

July 31, 2015

Edited by: Stephanie Taylor

Calendar

Snapshot Day 08/11/15

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Outside the Lines 09/13/15-09/19/15

At APLS

“Telling Your Library’s Story” seemed to be the theme of the July 2015 Administrators’ Meeting. APLS Director Nancy Pack gave a brief report of recent agency events like updates to our facility and her attendance at National Library Legislative Day in Washington, D.C. She stated the importance of librarians telling their story to legislators and other elected officials to show why funding libraries is so important.

Abby Carpenter, Adult Services Manager at Florence-Lauderdale Public Library, gave a wonderful presentation on Outside the Lines (OTL). OTL is a weeklong celebration demonstrating the creativity and innovation happening in libraries. This year it is occurring September 13th-19th. This initiative is meant to show communities how important libraries are and how they’ve changed over the years. Last year, 15 libraries in Alabama participated, and Abby highlighted some of these libraries and their OTL events. Participating this year is an excellent way to share your story! For more information and to sign up to participate, visit the OTL website: <http://getoutsidethelines.org/>

Sticking with the theme, Stephanie Taylor from APLS, reminded the audience that this year’s Snapshot Day will be on August 11, 2015. Snapshot Day is a way to show a day in the life of an Alabama Public Library with photos, patron comments, and statistics. For more information about this initiative, please visit the Snapshot Day webpage: http://webmini.apls.state.al.us/apls_web/apls/apls/?q=snapshot

Timothy Owens (pictured below), IMLS Senior Library Program Officer spoke about his work with LSTA state Grants. He visited Alabama to see the impact LSTA funds are making in the state. He reported that IMLS is developing a new way of reporting on the outcomes of LSTA state grants, to better show how they are positively affecting communities.

Thanks to all who attended the July Administrators’ Meeting!



Homewood Writing Workshop

Teen writers were able to hone their writing skills on May 7th when Homewood Public Library hosted a Teen Writing Workshop with Jennifer Echols. Echols, who has written over 15 young adult and new adult novels, helped the teens understand the art of writing and getting published.



Clyde Nix Awarded Grants

Clyde Nix Public Library in Hamilton is the recipient of two grants! The Libri Foundation allowed them to add \$1,500 worth of new children's books and \$350 worth of new math and science books to their collection. Additionally, they received a \$2,000 Dollar General Summer Reading Grant that paid for programs, books, prizes, craft materials, and bookmarks. Congratulations, Clyde Nix Public Library!



Kids at the library hold up books from the Libri Foundation.

Pinson Fashion Program

Bradford Billingsley was the special guest speaker at a recent young adult program at Pinson Public Library. Billingsley is a teenaged clothing designer from Alabama. His designs have been seen on Miss Alabama Teen USA 2014 and in Birmingham Fashion Week's Rising Design Star competition. Last fall he won the competition for the television show *Project Runway: Threads*.



Childersburg Director Retires

Longtime Director of Earle A. Rainwater Memorial Library in Childersburg retired on June 26th. A small retirement party was held to celebrate her 29 and a half years at the library.



Barbara poses with her son, Brian (left), her husband, Ralph (right).

Birmingham Exhibit

From July 9 through September 4, 2015, the Birmingham Public Library will showcase the work of local artist Matthew Mayes in the Central Library's Fourth Floor Gallery. Arresting acrylic paintings bold in color, texture, and depth make up the exhibition *Layers of Meaning: Paintings by Matthew Mayes*.

The public was invited to meet the artist at the opening reception on July 19th. Born in Florence, Mayes is self-taught with over 12 years of experience as a professional artist. He currently resides in Birmingham with his partner Brian and their son Noah. Mayes began painting as a child after watching the television program *The Joy of Painting* hosted by Bob Ross. He experienced a number of stints with hospitalization and home schooling due to illness and needed an outlet for his creativity—art was his answer and it gave his life meaning.

“Once, I believed that love, food, and music were the core passions that transcended all race, creed, and color. Now, I know that art encompasses all,” he states. Regarding his creative process, Mayes observes, “I allow natural ability combined with a trained eye to create. Without both, my art could not exist.”



Fairhope Fun



Each summer, Youth Services of Fairhope Public Library joins the local Farmer's Market to add reading excitement and adventures to this family-fun afternoon. Youth Services hosts a table with crafts, games, or science experiments inspired by a children's picture book. They run around the market and round up children before starting the activities that take place in the grass, on blankets, or picnic tables, demonstrating that reading can be enjoyed anywhere! Recently, they treated the little farmhands with a book signing and reading by local author, Phyllis Pittman. After reading, *Night Mischief*, her tale of a very obedient, but misjudged pony, Mrs. Pittman shared her miniature horses with the group. The children all received bandannas and were able to pet the horses and learn new vocabulary for all of the parts of a horse.



2 Resources, 1 Goal: Helping Alabama Succeed 

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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

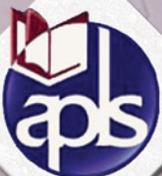
Find both on the APLS
Resources and Research Links Page

Bay Minette Poetry Night



Bay Minette Public Library recently hosted "An Evening of Poetry". Despite a terrible thunderstorm and the fact that the library was without power, they had a wonderful turnout! Several people read original poetry and others read their favorite works. Everyone had a wonderful night in an intimate setting.

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