Introduction
A Message from the Chair, Priscilla Dickerson

Welcome to A New Year of New Opportunities and Endless Possibilities. I’m very proud of what the GLA Black Caucus has accomplished thus far, and I’m even more enthusiastic about what we can achieve together with you....our community of supporters.

As we look forward to 2022, we urge you to contribute your ideas and experience to help us continue our mission of promoting “leadership and advocacy” and “supporting fairness, diversity, and inclusion of library services in all communities.” As in prior years, you will have multiple opportunities to actively interact and connect with this group, so keep an eye out for our webinars and other events as well calls for action.

Sincerely, Your 2022 Officers, Priscilla Dickerson, Sarah Rodgers, Gina Viarruel and Past Officers, Angiah Davis & Tamika Barnes

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Need help? Want to contribute? Just need to talk?
We’re here! You can reach us at blackcaucus@georgialibraryassociation.org.
Priscilla Dickerson is currently serving as a Senior Librarian, Reference & Research Division Manager for the Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History in Atlanta, GA. She received her MLIS from Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA and has over 20 years of work experience in universities, K–12 schools, medical and public libraries.

With a passion for diversity and inclusion, she has served on a number of related committees for the American Library Association (ALA), The Black Caucus of the American Library Association and the Georgia Library Association. She is an ALA Emerging Leader and has presented at various professional conferences. She is a servant leader whose primary concern is the well-being and professional growth of those who are underrepresented in Library services.

Sarah Rodgers is currently the Assistant Librarian for Outreach and Programming at MacMillan Law Library. She graduated from Valdosta State’s MLIS program in 2021 and has been involved in GLA for almost five years. Some of her contributions include Chairing the New Members Round Table (2021), serving as Vice-Chair for the Scholarship Committee (2022), being a member of the EDI Taskforce, and working with various groups in the Georgia library community. She is also a Spectrum Scholar.

Sarah’s passions include crafting, watching cooking shows, and doing a little cooking herself.

Gina Viarruel is a Collection Development Librarian at Gwinnett County Public Library. She has worked in libraries for almost fourteen years, working in academic and public libraries, as well as interning at Mercer University’s Swilley Library Archive. She graduated with her MSLIS from Drexel University in 2019. In 2020, she served on the Atlanta Emerging Librarians planning committee, and in 2021 moved up to become Vice Chair/Chair Elect of GLA’s NMRT. She also served on the Nominations and Elections Committee. Gina is currently the 2022 chair of GLA’s NMRT, the 2021–22 Vice Chair/Chair Elect of North Georgia Associated Libraries, and a bookstagrammer. Follow her on Instagram: @roguelibrarian19.
"As the 2020 School Librarian of the Year, I know I have a responsibility to say something...I will not remain silent during this time. As Zora Neale Hurston said, 'If you are silent about your pain, they’ll kill you and say you enjoyed it.'"

**BookRiot:**
"How Are Libraries Recognizing Black History Month?"
by Jessica Pryde

**Helpful Resources**

- **Black History Month Resource Round Up**
  The Programming Librarian has put together a GREAT [resource list](https://example.com) for all things BHM.

- **Good Black News:**
  The Good Things Black People Do, Give and Receive All Over the World
  Looking for Black joy? You’ve come to the [right place](https://example.com).

- **Featured Job Resource:**
  The Green Book for Libraries
  This [website](https://example.com) is a BIPOC-only crowd-sourced rating and review system for LIS workplaces.
Upcoming Events

ANNIE L. MCPHEETERS DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR LECTURE SERIES

Mother Vines
A History of Black Women and Wine

Beautiful Wine: Wine in the Wilderness
Register at https://tinyurl.com/yckvxjyn

7:30 PM FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2022

COMMUNITY READ SPECIAL EVENT

ONE BOOK ONE READ
A CONVERSATION WITH ISABEL WILKERSON ON 'CASTE: THE ORIGINS OF OUR DISCONTENTS'
MARCH 27, 2022 | 3PM
AUBURN AVENUE RESEARCH LIBRARY
400 FREE TICKETS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
WWW.AFPLF.ORG

ONE BOOK, ONE READ: JANUARY 01 2022 - MARCH 27 2022

Fulton County’s Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History has an exciting series of programs and events celebrating black thought and history.

Check out the full schedule of events on their website!

Other Webinars

This panel will discuss how enslaved people achieved their freedom and what the journey by sea looked like for many African Americans. Featuring Timothy D. Walker, Cheryl Janifer LaRoche, and Cassandra Newby-Alexander, and moderated by Kluge Center Director John Haskell.

This event will premiere on Wednesday, February 23 from 7:00 pm - 7:45 pm EST. It will stream on YouTube.

The Black Librarian in America Book Launch
The Black Librarian in America: Reflections, Resistance, and Reawakening commemorates two important milestones — the 50th Anniversary of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association’s founding and the first publication of Black Librarians in America. The panel will discuss Black library history, collective and individual identity, and moving forward together.

This event will take place on Friday, February 18 at 6:00 PM EST. Register here.
Review of The Personal Librarian by Gina Viarruel

The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray is a historical fiction novel about African-American Belle da Costa Greene's rise in high society as the personal librarian to J.P. Morgan. Belle passed as white for most of her life; while her mother raised her as white, her father, Richard Greener, an activist and the first African-American graduate of Harvard University, was against the idea.

The book shows how Belle becomes one of the most powerful people in the art and book world. Belle lived through a time in U.S. history when lynchings and other hate crimes against African-Americans were ramping up, so passing for white was extremely dangerous. I liked the book because you get to see the risks Belle takes professionally and personally because she realized the riskier her actions were, the less likely people in high society questioned her race.

Would you like to be featured in "What's on the Shelf?"
Fill out this simple form and we will happily connect with you!

Spotlight On: BIPOC Library History

Have you ever wanted to know more about Black history in libraries and didn’t know where to start?

Michele T. Fenton, Monographs Cataloger at Indiana State Library, has you covered. Her blog, Little Known Black Librarian Facts, is full of great information about Black library history.

Michele has been posting about African Americans in the Library and Information Science field since 2011. She is the Secretary for the Black Caucus of the American Library Association. In 2014, she won the Distinguished Service to the Black Caucus of the American Library Association Award for her contributions.

Whether you’d like to know about Three Notable Figures in Librarianship in Jamaica or find other great websites to look at, Michele has your back!