**CALL FOR POSTER SESSIONS: SCLA CONFERENCE 2014**

Poster Sessions are conducted each year at the South Carolina Library Association’s annual conference. Poster Sessions are an effective visual forum for exchanging information, a means to communicate ideas, research, and future trends, and a great way to highlight successful library programs and services.

Poster Sessions consist of presentation materials such as pictures, data, graphs, diagrams, and narrative text placed on display boards. During the conference time allotted for Poster Sessions, presenters informally discuss their projects with conference attendees.

The Poster Sessions are always well attended. Up to thirty (30) simultaneous poster sessions will be selected for presentation at 2014 SCLA Conference at the Marriott Hotel in Columbia, S.C.

Poster Sessions will be presented on Friday morning, October 24th, from 8:00am to 9:00pm. You may set-up your poster between 7:15am-7:45am.

**POSTER SESSION GUIDELINES AND TIPS**

**Guidelines:**

* Presentation consists of a single poster, or a central poster with one or two foldout wings, no larger than 48” total height by 72” total width (including wings). Other configurations are possible but must not exceed these dimensions.
* Posters should be mounted and displayed on a tabletop (only tables are provided.) **Wall or tripod mountings are not allowed.**
* Poster Session content: Posters may present any of the following:
* A description of an innovative library program or service
* An analysis of a practical problem-solving effort
* A report of a research study
* Electricity is NOT available; Wi-Fi is sometimes available in a conference poster session area, but should not be relied upon.
* A PowerPoint or other electronic presentation on a laptop can be used to supplement but cannot be substituted for an original poster presentation – your poster must be the primary visual focus of your presentation. Those who have strictly online or electronic materials to present are encouraged to conduct a conference session, where they may easily and effectively present information electronically to an audience. If you plan to use a laptop to supplement your presentation be sure to bring an extra battery pack to last for the duration of the session.
* Your poster must be in place by 8:00am Friday morning, October 24th, and must be removed directly after the Poster Sessions close.
* Those selected to present will be contacted by email no later than July 31st (September 16th for student spotlight participants) with directions and information.

**Poster Session Tips:**

* The title/heading of your presentation should be simple, to the point, and catchy.
* The poster is primarily a visual display, so try for great visual impact.
* The information presented should be easy to follow and shown in a logical manner.
* Avoid clutter – keep visuals and messages clear and concise.
* All materials and information should be visible and legible from four feet away.
* Handouts are not required, but are strongly encouraged. Provide your business card, or a slip with your contact information for those who have further questions.

**SCLA Poster Session Competitions 2014**

**Student Spotlight and Viewers’ Choice**

**Student Spotlight Competition:**  Only Poster Session presenters who are currently enrolled in a Master’s program in librarianship are eligible to enter the student competition. Judges will determine a winner in the Student Spotlight Competition from among the entries based on the following criteria:

* Topic is one of current interest or special import to studies of library trends and practice.
* Ability of the poster to deliver the information clearly and logically; visuals and text work together to convey information to the viewer.
* Personal presentation is knowledgeable and comprehensive.
* Viewer questions are welcomed and are completely answered.
* Handouts (if available) are neatly presented and cover the information well.

**Viewers’ Choice Competition:**  All posters are automatically entered in the Viewer’s Choice Competition. Poster Session attendees choose and vote for their favorite posters during the Poster Sessions.

**Note:**  It is possible that a Student Spotlight Competition entry will also be selected as the overall Viewers’ Choice winner.

The two winning presenters will each receive a paid one-year membership for the South Carolina Library Association. Winners will be recognized in a future edition of the South Carolina State Library’s online newsletter.

Student Spotlight entrants must complete the competition section on the poster session registration form if they would like their poster to be considered for this award.

Entrants must indicate whether they will need a student or professional membership in 2015.

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