

October 9, 2015

Edited by: Stephanie Taylor

Calendar

FY16 State Aid Paperwork due	Now!
.....	
LSTA Notice of Intent Due	12/4/15
.....	
Public Library Survey Due	12/31/15
.....	
Statement of Fiscal Responsibility Due	01/01/16

Woodville News

Woodville Public Library received a \$500 grant from the Poarch Band of Creek Indians for daily expenses at the library. This was a welcome donation to their rural public library.

On AVL

Scribner Writers Series is a Gale database with over 2,000 original, comprehensive, scholar-signed essays on the lives and works of more than 1,400 important authors from around the world and from all time periods. Each entry averages 15-20 pages in length and includes a concise essay and biographical information that places the author's work in personal and historical context. This is a great database to show students and teachers!

Money Smart Week

Money Smart Week, created by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, is a public awareness campaign designed to help consumers better manage their personal finances. Organizations across the country, including public libraries in Alabama, helped in this initiative by becoming partners and actively participating by providing educational opportunities to support Money Smart Week.

Many libraries in the state have been offering financial programs and resources to their communities. Last year Jefferson and Shelby County libraries were awarded a \$100,000 grant by the FINRA Investor Education Foundation through Smart investing@your library®, a partnership with the American Library Association. Fifteen libraries in Jefferson and Shelby Counties developed financial education programs as part of the grant program, which supports public libraries across the country in their efforts to meet financial education needs at the community level. The programs provided unbiased information to help people of all ages, economic circumstances, and cultural backgrounds make good financial decisions and plan for the future.

In the upcoming year, Money Smart Week will be from April 23-30, 2016. This is one way you can bring an important service to your patrons. By offering financial literacy programs, you are helping build stronger communities throughout the state. For more information visit their website: <http://www.moneysmartweekpartners.org/>

To see Alabama's Money Smart Week report for 2015: https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/msw/pages/29/attachments/original/1441743579/Alabama_Wrap_Up-2015.pdf?1441743579

Murder Mystery

Autauga-Prattville Public Library hosted a Teen Murder Mystery Party over the summer. Over 40 teens came to the library dressed to kill or be killed. Each attendee had a part to play, and nobody knew who would be standing at the end.



Homewood News

The Second Annual Homewood Library Foundation Block Party was held on August 15th. Local restaurants Nabeel's Café, Homewood Gourmet, Little Donkey, Demetri's BBQ, JoJo's on Broadway, Dave's Pizza, and Piggly Wiggly provided food, and Buffalo Rock, Rush Wines, and Good People Brewing donated beverages. There was face painting, a bounce house, a dunk tank, and more to keep families busy as they enjoyed music by the Jon Vogel Duo. Attendance and revenue doubled from the 2014 event, and everyone had a great time!



On September 1st, almost 100 teens and parents gathered for the library's Road to College program. This workshop was geared towards teens that are overwhelmed with the college application process. A presentation was given by University of Alabama in Birmingham with helpful hints and timelines for applying to college. After, families had the opportunity to visit with admissions counselors from local colleges and universities.

Pew Library Study

The Pew Research Center has released a new study that shows what Americans want from public libraries. In summary, they want libraries to support local education, serve special constituents like veterans and immigrants, help local businesses and job seekers, and embrace new technologies. 65% of Americans ages 16 and older say that closing their local library would have a major impact on the community. The survey also found that Americans who report using a library has decreased over the past several years. To read more about what the study found on how people think about the library and who uses it most, visit: <http://www.pewinternet.org/2015/09/15/libraries-at-the-crossroads/>



Build with Legos



Creativity, collaboration, and compromise were all on the rise when Fairhope Public Library hosted their recent Build with Legos program! Patrons aged five to ten and their caregivers really enjoyed the opportunity to contemplate, create, and conquer problem-solving design issues. Some children came in groups while others came alone and made new friends as they partnered with those sharing similar building interests and ideas. The library also had some self-guided and impromptu reading going on as the kids sifted through Lego stories and how-to books for sparking the imagination. This event was a registered activity, allowing those who signed up the opportunity to play and build freely for two hours with bricks and accessories provided by the library and Bricks for Kidz.

Ashville Grant

Ashville Public Library won a Libri Foundation grant that awarded \$1,050 worth of children's books with an additional \$350 of math and science books for free! Congratulations, Ashville!



2 Resources, 1 Goal: Helping Alabama Succeed

LearningExpress Library & HomeworkAlabama

- 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

Birmingham News

Libraries are great places to check out reading material, to learn a new skill, and to share your talent as a volunteer. This is the experience 16-year-old Jaylen Callins took away from his summer volunteer project at the Birmingham Public Library (BPL) system's Central Library.

When Jaylen asked for the opportunity to use his drawing skills, staff quickly put their heads together. Working with guidance from staff in the Central Library's Youth Department, the team asked Jaylen to create new characters to teach children about positive library experiences. Jaylen quickly got to work and produced lively characters embarking on a visit to the local library. With Jaylen's new creation, Oscar the Octopus set off on his library journey. Copies of the activity book are free and available at all 19 locations of the Birmingham Public Library.



Jaylen, second from the left, with some of the BPL staff.

BPL is hosting the 2015 Watercolor Society of Alabama Annual Member's Showcase. One of the many exhibitions the Central Library mounts each year, this display features nearly 60 aqua media works from artists across the state. The exhibition opened September 20th and continues through October 30th. It will be open for public viewing during the regular business hours in the library's Fourth Floor Gallery located at 2100 Park Place.



Lyn Gill's *Marsh Solitude* is one of the many beautiful paintings in the exhibit.

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Information Technology

APLS Is Hiring!

Library Operations Manager

Alabama Public Library Service Montgomery, Alabama

The Library System

The Alabama Public Library Service (APLS) receives and administers state and federal funds to meet the needs of the Alabama citizens. APLS works with over 220 public libraries to facilitate consistent, exceptional library service across the state. APLS is fortunate to house the Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in addition to providing direct service to Alabama State employees, supporting wide ranging program development, assisting with establishing cooperative library services and networks, and continuing to provide education opportunities for patrons and librarians.

Montgomery and the River Region

Located midway between the Smokey Mountain foothills and the crystal sand beaches of the Gulf, Montgomery offers the poignant history of the birth of the Confederacy and the Civil Rights Movement. From the Alabama Shakespeare Festival bringing theater alive to the Montgomery Symphony or Alabama Dance Theatre, the River Region offers thrilling arts and culture. Montgomery offers a myriad of recreation opportunities from the renowned Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail at Capitol Hill located in neighboring Prattville, local biking, running and rowing clubs, along with baseball, basketball and soccer leagues for all ages, to the whitewater paddling and mountain biking in nearby Wetumpka. Montgomery is home to three nationally recognized Magnet programs and several private school programs.

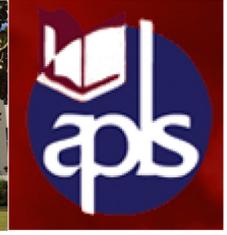
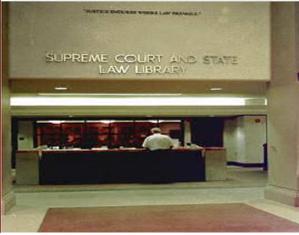
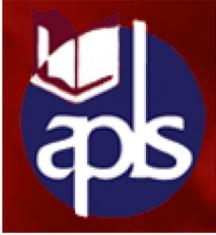
Position Overview

APLS is seeking a self-motivated and organized professional who is enthusiastic about libraries and the role they play in educating and enriching their communities. The Library Operations Manager will oversee the Library Development Department through staff oversight, consultation to public libraries and development of collaborative goals to facilitate professional development services based on the location, size and need summaries of the public libraries in the state.



Above: Shakespeare Festival in Montgomery, AL (Photo courtesy of the Alabama Shakespeare Festival). Pictured below (left to right): Mt. Cheaha Pulpit Rock, The Judge at Robert Trent Jones Prattville Capitol Hill golf course, Gulf Shores Beaches, the Alabama State Capitol and Dexter Avenue Church in Montgomery, AL (Photos courtesy of the Alabama Department of Tourism.)





Supreme Court and State Law Library, Alabama Public Library Service and Alabama Archives History.

The Candidate

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Communicate Effectively

- ◆ Speak and write effectively to a broad range of audiences.

Create and Maintain a Professional Network

- ◆ Cultivate relationships to facilitate prompt and relevant responses to promote and meet state library needs.
- ◆ Promote an approachable environment to build cooperation and mutual trust among staff and supported libraries.

Manage Effectively

- ◆ Work effectively in a team environment.
- ◆ Motivate self and staff to provide the highest quality service.

Identify and Work to Meet Member Needs

- ◆ Exercise independent and sound judgment to initiate recommendations for improvements in services.
- ◆ Understand the myriad of challenges of varying size and types of libraries and patrons.

Education and Experience

MLS, MLIS, or MSLI from an ALA-accredited college or university.

Five years of specialized professional library experience, preferably in a public library.

Minimum three years progressively responsible supervisory experience over a staff of professional, para-professional, technical and/or clerical employees.

Essential Duties of the Position

Plan, organize, and manage the Library Development Department. Coordinate the work flow, conduct regular project collaborative meetings, provide leadership and mentoring, establish communications regarding projects and troubleshoot potential issues.

Conducts ongoing research regarding state and national library issues, practices, and trends. Networks among state and national peers to create effective partnerships.

Works collaboratively with members of the Library Development Team and public libraries to support professional development and to provide workshops, training in various formats to include, face-to-face, instructional videos or other forms of current technology.

Develops long and short range plans, including benchmarks and standards, to measure the effectiveness of the APLS Library Development.

Identifies Alabama public library needs by size, location and summaries.

Compensation & Benefits

Compensation: Salary ranges from \$50,119.20—\$76,348.80 based upon education and experience. Salary is paid semi-monthly.

Benefits Include: Annual and sick leave; thirteen paid holidays; low cost insurance; retirement plan; deferred compensation plans; and flexible employee benefit plans.

How to Apply

Applicants must:

1. Complete a State of Alabama application form, located at <https://personnel.alabama.gov/OES/Login.aspx>, and submit the application to the Alabama State Personnel Department, 64 N. Union St., Montgomery, AL 36130 to be placed on the state merit system register; **and**
2. Submit a .pdf cover letter, resume and three professional references to the attention of Wanda Chrietzberg, HR Officer, at wchrietzberg@apls.state.al.us.

Interviews will be conducted by appointment only. Applicants must travel to interviews at their own expense.