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The More You Know, the More You Owe

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About Author

Megan Price (mmeprice.org) is a recent graduate of SJSU iSchool's MLIS program. She currently lives in Europe where she is seeking to do good work with good people at the intersection of culture, arts, and information

The More You Know, the More You Owe

YA author, Luis J. Rodriguez exemplifies his quote, “The more you know, the more you owe,” through his work as a leader and activist. He employs his personal experience and his professional success to foster growth, connection, and empowerment in his community. Like Rodriguez, the authors in this, the *SRJ*'s 17th issue, identify field-wide opportunities for LIS professionals to do the same with patrons in their communities, moving outside of familiar or engrained roles toward active equity work.

As a youth advocate, parent of a teen-aged girl, and former high school educator, I gratefully welcome this issue's invited contribution by Dr. Mary Ann Harlan, SJSU iSchool Associate Professor and Teacher Librarian Program Coordinator. In this excerpt from her new book, *The Girl-Positive Library: Inspiring Confidence, Creativity, and Curiosity in Young Women*, Dr. Harlan reveals that YA fiction serves not only as an information source for self and world discovery, but as both a perpetrator and challenger of the norms and expectations of young women. Youth services librarians, with this awareness, can suggest books and provide library programming that guides their patrons toward new archetypes of girl heroines.

Current *SRJ* editor Channon Arabit's evidence summary evaluates a 2015 study of the accessibility of two content management systems, RELX's *bepress*, and OCLC's *CONTENTdm* for users with visual impairments. This study provides data in support of increased accessibility measures in digital information, research, and archive platforms.

Author Suzanne S. LaPierre's article confirms the positive effects of artist and archivist collaboration, and how it evolves archival collections and collection processes, increasing their diversity, accuracy, access and availability. This work broadens the audience's involvement and draws attention to a wider range of collections for use and exploration.

Author Georgia Westbrook reviews Eric Klinenberg's *Palaces for the People: How Social Infrastructure Can Help Fight Inequality, Polarization, and the Decline of Civic Life*. Westbrook confirms Klinenberg's assertion that public libraries are essential to communities, responsible for providing needed services, information access, and community spaces for members from all facets of society to gather, explore ideas, and expand knowledge.

With service to others as the foundation of our work, we can use our positions as community leaders to keep equity and access at the forefront of professional conversations and strengthen the voice of the field so that we can continue to empower others. We must work to ensure that all are welcomed in our

institutions, and to support each patron's right to live a life of liberty and pursue happiness.

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