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Georgia Library Association - Paraprofessional Division Grants

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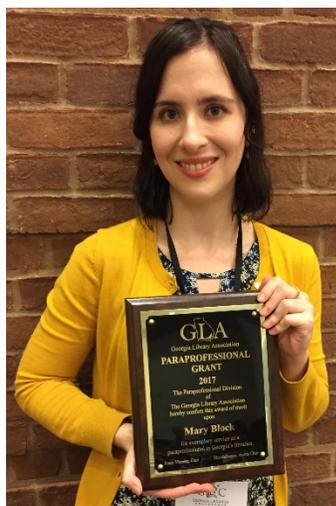
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*People, Libraries
and Agencies* **IN THE NEWS**

Georgia Library Association Paraprofessional Division Grants

The Paraprofessional Division of the Georgia Library Association (GLA) provides grants to full-time library paraprofessionals to facilitate their attendance at the Georgia Libraries Conference. Each winner also receives an awards plaque and a free one-year paraprofessional membership in the Georgia Library Association. This year, five paraprofessionals were chosen for the grants, including Mary Block, Connie S. Dowdy, Jennifer Gerrald, Marshana Sharp, and Charlotte E. Stargell.

Mary Block is the circulation assistant for Savannah College of Art and Design Atlanta campus. Mary works mostly nights and weekends and is often the only staff member available to assist patrons. Mary routinely



demonstrates an extraordinarily wide variety of skills related to both reference and circulation. Mary goes above and beyond her assigned responsibilities including formally mentoring international students. She is integral to the life of her patrons.

She is destined to make some outstanding contributions to our profession.

Connie S. Dowdy is a library media assistant to two public schools, a middle and high school. She is earnest, resourceful, dynamic and honest. She is a lifelong learner and a true

leader. She is uncompromising in her quest for quality educational opportunities for all young people. She is a highly supportive educator and has a true commitment to excellence. Her leadership skills, abilities, sense of humor, exceptional communication, and experience allow her to serve her patrons in the most effective and efficient way.



Jennifer Gerrald is the institutional repository manager with Digital Commons at Georgia Southern University. She has spent her career growing through the ever-advancing methods of creating and maintaining the metadata that makes our library resources accessible. She is an exemplary career paraprofessional who has provided immeasurable service. Growth and opportunity have been the theme of her career. She is relied on for her technical expertise, fearlessness, and resolve to take on the most complex data management tasks and see them through.



Marshana Sharp is the manager of the Dade County Public Library Branch. She accomplishes great things with a small staff of three. She



wants everyone who walks through the door to feel as if they are at home and in a safe place. She is never afraid to accept a new idea or a challenge. She makes sure that her library is out in front of new technology and is always seeking

pioneering programming. She inspires, empowers, motivates and leads by example, and the end result is a beloved library for the community.

Charlotte E. Stargell is a library assistant at the Fayette County Public Library. She is a warm,

loving soul to everyone who enters the library. She is a beloved fixture of the children's department. She assumes full responsibility and accountability for planning and executing programs in the children's department. She is extremely well organized, proficient and innovative. She knows intimately the collection, is ready in a moment's notice with an impromptu craft, and always has a listening ear for the children or their caregivers. The children just love Ms. Charlotte.



Congratulations to this year's GLA Paraprofessional Division grant awardees!