

# Continued

## Continuing Education News Digest from Amigos Library Services

*January 2025*

### Updates & News

#### **Christina Pryor Joins Amigos as New Continuing Education Services Manager**

Christina Pryor joined Amigos Library Services on January 6th as the new Continuing Education Services Manager.

As CES manager, Chris will oversee Amigos' well-respected schedule of Know & Go and Live Online training sessions, Online Conference series, and Community Conversations. Chris will also help further strengthen and promote Amigos' partnerships with NISO and Skilltype, two important investments that have helped expand continuing education offerings across the Amigos membership.

Chris previously served as the Associate University Librarian for the Specialized Libraries at the University of Missouri University Libraries. She is a past president of the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), and actively involved in the Missouri Library Association, Library Marketing and Communications Conference, and the Core division of ALA.

Chris had previously worked with Amigos as CES Manager (2015-2017) and helped implement several of the courses and series offered to this date. She has also worked in public and academic health sciences libraries and as an adjunct instructor in LIS education.

Please learn more about Chris' training interests in our Winter Training preview below.

#### **A New and Improved Registration Experience**

Amigos is pleased to provide a new and improved registration experience for our continuing education offerings. New registration pages feature a more informative and dynamic presentation of course offerings, easier navigation for member and non-member registrations, institution look-up for member libraries, options for registering multiple attendees, and distinguishing registrant contact from billing contact. We hope this new investment will create an easier learning experience. Any questions about the new registration system or any of our offerings can be sent to [learning@amigos.org](mailto:learning@amigos.org).

#### **More from The Essentials - A New Free Learning Series for Amigos Member Libraries**

Amigos is pleased to continue its new series of Essentials online learning sessions available for free to Amigos member libraries. Response to our three previous

offerings has been incredibly positive and we appreciate attendees' engagement with this new series.

Upcoming sessions include [The Essentials: Library Values](#) (February 27) and a forthcoming session on Teaching and Presenting in the Profession. Previous sessions have addressed Customer Service, Workplace Communication, and Conducting the Reference Interview.

The Amigos Continuing Education Services team believes these sessions will address some perennial topics for library staff at all levels and encourage more staff to join Amigos for a training opportunity individually or as a part of group from your library.

The Essentials series joins Amigos' Know & Go and Online Conferences as another free member benefit to support staff development and growth.

Questions or suggestions for future The Essentials offerings? Contact us at [learning@amigos.org](mailto:learning@amigos.org).

### **Winter Training Preview with Christina Pryor**

Christina Pryor is the new [Continuing Education Services](#) (CES) Manager at Amigos. We asked Chris to answer a few questions for us as we look ahead to our Winter schedule.

*What course are you most excited to teach this quarter (and why)?*  
Having spent several years in library management and administration, I am most excited to teach the [Library Management: Motivating & Retaining Employees](#) class in late March. Library workers are the foundation of everything we do in our organizations, and it is more important than ever that as library leaders we do what we can to provide positive work environments. During my time with the Network of the National Library of Medicine, I focused on issues around employee wellness in the workplace – so the topic of motivating, retaining, and building employees up has been of the utmost importance to me throughout my career.

*What course would you most like to take this quarter (and why)?*  
Oh, it's really hard to choose! Since I'm early in my onboarding stage here at Amigos, I look forward to attending as many of the Know & Go sessions and classes as I can manage to. I think the course that I would most like to take is [Improving Accessibility Through Document Remediation](#). Providing materials online that are accessible is paramount especially given the Department of Justice's rule updating its regulations for Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The updated rule will impact so many state and local entities with the deadline approaching in April of next year.

*How are you spending your training time? What are you learning about right now?*  
Much of my focus the past few years has been on growing my knowledge in improving accessibility in physical library spaces especially when attempting to update older facilities to accommodate all of today's library users. Building that knowledge was critical in my last role at the University of Missouri but now I look forward to changing gears and refocusing on broader topical areas related to library

leadership and management. Also, I plan on spending time on learning more about emerging technologies, especially AI.

*How did you start out training in libraries - and how are you continuing to grow as a trainer?*

Training has been a touchstone throughout my career in libraries. I've been designing and presenting instructional training sessions since my first position as a corporate medical librarian after completing my MLIS at the University of Missouri. Since then, I've offered training to library users, all levels of library employees, as well as served as a mentor for new library leaders and managers. As always, I will continue to monitor library literature and information sources to continue my growth. However, one of the foundational elements to my continuous growth as a trainer and a practitioner in the field has always been through ongoing conversation with others in the field. Talking with members and hearing about their successes, challenges, and pain points drives me to help support them and find solutions but also leads to me learning some new things along the way.

## Conferences & Special Events

### **Lessa Pelayo-Lozada to Keynote "The People-Powered Library" Online Conference**

Lessa Kanani'opua Pelayo-Lozada, Acting Director for the Glendale Public Library in Southern California and the 2022-23 President of the American Library Association, will present the opening keynote for Amigos' online conference, "[The People-Powered Library](#)" (February 12, 2025).

[Register today](#) and join us to explore the ways that libraries nurture and grow their staff and teams.

Through her leadership in ALA and other roles, including as the 2019-2022 Executive Director and 2016-2017 President of the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA), Pelayo-Lozada has engaged with and promoted the work of library staff in academic, public, school, and special libraries. In 2022 she received the American Library Association Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award and was named a Library Journal Mover & Shaker in the advocacy category. A current board member of the Center for the Study of Multicultural Children's Literature, much of her work focuses on advocating for equity, diversity, and inclusion in libraries, librarianship, and children's literature.

### **Easy Access to Online Conference Recordings**

Amigos' online conferences provide convenient and meaningful learning opportunities, bringing together insightful keynote speakers with practical concurrent sessions from leaders across Amigos member libraries and experts from across the profession.

*Online conferences are a free benefit for Amigos member libraries.*

Register today for access to recent conference recordings:

- [Examining the Library User Experience](#)
- [Leading. Partnering. Connecting. The Amigos Member Conference 2024](#)
- [Creative Solutions in Cataloging, Acquisitions, and Resources Management](#)

Please Note: Attendees registered for the live event already have access to the past conference recordings. To view the recordings, login with the credentials provided for attending the live conference.

## **Upcoming Learning Sessions**

### **Cataloging**

- [Authority Control: Creating and Maintaining Consistency](#) (January 22)
- [Cataloging & Classification Basics](#) (March 11)

### **Electronic Resources**

- [Know & Go: Open Educational Resource Initiatives](#) (January 27)
- [Electronic Resource Management 1: Acquisition and Implementation](#) (February 18)
- [Electronic Resource Management 2: Maintenance and Troubleshooting](#) (February 20)
- [Electronic Resource Management 3: Assessment and Preservation](#) (February 25)
- [Electronic Resource Management: Micro-Credentialing & Capstone Project](#) (February 26)

### **Learning & Instruction**

- [The People-Powered Library: An Amigos Online Conference](#) (February 12)

### **Management and Leadership**

- [Project Management Skills for Non-PMPs](#) (January 14 - 16)
- [Library Management: Managing Change](#) (January 30)
- [The Essentials: Library Values](#) (February 27)
- [Documenting Your Library's Work](#) (March 4-6)
- [Know & Go: Performance Improvement Plans](#) (March 10)
- [Library Management: Motivating & Retaining Employees](#) (March 26-27)

### **Programming & Services**

- [Know & Go: Welcoming Adult Learners to Your Library with Bilingual Programming](#) (February 24)

### **Technology**

- [Discover Hyku: Empowering Libraries with Open-Source Repository Solutions](#) (January 13)
- [Know & Go: Strategies for Designing Library Instruction on AI Tools & Chat](#) (February 10)

- [Discover Hyku: Empowering Libraries with Open-Source Repository Solutions](#) (March 3)

### User Experience

- [Know & Go: Best Practices for Library Signage](#) (February 3)
- [Improving Accessibility Through Document Remediation](#) (February 5)

### Interested in More?

Amigos will provide on-request training sessions designed specifically to meet your library's needs. On-request training can be an effective way to meet specific and specialized training needs. Contact [learning@amigos.org](mailto:learning@amigos.org) for more information.



Amigos Library Services | [www.amigos.org](http://www.amigos.org)



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