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Georgia Library Association - 2016 GLA Scholarship Winners

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Georgia Library Association
2016 GLA Scholarship Winners

The Georgia Library Association (GLA) scholarship committee is pleased to announce the 2016 recipients of the Beard and Hubbard scholarships. These two awards are given annually by GLA to provide financial assistance for students pursuing a master’s degree in library and information science.

Hubbard Scholarship

This year’s C. S. Hubbard scholarship winner is Katie Mitchell. Katie is from Carrollton, Georgia, and is a graduate of the University of Georgia (BS, Psychology) and the University of West Georgia (MED, School Library Media). She began working in circulation at the Ingram Library at the University of West Georgia in 2008 and discovered the incredibly rewarding career of assisting patrons with finding and using resources to meet their educational, instructional, and personal information needs. She has since worked in various library environments, including academic, public, and private libraries. She now serves as the branch manager at the Neva Lomason Memorial Library, part of the West Georgia Regional Library system, and is currently pursuing a master’s degree in library and information science at Valdosta State University. She is very passionate about learning and using emerging technology for programs and instruction, and one of her main goals is to broaden her skills in this area in order to focus on using the power of technology to enhance various services within the field of librarianship.

“With the transformation in information-seeking trends and resources that are continuously influenced by advances in technology, the role of the librarian seems to be ever expanding and evolving. I cannot think of a more rewarding career than one which allows me to serve my community by meeting individuals’ information-seeking needs in a climate of growth and innovation. It’s never been a more exciting time to be a library professional.”

Beard Scholarship

Anne Marie McLean is this year’s Charles Beard Scholarship winner. She graduated from Emory & Henry College (Virginia) with a BA in Political Science and Religion and went on to receive her masters of theological studies at Emory University’s Candler School of Theology. Anne Marie stumbled upon a career in theological librarianship while working part-time at Emory University’s libraries during the completion of her master’s degree. She was employed at the Robert W. Woodruff library as a part-time technology and learning commons
student assistant and was then promoted to circulation desk supervisor a semester later. After completing an internship with the reference staff of Pitts Theology Library, she was hired as a graduate assistant in the cataloging, archives, and special collections departments and worked there in addition to her circulation work at Woodruff. After a staff position became available in public services, she was interviewed and selected to be the new interlibrary loan and document delivery specialist at Pitts in September 2015. Presently Anne Marie performs ILL/EDD duties and supervises the circulation desk at the theology library. As she completes her MLIS via distance learning through the University of Alabama, Anne Marie is anxious to put her practical experience into perspective against the backdrop of the entire discipline.

“My long term objective is to find a niche in our theology library through a specialization in Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies in order to accommodate the increased interest in the subject, using my own background in academia to further the scholarship of students, staff, and faculty in the university setting. Without the financial assistance of Beard Scholarship provided by the Georgia Library Association, the resources for expanding my expertise and continuing my education would not be possible, and I cannot express my gratitude enough. I find it not only an opportunity, but a responsibility to become the best librarian I can be in order to give back to the scholarly community that both fueled and enabled my passion for the discipline.”

Complete information about the scholarships offered by GLA, including application information, is available on the GLA website at: http://gla.georgialibraries.org/scholarship.htm.

Congratulations to our 2016 scholarship winners!