

christina VORTIA

WORK EXPERIENCE

CHIEF LIBRARIAN

Moorland-Spingarn Research Center | November 2023 - Present

- Works closely with all MSRC divisions and Digital Production Center and other experts to strategically advance the library through the ongoing adoption of current digital practices in providing open access, collaboration and preservation.
- Provides leadership, direction, and planning for an integrated, dynamic approach to managing access to the library's collection and directing inquires to divisions of Manuscripts, Archives, and the Digital Production Center.
- Manages service activities associated with the Reading Room, including, but not limited to, virtual reference, reference by appointment, research consultation, and serve as donor liaison.
- Participates in regular reference shift rotations.
- Participates in leading staff in library-wide projects, including the analysis of collections, moving and/or shifting of collections.
- Provides information and other data needed for administrative reports, planning, and collection development and staff management.
- Prepares periodic reports in areas of responsibility.
- Maintain statistics and assess efficiency and effectiveness of all services.
- Oversees the development of policies, procedures, and upholds standards of practice for non-circulating collections.
- Facilitates loans and conservation as required with loans. Oversees the overall maintenance and condition of the collections including the rare book collection, including proper housing needs, damage mitigation, and overseeing patrons handling materials.
- Prioritizes conservation needs in the library collections and coordinates conservation projects with the HUL and MSRC leadership.
- Collaborates with MSRC divisions to formulate the library's acquisition strategy.
- Collaborates with University Libraries Catalog and Metadata Division to provide subject expertise in support of appropriate processing, description, and access to materials.
- Facilitates collaborative or lead innovative and progressive public programming.
- Work with the HUL Instructional Librarians to facilitate digital and on-site programs that utilize library collections.
- Collaborates closely with the HUL/MSRC/ HU Grant office to steward gifts, including grants, fellowships and internships made in support of the library.
- Collaborates closely with the MSRC leadership to initiate, complete, submit, and provide respective required reporting for various grant funding applications.
- Provides collection content/ context to HUL/MSRC leadership to Office of Communications, collaborate on the website, digital collections portal and guide the content of social media and blog posts that relate to the MSRC Library and promote MSRC-related activities.
- Collaborates with colleagues working in the areas of collection development.
- Maintains a course of personal professional development through active participation in archives professional associations or other professional activities, as funds allow.

AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- GNCRT x Reforma Collaboration List Co-Chair
- 2023 Newbery Award Chair
- 2020/2021 LA Times Book Prize Juror
- 2019/2020 Coretta Scott King Book Awards Juror
- 2017 Printz Award Juror
- Kirkus Book Reviewer
- Winner of EBSCO's Conference Scholarship, 2016

CHIEF LIBRARIAN

PERSONAL MISSION

Preservation and conservation librarian with a passion for community and customer service. Accessibility is a 21st Century priority.

SKILLS AND ABILITIES

- **Programming**
- **Library Software:** LexisNexis, Westlaw, SirsiDynix, Alma, Sierra, Verso
- **Instructional Technology:** Canvas, Canva, Google Classroom, Blackboard, Flipgrid, Social Media Platforms
- **Social Media Campaigns:** Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Amazon Affiliate Program, Goodreads, Pinterest, YouTube
- **UX Design:** Adobe XD, Sketch, Figma
- **Web languages/Software:** HTML, Tableau, Micromedia Flash, Adobe Photoshop, PageMaker, Illustrator iMovie
- **Print & Digital Marketing**

CONTACT INFO

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EDUCATION & TRAINING

PRATT INSTITUTE

M.S. Library and Information Science
- Specialized in Data Management and Collection Storage

New York University

Cert. Paralegal Studies
-Specialized in Criminal and Corporate Law

MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY

BA Political Science
-Specialized in Political Theory and Global Politics

Tuskegee University

-Specialized in Qualitative Data Analysis

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WORK EXPERIENCE

RARE BOOKS LIBRARIAN

Moorland-Spingarn Research Center | November 2022 - November 2023

- Oversaw historic relocation of rare books and journals to MSRC's state-of-the-art compact shelving unit
- Manage support staff and student employees
- Provide reference assistance to students, staff, faculty and researchers
- Give tours of the MSRC and promote the center on campus and virtually
- Represent the MSRC and HUL systems on Bison Prep and class visits
- Create policies and operational procedures for the Library Division
- Serve as subject liaison for African and African American Studies
- Maintenance and upkeep of the Reading Room
- Maintain correspondence with MSRC Divisions, HUL System, ALA, BCALA, area library systems and other national professional committees
- Served on the Securities and Grants Committees within MSRC and HUL Libraries
- Provide stack maintenance and shelf shifting of rare books, serials, and journals
- Oversee collection development and large donations
- Plan outreach programs in alignment with Howard University and the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center's mission
- Updating library signage and policies to assist in making the collection more findable and accessible
- In the process of creating training modules that provide introductory library instruction for new library division employees and student scholars
- Serve on hiring and search committees for Assistant Librarian and First Year Engagement Librarian positions
- Coordinate preservation workshop to keep staff and students aware of best practices in conservation of books, paper, and ephemera
- Coordinate professional appraisals of rare books
- Draft position descriptions and employee workflows
- Assist in the planning and revival of the historic Dorothy Porter Lecture Series
- Collaborated with the President of the Graduate Student Council to facilitate the Art & Architecture Showcase
- Created monthly and annual report of library division projects and programs
- Attend professional development conferences and workshops
- Moderate author panel for trade journal's annual "Day of Dialogue"
- Manage and Collect Reading Room Statistics

CURRENT PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Black Women's Studies Association (2023 - present)
- American Library Association (2008 - present)
- BiblioQuilters (2022 - present)
- Library Research Round Table (2022 - present)
- Film and Media Round Table (2020 - present)
- Communications Committee (2023 - present)
- Rainbow Round Table (2018 - present)
- Graphic Novels and Comics Round Table (2016 - present)
- Co-Chair of Collaboration List with Reforma (2023 - present)
- Gaming Round Table (2016 - present)
- Awards Committee Member (2023 - present)
- Bibliographical Society of America (2023 - present)
- Association of Library Services to Children (2016 - present)
- Association of College and Research Libraries (2022 - present)
- Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (2022 - present)
- Rare Books and Manuscripts Section Mentorship Program: Patrice Green
- Art Section (2023 - present)
- History Librarians Interest Group (2022 - present)
- African American Studies Librarians Group (2022 - present)
- Digital Scholarship Section (2023 - present)
- Hip Hop Consortium Discussion Group (2022 - present)
- Literatures in English Section (2022 - present)
- College Libraries Section (2022 - present)
- Women and Gender Section (2022-present)
- Politics, Policy and International Relations Section (2022 - present)
- Anthropology and Sociology Section (2022 - present)
- District of Columbia Library Association (2022 - present)
- Washington Rare Books Group (2022 - present)
- Reference and User Services Association (2017 - present)
- History Librarians Discussion Group (2022 - present)
- Business Reference and Services Section (2022 - present)
- History Section (2022 - present)
- History Section Discussion List (2022 - present)
- Emerging Technologies Section (2017 - present)
- Collection Development and Evaluation Section (2017 - present)
- Sharing Transforming Access to Resources Section (2017 - present)
- Reference Services Section (2017 - present)
- Nominating Committee (2023 - present)
- Black Caucus of the American Library Association (2008 - present)
- Ethnic, Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table (2017 - present)
- Coretta Scott Kings Book Awards Round Table (2017 - present)
- Archives and History Standing Committee (2023 - present)
- Young Adult Library Services Association (2016 - present)
- Black Cotton Book Reviewers (2023 - present)
- Kirkus Media LLC Book Reviewer (2017 - present)
- Reforma (2023 - present)
- DC Alliance for Response (2023-present)

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WORK EXPERIENCE

LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALIST

Hillsborough County Public Schools | July 2020 - October 2022

- Managed school library media center
- Facilitated author talks and media center programming for faculty and students
- Maintained school website as webmaster, Canvas ambassador, and Blackboard expert
- Planned lessons with teachers and administrators to add to school-wide curriculum
- Produced daily live stream morning school for brick and mortar and virtual students
- Provided whole school technology instruction

SOCIAL MEDIA ANALYST

Cognizant Technology Solutions | April 2018 - June 2020

- Analyzed political content for leading social media platform
- Expert in social media brands and community standards
- Recognized trends and patterns, and escalated issues according to company policy.
- Identified inefficiencies in workflows and suggested solutions

TEEN & SOCIAL MEDIA LIBRARIAN

East Orange Public Library | August 2015 - July 2016

- Managed teen services and social media presence of busy metropolitan library system
- Provided reference, reader's advisory, and collection development services for adult and teen patrons
- Planned and facilitated programs for adult and teen patrons with library usage statistical data used to create state reports
- Community engagement and partnership through committee work and community programs

SENIOR CASE TECHNICIAN

Social Security Administration | August 2010 - April 2014

- Assisted administrative law judges with case preparation for adjudication
- Assisted with legal notes, recordings, and subpoenas to secure evidence for assistance at hearings
- Secured and managed personal identifiable information in accordance with federal laws
- Managed administrative law judge calendar

The importance of librarians, archivists, and bibliographers who are also collectors and builders of our African American library collections cannot be minimized. -

Dorothy B. Porter-Wesley,
Black Bibliophiles and
Collectors: Preservers of Black
History Edited by Elinor Des
Verney Sinette, W. Paul Coats,
& Thomas C. Battle

PRESENTATIONS

- [Social Media to Market Your School](#) - Hillsborough County Public Schools Summer Professional Development 2021
- [Evaluating Credible Sources](#) - Hillsborough County Public Schools Library Resources class 2021/2022 faculty and students
- [Library Leaders Book Club Guide](#) - Hillsborough County Public Schools 2021/2022
- [Websites and Social Media to Land a Job](#) - East Orange Public Library 2016

MEDIA

- [The Moorland](#) Oct 2023
- [The Dig](#) Feb 2023
- [ALA News](#) Jan 2023
- [Book Riot](#) Mar 2021
- [SLJ](#) Oct 2020
- [The Horn Book](#) Jul 2020
- [HypeLit](#) Jan 2020
- [Book Riot](#) Feb 2018
- [Book Riot](#) Mar 2017
- [Book Riot](#) Mar 2017
- [YALSA](#) 2017
- [Book Riot](#) Dec 2016
- [Book Riot](#) Jul 2016
- [Book Riot](#) Jul 2016
- [Book Riot](#) May 2016
- [YALSA Blog](#) Jan 2016