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## Introduction: From the Guest Editors

Ayn Frazee

Isaac Gilman

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# Introduction

## From the Guest Editor Ayn Frazee

When I first heard that the theme of this joint issue of *Interchange* and *OLA Quarterly* would be “Libraries Across the Lifespan” I thought, “Of course!” Very few of us discovered our love of reading and library services as adults, though for a great number of us, the path to librarianship was long and winding. I have heard numerous fond recollections of favorite librarians and reading experiences from preschoolers to respected elders. I’ve also heard interesting tales from librarians, novice and veteran alike, detailing their journey into the profession. Some of us have always known we were destined for the library life, while others of us took the scenic route to the job. All of us, however, have landed in a profession that is more than just work, but a passion.

In this issue we get to see the real intersections of libraries at every level: from collaborations between school and public libraries to partnerships between libraries and their larger communities. The librarians and library advocates represented by OASL and OLA truly exemplify service. From infancy to older adulthood in public, private and school libraries across Oregon and online, Oregon librarians are making an impact by providing essential services to our population. I’m so pleased to keep such good company.



Ayn Frazee is a teacher-librarian and instructional coordinator at Rosemont Ridge Middle School in West Linn. She recently completed her Master’s in Educational Media and Librarianship at Portland State, prior to which she worked in public libraries as a library assistant. You can drop Ayn a line at [frazeea@wlwv.k12.or.us](mailto:frazeea@wlwv.k12.or.us) or follow her on Twitter @ayntastic.

## From the Guest Editor Isaac Gilman

The Oregon Library Association’s units serve an important purpose—they allow us to collaborate with colleagues who work in similar areas or with similar populations. But it’s important to remember that, ultimately, every unit is serving the same patrons—just at different points in their lives. Oregon libraries serve the very young to the very wise: from story-times, to summer reading, to college papers, to job searches, to aging in place, we meet our patrons where they are. And as they move between our libraries—public, school, special, and academic—across their lives, it should be our goal to provide our own “continuity of care:” ensuring that patrons know what is available to them at other libraries, and equipping them for the next stage of their life, education, or career.

Providing this continuity requires that we understand the work of our colleagues in other libraries. Like Ayn, I am proud to be part of a library community that “gets” this: as exciting as the collaborations are that are included in this issue, there are many examples of connections between public, school, and academic libraries that are not reflected here. For example, ACRL-Oregon (full disclosure: I’m on the board), funded the attendance of two academic librarians to the 2013 OASL conference (and we are offering to fund the attendance of two OASL members to the 2014 Library Instruction West conference) to promote dialogue between school and academic librarians. And this joint issue of *Interchange* and *OLA Quarterly*—the first since OASL joined OLA—is itself an expression of the shared purpose of all Oregon libraries.

It is my pleasure to play a role in bringing these articles to both *Interchange* and *OLA Quarterly* readers. As a “legacy” Oregon librarian (my mother graduated from the University of Oregon library school and worked in both school and public libraries in Coos Bay), libraries have been part of *my* lifespan since I was born—from storytime, to History Day research, to college all-nighters, to library school, to my current professional scholarship. It is inspiring to see how Oregon libraries are working (and working together) to provide that lifelong service to others!



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