



CHICAGO STATE UNIVERSITY

CSU LIS Connections

Meet some of our students,
alumni, and faculty

Deon L. King Sr., MSLIS

I was the fun librarian student, always bringing humor to ease the stress that comes along with studying and researching during library school. This is something that I brought with me to my current position at Georgia State University.

After retiring from serving over twenty years in the U.S Army, I returned to Chicago to attend Chicago State for my undergrad and graduate studies. The librarian program is one of the best programs CSU offers. It provides graduate students the ability to take classes to develop their desired areas of interest. Although I graduated in Fall 2021, I continue to keep in touch with the professors and many of my colleagues from the program and encourage others to do the same.



Erin Williams (she/her)

Hello! I'm a CSU MLIS student based in Chicago, focusing on K-12 school librarianship. My goal is to help young people develop confidence in their skills and find joy in reading. I also hope to advocate for students without access to library resources in their schools. I am serving as the ALA Student Chapter president for 2024-2025, and am excited to get to know other students through our events this year!

Outside of school, I'm always reading and adding more and more books to my TBR on Goodreads and Fable. I also love baking, being outside, and hanging out with my partner and our three dogs.



CSU LIS student

Garifalia Durkin



I am an LIS graduate student at Chicago State University. I have always enjoyed research, coding and design. Currently, I work in tween and teen programming at a public library I am inspired by the work I do to support patrons.

At home, I have a child and three rescue cats. As a first-generation student and first in my family to go to college, libraries became a second home. I am excited to be in a profession that promotes lifelong learning.

CSU LIS student

Travis J. Givens, MSLIS



I am a proud CSU MSLIS graduate. I have worked in academic and public libraries. I am currently a library director.

CSU's LIS program is perfectly tailored to not box you in. You can explore areas of interest and careers - and still graduating on time. The resources and faculty were outstanding!

Colleen Bradburn

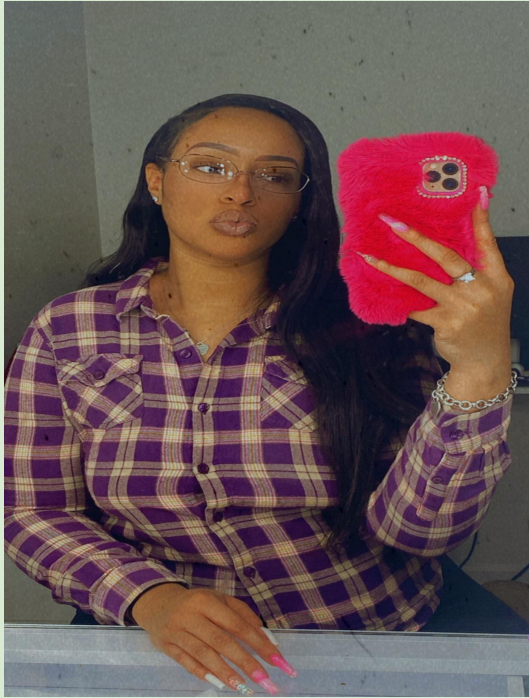
I am in my first year at Chicago State University and plan to specialize in Public Libraries. I am serving as Treasurer for the ALA Student Chapter and look forward to planning fun and informative events with the rest of the ALASC team!

I studied Photojournalism in my undergrad and have spent the years since then substitute teaching; working seasonal jobs in Glacier National Park, ski resorts and Space Camp; managing restaurants, and working in community building and out-of-school time programming for teens. I am excited to learn alongside my classmates as we continue on our journeys.



CSU LIS student

Nicole R. Cowan, MSLIS



I am a graduate of the MSLIS program at Chicago State University. When I'm not working as a public librarian, I use my time to read, sing and shop.

Chicago State University provided me with unique opportunities, unlimited resources, and a great support system. Go Cougars!

Andrew Matsas (they/them)

I am a second year MLIS student at Chicago State University and the Secretary/Archivist for the ALA Student Chapter.

My specialization is in academic libraries and I'm also interested in public libraries. I currently work as a College Library Assistant. Prior to embarking on my library journey, I was working in affordable housing and community development. This is a second career for me.

The CSU LIS program provides me with both the level of academic rigor and guidance that I am looking for. I've learned so much already and feel supported by my professors and classmates.

When I'm not at work or doing school work, I'm either relaxing with my two cats, going on long walks with my film camera, or grabbing a good and affordable bite to eat with friends. Also a lover of graphic novels!



CSU LIS student

Rebecca (Becky) Reece, MSLIS



As a student in the LIS program, I specialized in Academic Librarianship. I currently work as a Reference Librarian at the College of DuPage Library in Glen Ellyn, IL. As a lifelong Chicagoan and Southsider, (GO WHITE SOX!) , I was thrilled to complete my MSLIS at Chicago State University,

Fun fact: I wrote a book chapter on the building and outreach of a manga collection for *The Community College Library: Collection and Technical Services*. In my “free time” I enjoy gardening, dining out across the city, and spending time with my husband and two young daughters.

Kayla Johnson



Greetings. I am a Library and Information Science student specializing in archives.

Currently I work as an afterschool program instructor for CPS high schools, and I love youth centered work.

My undergraduate degree was in African and Black Diaspora Studies, and I am passionate about connecting Black folks to resources, traditions, and information that will change our lives.

I am enjoying the community at CSU, and I truly feel supported by my peers and staff. I am ready to continue the collaboration and look forward to meeting more people in the LIS community.



The Sankofa Bird reminds us that we must continue to move forward as we remember our past. And at the same time we plant a seed for the future generations that come after us.

Frank Young, JD, MSLIS

I am a dual threat in the field of law librarianship after completing my MSLIS degree with Chicago State University in 2022. I obtained my JD from the UIC School of Law.

I have experience as a high-end legal researcher with a the Michigan Court of Appeals and for U.S. Magistrate Judge Denise K. LaRue.

I am a passionate baseball fan, with an appreciation with its rich history and archival opportunities. The 1919 White Sox have been a particular interest for me given the divergence of social, baseball, and legal history and nuance.

As a baseball fan, the sport intrigues me as it has an important role in the Civil Rights Movement, particularly with Jackie Robinson and the 75th Anniversary of his debut in the Major League in 1947.



Interestingly, this coincided with the 75th Anniversary of the MSLIS Program at Chicago State University.

Ideally, LIS students will display the ferocity that Jackie Robinson did while staking out a claim in the Civil Rights Movement.

CSU LIS alum

Nathan Jernigan



Hello to everyone. I wish you all ongoing success and joy.

I am Nate J., an MSLIS student. Academic study fascinates me due to my interests in Black American historical resources held by archives, libraries, and museums.

I am looking forward to learning everything that information professionals are expected to know in order to earn a Master of Science degree.

Lastly, I solicit everyone's best wishes as I work at attaining my goals for earning this M.S. degree by 2025; and authoring a book that will discuss Black Chicago success achieved in the 1800's.

Black Power!

CSU LIS student

Chi Young Oh, Ph.D.

Dr. Oh is an interdisciplinary information science educator, researcher, and advocate of human-centered design.

His teaching encompasses a range of areas in Information Studies; and his research is situated at the intersection of human information behavior, human-computer interaction, and consumer health informatics. It uses qualitative and mixed-method approaches to gain a deeper understanding of people's interaction with information and technology in everyday life, particularly for their adjustment to a new community and health management.



<https://ohchiyoung.wordpress.com>

Rae-Anne Montague, Ph.D.



<https://raeannemontague.wordpress.com>

Dr. Montague is a faculty member at CSU LIS who often teaches courses related to school library media specialization, instruction, and outreach - as well as the final project. Dr. Montague's research is guided by inquiry grounded in community engagement.

There are many things Dr. Montague appreciates about CSU - inquisitive students, dedicated colleagues, the beautiful campus - and the opportunity to engage in dialogue around complex and sometimes challenging topics.

CSU LIS faculty

And a few other #CSUProud Community Members...!

Janine Asmus, CSU LIS Alumna -

<https://www.dailyherald.com/submitted/20190925/leyden-librarian-named-aisle-school-librarian-of-the-year>

K.C. Boyd, CSU LIS Alumna - <https://www.slj.com/story/K-C-boyd-named-2022-School-Librarian-of-the-Year>

Katherine Haan, CSU Global Studies - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VVIquhRg2iQ>

Dr. Lee Roe, CSU Rise Academy - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=olU09TEi4a0>

Dr. Monique Carroll, CSU Athletics - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r0_fYjICFdY&t=9s

Please contact lis@csu.edu if you would like to contribute a slide to this presentation and/or with questions.