

APLSeeds

Growing public libraries across Alabama

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Calendar

LSTA Notice of Intent Due 12/02/16

Public Library Survey Due 12/15/16

Statement of Fiscal Responsibility 01/01/17

Gadsden Hosts Prom for Adults

Gadsden Public Library recently held its *2nd Annual Adult Prom Fundraiser*. The theme was Under the Sea, and participants were encouraged to dress in their best throwback prom attire. The event was held at the Gadsden Convention Hall, and a DJ played songs from a span of decades late into the evening. Attendees enjoyed voting for prom king and queen, taking prom photos in front of a seahorse-drawn shell carriage, and showing off their coolest dance moves during the dance contest. Some library friends from across Alabama came to enjoy the party! All funds raised will go towards adult, teen, and children's programming for 2017.



You may recognize Jessica Ross (far right), Director of Washington County Public Library, who was in attendance!



Woodville Grant

Woodville Public Library received a \$10,000 grant from the Google Data Centers Grants Fund of Tides Foundation. This grant will be used to build, expand, and upgrade the library's computer lab by replacing nine computers and related equipment. Congratulations, Woodville!

Alabaster in October

New friendships and colorful buildings were created during the October 4th session of the *Lego League* at Albert L. Scott Library in Alabaster.



During the October 10th *Homeschool Happening: Finding your Family Tree*, Reference Librarian Candice Murdock (below left) helped homeschool students learn how to use the Ancestry Library Edition database.



Girls had fun modeling on October 21st during the *American Girls Club Fashion Show*. Some dressed just like their dolls.



The library hosted a *Costume Capers Party* where young children wore costumes and went trick-or-treating through a supersize Candy Land game with the help of costumed teen volunteers on October 31st. Afterward, they enjoyed a show by Magician Russell Davis!



Town Meetings

Alabama Public Library Service (APLS) conducted town meetings at seven public libraries throughout the state during the month of November. The meetings provided an opportunity for community leaders and citizens to express their opinions on public libraries in Alabama. These discussions will help guide the agency's next five-year plan of service. Below are some of the participants at the Tuscaloosa Public Library session.



Anniston Makeover



The Anniston Noon Rotary Club volunteered to improve the landscaping in front of the Public Library of Anniston-Calhoun County. Master Gardener Sherry Blanton also donated her time and expertise to assist in the planning and planting. The results are beautiful!



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Birmingham News

Birmingham Public Library (BPL) hosted their *2016 Eat Drink Read Write Festival* from October 1st - 7th. This year's festival was dedicated to the idea that taking a risk and seeking out adventurous foods can result in great culinary experiences.

"Whether it's trying a Thai restaurant located in a gas station, buying ribs that have been cooked in a 55-gallon steel drum smoker in a parking lot, or foraging for wild blackberries along an old fence line, some of the best meals I have ever had involved taking a little risk," said Brandon C. Smith, coordinator of the 2016 event and manager of the Eastwood Branch Library.

Chef Bryant Terry of Oakland, CA was the headliner. Terry is a 2015 James Beard Foundation Leadership Award-winning chef and author known for his activism to create a healthy, just, and sustainable food system. He is currently Chef-in-Residence at the Museum of the African Diaspora in San Francisco. He presented a dynamic program that included samples of adventurous dishes from several local restaurants. Another festival program featured Pete Halupka and Lindsay Whiteaker of Harvest Roots Farm & Ferment, Cameron Strouss of Deep Roots Apotheké, and Chef Thyme Randle of the Underground Cooking Academy. They talked about fermented and foraged foods in a panel discussion moderated by *Birmingham Magazine's* managing editor, Carla Jean Whitley. Attendees sampled kombucha, kimchi, sauerkraut, curtido, tonics, and lacto-fermented pickled vegetables.

Additionally, BPL hosted the latest program in a series of free legal workshops in partnership with the Birmingham chapter of Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) and the City of Birmingham's Office of Economic Development on October 27th. *How to Use Legal Strategies to Protect Your Business* was presented by Josh Andrews, a Birmingham lawyer specializing in legal issues of concern to small business owners. SCORE is a national nonprofit comprised of volunteers willing to share their business knowledge and experience with prospective entrepreneurs and small business owners. For over 50 years, SCORE mentors have helped millions of business owners start or grow their businesses.

On November 2nd, BPL hosted *What Every Woman Should Know About Money*. This free workshop was geared towards helping women make wiser spending decisions. The library partnered with Regions Institute for Financial Education to host this program as part of a series to help patrons build a better understanding of their personal finances and develop a plan for the future.

In YA news, BPL invited middle and high school students to program robots and eat pizza on November 5th's *Robotics Marathon Weekend*. University of Alabama in Birmingham (UAB) School of Engineering students were on site to assist with the event.

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- Online Tutoring for Grades K-12
- College Placement Resources
- Help for all ages and all skill levels
- Certification Test/GED Preparation
- Career Resources

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