

July 2013

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**WLA Member Profile - Sam Wallin**



Sam Wallin is co-chairing the 2013 OLA/WLA joint conference. He likes pies, makes top ten lists and is an award-winning playwright. Meet Sam!

**Q. How do you like your job as Rural Services Coordinator at Fort Vancouver Regional Library?**

**A. I like it a lot – in my first year I was able to facilitate the set-up of a new Library Express in the town of Yacolt, to replace bookmobile services to that area. I work a lot with rural schools and our district’s outlying branches to find ways for them to connect to rural populations.**

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

**A. A couple years now – I was a member a while back, then it lapsed, then I got back in about 18 months ago.**

**Q. How have you been personally involved in WLA?**

**A. Well, about 18 months ago, I volunteered to co-chair the OLA/WLA joint conference. So pretty much right then.**



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Q. How have you benefited from being a member of WLA?

A. I love connecting with people who love and understand libraries – I think our state organization provides good opportunities for people to find those connections around the state.

Q. What is your favorite thing about libraries?

A. I love working in a place that makes me feel great about going to work. I like being able to give things away to people. Plus, selfishly, I love having really easy access to the library collection. [read more...](#)

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## MLIS Students Talk About Becoming Librarians

*by Richard Council, former iSchool Rep*

Since I'm hoping to see more students publishing articles in *Connect*, I thought I would take my own advice. Working in a public library while I pursue my MLIS has been a great reminder of why I'm getting into this profession. Lately I decided that one reason, and one of the best things about public libraries, is the atmosphere created by children. This is no secret to those with greater library experience than mine, but for newbies like me it makes nice foreshadowing. Here is a fun, recent experience that has kept me motivated during school and confirmed my decision about becoming a public librarian:

The Northeast Branch of the Seattle Public Library recently had men and women from a local fire department deliver a special story time. Long before the fire truck arrived in the parking lot children were pouring in with costumes and cheer. [read more...](#)

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## Continuing Education Successful Training Sessions

*By Kelli Bragg, Metadata Librarian*

For 2013, I've decided to intersperse articles on Continuing Education with articles that help guide library staff in providing quality training sessions for customers. The library's role in meeting user needs in learning situations isn't merely providing excellent database resources and reference assistance; we're also here to provide training on how to use library resources.

Adults attend library programs and training sessions because they want to learn. One of the main ideas that keeps arising in my personal research of User Instruction is that adults appear to do better when class agendas include andragogical (adult-oriented), heutogogical (self-directed) and collaborative methods. The formal one-way communication from teacher to student that we all remember from grade school isn't usually an effective method for imparting knowledge to adult students, because there's a paradigm shift from "receiving knowledge" to "exploring knowledge." Thus, desired goals are more often achieved when staff acts as moderators and encourage

directed exploration after providing initial/essential material (such as quick run-throughs or handouts) and then having a conversation when questions arise, or through encouraging student collaboration with students helping one another to learn concepts. [read more...](#)

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## Eastern Washington University Librarian Earns Five Merit Awards

*by Carol S. King, Eastern Washington University Libraries*



**Congratulations to Nadean Meyer, Learning Resources Librarian for the Eastern Washington University (EWU) Libraries. Meyer was the recipient of not one, but five Merit Awards for 2012. In addition, Meyer was the only faculty member to receive the President's Award.**

**"We are proud of Nadean and her accomplishments," said Ted Otto, Interim Dean of Libraries. "I commend her for her level of service and for an extraordinary year."**

**The Merit Award program recognizes and rewards outstanding contributions made by EWU faculty in teaching, scholarship, creative endeavors and services. The winners are chosen by the Research, Service and Scholarship Committee. Meyer was selected as one of ten recipients of the Outstanding Faculty Award in Teaching, the Outstanding Faculty Award in Service and the Outstanding Faculty Award in Scholarship/Creative Works. These awards recognize excellence in the relevance, significance, and positive impacts of teaching, service, and scholarship/creative work practices. [read more...](#)**