

Happy Holidays

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Job Openings

Dear MALA Member,

The staff at MALA is invigorated, and it's not a recent arctic blast of frigid temperatures that has us all astir.

We have recently made available five new webcasts featuring informative and relevant content from experienced library professionals. Read more about them below, register to view them and please give us your feedback.

We are also deeply into planning our spring workshop calendar and online education opportunities for you. We've included in this newsletter titles of upcoming workshops so that you can begin making plans to attend.

Coming in January 2013, the MALA website will have a new look. Please stop by after the New Year to check us out.

Finally, be sure to end your leisurely perusal of this month's newsletter by looking over the list of free books we have available and make your claim.

Wishing all our members and friends a most warm and wonderful holiday season,
We remain always,

Your Friends at MALA

MALA Holiday Closings

In observance of the Christmas and New Year's holidays, MALA offices will be closed and there will be no courier delivery service on the following days:

- December 24, 2012
- December 25, 2012
- December 31, 2012
- January 1, 2013

Enjoy the holidays, everyone!

[Information Services
\(Reference\) Librarian](#)

[College Archivist](#)

[Youth Services Supervisor](#)

[Reference Librarian](#)

[Early Literacy Manager](#)

[User Centered Design
Specialist](#)

[Part-Time Reference
Assistant/ Teen Librarian](#)

[Training Specialist](#)

MALA Welcomes New Member

The Kansas City (MO) Public School District will be soon be a new MALA member and begin courier service in January. Watch for an announcement on the MALA ILL/Courier listserv.

MARRT Selects 2013 United We Read Title

The Metro Area Reader's Round Table Committee has selected the 2013 United We Read title. It is the #1 New York Times bestseller and winner of the Los Angeles Times Book of the Year Award for Nonfiction: [Unbroken](#), by Laura Hillenbrand.

Join the MARRT Committee!

Are you interested in reader's advisory? Here's a chance to be involved and have an impact!

The Metro Area Reader's Round Table is seeking new members for 2013. Members of the committee meet monthly to develop MALA reader's advisory programming. The committee also selects an annual United We Read title.

Contact [Susan Burton](#) for details.

Mental Health First Aid Training

MALA will collaborate with the Department of Mental Health to offer a Mental Health First Aid Training as part of an LSTA grant received from the State of Missouri.

Description of the program:

MHFA is a groundbreaking public education program that helps the public identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders. The training is offered in the form of an interactive 12-hour course that presents an overview of mental illness and substance use disorders in the U.S. and introduces participants to risk factors

and warning signs of mental health problems, builds understanding of their impact, and overviews common treatments. Those who take course to certify as Mental Health First Aiders learn a 5-step action plan encompassing the skills, resources and knowledge to help an individual in crisis connect with appropriate professional, peer, social, and self-help care.

Mental Health First Aid has a strong evidence base. Four detailed studies have been completed and nearly a dozen journal articles published on Mental Health First Aid impact on the public. One trial of 301 randomized participants found that those who trained in Mental Health First Aid have greater confidence in providing help to others, greater likelihood of advising people to seek professional help, improved concordance with health professionals about treatments, and decreased stigmatizing attitudes. The study also found that Mental Health First Aid improved the mental health of the participants themselves. Findings from the other studies have echoed these outcomes.

Only 20 slots will be available free of charge.

The training is scheduled for March 5, 2013. Watch your emails for further information.

Spring Workshops

We're still nailing down details for MALA's spring workshop calendar, but we can share with you now a list of potential workshops:

- Effective Performance Evaluations
- Reader's Advisory II
- Programming for Adults
- Children's Workshop
- E-book Petting Zoo
- GLBT
- Real Reference (Basic Reference)
- Romance Genre
- Sexual Health Resources
- Foreigners in Their Own Land: Federal Documents in Native American Research
- Save Our Stories: The Importance of Oral and Written Memoirs

Stay tuned for more information!

New MALA Webcasts

These are the NEW webcasts now available. Click on the

webcast title for a complete description, cost and to register:

Up to 1 hour:

[The Brave New World of Genre Fiction Selection](#): The Rap Sheet on the Fiction Vixen, or What the Locus Can Book Blogs Do for Collection Development
Presented by Marlene Harris, consultant at Reading Reality

[Beyond the Bestseller List](#): Filling Patron Demand for Great eBooks Without the "Big 6 Publishers"
Presented by Marlene Harris, consultant at Reading Reality

[Non-Fiction Reader's Advisory](#): Separating Fact from Fiction
Presented by Rebecca Vnuk, Editor, Reference and Collection Management for Booklist

[Women's Fiction: An Overview](#)
Presented by Rebecca Vnuk, Editor, Reference and Collection Management for Booklist.

[Outreach](#): Reaching Populations That Can't Reach You
Presented by Dan Brower, Assistant Branch Manager at the Red Bridge Branch of the Mid-Continent Public Library

Be a MALA Webcast Presenter!

Do you have specific library-related expertise that you wish to share with your colleagues? Are you passionate about a literary genre or library trend and want to inform others? Does your library have a successful program that might inspire imitation or innovation?

Then we want to hear from you!

Library staff from libraries in the Mid-America Library Alliance who participate and create training for MALA receive Amazon gift cards as a "thank you" gift for their participation. Contact [Beth Willis](#) for details.

December 2012 Webcasts

The Mid-America Library Alliance offers a number of recorded webcasts in our "Online Education for Libraries" program. The links provided below will take you to the homepage for that webcast where there is more information about the webcast, cost and a registration link.

With our new online anytime format, you will immediately receive the link, password and handout upon successful

registration.

Up to 1 hour:

[Communication Skills](#) for Front Line Library Staff

[How to Break the Rules](#): Offering Great Customer Service to Everyone

[How to Change the Dynamics](#) in the Workplace Culture

[Library Conflict Management](#) for Consenting Adults

[Meeting Deadlines](#) When Staff and Resources are Cut

[Navigating the Rapids](#): Myths and Realities of Intergenerational Workplaces

[Social Media: Pros and Cons](#)

Over 1 hour:

[Whether you Call it Bullying](#), Harassing, Intimidation, Stalking, Threatening, Tormenting, Browbeating, Needling or Pushing Around, Make Your Workplace Safe from Bad Behavior

The presenter of these webcasts is Pat Wagner, who has worked as a consultant and trainer for libraries for over 30 years. She also was a book store manager and, for ten years, was a popular columnist and consultant for a national retail store magazine, where she researched and wrote on issues that impact libraries as well. She is one of our most popular speakers and brings wit, humor and practical know-how to all of her presentations.

