

Concurrent Sessions

Session 1: 1:00 – 1:30 pm

Main Ballroom

Innovation Projects:

Brevard County Libraries

Three Rivers Regional Library

Awardee: Brevard County Libraries

Project: Drone Dashing @ Brevard County Libraries!

Presenters: John Russell, Tina Chalfant, and Marissa Malone

Award Amount: \$7,497.50

“BCLS is bringing the excitement and fun of drone racing to our libraries. There will be two separate sets of drones that will float between Brevard County’s libraries. One set will consist of 10-CoDrone EDU drones and the other set will be 5-Cetus X drones. The CoDrones have the ability to be programmed using Blockly or Python programming languages. The Cetus X drones are flown using FPV (First Person View) goggles. This gives the pilot a first-person view of their flight. In addition to the drones, we will use the drone arena for safety and obstacles to challenge our pilots.”

Awardee: Three Rivers Regional Library

Project: Create and Innovate with Legos

Presenter: Dale Collum

Award Amount: \$647.64

“We would like to provide each of our member libraries with a basic set of Lego building blocks and base plates. In speaking with our Children’s Librarian at Taylor Co. Library, she felt that getting the basic blocks would allow for better flexibility over a longer time frame than the different kits that are build it once and done. She also stressed that the basic blocks allowed the kids to be creative and imaginative. With the blocks each of the libraries would be able to hold programs centered around using the blocks to build items toward a theme each week.”

Session 3: 2:30 - 3:00 pm

Room 1097

Hunger-Free Libraries

Presenter: Emily Grosskopf; Suwannee River Regional Libraries

Following the destruction caused by Hurricane Idalia in August 2023, the Suwannee River Regional Library System truly embraced “other duties as required” in the form of emergency food/supplies distribution and the development of a long-term food pantry. This presentation aims to address various facets of tackling food insecurity through the establishment of food pantries and food literacy programs within library spaces. We will delve into the evolving role of public libraries as community hubs and apt locations for hosting food pantries. Additionally, the importance of community engagement and partnerships with local entities such as businesses, nonprofits, and government agencies will be discussed. Finally, strategies for promoting food pantry services, including marketing, outreach, and destigmatization efforts are explored to ensure maximum community utilization and support.