

Announcement & Contest Conditions

GLOBAL LIBRARIANS

International Young Librarians Academy

August 27-30, 2012

Ventspils, Latvia

Are you a young librarian interested in professional development? Would you like to travel abroad this summer to participate in an international event, learn and contribute? Would you like to make a difference in your community upon return back home? How about becoming part of a vibrant regional network of young library professionals? If yes, then the International Young Librarians Academy in Latvia is the right opportunity for you to consider!

The Global Libraries programs in Ukraine, Bulgaria, Romania, Moldova, Poland, Latvia, and Lithuania, supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, are jointly organizing an event for young librarians and library students proficient in English to be held on August 27-30, 2012 in Ventspils, Latvia. The academy will gather 42 participants who will work together towards achievement of the following goals:

1. Creating a regional network of young librarians who can both promote the model of a modern, technologically developed library and represent the image of a dynamic young professional in a desirable profession;
2. Deepening their knowledge about cutting-edge concepts of modern librarianship based on successful, applicable examples from other GL countries;
3. Participating in high-quality training in English in key areas of modern library work (including advocacy, outreach, community assessment, data collection, management, fundraising, and modern library services) carried out by professional trainers;
4. Developing their own plans to contribute to the modernization of their libraries and the profession in their countries;
5. Learning from each other, inspiring each other and planning to solve common issues;
6. Connecting with other international librarian networks such as IFLA/NPSIG;

From each country up to six library professionals will be selected. The participants will be selected on a competitive basis by the local GL program – Glob@al Libraries Bulgaria. The main selection criteria are:

- Fluent English ;
- 35 years old as of August 2012, or younger;
- Having a Facebook profile at the time of application;
- Working in a modern target GLB library that provides free access to internet;

- Commitment to convene young librarians and other colleagues at their library upon return to do a training session based on the experience from GL academy (to be specified at the Academy);
- Commitment to do at least one blog post and one social media entry about the academy experience at the event or shortly after its completion;
- Commitment to develop an operational regional network with other participants to keep supporting each other, learning from each other and implementing joint initiatives projects (with more guidance and facilitation directly at the Academy);

Application Guidelines:

Completed application form along with attached **CV** (both in English) and a **letter of recommendation** from a direct supervisor or library director (in Bulgarian) should be sent via email to training@glbulgaria.net by the deadline of **15 May 2012, 5 p.m.** with **Subject: Application IYLA name of applicant**. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Short-listed applicants will be interviewed in English by Skype or phone by the GL program staff.

The contest results will be available by **15 June** through the GL program website/ social media and blogs. If you have any questions regarding the contest or application process please feel free to contact Natalia Zhivkova at training@glbulgaria.net or +359 878 269 008 (phone number).

The contest finalists' travel and insurance costs, lodging and meals will be covered by the GL program.

We wish you good luck with your applications for the International Young Librarians Academy and look forward to seeing you in Latvia!