

2021

From the GAs: Congratulations, Publications, Presentations

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From the GA's



SLIS Graduate Assistants for spring 2021 are (left to right, seated) **Bailey Conn**, **Hannah Gantt** (standing), **Phillip Snyder**, **James Skinner**, **Sarah Parrish**.

Congratulations SLIS Students

Lauria Barton is Branch Manager, Vanleave Public Library, Vanleave, MS.

Myra Grace Breland is Reformat Technician II, Miss Dept of Archives & History, Jackson, MS.

Thomas Sidney Cobb is Director, Washington County Library System, Greenville, MS.



Cynthia Matthews is Director, Westmoreland Public Library, Bethpage, TN, selected for ALA's *Libraries Transforming Communities Grant Program for Small & Rural Libraries*. The grant application was an assignment in LIS 605: Library Management class.

Cindy Matthews curated an exhibit in USM McCain Library & Archives, "The Women of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP)," which profiles: Annie Devine, Victoria Gray Adams, and Fannie Lou Hamer. These women rose from humble beginnings and were integral in advancing civil rights and African American voter registration in Mississippi and around the US.

The exhibit includes photographs, letters, political memorabilia, a song sheet, and other documents detailing how Devine, Adams, and Hamer defied violent opposition to their efforts for equality and became legendary crusaders who changed our country forever.

Justin Marrier is Head of Circulation, Shorewood-Troy Library, Shorewood, IL.



MLIS student **Jennifer Ottinger** (also earning an Archival Certificate and Youth Services Certificate) co-presented "Keeping Archives on the Front Burner Through Social Media" with USM Archivist Jennifer Brannock, Society of Mississippi Archivists Annual Meeting (virtual), April 16, 2021.

Jennifer Ottinger curated an online exhibit on social media, "What's Cookin' in Special Collections: Recipes from the Southern Miss Historic Cookbook Collection."

Awards

Congratulations to poster-presentation winners of the **First Annual SLIS Virtual Student**

Symposium led by Dr. Creel and Dr. Hirschy:

- **Bethanie Finger**, 1st Place
- **Rori Holford**, 2nd Place
- **Winnifred Boyd**, 3rd Place.

Karlie Herndon (MLIS, Archival Certificate, 2021) was first place co-winner for a poster presentation, Susan A. Siltanen Graduate Research Symposium.

Bethanie Finger (LIS BS, 2020) was the winner of the Anna M. Roberts Award for Scholarship, Service, and Professionalism.

Laura Valliant (MLIS, 2020) was winner of the Warren Tracy Award for Professionalism, Scholarship, and Service.

Scholarships

MLIS student **Hannah Hobbs** was awarded the Dr. Bernard Vavrek Scholarship by the Association for Rural & Small Libraries.

Recipients of the **2021-22 USM Foundation Scholarships**:

- **Matthew Fillingame** - Dr. Elizabeth Haynes LIS Scholarship
- **Caroline Akers** - Dr. Teresa S. Welsh LIS Scholarship.
- **Therese Rose Beranis, Victoria Patrick** – H.W. Wilson Foundation Scholarship
- **Jennifer Ottinger** – SLIS Annual Scholarship
- **Savannah Covarrubias, Anna Morgan** - Molline Mayfield Keyes Scholarship.

Recipients of the **Mississippi Library Commission Public Librarian Scholarships**:

- **Mandy Hornsby**
- **Cynthia Hudson**
- **Megan Miller**
- **Loraine Walker**
- **Meridith Wulff**

Congratulations SLIS Alums

Shelly Andresen (MLIS, 2020) is School Librarian, Bettye Davis East Anchorage High School, AK.

Emilie Aplin (MLIS, Archival Certificate, 2016) is Technical Processing Library Assistant, Pearl River Community College, Forrest County Center Library and Learning Lab, Hattiesburg, MS.

Jennifer Baxter (MLIS, 2012) is Director, Athens-Limestone Public Library, Athens, AL.

Meagan Bing (MLIS, 2010) is Director, Orange Beach Public Library, Orange Beach, AL.

Jasmyn Brown (MLIS, 2021) is Teen Specialist, M.R. Davis Public Library, Southaven, MS.

Michael Emerson (MLIS, 2021) is Electronic Resources Librarian, Delta State University, Cleveland, MS.

Lauren Fellers (MLIS, 2020) is Senior Librarian for Creative Services at Pikes Peak Library District, Colorado Springs, CO.

Jean Greene (MLS, 1990) is Director, Utica Institute Museum, Utica, MS.

Kristen Hillman (MLIS, 2019) is Library Consultant, Mississippi Library Commission, Jackson, MS.

Nikki Hyatt (MLIS, 2014) is Reference Librarian, William Carey University, Hattiesburg, MS.

Hannah Beth Johnson (MLIS, 2019) is Director of Library Services, Blue Mountain College, MS

Victoria Jones (MLIS, Archival Certificate, 2020) is Archives and Special Collections Librarian, Mississippi University for Women, Columbus, MS.

Keisha Jordan (MLIS, 2019) is Catalog Librarian, Hattiesburg Public Library, MS.

Kari Lewis (MLIS 2019) is School Librarian/Media Specialist, Greenbriar Middle School, Greenbriar, TN.

Megan Lindsay (MLIS, Youth Services Certificate, 2020) is School Librarian/Media Specialist, Crump Elementary/Newberry Elementary, Memphis, TN.

Alexis Looney (MLIS, Youth Services Certificate, 2021) is School Librarian/Media Specialist, Western Hills Elementary School, Little Rock, AR.

Marisela Madrigal (MLIS, 2018) is Electronic Resources Librarian, Bates College, Lewiston, ME.

Eden Nitcher (MLIS, 2014) is Reference Librarian, Columbia Southern University, Orange Beach, AL.

Veronica Palenski (MLIS, Archival Certificate, 2020) is Teen Librarian, Highlands-Shelby Park Library, Louisville, KY.

Leah Peters (MLIS 2019) is Instructional Librarian, Itawamba Community College, Tupelo, MS.

Reba Puente (MLIS, 2021) is Director, Buhl Public Library, Buhl, ID.

Marie Davis Reese (MLIS 2020) is Children's Librarian, Henrico County Public Library, VA.

Amanda Roberts (MLIS, 2021) is Library Media Specialist, Raymond High School, Raymond, MS.

Amber Stephenson (MLIS, Youth Service Certificate, 2018) is Director, Hancock County Library System, Bay St. Louis, MS.

Jennifer Stephenson (MLIS, 2010) is Interim Director, First Regional Library, Hernando, MS.

Afton Ussery (MLIS, 2020) is Access Services Librarian, Delta State University, Cleveland, MS.

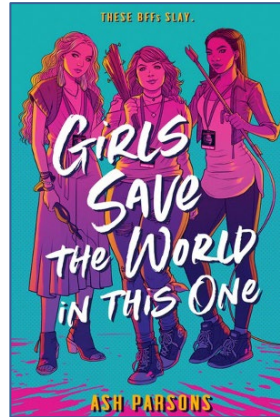
Laura Valliant (MLIS, 2020) is Public Librarian, Albuquerque Bernalillo County Public Library, AZ.

Miranda Vaughn (MLIS, Archival Certificate, 2020) is Reference/Archives Librarian, Mississippi Library Commission, Jackson, MS.

Karen Walsh (MLIS, 2020) is Director, Laurel-Jones County Library System, Laurel, MS.

SLIS Alum Publications

Karlie Herndon (MLIS, Archival Certificate, 2021) authored an article featuring two of our recent graduates, Carrie Pennington Mastley and Laura Valliant, in [Arete](#) (p. 9-11).

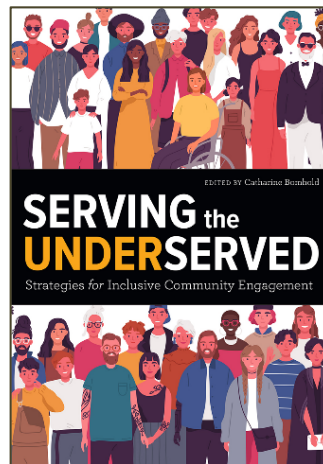


Ash Parsons (MLIS, 1998) new book is *You're So Dead* (2021)

Girls Save the World in This One by **Ash Parsons** (MLIS, 1998) is a YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults selection!



SLIS Student & Faculty Publications



Serving the Underserved: Strategies for Inclusive Community Engagement (ALA Books, 2022) by **Dr. Catharine Bomhold** is available for pre-order.

"Social Distancing from COVID-19: Critiquing 'Self-Protective' Consumerism through Memes" in *COVID-19 in International Media: Global Pandemic Perspectives* (Routledge Taylor & Francis Group, 2021) by MLIS student **Rachel Carazo** and **Dr. Teresa Welsh**.