

Montana Library Association

Summer Retreat 2023

There's More to the Story

July 25, 2023

8 am to 5 pm

7:30 am check in

Great Falls College-MSU

2100 16th Ave. So.

Great Falls MT



Sessions

Eight(8) hours of OPI renewal or CE Units will be available for participants.

Success through Partnerships

8:00-8:55 am

Presenter(s) Bio:

Jamie Williams, Great Falls Schools, is the head librarian and instruction/technology coach at CMR High School. This is her 10th year at CMR, prior to that she was an elementary librarian and started her teaching career in Kinder and First Grade. She enjoys traveling, crafts and spending time with her family of boys (2 sons 20 & 22/yo and her husband a few more yo)

Session description:

Jamie will be joined by some community partners to talk about collaboration opportunities. We will brainstorm opportunities and challenges to collaboration.

Futures Planning (1.5 hours)

9:00-10:25 am

Presenter(s) bio

Shelley O'Rourke, Great Falls Schools, has been a middle school librarian since 2011. She has been a middle school educator for 28 years. 28 years, and she is still standing!! Shelley's husband is also a middle school teacher. They have 3 children, ages 17-23. She is currently serving as co-chair of the SL Chapter of Montana Library Association.

Session description:

The future can be a scary thing to imagine. What if, instead of imagining it, we could actively create it? Natural Foresight®, a framework for implementing futures thinking, was designed by The Futures School, a global learning platform that empowers individuals and organizations to create the future. This session will help participants to thrive personally and professionally in a complex and uncertain world by leveraging foresight as a strategic advantage.

Collection Management Policies

Presenter(s) bio

10:30- 11:25 am

Ann Gentry, Frenchtown School District, has been a MS/HS Librarian for Frenchtown District last 15 years.

Session description:

How to update your collection management policies to reflect changes enacted by your school board.

Lunch

On your own- food trucks on site

11:30 am- 12:30 pm

Artificial Intelligence Awareness

Presenter(s) bio

12:30- 1:15 pm

Hoppy Hopkins is a librarian at Great Falls High School. He was an English teacher for 20 years prior to being a librarian.

Session description:

Artificial Intelligence awareness and options for fact checking

Library Material Challenge tool kit

1:20-2:15 pm

Presenter(s) bio

Jennifer Hossack holds a M.A.T. in Elementary Education, and endorsements in Library Science, Psychology, and Dance Education. She is in her 10th year at Washington Middle School and 15th year as school librarian. She serves as the Director of Libraries at Missoula Catholic Schools and the librarian at Loyola Sacred Heart High School where she teaches Introduction to Psychology and Media Literacy, and as a part time cataloguer at the University of Montana's Mansfield Library, where she previously worked for 6 years in cataloging and acquisitions. This is her 22nd year in the library profession. She also serves as the school library liaison to the Montana Shared Cataloging and Acquisitions committee for the state of Montana Library. In her spare time you can find her reading, cross-stitching, running and teaching Barre classes and the Missoula-created dance fitness Oula at various locations around town. She also enjoys traveling with her family. They enjoy visiting other countries, including Mexico, Canada, Germany, Italy, Croatia, Bosnia, Slovenia, China and, most recently, Japan. She and her husband have a son, a dog and a cat.

Session description:

Last year I participated in the Teacher Leadership Initiative and presented on challenges in school libraries at MEA as a culmination of my TLI experience. This year a co-worker and I created a library material challenge and tool kit for our district, which I will present and discuss.

Sora: Your App for the Montana School Library Shared Digital Collection

Presenter(s) bio

2:20-3:15 pm

Noel Osterman, Great Falls Public Schools, has been teaching since 1997 and finished her 19th year as a teacher-librarian this spring. She taught MS/HS English, as well as library/media literacy. She just completed her 4th year at C. M. Russell High School in Great Falls. She has 2+ kids, too many animals, lives in Belt, and loves to read.

Session description:

The Montana School Library Shared Digital Collection is a consortium of schools, small and large, who pool resources and share a collection of K-12 e-books and audiobooks. Membership fees are based on enrollment numbers. These fees pay for the purchase of additional licenses for these digital materials. Sora is the app that runs the collection.

Library Think Tank

3:20-4:05 pm

Presenter(s) bio

Chani Craig, Whitefish School District

Over the past 30 years I have collected innumerable stamps in my passport and a random assortment of letters and numbers to put after my name- BA-Hist/Eng, MLIS, 200YTT, iBmeMT, 25SYS plus a few others meant to lend an air of credibility to my life's work (and if you're curious feel free to ask me more). But I think what makes me worth listening to is simply that I seek to actively listen to others, be present in each moment, and embody curiosity in the midst of challenge. Someday I dream of teaching an information literacy class called "How to be Better at Being Wrong" which would be taught half in the library and half in the outdoors- where I love to spend all the time I can when I'm not reading, writing, or liberating creative jewels from my soul...all of which, to be fair, can also happen in the outdoors. I look forward to learning with you at this retreat.

Session description:

An "Un-conference" shifts the focus from the sage on the one-man stage to leverage all expertise in the room by creating a temporary think tank based on the needs of all the individuals present. This means that topics will be generated in the moment and the brains of the many will be resourced and mined for experience and ideas- talk about creative collaboration!

Think of it this way- even though I have over 20 years of experience in educational institutions (and 10+ more in libraries) there is no way I have as much expertise and experiences as a room full of librarians and educators might have- the whole is always greater than the sum of its parts.

But what I will provide, as a trained peer mediator, yoga instructor, mindfulness educator, and classroom teacher, is guidance throughout the session to ensure that all participants find something useful to take home and have an opportunity to share their knowledge with others. We might end up in a hackathon, a fishbowl discussion, birds of a feather tables, or even a world cafe. Just show up with some questions or interests and we'll see what happens!

Oula session with Jen Hossack

4:10- 5:00 pm

[Oula](#) merges high-intensity cardio with easy-to-follow choreography, mindfulness practices, and a culture of inclusivity – all to an energetic pop soundtrack. Every Oula class empowers participants to challenge their bodies and process their emotions through music, movement, and, most importantly, a community connection.

Anyone for the Sip n Dip?

