

ALPS INFOBITS 2025

9:00 am–9:30 am	Registration, socializing, donuts & coffee from Community Bakery
9:30 am–10:30 am	Announcements, guest speaker Jennifer Chilcoat, Director of the Arkansas State Library, “What the Arkansas State Library Does and Why it Matters”
10:30 am–10:35 am	[passing period]
10:35 am–11:35 am	SESSION 1 -----

“AI Power: Transforming K-6 Learning” Room A

The goal of this proposal is to introduce educators, librarians, and instructional assistants to the transformative potential of AI in the classroom. The proposed workshop will provide a comprehensive overview of various AI-powered tools—such as Eduaide, Knowt, Brisk, Khanmigo, MagicSchool, Curipod, Diffit, Notebook LM, and ChatGPT—that can support personalized learning, improve engagement, and streamline instructional processes.

The workshop is designed for K-6 educators, librarians, and instructional assistants who are looking for practical strategies to integrate AI into their teaching practices. No prior experience with AI is required, as the session will focus on intuitive, accessible applications.

OR

“Release, Relate, Renew: Mindful Practices for Library Workers” (Yoga and Meditation) Room B

Library workers are compassionate, courageous, and confident in their experiences, abilities, and skills respectively with the populations and communities they serve. As we navigate and integrate library collections and resources, lest we forget to to be compassionate, courageous, and confident in/with ourselves. Whether you identify as an Inspirational or Faith-based individual in libraries, you should take a moment to release, relate, and renew our 'positions' in libraries by any means necessary.

With this in mind, I want to invite you to join a yoga inspired experience with a brief meditation, body scan, and yoga asanas (poses) that will stretch not only your body but your mind and strengthen your spirit in libraries and the vast and valuable work you do!

The yoga inspired experience will provide resources, information, and application for library workers and the people and populations they serve. We will explore and share mindful practices and approaches in libraries (i.e., public libraries, academic libraries, school libraries, special libraries, and digital libraries).

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11:35 am–11:40 am [passing period]

11:40 am–12:40 pm Lunch provided from Certified Pies, guest speaker Judi Calhoun, retired, previously the Director for the Southeast Arkansas Regional Library, “Finding the Light in Times of Darkness”

12:40 pm–12:45 pm [passing period]

12:45 pm–1:45 pm SESSION 2 -----

“Easy Strategic Plan on a \$0 Budget” Room A

Strategic Planning can be scary but it doesn't have to be. When you break it down, you know what you are doing: needs assessment and shifting gears to meet those needs. This can be done with a small team or a large team and can be done by spending no additional money. I know this because I did just that in 2021 when we crafted our 2022-2025 Strategic Plan. But not only did we create a plan that we use for guidance in our library, but our plan was one of 24 national PR Xchange Electronic winners.

OR

“25 Kids and Counting: Working with Student Workers” Room B

My presentation focuses on hiring, training, and assessing student workers. Over the last 7 years, I've learned tricks and tools to help make working with student workers a smooth(er) process.

1:45 pm–1:50 pm [passing period]

1:50 pm–2:50 pm SESSION 3 -----

“A Series of Unfortunate Call Numbers” Room A

As a library that uses the LC classification system, we often found that books were cataloged out of order in their series. Instead, they were shelved in alphabetical order by the title. This was confusing to both patrons and library staff. So, I proposed new cutter numbers for books in a series that used the series name and the story's chronological order. This made browsing easier for students and avoided situations where Book 8 was the first book of the series on the shelf.

OR

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“ChatGPT Unleashed: Exploring AI’s Potential for Innovation and Efficiency in Libraries” Room B

In this engaging breakout session, we’ll explore how ChatGPT can revolutionize library services, improve user experience, and streamline operations. As libraries continue to evolve in the digital age, ChatGPT offers innovative ways to enhance accessibility, support research, and boost operational efficiency.

Participants will:

Discover how ChatGPT can assist in answering reference questions, providing instant information, and offering personalized recommendations to library users.

Explore the use of AI for automating routine tasks such as cataloging, inventory management, and content curation.

Learn about integrating ChatGPT into library systems to improve staff workflows and enhance user engagement, from virtual assistance to interactive learning tools.

Discuss the potential of ChatGPT for training library patrons, helping with research, and assisting in educational programming and outreach efforts.

Delve into the ethical considerations of using AI in libraries, including privacy concerns and ensuring equitable access to technology.

By the end of the session, librarians will gain actionable insights on how to incorporate ChatGPT into their libraries, driving innovation, improving services, and increasing efficiency while providing users with a more dynamic and accessible library experience.

2:50 pm–2:55 pm	[passing period]
2:55 pm–3:55 pm	Announcements, prizes