

Media Literacy for Adults: Civics

March 10, 2021

About the Classroom



Microphones

Only our presenters have microphone access.



Questions?

Type them in the Q&A box! There will be time at the end for questions.



Tech Issues?

Send a message through Q&A.

Welcome



MEDIA LITERACY EDUCATION IN LIBRARIES FOR ADULT AUDIENCES

A project of the American Library Association

Media Literacy Education in Libraries for Adult Audiences is made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services grant LG-13-19-0089-19.



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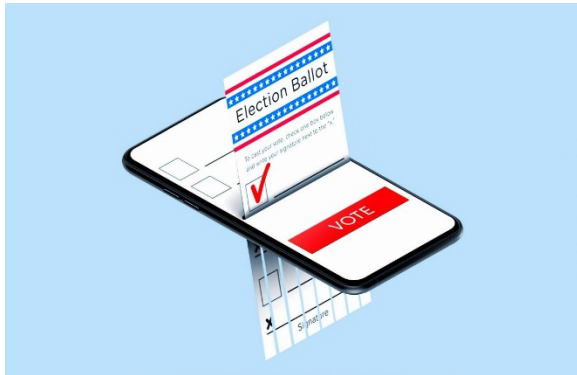
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About the Project



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Today's Presenter



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Simmons University

Boston, MA

Media Literacy in the Library: A Guide for Practitioners Civics

Laura Saunders
Simmons University

Agenda

- What is Civics?
- Why talk about it?
- How should we talk about it?

What is civics?

Merriam-Webster:

Dealing with the rights and duties of citizens.



Participative Democracy

- Rights
 - Speech
 - Assembly
 - Pursuit of happiness (health, etc.)
 - Voting

Right to Information

An ancillary right

- Supports responsible exercise

Codified in

- Article 19
- Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)
- Freedom of the Press

Duties

With Rights Comes Responsibilities:

Ethical and informed exercise
of rights



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WHY TALK ABOUT CIVICS?

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Role of the Library

Facilitate

Facilitate access

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Role of the Library

Facilitate

Facilitate access

Promote

Promote
information literacy

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Role of the Library

Facilitate

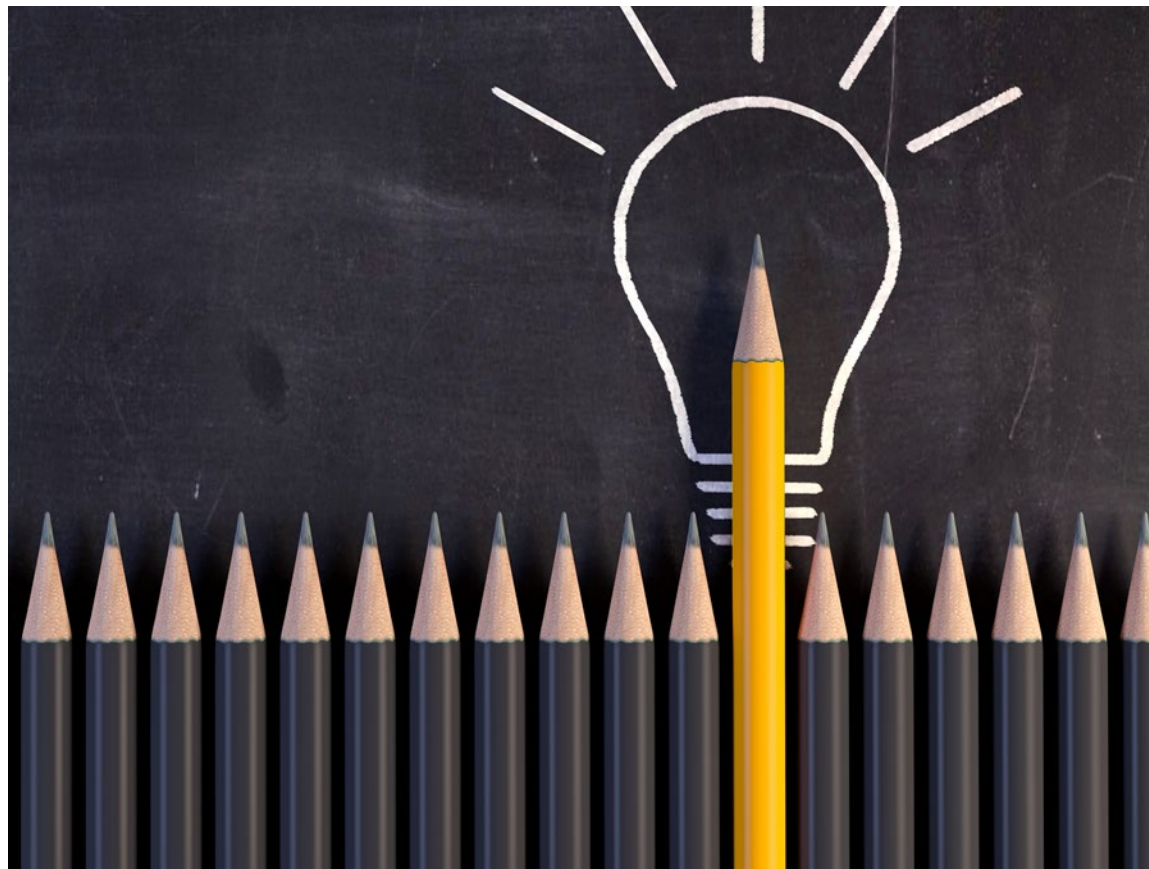
Facilitate access

Promote

Promote
information literacy

Encourage

Encourage civic
engagement and
discussion



Big ideas

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News Deserts

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Marketplace of Ideas

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Safe Spaces

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Civility

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Program Ideas

HOW DO WE TALK ABOUT CIVICS?

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Citizen Journalism



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Civic Literacy



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Get Out The Vote



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Civic Conversations



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Right to Know: FOIA



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Responsibilities of the Library

Limited public forum

Accountability

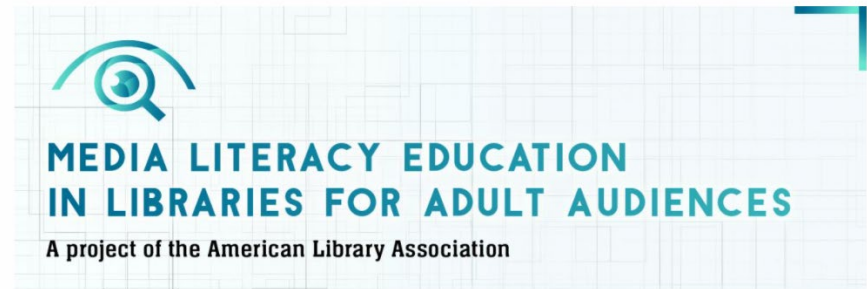
Public Trust

Sample Discussion Questions

- What motivates us to vote or participate in politics in other ways?
- What kind of information do we need to make good decisions about (insert topic: voting in this election, supporting this ballot initiative, etc.)? Why is that kind of information important? How can we find that information?
- How do we talk to people who disagree with us in constructive ways? What do we do when we just cannot agree?
- Have you experienced the impacts of political polarization? How so? What steps can we take to address polarization?
- (Adapted from the Living Room Conversations—Polarization)

Register Now!

- **April 7:** Media Landscape and Economics
- **April 14:** Media Engagement and Creation



Media Literacy Education in Libraries for Adult Audiences, a 16-month project of the American Library Association (ALA), helps libraries respond to the need for adult media literacy training in their communities through the creation and distribution of a suite of free library resources.

Resources for library workers:

- Practitioners' Guide (free download with media literacy strategies for library staff >>>>)
- Practitioner Webinars (coming winter 2021)
 - Media Literacy for Adults: Meeting Patrons Where They Are
 - Media Literacy for Adults: Misinformation and Disinformation
 - Media Literacy for Adults: Architecture of the Internet
 - Media Literacy for Adults: Civics
 - Media Literacy for Adults: Media Landscape and Economics
 - Media Literacy for Adults: Media Engagement and Creation
- Strategic Report



Free registration at programminglibrarian.org/media-literacy

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