Workshop Titles and Descriptions

21st Century Library & Digital Learning	Looking at how to not only add digital learning into the library but using it to enhance the library and bring 21st century learning into the space.
AASL Best Websites for Teaching and Learning	AASL's Best Websites Committee is deemed with the task of recommending 25 free, or mostly free, sites to recommend for it's yearly published list. The task requires filtering and selecting, thorough evaluation, and rounds and rounds of deliberation. This year we updated the list's organziational structure to reflect the National Library Standards shared foundations. As a participant in the process, I've gotten "up close and personal" with this year's choices; I'd like to take this opportunity to share them with you!
Advocating for your Library: Tech Tools to Help	Learn how to use different online platforms and technology tools to make your library more relevant and future ready. These tools can be used to advocate for your library in subtle yet powerful ways. Join us for an uplifting and engaging discussion on making your library more visible.
App Smashing With Green Screens	What can you do with a green screen? This presentation will present information to attendees on how to use a Green Screen, and how to incorporate other apps such as Buncee, Book Creator, Videolicious, Chatterpix, and IMovie into green screen movies. Attendees will also be given hands on experience with using the green screen.
Author Visits: Enrich and Inspire	Award-winning authors Margery Cuyler, Tara Lazar, Karen Rostoker-Gruber & Rachelle Burk reveal author visit best practices. What can schools do ahead of a visit to prepare and excite students, ensuring an enriching, fun experience? How can authors be involved in that process? The authors share their experiences and answer questions.
Being a Librarian In The Age of Alternative Fact	Learn ways to become an Alternative Fact Fighter. There will also be discussion on some of the hot topics in librarianship such as diverse books, library fines, gentrification and more. Come prepared to be challenged to change.
Birds of a Feather Read Together -- Supporting Family Literacy through Virtual Read Alouds	It is often said that technological changes do more to separate families than to bring them together. What if there was a way to gather your families 'round their smart device (think 1940 radio program), to listen to and share in the magic of a story? "Birds of a Feather" is a weekly podcast designed to do just that. Come and find out how this simple idea can lead to building a community of readers in your school and district.
Boosting the School Library Program through Creative Makerspace Scheduling	I have/want a Makerspace in my library. Now what? Learn how to creatively schedule workshops within the daily bell schedule for both class and independent exploration in a fun, collaborative, "failure allowed" environment—while, at the same time, enhancing the entire library program.
BreakOut of the Ordinary	Discover how you can use BreakOut Boxes to incorporate play into learning. Based on the popular Escape Rooms, BreakoutEdu boxes reinforce 21st century skills of critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, and communication. We'll share how we used them for Library Orientation and how it's bringing many new collaboration opportunities.
Breakthrough Educational Technologies of 2019	Digital education is generating new learning opportunities every day. A panel of leaders in the field of educational technology will discuss the latest technologies and trends that will have a profound impact on education now and in years to come.
Breath & Stretch: Simple Stress Reduction Techniques	Our days are busy helping students, staff, and parents and this is wonderful! However, it's important to take some time to help ourselves. Join me to learn some simple breathing techniques and yoga poses, done while sitting on a chair, to revitalize you and keep you going throughout your day!
Bridging the transition together	Guided by AASL's National School Library Standards, school librarians work to prepare information literate learners to meet high-level academic expectations. Yet, the lasting impact of our efforts remains unknown and unvalidated. How might we ensure our students students are prepared for university research and ready to address the ACRL Framework?
Build With Bloxels	Bloxels is an awesome way to create your own video games. Students can create their own gaming background and characters into a real video game. Attendees will be given hands on experience in using and creating with Bloxels.

Can You Hear Me Now? Getting Your Message Out	Do you feel as though you have been shouting into the wind? Have your attempts to communicate the value of the school library program fallen on deaf ears? Start with some communication basics and then add some tips and techniques from the business world to reach your targets
Carousel of Creative Curriculum	The relevant Library Media Specialist must consistently Reflect upon curriculum, Refresh one's outlook, and Renew by staying abreast of current technologies. We will share some of our lesson updates and best practices integrating the latest tech trends such as FlipGrid, SeeSaw, WeVideo, Google Apps for Education, Adobe Spark and others.
Chapter Books: DECODED!	Although every chapter book has a magic all its own, there are some universal characteristics that any writer or curator of chapter books should know. Drawing from the work of notable series, Luper breaks down this fast-paced style of writing and discusses why it keeps young readers turning the pages.
Children with Parents Behind Bars	Learn about the impact on children of parental incarceration. Children's author Becky Birtha will discuss her book, Far Apart, Close in Heart: Being a Family When A Loved One is Incarcerated, and why this topic is currently so important, including facts, findings, and other children's books on the subject.
Curriculum as Advocacy: Library Curriculum Writing 101	If you are working without a curriculum, with an outdated curriculum, or without administrative support, this workshop is for you! In this session you will learn how a curriculum can support your practice as well as your program, and safeguard your position. We will examine two examples of board-approved curricula including the process of creating them.
Designing a Digital Citizenship Program [K-8]	This session will showcase how we developed a K-8 digital citizenship program in our district, focused on developing students' skills and abilities to gather and use information and technology responsibly and safely, along with information on state/national standards, materials, and resources that can help you meet your students' digital citizenship needs.
Digital Citizenship Instruction via School Librarian	Come join the discussion about how we must provide Digital Citizenship Instruction via the School Librarian. We will: --Define Digital Citizenship --Discuss the importance in teaching Digital Citizenship --Support why Librarians should lead teaching in this area --Set priorities --Share digital resources --Share teaching strategies for students, teachers & parents. Come prepared to share and discuss this topic.
Discover ALSC's Notable (Outstanding! Distinguished! Just Plain Great!) Children's Books	Every year the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) selects notable books of "especially commendable quality" which "exhibit venturesome creativity." This list includes fiction and nonfiction titles for birth through 14. This program will describe the process of developing the list and introduce our favorites on the 2018 list.
Escape Rooms in Education	The escape room experience has taken the world by storn, and now it's time to bring this excitement into our media centers and classrooms. This program will show how a PLN used Breakout.edu and integrated it into their curriculums. Both tactile and digital escape rooms will be a part of the presentation.
Escape the Library: How to Create Educational Escape Rooms	Harness the power of this innovative activity to engage your students with curricular material. Participants will learn the benefits of creating escape rooms and practical strategies/tools. Leave with helpful hints on how to integrate this activity into your program or collaborate with other staff members to support their class.
Examining Gender and Culture in Traditional Folk and Fairy Tales	This session will lead participants through an exploration of elements of traditional folk and fairy tales using picture books to demonstrate a lesson that can be used to read closely for gender and diversity. In addition diverse folk and fairy tale books for adolescent readers will be presented.

Fighting Back When Library Cuts Are Threatened	This presentation is designed to give you insights on what you can do to get started quickly on a campaign to safeguard your own position or budget, or to get organized across a district when cuts are threatened. Learn about the right way to engage parents and other stakeholders in the face of crisis, and get oriented to how SaveSchoolLibrarians.org can be put to work in support. If there is a threat to your position or budget, or to other school libraries or librarians across your district, know how to mobilize people to help you fight back. Learn from my personal story of saying the librarians in the South Orange/Maplewood School District.
Finding Story Inspiration Everywhere	Author David Neilsen shows how inspiration can be found absolutely anywhere in this fun, interactive presentation. Attendees will walk away with new tools and ideas on how to motivate and inspire their students to bring out their creative imagination.
From Manuscript to Picture Book	Lee Harper will lead you on a photographically documented journey of illustrating his latest picture book: Ready Or Not, Woolbur Goes To School. Accompanied by fun anecdotes, sketchbooks and paintings; Lee Harper will reveal each step of the process, from receiving the manuscript to delivering the final art.
Future Ready Library Transformations and Hacks	Would you like to learn more about the Future Ready Librarians movement, as well as Future Ready Schools? Are you interested to know what types of transformations libraries around the country are making? This presentation will share ideas for incorporating the Future Ready Librarians Framework into your school library.
Genre Mash-Up for Required Reading	Do your students read only what's required for class? What if you provided other genre mash up titles to supplement them? We'll provide alternatives to their required reading along with a booklist of suggested titles. A genre mash up will have them realizing "boring" classics can be fun reads!"
#GirlPower Works?	Girl Power has been a popular slogan for over twenty five years, but does it work? The answer is yes for white children and no for others. How do we reach these ALPHA GIRLS and keep promoting empowerment? Does our attention to this hurt boys? And how do we make sure Black and Latin girls also run the world?
Going Beyond the Book: Incorporating Technology into Literature	As librarians it is important to find ways to both incorporate and utilize technology in our libraries and our lessons. Integrating technology with literature can be a useful tool to engage and challenge your students by allowing them to build 21st century skills as well as collaborate, create, and make things in the library.
How in the World Did YOU Become an Author?	How did one New Jersey kid go from being a reluctant reader to a published children's author? Join Eric Luper as he discusses how he overcame his challenges and became the author of 28 books for young readers. Hint: it's not all magic and inspiration!
How to Make Social Media Your Friend	The who, what, why, and how to make social media your friend. With the continued rise of social media use by kids, using it to cement the library into their daily routine is key. Social media can be utilized to help with fund raising, increase library attendance, promote programs, and bridge the divide between print and tech.
How to organize "A Night at the Library"	Find out how easy it is to host "a night at the library" for any grade level - including parents, teachers, and students. Get all the information you need and see how quickly you can set up and facilitate your very own evening event.
Innovation and Maker Spaces, Now What	So your BOE and Parents have their hearts set on a Maker Space/Innovation Space... Now What. How to create, innovate, include, and cope.
Integrating Digital Citizenship Education into your Library Media Program.	Teachers and school library media specialists will receive an e-guide based on a year of integrating digital citizenship lessons in collaboration with teachers, while promoting awareness in the community.Focusing on lesson "do nows" ," news links" and multiple web resources, attendees can implement all or part of the program immediately.
Integrating Research Skills and Technology into your Library Media Program.	Teachers and school library media specialists will receive a step-by-step instructional activity e-guide to teach a research skills unit to students across grade levels. Each step in the process can be used in collaboration with teachers and used individually or taught as a unit, with relevant technology options for each.
Introduction to Digital Citizenship: Common Sense Media and Beyond	Want to teach digital citizenship, but don't know where to start? Common Sense Media offers educators a variety of professional development, resources, and curriculum to get you started. Explore what CSM has to offer as well as other activities you can use to supplement your instruction.

Keeping Creativity in Schools	Are schools killing creativity? The answer is yes, but they don't have to. Come learn about creativity and ways to integrate into your teaching and learning. This hands on sessions will work on series of simple and effective exercises aimed at keeping the creative juices flowing both in the classroom and in one's personal life.
Librarians As Mental Health Advocates	This workshop will examine mental health issues. Participants will understand their vital role as mental health advocates in communities, schools and libraries. Attitudes in Reverse, or AIR, whose mission is "to create a community of understanding, kindness and empathy…" will be a focus of this timely topic.
Listen To This: World Language Audiobooks	Finding audiobooks in world languages can be challenging! Audiobooks are important for students who cannot read print books for a physical reason, including blindness, low vision, physical handicap, and reading disabilities. How do you find the world language audiobooks they need? Discover resources for audiobooks in world languages.
Managing Minecraft in the Media Center without Losing Your Marbles	Join us to learn how we turned this massively popular crafting video game into a multi-purpose STEM tool that elementary students rave about! Our after school Minecraft Club has gone through many changes in three years, but it has never wavered in popularity! Learn the pitfalls and rewards of bringing this game to your own district.
Meet Micro:bit: Take Coding to a New Level	Are you looking for a fun, inexpensive way to teach hands-on coding to your students? Learn how to use this tiny programmable computer that enables users to see their code come to life. Use block or text coding via Microsoft's web-based MakeCode to program the Micro:Bit. Perfect for beginners as well as more experienced coders. Bring your device (with USB port) and we will provide the Micro:Bits!
NJ Future Ready Librarians Taskforce Update	Learn more about the NJ Future Ready Librarians Movement from its Chair and members of taskforce and the beginning work and findings related it. You will also learn ways on how you can get involved.
One School One Book: A Book Club to Build Your Community	One School, One Book is a national initiative to build literacy in every home. Our K-2 school incorporated the One School, One Book program in January 2018 to great success. The school library media specialist and building principal will share their success story to build excitement and engagement in your staff, students, and parent community using One School, One Book.
Powerful Strategies To Improve Critical Thinking an	This workshop, by noted Stories With Holes author Nathan Levy, explores proven methods to reach learners in challenging ways. Participants will leave with a variety of strategies and ideas to help pupils become better learners. A variety of successful teaching techniques will be shared. Bring your thinking caps and your funny bones to this dynamic presentation.
Public and School Libraries: What Makes a Partnership Mutually Beneficial?	School Libraries and Public Libraries are the perfect partnership sharing many of the same goals. As librarians, we are always trying to get in contact with and create partnerships with each other to boost awareness of our library, create more programming opportunities, etc. In general, we are aware of what we need in a partnership but are we communicating it well enough? Join both public and school librarians as we discuss what makes a partnership mutually beneficial to both parties.
Reconnect with Books: Encouraging Reading for Fun with Teens	How do you get your teens to read? Anyone who works with high school students knows the challenge of encouraging them to just pick up a book for fun. This session will provide programs and ideas to rekindle their love of reading in a school library setting.
Revamping Non-Fiction: Dewey & Bookstore Concepts Combine	There is a happy place between traditional organization and "ditching Dewey". Readington Middle School overhauled non-fiction to create 11 distinct browsing sections by theme and has reaped the rewards of happier students and increased circulation.
School Libraries of the Future	What does the school library of the future look like? This session will provide discussion around the ways that SLMS can change the conversation so that administrators, teachers, students and community members see the value of school libraries and school librarians. This interactive session will provide ideas for how SLMS can impact their own future and become collaborative partners in the school community. SLMS will discuss ways that they can work together with other stakeholders in the school and library community to promote their value. Participants will learn to how to tell their personal stories in order to be able to influence their own library future as well use the ALA's Libraries Transform advocacy campaign to assist them.

School library - an educational partner in your academic community.	In the Spring of 2018 we organized a very successful local meeting inviting middle school, high school, college and university librarians to talk about the principles of their program and level of student's readiness for the next step.
Screencasting for Success: How screencasts can improve our classrooms and professional practice	Screencasting is simple, but how can librarians apply this technology to improve their library program? This session will review the best free tools for screencasting and will offer an overview of the strengths and weaknesses of each tool. The core of the presentation will examine how to apply screencasting to improve our daily practice. I will show examples of screencasts used as assessments of student learning, as instruction via a flipped classroom, as a public relations or advocacy tool for projects and programs, and as a record of professional achievement. Librarians will leave with a better understanding of the many ways that screencasting can improve their libraries and professional practice.
Sights & Sounds: Learning is FUN!	Danny and Kim will engage you with a freewheeling discussion, via their books, music, and games, of the fun and simple resources we all have access to, and will provide tips on making learning more fun and accessible using nature, meter, beat, and imagination. Plus: You'll laugh. Poops need not apply.
STEAM, Making and the Whole Child: Collaborating to Build Resiliency	In this session, librarian, (classroom teacher STILL WORKING ON PERMISSION FOR THIS) and principal tackle the issue of "Fear of Failure" and how to overcome it through STEAM and Making. We will discuss the power of "...yet" and how the addition of that one 3 letter word can change the mindset and unlock potential. We will be discussing ways in which collaborative partnerships can be strengthened to deliver powerful, memorable, curriculum driving lessons.
Step Away From The Noise: How Libraries Foster Freedom	Embrace the power of freedom in your library. Explore who you are and who you want to be while disconnecting from the tech world. We will build on the message of powerful, positive teaching and you will be asked to consider the library as a space for everyone including yourself.
Teaching and Learning with RITTA BOOK	Because we all have different intellectual strengths or "intelligences" and we use them all to varying degrees to acquire knowledge, understand the world, engage in problem solving, create, and meet the challenges in our daily lives, why not employ these same intelligences in ways that will engage learners and allow them to play to their own strengths? By implementing the use of mulitple intelligences and using the art of music, drama, poetry, with arts and crafts, attendees of this workshiop will learn how to use RITTA BOOK Took Kit to encourage their young scholars to build on their innate strengths to overcome their weaknesses.
Teaching the Holocaust Through Literature	Meg Wiviott, award-winning author of Benno and the Night of Broken Glass and Paper Hearts, will present methods of teaching the Holocaust through literature: Exploration of different forms of literature; self-directed investigations; and a country by country study. Attendees will leave with ideas ready to implement in the classroom.
Tech-Tools for the Student-Centered Classroom	Design a more student-centered learning environment! Incorporate a variety of technology tools and enhance student engagement, creativity and personal learning management. In this session we will share some free and some low cost technology tools teachers can use with students to enhance education. These tools will provide teachers easy ways to differentiate instruction and students a hands-on way to better meet their own learning needs.
The Best True Stories You've Never Heard: Fostering Nonfiction Passion	Conducting research is an essential skill. We can spark interest in the research process by sharing stories that shine a light on fascinating but little-known historical subjects. Through the lens of their research experiences, two award-winning NJ authors will discuss research frustrations, unexpected paths and the wonderful places they lead.
The Third Space: Redefine Your Library for Creation, Curation, Collaboration and Relaxation!	The school library is the place for everyone. From the voracious reader, to the creative tinkerer, or the person just looking to escape social or academic stress, we will share ideas and strategies to make your library the place where everyone wants to be! This is an interactive workshop where you will be experiencing many of the activities we provide in our library. Come find why our students call our library "The Beach of the School."
The WorryBug Workshop	The WorryBug workshop introduces educators to self-care and mindfulness practices adapted from years of work promoting social and emotional well-being in public schools. This seminar will include guided meditation, aroma therapy, and additional WorryBug deflation techniques, all of which can be used both in the classroom, and at home.

Transforming Library Lessons: Balancing new and old (without going crazy!)	You will learn how to incorporate both high-tech and "low-tech" tools to: (1) engage all students as they reflect on their learning; (2) refresh old lessons, presenting them in new and exciting ways; and (3) renew your commitment to retaining unique treasures of the library while incorporating Future Ready requirements.
Transforming Research in a Middle School Social Studies Classroom	The word "research" can cause panic in many students. As educators we know that this process is essential to their future academic success. Mrs. Swift and Ms. Dugan have collaborated for five years on ways to de-mystify this natural process for 6th graders. The results have been transformative. These educators will share the process of change they enlisted to improve presentations at a Famous Folks Festival held annually in their school. You will be able to take away many ideas on how to transform your 'research' into 'investigation' and then see your students authentically engage in a very natural process.
Urban Libraries: Elevator Speeches: Making them Work for You	This session will guide you through creating short focused statements of 1-3 minutes for use when meeting with administrators, teachers, and school boards. There will be a discussion of how to use these advocacy tools. This will be followed by group work to create your own Elevator Speeches.
Using Picture Book Biographies and Primary Sources with K-8 Students	Come see how using photographs and picture book biographies can encourage students to develop stronger research and narrative writing skills. Using primary sources, specifically photographs, can be a first step to support students as they conduct their research and write biographical text.
Visual argument: A collaborative visual literacy unit with infographics	This 8th grade language arts unit was a collaboration between the library media specialist and language arts teachers to build students' visual literacy using infographics. Students studied infographics, analyzing its data, author intention, craft and design. Students then used research skills to gather data and create their own infographic.