

ANASTASIA M. COLLINS

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DARKLITERATA.COM 

BOSTON AREA, MA 

LINKEDIN.COM/IN/DARKLITERATA 

- 10+ years instructional, research, and curricular support experience with secondary and university communities
- 13+ years academic library experience providing direct service to undergrad/grad students, faculty, and admin
- 11+ years anti-racism & anti-oppression education, facilitation, and consulting experience in libraries and beyond
- Subject expertise in education, history, LIS, literary studies, social work, sociology, and youth literature studies
- Proven record of dynamic instructional design, adaptive research services, and equity-centered knowledge practices
- Established speaker, creative strategist, & thought leader with excellent collaboration, problem-solving, and community-building skills and named a [Library Journal Mover & Shaker](#)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

INSTRUCTIONAL LIBRARIAN & GEOGRAPHER-AT-LARGE

2023 - Present

Oliver Wendell Holmes Library, Phillips Academy | Andover, MA

Instructional Librarian

- Plan, teach, and assess faculty-requested instruction sessions to address information literacy learning objectives.
- Provide research assistance to the community, especially History, Social Sciences, and English disciplines.
- Create and maintain online instructional materials and learning objects, particularly regarding primary source access and research.
- Secured funding and launched the biennial Abbot Book Festival along with innumerable other outreach initiatives from displays to workshops to symposia
- Assess and manage print & e-resource collections in assigned subject areas.
- Serve as liaison to History & Social Sciences, English, and Religion & Philosophy departments.

Geographer-at-Large

- Increase the Sidney R. Knafel Map Collection's visibility, accessibility, and inclusivity and manage requests to access the maps and related collections digitally and/or in person.
- Collaborate with teaching faculty to enable effective pedagogical engagement with the map collection to promote primary source analysis skills and geospatial information literacy.
- Develop outreach initiatives to enable the community's critical engagement with the map collections, including "Map Open House" exhibits for faculty and an annual Knafel Map Collection Guest Lecture series.
- Serve as liaison for the Knafel Map Collection to the Dean of Studies, the chairs of History and Social Science and other academic depts, the Addison Gallery of American Art, and other relevant community stakeholders.

CURRICULUM & RESEARCH TEAM COORDINATOR

2022 - 2023

Simmons University Library | Boston, MA

- *Team Coordination*
 - Developed the Curriculum & Research Team Mission, Service Philosophy, Core Values, and Guiding Principles to improve team cohesion and inform team practice.
 - Supported four direct reports in research, instruction, and outreach service in accordance with the C&R Team Mission and Values and the University Library Strategic Drivers.
 - Instituted participative strategies to promote a team culture of innovation, care, and accountability.
 - Designed research services and instruction strategies to support the integration of information literacy concepts and skill-building across the C&R Team's assigned academic subjects.
 - Strategize collection management workflows to increase C&R Team input.
 - Supervise and mentor Curriculum & Research Library Fellow.

- *Operational Oversight & Strategic Planning*
 - Coordinated development of an updated Collection Development Policy.
 - Contributed insight to Library Leaders Group strategy on library-wide service and outreach objectives.
 - Organize C&R Team in the development of a deaccession workflow and collaboration with Collections & Access Team as part of a collection rebuilding project.
 - Implement scaffolded reference and instruction training for C&R Library Fellow.
 - Facilitate integration of equity and justice action plans and accountability into team objectives as part of library commitment to anti-racism and University commitment to social justice.
 - Spearheaded outreach and programming strategy to improve engagement across disciplines and emphasize interdisciplinary potential of the library and collections.

CURRICULUM & RESEARCH LIBRARIAN

2016 - 2023

Simmons University Library | Boston, MA

- Deliver undergrad and graduate information literacy instruction—including instructional design, teaching, and assessment—in person, virtually, and asynchronously
- Provide one-on-one and group research support to undergrad, graduate, and doctoral students and faculty
- Create and maintain research tools and digital learning objects, including instructional videos, research guides, and asynchronous tutorials
- Advance curriculum initiatives such as anti-oppression counternarratives, curricular decolonization, and trauma-informed teaching practices
- Plan and develop multi-modal outreach and programming initiatives to encourage scholarly exploration
- Cultivate collaborations with academic and co-curricular departments/programs on initiatives and policies impacting resources, services, information literacy, and curriculum support
- Assess and manage print & digital collections, especially in liaison areas
- Maintain insight into relevant scholarship and initiatives to ensure curriculum-aligned collection management
- Develop, integrate, and promote the adoption of open access principles and open educational resources to help ensure the accessibility of these resources to all students
- Serve on relevant department-, program-, College-, or University-wide committees

RELATED EXPERIENCE

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

2023 - Present

[*The Reservoir: A Chronicle for Collective Change*](#)

EDUCATOR GUIDE AUTHOR

2020 - Present

[HarperCollins Publishers & Imprints, Scholastic, and Simon & Schuster](#)

BOOK CURATION TEAM

2018 - Present

[OurShelves.com](#)

REVIEWER

2016 - Present

[Kirkus Reviews](#)

FACILITATOR & CURRICULUM COORDINATOR

2015 - 2021

[Anti-Racism Collaborative](#) | Boston, MA

REVIEWER

2015 - 2021

[Horn Book Magazine](#)

REFERENCE LIBRARIAN (INTERIM)

2016

Simmons University Library | Boston, MA

PUBLIC SERVICES ASSISTANT

2013 - 2016

Wheelock College Library | Boston, MA

PUBLICATIONS

- Collins, A.M., and N.A. Cooke. (in press). Anti-Racism and Information Literacy. In C. Maybee and K. Kaufmann (Eds.), *The Information Literacy Handbook: Charting the Discipline*. Facet.
- Collins, A.M. (in press). [Review of the book *Coloring into Existence: Queer of Color Worldmaking in Children's Literature*, by Isabel Millán]. *The Lion and the Unicorn*, 49(1).
- Colón-Aguirre, M., N.A. Cooke, A. Johnson, and A.M. Collins (Eds.). (2025). *Critical Race Theory in LIS: Challenging White Supremacy in Libraries*. Emerald.
- Collins, A.M. (2024). Bibliographic and Indexing Sources. In M. Wong and L. Saunders (Eds.), *Reference & Information Services: An Introduction*, 7e. Bloomsbury.
- Cooke, N.A., and A.M. Collins (Eds.). (2024). Book Challenges: A Polemic on Taking Back Our Joy. Guest co-editor for special issue of *Research on Diversity in Youth Literature*, 6(1). <https://doi.org/10.21900/j.rydl.v6i1>
- Chunn, A.B., and A.M. Collins. (2023). Getting There: Taking a Trip Through Queer Kidlit. *Horn Book*, 99(3): 75-79. <https://www.hbook.com/story/getting-there-taking-a-trip-through-queer-kidlit>.
- Corbett, E., and L. Phillips. (2022). Ploughing the Field: (Inter)disciplinary Approaches to YA Studies. *The International Journal of Young Adult Literature*, 3(1). <http://doi.org/10.24877/IJYAL.107>.
- Collins, A.M. (2022). Foreword. In L.S. Green, J. Spiering, V.L. Kitzie, & J. Erlanger (Eds.), *LGBTQIA+ Inclusive Librarianship: Policies, Programs, and Practices*. (pp. ix – xii). ABC-CLIO.
- Collins, A. M. (2020). The Cultural Doings and Undoings of the Sydney Taylor Book Award. *Judaica Librarianship*, 21(1). 95-104. <https://doi.org/10.14263/jLv21i.539>.
- Collins, A. M. (2020). Call and Response: Constructed Identity and the Legible Experience in Danticat's YA Novels. *Research on Diversity in Youth Literature*, 2(2). 1-24. <https://sophia.stkate.edu/rdyl/vol2/iss2/11/>.
- Collins, A. M. (2018). Language, Power, and Oppression in the LIS Diversity Void. *Library Trends*, 67(1), 39-51. <https://doi.org/10.1353/lib.2018.0024>.
- Collins, A. M. (2018). Notes from the Other Young Adult Librarians: Considering Restorative Justice and Structural Oppression in Teen Services. *Young Adult Library Services (YALS)*, 16(4), 15-19. [Full text available.](#)

PRESENTATIONS & INVITED TALKS

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| SOON WILL LAST: TASK SELECTION AS RESPONSE
University of Iowa School of Information Science "Professional Growth Through Personal Engagement" Series | 2025 |
| AS YOU LIKE IT: BLACK LABOR, WHITE COMFORT, & DEI THEATER
LACUNY Institute | 2022 |
| BIPOC YOUTH LITERATURE SCHOLARS' WELL-BEING IN RESEARCH PRACTICE
Researches Exploring Inclusivity in Youth Literature "Lite" Conference | 2022 |
| <u>BANNED & CHALLENGED BOOKS ROUNDTABLE</u>
Children's Literature Association | 2022 |
| NEWBERY MEDAL BOOKS: 100 YEARS OF PRIZEWINNING CHILDREN'S LITERATURE
New College of Florida Faculty & Alumni Academic Showcase | 2022 |
| BLACK SCIENCE FICTION, FANTASY, AND HORROR YA & BLACK LIBRARIANSHIP
FIYAHCON | 2021 |
| <u>THEATRICALS AND MISDIRECTION: DEI IN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES (KEYNOTE)</u>
Oberlin Group DEI & Anti-Racism Committee Lightning Talks | 2021 |
| CONFRONTING THE MYTH OF NEUTRALITY: ACADEMIC LIBRARIES, ADVOCACY, AND FREE SPEECH
ALA Annual Conference (ACRL ULS/ANSS/PPIRS) | 2021 |

LIBRARIANS IN (THE) CONVERSATION Let's Talk About Sex in YA Conference	2021
HIRING FOR DIVERSITY? Pratt School of Information Science Breaking Barriers Series	2021
RIGHT BACK WHERE WE STARTED FROM OR WHERE WE GO FROM HERE Elements of Empowerment Conference	2021
SYSTEMIC RACISM IN LIBRARIES: HOW WE GOT HERE AND WHAT WE CAN DO San Francisco Public Library Racial Equity Committee REALTalk Series	2020
I'M STILL SPEAKING: AMPLIFYING THE BLACK EXPERIENCE IN LIBRARIANSHIP Augusta Baker Fall Forum	2020
CHILDREN'S LITERATURE AND ANTI-RACISM: BREAKING OPEN THE LIMITS OF THE WHITE IMAGINATION University of Cambridge Striving Towards Anti-racist Research in Youth Literature Series	2020
DIVERSITY, LANGUAGE, AND EDI IN LIBRARIES Pacific Library Partnership: The Future of Libraries	2020
"THE DIVERSITY PROBLEM": LANGUAGE, POWER, AND SYSTEMIC CHANGE IN LIS University of South Carolina Augusta Baker Diversity Lecture Series	2020
ANTI-OPPRESSION & ALLYSHIP IN THE LIBRARY: BREAKING OUT OF THE DIVERSITY FRAME (CLOSING KEYNOTE) <i>Library Journal</i> Equity in Action Series	2020
REPRESENTATION MATTERS: DISMANTLING BARRIERS AND REBUILDING COLLECTIONS (OPENING KEYNOTE) School Library Journal Evaluating, Auditing, and Diversifying Your Collections Series	2019
MAKING THINGS UP IN THE ACADEMIC LIBRARY Defeating the Bullies and Trolls in the Library Symposium	2019
ANTI-OPPRESSION, ALLYSHIP, AND EMOTIONAL LABOR (CLOSING KEYNOTE) School Library Journal Equity in Action Series	2019
DIVERSE AND INCLUSIVE LITERATURE: EVALUATION, CULTURAL COMPETENCIES, COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT, & PROGRAMMING ALA Annual Conference	2019
CALL AND RESPONSE: CONSTRUCTED IDENTITY AND THE LEGIBLE EXPERIENCE IN DANTICAT'S YA NOVELS American Literature Association Conference	2019
MINDFUL LEADERSHIP: DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION IN THE ACADEMIC LIBRARY ACRL Instruction Section Management & Leadership Committee Webinar	2019
BULLYING, TROLLING, & DOXXING, OH MY! PROTECTING OUR ADVOCACY AND PUBLIC DISCOURSE AROUND SOCIAL JUSTICE ALA Annual Conference	2018
THE SYDNEY TAYLOR BOOK AWARD WINNERS THROUGH AN ACADEMIC LENS Association of Jewish Libraries Conference	2018
ENGAGING IN CRITICAL LIBRARIANSHIP Tufts University Libraries Staff Development Day	2018
ELIMINATING RACISM IN THE WORKPLACE PANEL Fenway Health Racial Justice & Equity Collaborative Talk Series	2018
ALLY IS A VERB: ANTI-OPPRESSION AND SYSTEMS-THINKING IN LIBRARIES Northeast Ohio Regional Library System Critical Conversations Series	2018
OUR MONSTERS, OURSELVES: ANXIETY, (CHILD) MONSTROSITY, AND THE CHILD-AS-FUTURE Children's Literature Association Conference	2017
BOOK REVIEWS: THE DIVERSITY OF RACE, ETHNICITY, AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION BookExpo America	2017
UNPACKING SILENCE: THE ANTI-OPPRESSION ROADSHOW Urban Librarians Conference	2017

TEACHING & FACILITATION

INSIDE THE SYSTEM: BIPOC CONFRONTING SYSTEMIC RACISM WORKSHOP Anti-Racism Collaborative	2021
DISMANTLING WHITE FEMINISM, TWO-PART SERIES Anti-Racism Collaborative	2020
CONFRONTING SYSTEMIC RACISM COURSE Anti-Racism Collaborative	2016 - 2019
ANTI-OPPRESSION FACILITATION SKILLS WORKSHOP SERIES Anti-Racism Collaborative	2019
DISMANTLING WHITE FEMINISM, TWO-PART SERIES Anti-Racism Collaborative and Mass NOW	2019
DEBRIEFING THE IMPLICIT ASSOCIATION TEST (GUEST LECTURE) Simmons University	2017 - 2019
THE DIVERSITY PROBLEM": LANGUAGE, POWER, AND SYSTEMIC CHANGE IN LIS (GUEST LECTURE) University of Illinois ISchool	2018 - 2019
SIMMONS EXPLORE FIRST YEAR COURSE Simmons University	2017 - 2018
INCLUSION IN STEM: WHY INTERSECTIONAL FEMINISM MATTERS IN SCIENCE, TECH, ENGINEERING, AND MATH Anti-Racism Collaborative and Harvard University Dept. of Systems Biology	2018
SYSTEMIC RACISM AND THE LEGACY OF EDUCATION COURSE Anti-Racism Collaborative	2016 - 2018
INFORMATION LITERACY INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT Fenway Library Organization	2018
PRAXIS IN PRACTICE: ANTI-OPPRESSION LIBGUIDE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE ZINES (GUEST LECTURE) University of Illinois ISchool	2017
DECEMBER DIALOGUE: SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND GENDER IDENTITY Colleges of the Fenway Dialogue Series	2017
NOT THROWING AWAY MY ONE-SHOT: IMPLEMENTING CRITICAL INFORMATION LITERACY PEDAGOGY IN ONE-SHOT INSTRUCTION Fenway Library Organization	2017
NOT-SO-HAPPILY EVER AFTER: TRAUMA, FAIRY TALES, AND CHILDREN'S FANTASY (GUEST INSTRUCTOR) Simmons University School of Information Science	2015

INTERVIEWS

<u>BELONGING, SAFETY, AND POLICE PRESENCE IN LIBRARIES</u> Organizing Ideas Podcast	2021
<u>ANTI-OPPRESSION AND RESEARCH GUIDES</u> Organizing Ideas Podcast	2021
<u>Q+A WITH SIMMONS UNIVERSITY: LIBGUIDES THAT MAKE AN IMPACT FOR ALL</u> Springshare Buzz	2020
<u>HOW LIBRARIES ARE SUPPORTING THE BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT</u> NPR	2020

PROJECTS & SERVICE

PROJECTS

Sustainable Leadership in LIS Toolkit

Informed Action Resources

Anti-Racism & Resisting Whiteness in Academic Libraries

Moments & Movements in Youth Literature: An Ongoing Timeline of Changework

READCON: A Curriculum for Library Readiness, Advocacy, & Community Empowerment

Get Ready, Stay Ready: A Community Action Toolkit to combat censorship and promote intellectual freedom

Racial Justice Project Consultant (Brown University Libraries)

Medal on My Mind: A Stonewall Children's & YA Book Award Speculation Blog

Int'l Directory of Special Collections in Children's & Young Adult Literature (University of Illinois Libraries)

Sensitivity Review of "The Power of Story Catalog" (Scholastic, Inc.)

Content Review of the "Diversity in Children's Literature Web Archive" (University of Michigan Libraries)

How to Review LGBTQAI+ & Disability Content: A *Kirkus Reviews* Diversity Training

SERVICE

Young Adult Programming Committee

Boston Book Festival | 2025 - Present

Phoenix Book Award Committee (Elected)

Children's Literature Association | 2022 - Present

Young Adult Programming Committee (Chair)

Boston Book Festival | 2022 - 2024

State Advisory Council on Libraries (Appointed)

MBLC | 2021 - Present

School of Library & Information Science DEI Committee

Simmons University | 2020 - 2023

National Leadership Grant Reviewer

Institute of Museum and Library Services | 2020 - 2022

Bias Response Team

Simmons University | 2018 - 2021

Diversity & Inclusion Action Council

Simmons University | 2017 - 2020

Accessibility Committee

Simmons University | 2017 - 2019

Staff Council

Simmons University | 2017 - 2019

Community of Interest for Information Literacy (Co-chair)

Fenway Libraries Organization | 2016 - 2018

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & HONORS

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE EXPLORATIONS FOR EDUCATORS

International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE)

2024

MATERIAL FOUNDATIONS IN MAP HISTORY, 1450-1900

Rare Book School

2023

ASPIRING ADMINISTRATORS AND SUPERVISORS LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Organizational Development & Learning Institute | Simmons University

2022

MOVER & SHAKER — CHANGE AGENT

Library Journal

2021

TRAUMA AWARENESS & RESILIENCE TRAINING

Boston Public Health Commission

2018

TRAVEL AWARD

National Diversity in Libraries Conference

2016

HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION & MEMBERSHIP

Beta Phi Mu International Library & Information Science Honor Society

2016

DIRECTOR'S AWARD IN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE STUDIES

Center for the Study of Children's Literature

2016

SPECTRUM SCHOLAR AWARD & LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

ALA Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services

2013 - 2014

EDUCATION

LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCE, MA
Simmons University | Boston, MA

2016

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE, MA
Simmons University | Boston, MA

2016

LITERATURE, BA
New College of Florida | Sarasota, FL

2010

SKILLS AT A GLANCE

TECHNOLOGY

Guides & Learning Tools

- LibGuides, Subjects Plus, Padlet, Wordpress

Video Editing & Desktop Publishing

- Canva, Camtasia, Adobe Creative Suite

Learning Management

- Canvas, Moodle, Blackboard, Google Classroom

Makerspace

- Laser Cutter, sewing & garment printers, embroidery machine, vinyl cutter, 3D printer, button maker

Programming Languages

- HTML, CSS, Python, Javascript

PROFESSIONAL

- Research skill-building support (group & individual)
- Information, media, & AI literacies advancement
- Instructional design and learning object creation
- Collection development and resource curation
- Curriculum and learning objective development
- Anti-oppression education and consultation
- Policy & strategic driver development
- Grant writing
- Inclusive outreach & programming design
- Presentation, facilitation, writing, and collaboration