



The Packet

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LIBRARY COMMISSION HAS ITS FIRST CPM GRADUATE

The Mississippi Library Commission (MLC) has its first graduate of the Certified Public Manager's (CPM) program in the twenty-five year history of the nationally recognized leadership development program for public managers and supervisors. Among the 46 graduates at the June 11, 2014 ceremony was Gloria J. Washington, Public Affairs Director. While it was apparent this was a special occasion for the graduating CPM candidates, this was indeed a very special day for Washington who had persevered to achieve this milestone.



Pictured are Mississippi Certified Public Manager Program Director Shondra Houseworth and Washington.

As guests began to fill the foyer of the Old Capitol Museum, laughter and small talk could be heard throughout the halls. It was graduation day for the Certified Supervisory Management (CSM) and CPM participants and Washington was excited. Not only was she about to graduate, she was about to make history! As she sat waiting for the program to begin, she reminisced about how she got to this point. Her thoughts took her back to the June 2013 (CSM) graduation. It was during that ceremony that she set her goal to complete and graduate from the CPM program in June of 2014.

In June 2013, Washington completed level III and received her CSM certification. Level III required a job-related project before advancing to level IV. She designed "INFO-TO-GO", a set of information cards which introduced MLC services offered in a brief and concise manner. The project was approved and she moved on to level IV.

However, levels IV-VI were completely different. Two of the last three levels also required projects.

Washington's level IV project, "Interoffice Public Relations," received a perfect score and was recommended for model project by the evaluator.

The recommendation increased her passion and determination to "dig in" and complete the remainder of the program.

Several of Washington's co-workers and friends attended the graduation, among them MLC Purchasing Specialist Veronica Dunning said, "I watched Gloria these past two years and how she devoted her time and energy to her CPM classes. The expression on her face indicated

that she took every level seriously and the joy she had on graduation day proved how rewarding the accomplishment was. The old saying, hard work and tenacity does pay off and is extremely rewarding."

Executive Support Director Ethel Dunn, Washington's supervisor, stated, "Gloria has worked very hard to accomplish this milestone. It will serve as an inspiration for others."



Washington after receiving her CPM certificate.

Having accomplished her goal, Washington encouraged others to enroll in the CPM program, embrace the challenge and follow through until it is accomplished. "CPM offers something for all managers, from the Myers-Briggs personality assessment to problem solving with a twist," she said.

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Notes . . . from the desk of the Executive Director

August 2014



Susan S. Cassagne
Executive Director

At a social gathering recently, the son-in-law of a good friend (actually a retired school librarian) mentioned to me that he had been travelling in Texas and had stopped by a public library. He asked the circulation clerk where the card catalog was. She looked at him blankly and asked him what he meant. Seriously! He thought she was kidding! She wasn't! As he relayed the story to me, I could not contain my shock. I was appalled. The first thought that I had was, "Thank goodness that wouldn't happen in Mississippi!" – that led to my second thought: could it? I certainly hope not!

He went on to explain to her that he wanted to look for a book on a specific subject. She then directed him to the OPAC and explained how to search for an item, either by title, author or subject. He managed from there, but the fact that a librarian (and we know most people refer to anyone that works in a library as a librarian) did not know what a card catalog was stuck in his mind!

This led me to ponder the history of the card catalog, something librarians and library users (apparently above a certain age!) just take for granted. A Google search led me to a web site (<http://www.libraryhistorybuff.org/cardcatalog-evolution.htm>), created by a library history buff. I won't repeat the information contained on the web site here, but should you decide to visit it, you might find it as interesting as I did!

Wooden card catalogs seem to have become a collectors' item. They are handy storage for many types of bits and pieces. A popular TV show, *Big Bang Theory*, has a large wooden card catalog on display in the main character's apartment. How many remember the library scene in the movie, *Ghostbusters*, with cards flying out of each drawer?

Today's rapid growth of technology has changed so much of our lives. The information once maintained on tens of thousands of cards now can be stored in a database on something smaller than a particle of dust – and accessed from anywhere in the world. Truly amazing!

But still, in today's world I find it distressing that a library employee might not have any idea of what a card catalog is – an employee helping users locate materials. This leaves me wondering why this important bit of library history is overlooked in employee training. Perhaps an excellent question to ask in an employment interview is, "Do you know what a card catalog is?" I sincerely hope they do!

Susan

Susan S. Cassagne
Executive Director

Comments and suggestions are welcomed.

Contact us at:

Mississippi Library Commission
3881 Eastwood Drive
Jackson, MS 39211
Fax: 601.432.4486

E-mail: gloriajw@mlc.lib.ms.us

Visit our website at:
www.mlc.lib.ms.us

Toll free number 1.800.MISLIB

Executive Director
Susan S. Cassagne

Gloria J. Washington
Editor

Board of Commissioners

Jolee Hussey
Ann Marsh
Suzanne Poyner
Pamela Pridgen
Glenda Segars

NABZDYK TO SERVE AS DPLA REPRESENTATIVE

Jennifer Nabzdyk, Mississippi Library Commission's (MLC) Digital Services Consultant, has been invited to serve as a volunteer Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) Community Representative.



Nabzdyk

As a Community Representative (Rep), Nabzdyk will:

- Organize activities that promote DPLA as a portal, platform, or public option using DPLA materials;
- Share materials and feedback from outreach efforts (blog posts, group notes, Storify stories, images, video, etc.);
- Check in with DPLA staff about progress and share experiences via the DPLA Reps listserv;
- Collaborate with DPLA staff and other Reps to plan and pursue new outreach initiatives;
- Be willing to participate in speaking or event opportunities as requested by DPLA; and
- Represent DPLA formally as an acknowledged Rep on our website and informally through various networks.

"I intend to work with the Mississippi Digital Library, public library systems across the entire state of Mississippi, and the Mississippi Library Association which includes members from public, special, academic, and school libraries," said Nabzdyk.

This second class of DPLA Community Representatives—volunteers joins the already-excellent first class and adds 100 new Community Reps, bringing the total roster to 200. In addition, it completes the U.S. map and adds three other countries, bringing local DPLA advocacy to all 50 states, DC, Puerto Rico, Argentina, Canada, China and Ireland. Representatives work in K-12 education, public libraries, state libraries, municipal archives, public history and museums, technology, publishing, media, genealogy, and many areas of higher education.

The Digital Public Library of America brings together the riches of America's libraries, archives, and museums, and makes them freely available to the world. It strives to contain the full breadth of human expression, from the written word, to works of art and culture, to records of America's heritage, to the efforts and data of science.

BRYANT NAMES POYNOR TO MLC BOARD



Poynor

Suzanne Byrd Poynor, immediate past state president of GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc., was named as a member of the Mississippi Library Commission Board of Commissioners July 1, 2014.

She was appointed to a five-year term by Governor Phil Bryant. Poynor succeeds Celia C. Fisher of Okolona as the Federation representative. Fisher's term expired June 30, 2014.

Poynor received her Bachelor and Masters degrees in Elementary Education from Mississippi College. She is a retired public school teacher of 32 years with Rankin County Schools and currently serves as an adjunct professor at Hinds Community College.

"I am honored to serve on the Mississippi Library Commission Board of Commissioners," said Poynor.

She is married to Larry Poynor and they reside in Florence.

FUTURE BUSINESS OWNERS VISIT MLC

The Utica Campus of Hinds Community College recently hosted sixteen future business owners during a ten-day Dream Builders Entrepreneurship Institute. The participants were high school students from Crystal Springs, Hazlehurst, Jackson, Port Gibson, Terry and Utica. During the Institute, students were divided into teams and given assignments and projects to complete. They participated in seminars, workshops, and simulations on a daily basis. All of which were designed to stimulate, strengthen, and increase their ideas and skills in producing a successful business.

The first week of the Institute, four groups implemented their business plan which included purchasing, marketing and selling the products. The groups, Bedazzle-a fashion accessories and apparel company, Healthy is What's Real - a healthy foods company, iKandy Bakery, a homemade baked goods company and Snacky Shack-a snack company were set up on campus and sold their



Shown are Hinds Dream Builders as they participate in hands on searches.

goods for three days. Of the four business groups, Bedazzle was the most profitable, with an 86% profit on their initial investment. Week two, the groups visited businesses, marketing firms and the Mississippi Library Commission (MLC) to further their knowledge of running a business. MLC's Patent Librarian Lawrence Smith gave them a hands on presentation/orientation on patent, trademark and copyrights. Smith also provided detailed information about how they can protect their business assets with trademark, copyrights and patents.

The institute concluded with each group utilizing the knowledge and skills developed during the previous nine-days of the Dream Builders Entrepreneurship Institute by giving a presentation of their business plans, elevator pitches and marketing advertisements to a panel of judges.

The Dream Builders Entrepreneurship Institute is sponsored with Title III funds. Dr. Tiffany Anderson is coordinator and Business Entrepreneurship Director Jessica Thomas, coordinates the entrepreneurship institute on the Hinds Community College—Utica Campus.

ZEIGLER ATTENDS SEDI TRAINING

The Mississippi Library Commission Blind and Physically Handicapped Library Services Director Shellie Zeigler was one of the 25 applicants chosen to attend a week of intensive training at the State Executive Development Institute (SEDI) on the campus of Mississippi State University in Starkville.



Zeigler

"I knew I would learn a lot by going to SEDI. I knew I would learn a lot from my instructors. What I didn't expect was just how much I would learn from my peers at SEDI. It was an invaluable experience," said Zeigler.

SEDI, an annual educational workshop offered by the John C. Stennis Institute of Government, is designed to prepare mid-to upper-level state and local government executives to be more effective leaders. A broad range of topics are presented by government officials, researchers, and instructors in order to provide participants a well-rounded and applicable curriculum. The SEDI curriculum includes management theory, organizational development concepts and techniques, administrative and applied management techniques, and a variety of other related and timely topics.

THOMAS NAMED 2014 PUBLIC LIBRARIAN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Courtney Thomas, interim director of the Hancock County Library System in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, was named recipient of the 2014 Public Librarian Scholarship. The \$10,000 scholarship is a three-year grant that helps cover the tuition costs associated with enrollment in the Master's Degree in Library Science program at the University of Southern Mississippi.



Thomas

"I am excited about receiving this grant to complete my education in library and information services. However, the cost of graduate school is quite steep, so receiving this scholarship will definitely be a great help to me," said Thomas.

While a junior in high school, she began her library career as a shelver at the Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library. Thomas left for college but returned to the same library as a reference assistant. Prior to returning to the library system as Personnel and Grants Officer, she worked at NASA's John C. Stennis Space Center and Hancock Medical Center.

Thomas is scheduled to complete the coursework and receive her master's degree in December 2015.

The Public Librarian Scholarship Program is open to individuals who have worked in a Mississippi public library for at least one year and have been accepted into an ALA-accredited masters library program. Successful applicants must sign a contract agreeing to work in a Mississippi public library for two years following graduation.

"WOOD & WATER" EXHIBIT FEATURED AT MLC

The Gaddis Group and artisan Bill Bannister are the featured artists in the Mississippi Library Commission's gallery for the months of July and August. The two-month exhibit, entitled "Wood & Water" opened Wednesday, July 2, and will continue through Thursday, August 28, 2014. An opening reception was held at the Library Commission and the artists welcomed sixty-four (64) guests. The artists shared and explained the inspiration that surrounded their work.

The late John Gaddis taught watercolor in Jackson until 1992, at which time he closed his studio due to failing health. A group of twenty-five watercolorists who had studied under Gaddis formed the



*Wanda Vialet's
"Rainy Day"*

working studio and gallery. Since its inception, the Gaddis Group has promoted the art of transparent watercolor. In keeping with the promotion of transparent watercolor, eighteen watercolorists are exhibiting approximately forty paintings on yupo paper to acrylic on paper and board.



*Bill Bannister's
"Train"*

Bill Bannister, the wooden toymaker, shares MLC's venue with the Gaddis Group. On exhibit is a condensed collection of Bannister's handmade toys. He has added new items

to his train series and is introducing new pieces to his ever growing collection of wooden toys.

September and October's exhibit will feature photographer Suzi Altman and Glass artist Candy Spurzem. The exhibit is set to open Tuesday, September 2 and continue through Thursday, October 30.

Exhibits are free and open to the public. Viewing hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

MLC NEWS

The Mississippi Library Commission
welcomes three new staff members:



Tiffany Barner
Special Projects Officer



Erica McCaleb
Readers Advisor



Eahmon Jamison
Systems Administrator

CALENDAR

AUGUST 2014

ARTISTS – GADDIS GROUP, BILL BANNISTER

- 11-14 LIBRARIANSHIP 101 INSTITUTE - JACKSON
- 16 WORKSHOP – PUBLIC LIBRARY STATISTICS, MLC
- 21-22 PUBLIC LIBRARY DIRECTORS' MEETING

SEPTEMBER 2014

ARTIST – CANDY SPURZEM, SUZI ALTMAN

- 1 LABOR DAY – **STATE HOLIDAY – AGENCY CLOSED**
- 10 WORKSHOP – YOUTH SERVICES WORKSHOP & MEETING, MLC
- 16 WORKSHOP – PUBLIC LIBRARY STATISTICS, MLC
- 23 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING – MLC

OCTOBER 2014

ARTIST – CANDY SPURZEM, SUZI ALTMAN

- 6 WORKSHOP – TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY, MLC
- 14-17 MLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE - VICKSBURG
- 14 MLA PRE-CONFERENCE - NAVIGATING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE
- 15 MLA - MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE MEET & GREET
- 16 MLA - LIBRARIANSHIP 101 & 201 ALUMNI MEETING
- 22-24 WORKSHOP - LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE RETREAT #3 - RIDGELAND



Mississippi Library Commission
3881 Eastwood Drive
Jackson, MS 39211

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