Future of Libraries

R. David Lankes, PhD.

The University of Texas at Austin
Bowden Professor of Librarianship

There is no future for libraries

There is no future for libraries

There are many

There is no future for libraries

There are many

As many futures as there are libraries

The Defining Attributes of Libraries

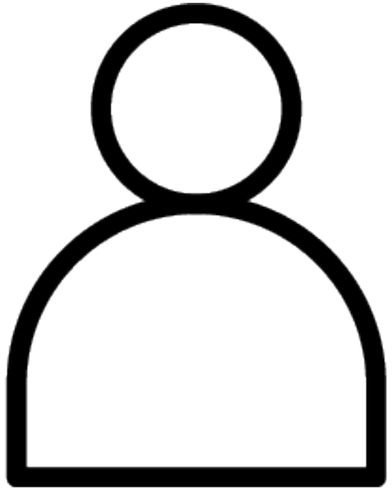
- They will reflect the unique makeup of their service communities, and,
- Staff that is constantly connecting great ideas from abroad to the hyperlocal situation

Manifold Futures Driven By:

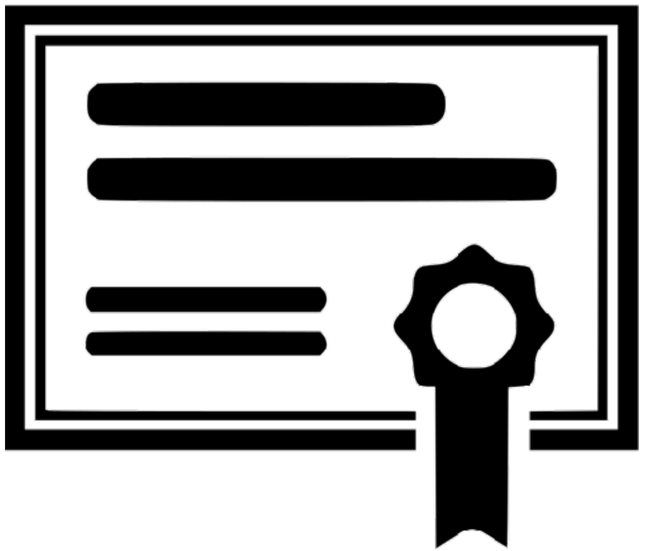
- A new librarianship focused on: Community | True participation | Finding meaning and smarter decisions

Countering

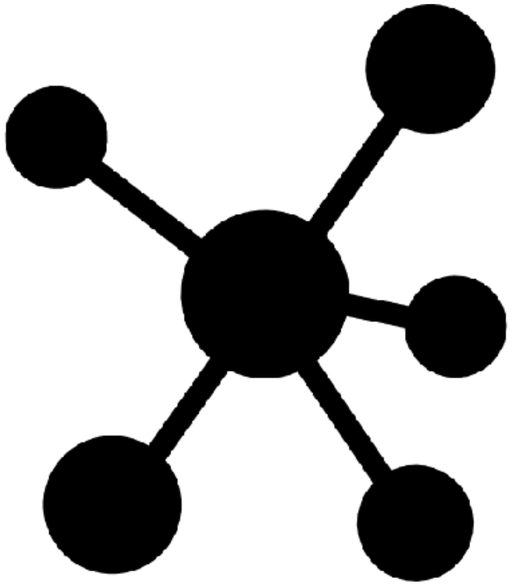
Rethinking…



Librarians



Certification



Networks

You are the future

San Matteo degli Armeni

Selwyn New Zealand

Seed Libraries and Library Farms

Philadelphia

South Carolina

Community

- A known variable: Place | Work | Study
- Mechanism for scarce resource allocation (Land | Money | Time)

Collections as…

A Service

Not A Service

Bad libraries build collections, good libraries build services, great libraries build communities.
– R. DAVID LANKES
GET YOUR LIBRARY CARD
ebookfriendly.com

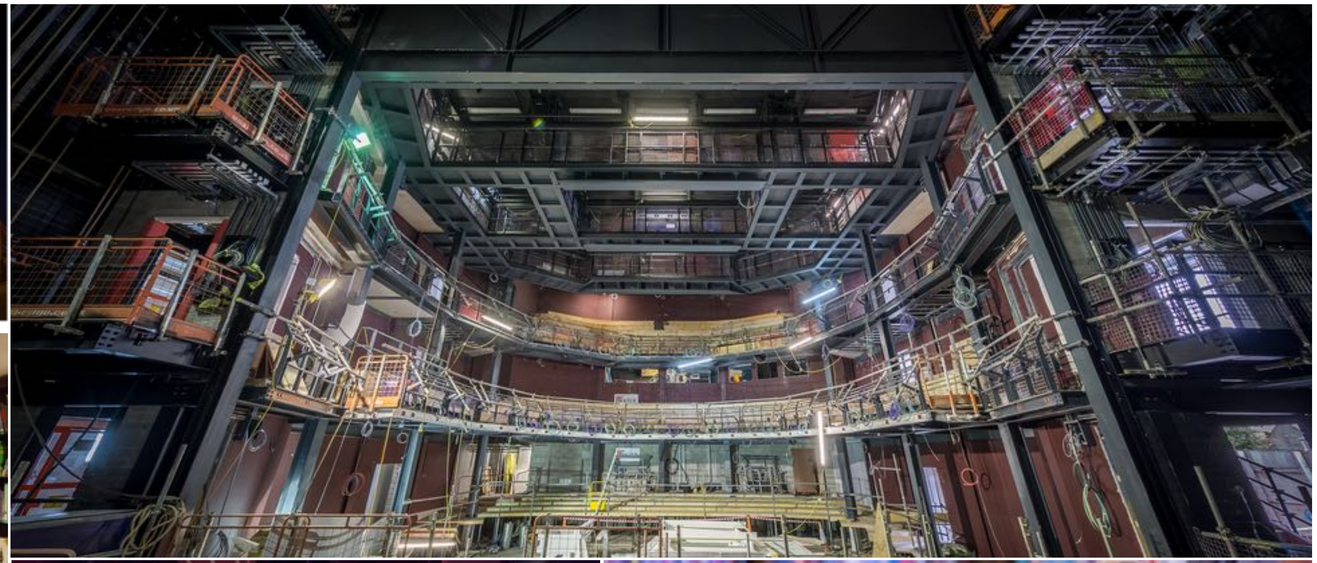
BAD LIBRARIES BUILD COLLECTIONS, GOOD LIBRARIES BUILD SERVICES, GREAT LIBRARIES BUILD COMMUNITIES.
R. David Lankes
LIBRARIANSHIP STUDIES & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Bad Libraries Build Collections,
Good Libraries Build Services,
Great Libraries Build Communities.
R David Lankes

"Bad libraries build collections, good libraries build services, great libraries build communities." - R. David Lankes

Bad libraries build collections, good libraries build services, great libraries build communities.
R. DAVID LANKES

Storyhouse

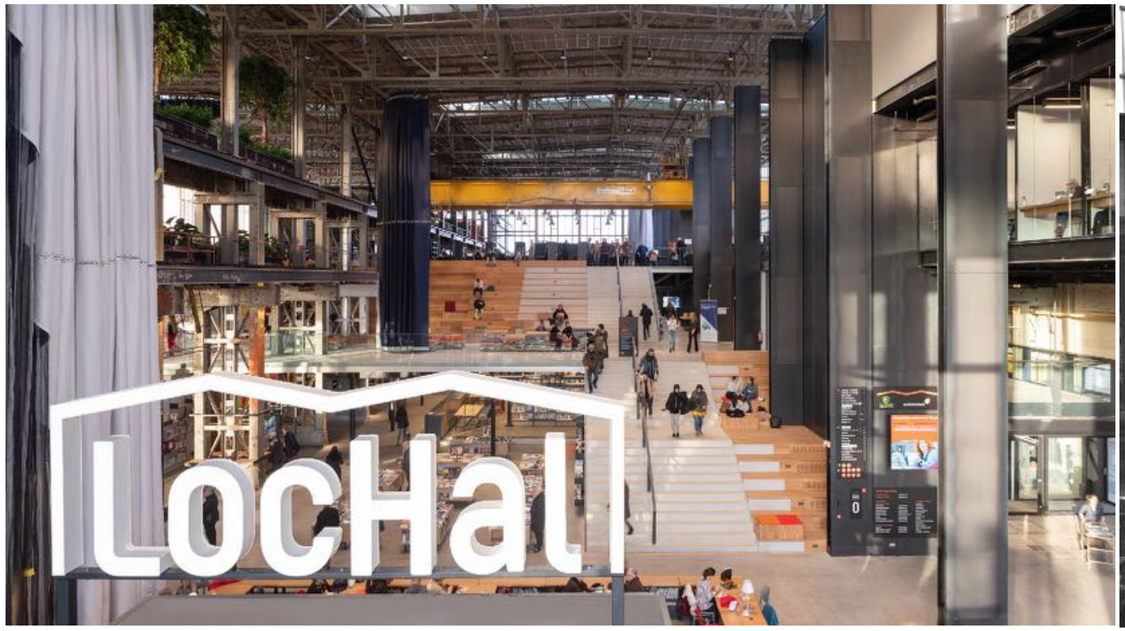


Academic Opposites?

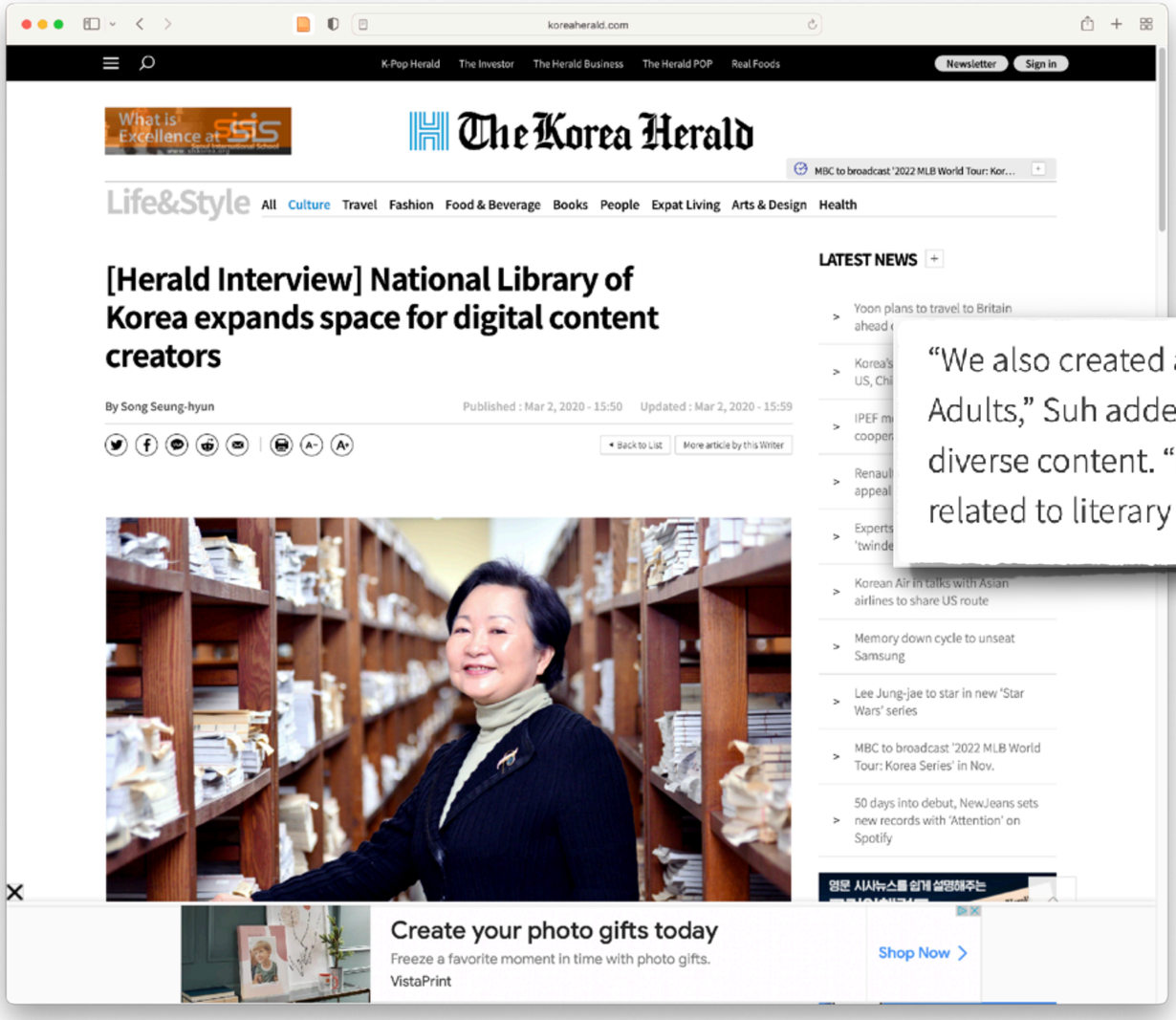
SOUTH CAROLINA
GAMECOCKS

UT Health
San Antonio

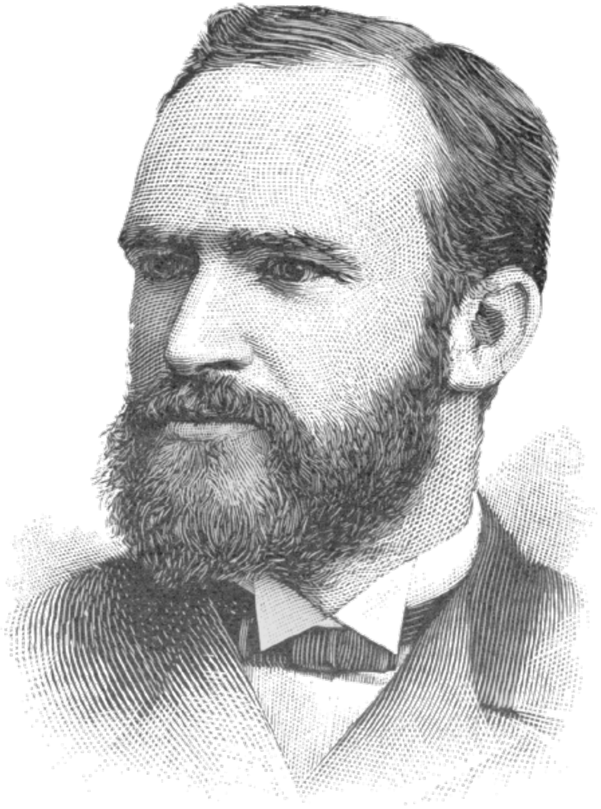
Tilburg: LocHAL

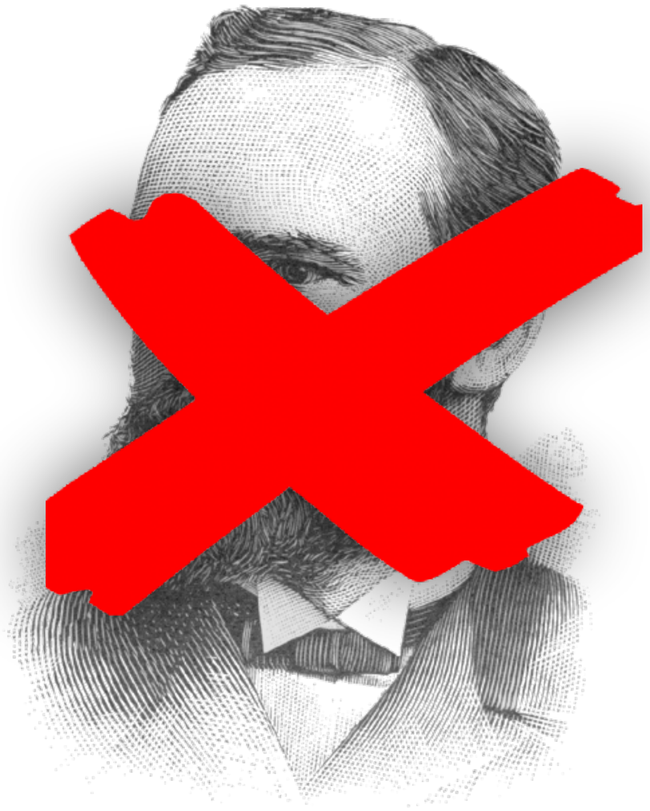


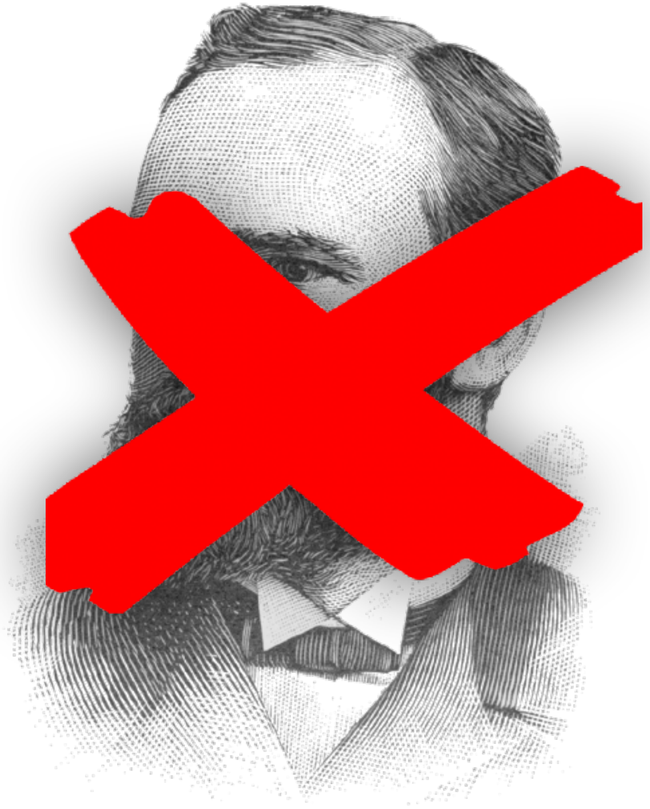
National Library of Korea



"We also created a Maker Space at the National Library for Children and Young Adults," Suh added. Maker Space is a lab where children can learn to create diverse content. "For instance, students can learn to code a software program related to literary content at Maker Space."

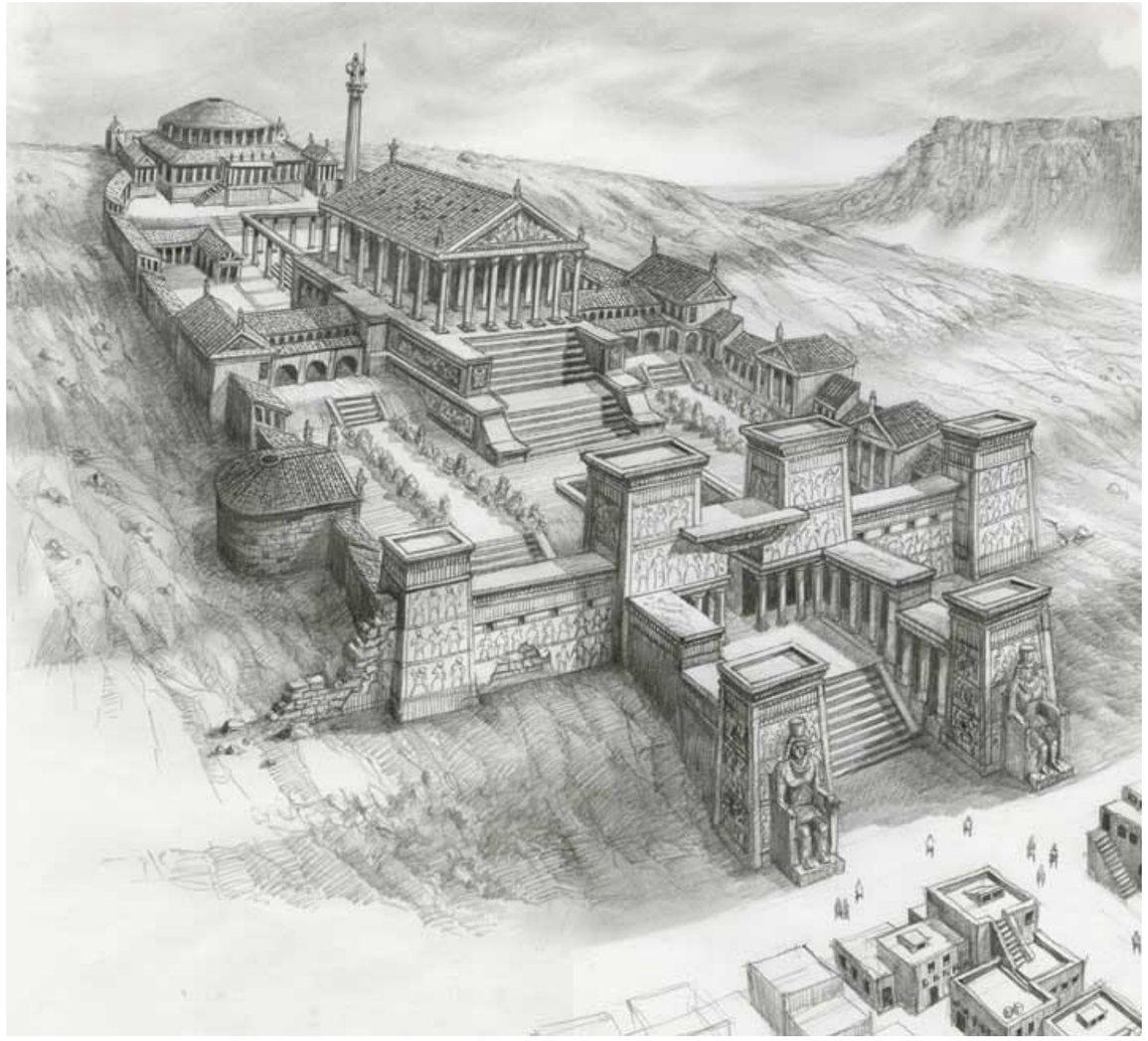






Disciplines Must Evolve

A History of Impact



An Inflection Point

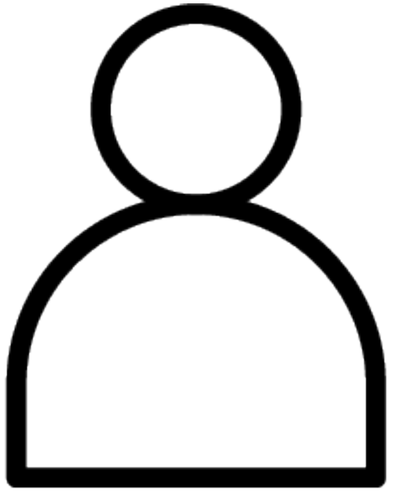
Texas

NOT MY IDEA
HB 3979

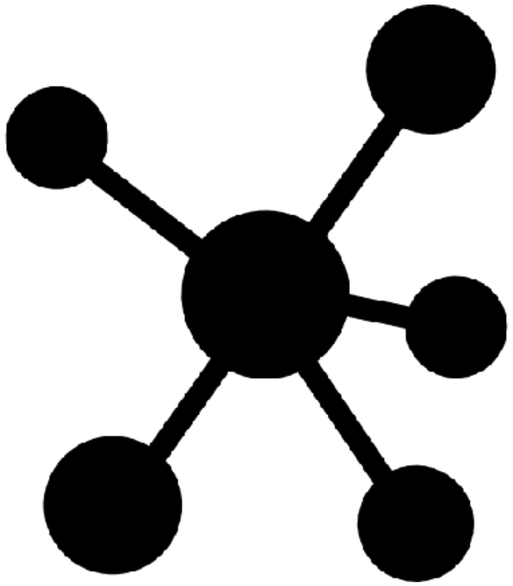
EDUCATION NOT INDOCTRINATION
STOP CRITICAL RACE THEORY NOW!

Tactics for Tomorrow

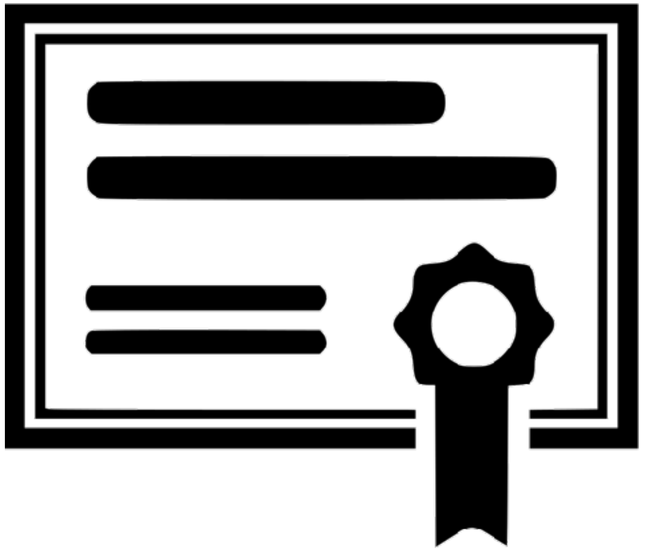
Think Different



Role



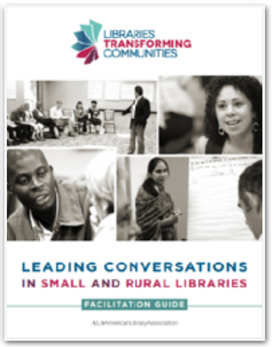
Network



Educate

Role of the Librarian

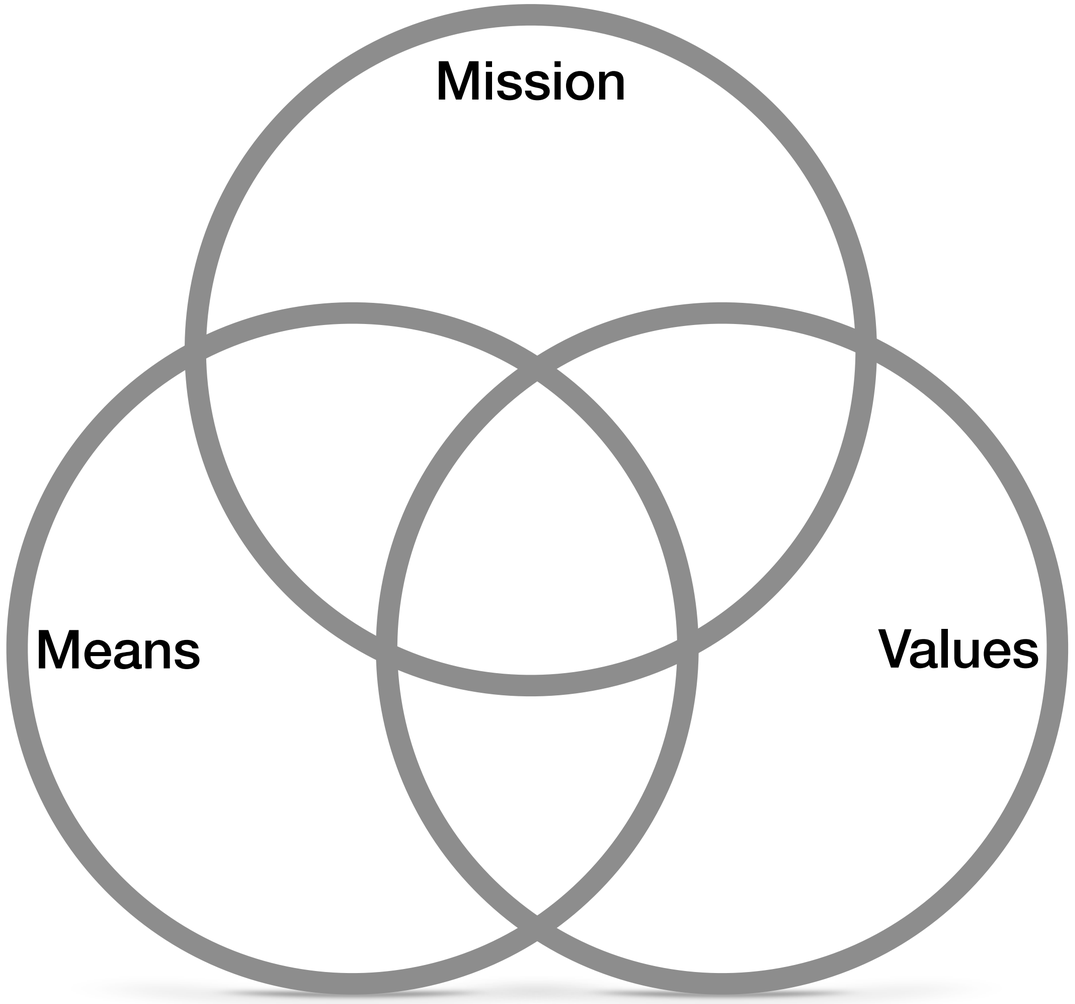
Facilitation



Professional Makerspaces for Librarians

Pottsboro Public Library

A Librarian

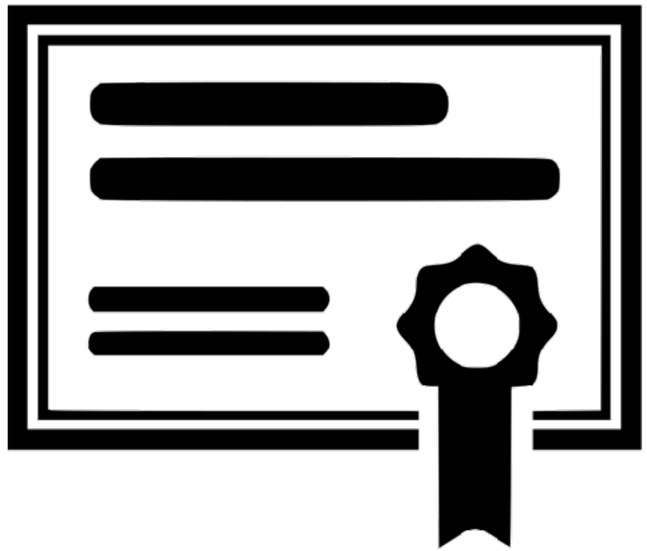


The mission of librarians is to improve society through facilitating knowledge creation in their communities

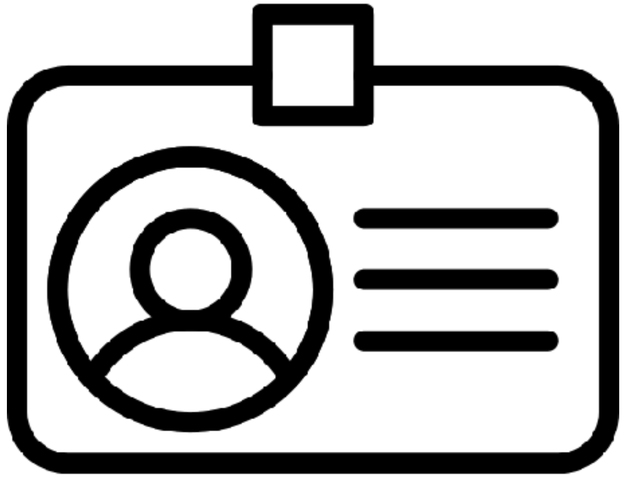
Access, Knowledge, Environment, Motivation

Learning, Openness, Intellectual Honesty (not Unbiased), Intellectual Freedom and Safety, Diversity

Librarian



Education



Title

Spirit

PUBLIC
LIBRARY
EMPOWERS
YOU

Freedom
Rights
Participation
DEMOCRACY
Voice
Choice

MUTING
MISINFORMATION

LAMBETH
UNISON
FRIENDS OF THE
MINET LIBRARY
SAY-"NO" TO
LIBRARY CUTS
SAVE
OUR
LIBRARIES

http://BowdenProf.org

The University of Texas at Austin
Bowden Professor of Librarianship