



Quarterly Newsletter

July. August. September. 2016

Hello, Everyone:

I am pleased to share the news that the Institute of Museum and Library Services has extended the Media Smart Libraries grant to September 30, 2017. We are excited to continue our work helping librarians learn and bring innovative programs in digital and media literacy to their patrons.

As we start our final year, it is a good time to reflect on what we have done so far.

We invite you to check out our videos on workshops and public events. They are an effective way to encapsulate and share highlights of the year. We are lucky to have recent URI film school graduates working for the grant and they have created three videos for the project. The first video documents best practices for professional learning in our [Stop Motion Animation](#) workshop. The second video takes the viewer through a public event called, [Navigating our Digital Lives: In School and Beyond](#). Subject experts, parents, teachers, administrators, and librarians came together to discuss key issues with children and technology in an unconference setting. Finally, in response to the interest in the intersection of libraries and computer coding activities, please watch our [Libraries and the Computer Coding Movement](#) video. Look out for more videos to be added in the series this coming year.

At a recent workshop, I was enlightened by what a panel of Media Smart Librarians said about their learning journey in the program and how it had affected them professionally. Here are some comments that I will share. A public librarian learned the basics of coding at a workshop and felt confident enough to run a youth coding program. She was excited to report that she had more teens attend this program than in the history of all her library programs. Another librarian described how participation in the Media Smart Libraries workshops about film literacy gave her the knowledge and skills to use the Providence Children's Film Festival FilmHub resources to run film discussion programs with elementary students. A youth public librarian commented that she is now known as a digitally literate professional in the library community. Her library director looks at her as a leader and she's also been asked to participate in the RI Office of Library and Information Services Library Services and Technology Act evaluation. I was very happy to hear that the grant goals are being realized in a range of ways. Moving forward, an invitation to apply for a second wave of cohort members was just sent out and we look forward to working with another group of incredible librarians.

Lastly, I want to mention that although our professional workshops and public event schedule was lighter over the summer, our cohort of librarians was still busy learning and accomplishing great feats. A highlight was seeing eleven cohort members immerse themselves in the URI Summer Institute in Digital Literacy intensive professional learning experience. These library leaders continued their learning and shared their new knowledge and skills in a collaborative setting with educators and media experts from all over the world. We want to recognize the URI Harrington School of Communication and Media for helping fund this opportunity.

Special thanks to all of our partners who have made this project a success.

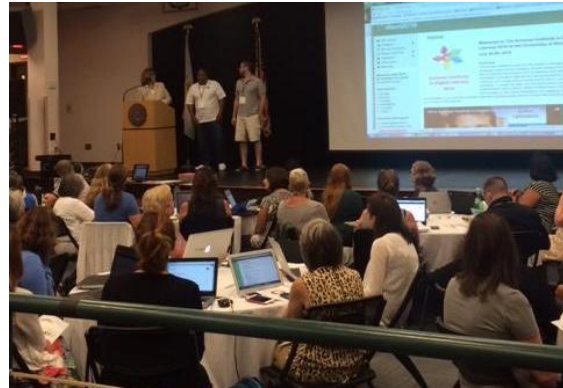
Best,
Mary Moen
Program Director

Summer Events

Summer Institute in Digital Literacy

July 24-29, 2016.
Providence, RI. The Summer Institute in Digital Literacy hosted over 150 participants at the University of Rhode Island's Providence Campus for Continuing Education for a week of learning, creating, collaborating, and camaraderie.

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Scratch Coding with Jen Robinson

August 11, 2016.
Warren, RI. Library professionals participating in the RILINK summer conference dove into coding with Jennifer Robinson, from FabNewport, who is also a school librarian at Thompson Middle School in Newport. Robinson presented on Scratch Coding a browser-based coding tool, developed by MIT, which is widely used as a foray into coding for all ages.

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Create and Collaborate with Code

September 24 2016.
Providence, RI. "One of the most engaging and motivating professional development activities that I have attended this year was co-presented by a thirteen year old. To be fair, Mathias isn't an ordinary thirteen year old. His father, Arnell Milhouse, is the founder and executive director of [Intracity Geeks](#), an organization..."



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ABC's of Media Literacy

September 26, 2016. Warwick, RI. Media Smart Libraries was excited to partner with the Office of Library and Information Services for their annual Youth Services meeting. Youth librarians from both school and public libraries gathered at the Warwick Public Library for a day-long workshop with Media Literacy expert, Faith Rogow.

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Upcoming Events

October 15th [East Bay Mini Maker Faire](#)

November 3rd [Making Presentations Pop with Tech 2](#)

November 9th [Stop Motion Animation on a Budget](#)

December 5th [Starting a Makerspace in Your Library](#)

Visit mediasmartlibraries.org for more information

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STAY CONNECTED:

