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LACUNY Institute: Ending the Library
Stereotype: Non-Traditional Practices for the
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Notes from the Editor

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Notes from the Editors

By Derek Stadler and Leila Walker

We are very pleased to welcome you to the second issue of the 27th volume of *Urban Library Journal*, which is a collection of proceedings from the LACUNY Institute held on Wednesday, May 5, and Thursday, May 6, 2021. The theme of the Institute was “Ending the Library Stereotype: Non-traditional Practices for the 21st-century.” The Institute highlighted the different roles that librarians play in our society as librarians wear different hats. Librarians are mentors, supervisors, activists, instructors, unofficial guidance counselors, gamers, artists, and so forth.

In “Shhh-tereotypes: A Conversation among Librarians with Hearing Loss,” four hard-of-hearing librarians dependent on hearing aids share their experiences, challenges, and self-accommodations, and offer suggestions for supporting and effectively communicating with hard-of-hearing colleagues. “Librarians Don’t Use Google!: Breaking Stereotypes and Myths about Smart Searching” discusses how librarians helped break the stereotype that librarians don’t use Google. “I am Not a Badass: Against the Librarian-as-Superhero Stereotype” looks at cultural tropes portraying librarians as heroes and superheroes. “Uplifting Diverse and Marginalized Voices through Community Archives and Public Programming” highlights the local community archiving project Queens Memory, which covers social justice, current events, and the creation of social change. In “Turning Data into Art,” learn how you can turn a data analysis of help desk activity into sound and data visualization into paintings. Lastly, in “More Than Just Cataloging, In Three Acts: Reflections,” see how three performing artist-librarians reflect on connections between the performing arts and the information profession.

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Enjoy!

Derek Stadler & Leila Walker

Editors, *Urban Library Journal*