



Quarterly Newsletter

April. May. June. 2016

Summer Greetings!

Makerspaces, Minecraft, summer learning programs, youth empowerment in digital spaces, and high-tech advocacy presentations were featured events these past three months. Cohort members have joined our blog team and their contributions about our events are included here and posted to the [Media Smart Libraries](#) website.

Now that we have concluded a busy spring of professional development workshops and public events, we are turning our focus to the digital badge program and curriculum revision.

We are pleased to announce that 15 of our 23 cohort members have completed the badge program to date and are certified Media Smart Librarians. Please congratulate Kristin Almeida, James Barrett, Suzanne Costa, David Fontaine, Lee-Ann Galli, Suzanne Jordan, Carrie Kelly, Karen McHenry, Barbara Miller, Marianne Mirando, Susan Murphy, Tanya Paglia, Susan Rose, Terri Spisso, Gail Stokes, and Christopher Zanghi.

These incredible librarians have earned over 300 micro-badges in the digital and media literacy competencies of Access & Use, Analyze & Evaluate, Create & Collaborate, Reflect, and Take Action. The evidence they submitted to earn the badges met our standards of quality and illustrated diverse and impressive ways that they are demonstrating their new knowledge in action. Innovative library programs on film juries, film discussions, and stop-motion animation clubs were offered. Many used their newly-acquired knowledge and skills to train co-workers, explore different ways to use technology to promote their library programs, and to advocate in front of stakeholders for their libraries and themselves. We thank them for participating in the program. They should be recognized as leaders in our library community.

Media Smart Librarians are qualified to continue their learning at the [URI Summer Institute in Digital Literacy](#) on July 24 - 29, 2016 at the Feinstein campus in Providence. Eleven participants elected to attend this week-long premier professional development experience where they will have the opportunity to share and network with educators, media experts, and other librarians from around the world.

Our curriculum revision efforts got underway at a meeting with members of our local and national advisory boards in May. The goal of the curriculum revision effort is to develop a revised LIS curriculum for school and public librarians that includes an emphasis on digital media literacy and experiential learning through community collaboration. If anyone has ideas, questions, and/or resources they would like to share with us during this revision process, please email me at mary_moen@uri.edu.

I'd like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Allison Barker, one of our research graduate

assistants, for her help on this project. She graduated from GSLIS this past May and has secured a job as a high school librarian. Allison's expertise in web design, Adobe Illustrator, and everything to do with our badge program were immense contributions to the success of this project. She is an intelligent, hard-working, and thoughtful collaborator whose contributions to our team will be sorely missed. We wish her the best of luck as she embarks on her career.

Thanks for your interest in our project and enjoy the rest of the summer!

Mary
Program Director

Spring Events

Using Digital Media to Empower Youth

April 16, 2016.

Cumberland, RI. Media Smart Libraries hosted a public panel of young writers, activists, and social media specialists to talk about empowering our youth using digital media. Read cohort member Barbara Miller's blog post for a recap of the event.

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How to Be Dangerous with Minecraft

April 27th, 2016. Cranston, RI. Media Smart Libraries hosted a Minecraft workshop, facilitated by Emily Brown, where librarians were given the opportunity to both play the popular video game and learn tips and tricks for creating Minecraft library programs. Read cohort member Kristin Almeida's blog post for a recap of the workshop.

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Summer Learning IdeaFest

May 2nd, 2016. Providence, RI. Media Smart Libraries hosted an IdeaFest where librarians were given the opportunity to view URI GSLIS student projects as a catalyst for discussion about summer learning and programming for school and public libraries.

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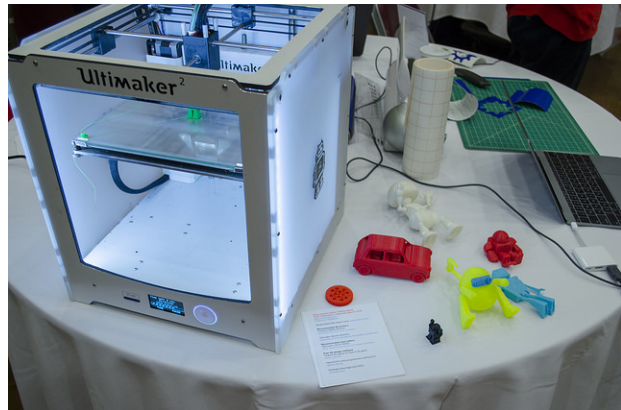
Making Presentations Pop with Tech



May 10th, 2016. Tiverton, RI. Media Smart Libraries hosted Jen Thomas for a workshop designed to break librarians out of presentation ruts and expose them to the many technology options they have for presenting information to students, patrons, peers, and stakeholders.

Makerspaces at SLRI 16

May 14, 2016. Kingston, RI. Media Smart Libraries was thrilled to host a session at this year's School Librarians of Rhode Island Annual Conference. The session, which was open to both registrants of the conference and the general public, was a Makerspace Fair and featured a number of different stations for attendees to visit.



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Media Smart Libraries Digital Badge Work in Progress Poster at RILA 16

May 25, 2016. Warwick, RI. Media Smart Libraries was excited to share our progress on the digital badge program with the Rhode Island Library Association at their Annual Conference.

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Boston Makerspace Tour

June 22nd, 2016.
Boston, MA. Media Smart Libraries hosted an tour of three Makerspaces in the Boston Area: Lesley University, Boston Public Library, and the South End Technology Center.

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