



July 2015

## Table of Contents

1. [Message from WLA President](#)
2. [Serving Youth At-Risk in Libraries](#)
3. [Community Garden Engages Homeless Patrons](#)
4. [WLA Member Profile: Korissa McGlocklin](#)
5. [Hello From Your iSchool Representative](#)

In this issue of WLA CONNECT we have a message from WLA President Darcy Brixey on the WLA Restructure status and articles on Serving Youth At-Risk in Libraries, which was the subject of th CAYAS Spring Workshop, and the Community Garden Project at the Olympia Timberland Library. Read all about WLA member, Korissa McGlocklin in this issue's Member Profile.

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## Message from WLA President Darcy Brixey

I wanted to give you a quick recap on the board retreat the took place on June 19th in Bellevue. We discussed four major areas: membership, marketing, mentorship and restructuring. I was pleased to see so many board members and IG chairs coming up with creative ideas for these topics. Dana sent out the notes from the retreat, but most of the ideas hinged on the topic of the restructure so I wanted to keep you informed of the next steps in the process.

We want to be sure to address the concerns and questions carefully and in a timely manner. Please see the WLA [website](#) for more information.

Editor's note: This is an abbreviated version of Darcy's original email message.

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## Serving Youth At-Risk in Libraries

by Shelley Mastalerz, CAYAS Board Member

Twelve people participated in this year's CAYAS Spring Workshop, which took place on Thursday, May 28th, and focused on serving youth at-risk in libraries. The Mockingbird Society presented the first half of the workshop. This organization's mission is to improve the foster care system as well as end youth homelessness. They are based in Seattle, but it also has chapters across the state including Spokane, Yakima, Everett, Tacoma and Olympia. [read more...](#)

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## Community Garden Engages Homeless Patrons and Non-Profit Neighbors

by Donna Feddern, Library Manager

The Olympia Timberland Library was approached by local non-profit organization, Garden Raised Bounty (GRuB) about building 3 raised-bed food gardens on library grounds. GRuB's mission includes bringing people together around agriculture and partnering with people with low-incomes. We were excited by the opportunity to create a garden because we have had so much interest in our food-related programs. It also supports a service priority in our Strategic Plan:

- Promote the Library as Community Gathering Place
- Strengthen resources, services, and events that promote community interaction



Having a garden ties in well with Olympia’s strong urban farming scene. Our local farmer’s market recently celebrated its 40-year anniversary, and the city has loosened up codes having to do with growing and selling produce. A 2014 Gallup poll even recognized Olympia as leading the nation in access to affordable produce. Having an interactive, demonstration garden seemed like a great way to tie into this community interest. [read more...](#)

## WLA Member Profile: Korissa McGlocklin



Korissa McGlocklin was last year's WLA iSchool representative. In that role she “enjoyed encouraging students to be involved with WLA.” She also writes that she loves the freedom of libraries. Meet Korissa:

Q. How long have you been a member of WLA?

A. Since 2013.

Q. How have you been personally involved in WLA?

A. As a member of the Marketing and Communications Committee, I write articles for the Connect and I’m helping with the WLA Storybook that is set to be released in July this year. Also, I have been the WLA UW iSchool Representative for 2014-15; I



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have enjoyed encouraging students to be involved with WLA.

Q. What does WLA mean to you and how have you benefited from being a member of WLA? [read more...](#)

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## Hello From Your iSchool Representative

I'm a second-year MLIS student at UW and current iSchool Representative. I pass on information from WLA to other students, encourage student involvement in WLA, and am part of the Marketing & Communications Committee. I got involved with WLA because of my experience this year at Library Legislative Day. Before graduate school, I worked at a public library in Ohio, and before that, I grew up in Utah. I'm interested in adult reader services, library advocacy, and library planning & policy. I joined WLA because I want to be more connected to the profession and to be more involved in library advocacy. – Alex Walker