

4-1-2018

News - Gwinnett County Public Library

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Recommended Citation

Ibarondo, Clifford (2018) "News - Gwinnett County Public Library," *Georgia Library Quarterly*: Vol. 55 : Iss. 2 , Article 13.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/glq/vol55/iss2/13>

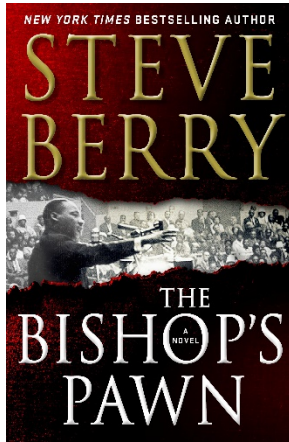
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People, Libraries
and Agencies

IN THE NEWS

Gwinnett County Public Library

Gwinnett County Public Library (GCPL) hosted bestselling author Steve Berry on Monday, March 26 at the Prototype Prime in Peachtree Corners.



Steve Berry is *The New York Times* and #1 internationally bestselling author of novels including *The Lost Order*, *The 14th Colony*, and *The Patriot Threat*. His latest thriller is *The Bishop's Pawn*.

Berry's books have been translated into 40 languages with over 22,000,000 copies in 51 countries. They consistently appear in the top echelon of *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, and indie bestseller lists.

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Gwinnett County Public Library and the San José State University (SJSU) School of Information have selected Eké Williams of San José State University from a group of five finalists as the winner of the 2018 Innovative Librarians Award. The award recognizes library science graduate students who put forward new ideas that improve libraries and library services.



Williams, a technology training supervisor at Brooklyn Public Library, will receive a \$1,000 cash prize for his work on the Documentary Photography Bootcamp. The bootcamp is an innovative seven-week workshop aimed at educating disconnected youth in the East New York community. Finalists included:

Eké Williams, San José State University (winner)
Innovation: Documentary Photography Bootcamp

Cassandra Hickman, Pratt Institute School of Information
Innovation: KNRC Youth Radio: A Podcasting Program for Teens

Shannon Bland, University of Maryland-College Park
Innovation: Vision Center at Waldorf West

Bianca Hezekiah, Pratt Institute School of Information
Innovation: League of Readers Book Club (LORE)

Hilda Loh-Guan, University of Southern California
Innovation: Empowering Urban Transitional Aged Youth via Strategic Partnerships

Nominations were blind-judged by public librarians and library and information science educators with years of frontline, managerial, and administrative experience.

"We're thrilled to offer this opportunity to library science students," said Michael Casey, GCPL director of customer experience. "This year's innovations were amazing, and we're so happy that we can share them with libraries around the world."

“The premise of this award was to celebrate our innovative librarians and recognize their ingenious ideas,” said Dr. Sandra Hirsh, professor and director at the SJSU School of Information. “They may be early in their careers, but they are already reshaping public libraries! I couldn’t be more pleased with the response to the call for submissions and the creative thinking happening in our field.”

The award is open to all students who are currently enrolled and pursuing a graduate degree in Library Science, or who have graduated with an MLS or MLIS within the past two years.

For more information and to read submissions from all five finalists, visit: innovativelibrarians.com.

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For the second straight year, *The Atlanta-Journal Constitution* has recognized Gwinnett County Public Library as one of the Top 150 Workplaces in the Atlanta area. GCPL earned a place in the midsize category, among organizations with 150 to 499 employees.



“We are committed to creating a positive and nurturing work environment for our employees,” said Charles Pace, GCPL executive director. “I want to say a word of thanks to all of our employees for their hard work and dedication in providing the best possible library service to the citizens of Gwinnett County.”

More than 2,300 companies were nominated or asked to participate in the 2018 rankings by Energage, a Philadelphia-based employee research and consulting firm. Several aspects of workplace culture were measured, including alignment, execution, and connection, just to name a few.

Visit ajc.com/top-workplaces for the full list of 2018 Top Workplaces.