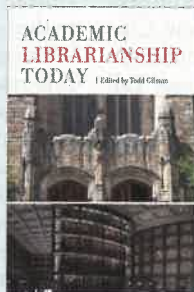


## professional media

**Academic Librarianship Today.** Rowman & Littlefield. Feb. 2017. 262p. ed. by Todd Gilman. illus. index. ISBN 9781442278745. \$105; pap. ISBN 9781442278752. \$55; ebk. ISBN 9781442278769. PRO MEDIA

Academic libraries are the cornerstone of higher education institutions. Beverly Lynch (dept. of information studies, Univ. of California Los Angeles) begins this book with a foreword discussing the current state of academic libraries, how they are constantly evolving, and how information technology is a crucial part of their mission. An introduction by editor Gilman (librarian for literature in English, Yale Univ.) lays out the framework and topics of importance discussed in later chapters: financial and technological challenges facing academic libraries, the library's governance and organization within the larger university, research and scholarly communication efforts, recruitment and retention, and more. Chapters are authored by well-respected librarians and or professors of library science, including Starr Hoffman (head of planning & assessment, Univ. of Nevada, Las Vegas) and Barbara I. Dewey (dean, univ. libraries & scholarly communications, Pennsylvania State Univ.). Sections also touch upon open access, emerging technologies, and resource sharing. At the end of each chapter, questions and assignments will spark further conversation on the subjects. **VERDICT** A thoroughly useful option in the field of



academic librarianship. Beneficial for all academic libraries.—Holly Skir, York Coll., CUNY

**The Makerspace Librarian's Sourcebook.** ALA. Feb. 2017. 388p. ed. by Ellyssa Kroski. illus. index. ISBN 9780838915042. pap. \$85. PRO MEDIA

In this hands-on sourcebook, Kroski (director, information technology, New York Law Inst.; *Law Librarianship in the Digital Age*) has collected articles from librarians in public and academic libraries about the major topics, technologies, and tools involved in Maker spaces—and why libraries should host them. Librarians are taking an active part in the production of information, offering tools and STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) skills to patrons. Articles about pedagogy and philosophy provide a foundation for step-by-step advice on how to start a Maker space: planning, funding, equipment, space limitations, and safety training. Essential technologies and tools are addressed, including robotics, drones, and wearable electronics. However, a 3-D printer or laser cutter is not for everyone; local demand and interests change over time. The volume presents an assortment of program ideas for all ages and skill levels; projects such as LED fabric bookmarks and cuff bracelets will particularly appeal to beginners. Staff looking to familiarize themselves with tools such as Raspberry Pi, Arduino, and Makey Makey will find a satisfying amount of information here. **VERDICT** For librarians

considering a Maker space or for those who already have one, this helpful selection covers all aspects of planning and implementation.—Susan Belsky, Oshkosh P.L., WI

**Students Lead the Library: The Importance of Student Contributions to the Academic Library.** ALA.

Feb. 2017. 322p. ed. by Sara Arnold-Garza & Carissa Tomlinson. illus. bibliog. ISBN 9780838988671. pap. \$62.

PRO MEDIA

For many, student employment and student advisory boards are the first things that come to mind when they think about student leadership in academic libraries. Editors Arnold-Garza (research & instruction librarian) and Tomlinson (assistant univ. librarian for access & outreach svcs., both Towson Univ., MD) include both of those roles and expand on the topic to discuss students as curators, ambassadors, peer leaders and educators, donors, and expert consultants. The book is divided into six thematic sections, each of which contains brief chapters along with case studies. While each chapter is structured a bit differently, in general they all contain a narrative of the program, project, or initiative; lessons learned; challenges; and best practices. The work is focused largely on undergraduate students, but librarians working with different student populations in a variety of academic settings will also find the information valuable. **VERDICT** Academic librarians and library staff who wish to get students more involved in and engaged with their library will find this resource helps to generate ideas and will learn much from the challenges and successes of the case studies.—Amanda Folk, Ohio State Univ. Libs.

**History.** Random. Sept. 2017. 480p. index. ISBN 9781400067213. \$30; ebk. ISBN 9781588366870. HIST

Andersen (*True Believers*) interprets American history, beginning with the Puritans, in part as a myth-driven, religiously fundamental mental, antiscientific engine that ultimately paved the way for the presidency of Donald Trump. According to the author, the 18th century's "First Great Delirium" ushered in utopian fantasies, religious and supernatural cults, and spurious medical treatments, which resurfaced with a vengeance with the 1960s counterculture and continues unabated. In the 21st century, the Internet fuels the "fantasy-industrial complex," which has made entertainment the force behind pop culture, the media, and

politics. Trump's appeal, claims Andersen, is his skill at invoking American myths of greatness and opportunity, historically limited to mostly wealthy, white males. He asserts that the president has become the leader of the United States of Fantasyland, with his reality TV and *Art of the Deal* credentials. Andersen's spirited, thought-provoking narrative provides a compelling view of the current polarized state of U.S. politics, although the author holds out some hope that Fantasyland has peaked with the Trump administration. **VERDICT** This engaging work will find a wide and appreciative audience among general readers and scholars alike. [See the author Q&A on p. 130.—Ed.]—Karl Heicher, formerly with Upper Merion Twp. Lib., King of Prussia, PA

★ **Catton, Theodore.** *Rainy Lake House: Twilight of Empire on the Northern Frontier.* Johns Hopkins Univ. Sept. 2017. 424p. maps. notes. ISBN 9781421422923. \$32.95; ebk. ISBN 9781421422930. HIST

Catton's (history, Univ. of Montana) narrative brings together three men who in many ways epitomize early 19<sup>th</sup>-century life on the U.S. and Canadian frontiers, where both geographical and social boundaries overlapped and were often blurred. Maj. Stephen Long, an officer in the U.S. Army, explored the reaches of the upper Mississippi River. Dr. John McLoughlin was a ranking official with Canada's Hudson's Bay Company. Captured by the Ojibwa as a child, John Tanner spent his life among the Ojibwa and Ottawa people, adopting their language and