

Thursday, November 2nd

Session Title	Session Description
Session 1 (10:00am - 10:45am)	Maker Spaces Make Learning Fun This session will briefly tell the story of how my K-5 Maker Space program has evolved from December, 2016 to what it is today. Highlights include: starting small, growing the program to fit your school, the 5 Cs, scheduling classes, equipment selection & storage, student management, student choice & hands on time with several activities from my maker space program. Participants will be given access to my equipment list & grade level choice boards.
	jLeamos juntos! Building a Bi-literate Library Collection This session covers the who, what, why, and how of creating a thriving library collection that provides foundational support, enrichment, and pleasure reading for bi-literate learners. Will help to guide in the establishment or improvement of the library collection for schools with dual language immersion programs or those considering it.
	Using VA READS in Your Library! Learn how to implement the '23-'24 VA READS diverse titles into your library program. You will learn how to pace, pair and have your students vote all in 30 minute or less library classes along with extension activities for longer library classes!
	Unleashing the Power of AI and Research Tools: Transforming Libraries with Dynamic Outcomes Discover the transformative potential of AI and research tool integration in libraries. Explore how AI enhances information retrieval, uncovers patterns, and offers personalized research support. Streamline workflows, make breakthrough discoveries, and address ethical considerations. Unleash dynamic outcomes in library services and research endeavors through AI-infused research. Conversations around ethical considerations, ensuring responsible and equitable use of AI in the research process will also take place.
	Building Community in Your Library When You Don't Have Time Time is limited for library staff, but community-building remains a crucial aspect of a thriving library. This interactive session will provide ideas to foster engagement and connection among students and staff. Participants will gain ideas to enhance their library's community-building efforts without adding stress to their already busy schedules.
	Narrative Non-Fiction Your Students Will Love We will be showing you 50 Narrative Non-Fiction titles that will engage your students. Through quick booktalks, we will highlight new must haves as well as titles that have stood the test of time for your high-school libraries. Our list comes from a well loved lesson for 8th and 9th grade English classes with varied reading levels giving you something for everyone.
	Getting Together with Your ELA Teachers This session will abound with ideas for collaborating with your English Language Arts teachers on lessons beyond book talks and research. Topics will include incorporating primary sources with literature, exploring poetry, and inspiring inquiry.
	The Death of the Worksheet In this presentation, we will discover four online tools and their practical uses within the classroom and the library. The four tools highlighted are: Voki, Bitmoji, Virtual Reality, and QR Codes. By the end of this hour, you will have the ability and confidence to engage students through these tools when you take them back to your classroom or library.
	Controlling your Destiny with Follett Learn more about products, features and services Follett offers to make the most of your Destiny Investment.
	"I Want You to Write...a Theme!": The Notion of Unifying Idea for Your Library's Year of Lessons When approaching the notion of having a theme for our libraries, we often think of the aesthetic only; but what would it be like our instruction had one as well? Elementary librarian Lia Fisher-Janosz has test-driven this concept, and is getting ready to put it into full production. Having received an ALA Libraries Transforming Communities grant to implement programming related to fostering kids' resilience, Lia focused on its various facets during an entire academic year. Based upon the success of this venture, she's begun creating content for upcoming school years, and invites attendees to explore along with her as she explains the the origin story of the concept, considers how to curate a "library within a library" of books, materials, displays, and presentations for the year, describes ways to include and collaborate with colleagues, provides ideas differentiating lessons for various grade levels, offers suggestions for tech tools to use, and more! [1]
Adventures in Reading! Join Hena Khan as she discusses reaching different readers through various formats and genres through her writing career, including pick-your-path, early middle grade, graphic novels and more—and the critical role that librarians play generating enthusiasm and excitement around reading.	
Session 2 (11:00am - 11:45am)	No English? No Problem! Using Simple Games to Help Newly-Arrived Students Feel Included See how the use of simple board games and easy maker activities can help small groups of students feel welcome, connected, and successful in the library community without needing to speak English; a hands-on session with dozens of specific games and ideas plus two take-away maker samples to keep.
	Carolyn's Year of Awesome Have you been in a library slump recently? Determined to change my trajectory, I decided this is my year of awesome. The inside of my librarian brain is very crowded with small ideas that work, huge projects, and resources to share. This session is a little bit of everything for elementary librarians. Are you ready? It's time to be awesome!
	Go for the Gold with Reading Olympics! Looking for a program to boost your readers as well as spark the interest of younger readers? Go for the Gold with Reading Olympics and delve into an incredible journey that awaits those who participate in this competition. Students develop critical thinking skills, foster teamwork and collaboration, and cultivate a lifelong love of reading. Reading Olympics is not just a contest; it is a year-long opportunity to celebrate the transformative power of books and the joy of reading! We will explore the purpose, format, benefits, and the positive impact the program has on all participants. You will gain a clear understanding of why Reading Olympics is a valuable experience for students and how to implement it in your school!
	AI: The Science Behind the Sorcery Step into the enchanting world of artificial intelligence, where algorithms and data converge to conjure seemingly magical outcomes. In this session, we'll peel back the curtain, revealing the scientific principles that underpin AI's captivating spells. Brace yourself for an illuminating exploration of computer science's mystical side!
	The Heart of the School: Encouraging Fun and Exploration in the LC Libraries should be the hub of the school - a place that students can go to get supplies, find resources, have fun, and be heard. This session will provide ideas to ways that librarians can encourage students to come in the door and then "hopefully" find books to read along the way. I will discuss the different activities and affordable resources that staff can use to get student "buy-in" and encourage students to visit even if they don't have a particular "need" at the moment.
	Tumble Into Coding Explore algorithms, encryption, and decryption in this biographical exploration of the Turing Tumble inspired by the work of code-breaker Alan Turing. This session combines historical context with coding skills, promoting problem-solving, critical thinking, and creativity.
	Finding Your Light as a School Librarian Are you looking to (re)ignite your career's passion and drive? Stuck in a rut with one or more of your five roles as a school librarian? I will share in-person and online resources, strategies, and routines that can spark excitement in yourself, your students, and even your colleagues.
	Top Ten Tips for Student Led Libraries Give your students voice and choice for THEIR school library program. Learn how a middle school and high school librarian tapped into the energy of their students to create a library advisory group, which plans and carries out library happenings and displays.
	The Unusual Life and Civil Rights Journey of Mary Rice Hayes Allen In this session, you will learn about a former Confederate general's Black daughter who blazed a unique trail as a woman and as a Black woman between her birth in 1875 and her death in 1935. From serving as the president of a seminary and college in the early 20th century to helping found two NAACP chapters, she lived a life of courage, boldness, love, and activism. The presenter is preparing a biographical sketch of her for Vol. 4 of the Library of Virginia's Dictionary of Virginia Biography.
	Seek Truth and Report It (Your Librarian Can Help) Journalism teachers often feel isolated - in most schools they're alone on their collaborative team. But as the librarian, YOU are on their team. From learning how to use databases like Opposing Viewpoints, to citing images on your online news site, you can be an effective partner for school's journalism teacher.
	Beyond Diversity 101 This session explores the grassroots of diversity efforts, specifically the nonprofit We Need Diverse Books that was co-founded by Aisha Saeed and how to take diversity to the next level for our children.
	Literature for Teens & Tweens: What's New? Come hear about the recent middle grade and young adult books we have read this year! You can gather ideas and make lists of titles to add to your collections. We will cover new and popular reads across genres.

Session 3 (1:00pm - 1:45pm)	Making Libraries Engaging for Students with an IEP	Participants will explore teaching strategies, materials and networking tips to engage students with an IEP. How do we create meaningful lessons for students who struggle to focus, need movement and/or use a talk device? Web links for supportive materials and the Augmentative Alternative Communication talk device technology. BYOD
	Using Book Creator for Outreach	In this session, librarians will become familiar with Book Creator, including how to use the program, ways to use Book Creator to collaborate with teachers of multiple disciplines, how to use Book Creator to support research, other advanced ways to use Book Creator, and how to become a Book Creator Certified Author.
	Bump Up Your Breakouts	Breakout boxes engage students, encourage collaboration, and strengthen critical thinking skills and digital breakouts are becoming more and more popular in the age of one-to-one technology access. We will discuss and demonstrate ways to revitalize your digital breakouts by rethinking your approach and using sites like genial.ly. (BYOD)
	Let's Talk about ChatGPT	Let's talk about ChatGPT in library instruction! This session will begin by discussing how we can give students the vocabulary to name their information seeking behavior. It will also talk about ways you can incorporate ChatGPT into a lesson and have students reflect on it as a research resource.
	Roundtable Discussion - Diversity in Our Profession: From Self-Reflection to Empowerment	Let's talk about it! This session will feature minoritized librarians in a roundtable discussion about our profession in regards to race, tokenism, lack of diversity, and retention. We will use these intersectionalities to intentionally identify and amplify strength based strategies and concepts that disrupt and dismantle such barriers and illuminate the brilliance we bring to the librarian space.
	Taking the Library Outside	Participants will learn about the hands-on learning strategies that enabled students at a Title 1 elementary school to work with a high school class and community experts to plan, plant, prepare and share locally grown vegetables with their families while touching on a wide range of curricular subjects. [2]
	Rise Up! Starting with Student Engagement to Elevate Deeper Learning	Meet Adria Merritt and Calypso Gilstrap at the trailhead for a hike through the Cultural Competency Framework and Digital Learning Integration Standards of Learning. During this session, hikers will unpack the relationship between the Cultural Competency Framework and the Digital Learning Integration Standards with the goal of infusing relevancy, skill development, innovation, and joy into lesson planning. As the trail unfolds, explore the guideposts for lessons that give students a powerful purpose to learn and contribute to the world. At the end of the trail, educational leaders will be prepared to guide their own educators on the next trail to higher summits.
	Teachers are Readers, Too! Creating a Staff Book Club	Create a Staff Book Club at your school! We'll give you the club setup, framework, forms and even how to track participation for P.D. points. We've run our Club for five years and can't wait to share all of our tips & tricks to show your teachers that books are FUN!
	What Librarians Can Learn from a Sales Professional	A Librarian and a salesman? (No, it's not The Music Man!) Whether you realize it or not, you are selling something every day in the library. Learn to promote your brand, craft emails (and other communication) that get responses, and more strategies from the business world that will help promote your library program.
	Emotional Intelligence: Flex Those Muscles	This session will review the research regarding emotional intelligence and its value in the library. Field complaints, student behavior, and colleague requests through the lens of EQ for better results AND self-care.
Meet the Authors - Elementary	Meet ten Virginia authors, members of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, who will share their picture book and middle grade book author visits. One free 30-minute virtual author visit will be raffled off during the presentation. [3]	
Topics and Trends for Student Success	In this session we will explore ten topics and trends that demonstrate how librarians are essential to student success. From AI to the science of reading, you will leave this fast-paced, information-filled session feeling challenged, energized, and invigorated to make a difference in student learning.	

Session 4 (4:00pm - 4:45pm)	Librarian + CTE = FUN: Engaging Students Through Collaboration	From podcasting to rockets to book trailers, attendees will learn to engage students in cross-curricular, standards-based learning opportunities that include literacy and CTE activities. Collaborating with a CTE teacher opens worlds of possibilities for students! BYOD and investigate readily available tech tools along with hands-on activities to explore students' creativity.
	Building Community with One School One Book	I will take you through how I implement OSOB from start to finish including funding, choosing a book and getting students and staff excited to read as a community.
	Develop a Powerhouse Collaborative Team: Librarian and School Counselors Working Together	Hear from a Library/Counseling Team on how creating this collaborative team has turned the library the heart of the school and a hub for Social Emotional Learning (SEL). We will show ways to bring SEL into your lessons and passive programming as well as ideas for starting this partnership at your school.
	Diverse Books for HS: VA READS Books for YA	Come learn about the new YA edition of VA READS! Get answers to intriguing questions like: What is VA READS? Why are diverse books important? What books are on the 23-24 YA list? You will walk away with great titles to share with your high-school students!
	Teaching Research Skills to Elementary Students	Are you tired of your students doing animal research? Learn how to create a research unit on Poets for your 4th and 5th grade students. Learn how to blend, print books, with World Book Online, Gale in Context, and how to create a pathfinder you can house on your districts Student Learning Management System.
	Literacy and the House System	Come see how our school has used the house system to encourage students to read, and have connected the house system to your library lessons, literacy goals, and classroom curriculum!
	Higher Summits! Starting with Student Engagement to Elevate Deeper Learning	Meet Adria Merritt and Calypso Gilstrap for a continued hike toward the summits of student-initiated learning. During this session, hikers will unpack the relationship between the Cultural Competency Framework and the Digital Learning Integration Standards. As the trail ascends, journeyers will apply resources needed for the structures that give students a powerful purpose to learn and contribute to the world. At the end of the trail, educational leaders will have explicit pedagogy and practice tools to guide their travel companions through the self-reflection needed to help develop own empowered learners toward becoming global collaborators. This session will explore practical tools to enact the principles of the Rise Up Session; all are welcome!
	Inquiring Minds - What to Know	This session focuses on using digital notebooks to help students complete inquiry projects. A template will be provided so you can easily collaborate with teachers to create engaging projects that will give students voice and choice as they learn how to navigate the inquiry process.
	Bridging the Gap: Using Narrative Non-Fiction to Help Young Readers Jump into Non-Fiction Books With Confidence	In this session, we will talk about using narrative non-fiction books to help build a bridge for students from the comfort of a fiction story to nonfiction texts. We will explore how to increase student confidence and independence when reading non-fiction while developing multi-lesson library units.
	Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines: Tools for Clarity, Consistency, and Conscience	This session will provide a brief overview of the difference between policies, procedures, and guidelines in school libraries. We will discuss several questions and work through at least one practical example. Questions for consideration include: What are policies, and who is responsible for developing them? When should school librarians develop procedures and guidelines, and why? How can librarians involve stakeholders in the process? How do procedures foster communication, clarity of purpose, and an inclusive learning environment? Where do I even start??
Comics and Manga in the Classroom	For years kids have stuck comic books in textbooks and avoided homework by going to the local comic shop. Comic books and graphic novels were seen as at best, recreational reading material and even today can be seen as taboo or not real literature. This however could not be farther from the truth! Emerging research shows that comics and graphic novels are motivating struggling readers, enrich the skills of accomplished readers, and are highly effective at teaching all subject content, not just English. Join us as we explore just how crucial comics and graphic novels are to include in classrooms and collaborate on how we can include them in our curriculums.	
Planning 2024 Spring Regionals	Regional directors will meet to plan for the 2024 Spring Regional conferences.	