



Sponsored by Mid-America Library Alliance /  
Kansas City Metropolitan  
Library & Information Network

## 2012 Children's Workshop



**March 22, 2012  
9:00 am—3:30 pm**

**Colonial Presbyterian Church  
9500 Wornall Road  
Kansas City, MO 64114**

**<http://www.kcmlin.org>  
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**816-521-7257**

Mid-America Library Alliance /  
Kansas City Metropolitan Library &  
Information Network  
15624 E. US Highway 24  
Independence, MO 64050

**REGISTRATION & PAYMENT:**

All registrations are now made through our online registration program with Constant Contact. You can register for a workshop by going through the workshop calendar on our website at [www.kcmlin.org](http://www.kcmlin.org) under "Mid-America Library Alliance Workshops" and clicking on the workshop name. Or, if you have received an email notification of the workshop, there is a link in the email to the registration page. Payment can be made with registration through PayPal (you don't need a PayPal account to pay with a credit/debit card.). If you prefer to send a check, payment information is also available on this page. If your library or organization needs to be billed, please click on the "pay by check" option on the registration page.

**COST:** There are two rates for each workshop. The first rate is for MALA/KCMLIN & Get Connected members and the second rate is for non-members. Please refer to each workshop for cost. **These are prepaid rates.** Please refer to our billing policy below.

**KCMLIN BILLING/REFUND/CREDIT POLICY:**

We prefer all workshops to be prepaid or paid at the door. If you prefer to be billed, please add \$5 per person. Full refunds or credits are available for cancellations made a minimum of seven (7) days prior to the workshop date less a \$5 administrative fee. You can transfer to another workshop a minimum of seven (7) days prior to the workshop date with no administrative fee. Cancellations made less than seven (7) days prior to the workshop date receive no refund or credit and you or your organization will be billed. No shows are billed to you or your organization.

**A CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THIS WORKSHOP. A BOXED LUNCH CHOICE IS AVAILABLE ON THE ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM. IF YOU REQUIRE A SPECIAL DIET, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH.**

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★ **CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP COMMITTEE** ★

★ Clare Hollander, Kansas City Public Library (Chair) ★

★ Jessie Alexander-East, Mid-Continent Public Library ★

★ Cassie Coles, Johnson County Library ★

★ Kathee Goldsich, Johnson County Library ★

★ Helma Hawkins, Kansas City Public Library ★

★ Rachel Rafuse, Mid-Continent Public Library ★

★ Peggy Yoakum, Cass County Public Library ★

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**Debbie McLeod** has recently retired after many years as the Youth Collection Specialist for the Johnson County Library. She has served on both the Newberry and the Caldecott award committees. Very little excites her more than being out at the farm with her 6 horses and miniature donkey. Nothin' like tossing hay and pickin' road apples to make one enjoy bein' in the outdoors! (BTW, anyone needs natural fertilizer, I'm the one to see!)

**Natalie Pauley** works at the Parkville Branch of the Mid-Continent Public Library. She interacts with kids and parents on a weekly basis presenting preschool story time. She has a background in preschool and parent education and knows what excites kids as well as their parents. Natalie has been looking forward to spring and working outside in her garden.

**Claire Rust** works at the South Independence Branch of Mid-Continent Public Library. She also sings in a choir and reads obsessively. She enjoys reader's advisory, laser tag, and tormenting her cat. Read more of her reviews at [AddLibrarian.wordpress.com](http://AddLibrarian.wordpress.com).

**Mary Stang** has worked at the Parkville Branch of the Mid-Continent Public Library for 20 years, including many years as a children's story time presenter and Summer Reading Program coordinator. Having come from a retail background her displays exude a dramatic quality. When she is not busily painting library murals, Mary can be found under a big tree in her backyard reading a murder mystery.

**Will Stuck** is a Senior Library Assistant for the St. Joseph Public Library system, where he has been employed for 19 years. The last fourteen of those years he's been working in the children's departments at multiple branches. His enthusiasm and creativity in regards to programming makes the library a fun family destination. Will acted as a presenter for the Missouri State Library Summer Reading Workshops, twice as part of a panel and once tackling the state solo. An Eagle Scout in his youth, Will can now relax by the side of a lake even if the fish aren't biting. He once ate leaves on a bet.

**Peggy Yoakum** has been the Children's Library Specialist for the Cass County Public Library Northern Resource Center. Peggy plans and presents four story times each week, two toddler and two preschool. She facilitates two elementary age book clubs each month along with the planning and implementing of Summer Reading and numerous other programs throughout the year. In December she and her husband become "Mr. and Mrs. Claus" and visit many libraries and venues throughout the state. Peggy enjoys getting close to wildlife, and they like getting close to her! When a Wildlife presenter at her library asked her to pet the Lemur he had brought, the Lemur, knowing a good, kind soul when it saw one, liked Ms. Peggy so much that it leaped up and sat on her head!

## SPEAKERS

**Jessie Alexander-East** is the Youth Services Manager of the Mid-Continent Public Library System. She is passionate about Library Advocacy, recommending great non-fiction books to kids, and proud to represent the KC3 Award Committee at the workshop this year. Jessie has a particular, somewhat inexplicable, affinity for slugs and snails that is not shared by many others.

**Kathy Bigley** is the Branch Manager of the Blue Springs North Branch of the Mid-Continent Public Library. She is constantly looking for inexpensive ways to provide a better library experience. Kathy can frequently be found looking for bugs in the backyard with her five year old daughter and two year old son.

**Cassie Coles** is a Youth Services Specialist at the Johnson County Library. She serves as a member of JCL's 6 by 6 Ready-to-Read cadre and has been providing early literacy-enhanced story times for seven years at Gardner, Edgerton, and Spring Hill neighborhood libraries. She has brought along Buttercup, her story time companion, who likes to be scratched between the ears and would be thrilled to shake your paw. In their spare time, Cassie and Buttercup love to sit in the shade of a big oak tree and share a great story.

**Naphtali Faris** is the Youth Services Consultant for the Missouri State Library. She received her MLIS with a specialty in Youth Services from Dominican University (IL) in 2009. Naphtali just finished her work on the 2012 Newbery Committee and reviews books for *School Library Journal*. She once climbed a tree on the grounds of Blenheim Palace in England, and that has made all the difference.

**Robin Gibbons** is the current chair of the Missouri Association of School Librarians' Mark Twain Committee. She is the school librarian at Scott Elementary School in Belton, Missouri. This is her 17th year as a school librarian.

**Helma Hawkins** is the Director of Children's Services for the Kansas City Public Library. She has served on many award committees including the Newbery, the Caldecott, the Batchelder, the Amelia Bloomer Project and the Rainbow Project. Helma grew up in Houston and spent lots of time on the beach and in the water; then she moved to Colorado and spent lots of time in the mountains; now she lives in Kansas City and feeds the birds (and squirrels and stray cats) in her yard – can you tell she's getting older?

## Our Keynote Speaker



Versatile performer, park naturalist and storyteller, Molly Postlewait has a special passion for getting people of all ages outdoors to enjoy the joy of nature. Molly is employed by the Johnson County (Kansas) Parks & Recreation District and works out of the Ernie Miller Nature Center in Olathe, Kansas. She has created several award winning programs at the Nature Center. She is the director of the Outdoor Discovery Camp where more than 150 kids come every week through the summer to catch crawdads, splash around in canoes and see animals up close.

In 2010 she was awarded the prestigious Master Front-line Interpreter Award by the National Association of Interpretation (NAI). In 2011 Molly spent a week as the Artist in Residence at the International School of Frankfurt, Germany helping to celebrate Earth Week.

Molly has designed and presented programs for the Missouri Department of Conservation, the Kansas Association for Environmental Education and the Arkansas State Parks. Several of her programs and recordings are listed on her website [www.storieswithmolly.com](http://www.storieswithmolly.com). The CD "Whisper on the Wind" produced and featuring Molly's stories from nature and park settings was awarded the Outstanding Product of the Year by the NAI for 2011.

Her work has been featured in the *Kansas City Star*, *Ozark Mountaineer* magazine and *Legacy*, and has been reviewed by *School Library Journal* and *Booklist* publications. Molly has a degree in Park Administration from Missouri State University. Born in Texas, raised in the Missouri Ozarks, she now lives in Cass County, Missouri at Top of the Morning Farm with her husband of 31 years.

## AGENDA

9:00-9:10	Opening Remarks
9:10 - 10:10	Keynote—This is Your Brain on Nature Keynote speaker—Molly Postlewait
10:10 – 10:25	Break
10:25 – 11:10	Breakout Sessions 1. Iron Chef Story Time 2. Displays to Transform Your Children’s Area
11:10 – 12:00	What’s New and Hot in Fiction
12:00 – 12:45	Lunch
12:45 – 1:30	Breakout Sessions 1. Early Literacy and Summer Reading—Don’t Forget the Pre-Readers 2. Book Talks - Like Speed-dating but Even Better!
1:30 – 1:40	Break
1:40 – 2:30	Breakout Sessions 1. Dream Big—Using the 2012 Summer Reading Theme 2. 2012 Helbie Award
2:30 – 3:15	What’s New and Hot in Juvenile Non Fiction
3:15 – 3:30	Closing remarks, Door prizes

### Keynote session with Molly Postlewait

**This is Your Brain on Nature**— Being nature deficient is a serious threat to our human experience. Everybody can benefit from the “free medicine” that is fresh air, but children especially need the opportunity to explore, discover and spend time outdoors. It should come as no surprise that the recent breakthroughs in the science of the brain have also unveiled that just being outdoors is good for our mental, physical and emotional well being. Participating in nature stimulates curiosity, increases alertness, and can in fact make you smarter! As librarians working with youth who are growing up steeped in an amazing technological world, learn what you can do to facilitate and promote the message “Go Outside!”

## SESSIONS

**Iron Chef Story Time**—Two seasoned story time veterans present their recipes for success using all kinds of challenging story time ingredients, from unexpectedly large crowds to difficult spaces and unpredictable (though age appropriate) behavior. Get all the juicy details about story time planning, resources, best practices, and more. Confident audience chefs will have the opportunity to try their hand at changing one another's most challenging ingredients from inedible to delectable. **Presenters:** Peggy Yoakum and Cassie Coles

**Displays to Transform Your Children’s Area**—Learn how to create a children’s space that welcomes, inspires, and informs both kids and parents. Discover the many different approaches you can use to incorporate displays in your library to spark your creativity. Learn easy, inexpensive ways you can help transform your collection from book storage to an entertaining, engaging space for your youngsters. Rediscover ways to add impact to your bulletin boards by focusing on color, size, and content—although glitter never hurts! **Presenters:** Kathy Bigley, Mary Stang, Natalie Pauley

**Early Literacy and Summer Reading: Don’t Forget the Pre-readers with Naphtali Faris**—In this program Naphtali Faris will inspire you with fun programming ideas for the littlest library users, using the Collaborative Summer Library Program manual. **Presenter:** Naphtali Faris

**Book Talks: Like Speed-dating but Even Better!** Jessie Alexander-East: Next year’s KC3 Award Nominees; Clare Rust: Books For Boys; Anna Huckaby: Graphics for kids; Robin Gibbons: Next year’s Mark Twain nominees

**Dream Big—Using the 2012 Summer Reading Theme**—A fast paced barrage of books, crafts, songs and program ideas revolving around this year’s 2012 Collaborative Summer Reading theme. **Presenter:** Will Stuck

**2012 Helbie Award**—Would you like to participate in choosing the 12th annual Helbie Award winner? Helbies are awarded for the best use of humor in illustrations in a picture book. Join Debbie McLeod and Helma Hawkins as they lead the group in the evaluation and selection process.