7-1-2019

Georgia Library Association - New Members Round Table

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Georgia Library Association
New Members Round Table

Since the start of the year and the official handoff of the Georgia Library Association’s (GLA) New Members Round Table (NMRT) to the 2019 NMRT officers, the NMRT Division has made significant strides to accomplish its goals for the year. From the newsletter to the Georgia Libraries Conference Buddy Program, NMRT has or will be working to apply the suggestions received from NMRT and Georgia Library Association members.

2019 NMRT Officers

This year’s officers for the 2019 service year consist of Holly Hampton (chair), Autumn Johnson (vice-chair), Mary Block (secretary), and Brittani Sterling (programming coordinator). The officers have been hard at work fulfilling their roles to ensure NMRT’s continued success as they take over from outgoing chair, Emily Williams, and the outgoing secretary, Catherine Manci, who paved a path for a successful year for NMRT in 2019.

Newsletter and News Flashes

The New Members Round Table releases a newsletter every quarter. This year, the newsletter has a new look, showcasing helpful links, upcoming events, opportunities to become involved with the Georgia Library Association, and much more! In addition to the newsletter, NMRT also sends out “News Flash” emails when GLA has great opportunities for new members. This ensures that no NMRT member misses out on opportunities to get the most out of their GLA membership.

Preparing for the GLC Conference

NMRT has been actively working toward helping to ensure an exciting, valuable Georgia Libraries Conference (GLC) for attendees. From choosing GLC NMRT scholarship recipients and selecting presentations to sponsor, to confirming details for the NMRT & Interest Group (IG) Social and preparing for the NMRT Buddy Program, NMRT has been actively moving toward ensuring a positive conference experience.

NMRT GLC Conference Scholarship

A call for presentations was sent out in April 2019 for an opportunity to be selected to receive an NMRT GLC scholarship. This year, NMRT’s scholarship will provide one presenter per selected presentation with a scholarship. The scholarship covers the cost of registration for GLC. This year, NMRT sought out presentations that covered topics that would be of benefit to new and prospective librarians or new attendees of the Georgia Libraries Conference. NMRT also encouraged presentation submissions that would encourage
members to further their knowledge of the library profession and/or the Georgia Library Association. In May, NMRT reviewed submissions and two presentations were selected to receive an NMRT scholarship and NMRT sponsorship. To find and attend NMRT-sponsored presentations, check the GLC schedule for presentations sponsored by NMRT. For those interested in receiving an NMRT GLC scholarship, it is suggested that you follow the GLA Listserv for the next call for presenters for GLC from NMRT.

**NMRT & Interest Group Meet & Mingle**

NMRT has the pleasure of working with the Interest Group (IG) Council yet again to assist with the hosting of the NMRT & Interest Group Social. This year, the Interest Group Council once again successfully secured a restaurant that is perfect for the NMRT & IG Social. As usual, the NMRT & IG Social is scheduled for the Thursday evening of the conference. This year, the social will run from 7:00–9:00 p.m. at Ocmulgee Brewpub in Macon, Georgia. The social provides conference attendees with a fantastic opportunity to unwind from the GLC events, meet the Interest Group Council, meet the NMRT Officers, meet GLA members, learn how to become more involved in GLA, and more.

**Buddy Program**

Once again, NMRT will be hosting the Georgia Libraries Conference Buddy Program. The NMRT GLC Buddy Program provides those new to the Georgia Libraries Conference with an opportunity to connect with an experienced GLC attendee. The mentorship provided extends far beyond the Georgia Libraries Conference. This mentorship provides those new to GLC with an opportunity to learn about GLC, GLA, and the library profession. NMRT has received fantastic feedback over the years regarding how beneficial the Buddy Program has been as well as how it can be improved. This feedback is considered every year and allows NMRT to implement changes and improvements to the Buddy Program. As such, NMRT recommends that you be on the lookout for the call for Buddy Program mentees and mentors in August 2019 on the GLA Listserv to secure your place in the Buddy Program.

As NMRT continues to strive to accomplish their goals for 2019, everyone is encouraged to reach out to them at nmrt.gla@gmail.com to let them know how they can improve and what you want to see from NMRT. NMRT enjoys hearing from GLA and NMRT members as they work to continue to ensure NMRT is a valuable GLA Division. To learn more about NMRT, visit https://gla.georgialibraries.org/divisions/new-members-round-table/

To learn more about the Georgia Library Association, how to get involved, and how to get the most out of your GLA experience, visit https://gla.georgialibraries.org/new-members/