

FEBRUARY 2025 ISSUE

# THE HAPPENINGS



## This Issue

- Letter from MLA
- Upcoming Programs
- Conference Announcement
- January & February Meetings

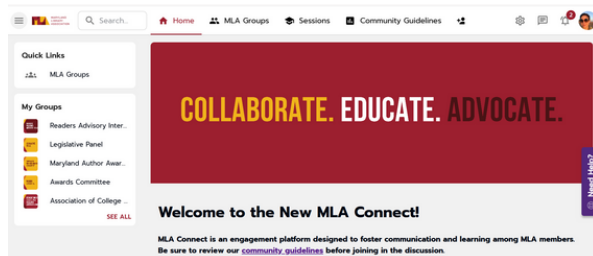
### LETTER FROM THE MLA OFFICE STAFF

#### MLA Connect is Almost Here!

The Maryland Library Association is continuing to make improvements for our members! We are excited to announce the launch of a brand new MLA Connect, a social media platform designed exclusively for members.

Starting this week, you will have a new space to engage in discussions, share ideas, and collaborate with colleagues across the state.

Stay tuned for details on how to join and make the most of this new platform!



To access this new platform, you will need to access the Info Hub. Your old login from our previous website will not work with the new Info Hub.

If you haven't yet set up your new Info Hub account since the launch of our new website in January, now is the perfect time!

#### **Create your Info Hub account here.**

The Info Hub account is your gateway to MLA member benefits, including event discounts, resources, and exclusive members-only content.

We look forward to seeing you at an upcoming program!

Warm regards,  
Maryland Library Association Team

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT DIVISION PRESENTS:

**Psychologically Safe Leadership****Thursday, February 20, 2025 |****2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.***Online via Zoom.****[Register on mdlib.org](https://mdlib.org)***

Workplace safety is more than just physically ensuring the well-being of your staff. A psychologically safe leader looks to “prevent psychological harm, promote psychological health of workers, and address problems related to psychological health and safety.”

Bringing this process to Maryland Libraries is not easy. By defining a psychologically safe leader and identifying the harmful myths preventing psychological safety, all library leaders can learn to build a healthier workplace.

This will put us in a safer position to better promote mental health within our library community.

All levels of library leadership can benefit from developing this competency and contributing to a future of psychologically safe workplaces.

**Program Pricing:****Members:** \$12.50**Non-members:** \$18.75**Student, Retired, Unemployed,  
or Friend:** \$6.25**SAVE THE DATE!****MLA | DLA Annual Conference****May 7-9, 2025***Ocean City, Maryland***Early Bird Registration will  
begin in early January!**

Keep an eye on your inbox for a registration announcement soon.

**LEGISLATIVE DAY  
BREAKFAST RECEPTION****with the Maryland Library Association****Maryland Inn****Tuesday, February 11, 2025****7:30 to 9:00 a.m.**

Enjoy lite breakfast fare, coffee, and mingling!  
Please RSVP using the QR code by February 6, 2024.

*The Maryland Inn is located at 16 Church Circle, Annapolis, MD 21401*



## YOUTH SERVICES DIVISION PRESENTS:

**Black-Eyed Susan Tapestry (BEST)  
2025—The Spring Edition****Thursday, March 6, 2025 |  
9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

Online via Zoom.

[Register on mdlib.org.](https://mdlib.org/register)

**Love talking about books?** Join us for BEST 2025—The Spring Edition, a celebration of Children's and Teen Fiction. Learn about the Black-Eyed Susan Award and participate, via Zoom, in a half day of small group discussions of some of the 2023-2024 Juvenile and Teen Fiction nominees.

Program check-in begins at 9:25 a.m., and the program will start at 9:30 a.m. There will be two discussion groups, meeting twice, so you can attend both sessions. Please read all the titles for each group

G. Z. Schmidt, author of *The Curious Vanishing of Beatrice Willoughby*, will be our keynote speaker.



Please read all the titles for each group.

**Group 1 - Grades 3-5**

- Crowder, Tracy Ocomy—*Montgomery and the Case of the Golden Key*
- Oh, Ellen—*You Are Here: Connecting Flights*
- Schmidt, G.Z.—*The Curious Vanishing of Beatrice Willoughby*
- Stead, Rebecca, and Mass, Wendy—*The Lost Library*
- Tandon, Nancy—*The Way I Say It*

**Group 2 - Grades 6-12**

- Andreu, Maria E.—*Love in English*
- Bow, Erin—*Simon Sort of Says*
- Gemeinhart, Dan—*Midnight Children*
- Hammonds, Jas—*We Deserve Monuments*
- Swinarski, Claire—*What Happened to Rachel Riley*

This program has been approved for 8.5 contact hours of continuing education for attendees. Facilitators will receive 12 contact hours! If you would like to be a facilitator, or if you have any questions, contact [Joe Farmarco](#) or [Noel Knepper](#).

**Program Pricing:****Members:** \$30**Non-members:** \$45**Student, Retired, Unemployed,  
or Friend:** \$30

## 2025 MLA|DLA Annual Conference: The Beach Edition!

**May 7 - 9, 2025**

Roland E. Powell Convention Center  
4001 Coastal Highway  
Ocean City, MD 21842

[Register on mdlib.org](https://mdlib.org).

Pack your sunscreen, your boogie board, and your favorite beach read because we're heading back to Ocean City for the 2025 MLA|DLA Annual Conference: *The Beach Edition!*

Attendees can explore the latest trends in library technology, discover best practices in information literacy, and engage with innovative ideas in community outreach and services.

The conference also features an exhibit hall showcasing the latest and greatest library products and services, offering participants the chance to learn about new tools and resources that can enhance their work.



Register today for what is sure to be another *seasational* MLA|DLA Annual Conference!

**Early Bird registration rates expire on March 24, 2025, so don't wait to register!**

**Early Bird Pricing:**

**Full Conference: Members:** \$250

**Full Conference: Non-members:** \$290

**Full Conference: Library Student:** \$210

**One Day: Members:** \$220

**One Day: Non-members:** \$260

**One Day: Library Student:** \$180



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## Division, Caucus, Committee, Panel, and Interest Group Meetings

### FEBRUARY 2025

- 3 Future of Libraries Interest Group | 10:00 a.m.**  
*Online via Zoom.*  
Contact Tracy Miller at [millert@hcplonline.org](mailto:millert@hcplonline.org)
- 5 BCMLA | 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.**  
*Online via Zoom.*  
Contact Genive Purchase at [gpurchase@prattlibrary.org](mailto:gpurchase@prattlibrary.org)
- Intellectual Freedom Panel | 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.**  
*Online via Google Meets.*  
Contact Lloyd Jansen at [ljansen@ccplonline.org](mailto:ljansen@ccplonline.org)
- 6 Support Staff Division | 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.**  
*Online via Zoom.*  
Contact Nicole Bega at [nbega@stmalib.org](mailto:nbega@stmalib.org)
- Sustainability Interest Group | 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.**  
*Online via Zoom.*  
Contact Nicole Bega at [nbega@stmalib.org](mailto:nbega@stmalib.org)
- 7 Library Advocacy Interest Group | 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**  
*Online via Zoom.*  
Contact Tif Sutherland at [tiffany.sutherland@calvertlibrary.info](mailto:tiffany.sutherland@calvertlibrary.info)
- 12 Youth Services Division | 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.**  
*Online via Blackboard.*  
Contact Karen Earp at [kearp@wicomico.org](mailto:kearp@wicomico.org)
- 13 Emerging Adults Interest Group | 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**  
*Online via Zoom.*  
Contact Stephanie Wiant at [swiant@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:swiant@frederickcountymd.gov)
- 18 Social Committee | 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**  
*Online via Zoom.*  
Contact Chelsea Shockley at [cshockle@prattlibrary.org](mailto:cshockle@prattlibrary.org)
- 19 Conference Committee | 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**  
*Online via Zoom.*  
Contact Chelsea Shockley at [cshockle@prattlibrary.org](mailto:cshockle@prattlibrary.org)
- Steering Committee Meeting 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m**  
Contact Joshua Stone at [mlaexec@mdlib.org](mailto:mlaexec@mdlib.org)
- 20 ACRL-MD | 11:00 a.m. - 12 noon**  
*Online via Zoom.*  
Contact Kate Strain at [kstrain@loyola.edu](mailto:kstrain@loyola.edu)
- Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Panel | 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**  
*Online via Zoom.*  
Contact Conni Strittmatter at [cstrittmatter@bcpl.net](mailto:cstrittmatter@bcpl.net)
- 24 LGBTQ+ Interest Group | 2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.**  
*Online via Zoom.*  
Contact Shannon Carney at [scarney@bcpl.net](mailto:scarney@bcpl.net)
- 26 Kids are Customers Planning Committee | 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.**  
Contact Katlyn McLimans at [kmclimans@cecilcountylibrary.org](mailto:kmclimans@cecilcountylibrary.org)
- 27 Marketing Committee | 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**  
Contact Amy Miller-Meyers at [amymill@carr.org](mailto:amymill@carr.org)



## Division, Caucus, Committee, Panel, and Interest Group Meetings

### MARCH 2025

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- 5 BCMLA | 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.**  
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Online via Zoom.  
Contact Tif Sutherland at [tiffany.sutherland@calvertlibrary.info](mailto:tiffany.sutherland@calvertlibrary.info)
- 11 Youth Services Division | 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.**  
Online via Blackboard.  
Contact Karen Earp at [kearp@wicomico.org](mailto:kearp@wicomico.org)
- 12 Materials Interest Group | 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**  
Online via Zoom.  
Contact Laura Bandoch at [bandoch@hcplonline.org](mailto:bandoch@hcplonline.org)
- 13 Leadership Development Division | 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**  
Online via Zoom.  
Contact Matthew Lowder at [mlowder@cecilcountylibrary.org](mailto:mlowder@cecilcountylibrary.org)
- Adult Services and Reference Division | 9:30 a.m. - 12 noon**  
Online via Zoom.  
Contact Pam Taylor at [taylor@hcplonline.org](mailto:taylor@hcplonline.org)
- Maryland Adult Programming Interest Group | 9:30 a.m. - 12 noon**  
Online via Zoom.  
Contact Lisa Swain at [lsswain@bcpl.net](mailto:lsswain@bcpl.net)
- 18 Social Committee | 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**  
Online via Zoom.  
Contact Chelsea Shockley at [cshockle@prattlibrary.org](mailto:cshockle@prattlibrary.org)
- 19 Conference Committee | 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**  
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Online via Zoom.  
Contact Stephanie Wiant at [swiant@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:swiant@frederickcountymd.gov)
- ACRL-MD | 11:00 a.m. - 12 noon**  
Online via Zoom.  
Contact Kate Strain at [kstrain@loyola.edu](mailto:kstrain@loyola.edu)
- Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Panel | 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**  
Online via Zoom.  
Contact Conni Strittmatter at [cstrittmatter@bcpl.net](mailto:cstrittmatter@bcpl.net)
- 23 Kids are Customers Planning Committee | 12:30 p.m.**  
Contact Katlyn McLimans at [kmclimans@cecilcountylibrary.org](mailto:kmclimans@cecilcountylibrary.org)
- 24 Teen Interest Group | 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.**  
Online via Zoom.  
Contact Jakki Williams at [jwilliams@washcolibrary.org](mailto:jwilliams@washcolibrary.org)
- 26 Executive Board Meeting 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**  
Contact Joshua Stone at [mlaexec@mdlib.org](mailto:mlaexec@mdlib.org)