

# Interviews with the Recent CCPL Values Award Winners

Thursday, March 20, 2025

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## Priscilla Garvin, Adult Services, North East

### How long have you worked at CCPL?

Since November 2009

### What do you like about your work at CCPL?

The easy answer would be helping patrons, but it's more than that. I really appreciate that staff are always looking for creative and innovative ways to help people connect with not only library resources, but information, services, and technologies that have a positive impact on the community.



### Tell us what you enjoy about serving the community.

My favorite part of the job is creating “aha” moments for library visitors. Whether it's introducing someone to a digital resource, showing them how to create documents or access information on their own, or developing programs with new and interesting topics, I enjoy knowing that they gained something from the experience.

### What do you wish others knew about CCPL that they might not otherwise?

By far, CCPL staff is its greatest asset. They truly care about helping community members.

## Jasmin Wetherill, Circulation, Elkton

### How long have you worked for CCPL ?

I have worked for CCPL since December 2017.

### What do you like about your work at CCPL

CCPL has a special place in my heart. Nineteen years ago, I moved from a small-town and close-knit community in Germany to Cecil County. CCPL was the first place where I made meaningful connections in America. I still vividly remember all the kindness of the CCPL staff as I transitioned to my new home.



I love that I am now in a place to interact, meet, and help library patrons of all ages, interests, and backgrounds. I also enjoy that every day at the library is full of new experiences, as no two days are ever the same. What makes working at CCPL exceptional for me is having colleagues that are caring, supportive, and dedicated to make CCPL a welcoming place to everyone.

### Tell us what you enjoy about serving the community?

I get a great sense of purpose being part of a team that cares deeply about their community.

It is rewarding seeing someone leave the library with the resources they need and seeing patrons light up when they find exactly what they are looking for. It warms my heart witnessing the excitement in kids for story time and programs. Most of all, I enjoy interacting and making connections with members of our community.

### What do you wish others knew about CCPL that they might not know otherwise?

I wish everybody in the community would take the opportunity to discover CCPL and experience for themselves the seemingly endless services that are provided. There is something for everyone in the library, from an extensive book collection, to quiet study rooms, faxing and copying, job search assistance, computer and internet access, StoryTime, programs for all ages and interests, and many others. It does not even stop there; CCPL offers many digital resources accessible from the comfort of your own home. Getting a library card can open a world of possibilities and learning opportunities!

## Tracy Alexander, Materials Services, North East

### How long have you worked at CCPL?

17 years this December.

### What do you like about your work at CCPL?

My favorite part of my current role is getting to see all of the new Children's materials before they hit the shelves. It's like Christmas morning when a new shipment arrives! That's when I find my current favorite picture book, and right now it's "Scorch, the Hedgehog of Doom" by Cate Berry. Previously, as a Children's librarian, it was getting

to know and interacting with the families where I worked, whether it was in programming, connecting them to the resources they wanted, or just building connections with them while they were visiting the Children's room.



### Tell us what you enjoy about serving the community.

I love connecting the community with materials they want or need. When a patron comes in and the exact book or topic they need is on the shelf, then I know I've done my job. There's a saying in the library community that books are mirrors so that readers

can see themselves; windows for readers to see the world; or sliding doors for readers to enter other worlds. This is what I think about when I'm ordering materials for the Children's collection. It's very rewarding to connect our patrons with the resources they want and need.

### What do you wish others knew about CCPL that they might not otherwise?

The talent and passion of my colleagues is the greatest resource the library has to offer.



## Liz Drummond, Teen Services, Perryville

### How long have you worked at CCPL?

I have worked at CCPL in teen services for 7 years!

### What do you like about your work at CCPL?

It's difficult to answer this question because there are so many reasons why I love the work I do. To put it simply, I love the staff I work with and the teens I serve in this community. A day doesn't go by without all of us getting to be creative together and I always feel like we are making a real difference. It's hard to come by people that all have

such a vested interest in making teens' lives fun and fulfilling, which I find in abundance in our system and our youth team.



### Tell us what you enjoy about serving the community.

I feel proud to know that the teens, and their families in Perryville see the library as their safe space. Whether they're having a rough day, don't feel supported at home, or just need to blow off steam and play some games, we are always here for them. I know I'm making a difference when teens feel like they can be their most authentic self in my branch. I've had a lot

of teens come back to the library as young adults/adults, which tells me I am helping to create lifelong library-lovers, too!

### What do you wish others knew about CCPL that they might not otherwise?

I wish everyone knew how amazing and creative our staff are. Patrons see the end result but don't always see everyone working behind the scenes to create the program and make everything come together smoothly. I am consistently impressed with my coworkers and the time, attention, and research they put into every presentation, activity or program. I also want to give a shout out to my Youth Services Supervisor, Katelyn McLimans, for keeping all of us quirky characters on track!