

REMCo NEWS

Welcome

Writing this newsletter entry was a bittersweet moment for me. It serves as a reminder that it will be my last newsletter where I address you all as chair. My tenure has been a journey that I am proud to experience. When I committed to filling this position, I knew my overall mission would be to show others what REMCo had the potential to become. With the support of the section's community, we were able (1) to connect with 507 library professionals across the country, (2) to facilitate ten professional development webinars, (3) to participate in two conferences, (4) invited to participate in four virtual programs, including the ALA Chapter Management Exchange: EDI in Chapters discussion, and lastly, (5) establish one global partnership with Little Tokens Foundation of Ghana. In addition to these significant accomplishments, we reached our financial goal of \$1,000 for our Constance Hill Marteenia Diversity Award, established in 2021.

While we have made some great strides in community building, we have a long way to go as we continue to serve as a voice for librarians, paraprofessionals, and library advocates of color. I am reminded of the escalated number of book bans, suspended library programming and community engagement opportunities, and other issues that disrupt how we provide for those who interact in our spaces. We must continue fighting the good fight as we break through barriers and bring our seats to the table to create opportunities for those who aspire to work in the library and information science field. I implore you to serve as a mentor and extend a helping hand to those who may need support.

With that in mind, please consider lending REMCo your voice and talents. We need innovative thinkers, collaborative minds, and leaders to keep us going in the right direction. In a few weeks, we'll begin elections. Be on the lookout for upcoming details. Available positions include vice chair, co-directors (2), and a secretary/treasurer. I encourage you to use this opportunity to network with like-minded professionals and cultivate new opportunities for members to assemble, build professionally, and support one another. In addition to elections, we seek your assistance in our award selection committees, the Roadbuilders' Award and Constance Hill Marteenia Diversity Award. If you're not sure that serving on the executive board is the right step for you, consider serving on either of these two committees to award librarians and paraprofessionals who actively seek ways to make a difference in their libraries.

Speaking on behalf of the executive board, REMCo has made a series of faithful leaps to establish genuine connections beyond North Carolina. I look forward to seeing what REMCo can accomplish next. I'll see you all at the 65th Biennial NCLA Conference beginning October 16th!

I will see you all at the REMCo Town Hall meeting, Connect with REMCo, Wednesday, January 18th, at 11:00 am.

Greetings

REMCo Community,

I hope you all had a safe and restful holiday season. While 2022 presented all library workers with the challenges of the post Covid-19 environment, we rose to the task and continued to be of service to our communities. As we enter into 2023, I encourage us all to take a moment to remember why libraries and service were our chosen path and profession in order to center ourselves and reset, as we begin another year of providing equitable access to information, and educational support. REMCo is excited to continue another year and looking forward to connecting with you all at the "Town Hall" on January 18, 2023.

Warm Regards
Leander A. Croker



ETHNIC MINORITY CONCERNS
SUPPORTING DIVERSITY IN LIBRARIES
NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



*Brittany N.
Champion*

Chair



*Leander A.
Croker*

Vice-Chair/Chair Elect

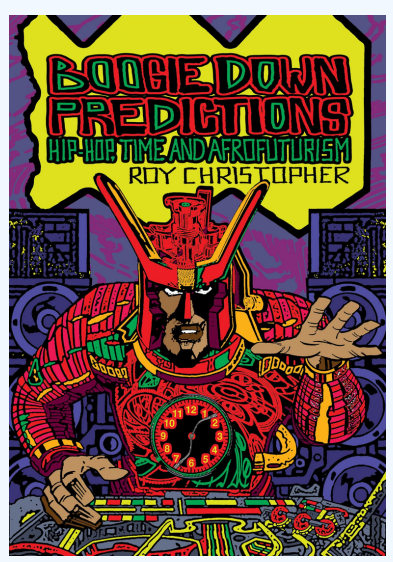
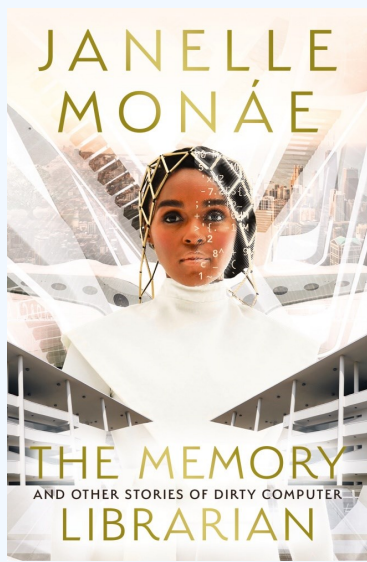
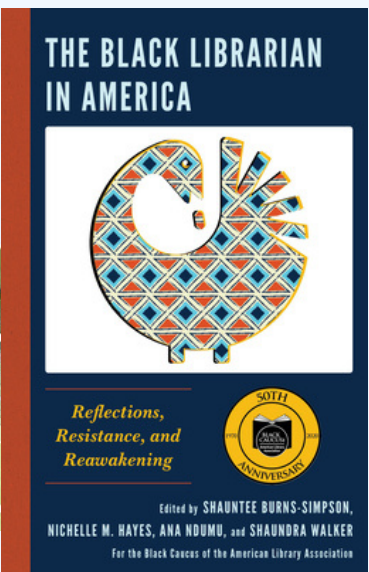
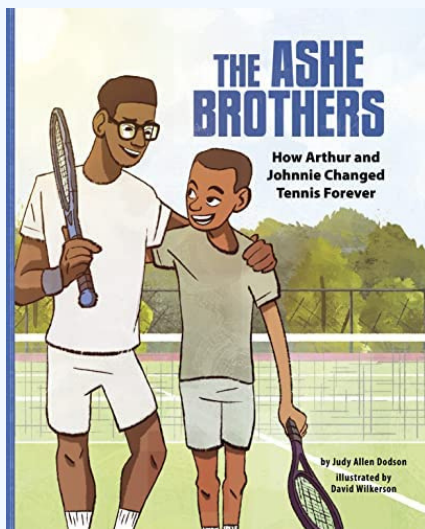
REMCo Spotlights

Candace Jacobs serves as an Assistant Professor/ STEM Liaison Librarian at UNC Greensboro. Candace is a graduate of both Catawba College (B.A. in Sociology, minor in Spanish) and East Carolina University (MLS- Academic Librarianship). She completed her library internship at the F.D. Bluford Library at North Carolina A&T State University. Before beginning her career as an academic librarian, she worked in higher education administration, focusing on enrollment management and retention efforts. In her current role, she serves as a university representative for the American Association of University Women (AAUW), member-at-large for NCLA's STEM LINC, and as an ACRL STS Mentoring Program mentee. She recently received an ACRL 2023 Conference Scholarship for early career librarians. . In October, she presented a poster called, "The COVID Shuffle: Making the Right Moves to Successful Job Hunting", in the NCLA-RTSS Virtual Poster Session. In 2023, she will be serving as a pre-conference panelist at Joint Conference of Librarians of Color (JCLC), and will be co-authoring a book chapter concerning mentorship and its effects on student success services.



Candace
Jacobs

REMCo Reads



Constance Hill Marteena Diversity

Award

Constance Hill Marteena, a pioneer for librarians of color, was born on August 24, 1897 in Richmond, Virginia to the late Reubin and Irene Hill. She was the wife of the late Jerald Milton Marteena Dean of Engineering at North Carolina A & T State University. Her professional career consisted of working as the director of public information at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University from 1929-1937, Secretary to President and Director of Public Information at Bennett College 1937-1939 and, Head Librarian and an Instructor for Bennett College from September 1, 1939-1967. During her tenure as head librarian of Bennett College she was elected President of the North Carolina Negro Librarian Association from 1952-1954. While under her leadership the integration of the North Carolina Negro Librarian Association and North Carolina Librarians Association took place bringing to an end segregation of professional library organizations in North Carolina. The North Carolina Negro Librarian Association existed from 1934-1954. NCNLA was the first library association run by African Americans that was accepted by the American Librarian Association.

Each biennial, the North Carolina Library Association will present the Constance Hill Marteena Library Diversity Award to a librarian or group of librarians who have advocated for diversity through their works in librarianship. These works can be highlighted through their actions in their library or local community. Award recipient(s) will have exemplified their commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) through outreach, advocacy, instruction, research, etc.

Criteria

Innovation, collaboration, risk-taking, and being a change-agent will all be taken into account as part of the criteria for the award. The nominated person, group, or organization should demonstrate how they invested time and talent to make positive changes for underrepresented people or groups.

- Candidate shows a dedication to equity and diversity that can be demonstrated through specific actions taken in the awards consideration period.
- Candidate's work has led to a demonstrable improvement in the area of equity and diversity issues, including but not limited to, workplace discrimination, housing, healthcare, marriage, teen issues, etc.
- Candidate has been effective at communicating the need for work in areas related to equity and diversity, political activism, and has been a consistent voice for positive change.
- Candidate is a role model for future change efforts.
- Nominees must show evidence of activism. Examples may include: Collaboration with other diversity and equity groups, ally, or community groups.

Eligibility

Members of the award selection committee nor current REMCO Executive Board Members are eligible for nomination. Further, donors to the award are ineligible to receive the award to prevent the appearance of impropriety.

If you feel that you would like to help serve on the committee, please complete the form by Friday, January 29th. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Adreonna Bennett at asimmo74@uncc.edu.

Subcommittee Members

- Marcellaus Joiner: High Point Public Library
- Adreonna Bennett: UNC Charlotte
- Stephanie Fennell: Durham County Libraries
- Judy Allen Dodson: State Archives of North Carolina
- Forrest Foster: North Carolina A&T State University
- Velappan Velappan: Fayetteville State University

Marcellaus Joiner & Adreonna Bennett
Constance Hill Marteena Diversity Award
Subcommittee



ETHNIC MINORITY CONCERNS
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NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

CONNECT WITH REMCO

18
JAN
2023

VIRTUAL
11:00 AM

Join us at our informal town hall meeting to destress and catch up. The Executive Board wants to hear from you and also allow you to hear what's coming up. This will include conversations about our plans for the 65th Biennial NCLA Conference. A meeting agenda will go out closer to the meeting date.

If present, your name will be entered into a raffle. Winners will be announced at the end of the meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Brittany Champion at remco@nclaonline.org.

Register for the meeting by visiting the NCLA event calendar.

Open to REMCo members only.