

News Release

Education Information Services ■ 125 South Webster Street ■ P.O. Box 7841 ■ Madison, WI 53707-7841 ■ (608) 266-3559

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DPI-NR 2017-57

Wednesday, June 28, 2017

Contact: Tom McCarthy, DPI Communications Director, (608) 266-3559

2017 Youth Services Institute cohort announced

MADISON — Twenty-five library staff members who provide services to young people and their families are beginning a journey that will likely change them and their communities.

The cohort for the 2017 Youth Services Development Institute includes library staff members from 14 of the state's 16 regional library systems. Their recent selection for the four-day institute in August starts an adventure that for a 2013 participant meant going from feeling like a co-worker to being an integral member of the library staff. "Not having a librarian degree doesn't mean that my ideas and opinions have no value in the library world," another 2013 participant wrote.

Targeted to youth services staff members who do not have a graduate degree in librarianship or who work in smaller public libraries, the institute offers participants an opportunity to develop library skills and make professional contacts within their cohort and the larger library community. Each participant makes a commitment that began with application to the Youth Services Development Institute. Competitive selection for the institute continues that commitment for the 12 months after the Aug. 27 to 30 face-to-face professional development training at the Heartwood Conference Center in Trego. Participants also identify short-term and long-term goals focusing on professional skills and leadership.

"Strong libraries add so much to a community," said State Superintendent Tony Evers. "The Youth Services Development Institute has a track record of providing important training to library staff who might not otherwise have this opportunity. I commend the 2017 participants on their investment in themselves, their libraries, and their communities."

Workshops during the institute will provide guidance on planning library programs that serve community needs; developing library collections; incorporating STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) into library experiences for youth and families; understanding the physical and social development of children and teens; and providing leadership in community settings. One participant from the 2013 institute said it instilled the "courage to try new programs and build upon other programs." Another said the institute showed the importance of reaching out in the community to understand and really meet the needs of a particular group.

(more)

The 2017 Youth Services Development Institute will be led by library professionals with local, regional, and statewide experience. Institute members are encouraged to seek mentors, and institute leaders will help to identify potential matches. Cohort members are also part of an online community where they can share information and ideas and support each other pre- and post-institute. Participants for 2017 are:

- Jayme Anderson, Milton Public Library, Arrowhead Library System
- Karin Timmermann, Hedberg Public Library (Janesville), Arrowhead Library System
- Brianna Adams, L.D. Fargo Public Library (Lake Mills), Bridges Library System
- Jessi Peterson, Chippewa Falls Public Library, Indianhead Federated Library System
- Martha Kaempffer, St. Croix Falls Public Library, Indianhead Federated Library System
- Florence LaBeau, Ellsworth Public Library, Indianhead Federated Library System
- Jodie Porep, Fontana Public Library, Lakeshores Library System
- Amanda Rentas, Milwaukee Public Library, Milwaukee County Federated Library System
- Kate Kirschner, Horicon Public Library, Monarch Library System
- Sarah Lange, Juneau Public Library, Monarch Library System
- Mary Winter, Shawano City-County Library, Nicolet Federated Library System
- Angie Bodzislaw, Spooner Memorial Library, Northern Waters Library Service
- Keri Rose, Hortonville Public Library, Outagamie Waupaca Library System
- Rebecca Hoffman, Marion Public Library, Outagamie Waupaca Library System
- Wendy Borden, Oregon Public Library, South Central Library System
- Chris Baker, Portage Public Library, South Central Library System
- Pamela Thompson, La Valle Public Library, South Central Library System
- Tara Teasdale, McCoy Public Library (Shullsburg), Southwest Wisconsin Library System
- Sarah Kyrie, Argyle Public Library, Southwest Wisconsin Library System
- Emily Zorea, Brewer Public Library (Richland Center), Southwest Wisconsin Library System
- Lisa Thomas, Hatch Public Library (Mauston), Winding Rivers Library System
- Nicole Overbeck, Wautoma Public Library, Winnefox Library System
- Hannah Schraufnagel, Neenah Public Library, Winnefox Library System
- Katie Kubisiak, Rhinelander District Library, Wisconsin Valley Library Service
- Krista Blomberg, Rib Lake Public Library, Wisconsin Valley Library Service

Funding for the institute is made possible through a federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS). While the IMLS is the primary source of federal funding for libraries and museums throughout the United States, it is proposed for elimination in the federal budget sent to Congress.

###

NOTES: More information about youth programming for public libraries is available on the department's [Youth and Inclusive Services webpage](https://dpi.wi.gov/pld/yss), <https://dpi.wi.gov/pld/yss>. This news release is available electronically at https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/news-release/dpinr2017_57.pdf.