLA: Nebraska School Librarians Association**

NSLA awards two $800.00 continuing education scholarships to school library Media Specialists and paraprofessionals who wish to gain additional professional training in the field on a full or part time basis. For more information, visit the NSLA website:

http://www.neschoollibrarians.org/awards-and-scholarships.html

**NLA: Nebraska Library Association**

The NLA established the Louise A. Nixon Scholarship Fund to provide $1000.00 to any Nebraska student in pursuit of a Master's Degree in Library/Information Science, or a Master's Degree in a media program that meets the ALA/AASL curriculum guidelines. The $250.00 Duane Munson Scholarship is available to help practicing librarians and paraprofessionals to gain additional library-related education and training. For submission and deadline information, visit the NLA website:

http://nebraskalibraries.org/blog/nebraska-library-association-scholarship-opportunities-reminder/

**American Library Association**

The American Library Association and its units provide more than $300,000 annually for a Master's Degree in library and information studies from an ALA accredited program, or for a Master's Degree in school library media that meets the ALA curriculum guidelines for a National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The scholarship process is open annually from October-March. Applications and reference forms are available during that time period.

Instructions and general information remain available year round. For a complete list of available scholarships, visit the ALA website:

http://www.ala.org/educationcareers/scholarships

Program Completion Requirements

- To register for comprehensive exams, contact Sandy Keil in the Department of Teacher Education;
- Phone: 402-554-2212 or 1-800-858-8648, ext. 2212.
- Email: skeil@unomaha.edu

- Selective Retention forms should be submitted at the completion of 12 credit hours and approved before students can register for comprehensive exams. Please make note of the following registration deadlines.

Comprehensive Exam Deadlines

**Secondary Education Literacy/Library Candidates:** The registration deadline is April 13th for those students taking their comprehensive exams during the Summer 2015 semester. The required review session will be held Monday, May 11th.

**Reading Candidates:** The registration deadline is April 27th for those students taking their comprehensive exams during the Summer 2015 semester. The required review session will be held Thursday, April 30th.

**Elementary Education Capstone**

Elementary Education School Library Candidates: TED 8700 Elementary Capstone has replaced the comprehensive exam. Fall 2015 class dates: August 28th, October 2nd, November 20th, and December 11th, from 5 to 8pm. This course is by permission only. Please contact Dr. Kathy Danielson at kdanielson@unomaha.edu or contact Dr. Rebecca Pasco at rpasco@unomaha.edu.

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- professional portfolio

All School Library and Library Science candidates are required to have a Livetext account.
Upcoming Conferences, Professional Development and More!

NETA
Nebraska Educational Technology Association
Spring Conference
April 23-24, 2014
LaVista Embassy Suites and Conference Center

FREE Webinars!! Go to:
http://nlc.nebraska.gov/CE/webinars.aspx
Good IDEAS!
Innovation, Design, Experiences, Activities, Synergy
Wendy Loewenstein, IDEAS Room Coordinator, UNO College of Education, 402-554-3653, wloewenstein@unomaha.edu

Plickers: A New Spin on Clickers
The newest evolution in student response systems, or Clickers if you remember them by that name, does not require students to have a device to participate. Plickers only requires the instructor to have a device. Instructors simply need to create their questions on www.plickers.com, download the free Plickers app, and push out the questions via mobile device. (See the image below for a better idea on how Plickers is implemented.) All students need to participate is a Plickers card that is printed off of www.plickers.com. This card is numbered and has letters to correspond to the answer. The number on the cards can be assigned to individual students in order to keep track of their learning in the reports function of the site. So print out your classroom set of Plicker cards today and use this app to inform your instruction in an engaging way!

Here is a fun youtube video that explains how Plickers works: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DfUB05xiIGM

The instructor uses his/her device to scan student responses on their Plicker card.
Nebraska School Librarians’ Day: It’s All about Literacies!

Saturday, March 21, 2015 at a location near you.

Omaha, UNO Roskens Hall Ideas Room -- Registration at 8:30 AM. Sessions start at 9:00 AM

Kearney: Kearney Public Library -- Registration at 9:00 AM. Sessions start at 9:30 AM

North Platte: North Platte High School-- Registration at 8:30 AM. Sessions start at 9:00 AM

Registration, Coffee and Refreshments

Wrapping Your Head around the Nebraska’s Multiple Literacies Standard

Omaha – Courtney Pentland, Omaha Public Schools and Kim Gangwish, Bellevue West High Kearney – Angie Richeson, UNK
North Platte – Dr. Becky Pasco, UNO

Break and NSLA Door Prizes Technology and Multiple Literacies

North Platte – Wendy Loewenstien, UNO

Literature and Literacy Strategies/Books

Omaha – Kim Jones, Elkhorn Ridge Middle School and Annette Luedtke, Belle Ryan Elementary Kearney – Dr. Carrie Kracl, UNK
North Platte – Tiffany Frost, Papillion La Vista South High

Lunch and short presentation from NSLA

Round Robin Book Reviews for All Grade Levels

Book review sessions will be interactive. Please bring two books you would like to share

Omaha Facilitators – Jo O’Garro, Central Park Elementary and Jill Annis, Grandview Middle School Kearney Facilitators – Angie Richeson and Dr. Sherry Crow, UNK
North Platte Facilitators – Patty Birch, North Platte High School and Mary Reiman, Lincoln Public Schools

Registration

Cost—$20.00 (includes lunch). Please register by March 13.

Make checks payable to Nebraska School Librarians Association and mail to:

Kim Gangwish, Executive Secretary
Bellevue West High School
1501 Thurston Ave.
Bellevue, NE 68123

Name ____________________________ School ____________________________

Email ____________________________ Special diet (gluten free, vegetarian, etc.) ____________________________

Phone (cell or home in case of weather) ____________________________

Which site are you attending? _____Omaha _____Kearney _____North Platte
Things to Consider

Work with Teens?

Teen Tech Week is when libraries make the time to showcase all of the great digital resources and services that are available to help teens succeed in school and prepare for college and 21st century careers. Celebrate with the “Libraries are for Making...” theme during YALSA’s Teen Tech Week March 8-14, 2015. Demonstrate the value your library gives to the community by offering teens a space to extend learning beyond the classroom where they can explore, create and share content. Libraries can tailor the making theme to show your community exactly how you connect in meaningful ways with teens in order to help them gain the digital literacy skills they need to be successful. Help get the word out about this event with the hashtag #TTW15 To learn more visit: http://teentechweek.ning.com/

Work with Elementary Students?

What is D.E.A.R.?
D.E.A.R. stands for “Drop Everything and Read,” a national month-long celebration of reading designed to remind folks of all ages to make reading a priority activity in their lives. Because, what’s more fun(damental) than reading, really?

When is D.E.A.R. celebrated?
D.E.A.R. programs have been held nationwide on April 12th in honor of Beverly Cleary’s birthday, since she first wrote about D.E.A.R. in Ramona Quimby, Age 8 (pages 40-41). Inspired by letters from readers sharing their enthusiasm for the D.E.A.R. activities implemented in their schools, Mrs. Cleary decided to give the same experience to Ramona and her classmates. As D.E.A.R. has grown in popularity and scope, the program has expanded to span the entire month of April . . . offering classrooms and communities additional time to celebrate!

To learn more, check out the website at: http://www.dropeverythingandread.com/index.html

For questions or suggestions regarding the UNO L.E.A.D. Newsletter, please contact:

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ebeasley@unomaha.edu

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