



MLS is on social media! Find us at:

Employee Spotlight

Name: Lida Refah

Position: Accounting Clerk

What role do you play at MLS?

I am responsible for accounts payable, accounts receivable, as well as generating invoices for BiblioTemps, cash receipts and processing monthly MBLC expenditure reports.

What are you reading?

I read a lot about the current news in the U.S. and abroad.

Do you have any pets?

We used to have parakeets and a fish tank full of many different types of fish.

What's your favorite vacation memory?

Ancient times and learning about how people used to live fascinates me. Last year I took a trip to Israel and went to the Western Wall Tunnels, where I was able to see and touch the surfaces of a structure built over 2,000 years ago. This was an amazing opportunity for me to have personal contact with thousands of years ago and it gave me a special feeling of my own personal connection to the past.



Limited Edition!

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<http://goo.gl/GzT8WU>



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March 2015 Newsletter

Stronger together



PUT A LIBRARY IN YOUR POCKET



<http://guides.masslibsystem.org/ebooks>



A Message from our Director Greg Pronevitz

What is the one thing that we can count on in the library community? Books? Maybe, at least for my lifetime. We can count on change! Change is always in the air.

We're seeing a changing of the guard in library leadership positions. Many libraries have hired new directors over the past few years.

Many of the new challenges for these directors are lessons not taught in library school. Directors are asked to build relationships with their town manager, city mayor, school administrator or provost; manage facilities; and assess community needs and develop programs. MLS offers lots of resources to support and empower new directors. Take a look at our online MLS Guides on numerous topics, e.g., budgets, strategic planning, policies, and marketing. Get in touch if you have questions. Our MLS advisors are always ready to discuss library issues with members. We'll also help connect you with colleagues with similar interests.

MLS has experienced changes this year, too. Our new Interlibrary Loan Center opened for business last July with a team led by Sue Kaler which fills hundreds of member requests each week. We are having conversations with ILL centers in neighboring states to identify ways to improve efficiency and reduce costs. We co-sponsored a symposium in February to initiate discussions on this topic. One possibility might be to extend delivery beyond the borders of Massachusetts to nearby states. We recorded some of the presentations and they can be found on the MLS website under Regional Resource Sharing Symposium: Interstate Opportunities.

Save the Date! Librarians: Fail Fast and Prosper

Tuesday June 9th, 2015

9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Devens Common, Devens, MA

This day will focus on YOU, the librarian, as a person, and your ability to identify opportunities, pursue innovation, be willing to risk failure and have agility in today's ever-changing world. We hope you'll find the day inspiring, as we balance talks by noted professionals with practical applications on how to move ahead, even when it seems impossible.

Morning Keynote-

"Finding the Innovation within Yourself" by Valerie Young

Afternoon Keynote-

"Role? Play! The Experimental Librarian in the 21st Century" by Cliff Landis

Lunch and parking are free of charge.

Registration is open and can be found here-
<http://goo.gl/ju428W>

lynda.com

Members receive unlimited access to a vast library of high quality, current, and engaging video tutorials.



More information is available on our website

www.masslibsystem.org/continuing-education/lynda/

Cooperative Purchasing News

Looking for great savings? MHEC offers many contracts that offer deep discounts:

Contract L51 Series: Library Books and Media:

This contract has many popular vendors for books, CD's, DVD's etc... Please visit our Cooperative Guide to view the net pricing list for this contract.

Contract C07: Furniture:

Do you need new furniture for your library? This contract has many vendors to choose from. Make sure you compare net prices for comparable products carefully between vendors. Many vendors offer the same brands of furniture, but the discounts, service & availability of supply and location vary.

Goldie Jr. a Gnome on the Road!

In his first few months as our official MLS intern, Goldie Jr. has been hard at work learning about the delivery process and attending a variety of MLS programs. You may have run into him at many of our events over the past few months including the Small Library Forum, the Teen Summit, the Annual Meeting, or the Regional Resource Sharing Symposium.

During the first couple of months of his internship one of the highlights for him was visiting the sorting warehouse in Oxford where Goldie Jr. got to watch the "Sort to Light" technology in action. Another great experience for Goldie was attending the Mass. School Library Association's annual conference and greeting members at our exhibit booth.

Goldie Jr. still has a lot to learn about the Mass. Library System. He'll be spending some time over the next few months learning about Mediated ILL and the Summer Library Program. Goldie loves participating in a photo op which is why he set up his own Instagram account. We are becoming a little suspicious that his true dream is actually to become a model. If you've missed any of his adventures you can follow him on **Instagram: mlsgoldiejr** or **Tumblr: masslibgnome**. Continuing looking for his updates on the official MLS Facebook page.



Have You Heard About BiblioTemps®?

BiblioTemps® is an employment service of the Massachusetts Library System that provides experienced library workers for short-term placements in public, academic and special libraries throughout Massachusetts. Assignments range from substitute circulation staff to interim library directors. The placement libraries provide training and daily supervision, while MLS manages payroll and bills clients for salary costs plus a service fee.

Kelly Jo Woodside is the manager of BiblioTemps and an advisor for the Massachusetts Library System in Marlborough, MA. She handles recruiting and placement matches for BiblioTemps, as well as providing consultation and continuing education on a range of library issues. Woodside earned her master's degree in library and information science from Simmons College in Boston, MA.

Shelah Coullard joined MLS as the BiblioTemps Assistant in September 2014. She has a bachelor's degree in Business Management and extensive experience as an Administrative Professional. This year, efforts have been made to streamline our processes and reduce our eco-footprint by emailing invoices and instituting online candidate onboarding. The future of BiblioTemps is bright and we look forward to fulfilling both candidate and client needs in 2015 and beyond!

Summer Library Program

MLS is pleased to offer programs to four age groups, to help you celebrate with patrons of all ages! We have lots of resources to help you plan your program.

Summer Planning Manual

MLS purchases one manual on disc for all of our participating libraries. The disc contains extensive planning manuals for each of the four age groups. One disc was sent to each library that submitted stats for the 2014 program; please share among all program planners in your library.



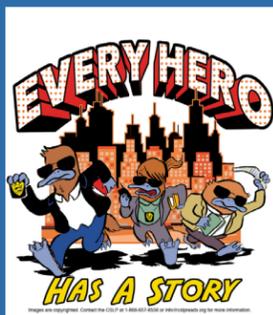
Our Summer Program Resource Page

This is where you can find information on all things summer! Boston Bruins resources, FAQs, Teen Video Challenge info, special coupons and offers, logo and credit lines...it's all here. You can also take advantage of the amazing partner opportunities we have access to as a member of CSLP. Guides.masslibsystem.org/slp



Our Summer Library Program Kickoff

March 30 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, Worcester Public Library. Join your colleagues for our Summer Kickoff Unconference- a fun and unconventional learning and sharing event to help you prepare for children's, teen and adult summer library program! We are thrilled to announce that Jarrett J. Krosoczka, creator of the artwork for the 2015 early literacy and children's summer programs, will join us for a special keynote address and book signing. A selection of books will be available for sale. Registration is now open on our calendar.



Service Spotlight: Focused on Mediated Interlibrary Loan

One of the most interesting aspects of Resource Sharing work is speculating where we might be able to find an item requested by a member library. We borrow items from libraries as far afield as Alaska and from such specialized libraries as the Pentagon, The Central Intelligence Agency and the Corning Museum of glass. From time to time, we hear from member libraries whose patrons are pleased with our services.

"We are a very small academic library, and every time I am able to provide my students and faculty with an article or book we wouldn't otherwise have access to, mediated inter-library loan saves the day!"

"I've had many patrons express great gratitude at my ability to find something they never thought they'd get to see again, through ILL, which is such a good feeling..."

We cannot borrow everything but feel free to ask! We might have to draw the line at a copy of the Gutenberg Bible or a film that just won the Academy Award. However, we thrive on a good challenge.

Project SET: Skills, Empowerment, and Talent



We are very pleased this year to be working with-

- Rebecca Folb, Worcester Public Library
- Michelle Gario, Seekonk Public Library
- Karen Horn, Sturgis Library
- Jazmin Idakaar, Boston Public Library
- Katrina Ireland, Worcester Public Library
- Jeff Lambert, Springfield City Library
- Liz Reed, Morrill Memorial Library
- Jonathan Schmidt, Emily Williston Memorial Library
- Erica Street, Jenks Library Gordon College (Not Pictured)
- Lilly Sundell-Thomas, Forbes Library
- Kirsten Underwood, Nevins Memorial Library