

Joan R. Johnson

Work Experience - Libraries and Information Services

Milwaukee Public Library, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Deputy Library Director, March 2009-Present

Central Library and Special Projects Director, Nov 2006-March 2009

- Responsible for system-wide public services operations including circulation, collections, and programs for Central Library, 12 neighborhood libraries and a 24/7 vending library
- Responsible for Education and Outreach Services operations which includes system-wide youth programming, Early Childhood Education, School-Aged Services, Teen Services and Van Delivery Services for schools, childcare providers and senior facilities
- Lead library interior design process in collaboration with project architects and staff for all branch library development projects including new mixed-use projects and renovations
- Administer system-wide community initiatives and grants including the LibraryNOW student library card campaign, Teen Connected Learning, and the National Endowment for the Arts funded "Gathering Art, Stories and Place" and Big Read projects
- Responsible for the Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library operations
- Oversee volunteer and tenant activities including support to Subject Services at Central, the Bookseller, ABLE (Audio & Braille Literacy Enhancement), and administration of the Central Library Docent Enrichment Program
- Support Library Director and serve in their absence as needed

Seattle Public Library (SPL), Seattle, Washington

Branch and Central Department Manager, 2000-2006

- Managed public services, staff and resources in multiple locations within the system
- Participated in capital projects as unit representative for architect selection, design and space planning, artist selection, and coordinated activities related to closure, moving, and reopening
- Managed state and federal depositories at the Central Library according to Federal Depository Library Program rules (44USC Ch. 19) and was the liaison between SPL and the United States Government Printing Office
- Created planning documents for the government publications collection development policy

Reference & Instruction, 1993-2000

- Provided customer service and subject expertise in the areas of Business, Government, Language Study, Social Sciences, and Periodicals
- Completed Geographic Information Systems (GIS) collection and service plan
- Developed and delivered instructional programs and documentation to enhance public access to GIS and government resources
- Developed and delivered instructional programs and documentation to enhance public access to library resources
- Provided peer training for libraries in Puget Sound, including the development of a 2-hour train-the-trainer videotaped broadcast for the Washington State Library

Professional Activities

Wisconsin Library Association Annual Conference, Presenter, 2017

"LibraryNOW: Library Cards for All MPS Students"

Public Library Association Webinar, 2019

"It's All in the Data: Unreturned Materials as Barriers to Access"

MKE United Steering Committee, 2016-Present

GMC Creative Placemaking Committee, 2015-2017

Westown Association Board, 2012-Present

Library Council of Southeastern Wisconsin Executive Board, 2009-2011

Library Services and Technology Act Advisory Committee, WI Dept. of Public Instruction, 2008-2010

Library Orientation Exchange Program Committee, LOEX of the West Annual Conference, 1996
Pacific Northwest Library Association Steering Committee, Annual Conference, 1997

Credits – Research Consulting

“Soda Pop! From Miracle Medicine to Pop Culture,” Michael and Gyvel Witzel, Voyageur Press Inc., 1998
“The American Drive-In,” Michael Karl Witzel, Motorbooks International, 1994
“The American Gas Station,” Michael Karl Witzel, Motorbooks International, 1992
“The Untouchables,” Paramount Pictures, 1986

Volunteer Activities

Library Council of Southeastern Wisconsin Mentoring Program Mentor, 2010-2011
Washington Wine Ambassadors, Washington State Wine Commission, 2003-2007
Executive Board, Secretary and Treasurer, Elliott Bay Condominium Association, 1997-1999, 2004-06

Education

University of Washington Extension, Certificate in Geographic Information Systems
University of Washington, Master of Librarianship
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Bachelor of Science in Interior and Scene Design
Carroll College, Waukesha, Wisconsin

Additional Information

References available upon request

Contact Information

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