



Grow as a professional. Grow as a community.



## 2014-2015 Call for Volunteers

- 🔗 Develop your leadership skills*
- 🔗 Create professional development opportunities*
- 🔗 Facilitate networking and sharing of best practices*

**T**his is your chance to be involved with your peers to create professional development and networking opportunities, serve your profession and play a vital role in benefiting libraries throughout the state. Your institution also gains as your staff develops leadership skills and creates programming that in turn, enhances patron services. There is a place for you to be involved at MLA.



**Sign up now through April 15, 2014**

**[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MLA\\_Call\\_for\\_Volunteers\\_14-15](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MLA_Call_for_Volunteers_14-15)**



### **How Can I Get Involved?**

1. Complete the online Volunteer Survey by April 15, 2014.
2. Select up to three committees or work groups in rank order of priority.
3. Consider chairing or vice-chairing a work group and note that on your survey.
4. You will be notified of your committee or work group appointment(s) by May 2, 2014. Appointments are for one- and two-year commitments.
5. Plan to attend Work Group Development (formerly Leadership Orientation) for all workshop volunteers on Friday, June 20, 2014 at the Hannah Community Center in East Lansing.
6. Committees and work groups will establish their regular meeting schedules after Work Group Development.

### **Who is Eligible?**

All MLA members are eligible to participate and volunteer on a committee or work group. Nonmembers interested in volunteering are welcome to join the association by visiting our website or calling (517) 394-2774 ext. 211.

The volunteer make up will be representative of the MLA membership. Consideration will be given to diversity in terms of job category, geography and type and size of library. All library staff are welcome and encouraged to join and participate.

### **What Is Expected of Me?**

Committees and work groups will meet as needed to accomplish their objectives. Work groups planning for 2015 workshops will focus on developing quality content and speaker selection. They will complete their work from August through December. Standing committees will generally meet once a month.

Volunteers are expected to attend scheduled meetings including any event or activity they help organize, miss no more than three meetings in one year, contact their chair if they are unable to attend and complete assignments or projects assigned to them in accordance with the overall MLA strategic plan. More information will be provided in the appointment letter and at Work Group Development or at initial meetings for those volunteers participating on standing committees and award work groups.

## **MLA Standing Committees**

### **Legislative Committee**

Monitors legislative and policy issues impacting libraries and makes policy recommendations to the board. Informs and educates members about state legislation and policy issues of interest to the membership. Works closely with MLA lobbyists. Communicates with legislators and other elected officials as needed.

*Desirable skills: Strong oral and written communication; high interest in advocacy*

### **Membership and Communications Committee**

Lead efforts to contact non-renewals as well as new and prospective members. Add value to the MLA e-newsletter through member-driven content as well as support the social media initiatives of the association.

*Desirable skills: Interpersonal communication; public relations; strong writing skills; social media savvy; ability to plan and meet deadlines.*



### **Professional Development and Networking Committee**

Works with MLA staff to develop conferences, workshops and events. Helps coordinate workgroups to see all deadlines are met and events are fulfilling their specified goals. Considers membership target markets, survey results, trends and the educational needs and direction of the library community to offer programming recommendations. Anticipates emerging trends and hot topics. Members must have prior experience on an MLA work group to participate on this committee.

*Desirable skills: Organization and management skills, ability to plan and meet deadlines; vision, innovation.*



*Desirable skills: Project management; ability to plan and meet deadlines; decision making ability; vision.*

### **Business, Marketing and Management Success (April 24, 2015)**

Is facilities management, human resources, logistics or marketing part of your job description? Library professionals from the smallest to largest libraries will learn best practices for efficient library operation. Managing staff, time management and supervisory challenges will be covered. The latest marketing trends and ideas will also be incorporated into this multi-track workshop.

### **Spring Institute Conference (March 26-27, 2015)**

This two-day conference brings together approximately 150 statewide children and teen service librarians to share, learn, and experience best practices. Help plan valuable programming that includes national award-winning authors, illustrators and storytellers.

### **Executive Summit (May 15, 2015)**

Executive Summit (formerly Directors' Summit) is a valuable one-day event designed to engage library professionals at the top or on their way to the top. Public, academic and specialty librarians all have a chance to learn about the key issues and the future of libraries. Anyone looking to broaden their perspective should attend.

### **Changing Your Library Culture (April 17, 2015)**

Changing an organization's culture is one of the most difficult leadership challenges. Are you looking to embrace innovation, customer service or a new or evolving culture at your library but don't know how to affect change? Learn how to facilitate the discussion and what action to take to get the leadership and management tools needed to help guide new attitudes, change assumptions, and initiate new goals and processes. In part two of this one-day program, the focus will shift to forecasting the future and predicting and influencing change to lead your library into that future.

### **Technologies and Trends (June 5, 2015)**

Explore trends in technologies impacting today's library, librarians, and patrons and discover how to apply them in real world environment.

### **Academic Libraries Conference (May 28-29, 2015)**

This event shares best practices, emerging trends, career advancement, mentorship and future goals for academic libraries. This two-day conference features jury-selected presenters and nationally recognized keynote speakers.



### **Programming for the Library as Platform (May 8, 2015)**

Libraries are the catalysts for building strong communities. Whether you call it a place, platform or programming, this workshop will help libraries rethink public spaces while collaborating with local partners. Learn how to do an analysis of community resources, how to find the best contacts and how to propose partnerships that strengthen patron relationships and attract new users.

### **Annual Conference (October 15-17, 2015)**

Annual Conference is a three-day conference scheduled for October 15-17, 2015 in Novi. Plan and execute an event of up to 600 attendees, guests, speakers and exhibitors.

## **Awards Work Groups**

### **Michigan Author Award**

The Michigan Author Award recognizes the work of a current Michigan resident or author whose works are identified with Michigan because of subject. The work group will convene in-person and online as needed from December through May to help solicit nominations, review candidates, familiarize themselves with the authors' works and select a winner.

### **MLA Awards**

Help select the winners of the MLA Awards including MLA Librarian of the Year and MLA Heart of a Champion. Also select the recipient of the Frances H. Pletz Award for Excellence in Service to Youth, recognizing a MLA member who has made an outstanding contribution to effective and improved library service to youth through library service and leadership. The work group meets online and in-person on an as-needed basis during the summer and winter months to review applications and select award winners.

### **Mitten Award**

The Mitten Award recognizes one children's picture book published in the calendar year that captures the attention of Michigan librarians. The work group will meet online and in-person from May through February to read and review eligible nominations before selecting the winning and honor books.

### **YouPer (Young Person) Award - NEW**

The YouPer Award recognizes one children's chapter book published in the calendar year that captures the attention of Michigan librarians. The work group will meet online and in-person from May through February to read and review eligible nominations before selecting the winning and honor books.

### **Thumbs Up! Award**

The Thumbs Up! Award recognizes excellence in the genre of teen literature published in the calendar year. The work group will meet online and in-person from May through February to read and review eligible nominations. Following an online teen vote (March – May), the workgroup will reconvene to determine the winning and honor books.

**Sign up now through April 15, 2014**

**[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MLA\\_Call\\_for\\_Volunteers\\_14-15](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MLA_Call_for_Volunteers_14-15)**